

A R

International post-GPU/UPU

Micro- and mini-exhibits of
Czechoslovakia
Hungary
Romania
Russia and Empire

I suggest reading the A R book (<http://www.rfrajola.com/dh2019/1ar.pdf>) first, for a general description of worldwide A R.

The other exhibits, mini- & micro-, are also downloadable from Richard Frajola's exhibit site, <http://www.rfrajola.com/exhibits.htm>

Higher resolution pdfs are possible but require a DVD; please contact me if interested.

Comments, suggestions, contributions welcomed.

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July 2019

AR in Czechoslovakia

CZECHOSLOVAKIA was part of the Austro-Hungary Empire, until it gained independence in 1918. Its Sudetenland was shamelessly given away by Chamberlain in 1938, and the rest of the country was subdivided by the Nazis and their allies in 1939. Over the period 1948–89, it was a Soviet republic; 1990–92, it was a democratic republic, after which it split into the Czech and Slovak Republics.

For AR in Czechoslovakia during the Austrian regime (prior to 1918), see the Austria section (especially, Bohemia).

Since I'm only dealing with a 22-year period, there isn't much material. Based on the limited sample size, the AR fee was paid on the cover (not the form or card).

Czechoslovakia: micro-exhibit synopsis

A 1923 *AR form* (still attached to its cover), three provisional AR covering envelopes (two turned), two *AR cards*, and just two other *AR covers*.

Czechoslovakia international AR service

AR form still attached to cover

Trnava—Abo (Turku, Finland), triple, 1923. Ms *Retour Receipt* (at extreme lower left). Rated 1000 deniers (one crown), made up of 250 deniers for each of registration, AR and first weight letter rate, plus two additional weights, at 125 deniers each. Unfortunately, from a stamp dealer, but this is the only form I've seen.



AR covering envelopes

Both are provisional, and are turned official documents; faint postmarks and rules can be seen in the images. These would have contained Austrian AR forms; although Austria issued cards in 1922, some offices continued to use forms.



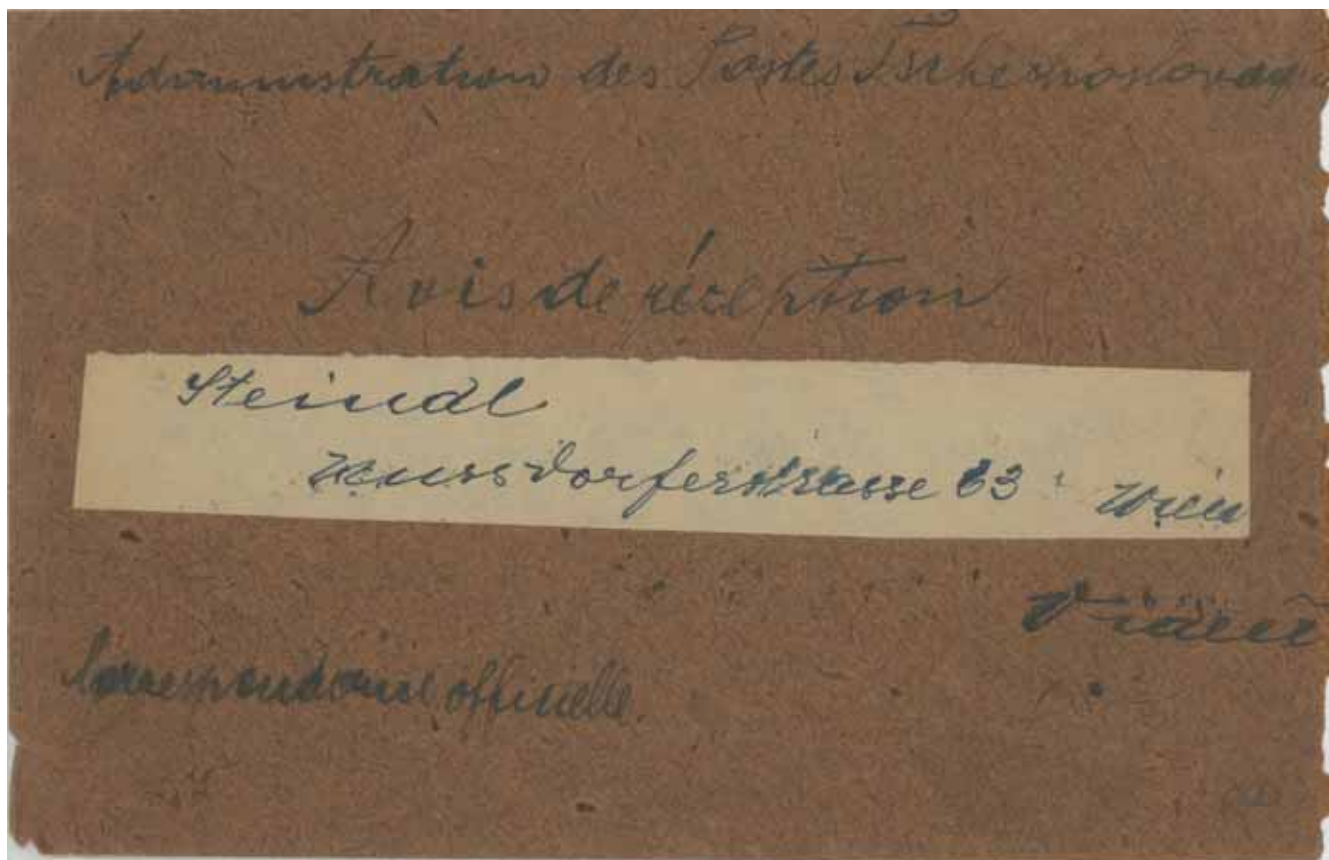
Vejprty to Vienna, 1924.



Vejprty to Vienna, 1925. Red correction of address, and different handwriting.

Provisional AR covering envelope

Same correspondence as previous, but made of cheap paper.



To Vienna, year unknown, but same handwriting as 1924 example.

AR cards

Československá správa poštovní. Administration des postes tchécoslovaques.

Návratka — Avis de réception

a) k doručení zásluhy ()
 b) k oběti doporučené ()
 c) k oběti doporučené ()
 d) k oběti doporučené ()
 e) k oběti doporučené ()
 f) k oběti doporučené ()
 g) k oběti doporučené ()
 h) k oběti doporučené ()
 i) k oběti doporučené ()
 j) k oběti doporučené ()
 k) k oběti doporučené ()
 l) k oběti doporučené ()
 m) k oběti doporučené ()
 n) k oběti doporučené ()
 o) k oběti doporučené ()
 p) k oběti doporučené ()
 q) k oběti doporučené ()
 r) k oběti doporučené ()
 s) k oběti doporučené ()
 t) k oběti doporučené ()
 u) k oběti doporučené ()
 v) k oběti doporučené ()
 w) k oběti doporučené ()
 x) k oběti doporučené ()
 y) k oběti doporučené ()
 z) k oběti doporučené ()

Podpis — Signature

Tiskopis č. 22 čes. fr. (II.—1922.) Viz poznámky na druhé straně - Voir les observations sur le verso.

Returned from Harbin (Manchuria) to Plackého??, 1926. Printed March 1922.

VRATKA — AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

Razikto odeslaného listu
 Timbre du bureau expéditeur

(Misto určení — Lieu de destination)
 (Země určení — Pays de destination)

Věc služby poštovní
 Service des postes

Harbin

5 2 26

1926

Podpis — Signature

Tiskopis č. 22 čes. fr. (II.—1922.) Viz poznámky na druhé straně - Voir les observations sur le verso.

Československá poštovní správa Administration des Postes de Tchécoslovaquie

(Vyplní podávající úřad - A remplir par le bureau d'origine)

Doporučená zásluhy (recommandée)
 Envoi recommandé
 Psaní — Krabice — Balík
 Lettre — Boîte — Colis

s udanou cenou
 avec valeur déclarée de

Poštovní poukázka na
 Mandat de poste de

zapsan u poštovního úřadu
 enregistré au bureau de poste

v
 dne 20 / 4 / 1931 pod č. 868
 le sous le No

odeslan p. Dr. Alois Rousch
 expédié par M

adresovan p. Erika Wapenbauerová
 et adressé à M

v
 Bratislava

*) Udejte v závorkách druh zásluhy (psaní, tiskovina, atd.)
 Indiquer dans la parenthèse la nature de l'envoi (lettre, imprimé, etc.)

Zpáteční lístek - Výplatní stvrzenka
Avis de réception
reception
payment

(Vyplní odesílatel)
 (A remplir par l'expéditeur)

Razikto odeslaného listu
 Timbre du bureau expéditeur

40 V. 22 15

Dr. Alois Rousch

Bratislava

Durajská 1

(Misto určení — Lieu de destination)

Věc poštovní služby
 Service des postes

(Ulice a číslo — Rue et numéro)
 (Země určení — Pays de destination)

Tiskopis 22 č. f. (I-1931)

Bratislava to Hungary, 1940. Printed in 1931.

AR covers



Brno to San Diego, double, 1921. Crayon ms *Avis de réception* and *A.R.* Rated 4.5 Koruna (crowns), made up of 1.25 K for each of registration, AR, and UPU letter rate first weight, plus .75 K for the second weight

AR cover



Karlovy (Karlsbad) to Berlin, double, 1931. Pencil ms *Avis de réception* Rated 8.5 Koruna (crowns), made up of 2.5 K for each of registration and AR; reduced rate to Germany of 2 K for the first weight, and 1.5 K for the second.



AR in Hungary

HUNGARY joined Austria as an equal partner in Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1867. This collapsed at the end of the first world war, with Hungary losing more than two-thirds of its territory. In the second world war, it allied with Hitler, and was occupied by the Red Army, becoming a Soviet satellite. The 1956 revolution having been brutally crushed by the U S S R (in Hungary's history, *brutally* is redundant, especially when you look at what they did to their own people), there was a subsequent gradual recovery.

When the Soviet Union collapsed, Hungary became a (relative) democracy. Unfortunately, over the past decade, there has been a gradual return to populist thuggery.

One would expect a lot of AR material from Hungary, especially since it was a power in the 19th century, and had an enviable academic tradition and an educated populace. But I haven't found much.

The four covering envelopes pose a problem. They are dated April, May, June, and June 1912; the middle two are registered, the first and last are not. The last one is from Budapest, but the others are from small towns. Based on very limited sample size, the AR fee was paid on the form in the pre-Vienna period, and paid on cover post-Vienna.

Hungarian for AR is *Térít Vevény* (later, one word), but some covers and one of the covering envelopes show only the U S formula, *Return Receipt*. From the 1950s (possibly earlier), Hungary used AR etiquettes.

Rates were obtained from the website of the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain,
<http://www.hpsgb.com/postalrates.html>

However, I had problems with airmail rates in the 1950–60s.

Hungary: micro-exhibit synopsis

4 *AR covering envelopes* (all 1912, two registered, two unregistered). Two *AR cards*, one used for VD. An 1877 *AR cover*, and six post-Vienna. Hungary used an AR etiquette at least from the 1950s. The highlight is the 1877 AR cover.

Hungary international AR service

AR covering envelopes

Post-Vienna

Lovaszpatona–Buffalo, 24 April 1912. Ms *Avis de Réception*; unregistered. Generic official envelope (hence semi-provisional).



Szekszard to Buffalo, 4 May 1912. Similar to above, except returned [registered](#).



Seapost Bremen-NY



Covering envelopes



Garbócbogdány–Buffalo, 2 June 1912. Ms Avis de Réception. Provisional envelope. Returned [registered](#).



Budapest to Buffalo, 25 June 1912. U S formula Return Receipt, applied at Budapest. Returned unregistered.

AR cards

No. 616867 Re. 95B Contr. 87605

Magyar postaigazgatás
Administration des Postes de Hongrie.

171. sz. nyomtatvány. Térti vevény.

Értéklevél (Olyasott)
Lettre de valeur

\$10. — U. S. dollár tartalommal
34. — P. értéknyilvántással.
avec valeur déclarée de
P. f. összegről szóló

Mandat de poste de
postautalvány, melyet a Bp. 72. posta
enregistré au bureau de poste de
hivatalnál 18.18. én vettek fel sz. a.
sous le No.

s melynek feladója: **Red Star Line**
expédié par Budapest, Fiumei út 3.

Gyula Antal
Carei mari

et adressé à M

ROUMANIA

Térti vevény — Kifizetési értesítés
Avis de réception — Avis de payment

Red Star Line

BUDAPEST,
VIII. Fiumei út 3.

MAGYARORSZÁG
HONGRIE

Rendeltetési hely
Lieu de destination

Rendeltetési ország
Pays de destination

Postaszolgálati ügy.
Service des postes.

1 A térti vevénnyel és beföldi
a feladónak kell kitölteni. — A remplir par

Returned from Carei (Romania) to Budapest, 1934. Preprinted for the Red Star Line; VD (\$10).

Adriatic *Black*

Alulírott kijelenti, hogy a füloldalon leírt küldeményt utalványt

Le soussigné déclare que l'envoi mentionné d'autre part

The undersigned declares herewith having duly received the value as shown on the other side on the

19. évi. hó. én szabályszerűen kifizesték

a été dûment payé le 19

Gyula Antal

Signature de l'agent du bureau de destination

du destinataire de l'agent de destination

aláírás

A rendeltetési postahivatal, államhatáránál

az a rendeltetési ország szabályai egy rendeltetési hivatal alkalmazottjának

hatalommal a füloldalon megjelölt feladónak kell kitölteni.

Destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par l'agent du

des courriers directement à l'expéditeur

urgingă acest avis de recepție după semnarea.

Magyar postaigazgatás — Administration des Postes de Hongrie.

A felvő hivatal tölti ki — A remplir par le bureau d'origine.

Ajánlott
Envoi recommandé ()¹⁾

Értéklevél — Értékdoboz — Csomag
Lettre Boîte Colis

értéknyilvántás:
avec valeur déclarée de

Postautalvány
Mandat de poste de

összege, melyet a
enregistré au bureau de poste de

postahivatalnál

le

vettek fel — sous le No. sz. n.

Feladó: **Mezőkövesd kir. járásbíró**

expédié par M

Címzett: **Racine Wisconsin 1410 Street 1410.**

et adressé à M

MEZŐKÖVESD

Tértivevény — Kifizetési értesítés
Avis de réception — Avis de payment

2) A feladó tölti ki. — A remplir par l'expéditeur.

Rendeltetési hely. — Lieu de destination.

Utca, házsz. — Rue et numéro.

Rendeltetési ország. — Pays de destination.

Postaszolgálati ügy.
Service des postes

Magyarország

MEZŐKÖVESD

MEZŐKÖVESD

Returned from Racine (WI) to Mezőkövesd, 1941.

Alulírott kijelenti, hogy a füloldalon leírt küldeményt szabályszerűen kifizesték

Le soussigné déclare que l'envoi mentionné d'autre part

1938. évi. hó. 27. én szabályszerűen kifizesték

a été dûment payé le 27

Racine

Signature de l'agent du bureau de destination

du destinataire de l'agent de destination

aláírás

A rendeltetési postahivatal, államhatáránál

az a rendeltetési ország szabályai egy rendeltetési hivatal alkalmazottjának

hatalommal a füloldalon megjelölt feladónak kell kitölteni.

Destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le permettent, par l'agent du

des courriers directement à l'expéditeur

urgingă acest avis de recepție după semnarea.

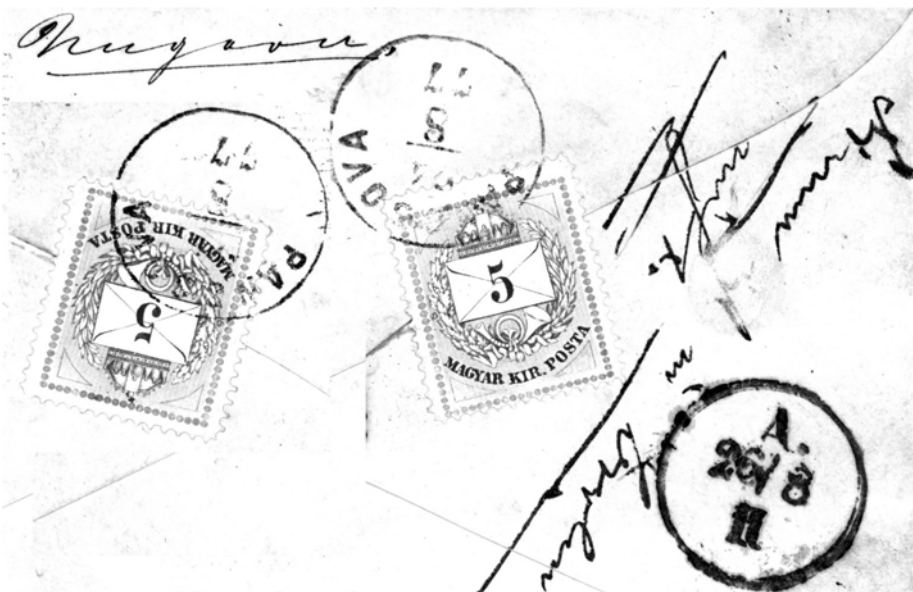
AR covers

Pre-Vienna



Pancsova (now Pancevo in Serbia) to Berlin, 1877. Ms formula *Recommandirt Retour Receptisse*, in general use in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. German incoming registration etiquette.

Rated domestic to Germany (nearby country), 5 kreuzer, and 10 kr registration; the 10 kr AR fee must have been applied to the form.



Post-Vienna AR post cards



Szob to Hamburg, 1934. Ms *Avis de réception!* Rated (printed) .16 Pengő post card rate to Germany (adjacent country rate), and .5 P for each of registration and AR.



Hódmezővásárhely to U.S., 1954. Ms *Avis de réception!* Rated 5.6 Forint, made up of .6 Ft international post card rate (the card is preprinted .4 Ft, intended for domestic cards), and 2 Ft for registration, 1 Ft AR, and supplemental airmail fee of 2 Ft for air to U.S. (under five grams).

Post-Vienna AR covers

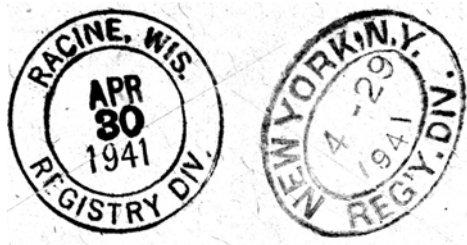
Manuscript U S-style *Return receipt requested*, and also restricted delivery (*deliver to addressee only*). This example shows that although the latter was requested in a foreign country (and there was an additional charge for this service on letters of U S origin at the time), it was honoured.

A number of Hungarian AR covers have been seen roughly in this period with only the U S formula, despite there being a Hungarian word for AR, and *avis de réception* would have been perfectly acceptable.



Rimaszombat to Racine (WI), 1941. Ms *Deliver to Addressee only/Registered Return Receipt Requested*. In the U S, the handstamp *Deliver to addressee only* was applied (this is definitely a U S handstamp).

Rated .5 Pengő for each of registration and AR, and .4 P UPU letter rate.



AR covers with restricted delivery requested



Szentgotthárd to Woodbridge (NJ), 1939. Ms *Return Receipt Requested* and just to make sure, *avis de reception*. ... *Addressee only* refers to restricted delivery (there is no way to tell if it was applied). Rated .5 Pengő for each of registration and AR, and .4 P UPU letter rate.



Szeged to US, 1942. Similar instructions, in red. Where there might have been stamps has been torn off. Both US and Nazi censorship. Via Lisbon.

AR covers

The Hungarian uprising occurred in October 1956



Üjpest to England, before the uprising, April 1956. Ms Return Receipt Requested. Rated 1 Forint letter rate to UK, registration 2 Ft, and 1 Ft AR fee.



Budapest to Zurich by air, after the uprising, December 1956. Sender's ms *Avis de réception* and AR etiquette. Rated 1.3 Forint airmail to Switzerland, registration 2 Ft, and 1 Ft AR fee, overpaid by .1 Ft, even though clerk has noted 4,40.

AR covers



Pécs to Hamilton (ON) by air, forwarded to Stockholm (SK), 1958. AR etiquette. Consists of card views of Pécs, so could be eligible for printed matter rate. Marked 15 g, so triple rate airmail to Canada, that is, 4 Forint airmail supplement, and single surface, 1 Ft; with registration 2 Ft, and 1 Ft AR fee, does not come close to 9.4 Ft applied. On reverse, Regina barrel and Stockholm circle.



Pécs to Helsinki, 1959. AR etiquette. Rated 1 Forint letter rate, registration 2 Ft, and 1 Ft AR fee.

AR covers



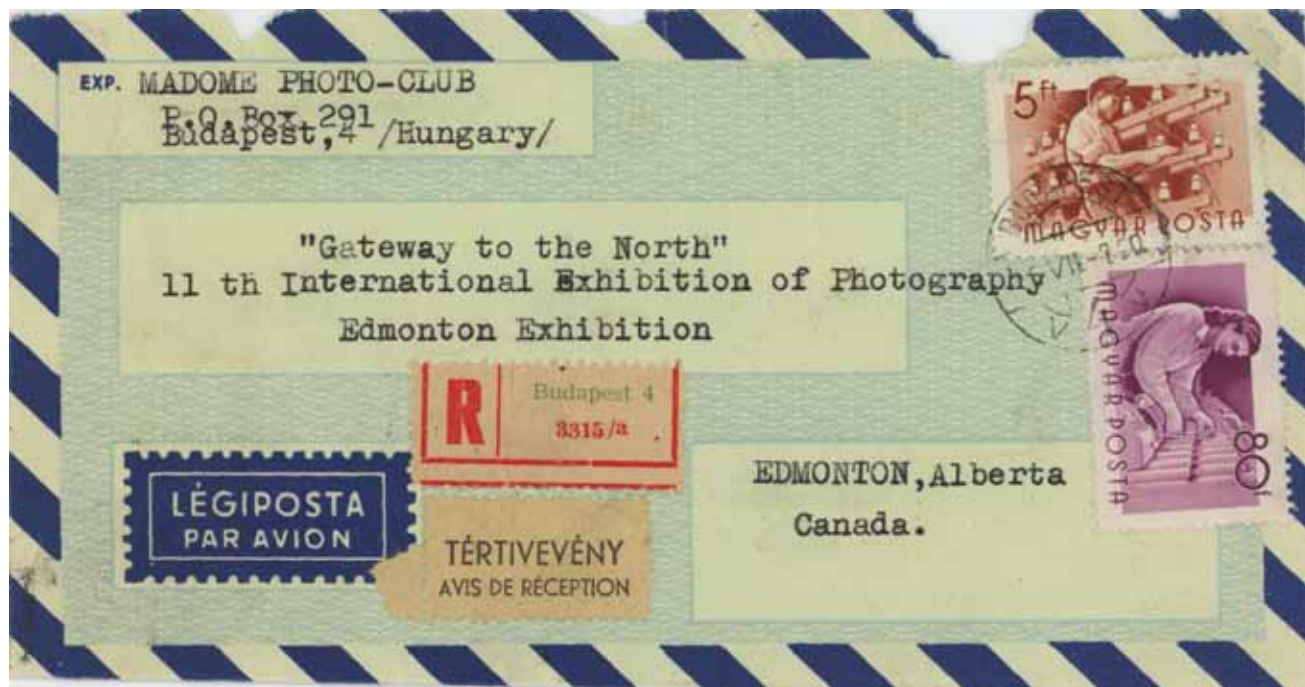
Baross Gábor-telep to Grand Rapids (MI), double rate, 1961. AR etiquette, Rated 4.6 Ft, made up of 2 Ft registration, 1 Ft AR, and double letter rate at 1 Ft for the first 20 g plus .6 Ft for each additional.

Airmail with AR, anomalous rates

Here we present six over the period 1955–63, for which the rates are mysterious. Over this period, the international registration charge was 2 forints, and AR fee was 1 Ft. The airmail fee varied (depending on destination), but to U S and Canada, the airmail rate was 1 Ft per 5 g, which was supplemental to the surface rate of 1 Ft for the first 20 g and .6 Ft for each additional.

The multiple surface rate is not going to apply to any of these, since it would entail at least quintuple airmail, yielding total postage of at least 9.6 Ft. In particular, according the rate schedule, total postage should have no fractional part, that is, it should be a round number of Forints. But *all* of them have nonzero fractional parts.

All of these have AR etiquettes.

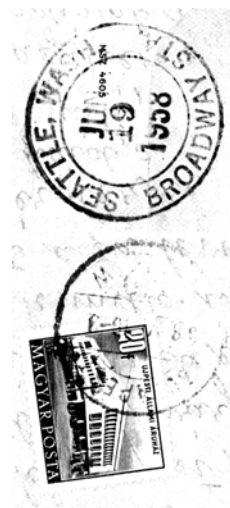


Budapest to Edmonton (AB), 1955. Rated 5.8 f, leaving 2.8 f??



Eger to El Paso (TX), 1957. Rated 5.6 f, leaving 2.6 f??

More airmail with AR



Budapest to Seattle (WA), 1958. Rated 7.2 f, leaving 4.2 f??



Budapest to Seattle (WA), 1958 (same correspondence). Same rate.

Airmail with AR



Budapest to New York, 1961. Rated 6.6 Forint, leaving 3.6 f??



Sopron to Ottawa, aerogramme, AR etiquette, 1963. Total 7.6 f, again inexplicable.

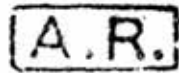
AR in Romania

ROMANIA became independent in 1877 after having been part of the Ottoman Empire for centuries (Transylvania remained as part of the Austro-Hungary Empire until 1918, part of it returning to Hungary 1940–44, and then reverting to Romania in 1944). It guessed right in World War I. In World War II, it guessed wrong (and had a more-Nazi-than-the-Nazis government, the Iron Guard, for a while), but changed its mind late in the war.

It was a communist dictatorship (but with independent foreign policy) 1947–89, after which it became a democracy, in fairly good economic shape (despite the Soviets having depleted its oil resources over the previous half-century).

AR service was available in Romania from 1852 [M, 172–85], but I haven't seen anything in the pre-Vienna (G P U / U P U) period

One of the Romanian terms for AR is *aviz de primire*, but this appears to be exclusively used on domestic mail. There was a corresponding AP handstamp, which looks almost identical to the standard AR handstamp, and also occurs frequently on the purple 25 Bani stamp.



The larger handstamp style is known 1896–1953 (and was probably in use from 1892) and frequently appears on the 25 Bani stamp.

The domestic AP (for *aviz de primire*) handstamp is almost identical (an example is shown, but not described as such, in [M, 184]—the middle of the three there).

Romania: micro-exhibit synopsis

A 1922 *AR form*, no AR covering envelopes or cards, one Vienna period *AR cover*, and several post-Vienna. There are no highlights.

Romania international AR service

AR form

Post-Vienna period

Administration des postes de la Roumanie.

C

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de _____ } enregistré au bureau
d'un objet recommandé (_____) 1) }

de _____ le _____ sous le No. _____ 2)

Expédié par M. _____
et adressé à M. _____
(adresse complète) _____

_____ avec valeur déclarée _____ à l'adresse susmen-
tionnée _____
t recommandé _____ a été dûment _____

192

Signature 3)
de l'agent du bureau distributeur.
Geo. I. Coffin - Clark
Ida C. Franc. Des.

(chantillon, imprimé etc.).
dépôt à ce bureau: No. d'enregistrement au _____
signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du _____
par l'agent du bureau distributeur, puis être mis _____
sous enveloppe et envoyé, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet _____
qu'il concerne.

Tip. L. Wiegler, Cernăuți, 322-22

Form. No. 105.

WM. McCUTCHEON
NOV 6 1922

Returned from Indianapolis (IN) to Cernauti, 1922. Entirely in French.

- Rated 3 leis (300 Bani)
- returned under cover

AR covers

Vienna & post-Vienna periods



Bucharest to Vienna, 1896. With standard Romanian AR handstamp on 25 Bani stamp (paying the AR fee); also under it. Rated 25 B for each of registration, AR, and UPU letter rate.



Gara Rediu to Lausanne, 1913. Ms A.R. Rated 25 B for each of registration, and UPU letter rates; AR fee paid on the form.

Post-Vienna AR covers



Galati (Galatz, in Moldavia) to Leipzig, 1916. With ms crayon *A.R.* and standard Romanian AR handstamp. Rated 50 Bani for each of registration UPU letter rate (AR fee paid on the form). German censorship.

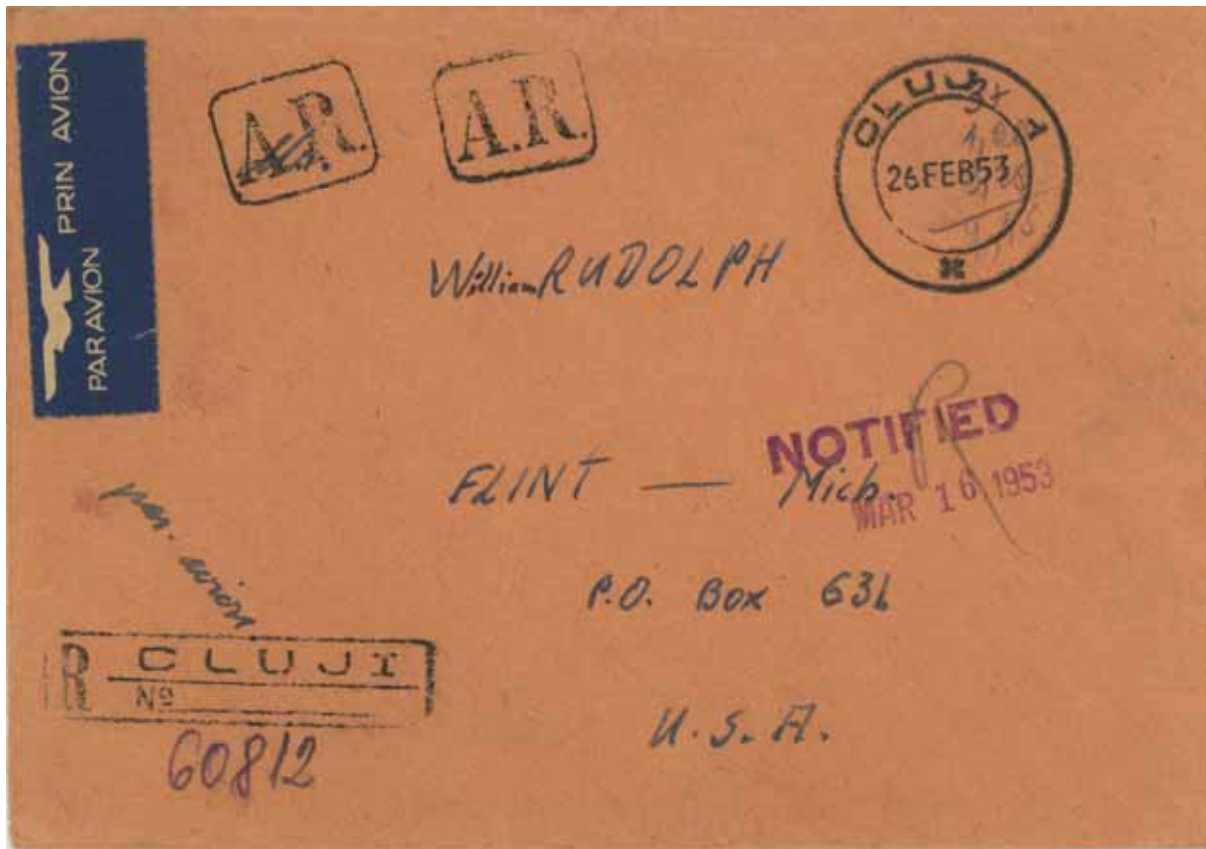


AR covers



Cluj to Paris, triple, 1930. With ms *Recommandé avec retour récépissé* and small boxed AR handstamp. Rated 32 Lei; 10 L for each of registration and first weight UPU letter rate (AR fee paid on the form), and 6 L for each additional.

AR covers



Cluj to Flint (MI), airmail, 1953. With standard AR handstamp. Rated 7.45 Lei: surface rate is 1.25 L, supplementary airmail to US is 3.25 L, and registration is 1.9 L, seemingly overpaid by 1 L.



Arad to Munich, 1957. With small boxed AR handstamp. Rated 2.4 Lei: surface rate is 1.25 L, supplementary airmail to US is 3.25 L, and registration is 1.9 L, seemingly overpaid by 1 L.

AR covers



Breaza (Suceava) to Port Colborne (ONT), airmail and special delivery, 1957. Small boxed AR handstamp. Rated 5.55 Lei: surface rate 1.25 L, supplementary airmail to Canada 1.45 L, and registration is 1.9 L; this leaves .95 L for special delivery (*exprès*).



Zabran (Timisoara) to New York, 1960. With small boxed AR handstamp. Rated 4.8 Lei: letter rate is 1.3 L (and .8 L for each additional weight), and registration is 1.6 L, seemingly grossly overpaid. But the next cover, in the same rate period, is rated the same!

AR covers



Sacalaz (Timis) to Kitchener (ONT), 1960. Small boxed AR handstamp. Rated 4.8 Lei, the same rate as the previous cover, and equally inexplicable.

AR in Russia

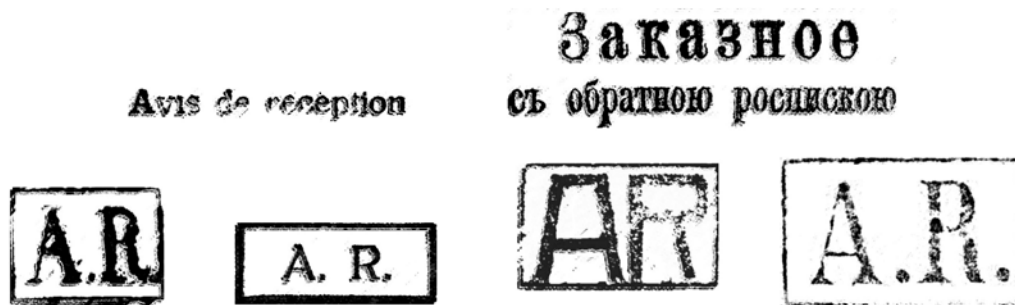
RUSSIA did have AR service in the pre-GPU/UPU era, but I have not been able to find any information on it (I have a *Retour Recepisse* cover from Austria to Russia in the 1850s).

In the early UPU period, specifically 1880, there is a cover to Serbia (shown here), which is **handstamped** **Avis de reception**. That term was certainly in use after 1875 (and from 1859 in France, although it is not seen on their domestic forms), but I know of no other such handstamps pre-Vienna. The treaty of Vienna required such a handstamp (or endorsement), but this is twelve years prior to its period of effectiveness.

Based on the one pre-Vienna AR form, the AR fee was paid on the form, not the registered letter; post-Vienna, there is much more robust evidence that payment was also on the form or card, not on the letter. There is however, an AR card (1931) with no stamps—but it is marked *taxe perçue*, presumably meaning that the fee was paid in cash.

Registration of the returned AR form in a covering envelope is not known in the Vienna period, but this is misleading. The earliest one I've seen in this period is dated 1908. So all we can conclude is that registration ceased some time prior to July 1908.

This exhibit includes as part of Russia all the occupied territories (for Czechoslovakia, Poland, Estonia, ... , *during their periods of independence*, see their respective mini-exhibits).



You've no idea how tedious it was to make these relatively clear.

AR in Russia: mini-exhibit synopsis

ORGANIZED, in the usual way, *AR forms*, then *AR covering envelopes*, then *AR cards*, and *AR covers*. Each of these sections is subdivided (where applicable) into the three periods, pre-Treaty of Vienna (1875–92), Treaty of Vienna (1892–98), and post-Treaty of Vienna (1899–).

AR forms

pre-Vienna One form for a registered letter to the UK, probably ignored there.

post-Vienna A completely different form used in Russian Poland.

AR covering envelopes

pre-Vienna An 1882 example to France

Vienna period Two quite different (both official)

post-Vienna One with its enclosure of two French AR forms, two other official ones (including a bad misspelling), and a provisional covering envelope from a small village in Poland.

AR cards Just one (1931)

AR covers

pre-Vienna An 1880 cover to Serbia with an extremely early AR handstamp, and a heavy 1891 example to UK.

Vienna period From Russian Poland and from Estonia

post-Vienna Includes a 1901 example with Russian language AR handstamp, a 1914 cover from Ukraine delayed four years, military censor (1916), Russian office in Chefoo (1920), postcards sent with AR (1932), and number of others going to 1960.

Russian international post-GPU AR service

AR forms

Pre-Vienna

Avis de réception à renvoyer d'un objet assuré ou recommandé.

Подлежащее возвращению уведомление о получении страхового или заказного отправления.

Le destinataire soussigné (a) *F. Neumann*
Нижеподписавшийся получатель

déclare que l'objet sub *N° 9* à son adresse, originaire de (b) *Бирмингем*
объявляет, что отправление под *на его имя, поданное в*

lui a été remis aujourd'hui par le bureau de poste ci-dessous indiqué. *в Швейцарии*
было ему выдано сего дня нижеуказанным почтовым учреждением.

(c) le *187* Le destinataire
Получатель

(a) { Nom, prénom et domicile du destinataire indiqués par l'expéditeur de l'objet. *F. Neumann, в Бирмингеме в Швейцарии*
{ Имя, фамилия и местожительство получателя, показываемые отправителем.

(c) { Timbre du bureau qui remet l'objet. *Штемпель места выдачи корреспонденции.* (d) Timbre du bureau d'origine de l'objet. *Штемпель места отправления корреспонденции.*

Sur le verso de l'avis l'expéditeur de l'objet indique son adresse détaillée.

На обороте уведомления пишется отправителем полный и подробный его адрес.

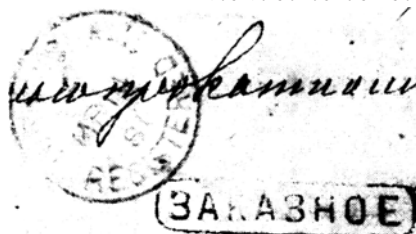
Bitzkaya (Russia) to Birmingham, 1881. Postmarked in UK; unsigned, ignored on delivery.

• AR fee paid on form by 7 kopek stamp

• Intended to be returned under cover.



Partial strike of (postal) wagon
(Russian travelling post office).



Boxed straightline means registered;
Birmingham registered cds in blue.

№ 43.

Для международной рекомендованной корреспонденции и денежных
и цѣнныхъ пакетовъ.

RUSSIE.
РОССІЯ.

Avis de Réception
Уведомление о получении

d'une lettre avec valeur déclarée de _____
пакета съ объявленною цѣнностью на _____

d'un objet recommandé (_____)
рекомендованнаго отправления _____

de *Varsovie* le *17/10* sous le № _____
въ _____ (число, мѣсяцъ и годъ) подъ № _____

et adressé à M. *Klewer* à *Berlin*
и адресованнаго на имя _____ въ _____

enregistré
записаннаго

au bureau
въ почтовомъ
учрежденіи.

Le soussigné déclare
Нижесподписавшійся
заявляетъ,

qu'une lettre avec valeur déclarée
что пакетъ съ объявленною цѣнностью

qu'un objet recommandé
что рекомендованное отправление

à l'adresse susmentionnée
по вышесказанному
адресу.

Timbre
Штампъ
du bureau
почтового
дистрибутора
мѣста выдачи _____

et provenant de _____
отправления _____ изъ _____

livré _____
выдано _____

le _____ 190 _____
(число, мѣсяцъ и годъ)

Signature ²⁾ *J. v. Klewer*
Подпись _____

du chef du bureau distributeur:
Начальника почтового мѣста выдачи: _____

au destinataire:
получателя: _____

8-1066-71

Wolff *Minister*

1) Nature de l'objet (lettre, échantillon, imprimé etc).
Родъ отправления (закрытое письмо, образчикъ письма, печатное произведение и т. д.).

2) Bureau d'origine; date de dépôt à ce bureau; № d'enregistrement au même bureau.
Мѣсто подачи; число подачи въ этомъ мѣстѣ; № по подавательской книгѣ того же учрежденія.

3) NOTA. — Cet avis doit être signé par le destinataire ou, si les règlements du pays de destination le comportent, par le chef du bureau distributeur, puis être mis sous enveloppe postale ou lettre recommandée, et être adressé, sous recommandation, par le premier courrier, au bureau d'origine de l'objet qu'il concerne.
ПРИМѢЧАНІЕ. — Это уведомленіе должно быть подписано получателемъ или Начальникомъ почтового мѣста выдачи, если это дозволяется правилами страны назначенія, затѣмъ и отправлено, подъ рекомендаціею, паръ первымъ курьеромъ, въ почтовое мѣсто подачи корреспонденціи.

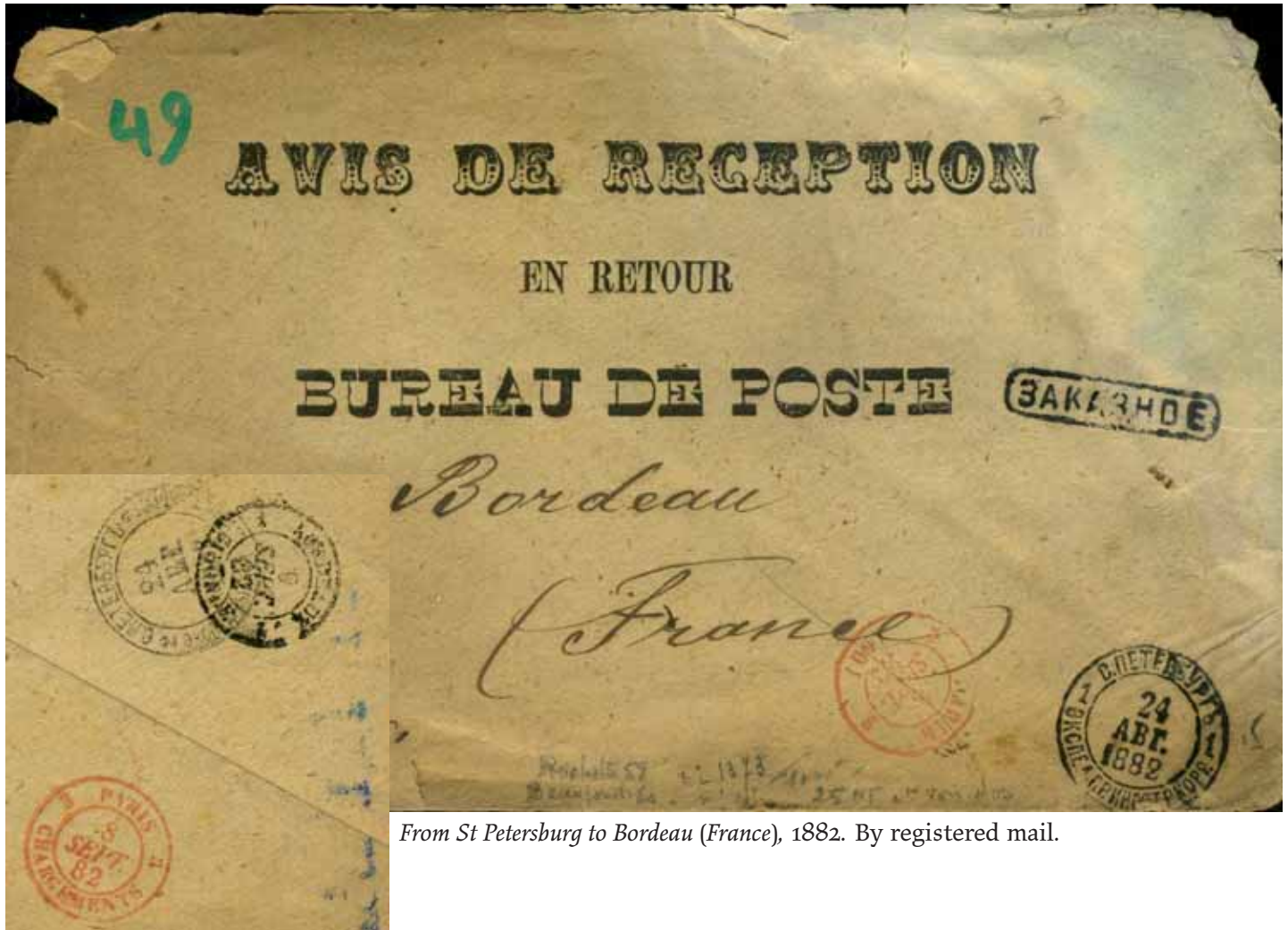
Warsaw to Berlin, 1906.

• AR fee paid on form by 10 kopek stamp

• Intended to be returned under cover.

AR covering envelopes

Pre-Vienna



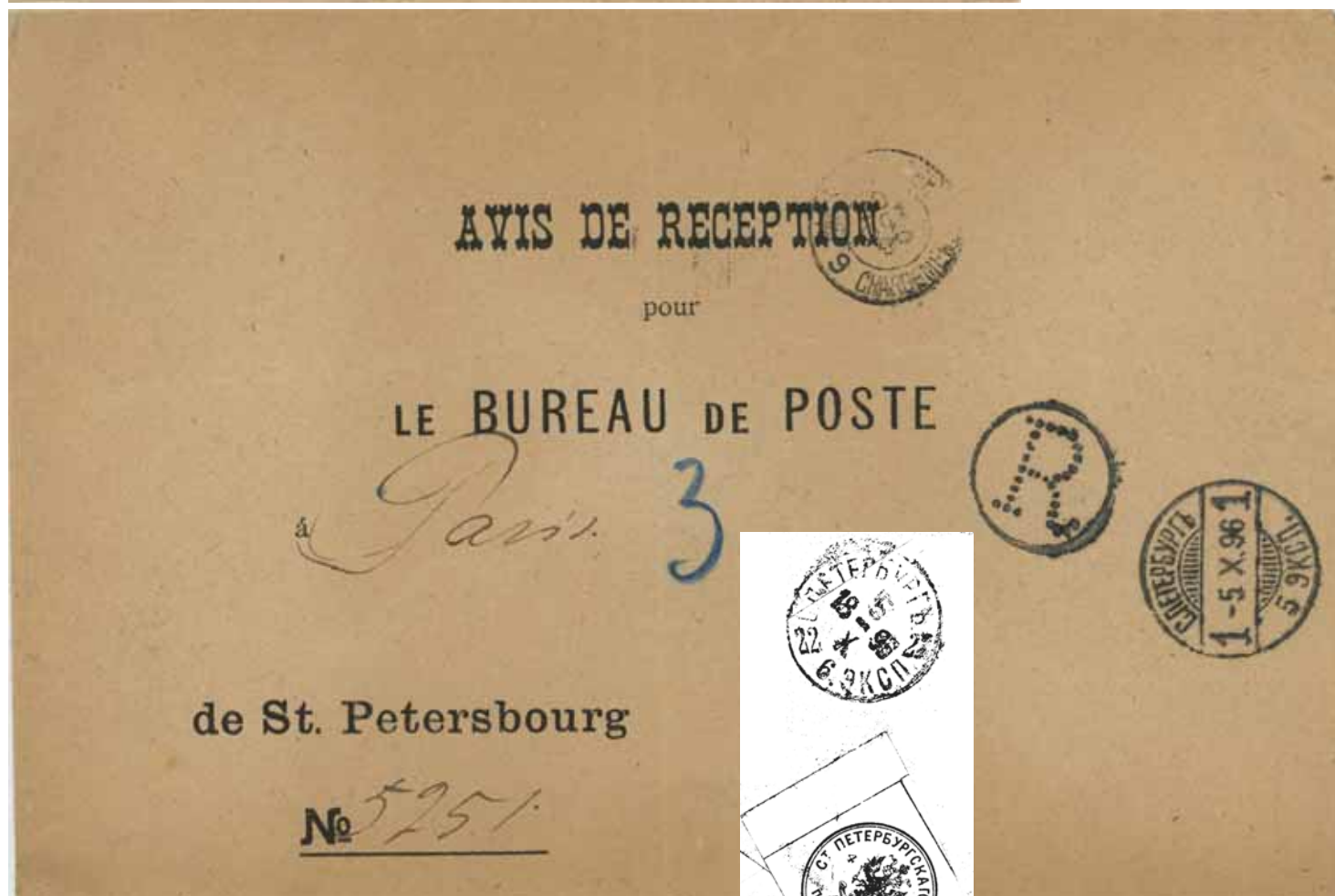
From St Petersburg to Bordeaux (France), 1882. By registered mail.

Vienna period covering envelopes



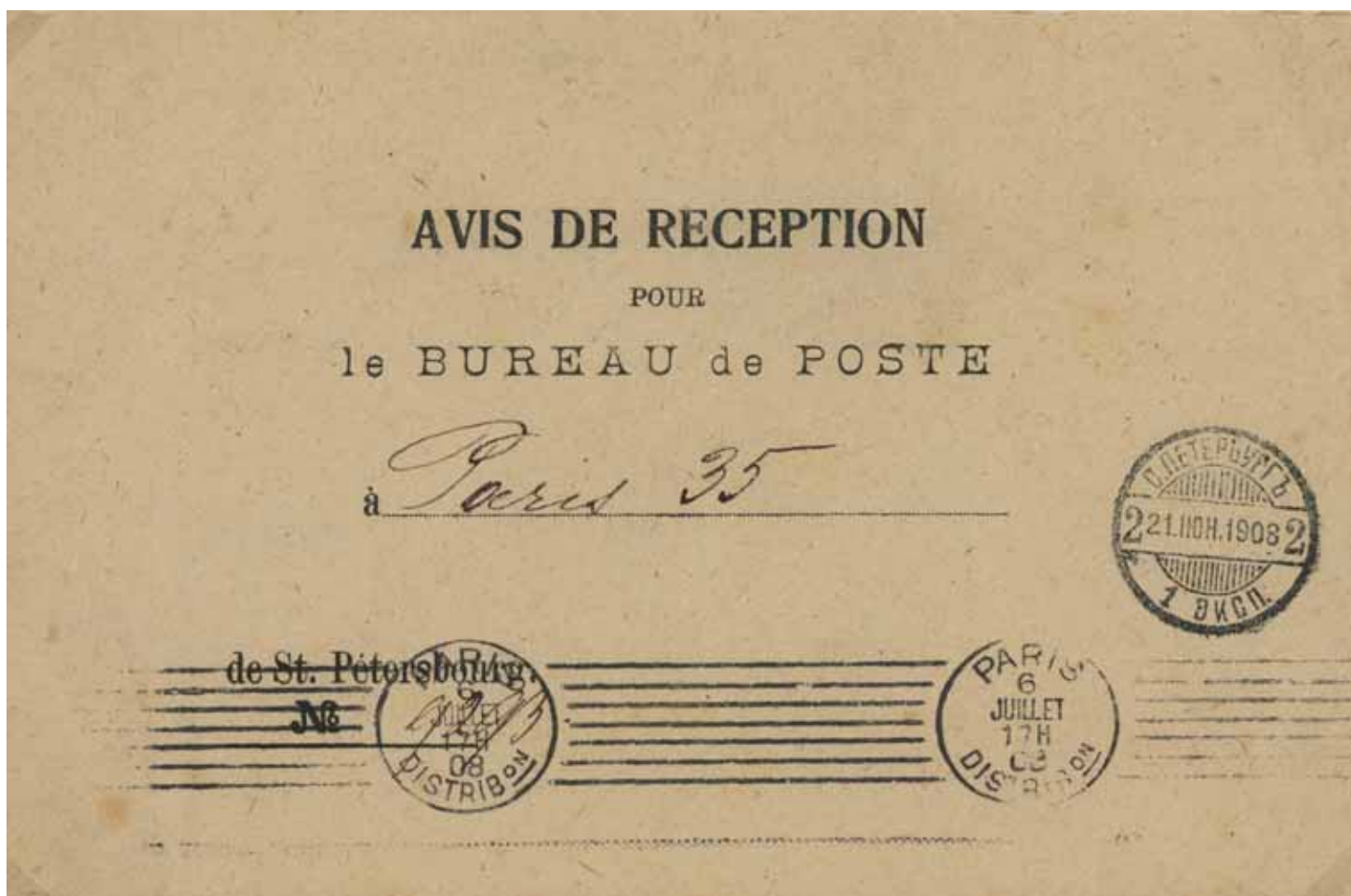
In this period both covers would have contained Russian AR forms. Both returned as registered letters

?? to Philadelphia, 1895.



St Petersburg to Paris, 1896.

Post-Vienna covering envelopes



St Petersburg to Paris, 1908. Now would have contained French AR form. Returned [unregistered](#).

Covering envelope with its two AR forms

Vladivostok (Siberia) to Montauban (France), 1916. With two French AR forms for registered letters to the same person.

N° 514.
(Règlement russe 636.)
(Mon. G. de l'Union.)

POSTES
ET TÉLÉGRAPHES

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

d'un (1) *lettre* valeur déclarée ☐ enregistré au bureau
recommandé.....
de (2) *Montauban* le *22 juil. 1916*, sous le n° *490*

N° 51
(Règlement russe 636.)
(Mon. G. de l'Union.)

POSTES
ET TÉLÉGRAPHES

RUSSIAN IMPERIAL POSTAL SERVICE

No. *490* AVIS DE RÉCEPTION (A. R.)
No. _____
No. _____

Bureau de Post Office at *Montauban*
Pays Country *France*

Signature (1) _____
de l'agent du bureau distributeur ;

Le sou-
Timbre de l'
distributeur

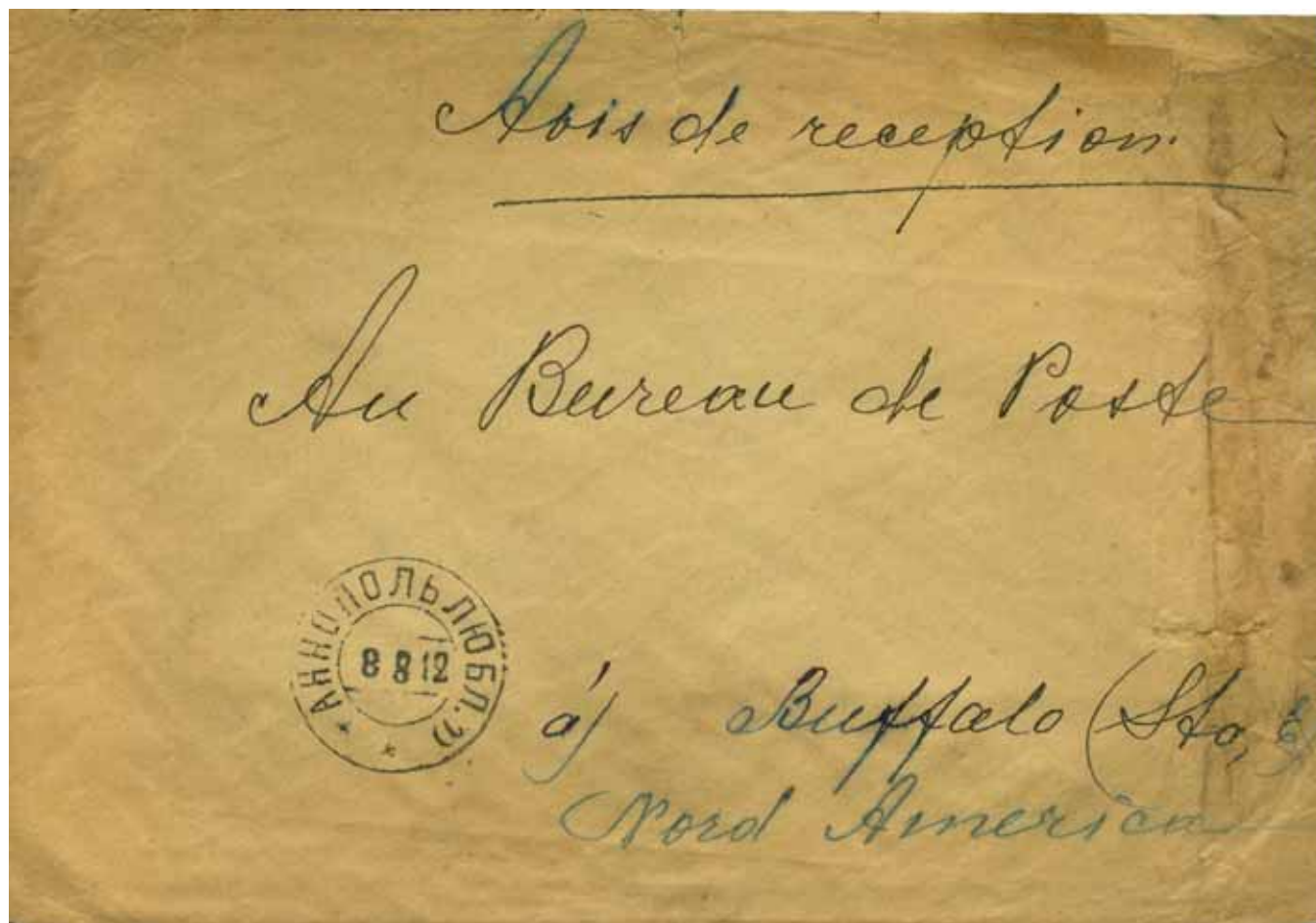
(1) Nature et n° d'ins-
cription au registre de dépôt.
— (2) Griffe du bureau d'origine.
— (3) Date du dépôt
et n° d'inscription au registre de dépôt.
— (4) Dans les offices où les règlements le comportent, la signature
de l'agent du bureau distributeur est remplacée par celle du destinataire. L'avis est ensuite renvoyé par le
premier courrier.

Dans le régime intérieur: Sous enveloppe n° 819 comme cor-
respondance ordinaire.....
Dans le régime international: Sous enveloppe n° 289 recom-
mandée d'office.....

(A) Dans le régime international le nom et l'adresse de l'expéditeur ne sont consignés qu'à la
reentrée de la formule n° 514 au bureau d'origine.

de l'objet
qu'il concerne.

(A) Dans le régime international le nom et l'adresse de l'expéditeur ne sont consignés qu'à la
reentrée de la formule n° 514 au bureau d'origine.



Provisional; Annapol (village in Lublin, SE Poland) to Buffalo, 1912.



Warsaw to Buffalo, 1912. Drastic spelling error.

AR cards

С 6 (Recto) (Regl., art. 26, § 2)
С 6 (Лицевая сторона) (Наказ, ст. 26, §—2).

ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES
ПОЧТОВОЕ УПРАВЛЕНИЕ
de l'U R S S
С. С. С. Р.

(A remplir par le bureau d'origine)
(Заполняется почтовым учреждением подачи)

Envoi recommandé ()¹⁾
Рекомендованное отправление¹⁾
Lettre—Boîte Colis
Письмо—Ящик—Посылка
avec valeur déclarée de
с объявленной ценностью на
Mandat de poste de
Почтовый перевод на
enregistré au bureau de poste d
принятый на почту в
le 23/1 31 sous le N° 901
для под. №
expédié par M. J. Mitritsch
отправлен гр-ном
et adressé à M. N. Spaslack
и адресован гр-н
à Harbin
в

¹⁾ Indiquer dans la parenthèse la nature de l'envoi
(lettre, imprimé, etc.).
²⁾ Указать в скобках род отправления. Письмо,
печатное произведение и т. п.

Timbre du bureau expéditeur de
l'avis
Штемпель почтового учрежде-
ния отсылающего уведомление.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION
PAYEMENT

Уведомление { о получении
о выплате

taxe perçue
(A remplir par l'expéditeur)
(Заполняется отправителем)

A 2. Москва 69
B Скатерный 22 кв. 4
С. К. Митрич
(Lieu de destination)
(место назначения)

Rue et numéro
(улица и номер)
Service des postes 435R
Почтовая служба
(Pays de destination)
(страна назначения) 3

Moscow to Harbin (Manchuria), 1931. While the covers suggest that the AR fee was not paid on the registered letter, but on the card or form, this one has no stamps. However, it is marked *taxe perçue*, suggesting that the fee was paid in cash.

AR cards for parcels

These seem to be AR cards going in reverse, or replacement cards, although it is not clear that any (US) cards were replaced. Parcels were sent to the Soviet Union from the US, and these cards, originating in the USSR, were signed by the recipients; then the cards were returned to the donors. We would expect US cards; but here, they are Soviet.

14506

УВЕДОМЛЕНИЕ О ВРУЧЕНИИ
NOTICE OF DELIVERY

Посылка Parcel с объявленной ценностью на with declared value of

по фактуре/лиц. № ЛТ 69680
адресован --- гражданину
ADDRESSED TO

Эстонск. ССР. П а й д е
COMER Л.

GLOBE PARCEL
1891 B
NEW YORK

U.S.A.
(Страна назначения)
ПОЧТОВАЯ СЛУЖБА

Штемпель почтового учреждения, отсылающего уведомление
STAMP OF OFFICE

Настоящим подтверждаю, что
The undersigned states that

посылка по фактуре/лиц. за номером указанным на обороте
parcel as per invoice/lic. shown on the reverse hereof

по принадлежности выдано }
was duly delivered on

Штемпель почтового учреждения назначения

ПОДПИСЬ ПОЛУЧАТЕЛЯ ПОСЫЛКИ:
SIGNATURE OF THE RECIPIENT

ПОДПИСЬ СЛУЖАЩЕГО МЕСТА НАЗНАЧЕНИЯ:
SIGNATURE OF AGENT OF OFFICE OF DESTINATION

Soviet card returned to US, 1958. No stamps applied. From Paide (Estonia). The reverse is inverted relative to the other side.

Postmark of the office returning the receipt

RETURN RECEIPT
ОБРАТНАЯ РАСПИСКА

PARCELS TO RUSSIA, Inc.
1530 Bedford Avenue
Brooklyn 16, N. Y., U. S. A.

Эта расписка должна быть подписана адресатом или уполномоченным в соответствии с существующими порядками страны. Расписка немедленно выслана обратно по почте по адресу отправителя.

This receipt must be signed by the addressee or by a person authorized regulations of the country of destination, or, if those regulations so provide, by destination, and returned by the first mail directly to the sender.

№ Фактуры: 38238 Н
№ Заказа: 0886 Л
Адрес: СССР
Иркутская обл.
Тайшетский р-н
пос. Суешиха
Елз-городок ИЭИ

Фамилия получателя: Ауктикалайнене Феле К.
Name of Recipient

Адрес: Р. Latvenas
PTR Calif.

Фамилия отправителя:
Name of Sender

Soviet card returned to US, 1958. No stamps applied. Slightly larger and different shade. From Lithuania.

28

The undersigned confirms that all articles enumerated in the license were received in full.
Настоящим подтверждаю, что все предметы перечисленные в фактуре были получены в исправности

Месяц Число Год
Month Date Year
18 1958

ПОДПИСЬ ПОЛУЧАТЕЛЯ
Signature of Recipient

ПОДПИСЬ АГЕНТА ПОЧТ. ОТА.
а месте назначения
Штемпель Почтового ОТА в месте назначения
Signature of the Agent of Post Office Dept.

Место для марки
Postmark of Office of Destination

AR covers

Pre-Vienna

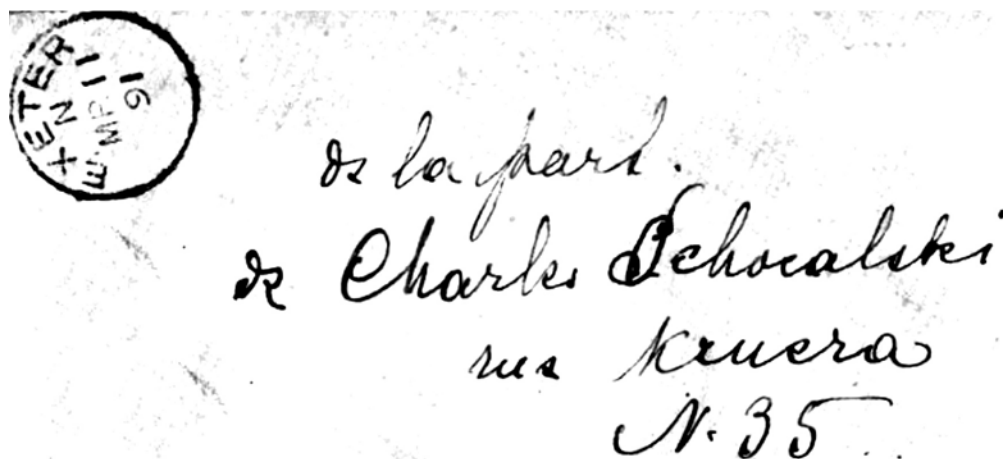


St Petersburg to Nissi (Serbia), 1880. Ms Retur Recept (close to U s-style formula) and green handstamp **Avis de reception** confirmed by the sender's ms endorsement. **Only AR handstamp (worldwide) that I know of in the pre-Vienna period.** Rated 7 kopeks for registration, and double UPU letter rate at 7 k per weight (evidence suggests that the AR fee was paid on the form pre-Vienna).



Warsaw to Exeter (UK), 1891. Ms avec retour resepise (misspelled Austrian formula). Rated 70 kopeks, made up of 10 kop for registration and six times (per 15 g) UPU rate of 10 kop; AR fee would have been paid on the AR form.

Nine wax seals on reverse contribute to the weight. At 90% actual size.



Vienna period; occupied Estonia and Poland



Revel (now Tallinn, in Estonia) to Hastings (UK), August 1892. Ms *A.R.* and Avis de reception Rated 10 kopeks for each of registration, AR, and UPU letter rate; 20 k stamp missing from reverse.

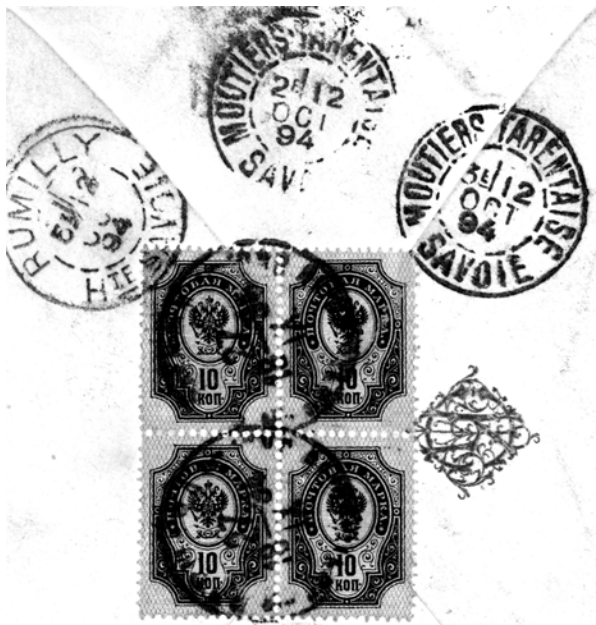


Warsaw to Paris, 1894. Handstamp boxed AR. Rated as above.

Vienna period



?? to Moutiers, forwarded to Rumilly (Upper Savoy), 1894. Sender's ms *retour récépissé* and standard boxed AR handstamp. Rated 40 kopeks, which I conjecture is an error for the double weight rate of 34 k (10 k for each of registration, AR, and first weight UPU; subsequent weights are 4 k).



Post-Vienna covers



St Petersburg to New York, 1901. Standard handstamp A.R., as well as purple Russian handstamp (registered and return receipt). Rated 10 kopeks for each of registration and UPU letter rate—indicating that post-Vienna, the AR fee is paid on the form.



Odessa (now in Ukraine) to Fécamp (France), 1903. Standard A.R. handstamp. Rated as above. Addressed to the company distilling Benedictine (a liqueur—one of the components of B & B).

Заказное
съ обратною роспискою

Four-year delay due to World War I



Kovel (now in Ukraine) via St Petersburg to Meridian (MS), forwarded to Pittsburg, 5 October 1914 (Julian). Ms Avis de reception Rated 10 kopeks for each of registration and upu letter rate. Apparently held by Russian military censor. Arrived in Pittsburg 13 February 1918 (Gregorian).



AR cover



Cherson (now Kherson in Ukraine) via Odessa to Copenhagen, June–July 1916 (Julian). Ms *Avis de reception* Rated 10 kopeks for each of registration and UPU letter rate. Russian military censor in Odessa (one-month delay). A piece of the AR form adhered to the reverse.



Russian office in Chefoo, China



Russian office in Chefoo to New Zealand, February 1920. Ms A.R. Rated 20¢ (diagonally overprinted) made up of single UPU 10¢ and registration 10¢; AR fee would have been paid on the AR form.

Russian post offices in China closed later in 1920.



Chefoo I J P O (Japanese Post Office), same day as Russian office, postmark on reverse.

Postcards sent with AR

Same correspondence



Moscow to Rochester (NY), 1932. Small rectangular distorted rubber **A. R.** handstamp. Rated 20 kopeks registration and 10 k international postcard rate.



Moscow to Rochester (NY), 1932. Clear strike of the same **A. R.** handstamp. Rated as above.



AR covers



Leningrad (now St Petersburg) to Paris, double, 1933. Larger A.R. handstamp. Rated 20 kopeks registration, 15 k first weight letter rate, plus 10 k for each subsequent weight. Date in handstamp on reverse, 3333, means 3 March 1933.



Leningrad to Paris, 1935. Standard A.R., in purple.. Rated as above, but single (same correspondence).

AR covers



Leningrad to Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, 1938. Now-standard A.R. handstamp. Rated 1.3 rubles, made up of .8 rb registration, and .5 rb letter rate.

AR covers



Suchostav (now in Ukraine) to Winnipeg (MB), 1955. Odd A.R. handstamp. Rated 1.1 rubles registration and .4 rb letter rate.



Erevan (Armenia) to Braintree (MA), 1956. Partial AR handstamp (confirmed by piece of red AR card attached to reverse). Rated 3.4 rubles: this is inexplicable.



AR covers



Suchostav to Kelliher (SK), 1958. Same odd A.R. handstamp. Rated 2.6 rubles, also inexplicable. Vassily has become Bill.



Stanislaw (now Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine) to Edmonton (AB), March 1960. Ms AR (confirmed by piece of red AR card attached to reverse). Rated 6.2 rubles: equally inexplicable. The MONTREAL square registration marking is scarce.