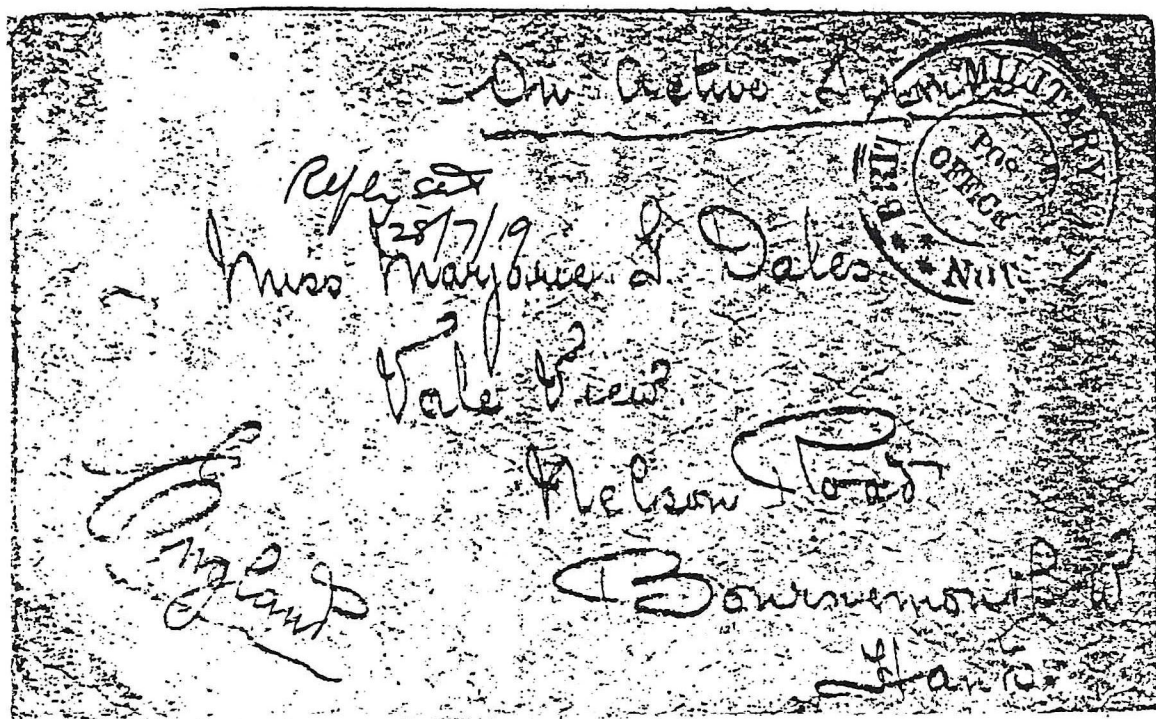


BRITISH FORCES
Siberia

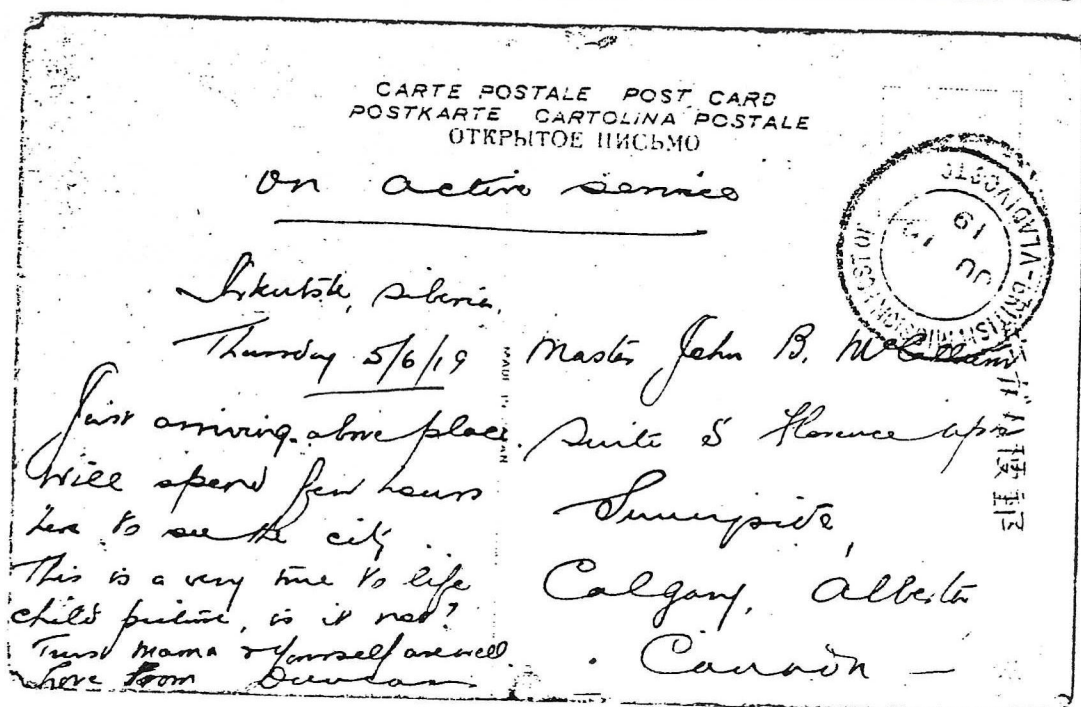
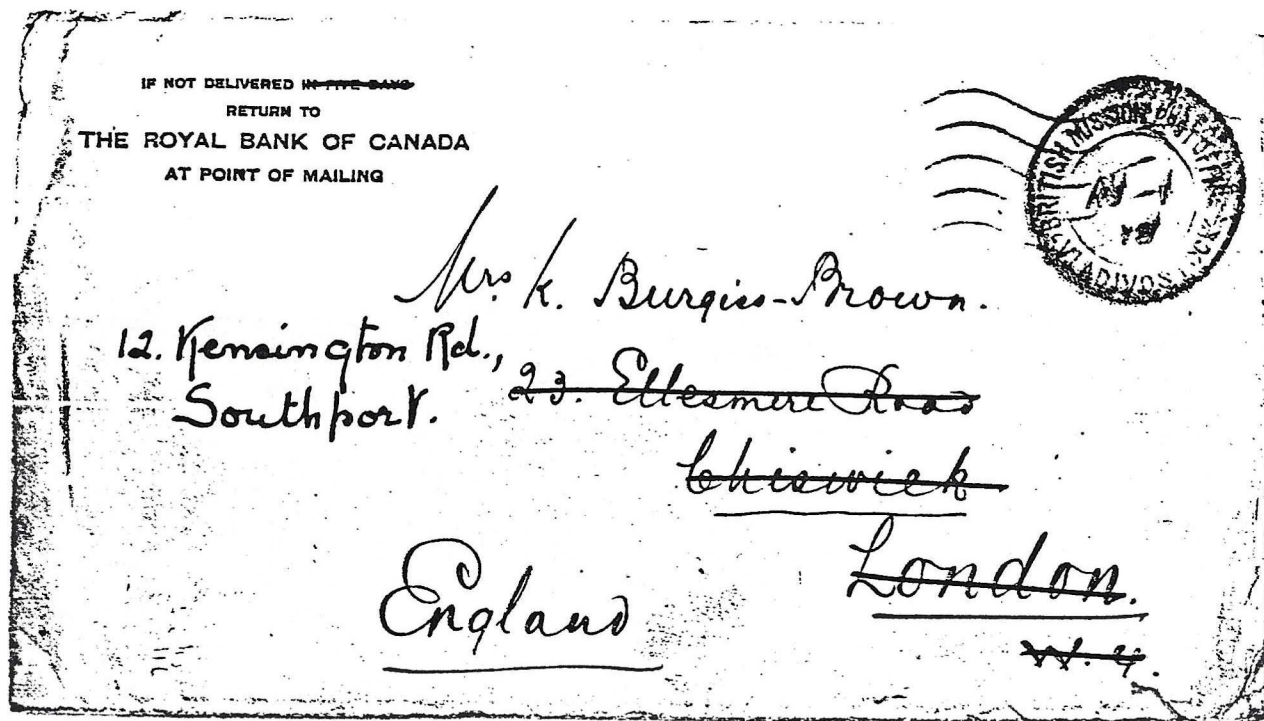
British Military Mission Post Office
June 1919



Even before the Canadian SEF left Vladivostok, the British Military Mission set up its own post office. An undated postmark was introduced on 20 April 1919 and was used into mid-June. The above cover was sent by a member of the 9th Hampshires from Omsk.

BRITISH FORCES
Siberia

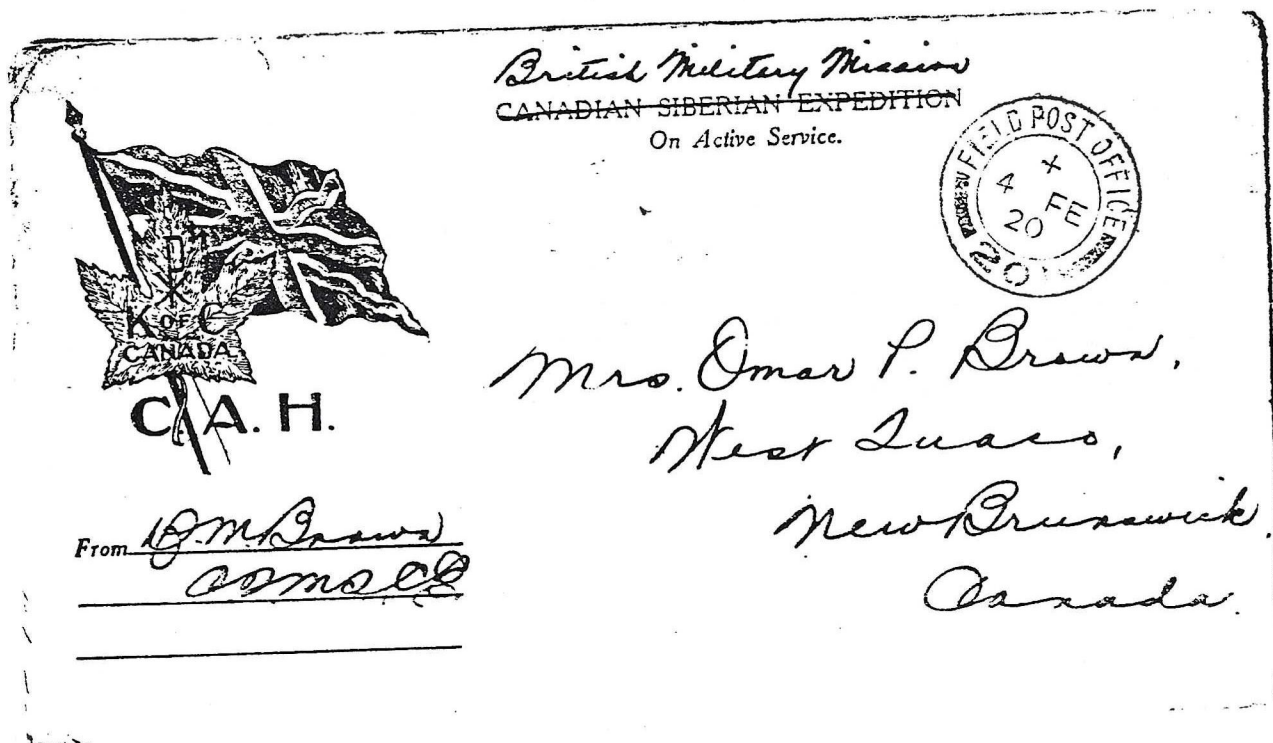
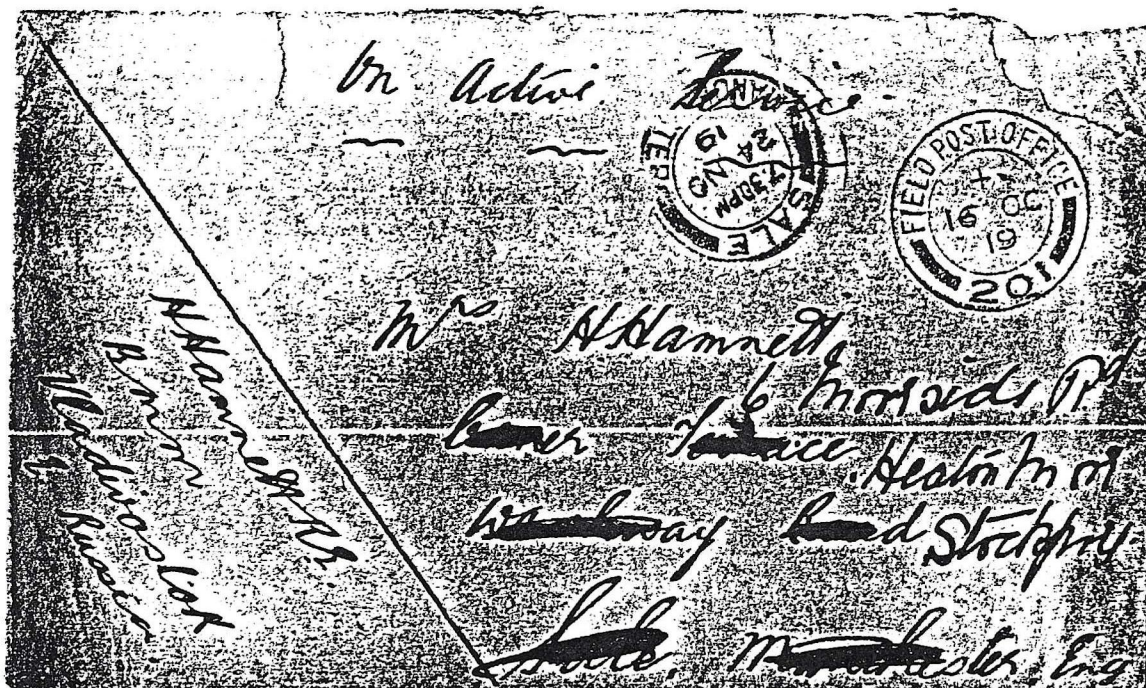
British Mission Post Office/Vladivostok
10 June 1919
1 August 1919



In due course, a new dated postmark was supplied to the British Military Mission and is recorded used from 21 May to 19 August 1919. Strikes are typically poor; those shown here are well above average.

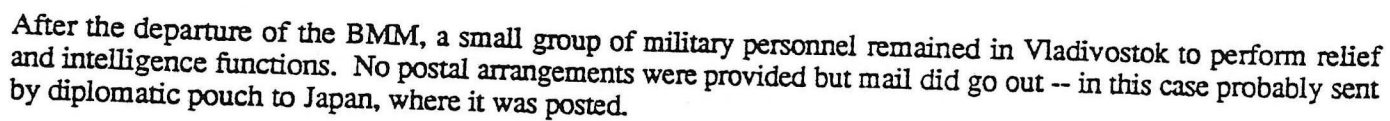
BRITISH FORCES
Siberia

Field Post Office 201
16 October 1919
4 February 1920



Presumably the postal unit which had the BMM cancel was rotated home so that a numbered FPO cancel without designation of the location had to be placed in service for the remaining forces. It is recorded used from 19 August 1919 to 26 April 1920.

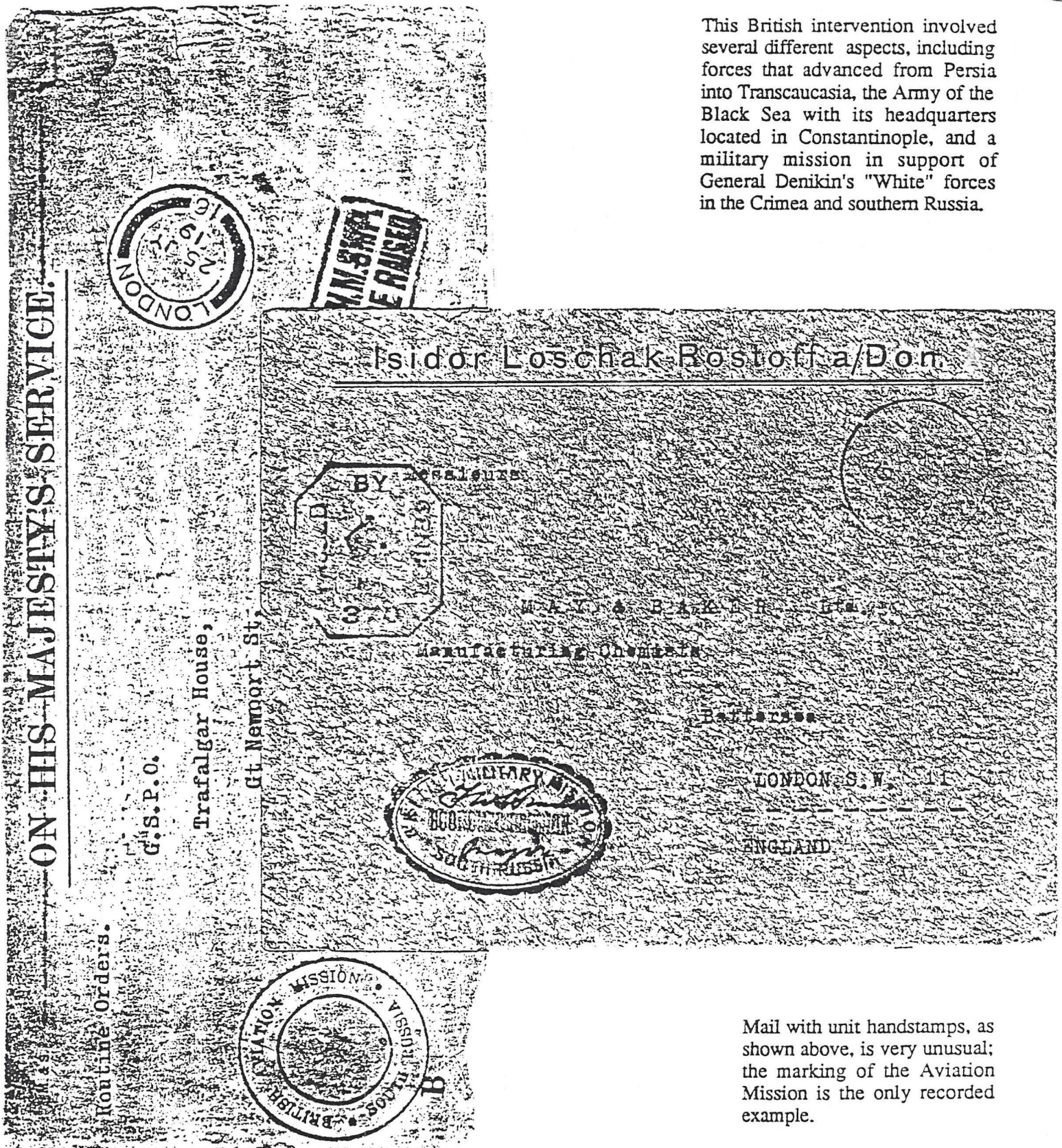
Kobe
2 July 1921



BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

London
25 July 1919

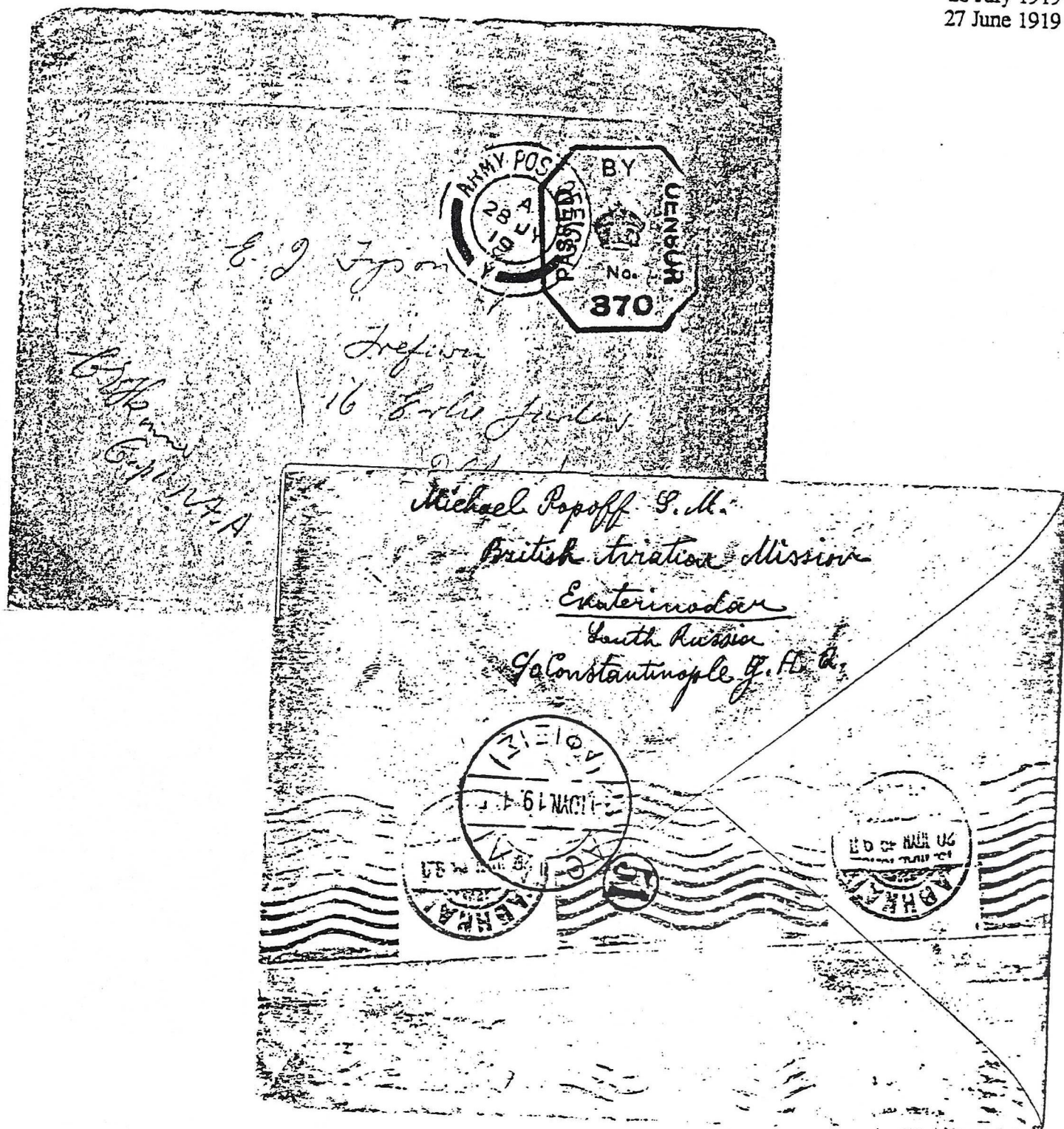
This British intervention involved several different aspects, including forces that advanced from Persia into Transcaucasia, the Army of the Black Sea with its headquarters located in Constantinople, and a military mission in support of General Denikin's "White" forces in the Crimea and southern Russia.



Mail with unit handstamps, as shown above, is very unusual; the marking of the Aviation Mission is the only recorded example.

BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

Army Post Office Y
28 July 1919
27 June 1919



The BMMSR arrived at Novorossisk in June 1919 and established at HQ first at Ekaterinodar and then at Taganrog. Both of the above covers entered the mails at APO Y in Constantinople. Upper cover sent from Armavir, 50 miles west of Ekaterinodar. Lower cover from a Russian pilot trainee.

BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

OC Posts/BMM1
8 October 1919
15 November 1919

Dear Mr. Firth
this is where
these letters
don't - have
them address
correct address
B.M. Mission
South Russia
will write you
Chapman

OTKPICTOE ИИЧЕМО. 30
W. T. GOLDEN
Highgate,
BEVERLEY
NR HULL
ENGLAND.

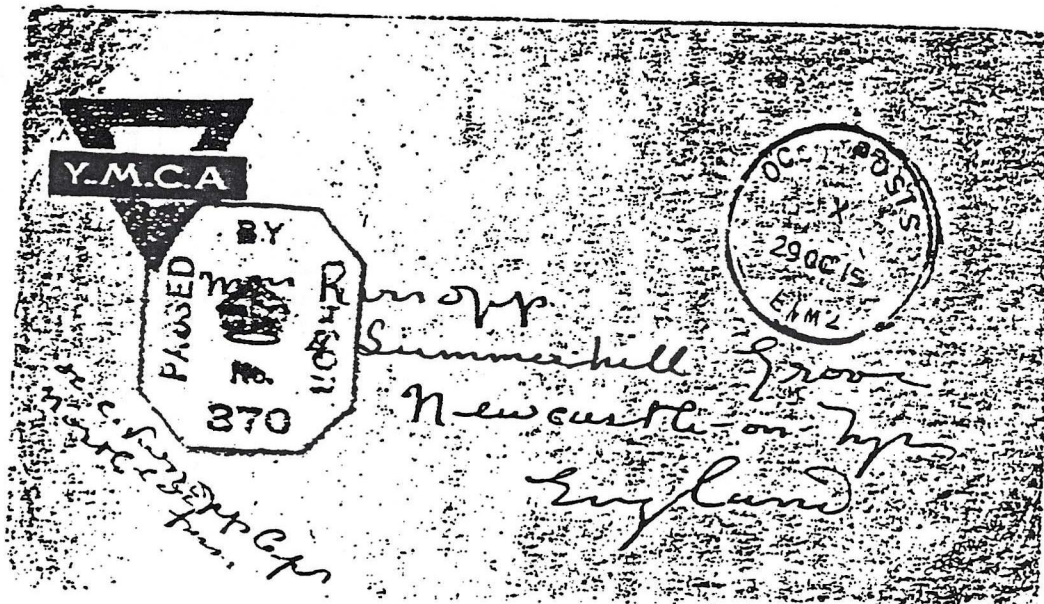
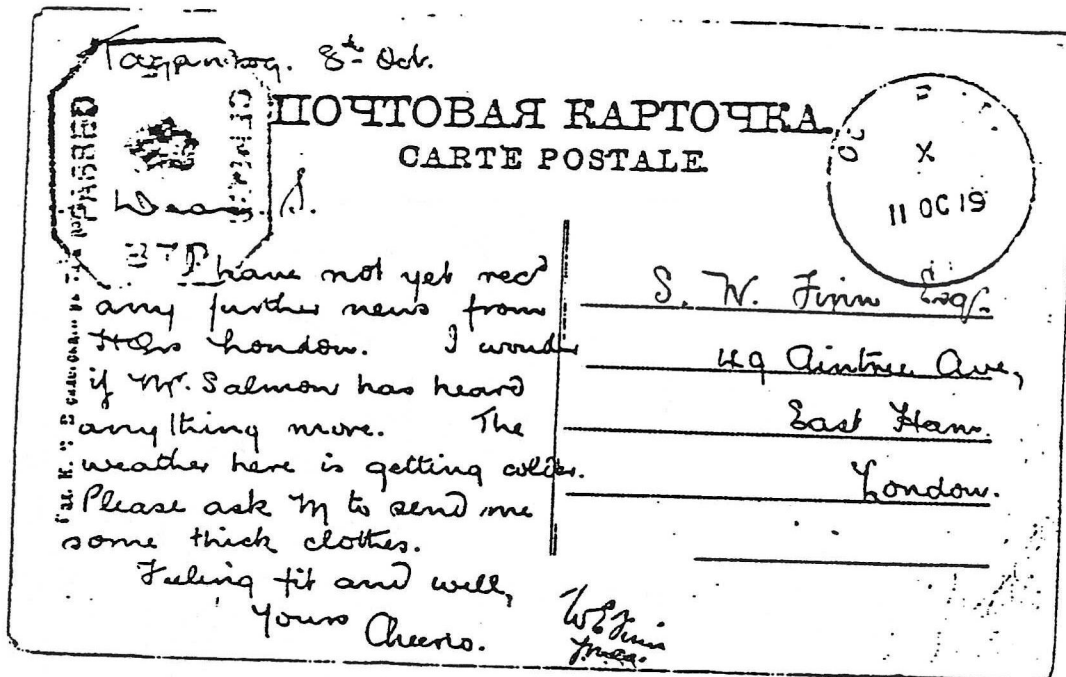
L/Cpl. F. Firth 25112 R&E.
c/o Rly Adviser
NOVOROSSISK SOUTH RUSSIA.
Correspondance
Dear Tom,
Everything here
is tres bonbar the beer
which is rotten. How is
the Motor Trade keeping. I
suppose you are still piling
up the money. Hope you have
had no smashes lately. I am
expecting a leave in about
12 months so look out. Well
cheerio old chap.
FRANK.

CARTE POSTALE
Adresse
Mr. Tom Firth
M Station Terrace,
GOLCAR.
Nb. HUDDERSFIELD.
Yorkshire,
ENGLAND.

The first postmark included the initials of "Officer Commanding Posts, British Military Mission 1," which is recorded as being used in Novorossisk from 18 September to 19 December 1919.

BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

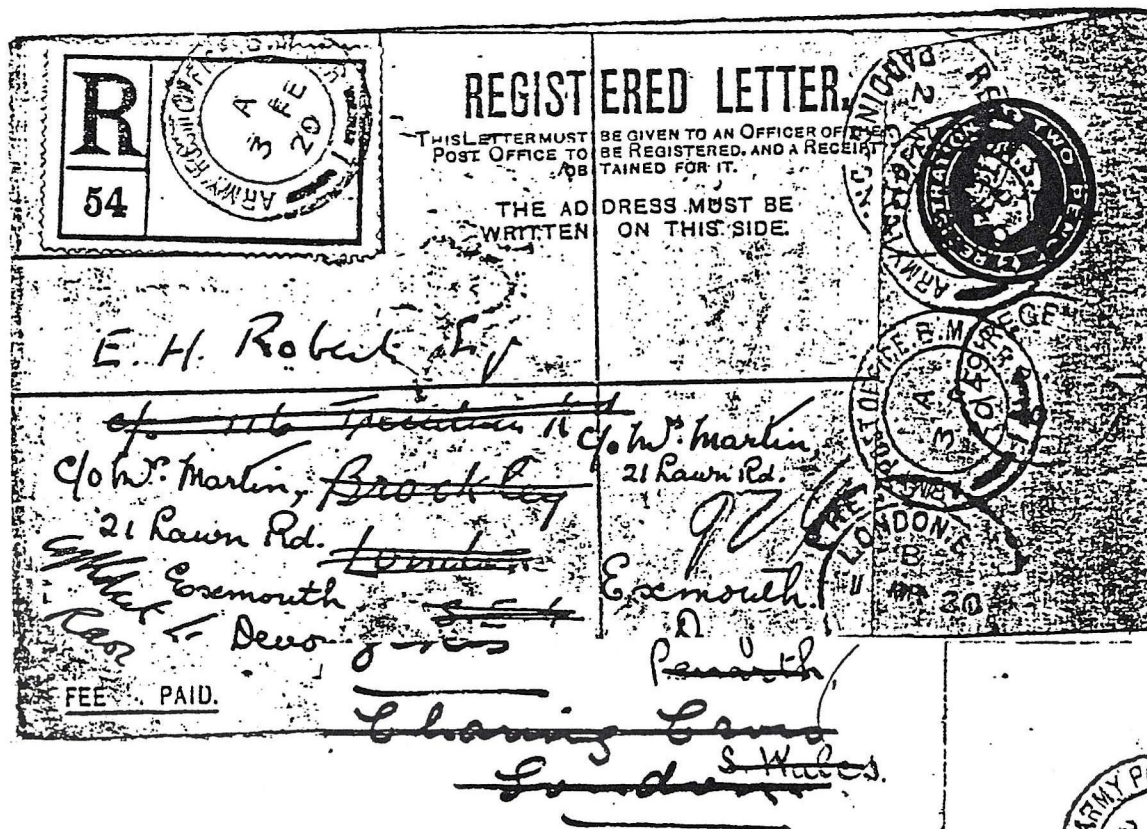
OC Posts/BMM2
11 October 1919
29 October 1919



A second postmark included the initials of "Officer Commanding Posts, British Military Mission 2," which is recorded as being used in Taganrog from 5 August to 10 December 1919.

BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

Army Post Office B.M.S.R/1
3 February 1920
21 June 1920



Miss N. Corbin,

Mermaid

Beckenham Rd.

Beckenham,

Kent.
England.

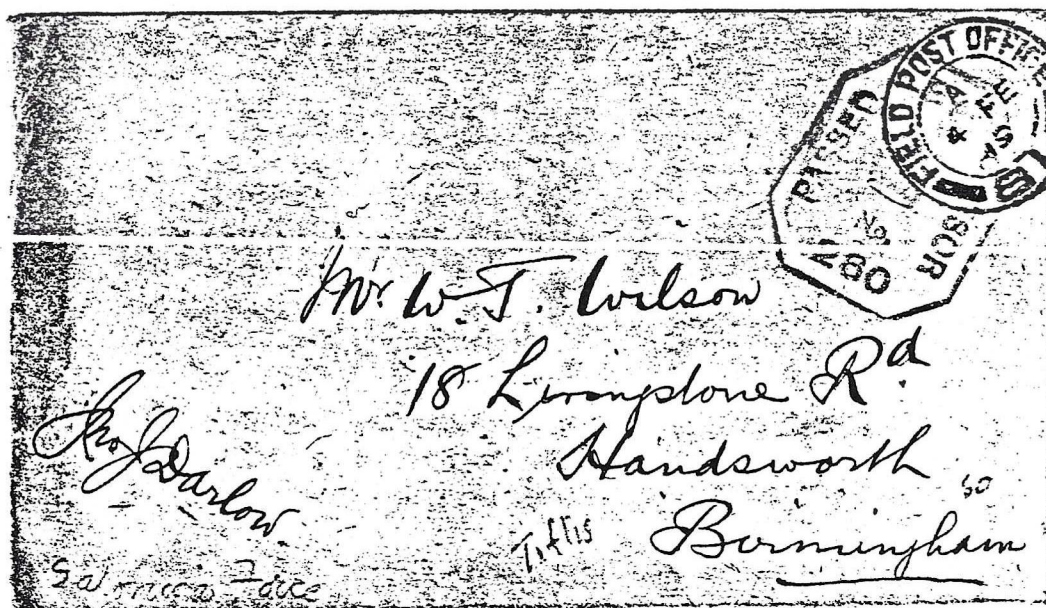
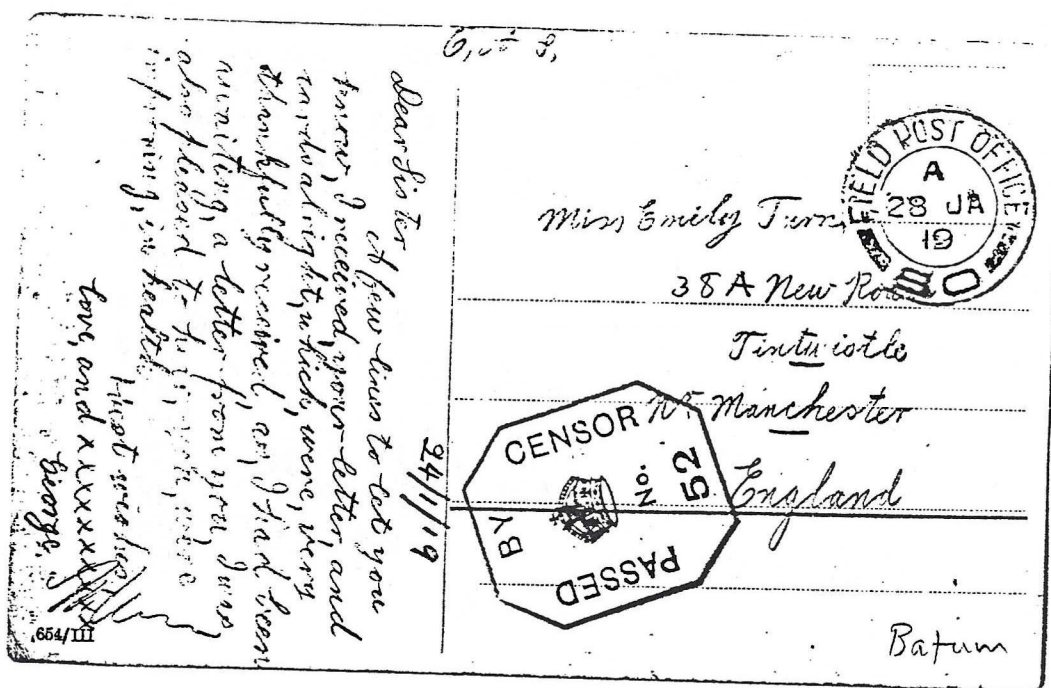
G. H. Roberts
Penzance

A new postmark was issued to the military mission in early 1920. It is recorded as used in Novorossisk from 10 January to 1 March 1920. Following Denikin's defeat, the command of the White forces in the south passed to Baron Wrangel in the Crimea. Thus, the BMSR moved to Sevastopol where this postmark was used from April to late June 1920, when the Mission was finally withdrawn.

BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

Field Post Office 80
28 January 1919

Field Post Office 81
4 February 1919



Batum, at the eastern end of the Black Sea, was occupied in December 1918 by the 80th Brigade of the 27th Division. FPO 80 served there from 29 December 1918 until 11 April 1919. FPO 81 also operated at Batum in January 1919 but moved to Tiflis sometime in February.

BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

Army Post Office SX 22
20 October 1919
27 December 1919

ACTIVE	SERVICE
This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration. NOTE:— Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base. The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:— I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters. Signature Name only <i>W. Haughton Sgt.</i>	[Several letters may be forwarded in this Cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The Cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor.] Address:— <i>Mrs. Haughton</i> <i>7 Portland Place</i> <i>Leamington Spa</i> <i>England</i>

32/143

Mr. Redman
106 5 Lat Place St.
1011

ARMY POST OFFICE
B
27 DE 19
SX 22

Subsequently, APO SX 22 was assigned to the forces in Batum. It is recorded used there between April and December 1918.

BRITISH FORCES
South Russia

Field Post Office T.27.
18 April 1919

Field Post Office D.27.
28 July 1919

ACTIVE	SERVICE
This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration. NOTE:— Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored. Reimbursement. The contents are liable to examination at the Base. The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:— I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters. Signature } <i>Alex. Inglis.</i> Name only } TIFLIS	[Several Cover, but must be forwarded in this case to the Base Censor.] Field Post Office T.27. Address: <i>Mr. R. Inglis,</i> <i>20 Wilton Garden,</i> <i>Glasgow W</i> <i>150-Scottish</i>
On 1 <i>Challen.</i> <i>2 Hatlock Road</i> <i>Meads</i> <i>Eastbourne</i> <i>England</i> <i>Sussex</i> Field Post Office T.27. <i>J.R. Challen</i>	

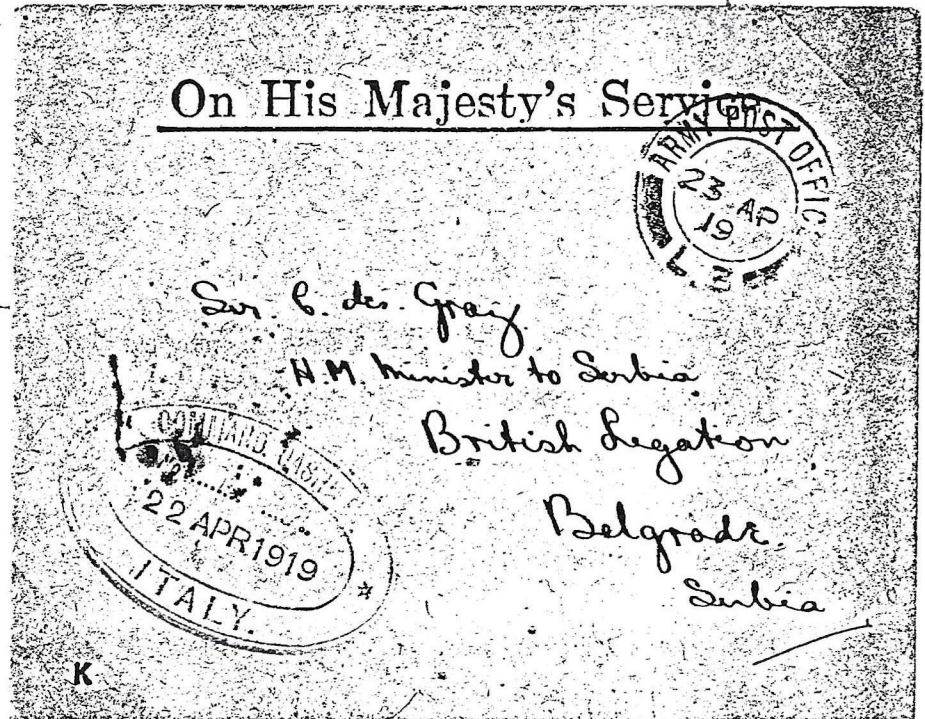
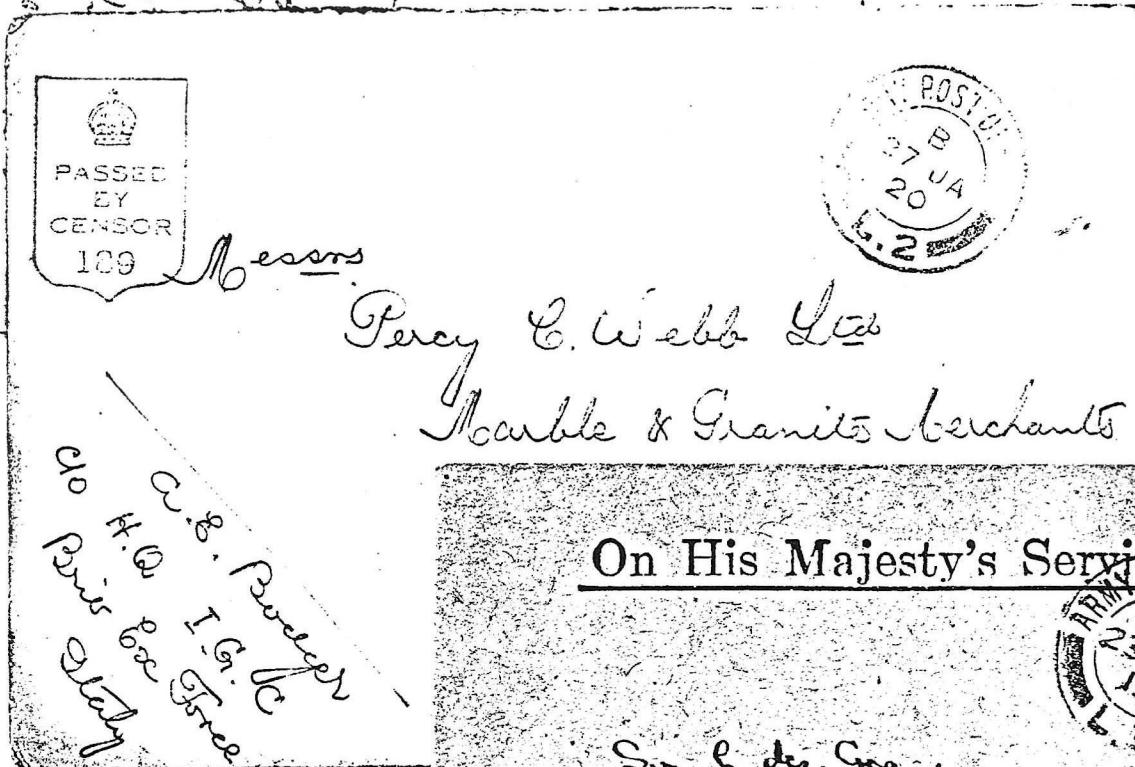
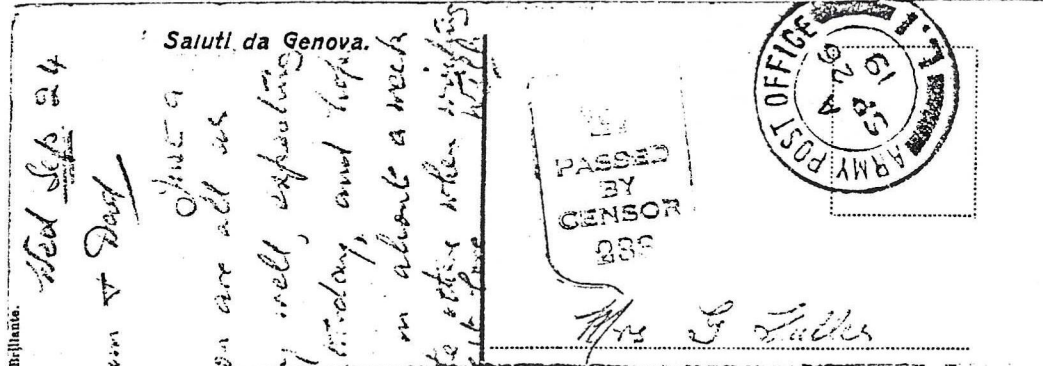
For the occupation of Tiflis by the 81st and 82nd Brigades of the 27th Division, FPOs T27 and D27 were utilized. The former is recorded from 10 February to 16 August 1919 and the latter from 21 January to 15 August 1919.

BRITISH FORCES
Italy

Army Post Office L.1
26 September 1919

Army Post Office L.2
27 January 1920

Army Post Office L.3
23 April 1919

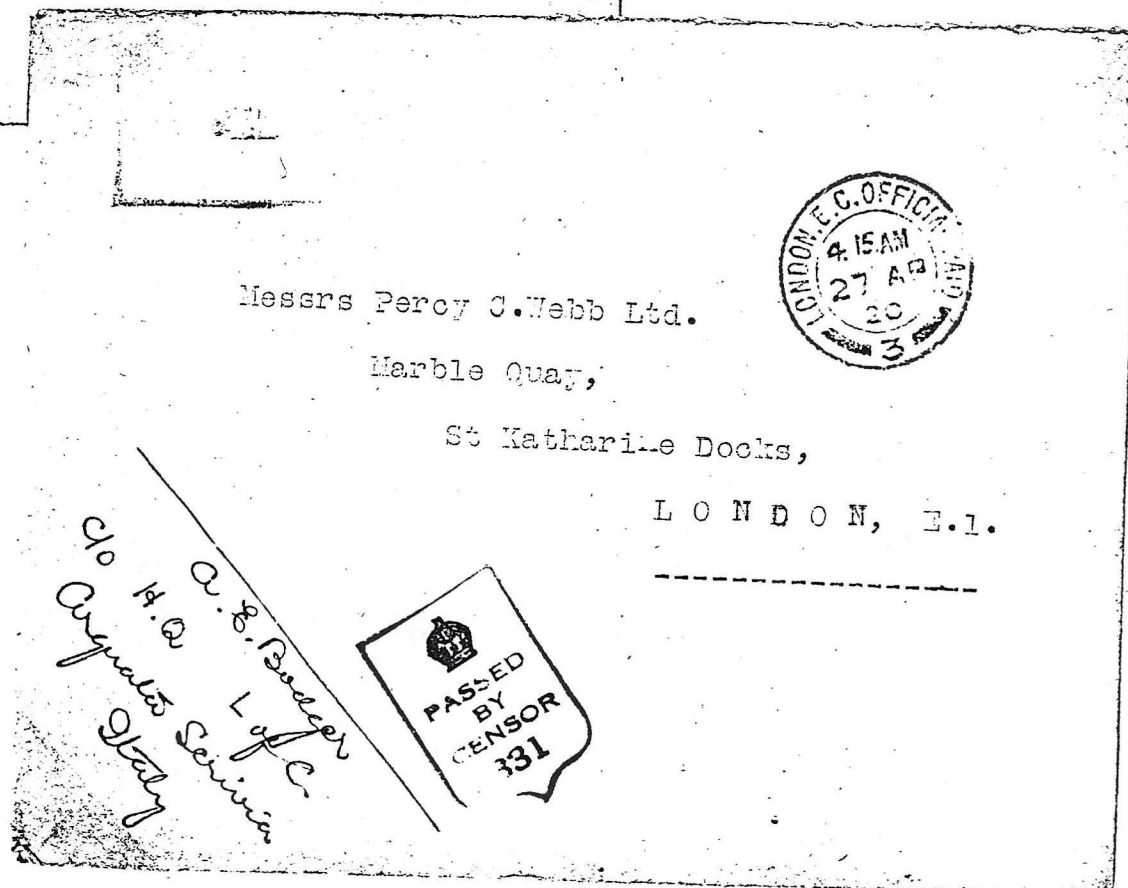


At the time of the Armistice, the British Army had three divisions on the Italian Front. Most of these troops were demobilized, some were assigned to occupation duty in the former Austrian territories, and a few remained in Italy to complete the various military activities. APOs L.1, L.2 and L.3 serviced Arquata, Tortona and Genoa.

BRITISH FORCES
Italy

Field Post Office F.D..1
8 January 1919

April 1920



Some mail from the forces in Italy was handled by Field Distribution units, which had their own distinctive datestamps. Official mail was sent to London by military pouch and placed in the mail stream there, as shown by the cover from GHQ at Arquata (Scrivia).

BRITISH FORCES
Italy

Naval Balloon Station/Brindisi
15 December 1918

Naval/Transport Office/Spezia
12 February 1919

On Active Service

*Wishing you all
A Merry Xmas
and
A Happy New Year
from
Brindisi
Italy*

NAVAL BALLOON
RECEIVED FROM H.M. SHIP
NO CHARGE TO BE RAISED

*Post Office
to Norton Rd
Exeter
Devon
England*

16. Fotocromia-Terni

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

*Ante Yacuzzi
Bagini Contessa
Spezia*



One of the more interesting activities conducted in Italy was the maintenance by the Royal Navy of a balloon station at the naval base in Brindisi, near the southeastern tip of Italy. This operation was intended to guard against German and Austrian submarine activity which would be a menace to Allied shipping in the Adriatic Sea. Special markings exist for British Naval Transport Offices in various ports, including Fiume, Genoa, Spezia, etc.

BRITISH FORCES
Italy

Naval/Transport
Office/Trieste
17 February 1919

Divisional Naval/
Transport Office/
Genoa
12 April 1919

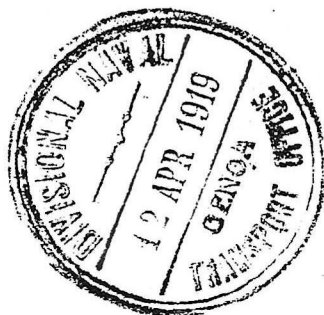
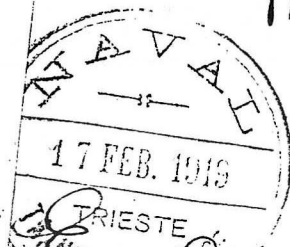
ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

CENSURA

Mrs H Shipley.
The Bungelow
Downside.

England.

Cobham
Surrey



British Naval Transport
Offices operated in the
major port cities, including
Fiume, Genoa, Naples,
Trieste and Venice. Such
markings are especially
sought after by collectors of
naval mail.