

FIUME
Overprints on Hungary

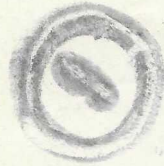
Fiume
14 January 1919
16 January 1919



In addition to the "harvesters" and "parliament building" stamps, overprints were made on those depicting King Karl and Queen Zita. (Many varieties exist, including a missing "I" on those on the upper cover.) There were six denominations of this issue, three of which are quite common. However, three values -- 15 and 25 filler with the King and 50 filler with the Queen -- were found in such small quantities that they were never issued. These were not sold at the post office but a handful was given out to high officials. Sassone estimates that four or five each of the 15 and 50 filler and only two of the 25 filler exist. (One each of the 25 f. and 50 f. were postmarked by favor.)

FIUME
Overprints on Hungary

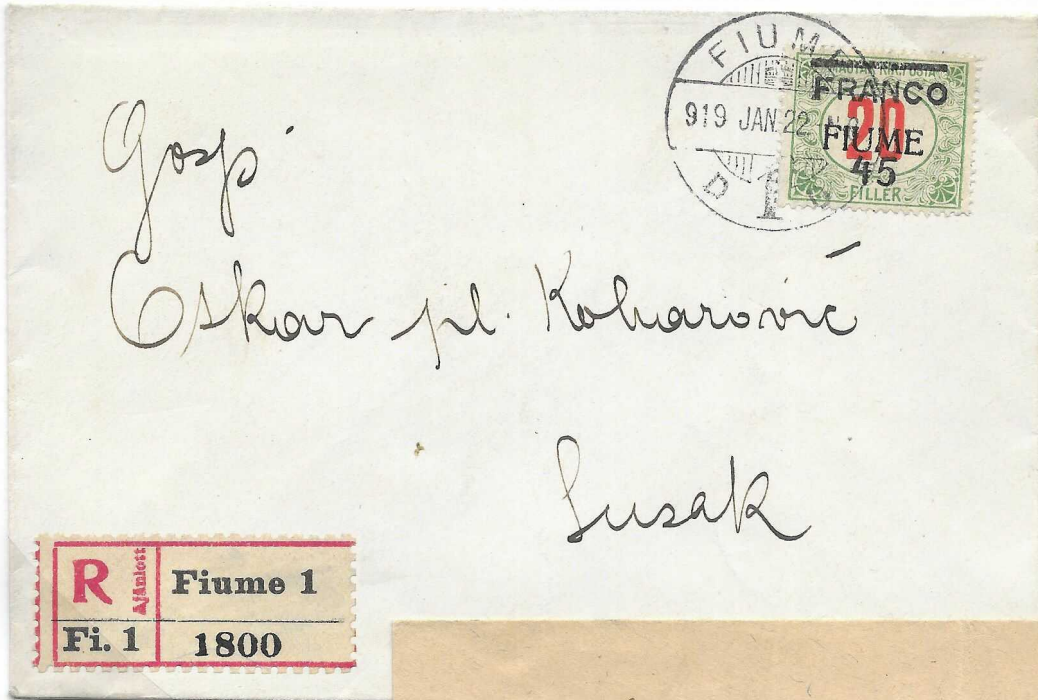
Fiume
14 January 1919
15 April 1919



The demand for postage was high relative to the supply, so the authorities overprinted other types of stamps, including semi-postals, special deliveries, postage dues and even postal savings stamps -- all of which were used at their face value for regular postage. The above covers were franked with overprints on the semi-postal stamps that had been issued for the benefit of war charities.

FIUME
Overprints on Hungary

Fiume
22 January 1919
29 January 1919



Covers with postage due stamps overprinted "Franco" to qualify them for regular postage and surcharged to pay the rate for registered letters. Sent to nearby Susak, where they were backstamped for receipt the following day.

FIUME
Interallied Pictorial Stamps

Fiume
3 October 1919
21 June 1919



Between 30 January and 3 April 1919, the Interallied authorities issued seventeen new stamps with scenes of Fiume. These were valid for postage until 30 April 1920. Above examples show use of the lowest (2 centesimi) and highest (5 corona) denominations.

FIUME
Interallied Pictorial Stamps
Official Usage

Posta Militare 83
16 March 1919

Fiume
19 July 1919



Photocopy of the
cachet on reverse.



Upper cover was sent to Rome from a member of the Interallied Occupation Corps and bears a cachet of that body on the reverse. Lower cover addressed to the "President of the Interallied Occupation Corps.



COMANDO AERONAUTICA
IN FIUME D'ITALIA

Reg. Signor



F. Colombo



VISTO PER CENSURA

Recom

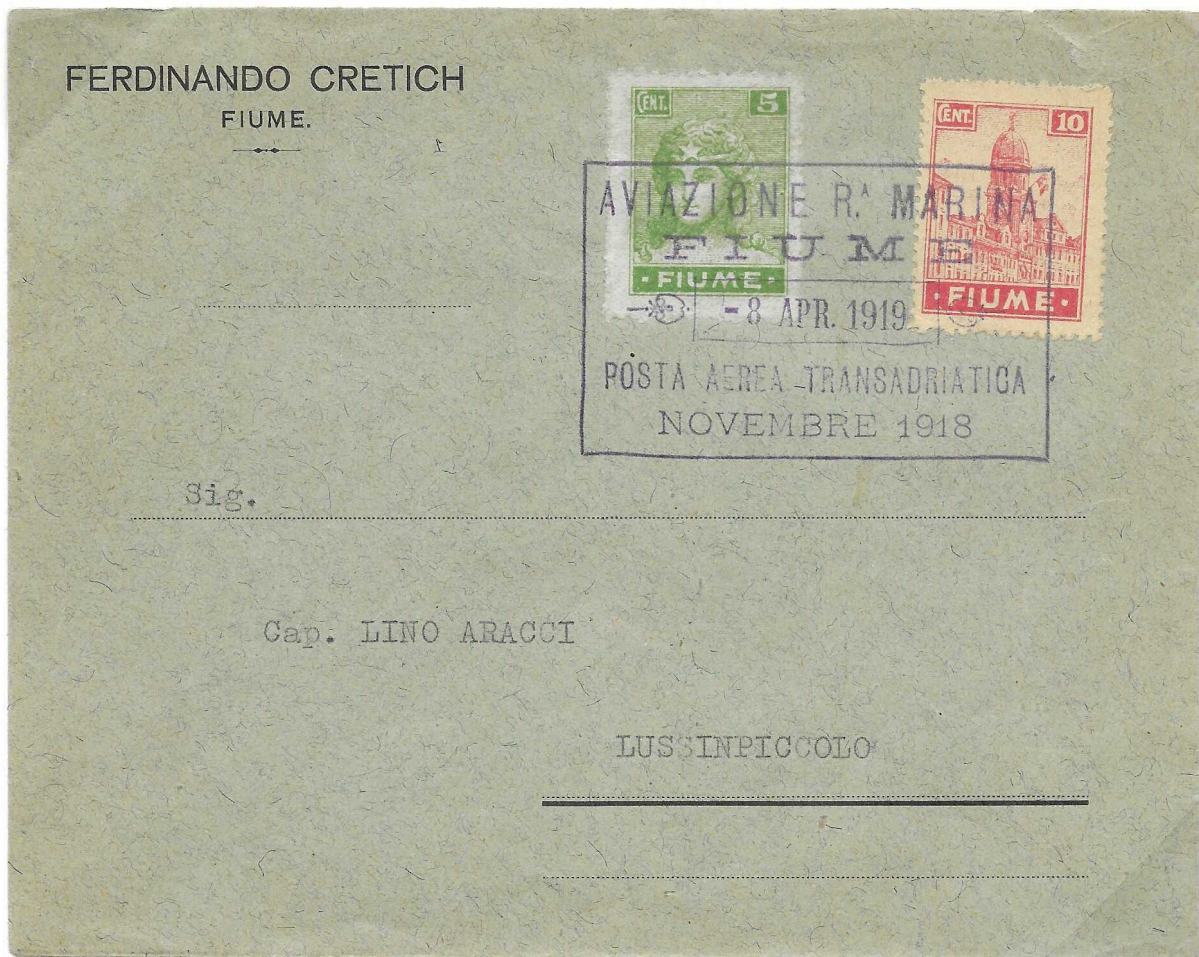
Trago

90 Provincia di Milano

This example of a heavy official registered military letter from the Aeronautical Headquarters in Fiume was franked with a large number of stamps of the first pictorial issue, paying a total of 60 centesimi in postage. Has circular mark of the Military Telegraph Censorship Commission in red.

FIUME
Royal Naval Air Service

Aviazione R. Marina/Fiume
8 April 1919



Fiume was one of the ports served by the seaplanes of the Naval Air Service. Thus, it used a rectangular box marking to postmark mail intended to be flown.



Realizing that the pictorials were inscribed only "Fiume" with no recognition that the stamps were intended for postal use, the Interallied authorities ordered them to be reprinted with the wording "Posta Fiume." These were duly issued on 28 July 1919. However, as quantities of five denominations were stolen from the printing works, these were invalidated (with most of the remainders being used later after surcharging). A small quantity of the unissued stamps eventually came into philatelic hands as shown above.

FRANCOBOLLI POSTALI
EMESSI DALLA
CITTÀ DI FIUME
A RICORDO
DELLA PROCLAMATA
ANNESSIONE ALL'ITALIA

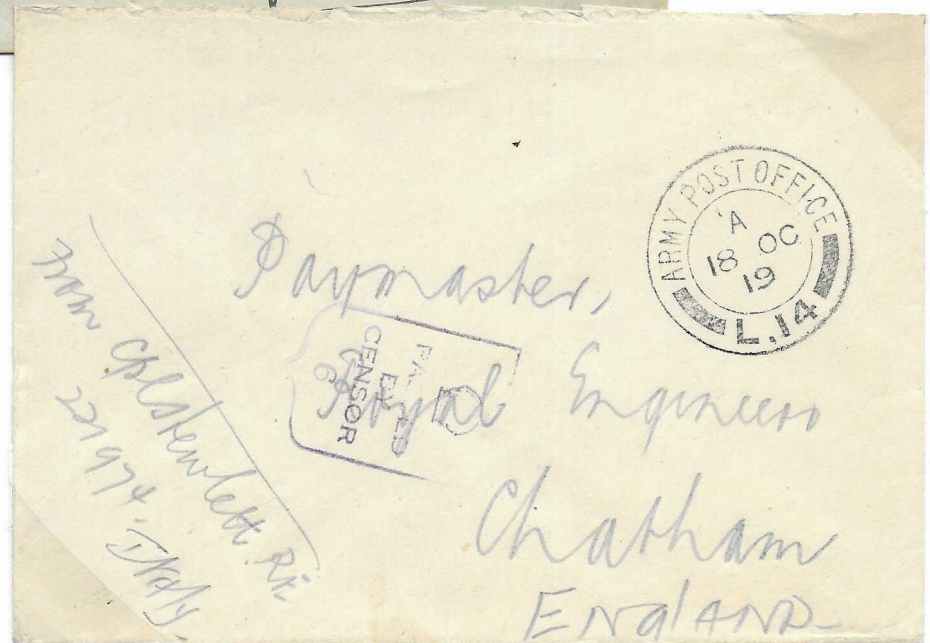


On occasion, the authorities in Fiume provided special commemorative booklets for important personages containing stamps related to the specific occasion. These examples contain the set issued for the first proclamation of annexation to Italy (an event that did was postponed until 1924 due to the D'Annunzio affair).

FIUME
British Forces

British Naval Transport Office/Fiume
26 March 1919

Army Post Office L.14
18 October 1919

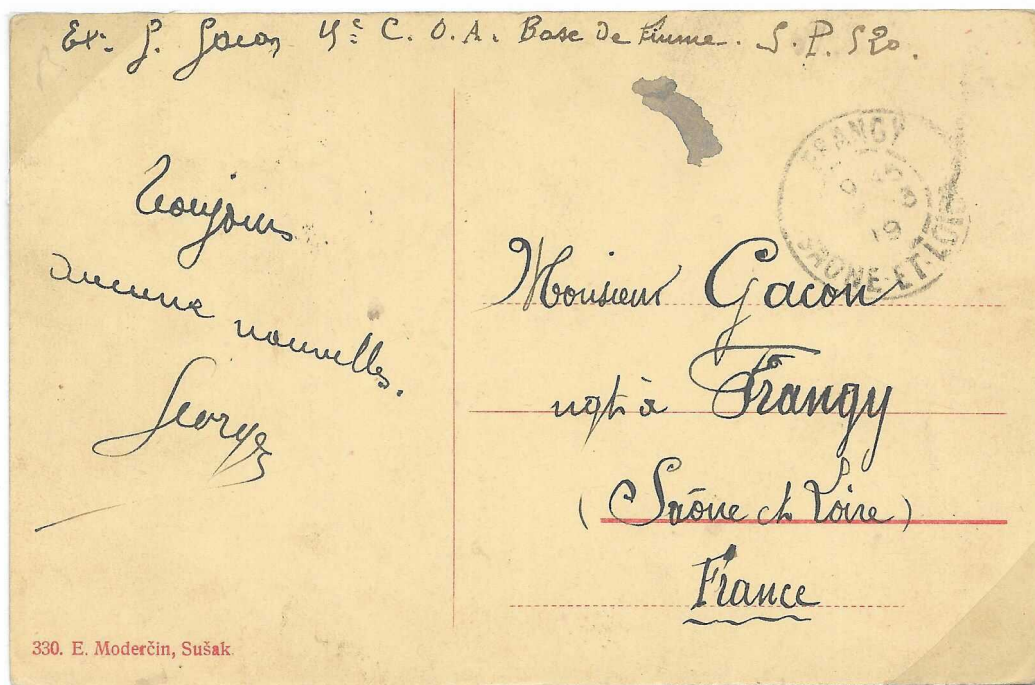
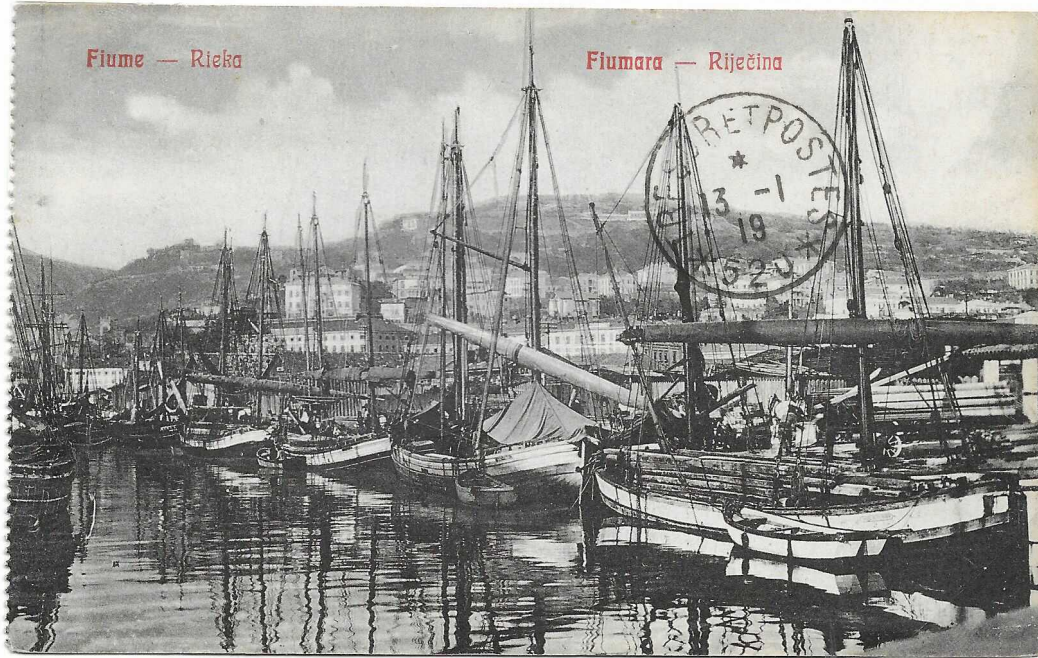


Covers shown above attest to the presence of British Army and Navy personnel in Fiume during the period of the Interallied occupation. Examples are quite elusive.

FIUME
French Forces

Tresor et Postes 520
13 January 1919

Poste aux Armees * *
9 March 1919



Following the armistice with Austria-Hungary, Allied troops occupied Fiume, the main Hungarian port on the Adriatic on 5 November 1918 and remained there until 13 September 1919, the day after the d'Annunzio coup.

FIUME
D'Annunzio Memorabilia

Fiume
1920

In a *coup d'etat* against the Interallied Commission, Gabriele D'Annunzio and his band of black-shirted "Legionnaires" seized control of Fiume on 12 September 1919. Rather than resist in the face of great popular support for the insurgents, the British and French forces withdrew on the following day. As a result, D'Annunzio remained in command until finally being forced out by Italian troops on 31 December 1920.



Upper photo postcard has 5 cent. overprinted semi-postal stamp cancelled with circular cachet inscribed "City of Fiume/The Commandant" for the personal use of D'Annunzio -- not otherwise seen by exhibitor. Lower photo postcard of the Commandant is personally autographed.

FIUME
Pictorial Surcharges

Fiume
30 November 1919
5 January 1920



The D'Annunzio regime did not wish to use the Interallied pictorials as issued. The first move was to revalidate them with overprints inscribed "Franco" and surcharge then with the most heavily used denominations, including 55 cent. values issued on 24 December 1919 to pay the rate for domestic registered letters. These were valid for postage until 30 April 1920.

FIUME
Pictorial Surcharges

Fiume
 26 November 1919



Patriotic postcard showing the expected new boundary (red line) between Italy and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (later Yugoslavia), including the location of Fiume at the far northern edge of the Adriatic Sea. This territory was promised to the Italians by the Allies in the 1915 Treaty of London as an inducement to join in the fighting but was not, in fact, transferred to Italy at the end of the war. Stamps of the “Fiume” and “Posta Fiume” pictorial sets surcharged with new denominations were affixed.

FIUME
Overprinted Semi-Postals

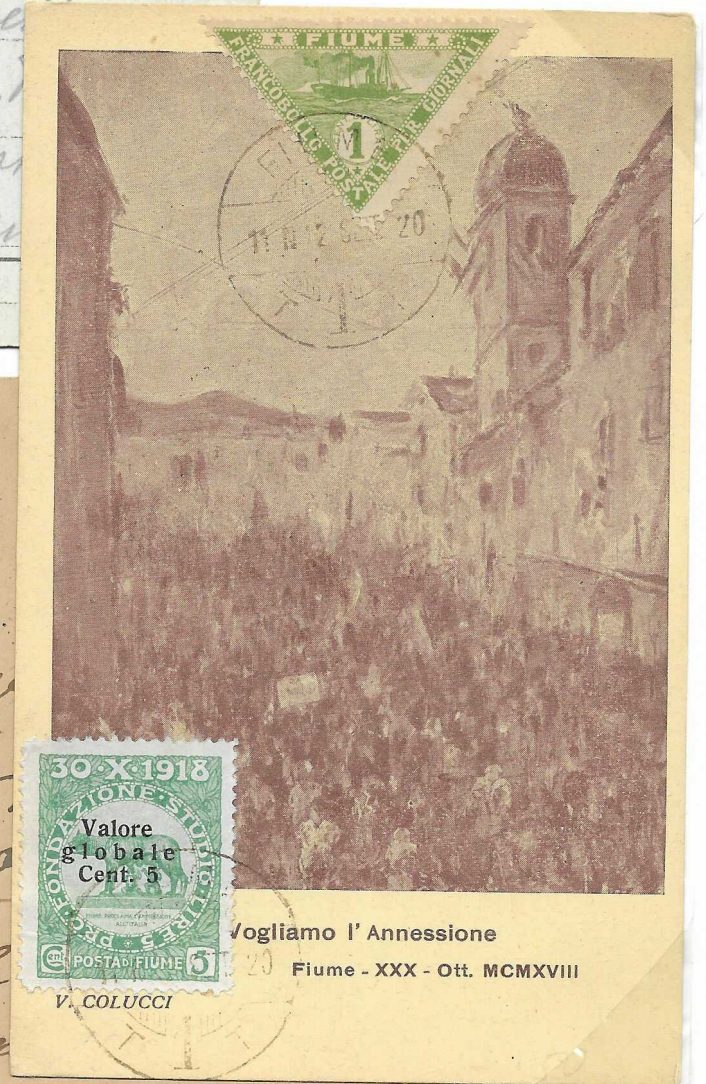
Fiume
29 December 1919
21 June 1920



As additional stamps were required, the authorities authorized the overprinting of the earlier semi-postal stamps with "Valore/Globale" and the original postal denomination. Thus, these stamps, which could then be sold at face value excluding the former charitable supplement, were issued on 3 December 1919.

FIUME
Overprinted Semi-Postals

Fiume
18 March 1920
22 August 1920
12 September 1920



Additional examples of overprints on semi-postals, including 3 corona high value and Dr. Grossich Foundation. Picture postcard shows crowds celebrating the 30 October 1918 plebiscite in favor of joining Italy.

Dott. Enzo Diena

14 gennaio 1982

Via Crescentini 19, Roma


Ho esaminato il francobollo di Fiume, 1918, 50 Filler, effigie dell'imperatrice Zita, con soprastampa a mano "FIUME" del quarto tipo (Cat.Sassone, n.28A), annullato, di cui è qui unita una riproduzione fotografica. A mio parere, l'esemplare che essendo un "non emesso" ha come pochi altri del genere, annullamento di favore - ha soprastampa originale ed è perfetto: l'ho firmato "E.Diena". * * * * *



GUGLIELMO OLIVA

PIAZZA RAFFAELE ROSSETTI, 4-3

GENOVA

 52.079

PERITO FILATELICO

DEL TRIBUNALE E DELLA CORTE D'APPELLO DI GENOVA



Certificato N. 7222

FIUME - 1919 - 15 fillers violetto, effigie dell'Imperatore Carlo, con sovrastampa a mano del IV tipo. Nuovo con gomma.
N. 57 del catalogo Oliva.

Ho esaminato il francobollo sopra citato, fresco e perfettamente dentellato, del quale una riproduzione fotografica è unita al presente certificato.

A mio parere il raro esemplare, del quale non mi sono noti ad oggi che cinque pezzi, ha la sovrastampa originale ed è privo di difetti occulti. L'ho firmato.

Genova, 29 luglio 1959.

GUGLIELMO OLIVA

PIAZZA RAFFAELE ROSSETTI, 4-3

GENOVA

52.079

PERITO FILATELICO

DEL TRIBUNALE E DELLA CORTE D'APPELLO DI GENOVA



Certificato N. 7237

FIUME - 1918 - 50 filler lilla, tipo Imperatrice Zita.
Sovrastampa a mano del IV tipo - Usato.
N. 59 del catalogo Oliva.

Ho esaminato il francobollo sopra citato,
del quale una riproduzione fotografica è unita al pre
sente certificato.

A mio parere il raro esemplare, del quale
mi sono noti pochissimi esemplari, ha la sovrastampa
originale ed è privo di difetti occulti.
L'ho firmato.

Genova, 25 agosto 1959.