

DALMATIA
Military & Civil Mail

Posta Militare 78
9 September 1920

Sebenico
28 November 1919



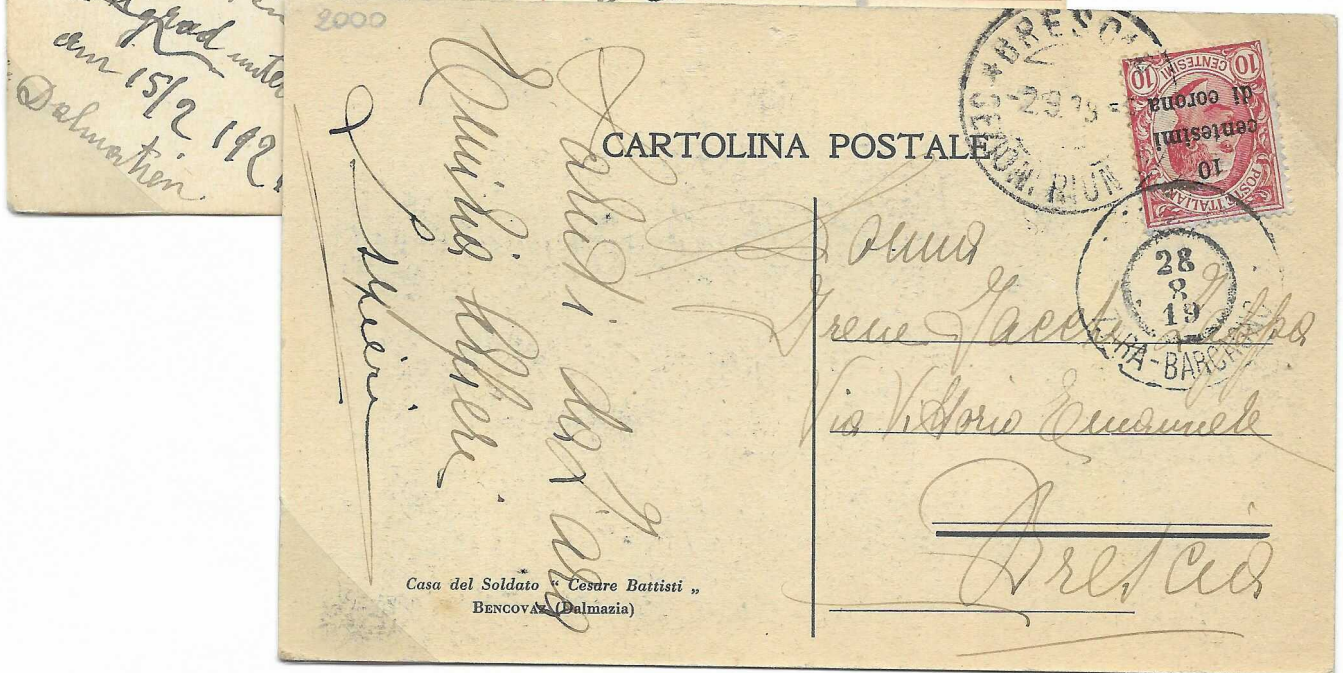
The Italians operated both military and civil post offices in Sebenico after the armistice, with the latter using old Austrian postmarks with Slavic and Italian names. Manuscript endorsement on the postcard reads "Troop Headquarters Dalmatia/24th Division." The civil post office remained opened until Sebenico was turned over to the South Slav Kingdom in 1921.

DALMATIA
Military & Civil Mail

Posta Militare 78-A
31 December 1920

Zara
16 February 1921

Zara-Barcagno
28 August 1919



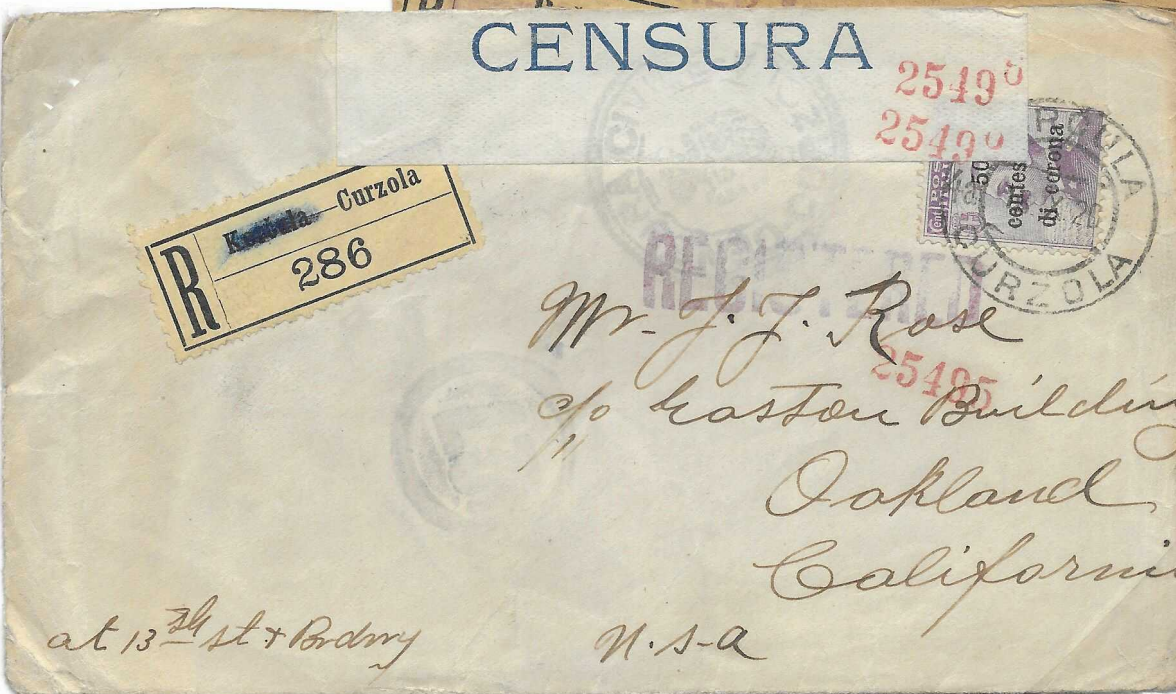
Both military and civil post offices were opened in Zara after the armistice, with the latter using old Austrian postmarks with the Slavic name excised. Unlike the other parts of Dalmatia, Zara was officially annexed to Italy on 2 February 1921 and remained Italian until World War II.

DALMATIA
Overprints on Italy
Civil Postmarks

Arbe
22 November 1919

Bozava
18 July 1919

Curzola
18 October 1920



As compared to ports such as Sebenico and Zara, mail from the Adriatic islands is distinctly difficult to acquire. Examples shown here are from Arbe (Rab), Bozava on the island of Lunga (Dugi) and Curzola (Korcula). As indicated, they continued to use the old Austrian postmarks and registry labels, but with the Slavic name excised in the case of Arbe. These islands were later assigned by treaty to the South Slav Kingdom.

DALMATIA
Overprints on Italy
Civil Postmarks

Dnris
23 March 1919

Lesina
8 April 1919

Lagosta

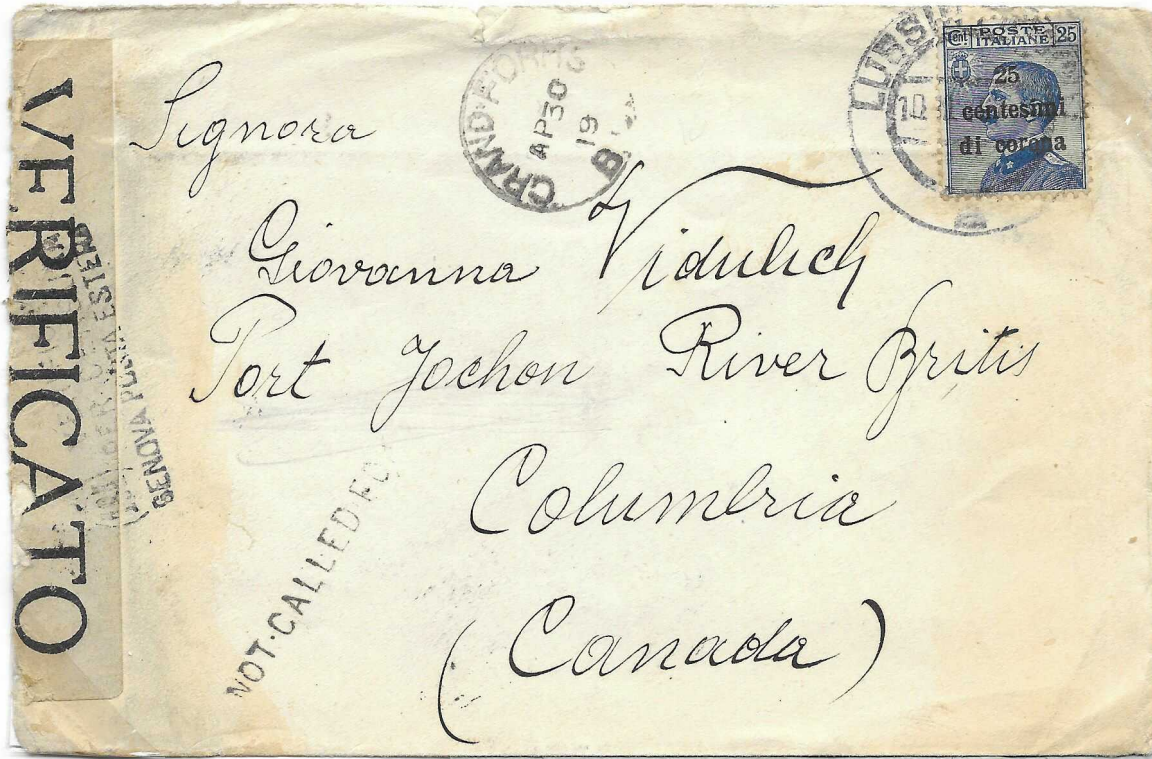


Registered letters from Dnris on the Dalmatian mainland (about 15 miles east of Sebenico), Lesina (Hvar) and Lagosta (Lastovo). As indicated, they continued to use the old Austrian postmarks and registry labels. Of these three locations, only Lagosta was retained by Italy; the other two went to the South Slav Kingdom.

DALMATIA
Overprints on Italy
Civil Postmarks

Lussin Piccolo
10 April 1919

Pago
5 December 1920



Mail from two other Adriatic islands: Lussin (Losinj) and Pago (Pag). As normal, they continued to use the old Austrian postmarks and registry labels during the Italian occupation. Of these, Lussin was retained by Italy and Pago was assigned to the South Slavs.

DALMATIA
Overprints on Italy
Civil Postmarks

Silba
13 January 1921

Ulbo
28 March 1920

Veglia
11 April 1919

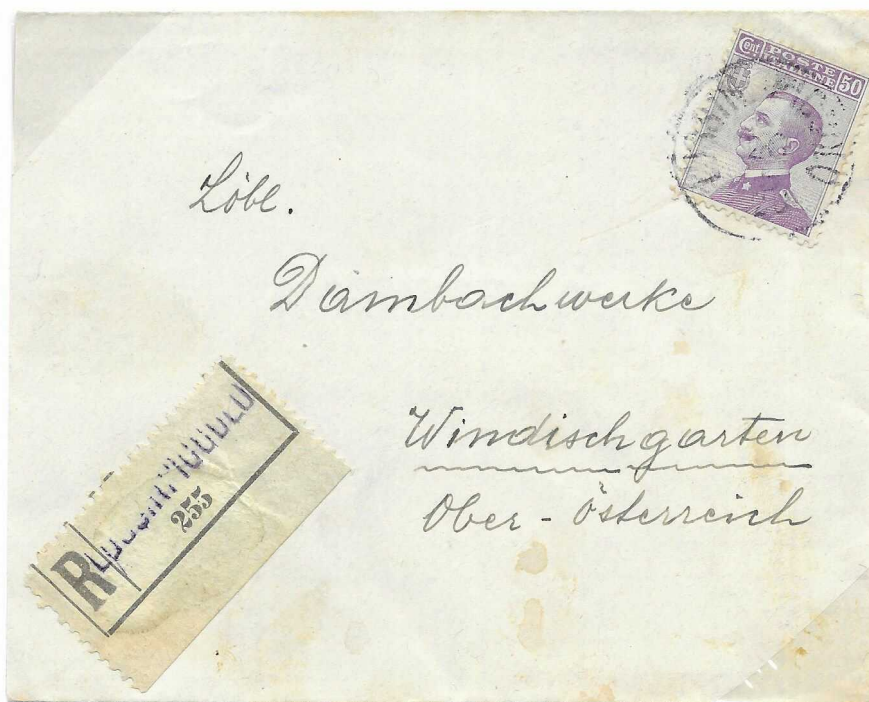


Elusive examples of mail from three of the other Adriatic islands: Selve (Silba), Ulbo (Olib) and Veglia (Krk). Silba used a postmark during the Austrian period with the name only in the Slavic version, suggesting that Italian influence there was negligible. These islands were turned over to the South Slav Kingdom in 1921.

DALMATIA
Unoverprinted Italian Stamps
Civil Postmarks

Lussingrande
17 May 1921

Lussin Piccolo
20 May 1920

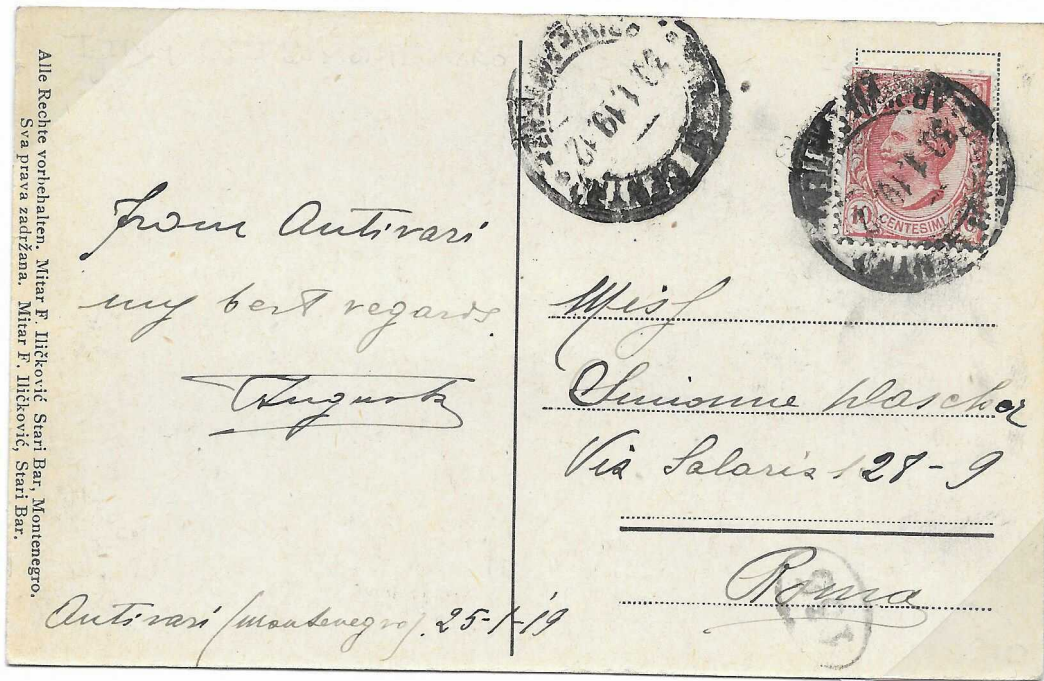


In the Gulf of Quarnero near Fiume, the island of Lussin (Losinj) was assigned to Italy. The two principal towns used Italian stamps and had postmarks with Italian inscriptions only. To Yugoslavia after World War II.

MONTENEGRO

Austro-Hungarian forces occupied Montenegro from 1916 until they were withdrawn in October 1918. The Italians were interested in any territory on the eastern shore of the Adriatic Sea, but especially in Montenegro because the Queen of Italy was a Montenegrin Princess. Thus, they took advantage of the opportunity to briefly land a small contingent at Antivari. However, this action was short-lived as Serbian troops soon arrived from the Salonica front and proclaimed Montenegro a part of the new Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (whose name was changed to Yugoslavia in 1929).

Antivari
25 January 1919



Postcard datelined "Antivari (Montenegro)" three months after the end of the war. Transported by ship to Brindisi where an Italian 10 centesimi adhesive -- the proper rate for an international card -- was cancelled on 30 January and the card forwarded to addressee. It is not known if the stamp was affixed by the sender or applied in Brindisi, but there is an oval mark of the letter carrier who delivered it in Rome. The only such usage seen by exhibitor.

ALBANIA

The Italians were highly interested in this territory across the Adriatic Sea and, when World War I broke out, troops were sent to occupy the port of Valona and the nearby island of Saseno. In 1916, when Austro-Hungarian forces came down from the north, Italy expanded its occupation zone to all of southwest Albania to block them. This situation remained at a stalemate until the Austrians withdrew in early October 1918. At that point, the Italians occupied the balance of the Adriatic coast, creating both military and civil postal services for the area.



Posta Militare 50
5 February 1919
8 February 1921

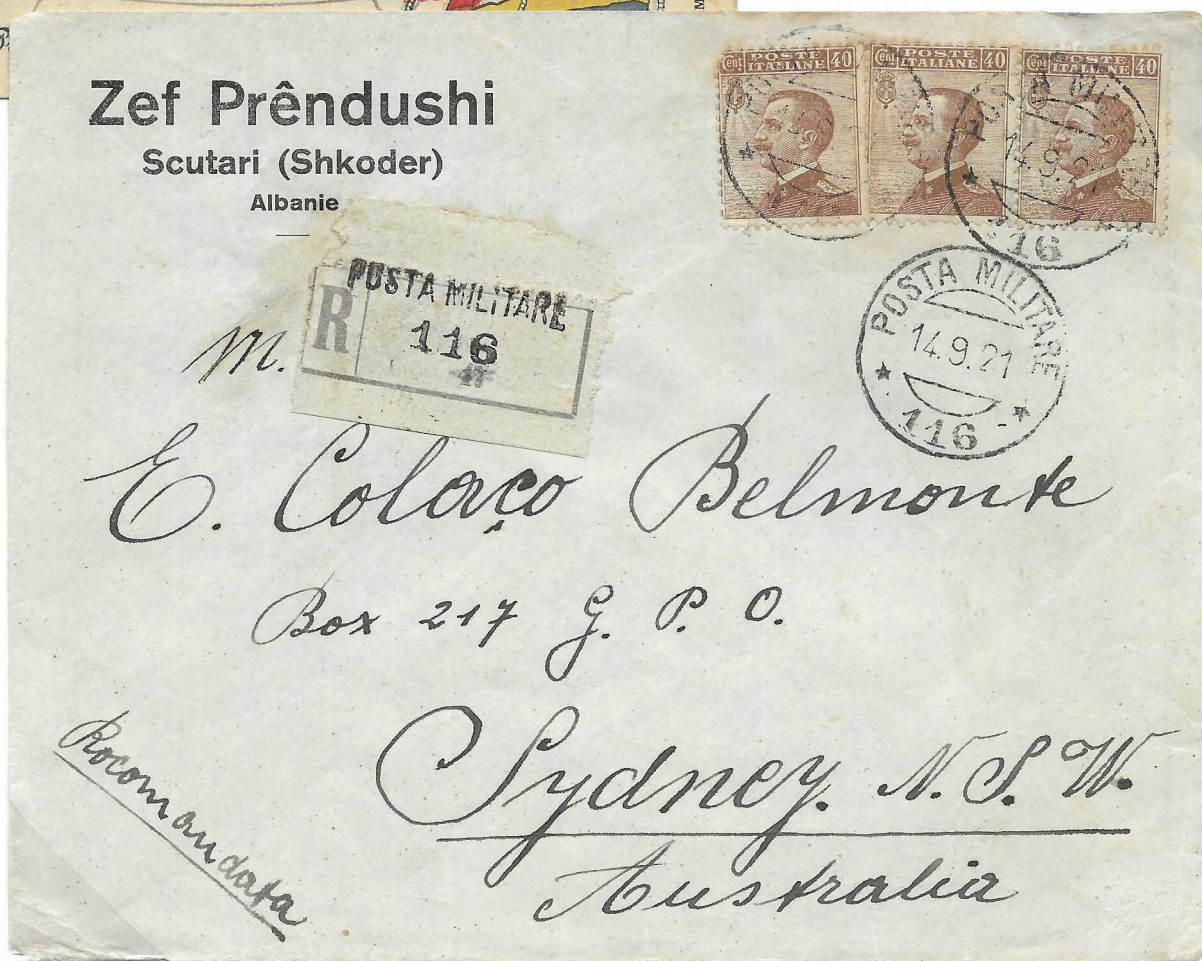


PM 50 operated in Albania from 20 September 1918 until 31 December 1922, primarily located at Durazzo. Examples shown include a letter from a Sergeant in the Engineers to Padua and a registered cover to Switzerland.

ALBANIA
Military Postmarks

Posta Militare 115
7 February 1919

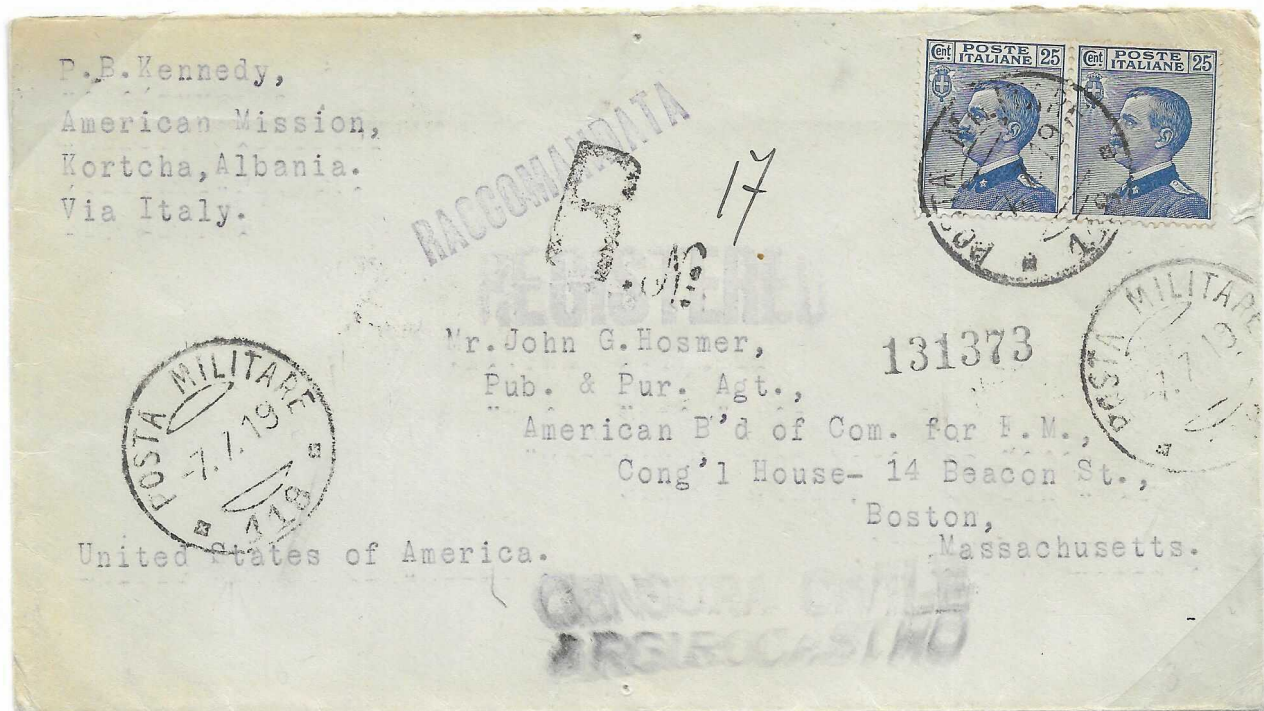
Posta Militare 116
14 September 1921



PM 115 was used in Albania from August 1917 until the end of 1919. At the time the patriotic postcard was sent, it was located at Argirocastro -- note cachet of "HQ Argirocastro-Berat." PM 116 was officially open from 1917 until the end of 1922. It functioned primarily at Scutari from which the registered cover to Australia was sent.

ALBANIA
Military Postmarks

Posta Militare 118
7 July 1919

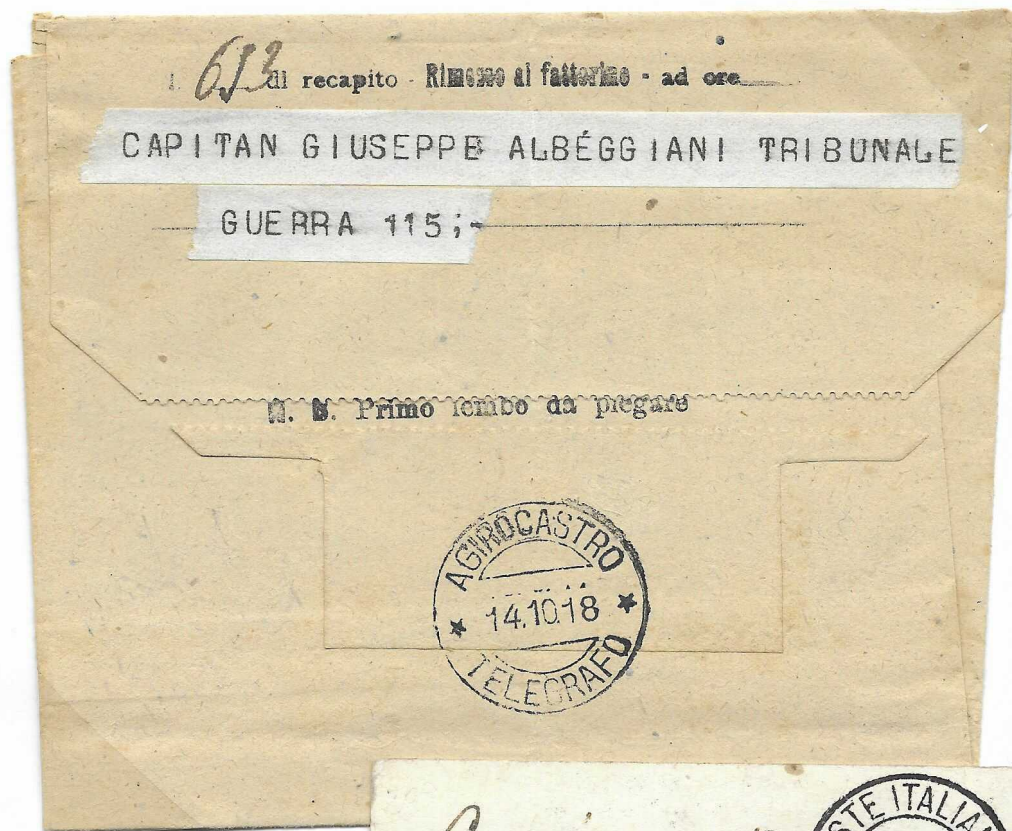


PM 118 was officially assigned to the Macedonian front, but when activity there ceased at the end of 1918, it moved to southern Albania. Registered cover from the American Mission in Kortcha to Boston has unusual marking "Censure Civile/Argirocastro."

ALBANIA
Civil Postmarks

Argirocastro/Telegrafo
14 October 1918

Poste Italiane/Argirocastro
11 January 1920



Civil postal service was restored in the main towns occupied by the Italians, including Argirocastro. Upper example shows a telegraph cancel used on a message from a Captain in the Military Tribunal at PM 115 confirming that he had received a remittance. No special stamps were issued for the Albanian offices, so postage was paid by normal Italian definitives.

ALBANIA
Civil Postmarks

Poste Italiane/Berat
25 July 1919

Poste Italiane/Delvino
24 October 1918



Registered covers from Berat and Delvino, the latter sent to Switzerland. When the Peace Commissioners confirmed the independence of Albania, Italian forces were gradually withdrawn, starting in May 1920. By August of that year, they remained only in Scutari and Valona, which they left in 1922-23.

ALBANIA
Civil Postmarks

Poste Italiane/Himara (Albania)
20 March 1919

Poste Italiane/Liascoviki (Albania)
22 November 1920



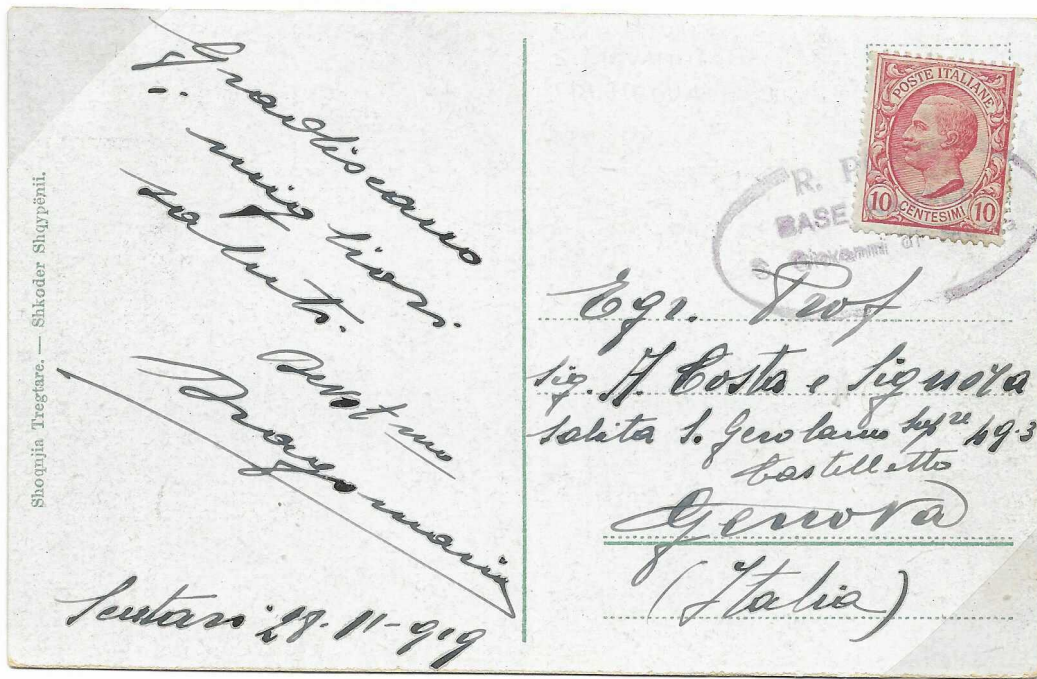
Himara and Liascoviki to Egypt and the U.S. Some of these towns were so little known -- even to the Italian postal clerks -- that "(Albania)" was added after the name in the postmarks. Both examples are very elusive.



In Valona, the Italians had a main post office as well as a branch called Valona Scalo located at the port. This was the last town to be evacuated, which did not occur until 1923.

ALBANIA
Naval Base

San Giovanni di Medua
28 November 1919



San Giovanni di Medua, a port in northern Albania, was occupied on 28 October 1918. It was used by the Italians as a naval base so no civil post office was ever established. However, mail sent from there received an oval cachet inscribed "Royal Post/Naval Base/San Giovanni di Medua." Examples are quite elusive.