

PALESTINE
Military Mail

Army Post Office SZ18
29 October 1918

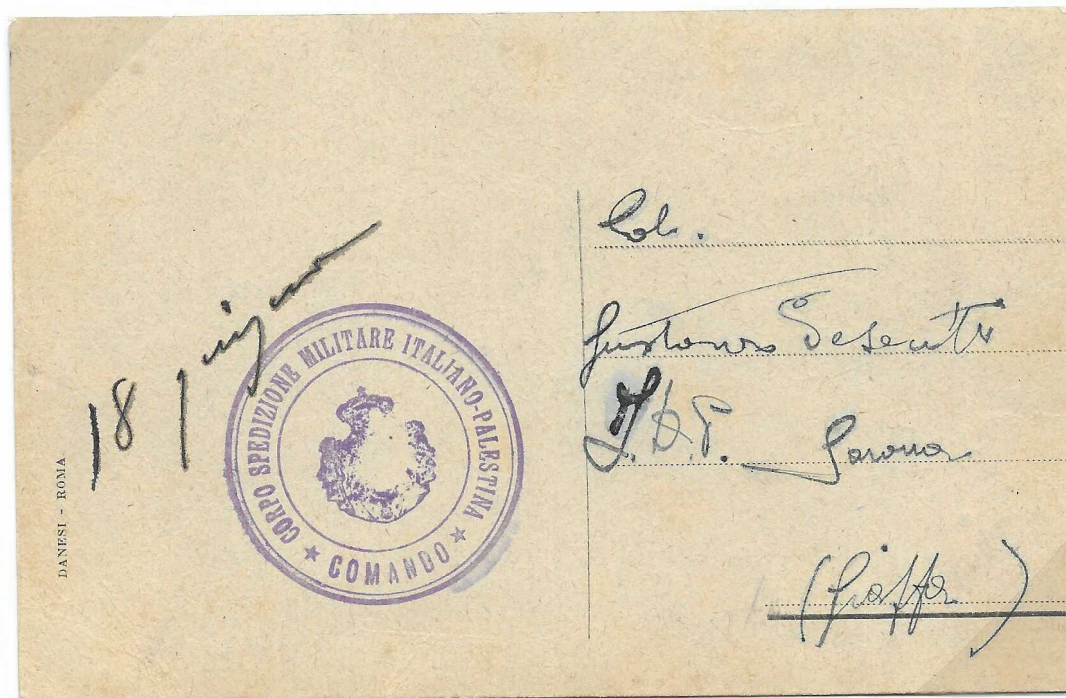
O.E.T.A. - E.E.F./Jerusalem
27 December 1918



Registered covers from Jerusalem bearing cachets of small sub-units -- the Royal Carabinieri and the Italian Guards. The latter were assigned to protect the Christian shrines in the city.

PALESTINE
Military Mail

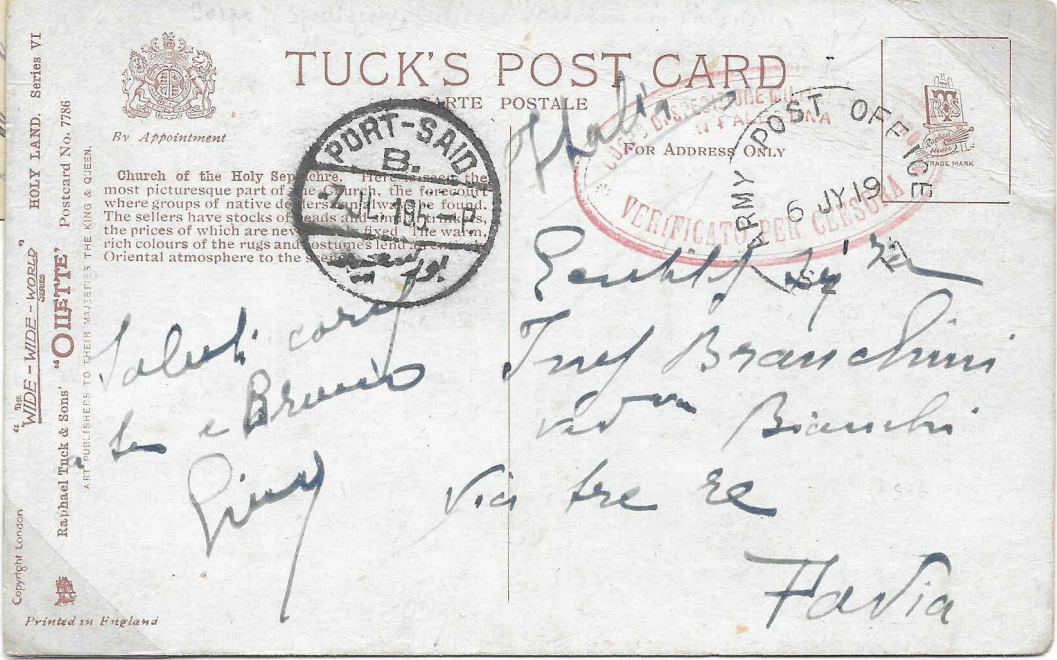
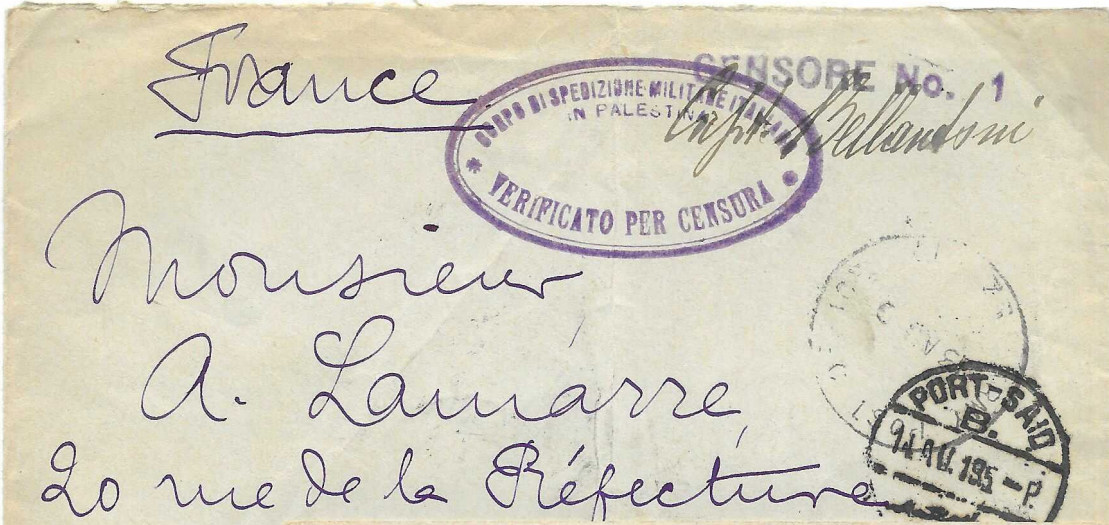
Army Post Office SZ17
19 March 1919
18 June (1919)



Additional unit cachets were introduced as reinforcements were rotated from other areas. Above are those for the "1st Company of Italian Scouts in Palestine" and "Italian Military Expeditionary Corps - Palestine." Only two examples have been recorded of this latter marking.

PALESTINE
Military Mail

Army Post Office SZ17
13 August 1919
29 June 1919
6 July 1919

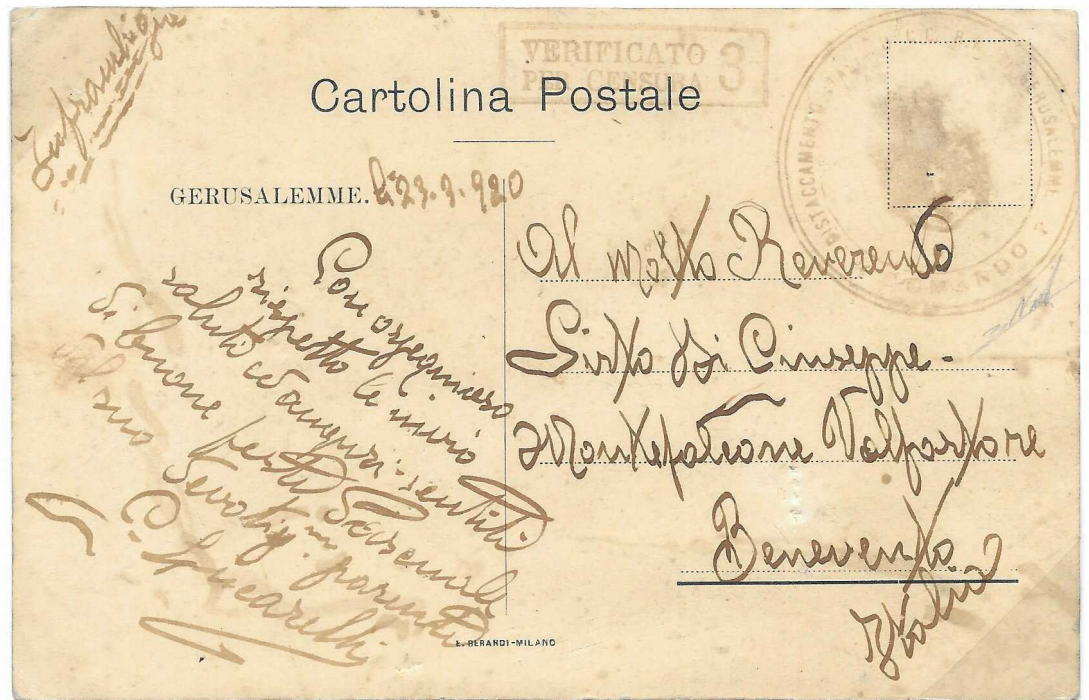


One type of marking was used as a combination unit cachet and censor verification. It was oval in shape and applied in violet, red brown and red, as shown above.

PALESTINE
Military Mail

Army Post Office SZ17
4 July 1919

Jerusalem
23 March 1920



Examples of other markings used on military cards. Two-line handstamp reading "Italian Military Expeditionary Corps in Palestine" is unrecorded in the Sorani handbook, shown here used from British APO SZ17 in Jaffa. Lower example has thin circles and wording "Royal Italian Carabinieri Detachment in Jerusalem/Headquarters."



As the Turkish front collapsed, the EEF advanced northward from Palestine into Syria. The British force was accompanied by a very small Italian unit, known as the Bertoni Group. This cover was sent from a member of the group to Colonel Pesanti, Commandant of the Italian troops in Jaffa, providing a highly elusive usage.

OLTRE GIUBA

This territory, known as Trans-Jubaland, consisted of 33,000 square miles at the eastern edge of Kenya. Italy had complained that it had not been rewarded when the former German colonies were divided up following World War I. As a substitute, the British carved off a 50 to 100 mile slice of Kenya with 12,000 inhabitants (mostly illiterate Somali nomads) and transferred it to Italy on 29 June 1925. At that time, a set of current Italian definitives overprinted "Oltre Giuba" was placed on sale.

Kisimaio
6 July 1925



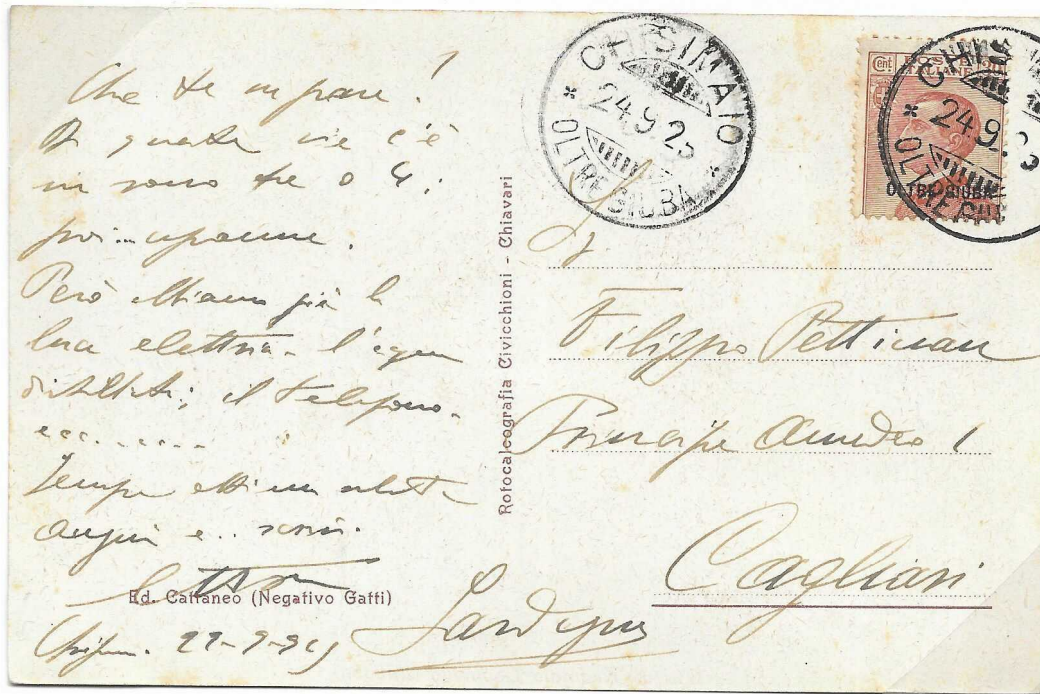
This cover, with a single franking of a 60 centesimi overprint was mailed just one week after the Italians took over Oltre Giuba. However, the mail service was not yet functioning very efficiently, as indicated by the 24-day transit time to Molfetta (Bari Province). Note the initial "Kisimaio" spelling of the name of the capital.



This extraordinary value declared letter was insured for Lire 6,000 and sent to the Bank of Italy in Mogadiscio, Somalia. It was franked with Lire 18.- in overprinted stamps, consisting of all four of the highest denominations. (The Sassone catalogue does not list a price for any of these stamps used on cover above the Lira 1.- value, indicating the rarity of this particular franking. Note the use of the "A" label (Assuricate) for insured mail.

OLTRE GIUBA
Overprints on Italy

Chisimaio
24 September 1925
29 December 1925



The first postmark reading Kisimaio had arrived with a Somali spelling. However, the authorities felt that a cancel with Italian spelling would be more suitable. A second cds was thus produced and introduced in the fall of 1925. Note the picture postcard showing the new Commissioner, Signor Zoli, being transported across the Juba River to take possession of the Trans-Juba colony on 29 June 1925.

OLTRE GIUBA
Overprints on 25th Anniversary of Reign Commemoratives

Chisimaio
10 May 1926
11 March 1926



Paolo FRANCHINA

135 Moodej ST

(S.U. d



Signorina Willy Berger

29

MILANO

Via Telesio N. 1

The first commemorative stamps issued for the new colony were overprints on Italian commemoratives honoring the 25th anniversary of the reign of King Victor Emmanuel III. These two values were issued in November 1925. Note white registry label. Because of the limited use in Oltre Giuba, the name of the town was not printed on the label but inserted by handstamp as required.

OLTRE GIUBA
Overprints on Italy

Chisimaio
30 December 1925
9 August 1926



Supplies of the 20 and 30 cent. stamps ran low, and an additional overprinting of these two values was ordered. These were supplied in October 1925, but the name of the territory was in larger type than on the initial printing. Three entirely new denominations were overprinted in the larger type and issued in June 1926.

OLTRE GIUBA
Commissariat Commemoratives

Chisimaio
7 June 1926
24 August 1926



Paolo FRANCHINA

135 Moodey ST

WALTHAM MASS
=====

(S.U.)



Mr. G. Russell,
228 Worcester St.
Christchurch,

NEW ZEALAND. (Nouvelle Zelande)
=====

On 21 April 1926, a new set depicting a map of the territory was issued to honor the creation of the General Commissariat for Oltre Giuba. In addition, a semipostal series was issued for the Italian Colonial Institute on 1 June 1926, one of which was used on the upper cover. The use of these stamps, even philatelically, is very unusual -- especially to destinations such as the United States and New Zealand.

OLTRE GIUBA
Overprints on Italian Postal Cards

Chisimaio
6 April 1926
7 June 1926



Postal cards overprinted "Oltre Giuba" were provided in both the 30 cent. denomination and a 30 + 30 with attached reply card. In addition, the second commemorative issue honored the 700th Anniversary of the birth of St. Francis; a 40 cent value from this set is shown on the lower card.

OLTRE GIUBA
Money Order Form

Chisimaio
29 January 1926

VAGLIA VALIDO FINO A LIRE TRECENTO	300
VAGLIA VALIDO FINO A LIRE DUECENTO	200
VAGLIA VALIDO FINO A LIRE CENTO	100
VAGLIA VALIDO FINO A LIRE CINQUANTA	50

A Prov. *OLTRE GIUBA* UFF. **KISIMAIO**
Amministrazione delle Poste
OLTRE GIUBA
VAGLIA N°: *63*

pagabile nell'Ufficio
di *Milano*

per Lire *Tre cento* cent.

a favore di *La Amasanta*

addi *28.1.26*

L'UFFICIALE DI POSTA
Pepe

N° d'arrivo

Stampes: **CHISIMAIO** (1.26), **OLTRE GIUBA**, **CHISIMAIO**, **OLTRE GIUBA**, **GNATASSE**

In addition to the stamps for regular postage, overprints on the tax stamps to pay the remittance fees on money orders were issued on 29 June 1925. Examples of money order forms with the special stamps paying the appropriate fee are highly unusual. In this case, a remittance of Lire 300.- was being sent to Milan.



Other than the capital of Chisimaio, there was little postal activity in Oltre Giuba. One of the small villages that had a post office was Afandu, located about 50 miles into the interior. Mail from there is rarely seen, especially with commemorative stamps. This picture postcard showing Somali natives is franked with Commisariat stamps.

OLTRE GIUBA
Overprints on Italy
Commisariat Commemorative

Gobuin
26 May 1926
7 June 1926



A second village that had a post office was Gobuin. Mail from this office is also rarely seen. Cover above is franked with both types of 30 cent. overprinted stamps. Picture postcard shows a sailing vessel "Off the Coast of Chisimaio (Italian Somaliland)" and is addressed to Bordeaux, France.

OLTRE GIUBA
Epilogue

Chisimaio
17 December 1926
1 July 1930
2 March 1931



*Fraken Emma Rosvall
Wästra-Dahlgratens No 9
Malmö*



*August
Lampfe*

98 - Cairo

Direct Lampfe

*Russci
Roma
via Napoleone III 70*

Râco



REGISTERED



Montgomery Ward & Co.

CHICAGO ILL.

U. S. A.

Representing the final act in the Italian expansion following World War I, Oltre Giuba ended its existence as a separate colony and was absorbed into Italian Somaliland on 1 September 1926, presumably to reduce administrative overhead. Its stamps were replaced with Somaliland issues and the name "Oltre Giuba" was excised from the postmarks. Commemorative stamp used to Sweden represents an extraordinary destination.