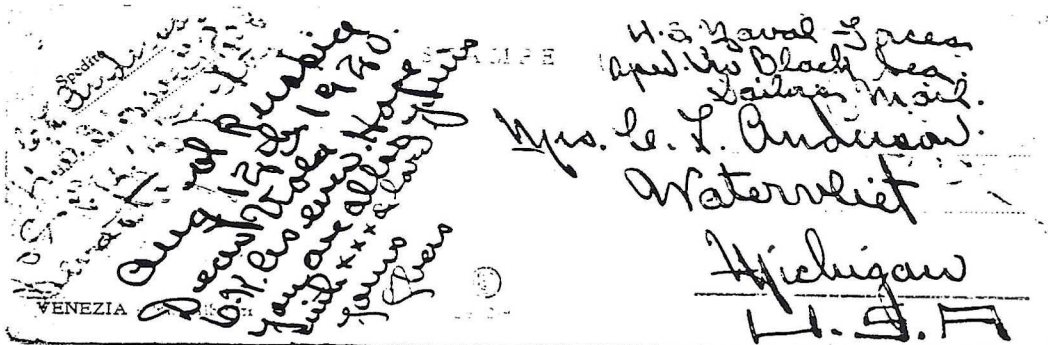


**Wartime
Intervention in Russia**

South Russia
U. S. Navy



USS Hovey

Destroyer. Sailed to various Black Sea ports between late July and 17 December 1919. No on-board post office.



USS Overton

Destroyer, engaged at time this cover was sent in transporting refugees from Crimea to Turkey after collapse of the Wrangel army. No on-board post office.

Ships of the US Navy cruised the Black Sea, carrying military observers, relief supplies and refugees. Mail from such ships is very scarce, as is information about them. No record of ships present in South Russian waters during the Russian civil war has been compiled. Ships which had no on-board post office routinely turned their mail over to the *USS Scorpion*, dispatch vessel for the US High Commissioner at Constantinople, for posting.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

South Russia
U. S. Navy

H. Sailer

U. S. Naval Forces

5
MAY
1919
P.M.

USS Noma

Steam yacht, comple-
ment of 80 men. At Ba-
tum 21 April - 1 May
1919 (with \$20 million of
gold on board, as men-
tioned in this letter,
headed Batum 27 April)
to remove US Army
officers. No on-board
post office.

Mrs Julia Sailer

2561 9th Dec St

Philadelphia

Pa.

U.S.A.

No answer
Always

USS Chattanooga

Cruiser. Card sent
from Bolshevik Batum:
"... This is some tough
place. I just heard one
of the sailors got shot
ashore. I don't know
whether I will get a
chance to go tomorrow
or not. Will shure keep
straighth if I do..."

George S. ...
U.S.S. Chattanooga
Cruiser

Well kid. I am now
in Russia - Batum.
Will soon be back in
Berkeley. This is some
tough place I just
heard one of the sailors
get shot ashore. I don't
know now whether I
will get a chance to go
tomorrow or not. Will
shure keep straight if I do.
This is the only Bolshevik
part of Russia we have
in ...
and ...
with ...
your friend George.

Sailors Mail
U.S. Naval Forces
near East.

Mr. Enold Pitts

228 Main St.

Leominster

Massachusetts

U.S.A.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

South Russia
U.S. Army

The US was expressly committed not to become involved in the Russian civil war, and there was no need for US action to protect war supplies in or to repatriate POWs from South Russia. Without a combat role, the presence of US Army personnel was restricted to a small number of intelligence and liason officers.



Officer

AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION
W. G. Mitchell
Colonel, Inf
21st Div, Caucasus

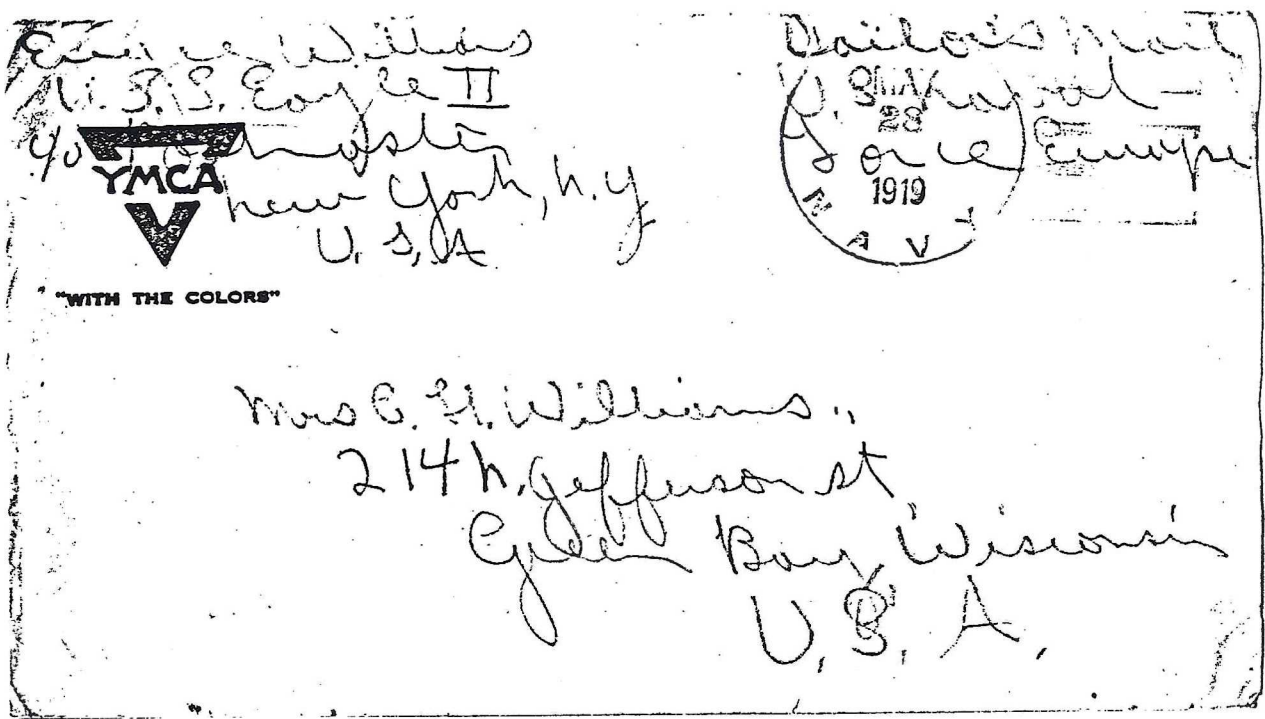
Mrs. W. G. Mitchell
213 East Church St.
Anderson Ohio
USA

W. G. Mitchell
Col. Inf

Cover carried by Courier Service, Postal Express Service and mailed at APO 975 (Paris).

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

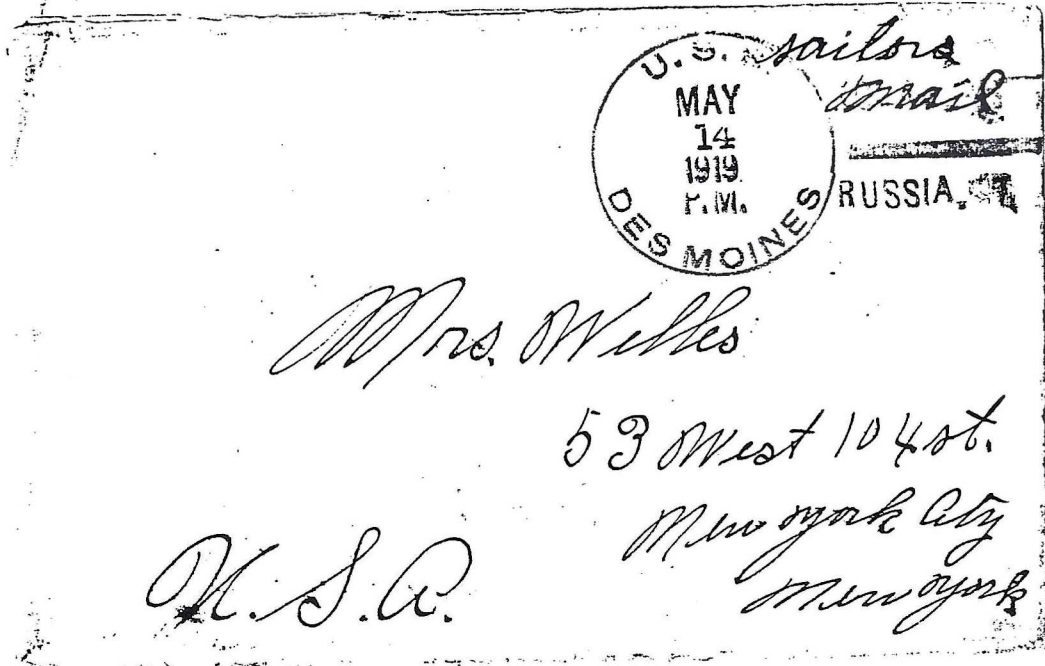
North Russia
U. S. Navy



USS Eagle 2, Patrol Boat
Complement: 61

North Russian Cancels:
US Navy 4-bar

Tour in North Russia, Intervention
Period: 25 May - late July 1919



Ship Type: Light Cruiser
North Russian Cancels:
USS Des Moines, 1-bar with location

Complement: 339
Tour in North Russia, Intervention Period:
22 May - 14 September 1919

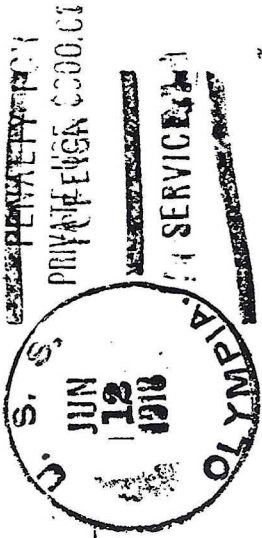
Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
U. S. Navy

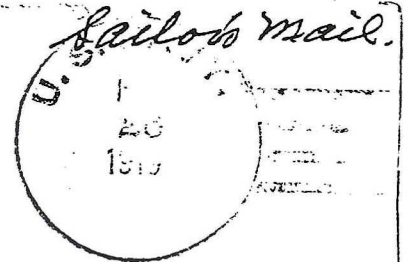
USS Olympia

Ship Type: Cruiser
Complement: 411
North Russian Cancel: *USS
Olympia* 3-bar, "Foreign
Service" in bars

Tour in North Russia, Intervention
Period: 24 May - 27 October
1918



*S.L. Morris
U.S. Naval Forces
Russia*



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
Navy Department,
Washington, D.C.]

*Mrs W. A. Morris
1535 N Franklin St
Danville
Ill
U.S.A.*

Navy Department,
U. S. S. Olympia,
Official Business.



The Director of Ensign

USS Yankton

Ship Type: Yacht
Complement: 78
North Russian Cancels: US Navy
4-bar

Tour in North Russia,
Intervention Period: 8 February
- 9 July 1919

C.I.O.
Censure Militaire
Arkhangel

PARIS
18-12
18

INTER-ALLIED
C. I. O. DIVISION
ALLIED EXP. FORCE
Censored by Censor.

Monsieur A. Lavoisier
Le meuble Prefecture

reux

Eure

ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА



Mr. M. Girard
80 Middle Street,
Brighton,
England.

C.I.A.
6
Censure Militaire
6 Arkhangel 6

Civilian international mail passed through an "Allied Intelligence Censorship Division" which included American, British and French representatives. Notwithstanding British primacy in the Censorship Division, most censor devices were in French. (Meanings of abbreviations CIO and CIA unknown.)

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
Censorship

W. Templeton
1st Lt. 339th Inf.
Am. E. F.

Officers Mail

"Ship Censor"

Two examples recorded, both on un-dated covers from same correspondence, 1 with British civil censor tape, 1 without. The "Am. E.F." (rather than ANREF) suggests that they were sent on the 1918 outward voyage and not on the 1919 return voyage.

Mrs + Mr. J. S. Templeton
1245 Jarvis Ave

Chas. E. Lewis
CHAS. E. LEWIS
1st Lt. and Adj. 2nd Bn.
339th Inf.
Chas. E. Lewis

Censored by
W. Templeton
1st Lt. 339th Inf.
Am. E. F.

From
Ft. 7. Doubleday
Co. 339th Inf.
American Northern Russia Expeditionary Forces

Soldiers
mail



Ward 7. Doubleday
#527 Douglas Ave.
Kalamazoo
Michigan
U.S.A.

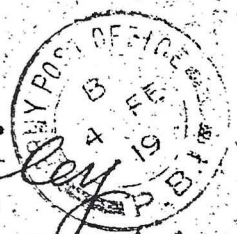
OK
W. Templeton
1st Lt. 339th Inf.

HQ, 339th Inf. Adjutant's Office
Three examples recorded. Dates of use unknown, but "ANREF" designation was made on 12 September 1918 and changed (to "AEFNR") on 9 April 1919. It is reasonable to expect that this unusual handstamp was used in the early days of the North Russian expedition rather than later.

Hospital Ship P.C. 25

This censor handstamp has not been identified to a particular ship in the literature, but it seems certain from these covers that it was used on the *Braemar Castle* (421 beds).

Mrs. Grace M. Risley
W. Main St
Deerfield Ill

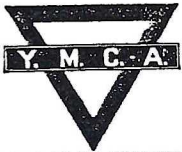


Fluoride
Wynand Pyle
Capt. M.C.

U.S.A.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
Censorship



POSTAL CARD

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH A. E. F. IN RUSSIA
NO STAMPS AVAILABLE

WITH THE FORCES
ON SERVICE IN RUSSIA

Mrs. B. P. Ryall
Elopa, Russia

Mr. J. V.
44 M

Checked by
S. J. Ryall
23 Def



MY Y.M.C.A.
NORTH RUSSIA.

J. V. Ryall

En Actrice Service



Mrs. P. A. Foster
10 Center St.,
Concord, N. H.,
United States of America

~~AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
CONCORD, N. H.~~

From
P. A. Foster,
A. E. F. Sec.,
Archangel.



R. 1, Box 55.



ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH A. E. F. IN RUSSIA
NO STAMPS AVAILABLE

Censored by
P. H. Buttrick
Y. M. C. A.

Mrs. Carley A. Foster
10 Center St.,
Concord, N. H.,
United States of America
Claremont, N. H.

The 167th and 168th Transportation Cos. excepted, US Army units in North Russia appear not to have had the usual AEF censor handstamps. Unit censorship therefore usually consisted of a US officer's signature accompanied by 1 of 3 types of censor handstamp supplied by the British.

The "PE/C" type (numbers 2 / 32 recorded) began to be used before the arrival of the British Army Postal Service personnel, and continued thereafter. The "X" type (numbers 5 / 45) appears to have been brought by the postal units. The "R" type (numbers 2 / 84) does not appear until January 1919, and is much the scarcest on US mail (example shown below, with YMCA Censor.)

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
Postmarks

*H. A. Nantel
Chap. U.S. Army.*

officers mail

*Most. Rev. P. J. Hayes
142 E. 29th St.
New York City
N.Y.*



FPO PB 99 (Kola) recorded 9 December 1918 - 16 May 1919. Scarcest North Russian stationary FPO. PB 99 covers are recorded for only about 6 weeks after the arrival of the NRTCEF, making it an even scarcer postmark on US mail.

TPO 1 operated weekly between Murmansk and Soroka beginning 4 November 1918, but covers are recorded only 3 July - 15 August 1919. Four examples recorded, 3 from U.S. troops.

*Capt A. Montgomery V. S. H.
YMCA
T.C. E. I.*

Officers Mail

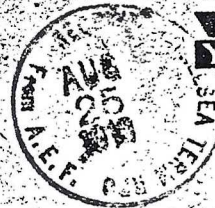
"WITH THE COLORS"



*Mrs. A. Montgomery
4430 Thomas Ave. S.,
St. Petersburg*

*4430 Thomas Ave.
St. Petersburg
Capt A. Montgomery*

*Prof Cyrus L. Miller
Co. C. 6th U.S. Engineers
A.P.O. 740*



Forwarded to Addressee

*Mr. Jos. Hayes
Nedra,
Ind.*

799 DIRECTORY SERVICE GIVEN
CENTRAL DIRECTORY DIVISION
PIER 86; N. R., NEW YORK

*167 J.C. North Quaker
Murmansk
Russia*

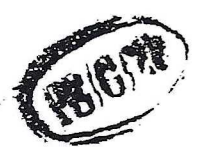
12/3/19

MISSENT IN
ARCH ANGEL
P.B. Nr. 4

Only recorded example of "Missent in Arch-angel" and of mail from Germany to NRTCEF. No FPO PB4 postmark was proofed, and Arch-angel was served by APO PB 2. Therefore, meaning of PB 4 reference here is unknown.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

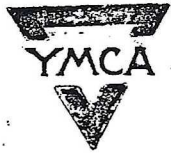
North Russia
Postmarks



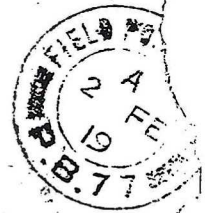
FPO PB 66 (Oberzerskaya) Recorded 24 November 1918 - 4 September 1919.

FPO PB 77 (Emetskoye) recorded 2 February - 16 August 1919. This cover predates the next earliest recorded example by 4 months and is the only recorded PB 77 cover from an American.

Handwritten: Lt. V. Templeton
U.S. Army



"WITH THE COLORS"



Handwritten address:
Mrs. J. E. Templeton
127 S. Davis St.
Chicago, Ill.

Handwritten:
W. S. Robertson
167 Co. D. C.
North Russian
Ex. 30000



"WITH THE COLORS"

Handwritten address:
W. S. Robertson
167 Co. D. C.
North Russian
Ex. 30000



FPO PB 88 (Kem) recorded 19 April - 23 September 1919. FPO PB 88 moved from Kem to Medvezhya Gora in early June.

Handwritten address:
Mrs. G. E. Robertson
Smithville
Chicago, Ill.

Handwritten:
W. S. Robertson
167 Co. D. C.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
Postmarks

Sgt B. Weil
YMCA
167 Co., Trans Corps
"WITH THE COLORS"
U.S. Army in Russia.

American Soldiers Letters

Miss Jeannette Kallstrom,



FPO PB 33 (Pet-chenga) recorded 7 December 1918 - 2 July 1919. A different hammer was used prior to arrival of the NRTCEF. The hammer shown here used 15 April - 2 July 1919.

Officers Mail

Mrs. Grace J. Audlin
10 Boyden St.
Worcester Mass
U.S.A.

*covered by
Alway
2nd Lt.*

FPO PB 44 (Bakhariza) recorded 1 November 1918 - 23 September 1919.

FPO PB 55 (Bereznik) recorded 16 December 1918 - 7 August 1919. One of the American-manned outposts most distant from Archangel (135 air miles) on the Dvina River and, according to this letter "one of the most hotly contested fronts in N. Russia."

Cover made from Red Cross lettersheet. The only recorded US mail from North Russia on Red Cross stationery. How the lettersheet got there is not known.

red Feb 21 - 19

Soldiers mail.

Miss Isabelle

2100 Woodside Ave.

Bay City,

Michigan

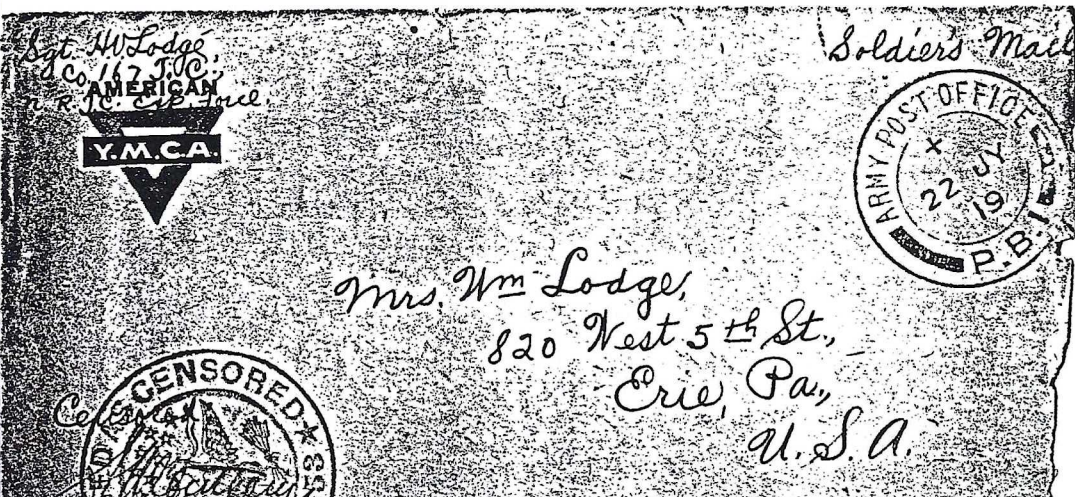


H. B. Knapp

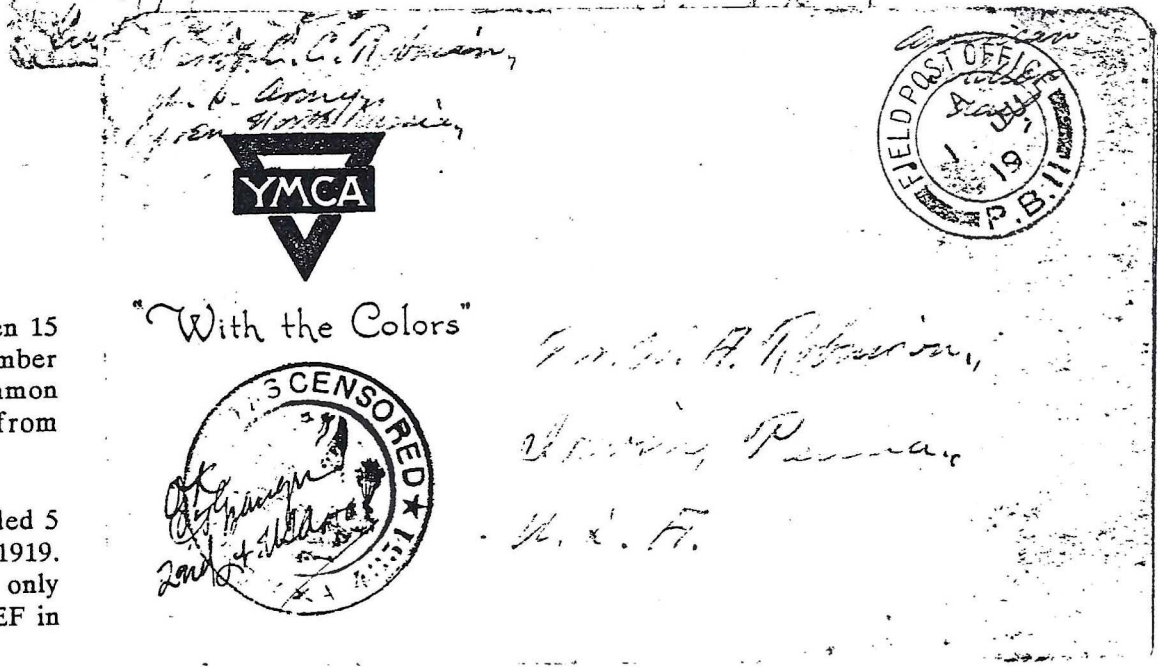
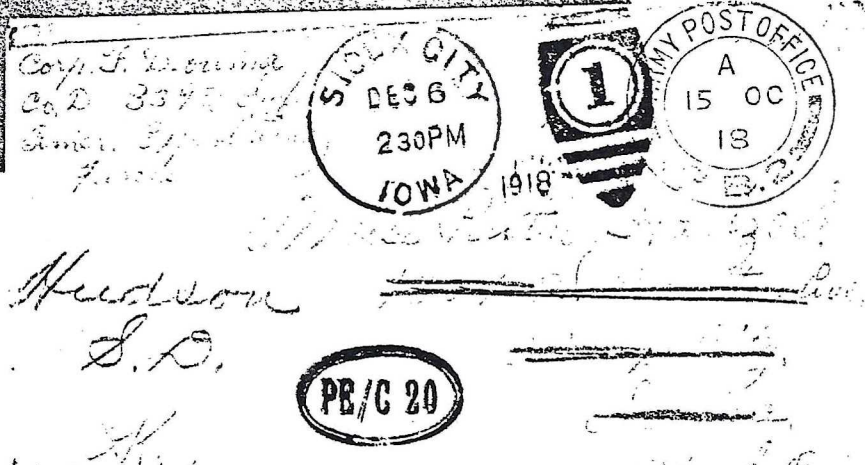
U.S.A.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
Postmarks



APO PB 1 (Murmansk) arrived 28 September 1918; postmarks recorded 30 September 1919 - 27 September 1919. As virtually no US Army troops were in this sector until arrival of NRTCEF in April 1919, and as the TC troops used a wide range of FPOs once there, this postmark is extremely scarce on US mail.



APO PB 2 (Archangel) open 15 October 1918 - 24 September 1919, PB 2 is the most common postmark found on US mail from North Russia.

FPO PB 11 (Soroka) recorded 5 November 1918 - 12 July 1919. American mail recorded only after arrival of the NRTCEF in April 1919.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
Postmarks

Cook R.R. Fritz.
Hdqs. Co. 339th Inf. Reg. -
A.N.R.E. **LONDON**
#10
OCT 16 1918
RECEIVED FROM H.M.S.H
NO CHARGE TO BE PAID
Soldiers Mail
Mrs. Raymond R. Fritz.
368 Dix ave.
Detroit.
Mich.
Censored
Lt. G. L. ...
339th Inf.

FRAN. N. E. 62
ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА.
EXAMINED BY
L 22
Soldiers Mail
Mr. G. M. Waddell
Conway Bldg.
Chicago,
Illinois.
U.S.A.
Franklin Co.
P.O. ...
119689

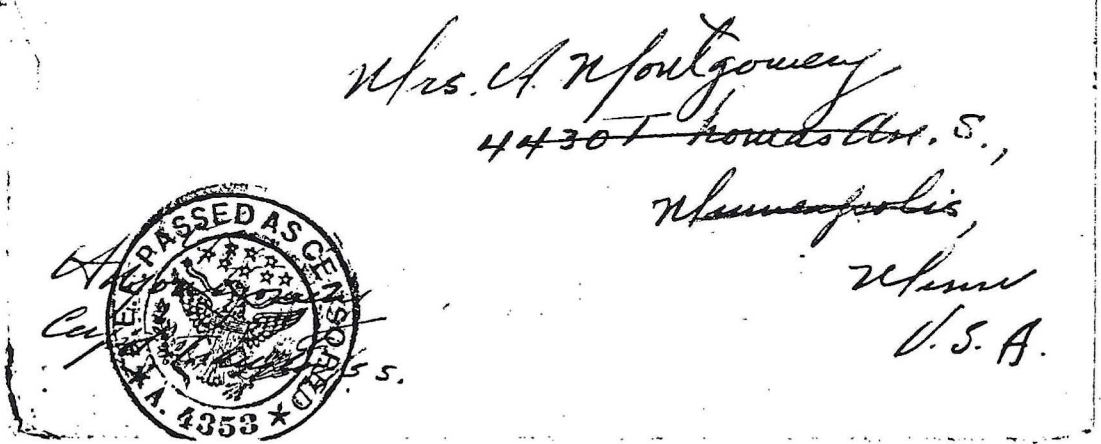
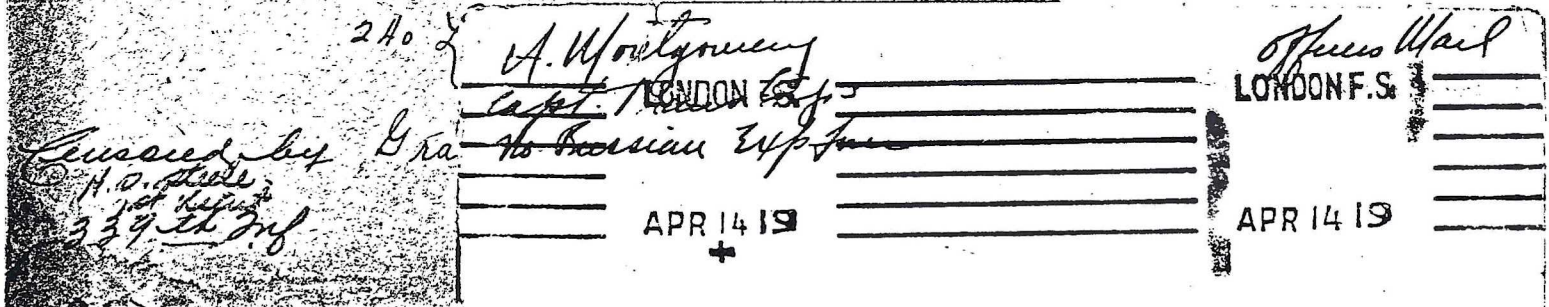
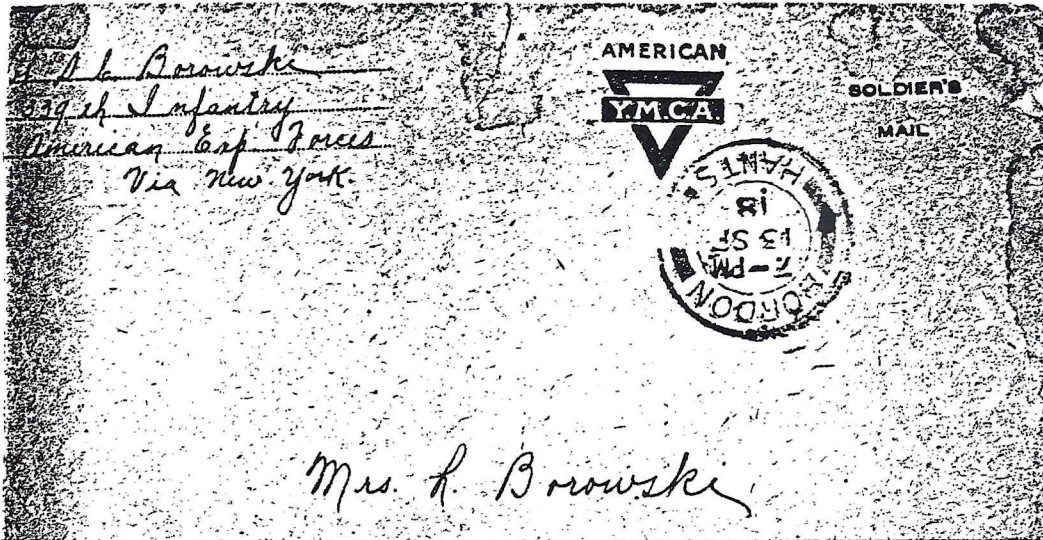
Franklin Co. Ill. Sept. 30, 18
Have tried to get news of Russia under order and seems to be the condition here the greatest part of the year. Most news is by word of mouth. There are many. Several magazines have been read and interesting articles are being written. Nothing is being done. It is very hard to make. It is very hard to make. It is very hard to make.

There were no field post offices in North Russia when US Army troops arrived. Their earliest postmarked mail (and some later) received the above London machine marking. 1918 dates recorded: 13 and 16 October, 7 December. Because of this lack of local field post offices, much of the early U.S. mail had no postmarks and can be identified only by the return address and/or local censor markings. Some ANREF mail continued to be sent without postmarks well after the British APOs and FPOs were established, for reasons which are not clear.

The "Murmansk Expedition" arrived in Archangel on 4 September 1918, and was placed under the command of the local British Army commander. On 12 September they were re-designated "American North Russian Expeditionary Forces," but they continued under local British command.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

North Russia
Elements of the AEF



The 339th Infantry Regiment, the 1st Bn. of the 310th Engineers, the 337th Field Hospital and the 337th Ambulance Co. arrived in England on 3 August 1918, and embarked for Russia on 21 August. A further replacement draft of 503 officers and men withdrawn from France arrived in England in late August 1918 and embarked for Archangel in late September. Mail from the latter group is very hard to identify, requiring knowledge that the sender was one of the members of the 338th sent to Russia.

Politically unreliable Russian rail workers necessitated dispatch in March 1919 of the 167th and 168th Transportation Cos. (720 officers and men), officially designated the North Russian Transportation Corps Expeditionary Force. These units sailed from England on 1 and 9 April, arriving at Murmansk on 9 and 17 April.

**Wartime
Intervention in Russia**

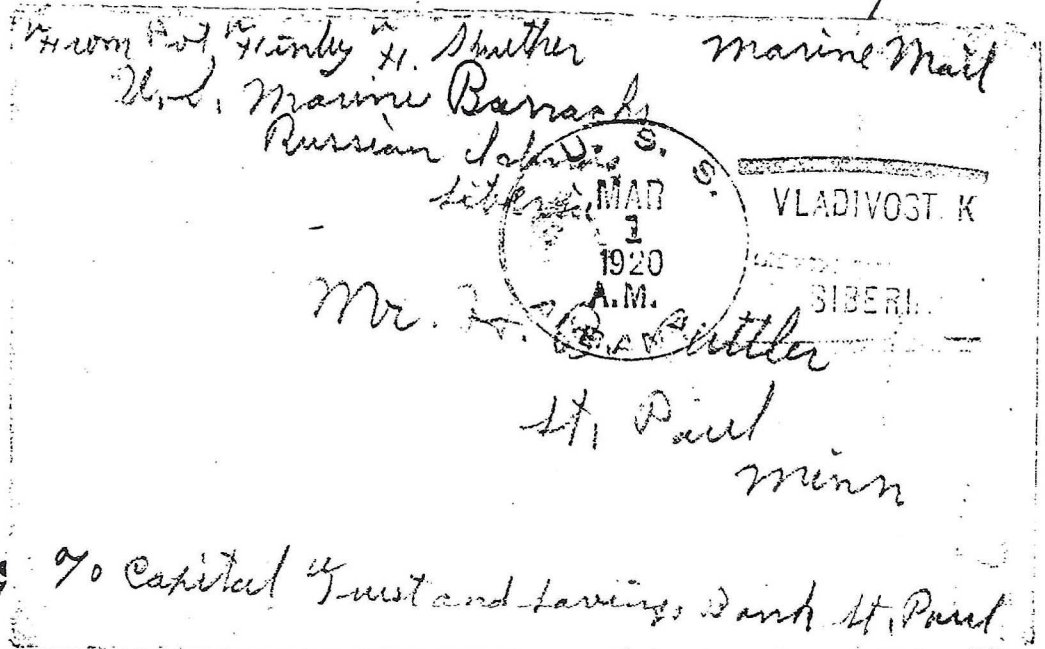
Siberia
U. S. Navy

Little is known about the USN Radio Station on Russian Island (10 miles southeast of Vladivostok in Peter the Great Bay). Date of inception and number of personnel unknown; closed 19 November 1922.

Norona reported that this postmark was issued to U.S. Navy authorities in Vladivostok in November 1921. At most, 2 other examples of this postmark are recorded on stamps.



AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE
Vladivostok, Siberia.



US Marines in Siberia consisted of small units aboard the cruisers and, from 16 February 1920 to 19 November 1922, 18 guards at the USN Radio Station, Russian Island. Only 4 pieces of USMC Siberian intervention mail are recorded.

Wartime
Intervention in Russia

Siberia
U. S. Navy

U. S. NAVAL FORCES,
VLADIVOSTOK, SIBERIA.



Received this March 4

1919

MRS. IDA MUELLER,
108 10TH STREET,
GRAND RAPIDS,
WISCONSIN.

*Postmark
U. S. S. SATURN*



USS South Dakota

Only 2 US Ship post office registered covers from the Siberian intervention are recorded. The other is from the *USS Brooklyn*.

FROM: DR. J. E. MUELLER, U.S.N.
U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA.



Miss Nina Herndon,

Norwood,

Colo.,

U.S.A.

USS Saturn

Ship Type: Collier. Complement: 74
No Siberian intervention cancels recorded (3 covers recorded with USPA Siberia cancel, 8 & 10 January 1919).

Tour in Siberia, Intervention Period:
November 1918 - 12 January 1919.