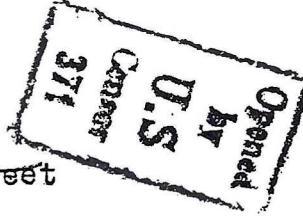
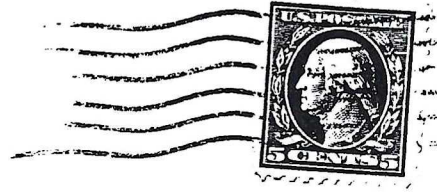


The AEF unit handstamps were augmented, and eventually replaced, by 2 types of rectangular handstamps, with numbers 371, 372 or 373. These are recorded through October 1919.

5000 HAMILTON

132-  
DUAL AXLE COMPANY  
CLEVELAND, OHIO



Miss Hellen Schaeffers  
~~9 Friedrich Street~~  
Wiesbaden,  
Occupied Territory

OPENED BY U. S. MILITARY  
CENSOR

OPENED BY U. S. MILITARY CENSOR

*Feldmann*

omobil-Gesellschaft  
Soest  
— Correspondenz commerciale

Titl.

F o r d



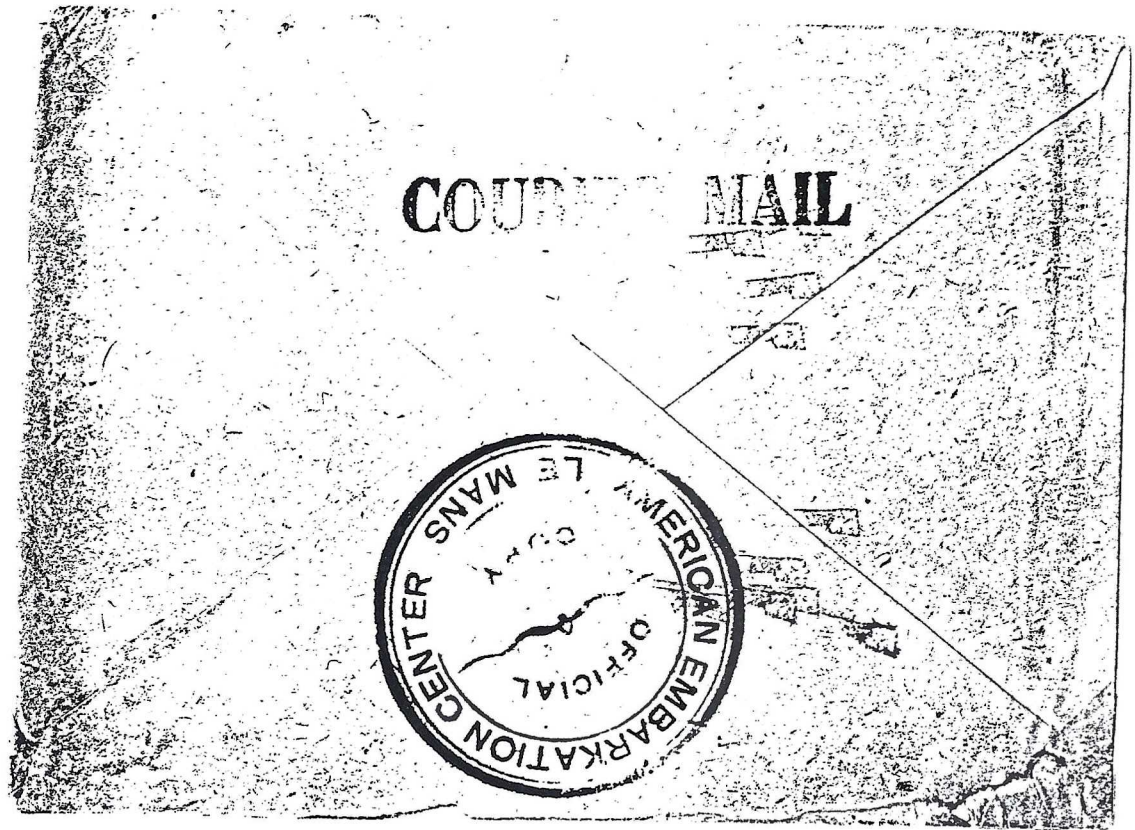
Detroit, Michigan U.S.A.

OPENED BY U. S. MILITARY CENSOR

A single tape is recorded in *The Postal History of the AEF* as having been used on civilian mail after the war. It is similar to the blue tape shown here but omits "MILITARY" and is on white paper. The larger tape is previously unrecorded, as is the black on green tape shown on the previous page.

The double censorship, especially with both the AEF unit censor handstamp and the civil censorship handstamp, is most unusual.

The Central Records Office at Bourges operated a courier service to Tours, Chaumont, Bordeaux, Clermont, Nice Paris and Le Mans in France, plus London and the British HQ in Flanders. Daily volume was as high as 2,000 incoming and 8,000 outgoing pieces.



No more than 5 examples of mail from this courier service have been recorded, all in the first half of 1919. Except for the handstamp "Courier Mail" above, the only distinguishing marking is a manuscript "Le Mans Courier."

Postwar  
Postal History

Courier Service  
MPES Courier Service

Lieut. C. A. Braukman A.S.  
Courier Service P.E.S.  
Hotel Billion, Paris

Officers Mail



Mrs. C. H. Braukman,  
1589 Steele St.,  
~~Denver,~~  
Colorado,

Aug 28 / 1919

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE

2nd Lieut. C. A. Braukman, A.S.  
P. E. S., PRAGUE, C. S.



Miss Lorette Braukman

1589 Steele Street

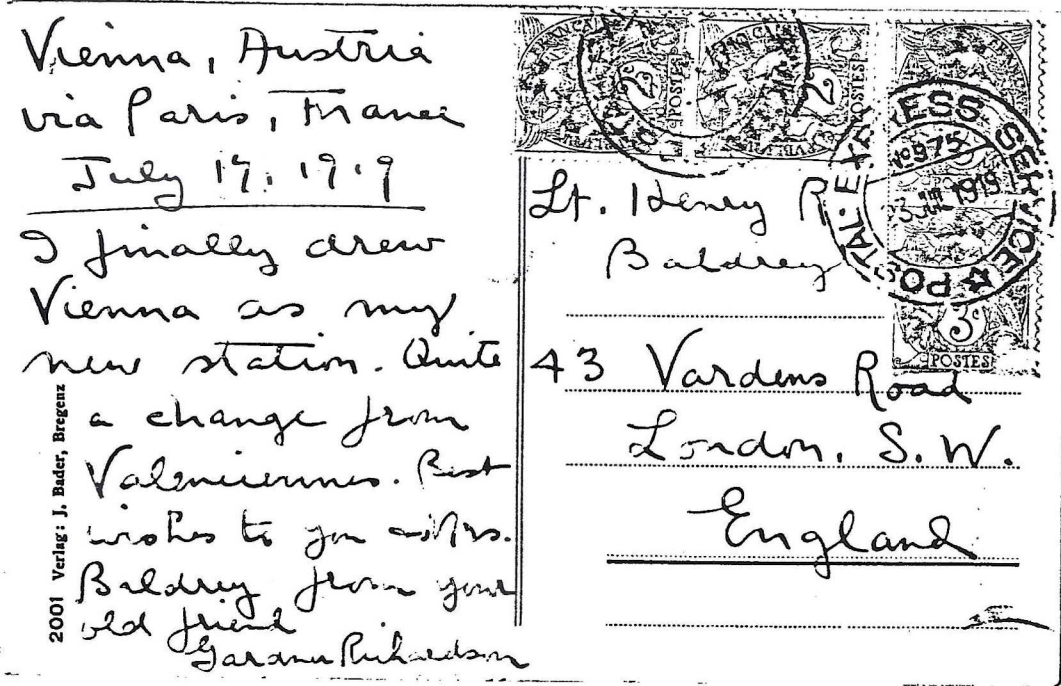
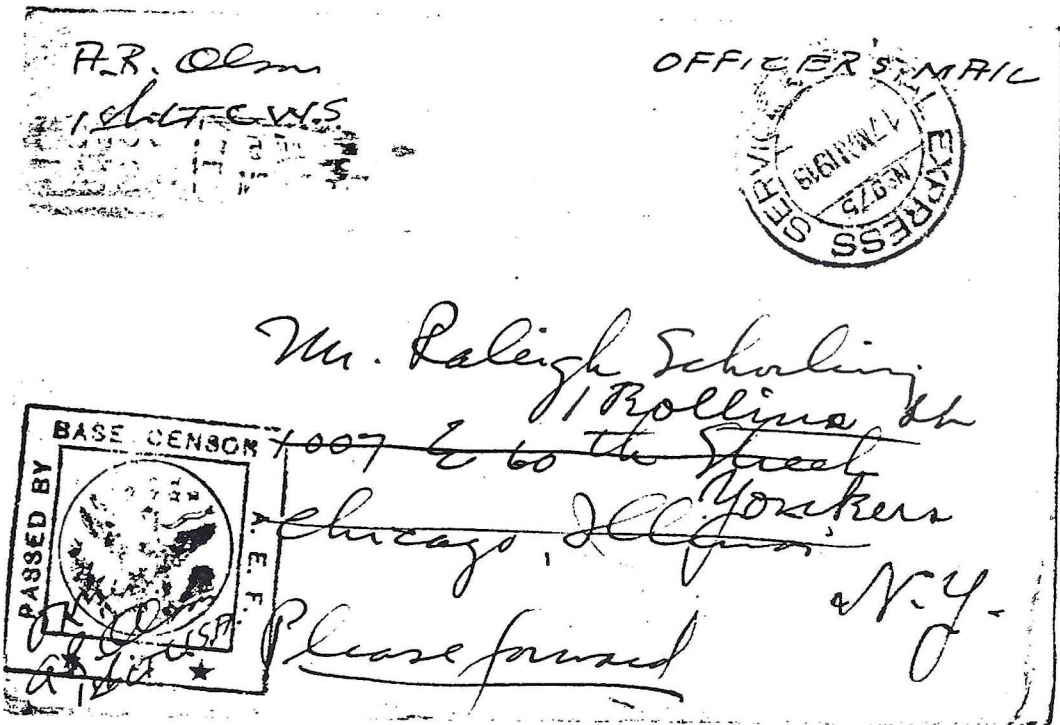
Denver, Colorado,

U. S. A.

Aug. 2.

It was decided to establish a Courier Service (and with it, APO 975 in Paris) to provide the American Commission to Negotiate Peace with speedy and confidential communications. This Service eventually grew to include 75 officers and 75 enlisted administrative personnel, with 14 offices in 10 countries plus routes to numerous other locations as far away as Palestine and Russia.

Personal mail of Courier Service officers. Top cover remarkable for use of German civil mails. By this time the German political situation was relatively stable (the Weimar Constitution had been adopted on 11 August 1919) and the mails were secure. The latest recorded date for an APO 975 postmark is 21 August 1919, indicating a diminution of Courier Service activities, so there may have been no more convenient way of getting this cover home at the time it was sent. Even so, postage should have been paid. Bottom cover properly posted under military free frank.



The first expansion of the Courier Service's duties came with the establishment of U.S. Military Missions in Berlin and Vienna, as local postal services in Germany and Austria were unreliable and far from secure in early 1919 due to Communist uprisings.

Lieut. C. A. Brankman, A.S.  
P.E.S. A.P.O. 702

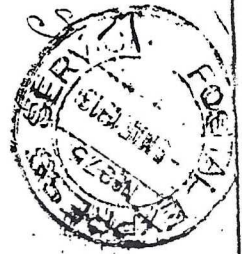
Officers Mail.

July 27  
Mrs. E. H. Brankman

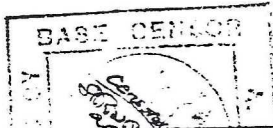
Czechoslovakia. No  
schedule or office listed.



W. H. Baxter  
Romanian Comm.



Mrs. W. H. Baxter  
1033 Greenleaf Ave  
Chicago



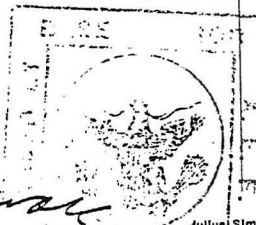
6/18/19  
Gauting  
H.



Mr. Casper Nowak  
1220 Broadway  
Buffalo, N. Y.  
U. S. America

Romania. Office in  
Bucharest. Service twice  
per week; 3-day transit  
to Paris.

Danzig, Germany. No  
office, but there was a  
regular route (schedule  
unknown).



Prussia  
C. A. Brankman

Julius Simonsen  
Kunstverlag  
Oldenburg i. Hist.  
Nr. 13256.

On 30 April 1919 the mission of the Courier Service was further expanded as additional offices and routes were opened throughout Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Also mail of official and semi-official American organizations were authorized carriage by the Service. Offices and schedules noted here are listed in Scully, *The Course of the Silver Greyhound*.

Mrs. B. Buchanan M.D.  
AMERICAN RED CROSS  
(AMЕРИКАНСКИ ЦРВЕНИ КРСТ)



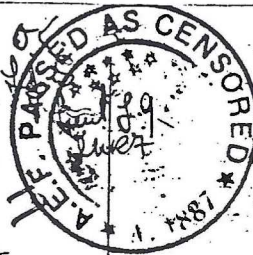
БЕОГРАД  
СРБИЈА

Doctors Mail



Serbia. Office in  
Belgrade. Service  
twice weekly; 5 day  
transit.

Sailor's Mail  
En Foisign Service



Mrs. Ernest Luther

R.F.D. #5

Norwich

Conn

3-7-19  
Rotterdam, Holland  
I hope to be back  
to the states in about  
a month. Am  
having a fine  
time in Holland.



No 6014

Netherlands. No courier  
office, but regular route  
to Rotterdam. The  
Hague is not listed as  
being on a regular route.  
Postage on bottom card  
probably reflects U.S.  
diplomatic practice of  
adding local postage so  
as not to deny revenue to  
host country post office,  
even though mail is sent  
by U.S. channels.

Uitg. Amsterdam 14/18 Nadruk verboden

Dear Dorothy:  
This field is right  
off the main road and  
the girls look just like  
the picture - but worse.  
There are lots of fields  
and more girls than  
just like these; don't  
you wish you could see  
them? May be you will  
see them some day.



Love from  
Robert

From:  
Robert Le Hobus  
Officer of Intl. Attaché  
American Legation  
The Hague



Miss Hobus

38 East 52 Street

New York City

U.S.A.

Postwar  
Postal History

Courier Service  
MPES Courier Service



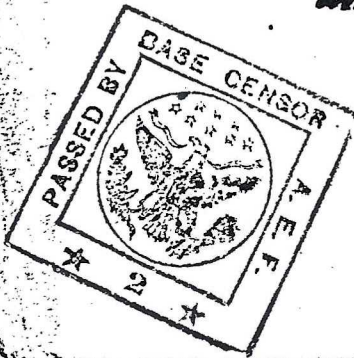
Mr. M. M. Kocoglu,

100 American Street,

Istanbul, Turkey.

U. S. A.

Turkey. Office in Constantinople. Service once per week; 6 day transit.



EUROPEAN OFFICE OF THE  
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
OF FUNDS FOR  
JEWISH WAR SUFFERERS  
Temporary Headquarters  
HOTEL BRIGHTON  
218, Rue de Rivoli  
PARIS-FRANCE



France. In addition to its Paris office the Courier Service had offices in Brest, Chaumont, St. Nazaire and Bordeaux.

Mr. Paul Baerwald  
120 Broadway  
c/o Lazard Freres  
New York City

(United States of America)



*Expedia Per Ensign W.B. Johnson.*  
AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION *USNRF.*  
MISSION FOR POLAND

AMERYKAŃSKI  
WYDZIAŁ RATUNKOWY  
MISYA DLA POLSKI

*Officers Mail*



*Monsieur le Commandant Henry Court  
Sierremont,*

*Trouville, /her.  
Calvaos.*



Ensign W.B. Johnson, USNRF.  
UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
MISSION FOR POLAND.

OFFICER'S MAIL

ADMINISTRACJA ŻYWNOŚCIOWA STANÓW ZJEDNOCZONYCH  
MISYA DLA POLSKI.



Lieut. Norman C. Caum.  
Schofield Barracks,  
H.T.  
U.S.A.

O.K.  
*W.B. Johnson*  
Ensign, USNRF.

Poland. No office listed; regular route to Krakow mentioned, though not to Warsaw.

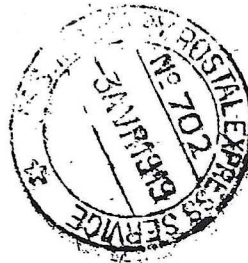
Postwar  
Postal History

Courier Service  
Red Cross Courier

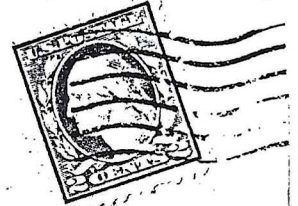
*Miss Cosmos.*  
**AMERICAN RED CROSS**  
Czerwony Krzyż Amerykański



**WARSAW (Poland)**  
**WARSZAWA (Poloń)**



Lt. R. Bliss Wolfe,  
**AMERICAN RED CROSS**  
Czerwony Krzyż Amerykański  
13 Szopena,  
Brentano's,  
37 Avenue de  
Paris.  
**WARSAW (Poland)**  
**WARSZAWA (Poloń)**



R. Bliss Wolfe,  
**AMERICAN RED CROSS**  
Czerwony Krzyż Amerykański  
13 Szopena, **POLAND**  
Warsaw.  
**WARSAW, Poland**  
**WARSZAWA, Polska**



Miss Anita Storrs,  
Granger,  
TEXAS.

By courier to Paris.

U. S. A.



Oddly, the American Red Cross in Poland was the major non-user of the Courier Service (though it used this service in other countries). The ARC in Poland appears to have had its own courier service to the ARC Post Office in Paris, and from there mail went via APO 702 in 1919, and the French post office thereafter.





Postwar  
Navy

Ashore

J. J. Crockett Cpl.  
U.S. Naval Forces  
Europe

Sailor's  
Mail



Miss Agatha Hollinger

5/21/19  
Unionville  
Conn

How do  
that was?

J. S. Knapp.

U.S. NAVAL FORCES

OPERATING IN EUROPEAN WATERS



Official  
Sailor's  
Mail

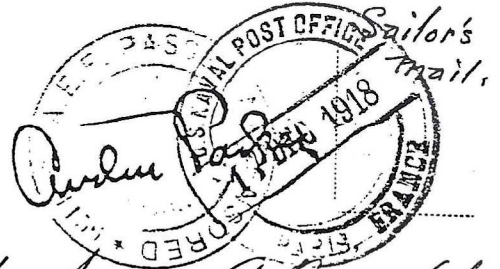
Mrs Albert Chase,  
29 Ohio St.,

Geo. H. Ewell, U.S.N.,  
U.S.N. Air Station,  
Porto Corsini,  
Italy.

Porto Corsini,  
Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> -

Am leaving to-mor-  
row on a ten day  
furlough to Rome, Naples,  
Salerno, Florence, Bol-  
ogna & Milan. Will  
send cards from the  
different places. Fare  
for U.S. Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> George D.

569-21 17 Uff. Paris, Stampa Milano



Mrs. James A. Reynolds,

Kinderhook

Columbia Co.,

New York  
U.S.A.

Following the Armistice U.S. Navy post offices were opened in London (2 hammers recorded) and Plymouth, England and in Paris. Closing dates are not known.

Postwar  
U.S. Navy

*Mr. John T. Purcell*  
 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
 U.S. MAIL BY AIR MAIL  
 SPECIAL DELIVERY

U.S. NAVAL STATION  
 LA TRINITE  
 1919

*Mrs. John T. Purcell  
 303 Bussnell St.  
 Boston*

*Fred P. Neff, U.S.S. Lake George*

U.S. NAVAL BASE  
 AUG 6

*Mrs. C. J. Neff  
 RR #2 Bussnell  
 Howard Lyon*

Y.M.C.A.  
 "WITH THE COLORS"

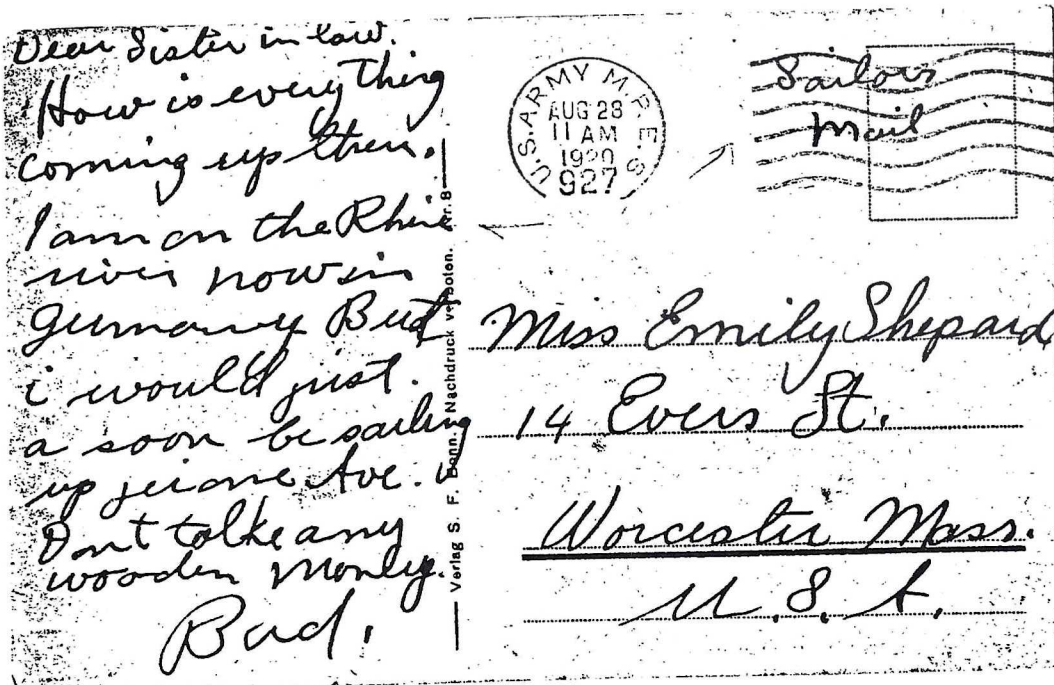
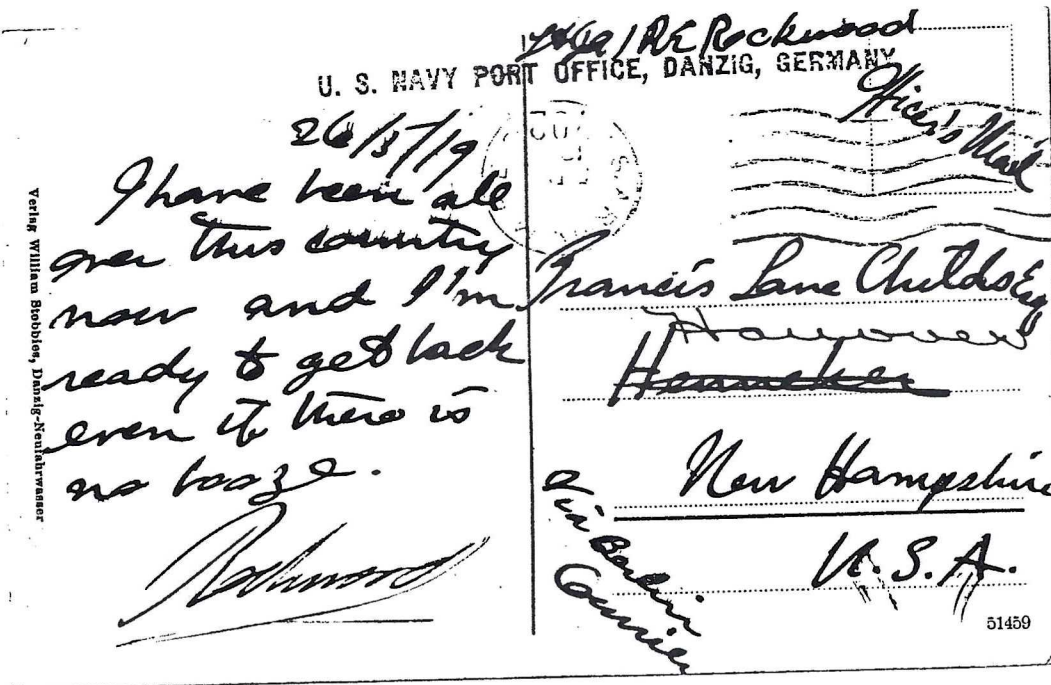
*Written for Aug. 6  
 Recd Aug. 21*

*Sailors Mail  
 Foreign Service*

*Miss Wanda Young  
 2515 W. Vined St.  
 Los Angeles  
 California  
 U.S.A.*

Several bases are recorded through postal evidence the location of which are not known (as for Bases 14 and 27 above). The base number of the USNAS at La Trinite, France, is also not known. It is possible (likely in the last case) that these bases were opened before the Armistice, but there are no wartime postmarks recorded for them.





The U.S. Navy had very little to do with the occupation of Germany, and virtually nothing appears about it in the philatelic literature. The Danzig Port Office handstamp is mentioned in *The Postal History of the AEF*, but no mention is made of U.S. sailors in the Rhine. With U.S. soldiers on both sides of that river, the presence of a small naval detachment at Coblenz to handle river craft seems logical. Note that in each case, U.S. Army postal facilities (in Paris and Coblenz) were used.