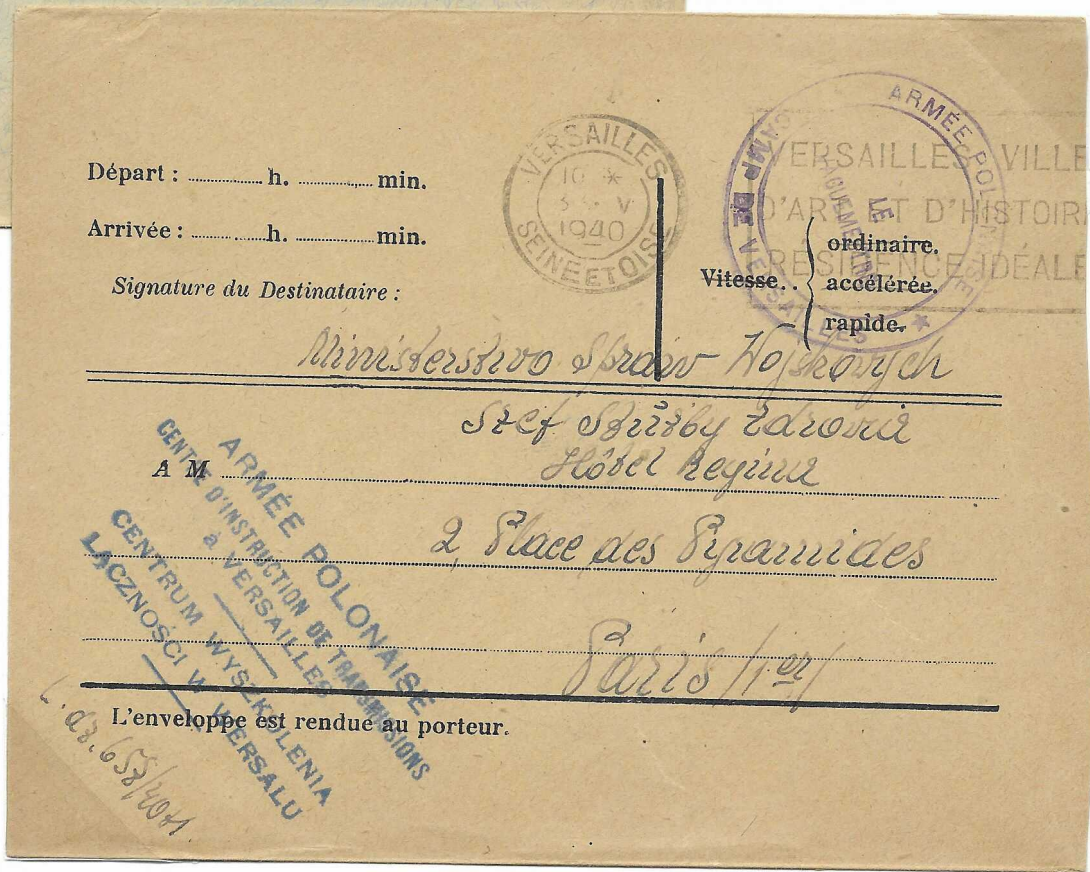


FRANCE  
Army Unit Mail

Val Andre  
13 March 1940

Versailles  
3 May 1940



Upper registered cover from the Polish Officers Training Center at Val Andre. In this case the cachet is a standard type for the French Army with symbol of France in the center and no inscription in Polish. Below is a card sent from the Signal Corps Training Camp at Versailles.



FRANCE  
Polish Red Cross Mail



Paris  
25 April 1940

Toulouse  
14 November 1940

**CROIX-ROUGE POLONAISE**  
2, RUE EULER - PARIS (8<sup>e</sup>) - TEL. : ELYSÉES 21-81, 22-01 ET 79-00  
COMITÉ CENTRAL

Ministerstwo Spraw Wojskowych

Hôtel Regina

2, Place des Pyramides



**POLSKI CZERWONY KRZYŻ WE FRANCJI**  
DELEGAT DO SPRAW OPIEKI NAD B. KOMBATANTAMI  
OKR. TULUSKI

**TOULOUSE**  
21, RUE D'ORLÉANS  
TÉLÉPHONE 210-65

**CROIX ROUGE POLONAISE EN FRANCE**  
DÉLÉGUÉ POUR L'ASSISTANCE AUX ANCIENS COMBATTANTS  
CIRCONSCRIPTION DE TOULOUSE

Au

Comité International de la Croix-Rouge

Palais du Conseil Général

Genève

SUISSE

N. R. / 55

It is said that the Red Cross follows the troops and, for the Polish Army in Exile, this was clearly the case. Upper cover sent from the Red Cross office in Paris to the Ministry of Military Affairs. Lower cover sent from Toulouse to Geneva after the armistice, presumably inquiring about Polish POWs.



FRANCE  
Polish Red Cross Mail



Vichy  
25 April 1941

La Tronche  
12 December 1942



Even after the armistice between France and Germany, the Polish Red Cross remained active in humanitarian services, attempting to trace Polish citizens caught in the fighting. These covers sent from Polish offices located in Vichy (unoccupied) France to the International Red Cross in Geneva.



FRANCE  
Polish Organizations

Marseille  
30 March 1940

Carvin  
14 May 1940



OFFICE POLONAIS A MARSEILLE  
BIURO POLSKIE W MARSYLII

2, Place Félix Baret  
Tél. D. 43-61  
Nr. R.801/r/Si

Comité International  
de la Croix Rouge  
Agence Centrale des Prisonniers  
de Guerre  
Geneve  
Oalais du Conseil Général

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
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No. ....

Stow. Rez. i B. Wojskowych Rzplitej Polskiej we Francji

Association des Anciens Combattants Polonais en France

Rue St. Jacques, 44 — DOUAI (Nord). — Tel. 1354.



Le Ministère  
des Affaires Militaires Polonaises  
2 Place de Pyramides 2  
a Paris 1.



Various Polish agencies operated in France prior to the armistice. The upper registered cover was sent by the Association of Former Polish Combatants to the Minister of Polish Military Affairs in Paris. Below is a cover from the Polish Bureau in Marseille to the International Red Cross in Geneva dealing the POWs.



FRANCE  
Polish Organizations

Paris  
21 December 1945

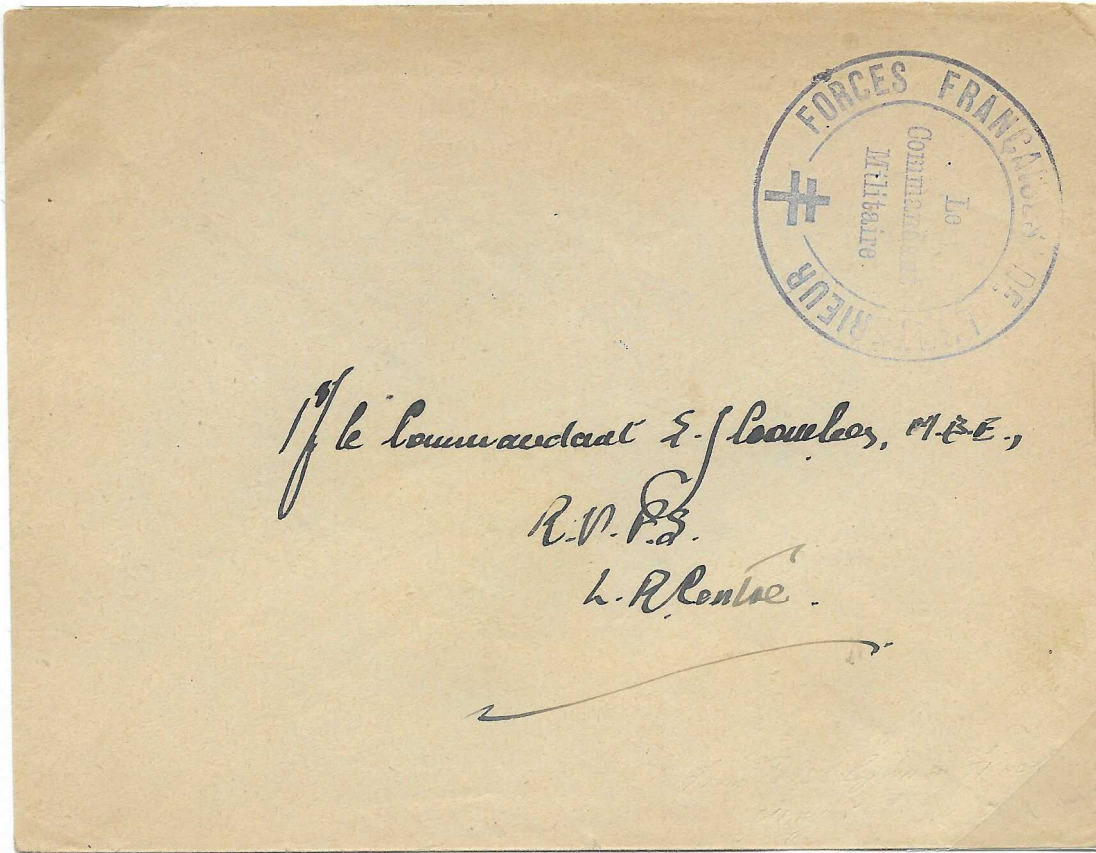


Cover sent in the early postwar period from the Central Union of the Poles in France to the Polish American Congress in Washington. Adhesives paid the Trans-Atlantic airmail rate of 18 francs in effect at that time.

FRANCE

Polish Participation in the French Forces of the Interior

ca. 1944



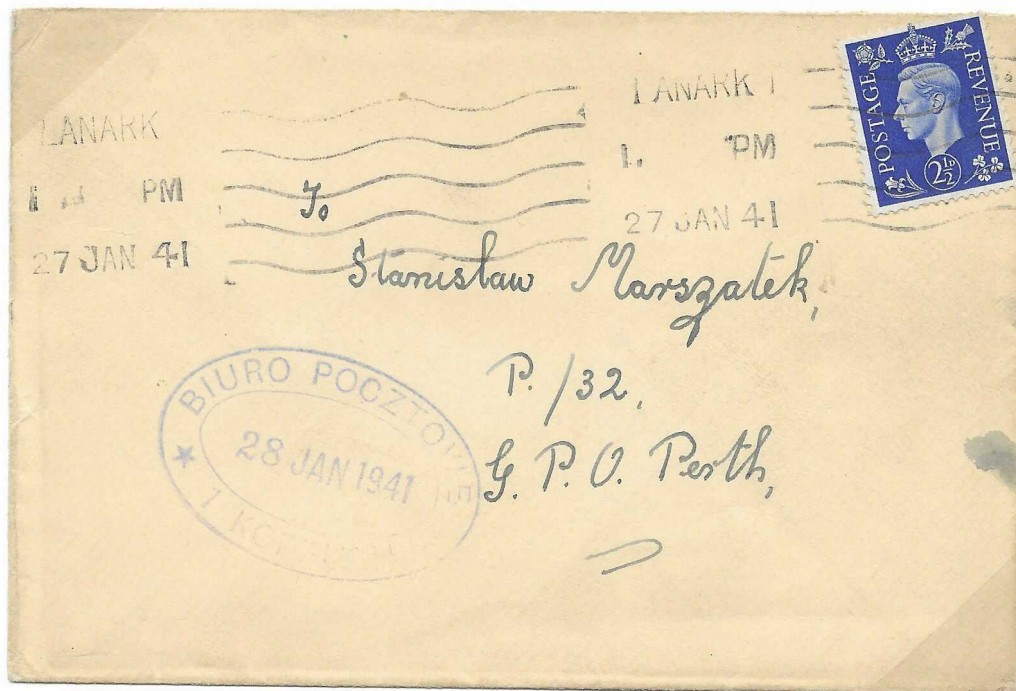
Mystery hand delivered cover with endorsement of the Military Commandant of the French Forces of the Interior (partisan resistance fighters). On the reverse is the cachet of the First Polish Battalion. This usage not seen previously by exhibitor.



## GREAT BRITAIN

Some of the Polish soldiers in France were taken as POWs by the Germans, some crossed the border and were interned in Switzerland and some were evacuated by sea to Britain in July 1940. In contrast to the situation in France, the Poles were permitted to establish their own fieldpost operations in Britain. The first military postal markings appeared as receiving marks on inbound mail starting in September 1940 but were used to cancel the required British postage on outgoing mail from the fall of 1941. In general, mail from the troops in Britain did not have regimental cachets as in France. Initially, the Polish military postal service was established in Glasgow, Scotland, but it was transferred to Perth at the end of 1940.

Biuro Pocztowe/1 Korpsu  
28 January 1941



The first Polish fieldpost marking was a double oval inscribed "Postal Bureau/1 Corps," which is recorded as being used from September 1940. This example is used as a receiving mark on an inbound letter to the Polish postal box at the GPO in Perth.

GREAT BRITAIN

1. Korpus Wojsk Polskich  
17 December 1941  
5 January 1942



A newly designed double-circle postmark with a Polish eagle and bilingual inscription "1st Polish Army Corps/Field Post" was introduced in October 1941. It is shown above applied in black on an inbound letter and in purple on an outgoing postcard from the Polish Headquarters in Glasgow.







GREAT BRITAIN

Polska Poczta Polowa Nr.1  
6 September 1944  
27 November 1944



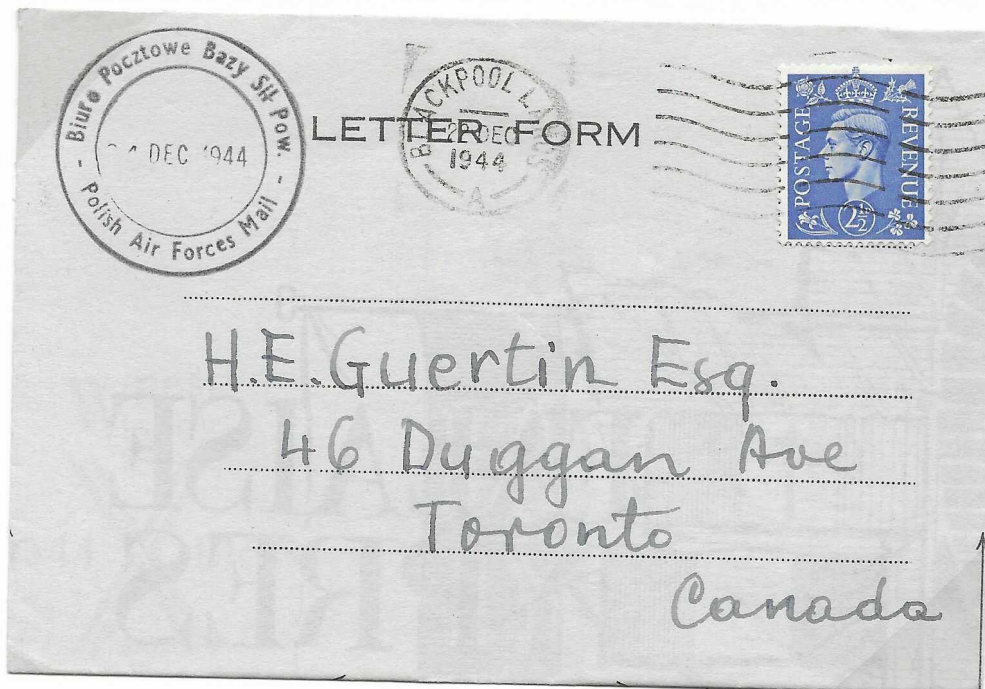
A similar but larger postmark was introduced in April 1944. It had a different style of lettering and did not have lines above and below the date. It was normally used on registered mail and struck in red, as shown.



GREAT BRITAIN

Biuro Pocz. Deleg. In. Lot  
5 November 1943

Biuro Pocztowe Bazy Sil Pow.  
21 December 1944



There were two different postmarks prepared for use by the Polish Air Force in 1943 and 1944, respectively. The wording of the Polish inscriptions differed but both read "Polish Air Forces Mail" in English at the bottom of the dial.



GREAT BRITAIN  
Inbound Mail

Field Post Office 406  
3 September 1943



Picture postcard (of Delhi) sent from Karachi, India to Scotland, paying the 4 annas airmail card rate. This example was addressed to a Polish serviceman and censored twice en route. Arrived at FPO 406 in two weeks. This was a British FPO that was allocated for use by the Polish forces during the period from 13 July 1943 into 1946. It is considered to be a scarce usage.



GREAT BRITAIN  
Inbound Mail

Polska Poczta Polowa  
Nr.1  
13 November 1945

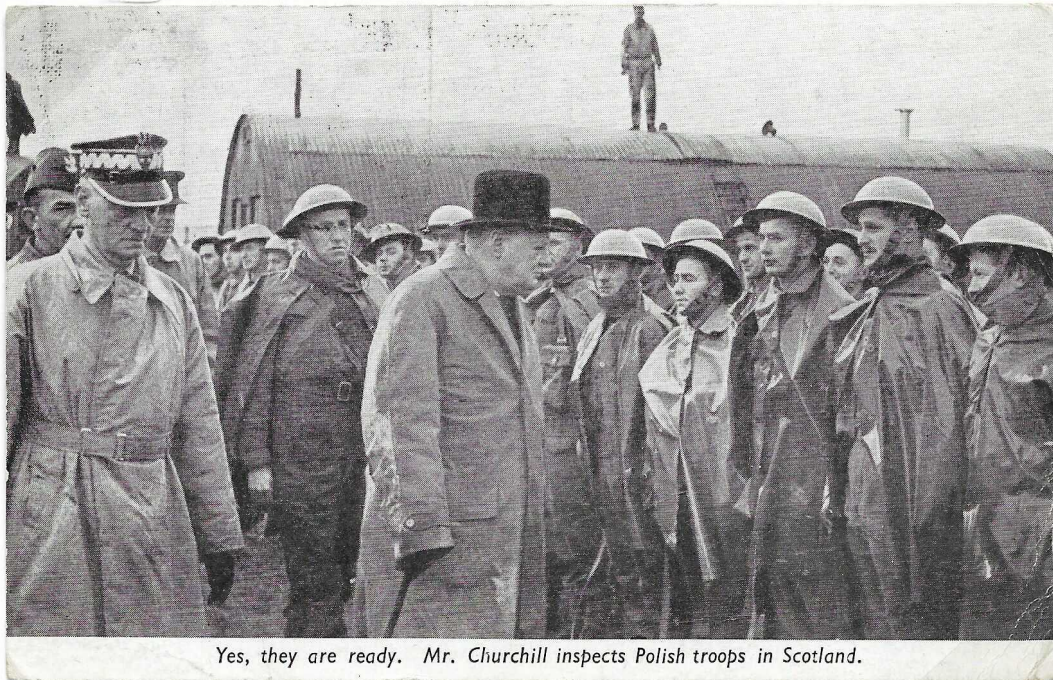


Picture postcard (of Loreto) sent to a member of the Polish Forces in Scotland. Postmarked Loreto on 19 October, this card took 25 days to arrive at the Polish FPO. Censored by the Italians.



GREAT BRITAIN

Polska Marynarka  
Wojenna 22  
21 April 1943



Yes, they are ready. Mr. Churchill inspects Polish troops in Scotland.



Picture postcard showing Prime Minister Churchill and Polish Forces in Scotland, where they were in training for the invasion of Europe. Cover below was sent in 1943 from the Polish Military Bureau in Edinburgh.



GREAT BRITAIN

Polish Forces P176  
21 August 1944

Field Post Office  
27 November 1945



Some of the Poles in Great Britain were integrated into British military units. As a result, most of the later mail was sent through the British fieldpost system. One exception is the "Polish Forces" postmark shown above on cover to Edinburgh.

GREAT BRITAIN  
British Liberation Army

Field Post Office 431  
20 December 1944

Field Post Office 406  
26 October 1945



Ludwika Lysienka A. Prawdziw-Laxowski Esq  
Świąteczna: Noworocna / Denhamgreen Terrace  
1945  
Haflijs  
Edinburgh 5  
Scotland

20362 Sgt. Faflin Zygmunt  
P/108 Polish Forces  
British Liberation Army  
Przemyslaw

O. F. S.

in transit  
Officially Sealed  
uszkodzona  
Zabezpieczona urzędowo  
FIELDPOST—1st POLISH ARMY CORPS



St. Maximilian Pomaski  
9, Searmonth Gardens  
Edinburgh Scotland.

When the Poles were transferred to the Continent, they became part of the British Liberation Army and used the British fieldpost. Belgian-Polish patriotic postcard was mailed through FPO 431 serving the 1st Armored Division. The cover below was sent by a member of the BAOR (British Army on the Rhine) during the occupation of Germany. Note censorship label of the First Polish Corps.