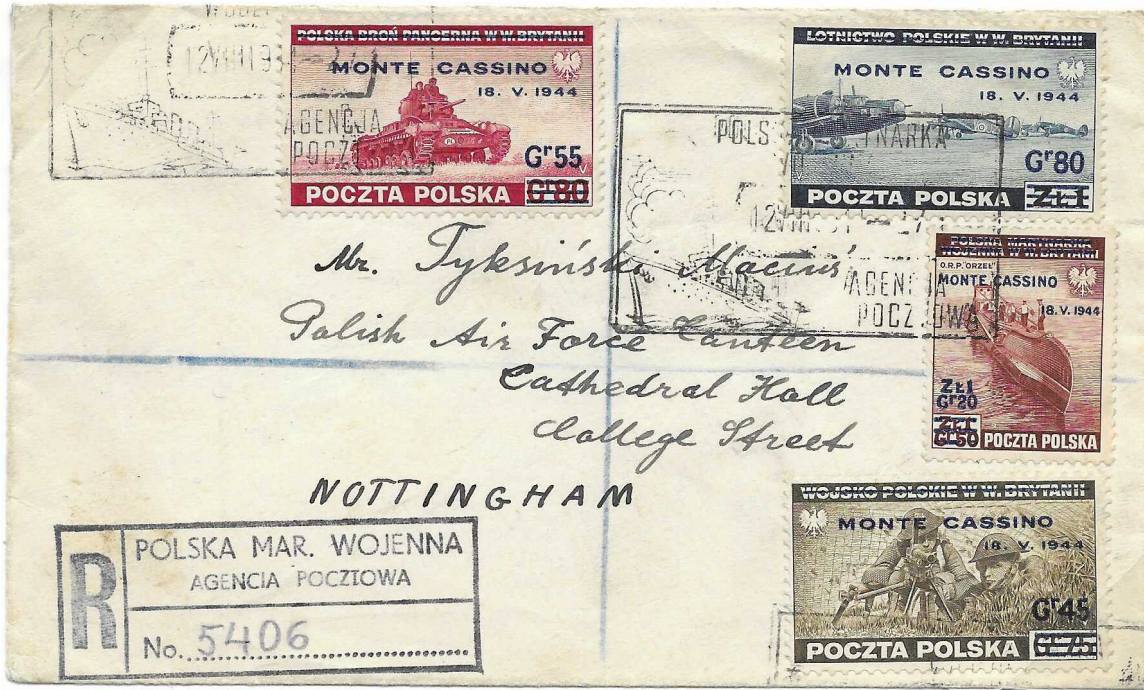


GREAT BRITAIN  
Polish Navy

Polska Marynarka Wojenna 27  
12 August 1944

Polska Marynarka Wojenna 25  
17 July 1944

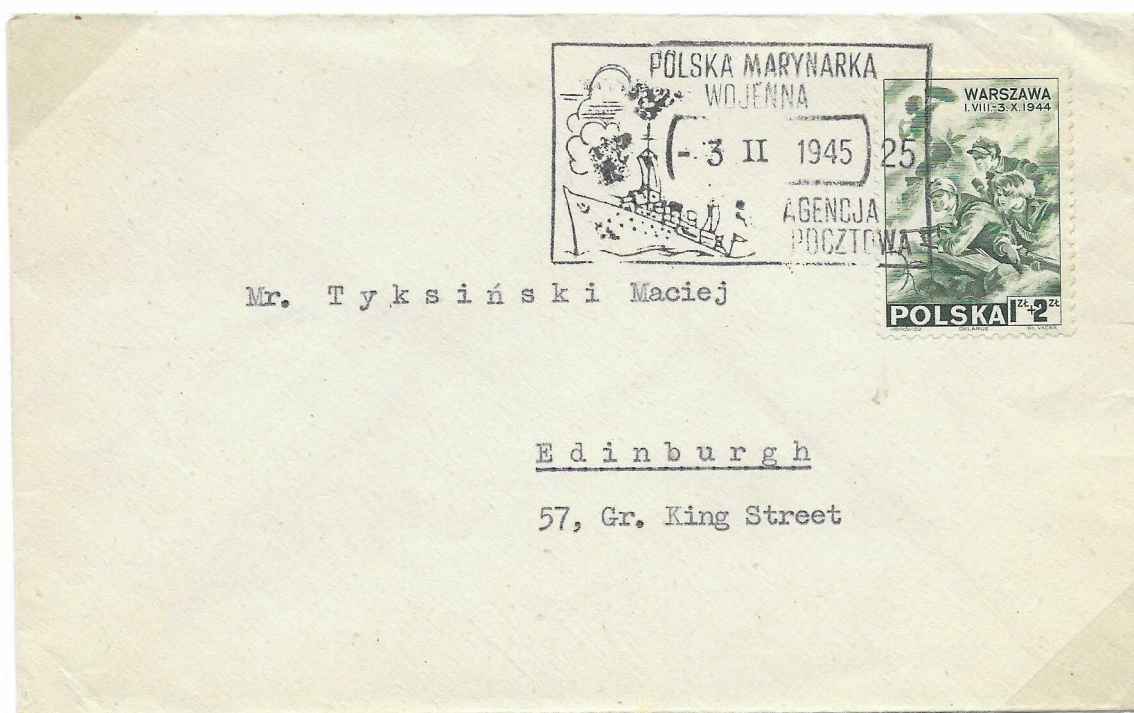


To commemorate the successful capture from the Germans of the Monastery of Monte Cassino in Italy, 55,000 sets of the remainders of the higher denominations of the first exile series were overprinted "Monte Cassino/18 V. 1944" and issued on 27 June of that year. Examples shown on philatelically-prepared registered covers to the Polish Air Force Canteen in Nottingham and to Chicago. They were mailed through ships No. 27 (*Wilk*) and No. 25 (*Sokol*), respectively.



GREAT BRITAIN  
Polish Navy

Polska Marynarka Wojenna 25  
3 February 1945

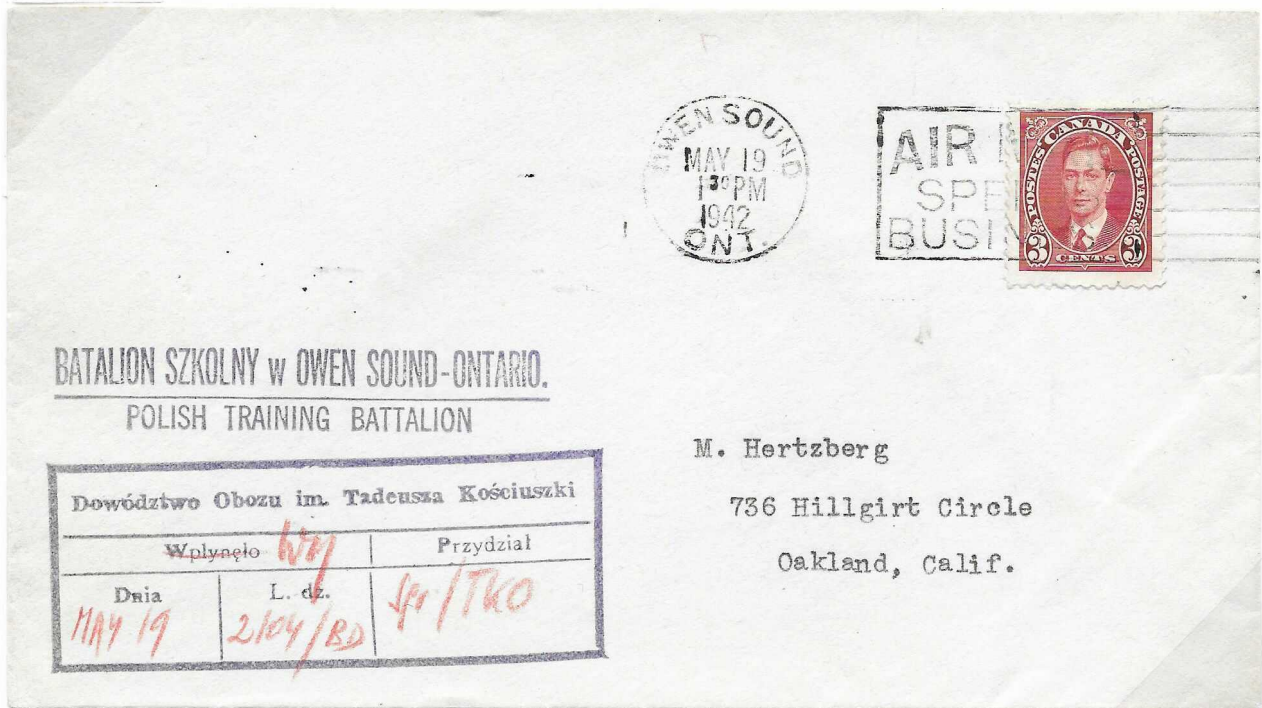


To honor the Warsaw uprising (1 August to 3 October 1944) against the German occupation, the Exile Government issued 105,000 copies of a semi-postal stamp with a denomination of 1 plus 2 zloty on 3 February 1945. It was valid for postage until 11 July 1945. The example shown was mailed on the first day of use from ship No. 25 (O.R.P. *Sokol*) to Edinburgh.

# CANADA

On the basis that there were 4 million Americans and Canadians of Polish descent, the government in Exile decided to recruit some of these men for service with the forces in Britain. In March 1941, General Duch was appointed as head of the Military Mission in Canada to implement this program, and a camp was established at Windsor, Ontario, very near the U.S. border. However, before it could function, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, and most of the prospective recruits joined the U.S. forces.

Owen Sound, Ont.  
19 May, 1942



This cover was sent to the U.S. from the Polish Training Battalion at Owen Sound.



CANADA

Polish Military Mission in Canada  
27 February 1943



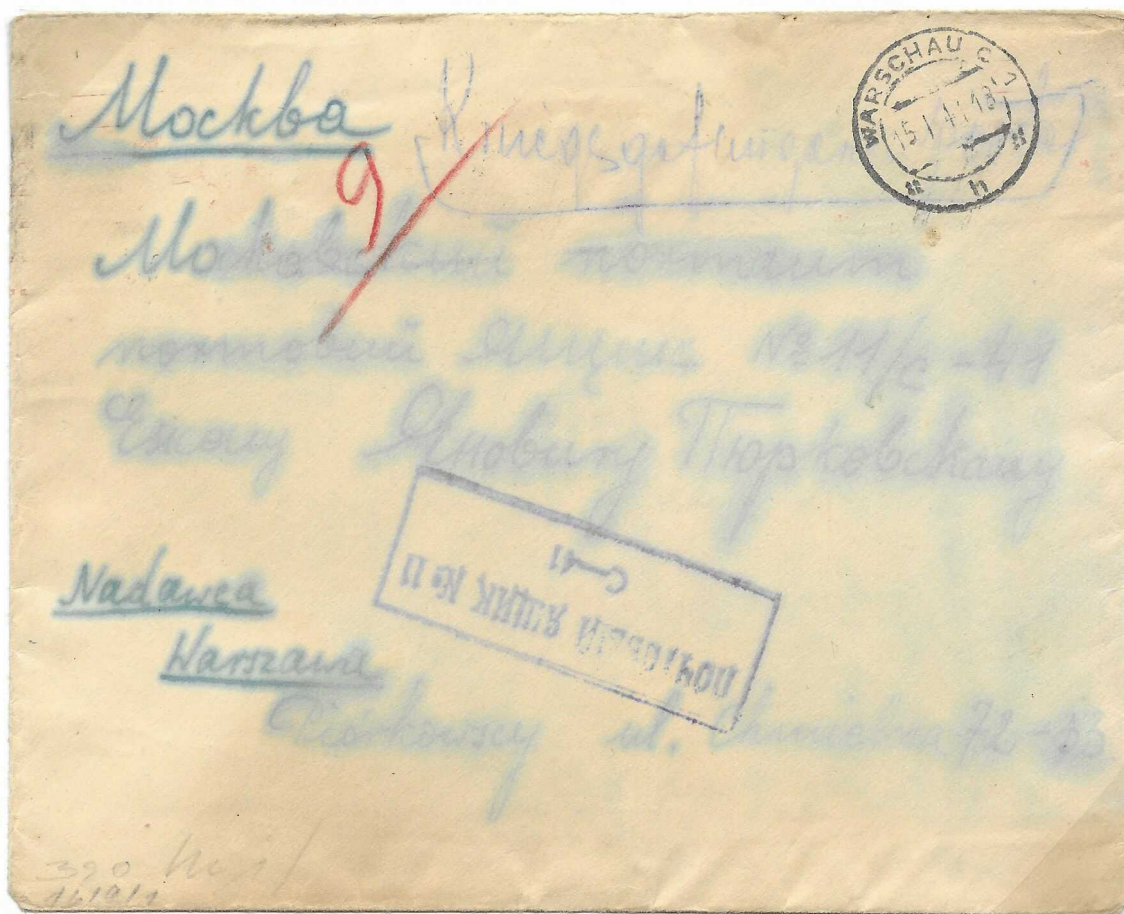
This large cover contained an official message from General Dembinski of the Military Mission; sent by courier to the Chief of Staff in London. An extremely unusual usage.

## SOVIET UNION

### Kozelsk POW Camp

As a result of the Soviet invasion of Eastern Poland on 17 September 1939, a large number of Polish soldiers were taken as POWs. Most of these were held in Prisoner of War camps, including Gryazovets, Kozelsk, Ostaskhov, Pawliszaslav and Starobelsk. The mailing addresses for the camps was designated as P. O. Box 11, Central Post Office, Moscow. In addition, each camp had its own code number. Because men that eventually formed the Polish II Corps in 1942 were recruited from these camps, this early mail can be viewed as forerunners of the later units.

Warschau  
15 January 1941



Kozelsk had a bad history. It held 4,500 POWs during October 1939 to April 1940. However, only 200 of these men survived, with the rest being Polish officers murdered in the Katyn Forest by the NKVD. Additional POWs who had been interned in Lithuania during the 1939 occupation were sent to the camp from summer 1940 to August 1941 after that country was annexed by the USSR. Cover above was inbound from Warsaw (then under German occupation) to P.O.B. 11, Code C-41. It was backstamped for arrival in Moscow on 3 February 1941.



SOVIET UNION  
Ostaskhov POW Camp

Ostaskhov  
3 January 1940



This camp was located in Russia some 150 miles northeast of Moscow. It was in operation for only seven months and examples of its mail are scarce. Its code was C-12. This postal card was mailed to Brest Litovsk but not backstamped.

SOVIET UNION  
Starobelsk POW Camp

Starobelsk  
7 December 1939

ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА  
CARTES POSTALES

Куда *Ходоров около Львова*  
Наименование места, где находится почта, и области или края, а для станций — наименование железной дороги.  
*Chodorow obok Lwowa —*  
Район, село или деревня.  
*ул. Mickiewicza 15.-*  
Улица, № дома и квартиры.

Кому *Jadwiga Sojowa*  
Подробное наименование адресата.

Адрес отправителя  
Adresse de l'expéditeur } *С. С. С. Р. — Старобельск*  
*Юзф Якович Сои* № *15.*  
*Позитовый ул. 15.*

Starobelsk Camp was located in Ukraine about 300 miles south of Moscow. It operated from October 1939 to April 1940 when its inmates were transported to Siberia. Its code was C-15. This postal card was sent to Chodorov in the Lwow District, which had been annexed to the Soviet Ukraine in 1939.



SOVIET UNION  
Zachoroach Wielki POW Camp

Dubno  
19 March 1940

 *донецкая*

ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТКА  
CARTE POSTALE

Куда *Львово Сувлин.*  
Наименование места, где находится почта, и области или края, а для станций — наименование железной дороги.

*улица Мухомова № 10.*  
Район, село или деревня.

Кому *Габриэла Зоберан.*  
Улица, № дома и квартиры.  
Подробное наименование адресата.

Адрес отправителя } *Степан Зоберан, Dubno, Украина Кавч*  
Adresse de l'expéditeur } *Мед. В. Р. Ово. военный № 1*  
*в Захоровак Квешкич.*  
*BMT*

This small camp was located in part of pre-war Poland that was annexed to the Soviet Ukraine in 1939. It was located near Dubno, about 120 miles northwest of Lwow. This postal card was updated to 30 kopeks for international use and sent to Lublin in the German occupied zone, where it was censored by the Wehrmacht.

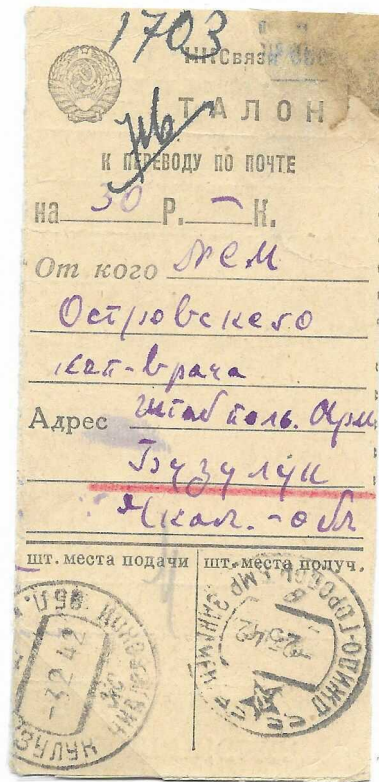


**SOVIET UNION**  
**Buzuluk Camp**

When Germany invaded the Soviet Union on June 22, 1941, the situation changed dramatically for the 200,000 Polish POWs taken during the 1939 invasion and about 250,000 others subsequently arrested by the NKVD, including policemen, judges, government workers and other "unsafe elements" being held in the U.S.S.R. Stalin agreed that 50,000 men (later increased) from these groups could be recruited into a military force to fight on the Allied side. However, he did not want a large number of armed and potentially disruptive Poles to be loose in Russia. So, the elements of this force were ordered to assemble in the Saratov region for transportation to the Central Asia and then on to Iran and elsewhere in the Middle East where they would fight under British command.



Buzuluk  
20 November 1941  
3 February 1942



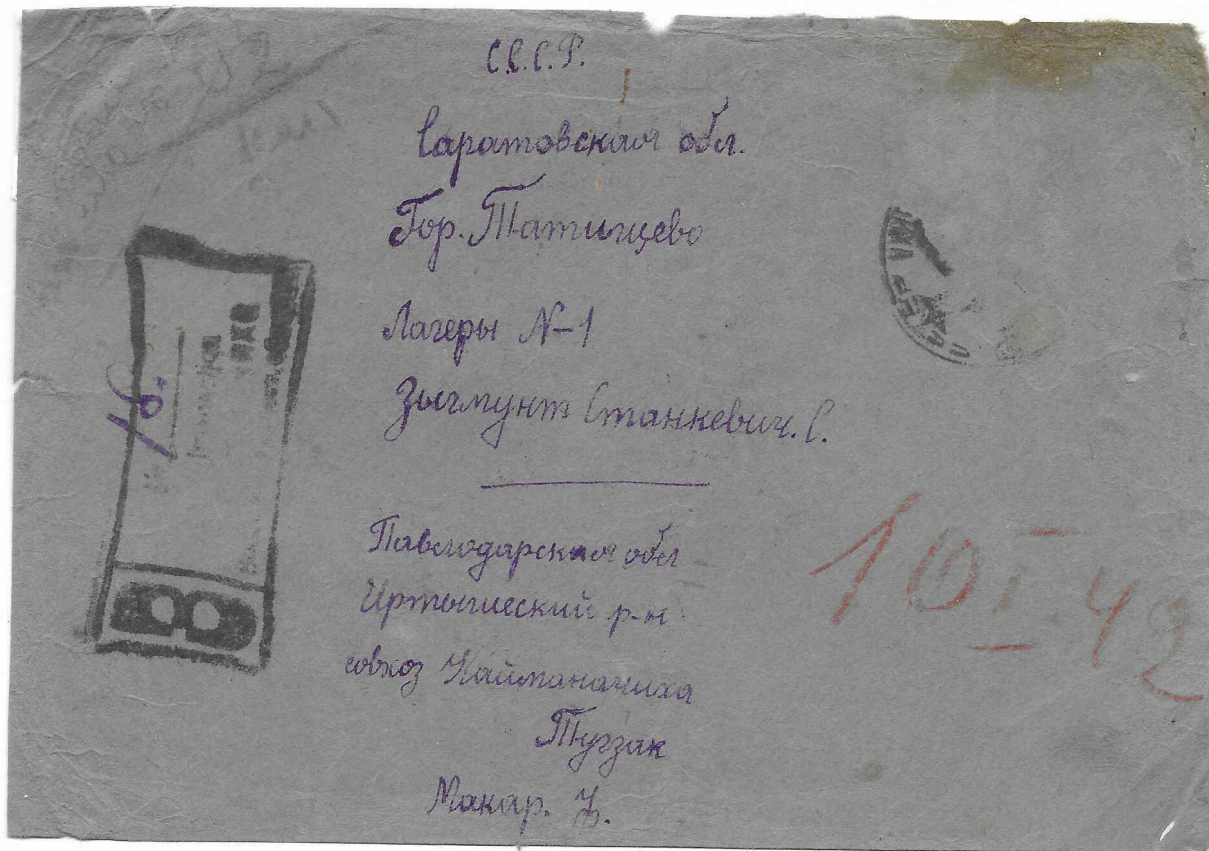
Postal evidence relating to the assembly camps is exceedingly elusive and collectors are fortunate to find any examples. Shown above is a large portion of an inbound postal card sent to Buzuluk in the Czkalowska District, which was the headquarters of the newly-created Polish Army in the U.S.S.R. Below is a receipt for a money order for 30 rubles sent from Buzuluk.



SOVIET UNION  
Tatischevo & Totskoya Camps

Tatischevo  
January 1942

Tock Lager  
17 December 1941



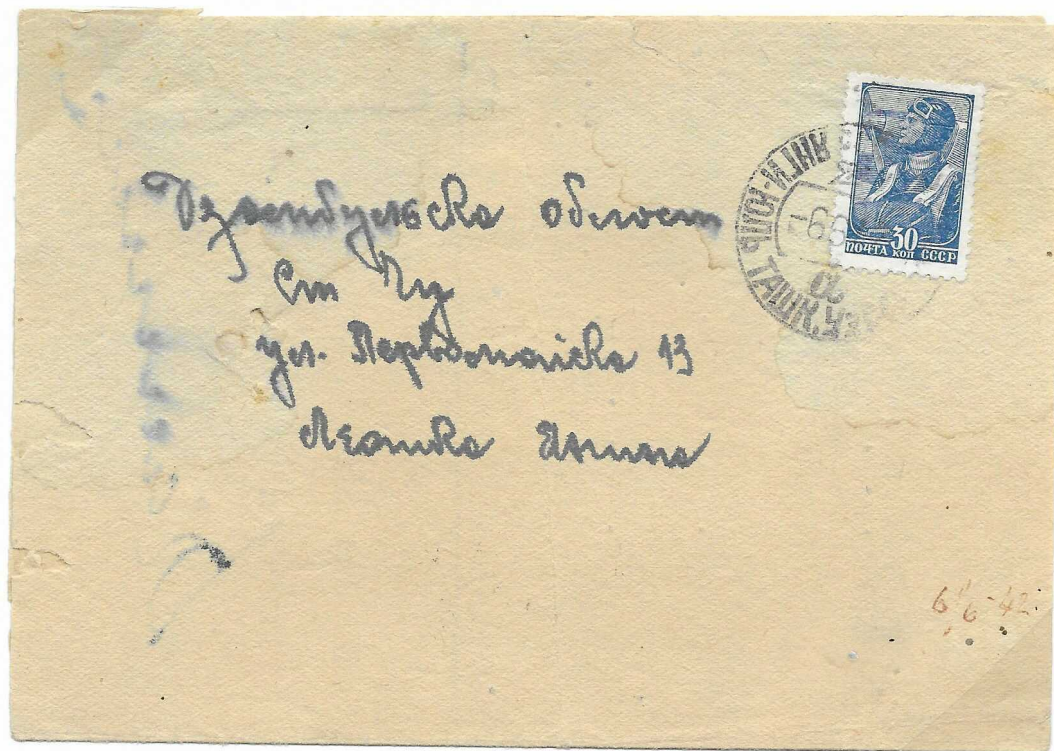
The other two assembly camps were located at Tatischevo near Saratov and the Tock Lager at Totskoye. Example from the former is an inbound registered cover front sent from Tugzak to Camp N.1 at Tatischevo. Stamps removed (by the censor?) but manuscript endorsement indicates it was received on 10 January 1942. Example from Tock Lager is a receipt for a money transfer of 300 rubles sent on 17 December 1941 and apparently not received until 6 June 1942.



**SOVIET UNION**  
**Yangi Jul - GHQ**

In the end, about 87,000 Poles were sent to the Central Asian republics, including Kazakhstan, Kirghizia and Uzbekistan. The headquarters of the A.P.W. (Armia Polska na Wschozie = Polish Army in U.S.S.R.) as the group was known, was established in Yangi Jul, near Tashkent in Uzbekistan. Other units were billeted in various locations as indicated on the subsequent pages. The Polish troops were not given a postal franchise, so postage had to be paid on mail at normal Soviet rates. Generally, the normal civil postmarks of the towns in which the units were stationed were used. However, Soviet fieldpost offices in the 3,000 series were assigned and used from May to August 1942. Lastly, an evacuation center was established at Ashkhabad in Turkmenistan from which the men departed for Iran, including the initial 28,000 troops that left during March and April 1942; with the rest following in August.

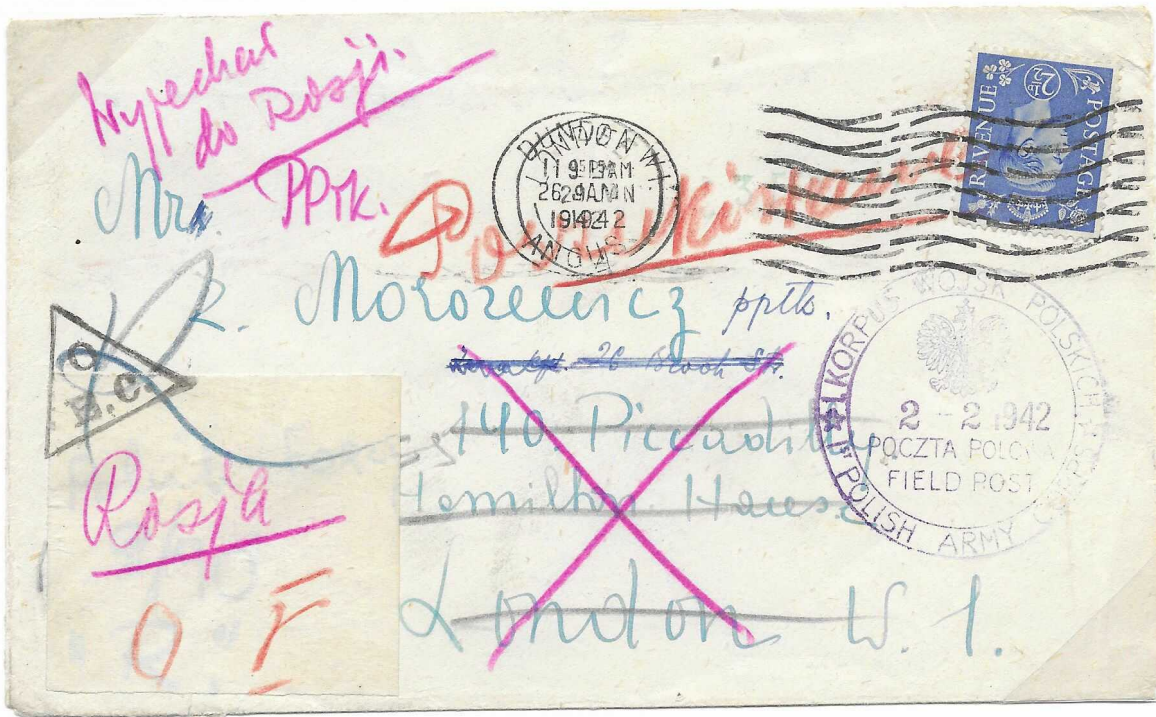
Yangi Jul  
6 June 1942



Official letter sent from the Polish Relief & Welfare Office in Yangi Jul to a Polish government representative in Dzambul. Backstamped in transit at the railway station at Czu on the same date.

SOVIET UNION  
Yangi Jul - GHQ

Dundee  
26 January 1942



Mail sent to the Polish forces from outside the Soviet Union is exceedingly scarce. This letter mailed from Dundee, Scotland to a Polish exile in London, where it was received on the 29th. It was marked in manuscript "Left for Russia," and sent to the Polish First Army Fieldpost Office, from which it was sent to Russia by diplomatic pouch. Receipt in Yangi Jul is confirmed by the black triangular censorship marking inscribed "O B.C. = HQ Biuro Cenzury," which was assigned to that location.



SOVIET UNION  
Yangi Jul - GHQ

Kokchtav  
February 1942

Ayaguz  
8 April 1942

*Заназнае.*

*Генеральный Штаб Пальной Армии  
в Ташкенте.*



*К.С.С.Р. Северо-Казахстанская область  
станция Кокчетав Кирпичный-Завод Н.К.П.С.*



*8.4.*



Куда *Янги - Юль, Узб.*  
(наименование места, где находится почта, и области или край, а для станций  
наименование железной дороги)

*пост. д. № 14*  
(район, село или деревня)

*Судбе полевого суда*  
(улица, № дома и квартиры)

Кому *поручик Лурьевский Яку*  
(подробное наименование адресата)

Адрес отправителя: *Аягуз, Селманов. отд.  
до воентребования - Заке И.В.*

*10/4/42*

Inbound mail to Yangi Jul is less elusive than outbound since units located elsewhere sent reports in to the Headquarters of the APW. Upper cover is a very early example sent from Kokchetav railway station in Kazakhstan to Tashkent, where it was received on 26 February and then forwarded by messenger to Yangi Jul. Postage covered the 30 kopek letter rate plus 30 for the registration fee. Below, a stationery envelope sent from Ayaguz to Yangi Jul, where it was backstamped for receipt on 10 April.



SOVIET UNION  
Yangi Jul - GHQ

Katta Kurgan  
29 April 1942




Registered cover sent from Katta Kurgan in the Samarkand District in Uzbekistan to the Headquarters of the A.P.W. in Yangi Jul, where it was backstamped for receipt on 2 May. In this case, censorship is indicated by a triangular handstamp with "C" at the apex (the code letter of the censor at Yangi Jul) with Rej.B.C.W. for Rejonowe Biuro Cenzury Wojskowej meaning regional military censorship bureau.



SOVIET UNION  
Yangi Jul - GHQ

Military Post No. 3000  
22 May 1942  
10 August 1942


Б С М 5

№№ по пор.	Род отправлений	Место подачи	Подавательский номер	Наименование адресата	Ценность		Расписка в получении
					Р.	К.	
1	2	3	4	5	6		7
10	З/п	Ташкент	822	Ситогенд М.			
11	-	Ханшатау	252	Мамиди Зайн			
12	-	Возмешка	86	Хановендин			
Итого				денег	12/		

Куда: Бурни, Оренбургская обл., м/р Макрак №3.19/

Кому: Странжески

№ 1442



In May 1942, the Soviets provided a series of fieldpost cancellations for use on the mail of the Polish forces. These were inscribed with "USSR" and a star at the top, "Military Post" at the sides and a number below. MPO #3000 was assigned to Yangi Jul. It is shown here on a receipt for a money order for 50 rubles which originated at Voroshilovgrad on 3 April, was sent via Tokmak and Bornoye and finally forwarded to Yangi Jul, where it was postmarked on 22 May, the very first day of use of the MPO 3000 cancel. The large postal document is a listing of three letters that was endorsed with the appropriate postmark and censorship cachet.



SOVIET UNION  
Dzhalal Abad Camp

21 May 1942  
15 June 1942



The 5th Infantry Division was stationed at Dzhalal Abad in Kirgizia. It used a censor marking with code "B" and was assigned the MPO #3001. Upper fieldpost letter (folded triangularly in Russian style) was sent from the Polish Artillery School at Karaul to the 6th Infantry Division at Shakhrisabz. En route, it was censored at Dzhalal Abad as evidenced by the triangular censor cachet with code letter "B". It was sent by Polish courier, hence, no postage was paid. Lower cover front came inbound from the Saratov District to Dzhalal Abad with coded address of AB-2 (meaning 2nd Battalion of Artillery in the 5th Infantry Division).