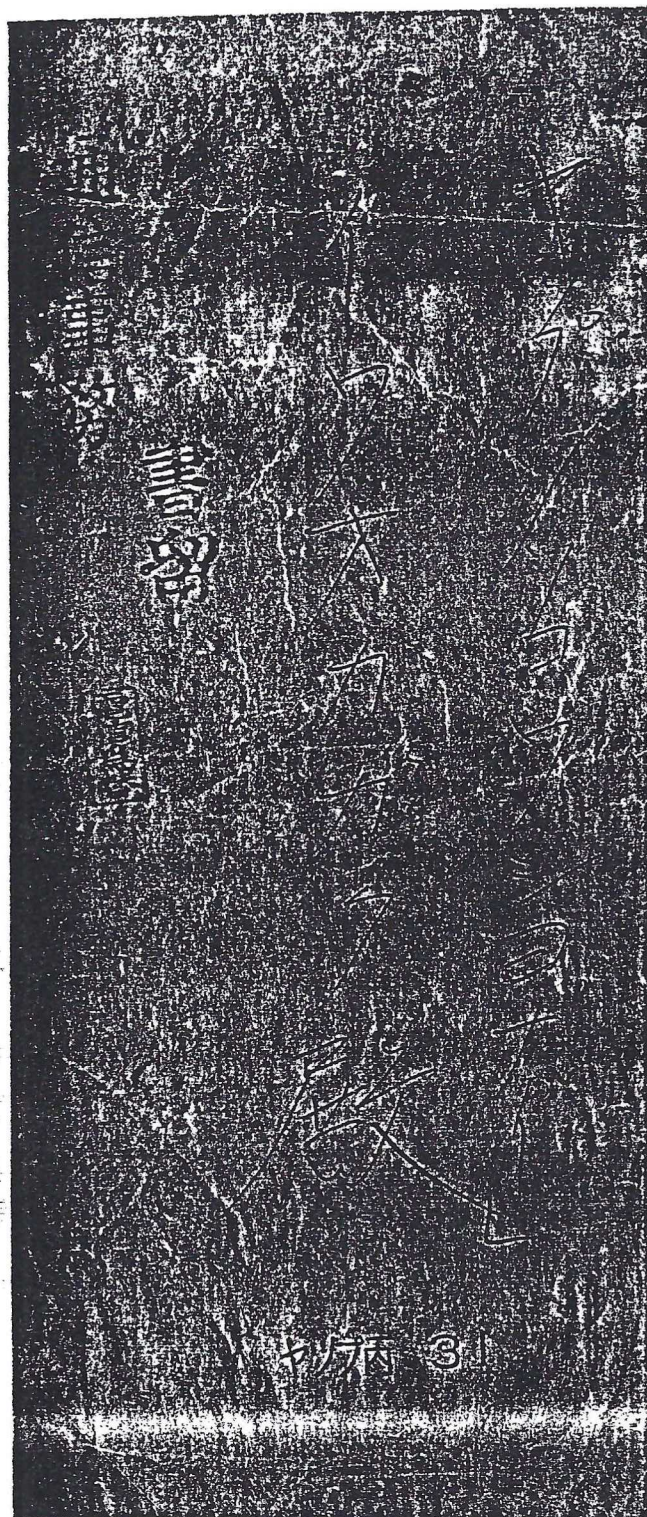


Cover with insignia of the N.Y.K. Shipping Line on reverse and promotion for 1940 Olympic Games in Tokyo (cancelled because of the war) on front.



Internal official registered cover from "South Sea Agency" to Yap Meteorological Station. Markings in red read Communications Business, Registered and (in box) Telegraphic Money Order. Marking in blue at bottom is the registration number "Yap C-31." No postmarks, so cover cannot be dated specifically, but an extraordinary piece of postal history.

WORLD WAR I AFTERMATH
Caroline Islands

Yap
16 August 1938



Mr. Thomas P. Podlas,
242 Columbia Ave.
Irvington, N.J.

U. S. AMERICA

Handwritten vertical text, possibly a signature or initials.

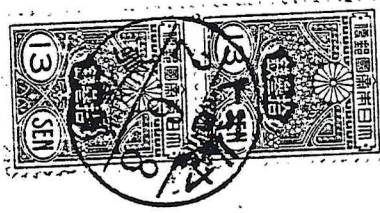


Cover sent to known philatelist in the U.S., but mail from the mandated islands in this period is elusive.

WORLD WAR I AFTERMATH
Marshall Islands

Jaluit
8 June 1927
21 January 1929

*Carl H. Heine
Jaluit
Marshall Isls.*



北米

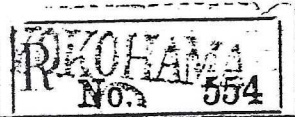
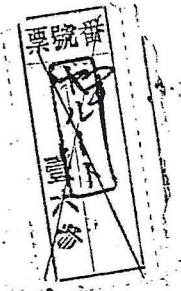
WESTERN PUZZLE WORKS

979 Marshall Avenue

St. Paul, Minn.

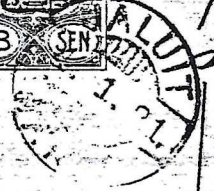
U. S. A.

3013

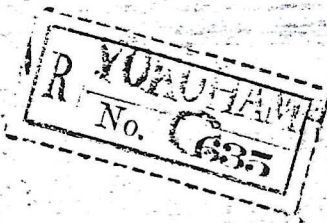


Claude Heine,
Jaluit,
Marshall Islands.

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Montgomery Ward & Co.

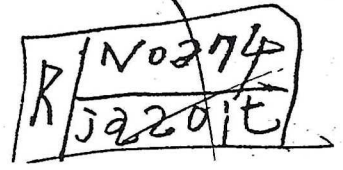
Chicago, Ill.

U. S. A.

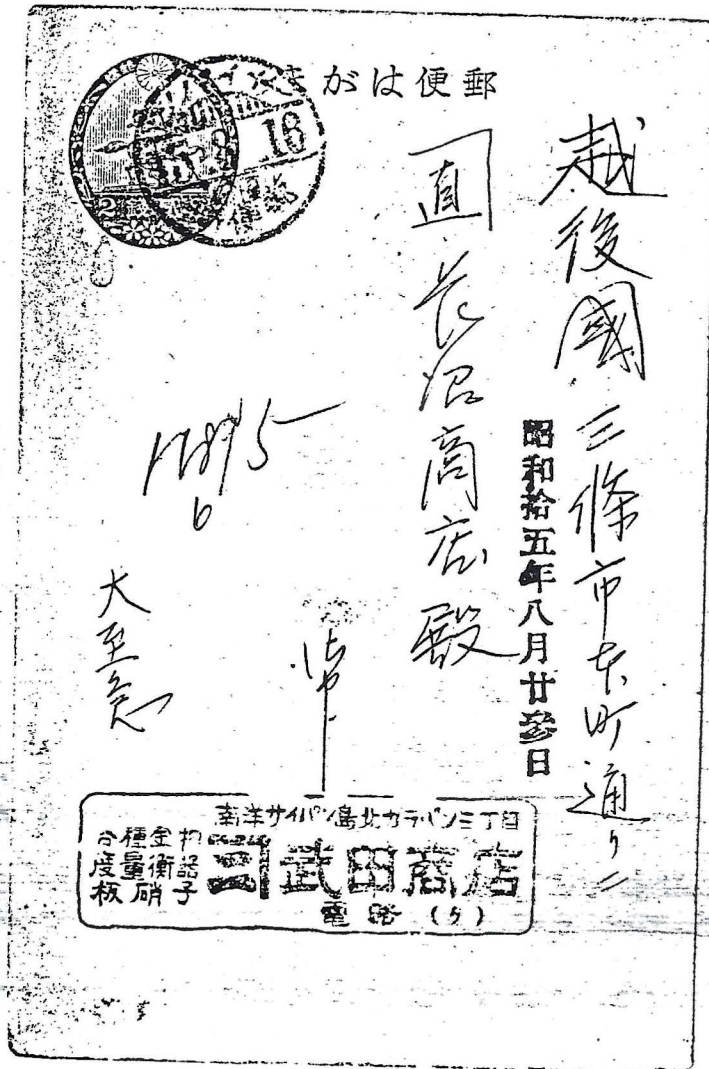
REGISTERED



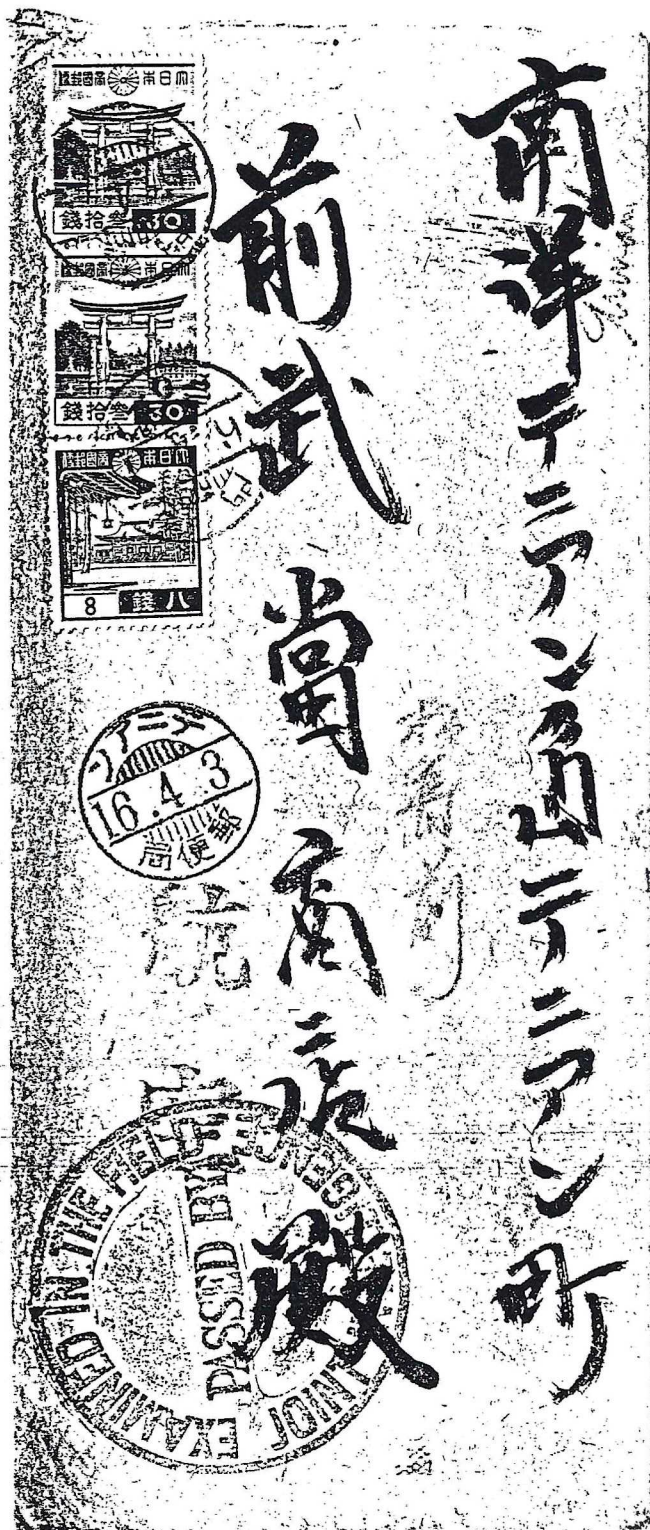
93528



Examples of commercial registered mail to the United States. Upper cover has Japanese postmark and registration label, while lower one has English postmark and manuscript indication of registration.



Scarce example of commercially used 2 sen postal card from Saipan to Echigo, Japan.

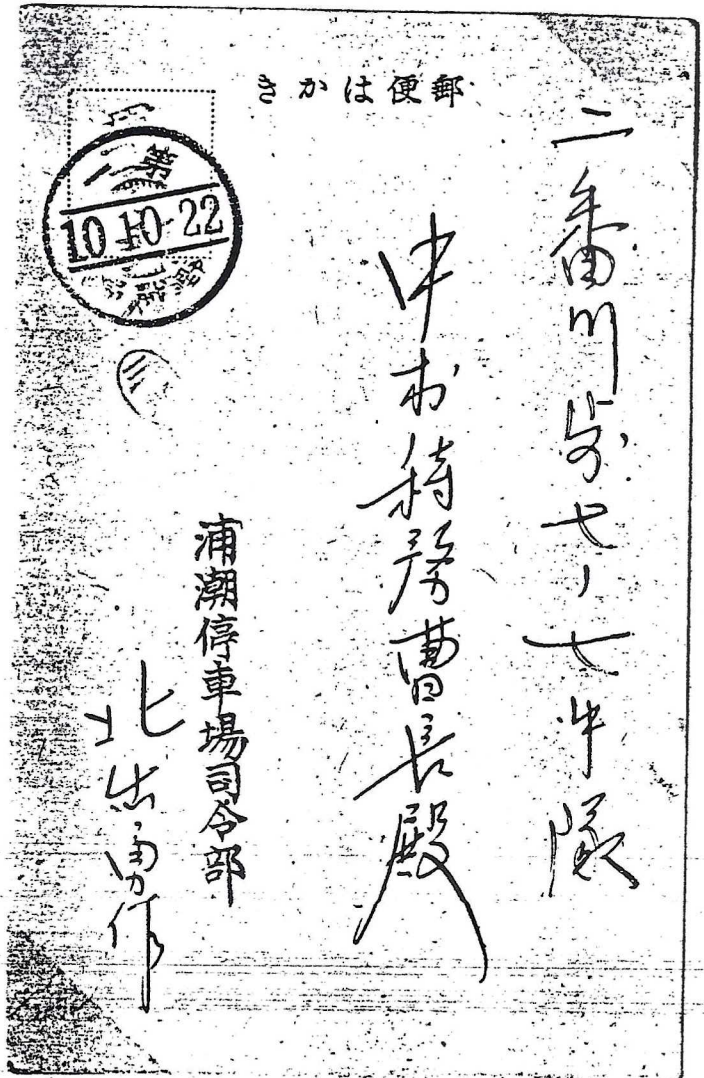
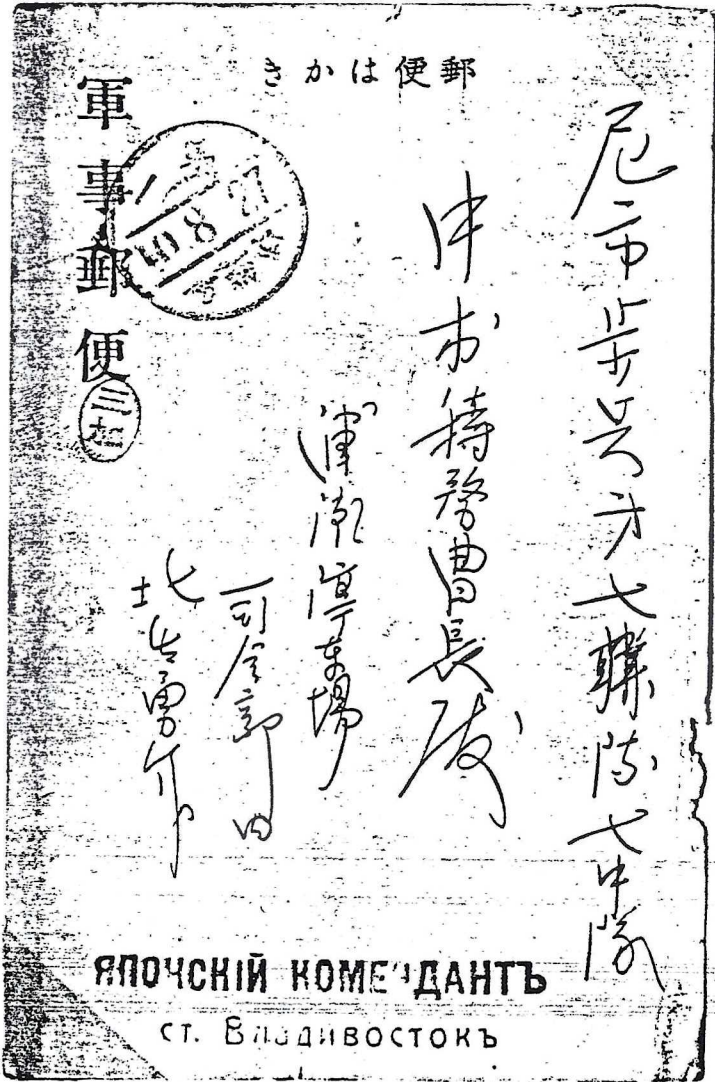


Unusual example of inbound overweight mail to Tinian franked with 68 sen postage. (After U.S. forces occupied the island on 23 July 1944, this envelope was found and examined by the American censor.)

SIBERIAN INTERVENTION

Japanese Commandant, Vladivostok
Vladivostok Railway Station

Unit Handstamps



Japan's intervention in Siberia began in August 1918 and initially involved three separate commands deploying a total of four divisions. Each of the two major divisions had its own field post system but these were combined into the Vladivostok Communications Service on 1 April 1919. By the time of Japanese withdrawal from Siberia in October 1922, between 70,000 and 80,000 men had served in the theatre. Numbered field post offices from 1 to 30 were authorized, but #18, 19, 20 and 30 never opened, and no examples of FPO 27 are recorded.

Unit handstamps are very unusual on mail of the JSEF.



便

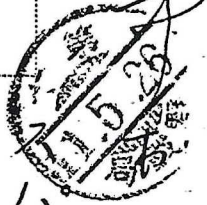


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Japanese soldiers were given the free frank for cards and letters mailed to Japan and within the theatre of operations, so long as they were marked "Gunji yubin" (military mail). Surprisingly, the Russians even accepted unfranked mail from soldiers to Japanese civilians in Vladivostok. In general, the troops seem to have preferred to send post cards, so covers are an order of magnitude scarcer than cards.



寄かは
神奈川
信平
君



山田貞経殿

CARTE POSTALE.
ОТКРЫТОЕ ПИСЬМО



三田田兵衛打立
形下風多比上君
ニハナリ
ニハナリ
ニハナリ



藍島新橋御座
はつたのり
ハツタのり
三田田兵衛打立
ニハナリ
ニハナリ
ニハナリ



The typical JSEF soldier's letter or card bears only an officer's personal chop to signify censorship, and some mail was obviously processed without any marking. Less common are handstamps bearing the characters for "censored." The elaborate handstamp of the MPs at Nikolsk is most unusual.



郵便はかき

群馬社
林田

POST CARD

敬白

北進不西師団歩兵
連隊特種砲隊
星野中隊長

北河三遊水候我
常向申上候

中山繁太郎殿
清原邦太郎様



渡自是
永五松標

新山

Handwritten Japanese text, likely a message or address, written in cursive style.


贈寄部問慰隊軍盟同
地實十可樂旗波



YMCA 贈寄部問慰隊軍盟同

Although postage was free, there were several types of imprinted stationery issued to the troops in Siberia. Surprisingly, the upper card has "Post Card" in English. The other two items shown were issued by the Japanese YMCA, with the envelope being much scarcer than the card.

さかは便郵



大泉

白井元吉様



さかは便郵

中西島伯

軍事郵便

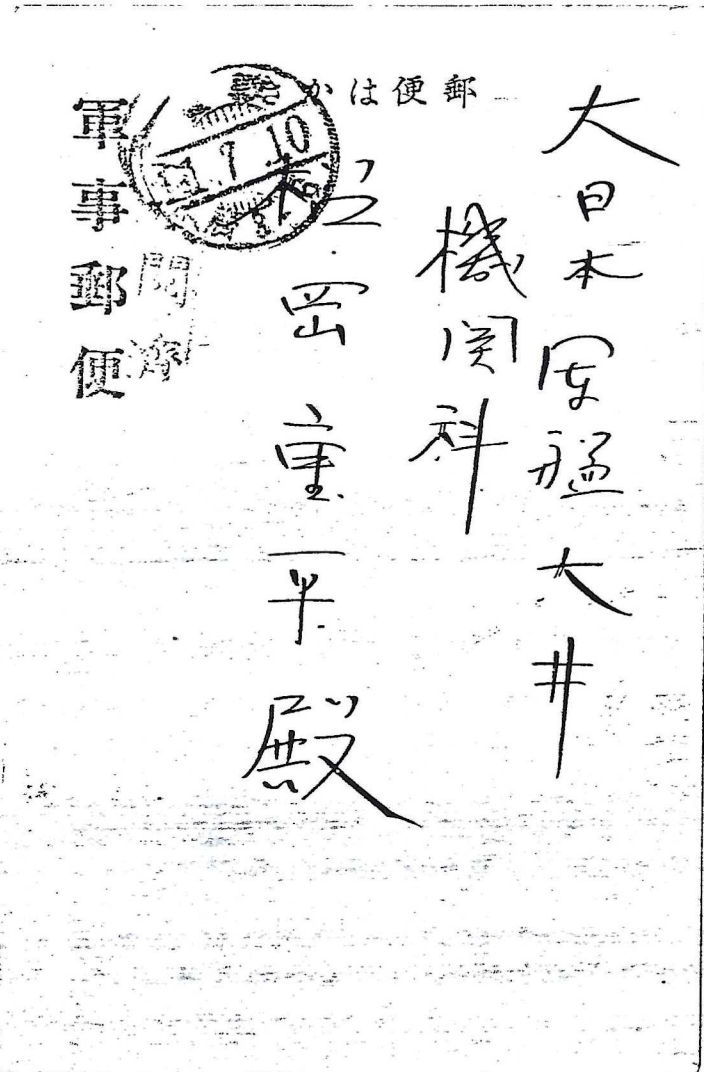


軍事郵便

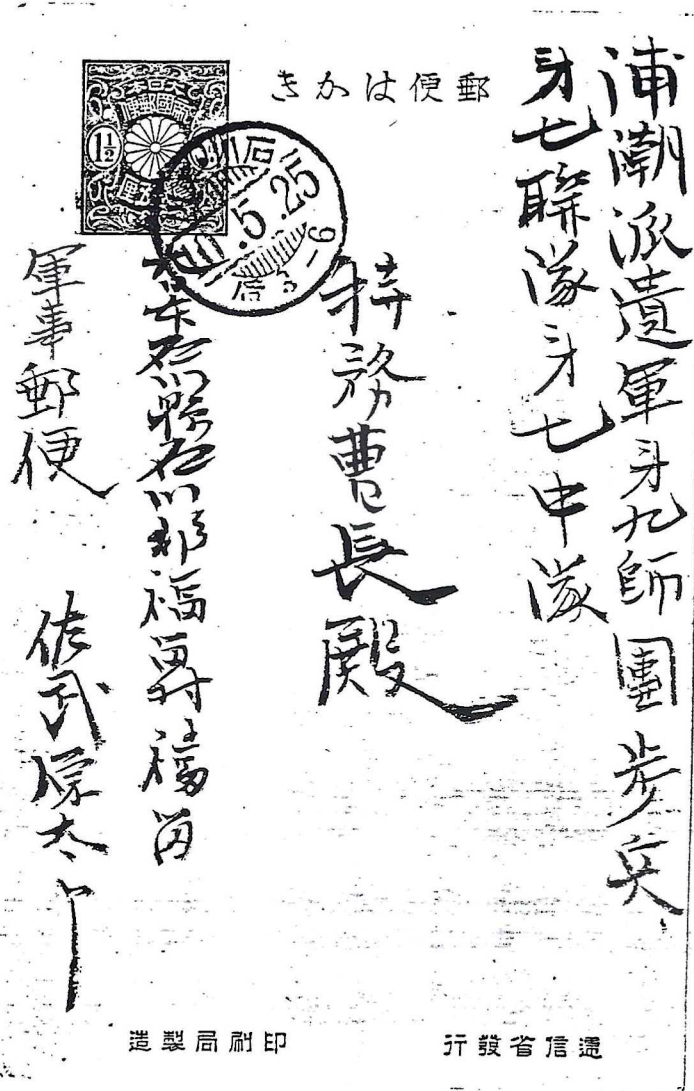
夕々川力岸七
特務曹長殿

白井元吉様

For convenience and in order to secure the free franking privilege, a wide variety of Gunji yubin stationery was produced for the troops. Above are examples of "Safe Arrival" formula card and post card and letter sheet with similar indicium (artillery and battle flags).



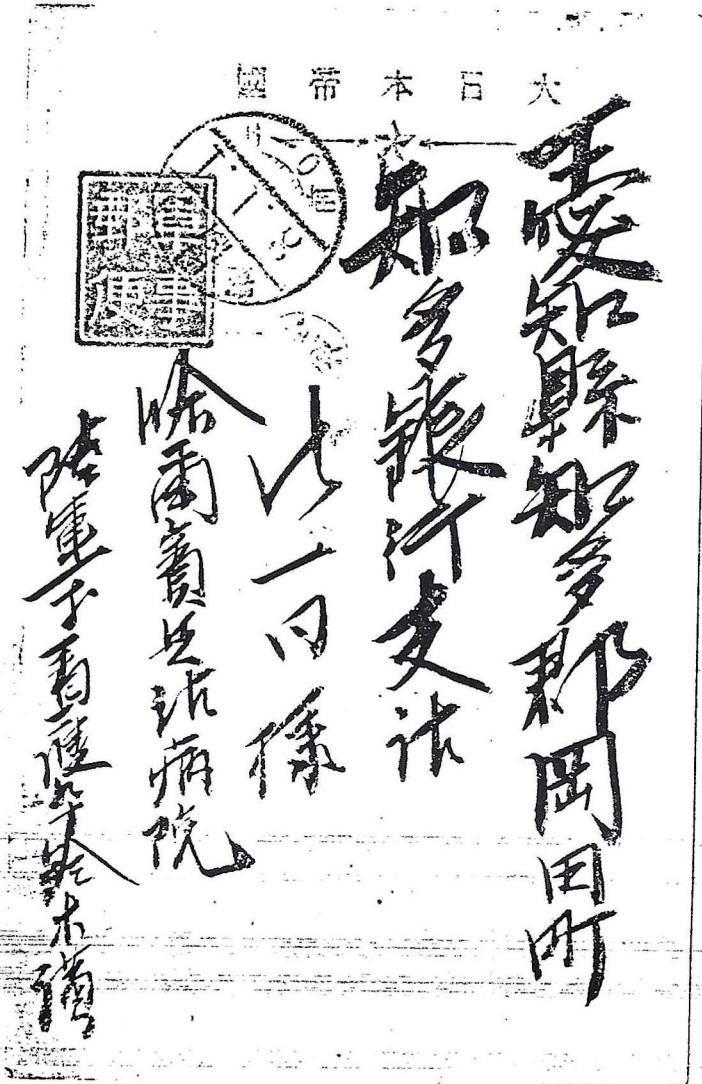
Card from a sailor on the *Nisshin*, with ship name in return address, care of Tsuruga post office. Text reads "summer greetings from Vladivostok" to a fellow sailor aboard *IJNS Oi*. Naval mail from the intervention force is particularly scarce.



Mail from Japan to the troops in Siberia was allowed to be sent at domestic rates. Above card is addressed to a member of the 7th Infantry, 9th Division, Vladivostok Expeditionary Force.



The Japanese administered three camps in Siberia containing former POWs from the Austro-Hungarian and German armies, at Nikolsk Ussurisk, Pervaya Rechka and Krasnaya Rechka. Special censor markings were used with Japanese/Russian inscriptions.



The Japanese Kwangtung Government General opened a post office at Harbin in March 1918. Military mail sent through this office was permitted free franking, as was the case with the above *Gunji yubin* card from the Harbin Military Hospital.

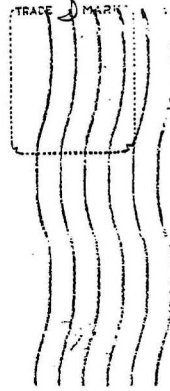


岐阜縣武儀郡

有知村役場 中

Hand Pressed
Postmark

公用



きかは便郵

西部市左工門様

中有知村生梅

大日本岐阜縣武儀郡



一十七
西部市左工門様

Large cover is official mail from the No.3 Company of the 26th Cavalry Regiment in Manchuria, one of only three examples known of such usage. Post card shows the only example of machine postmarking of military mail in this period seen by the exhibitor.