

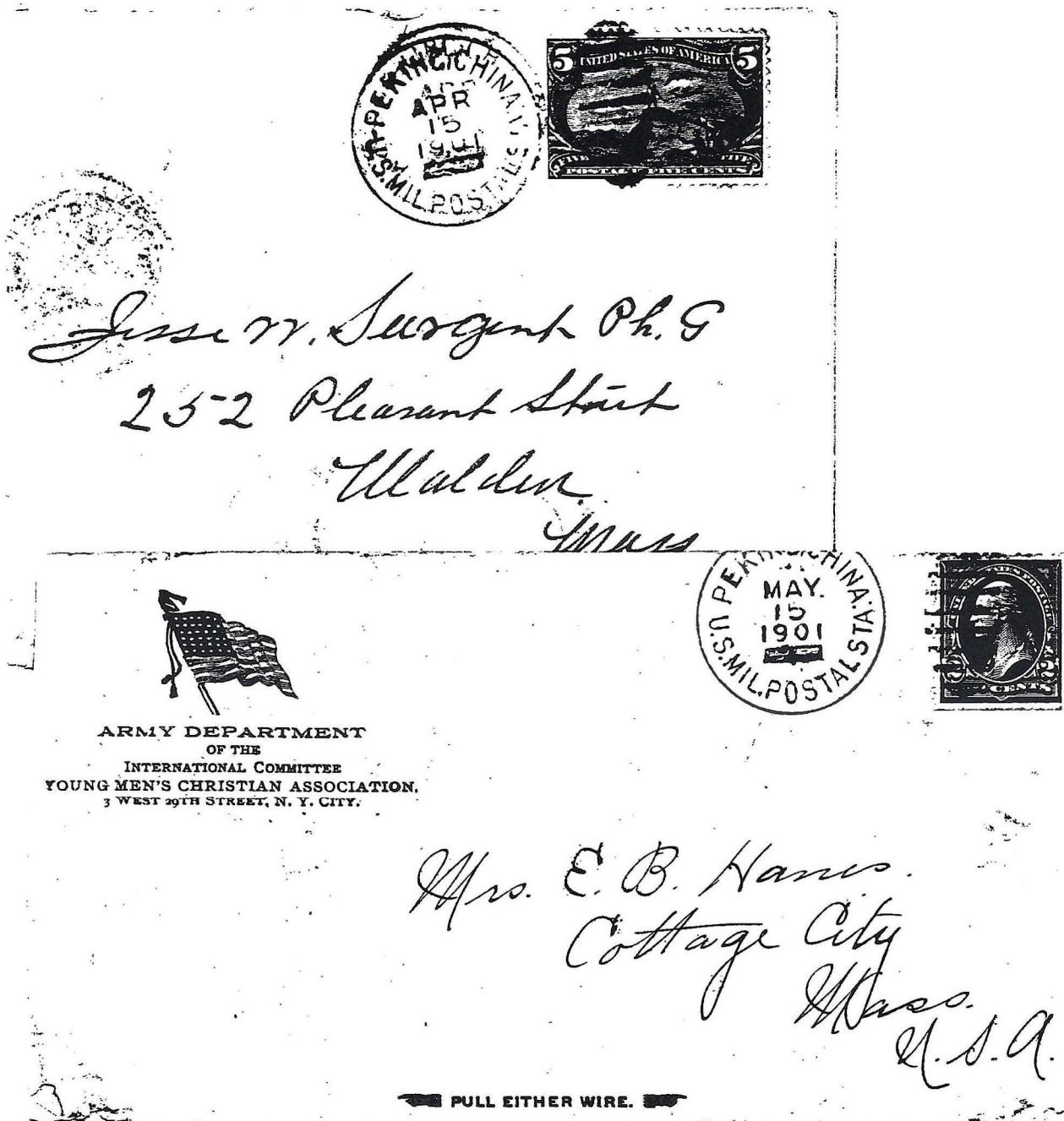
American Field Post

9th Infantry

MPS № 1, Peking

15 April 1901

15 May 1901



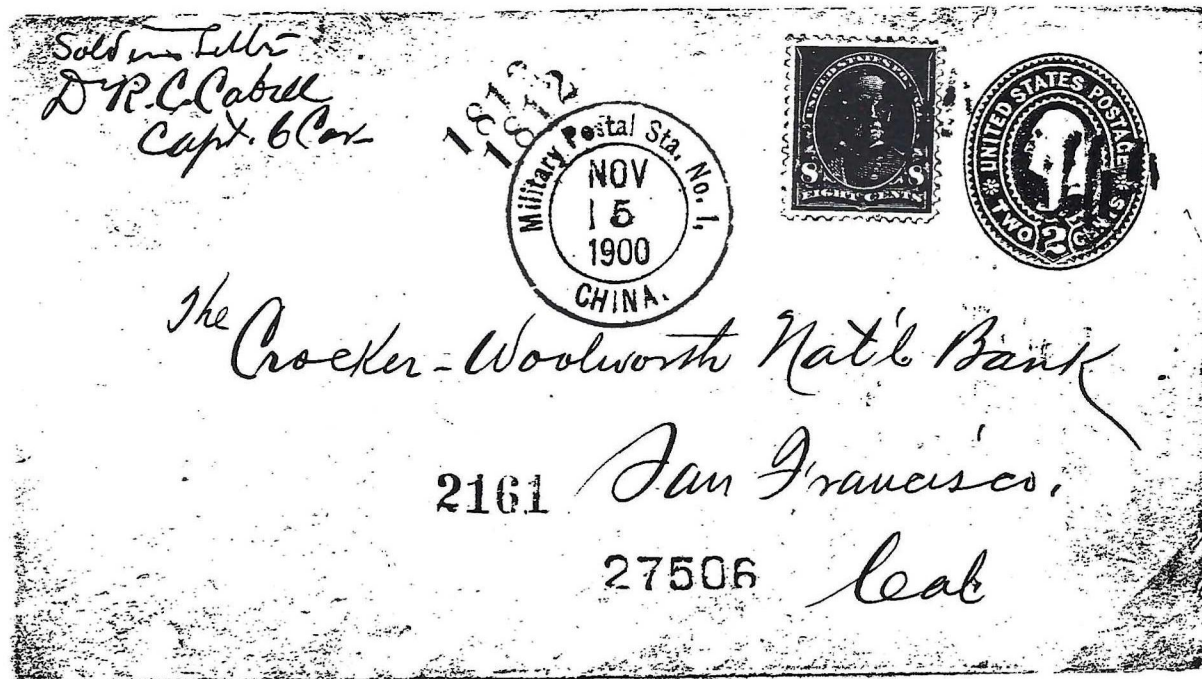
Third Peking duplex, "PEKING" at top, recorded used 3 April - 20 May 1901

Sender of 15 May cover, in light of imminent removal from China of all but 1 company of US Army troops and one regiment of US Marines, gives his return address as "Co. E, 9<sup>th</sup> US Inf., Manila, P.I." This cover is unusual in that it does not bear a Tientsin transit postmark.

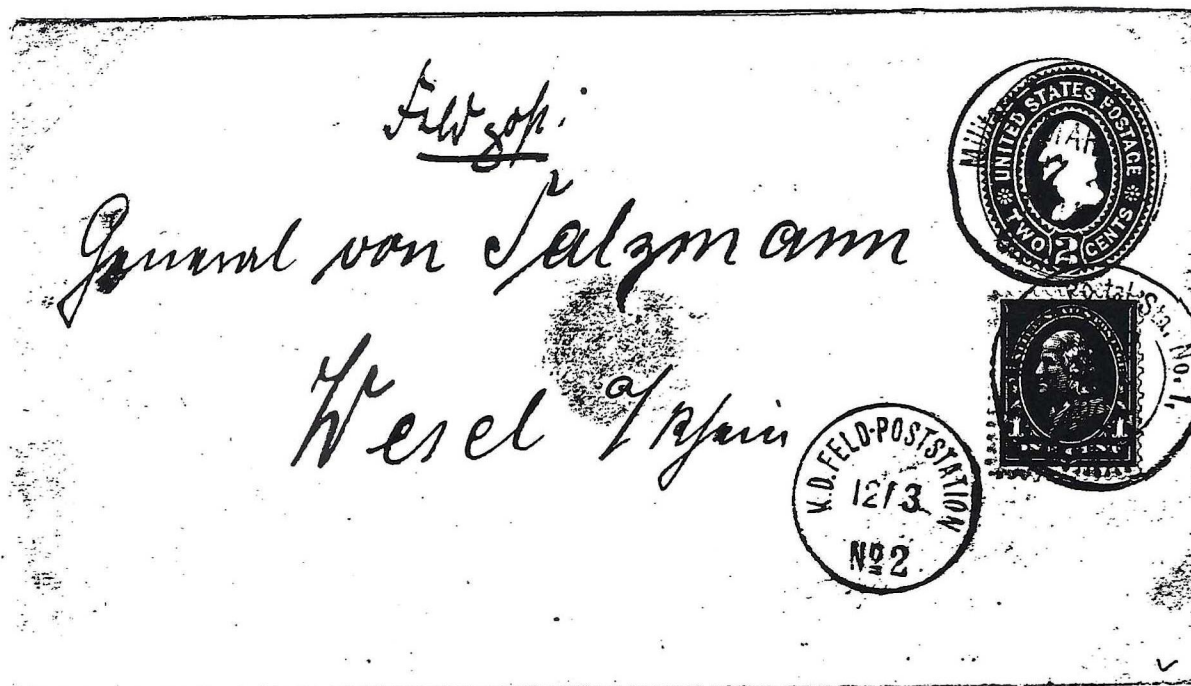
American Field Post  
6th Cavalry

MPS No 1, Peking  
5 November 1900  
7 March 1901

Registered Mail



Tientsin  
backstamp



Double-circle datestamp, intended for use as dater on registered mail and parcel post, recorded used 27 October 1900 - 19 April 1901. Note the break in outer ring at 7 o'clock, which is characteristic, and the developing implosion above it on the bottom cover.



American Field Post

MPS N<sup>o</sup> 1, Peking  
22 January 1901  
21 February 1901

Registered Mail

From  
M.F. Conroy  
Sergt. Troop M 6<sup>th</sup> Cav.  
Peking, China.



Mr. Wilfred Carter 22254

Roxbury Gas Light Co.,

Cor. Dudley & Kenilworth Sts. Roxbury

Boston

845

Mass

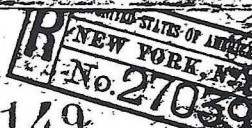


R. No. 640

33557

U.S.A.

*Registered*



2149



W. Wensch Esq.

26614

Bahnhofstr. 11.

R. No. 1817

Mrs. P. W. Wensch

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311 S. B.

Peking

Germany



Tientsin  
backstamp

Date of first use of the Peking straight-line registry handstamp is unknown, but registry traffic from 22 January - 21 February averaged 40 covers per day, which places "Reg. No. 1" at about 8 January 1901.

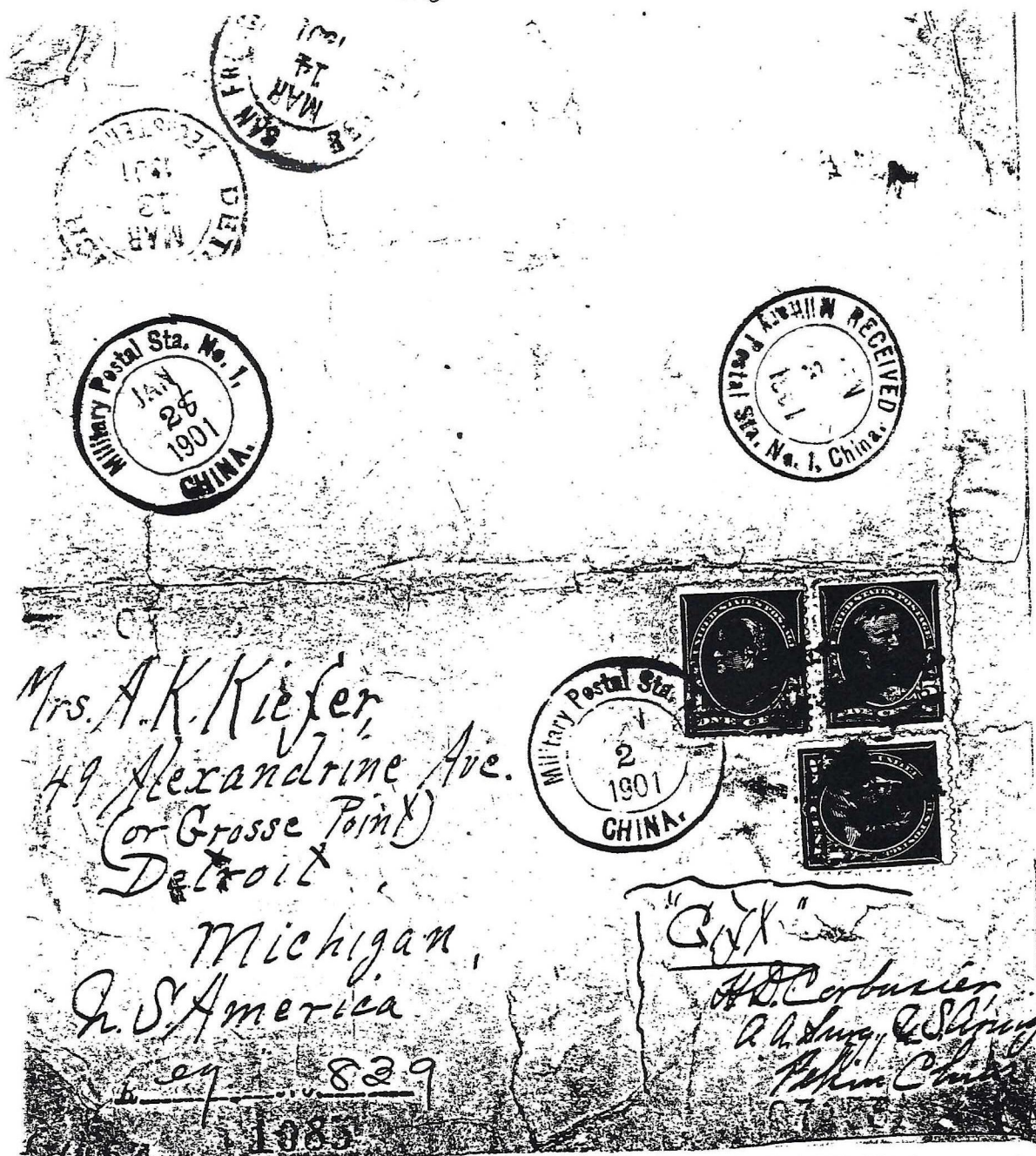
Dent at 8 o'clock in datestamp was created sometime between the mailing of the above covers.



American Field Post

MPS № 1, Peking  
28 January 1901

Registered Parcel Post



Note manuscript correction in Peking datestamp. Backstamped Tientsin (RECEIVED datestamp).

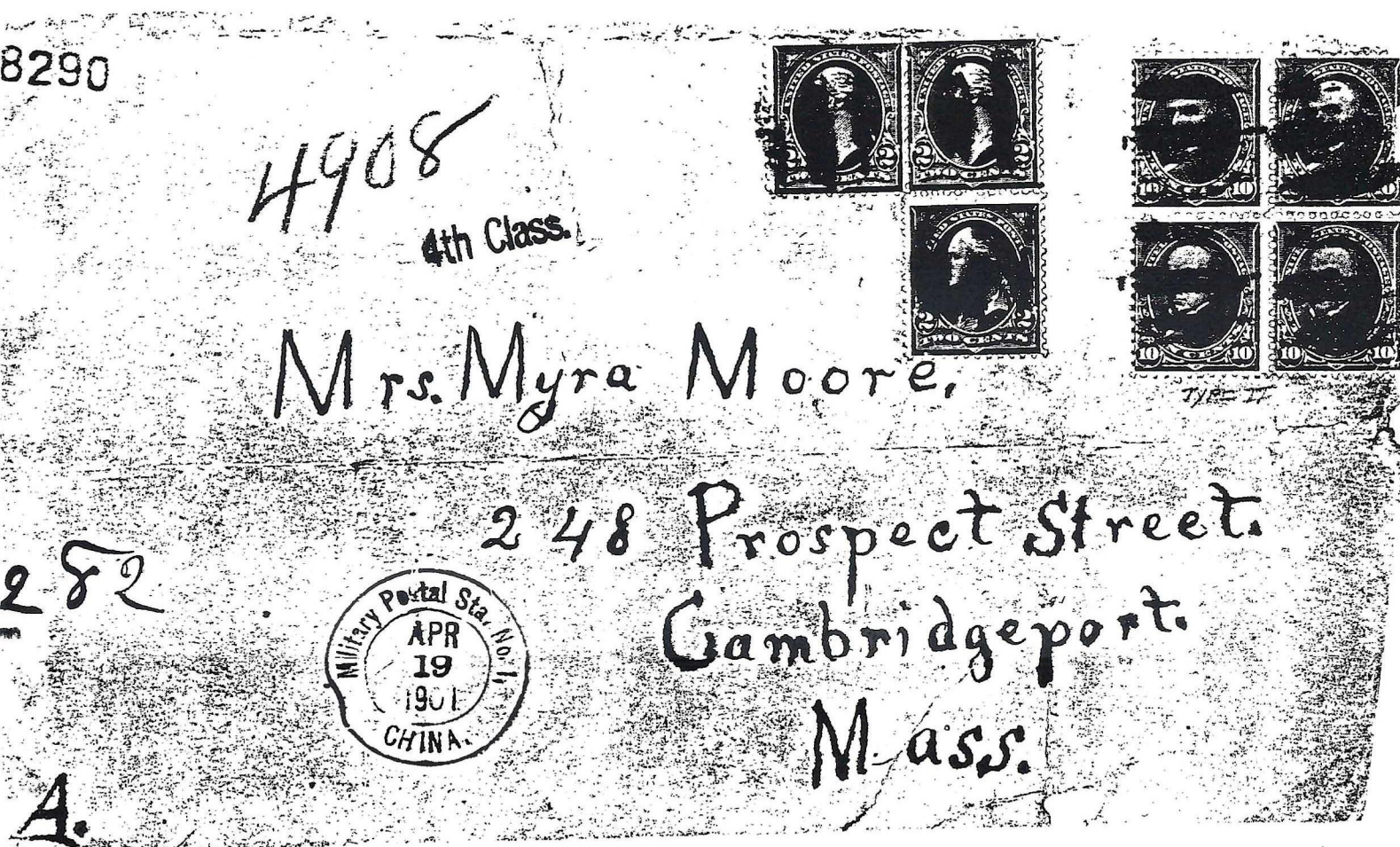
That the straight-line "R.....No....." handstamp is a second handstamp, applied at Peking and not at Tientsin, is suggested by comparison of color of this handstamp to colors of the datestamps on this cover, and on the cover on the next page, where the difference is even more striking.



American Field Post

MPS No 1, Peking  
19 April 1901

Registered Parcel Post



Double-circle postmark properly used as dater on registered parcel, stamps being cancelled by bars obliterator as on 21 February registered cover. Deterioration of the outer ring is now pronounced.

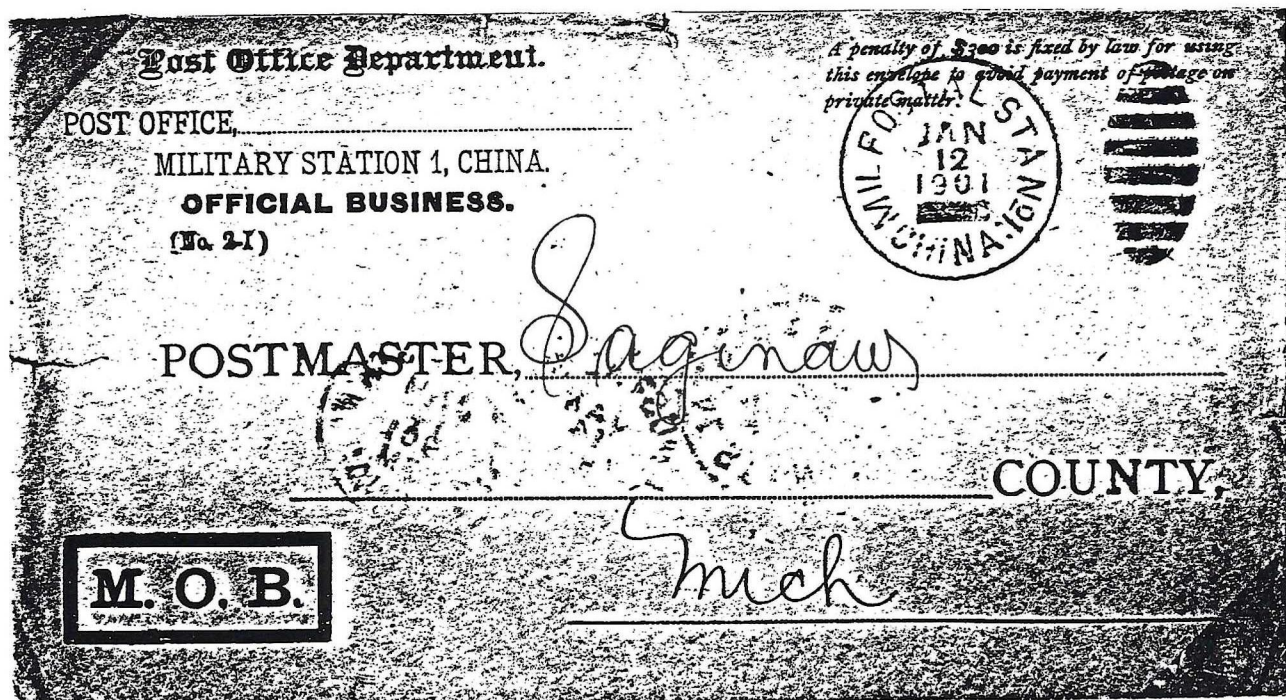
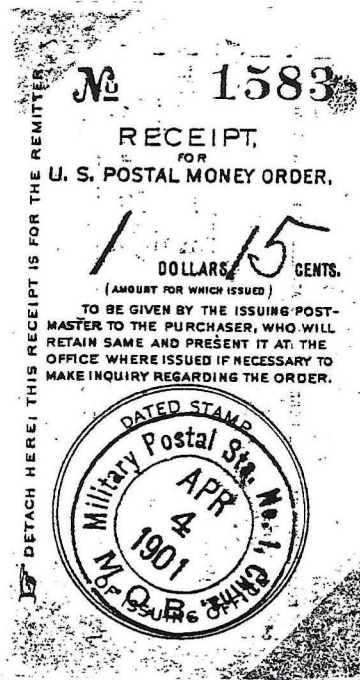
Survival of parcel wrappers is extremely limited; 3 large pieces and one fragment are recorded.



American Field Post

MPS N<sup>o</sup> 1, Peking  
4 April 1901  
12 January 1901

Only recorded example of the M.O.B. postmark  
One of 2 recorded examples of the M.O.B. envelope

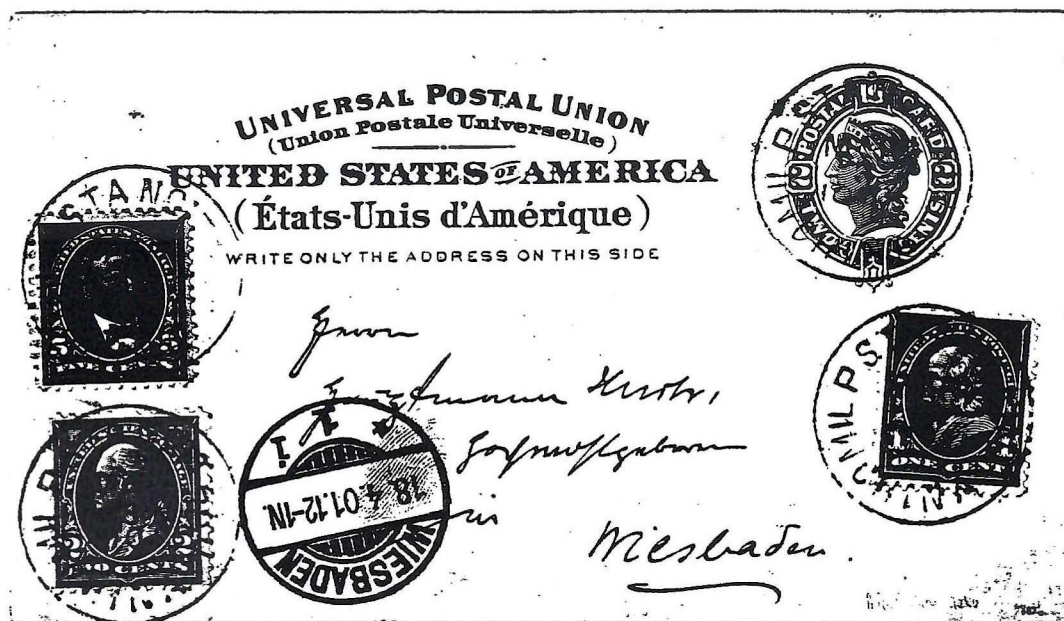
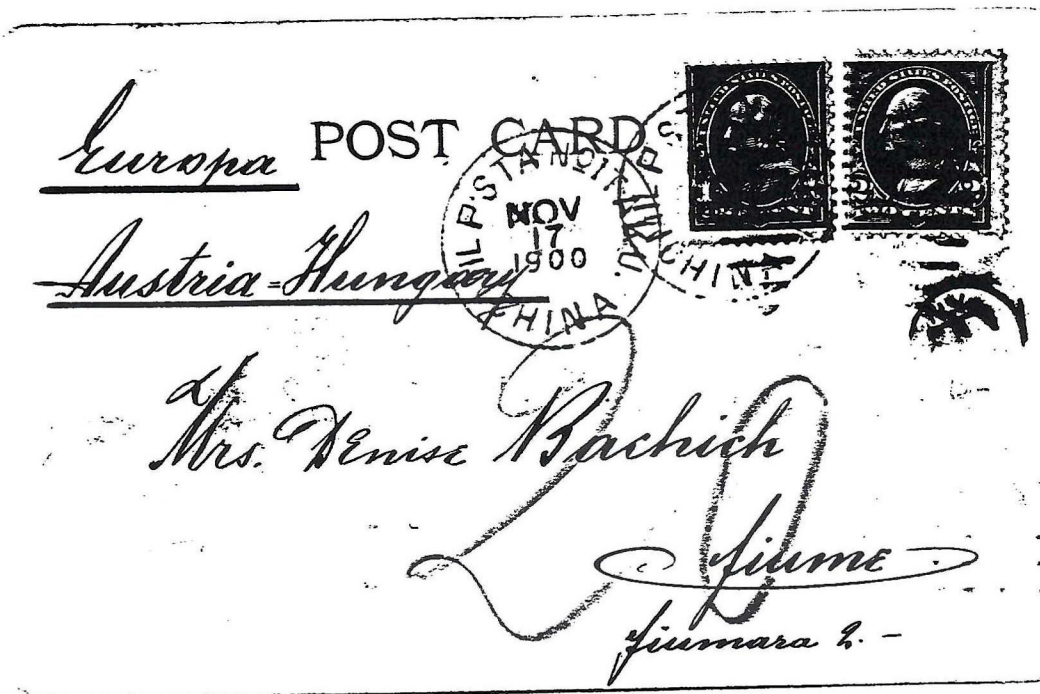


Absent other evidence, the M.O.B. datestamp is allocated to Peking in light of the M.O.B. cover.



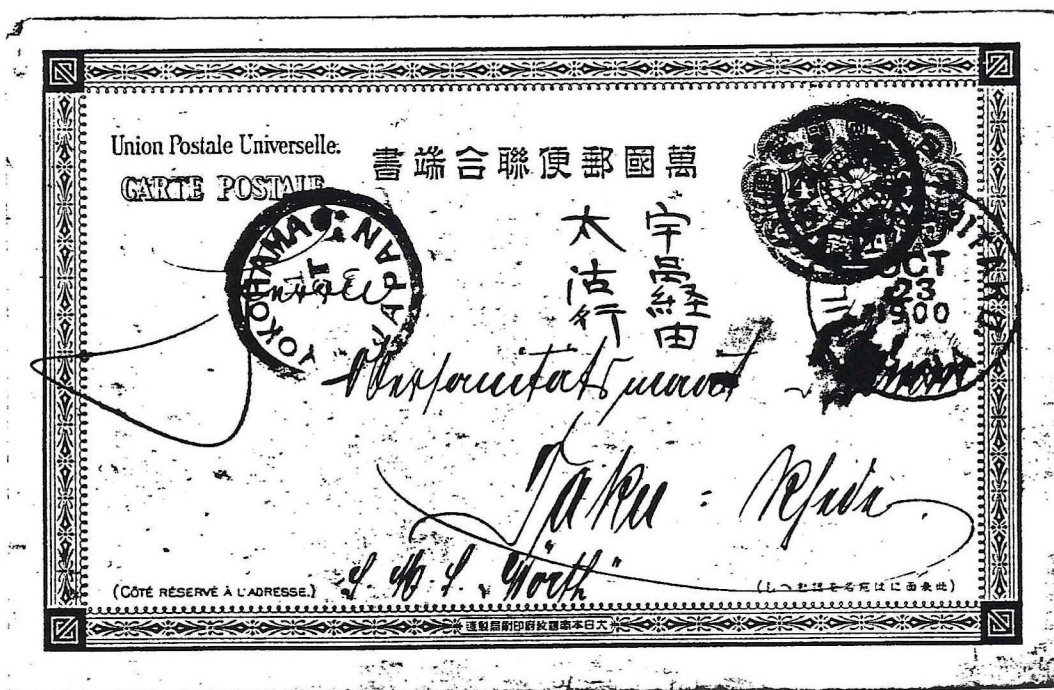
American Field Post

MPS № 1, Taku  
17 November 1900  
3 March 1901



Only 1 type of datestamp is reported in the literature for Taku, the duplex cancel shown above (recorded used from 23 September 1900 - 26 April 1901). Note, however, that while the dials and spacing of letters of the cancels on the card match those of the duplex in all respects, the cancel shows no evidence of a killer. Mail from the Taku station is considerably scarcer than that from either the Peking or Tientsin stations, so that a conclusion as to whether these strikes were made from 2 devices, or from a single device subsequently modified, cannot be made.

Newly-discovered Datestamp



Circular datestamp is *not* a part-strike of the Taku duplex postmark with the same text. Dial is 28¼ vs. 29mm for the Taku duplex, and the letters are spaced differently (particularly noticeable in following the line of the "I" in CHINA). This is the only recorded piece of Taku transit mail.

From 5 July 1900 through 11 January 1901, Japan operated a post office at Taku. Germany did not have a post office there until 26 November 1900. That this card should have passed through the US Military Postal Station is curious and, at present, unexplained.



American Field Post

MPS № 1, Taku  
23 September 1900

Registered Parcel Post

Earliest recorded mail from Taku



For want of a mute killer and creative ingenuity, the newly-established Taku station used its regular mail datestamp to cancel parcel postage, contrary to Post Office regulations.

(Also present, a fragment of the Tientsin RECEIVED Military Postal Sta. No. 1, China double-circle datestamp, used a month earlier than reported in the existing literature.)

Latest recorded registered mail from Taku



Crude, apparently hand-carved "R" in circle obliterator used to cancel stamps. Civilian sender, thus required to pay the full international letter rate of 5¢ + 8¢ for registration.

Only 17 registered items (including parcel wrappers) are recorded from the China Relief Expedition during the Boxer Uprising. Of these, 2 are from Taku.

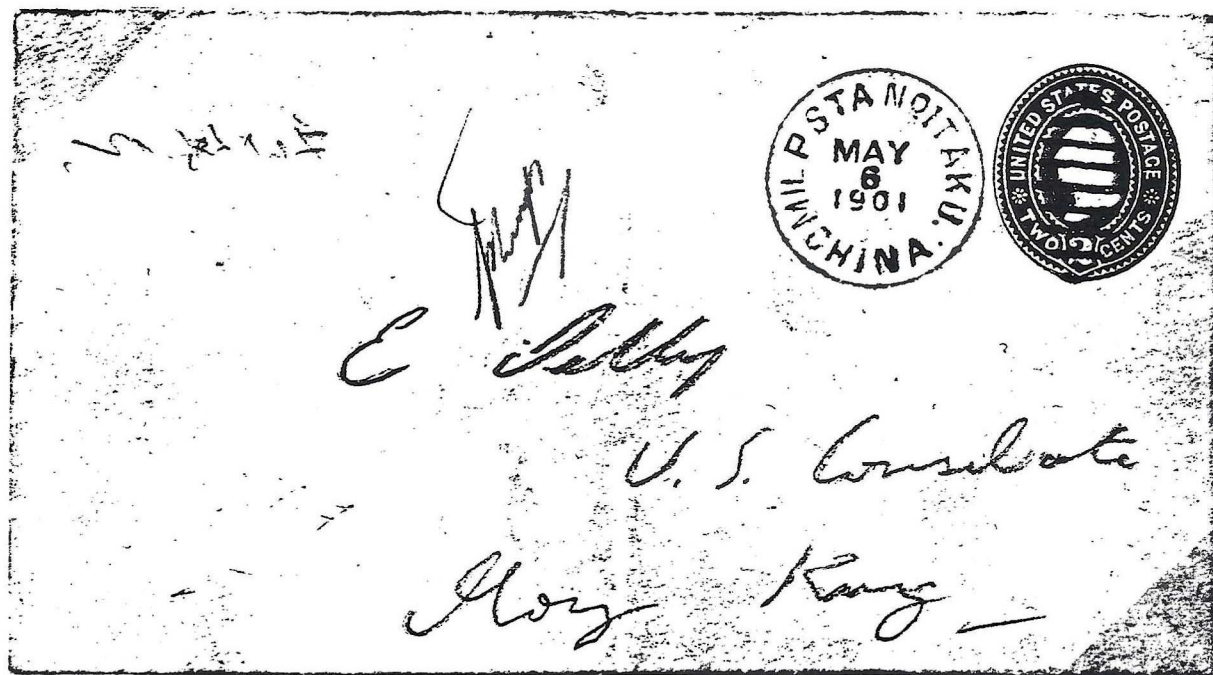
(Also shown, latest recorded example of the Tientsin "RECEIVED" double circle datestamp, used as a registry transit stamp.)



American Field Post

MPS № 1, Taku  
6 May 1901

Latest recorded mail from Taku

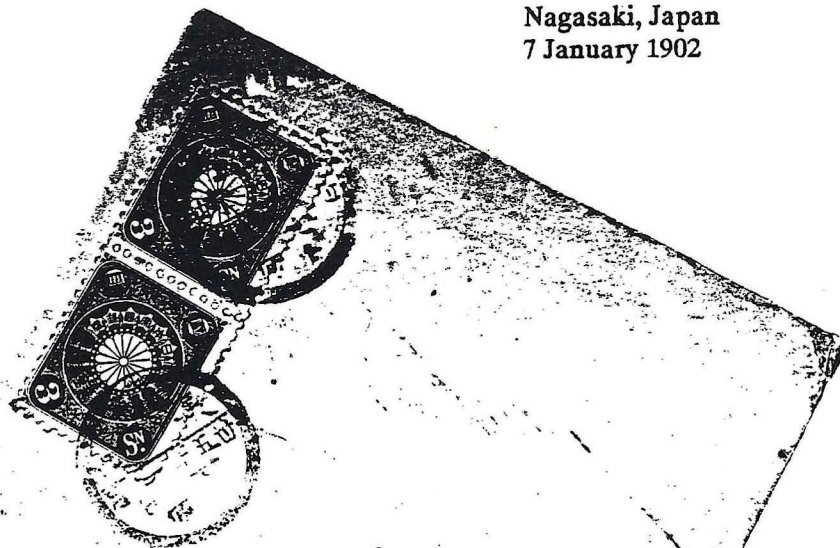


Carried at US domestic rate, even though to a foreign destination.

**American Field Post  
Depot Quartermaster**

**Nagasaki, Japan  
7 January 1902**

While it is officially reported that the US Military Postal Station, China opened temporarily in Nagasaki on 8 September 1900, it was moved to China almost immediately, and no mail from it in Japan is reported. After September 1900, military mail from US personnel in Japan supporting the China Relief Expedition had to be sent via the Japanese postal system.



John Fowler, Esq.,  
United States Consul,  
UHF00, CHINA.

WAR DEPARTMENT.  
Depot Quartermaster, U. S. Army,  
Nagasaki, Japan.  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

The QM Depot at Nagasaki was opened in 1900. Its business greatly increased during the first half of the 1901 fiscal year due to the war in China: expenditures for fiscal 1901 were just under \$750,000. The Depot remained open until 1909, but with greatly reduced activity.

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