

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
Belgian Occupation

Kigali
February 1920

Kitega
31 July 1918

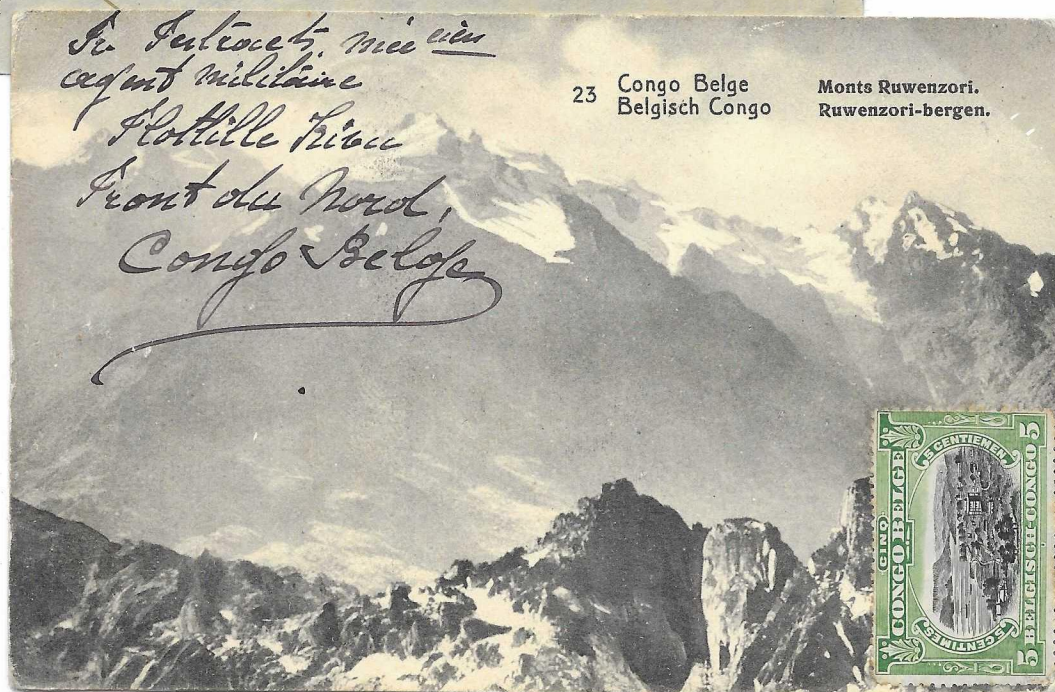
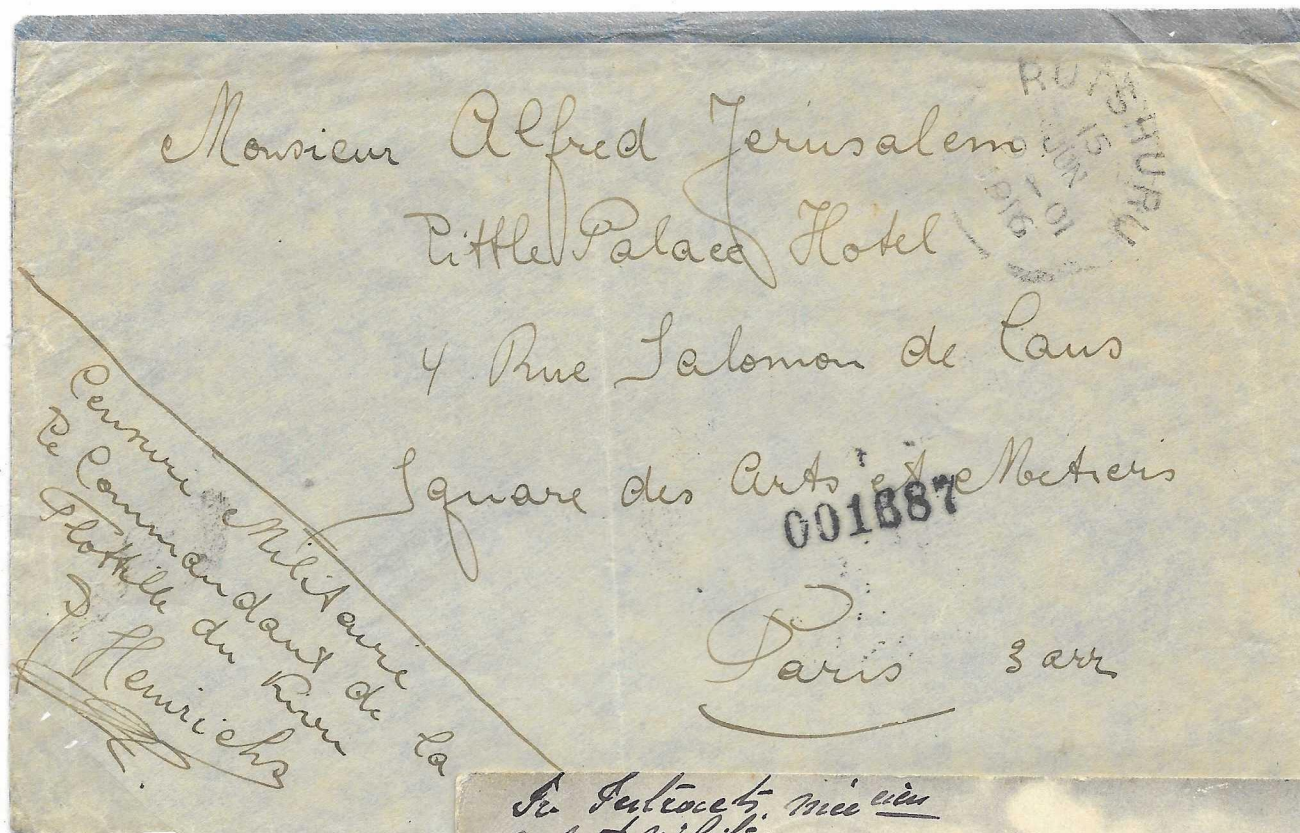
Usumbura
24 August 1918



Later, the field post cancels were gradually replaced with civil postmarks. Several of these were of an unusual design, with the name of the town in large letters at the top of the dial and a partial circle below. Examples shown here from three different locations.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
Belgian Occupation
Lake Kivu Flotilla

Rutshuru
15 June 1916



The Belgians operated a small Naval Flotilla on Lake Kivu. Examples of mail from the members of this unit are exceedingly elusive. Above cover to France and postcard to The Netherlands are endorsed "Flotille du Kivu" in manuscript and sent through the post office at Rutshuru.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
Belgian Occupation

FPO No. 4
9 January 1917

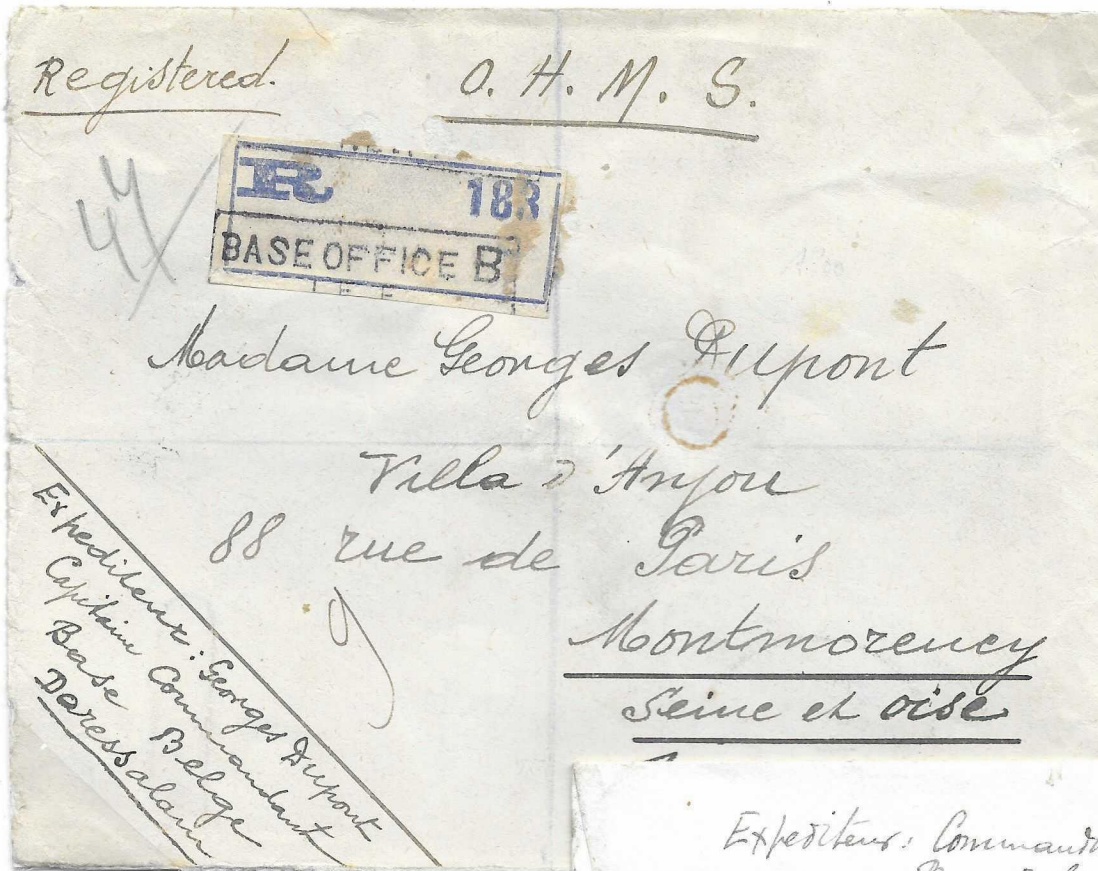
Prisoner of War Mail



Mail of German POWs captured by the Belgians is very uncommon. This cover is franked with a 25 cent. Congo stamp to pay the international letter rate (which should not have been required) and forwarded to the International Peace Bureau in Bern, Switzerland. It was censored by the Prison Authorities at Tabora as well as in transit in France, and it was backstamped on arrival on 3 April 1917.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
Belgian Occupation

Base Office B
17 July 1917
24 October 1917

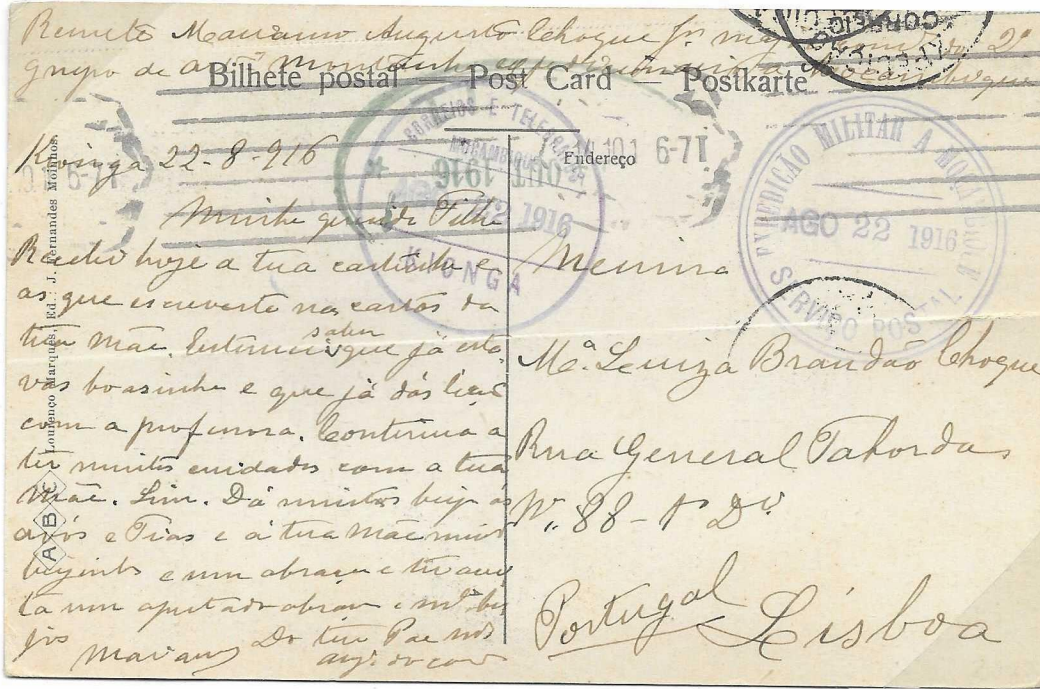


The Belgians had a military base in Dar-es-Salaam that served in liaison activities with the British headquarters there. Mail from this unit was sent through the Indian Army postal service at Base Office B as shown by these examples. The oval cachet of "Base Belge/Dar-es-Salaam" has not been seen otherwise by exhibitor.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA PORTUGUESE OCCUPATION

Kionga
22 August 1916

Mozambique Expedition
12 February 1917



The Portuguese were primarily interested in the Kionga district, a triangular bit of territory of about 245 square miles lying between the Rovuma River and Cape Delgado. Once the Germans were in retreat in much of East Africa, Portugal declared war on 9 March 1916. The available troops were mustered and went on the attack, capturing the town of Kionga on 10 April. At first, military mail was marked with a special postmark made of rubber, which was later replaced with a steel cds. Both types are shown above. Upper card also has a circular cancel inscribed "Kionga." Lower card has a unit cachet of a supply column.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
Portuguese Occupation

Kionga
21 November 1916



To commemorate the capture of the new territory, the Portuguese overprinted "Kionga" on obsolete 100 reis stamps of the Lourenco Marques Province of Mozambique. This stamp had already been overprinted "Republica" when the monarchy fell in 1911 and was now surcharged with four new denominations because of a change in currency in 1913. At this time a new octagonal steel postmark was used. The above items show a special circular cachet (only two examples recorded) and imprinted envelope, both inscribed "Civil Administration of Occupied Territory/Kionga."

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
Portuguese Occupation

Kionga
6 November 1916
4 February 1917



Examples of the Kionga overprinted stamps used commercially to England. All are the 5 centavos denomination used to pay the 5 cent. international letter rate plus 5 cent. registry fee. In addition, a 1 cent. postal tax stamp was affixed to each. Note that the upper cover has a provisional registry label with typewritten "Quionga" on the reverse, while lower example has manuscript registration box "No. 5."

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
Portuguese Occupation

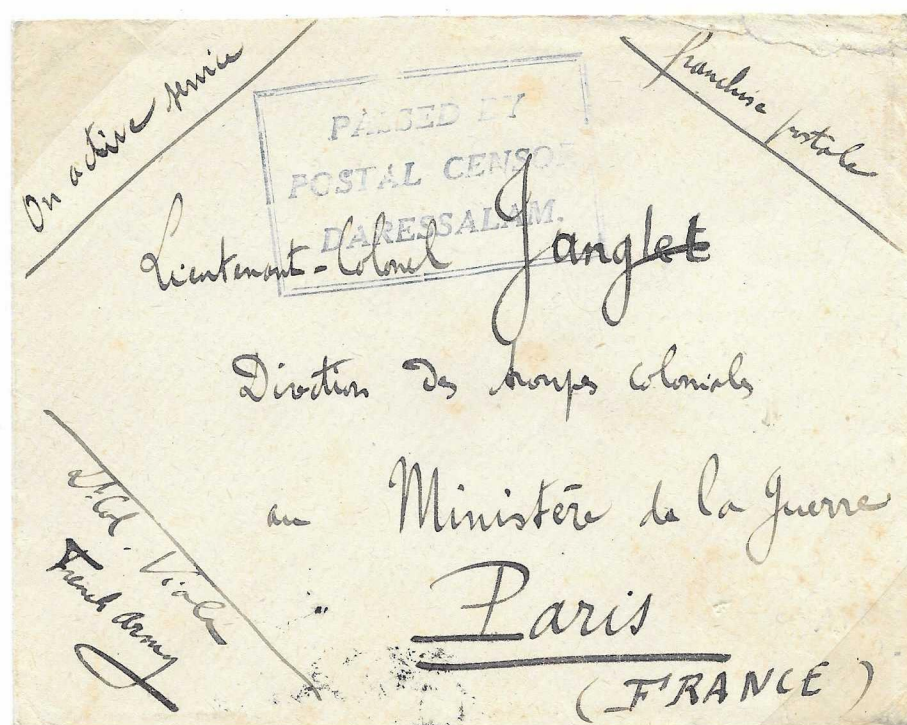
Kionga
12 February 1918



Once the Kionga overprints were exhausted, regular unoverprinted stamps of Lourenço Marques were placed in use. Under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles signed in 1919, Kionga became Portugal's only territorial reward for its participation in World War I. The Kionga "triangle" was duly incorporated into Mozambique on 2 April 1920.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA
FRENCH LIAISON GROUP

FPO No. 343
11 June 1917

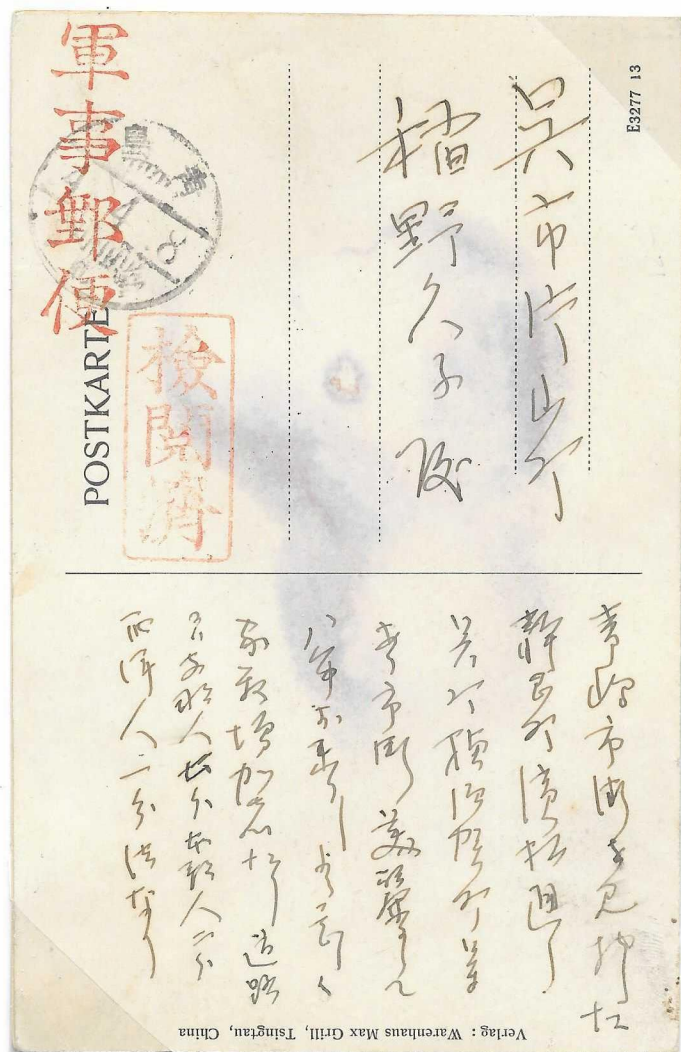


The French participation in German East Africa was limited to a small group of liaison officers stationed in the former German capital of the colony. Examples of mail from this force is very elusive. The cover shown above was sent by a Lieutenant Colonel of the French Army on active service in GEA to the War Ministry in Paris. It was censored and postmarked (on the reverse as was usual for the Indian Expeditionary Force) at FPO 343 in Dar-es-Salaam.

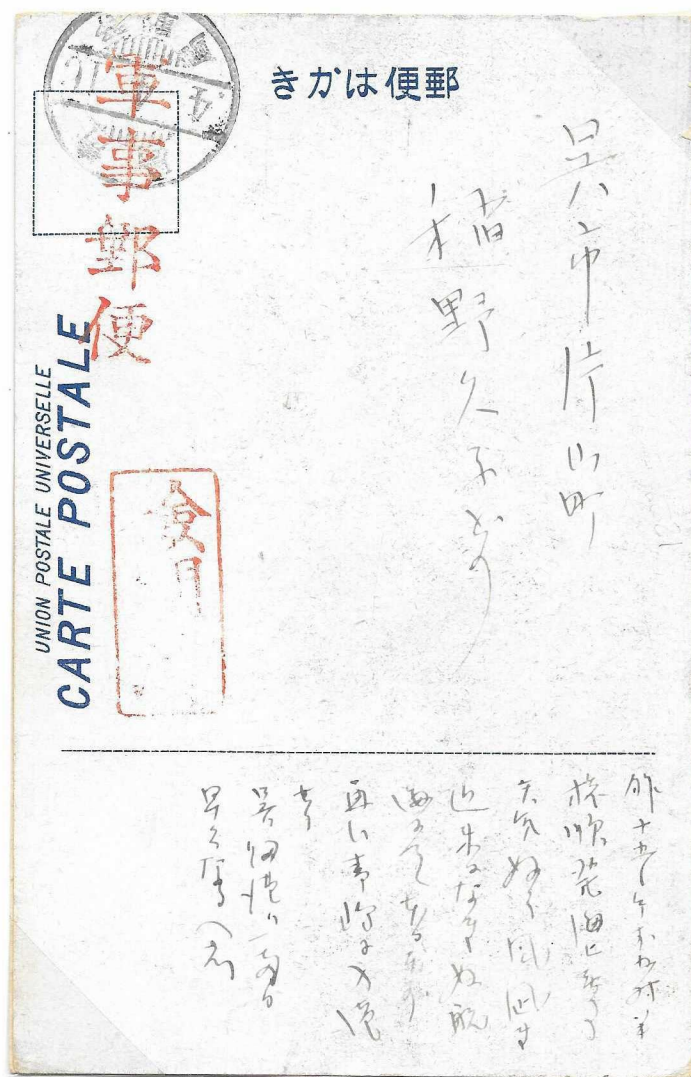
KIAUCHAU

JAPANESE OCCUPATION

When World War I broke out in Europe, the Japanese decided that they could seize the German territories in China and the Pacific Islands at little cost and declared war on Germany on 23 August 1914. An expeditionary corps was sent to the Shantung Peninsula where it attacked the German colony of Kiauchau on 2 September. The defenders were greatly outnumbered and, after a brief resistance, surrendered on 7 November 1914.



Tsingtao
8 April 1915
16 April 1915



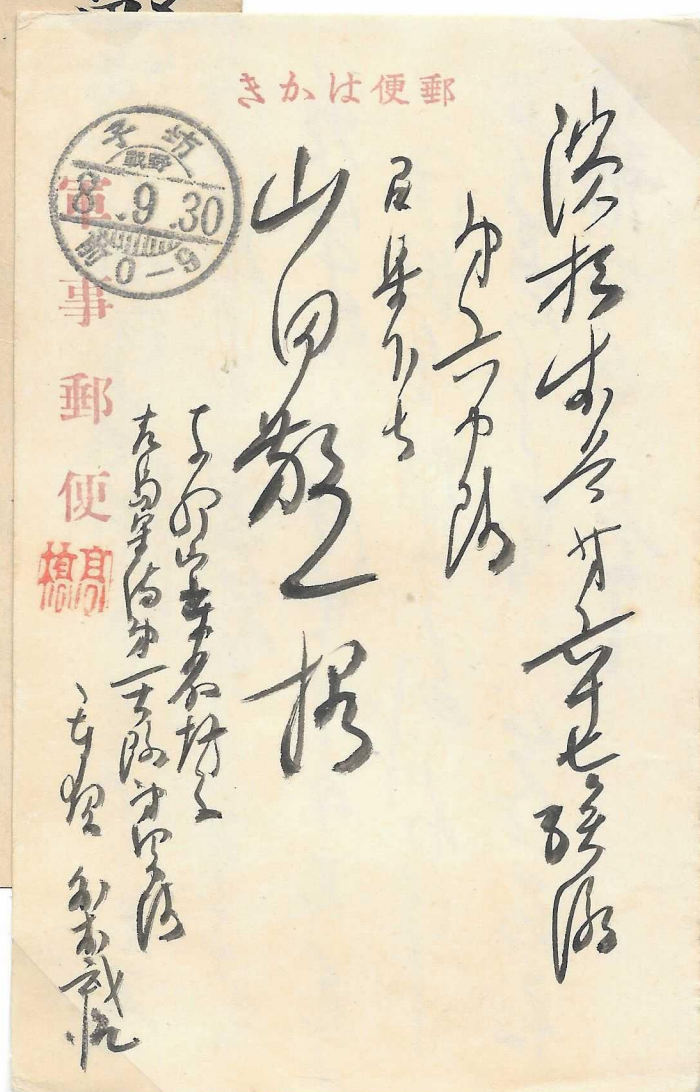
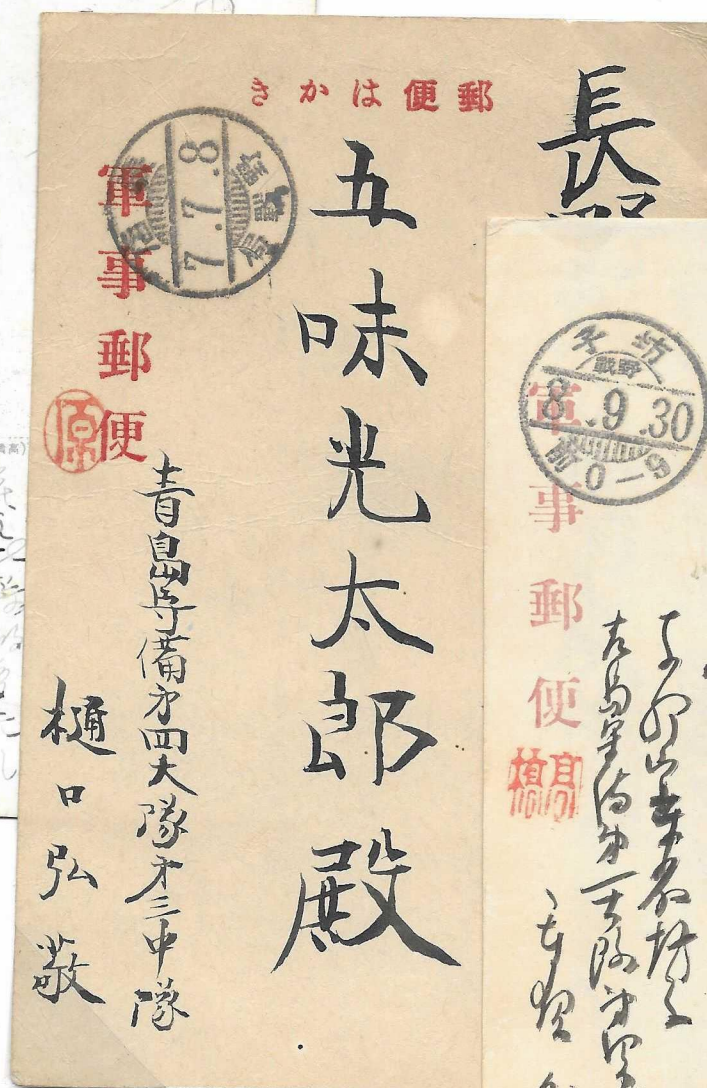
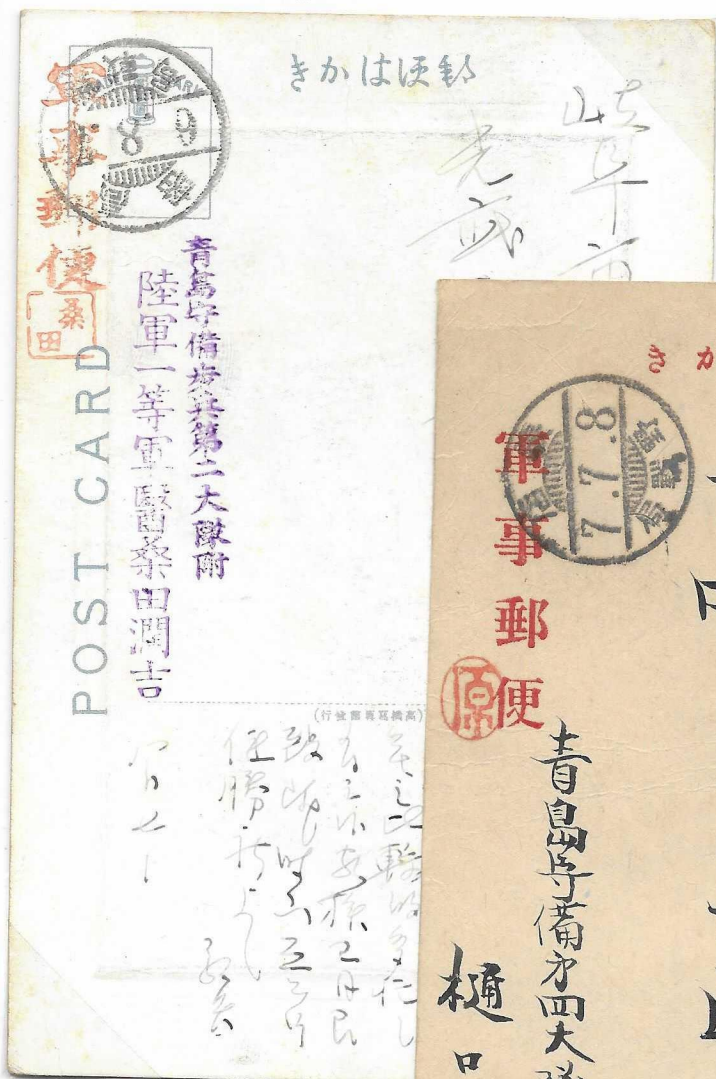
Fieldpost cards depicting Tsingtao (German and Japanese printing, respectively) that were mailed home by members of the expeditionary corps after the capture of the colony. Red cachets are "Gunji Yubin" denoting military mail, which endorsed that the item was to be sent free of postage, and censorship.

KIAUCHAU
Japanese Occupation

Kaumi
7 August 1917

Zhangdian
8 July 1918

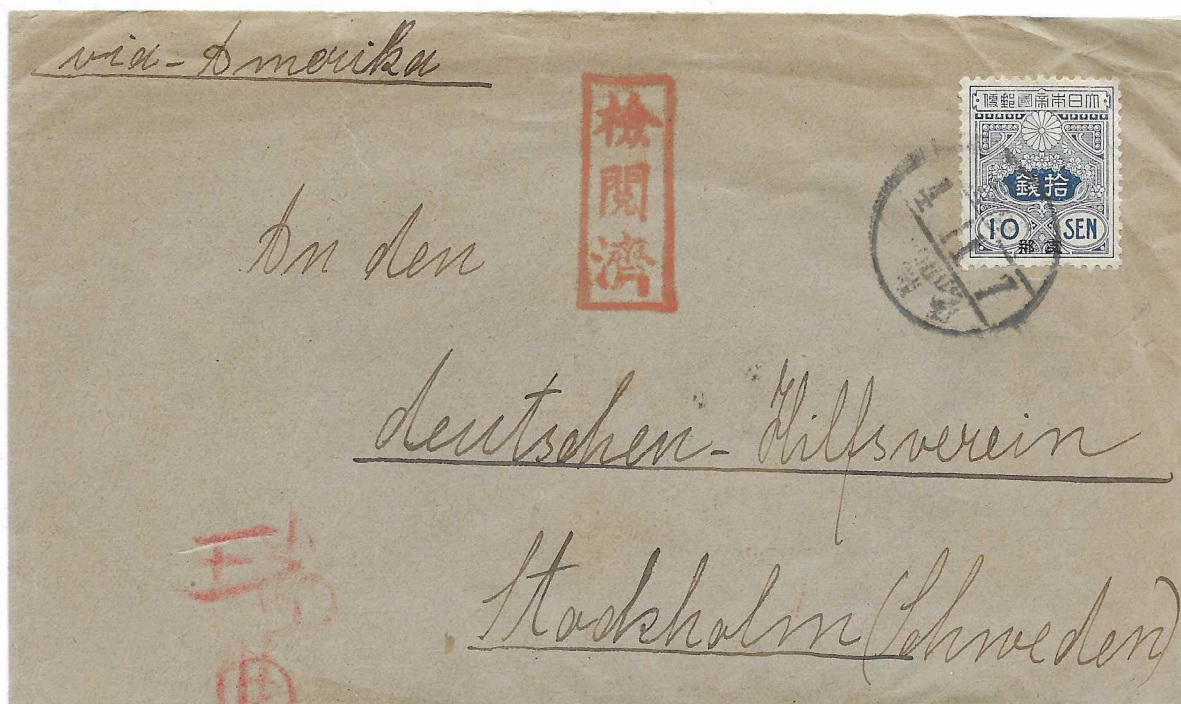
Fangzi
30 September 1919



Examples of fieldpost mail sent from locations outside the capital city. Card to left sent by an Army Surgeon of the 2nd Infantry Battalion of the Tsingtao Defense Force at Kaumi to Gifu, Japan. Middle card sent by soldier of 3rd Company, 4th Battalion of the Tsingtao Guard to village in Nagano Prefecture. Card to right sent by a soldier of the 4th Company, 1st Battalion of the Tsingtao Guard at Fangzi to another soldier at Hamamatsu, Japan.

KIAUCHAU
Japanese Occupation

Tsingtao
7 November 1915
18 March 1916



Civil mail was subject to payment of postage. The rate for international letters was 10 sen as shown by the examples above to Sweden and The Netherlands. Postage was paid by Japanese stamps overprinted for the post offices abroad in China.

Tsingtao
30 March 1916
10 October 1916

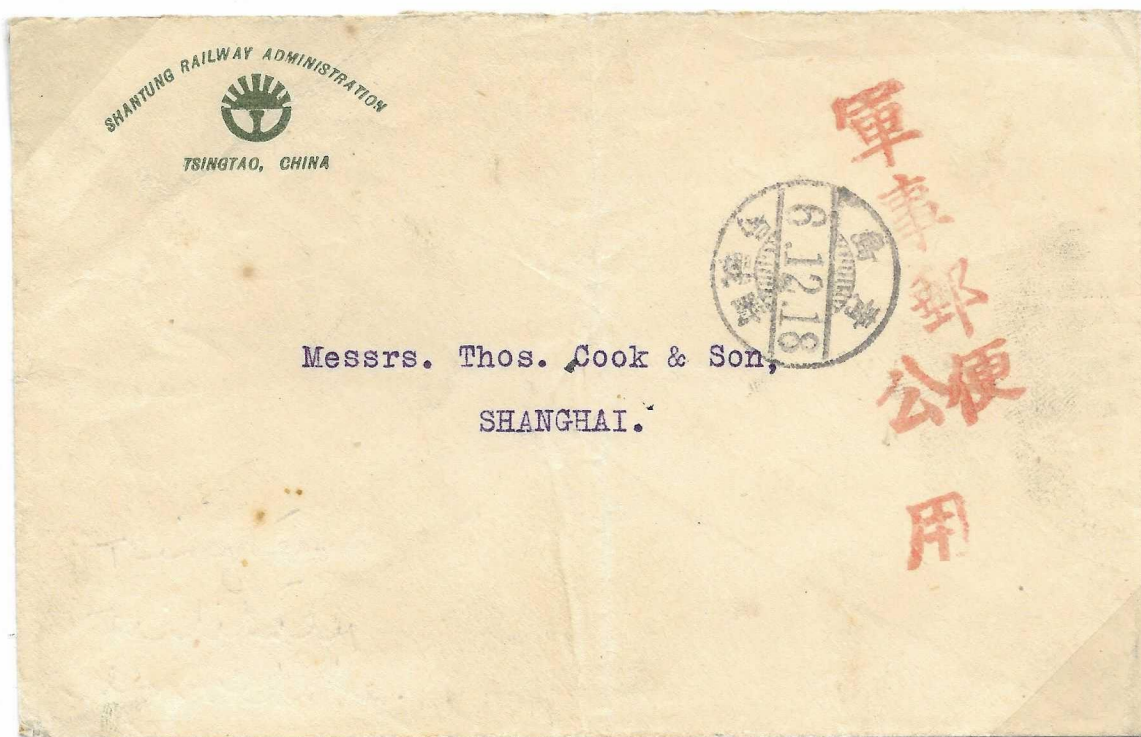


Mail could even be sent to Germany by civilians in Kiauchau in 1916, using a Trans-Pacific routing and across the United States, which was still neutral at that time.

KIAUCHAU
Japanese Occupation

Tsingtao
18 December 1917

Official Mail



Mail sent by the Shantung Railway Administration was treated as official correspondence and could be sent without payment of postage.

KIAUCHAU
Japanese Occupation

Tsingtao
28 May 1919
28 October 1919

for permission.

Registered

To

the

Consul General

of the Netherlands

114, Bubbling Well Road

Shanghai.



PASSED BY CENSOR
I.J.P. O. TSINGTAU



Frau

Josephine Meier
geb. Furheiden

Münster i/Westfalen
Kunzeplatz 16

Deutschland

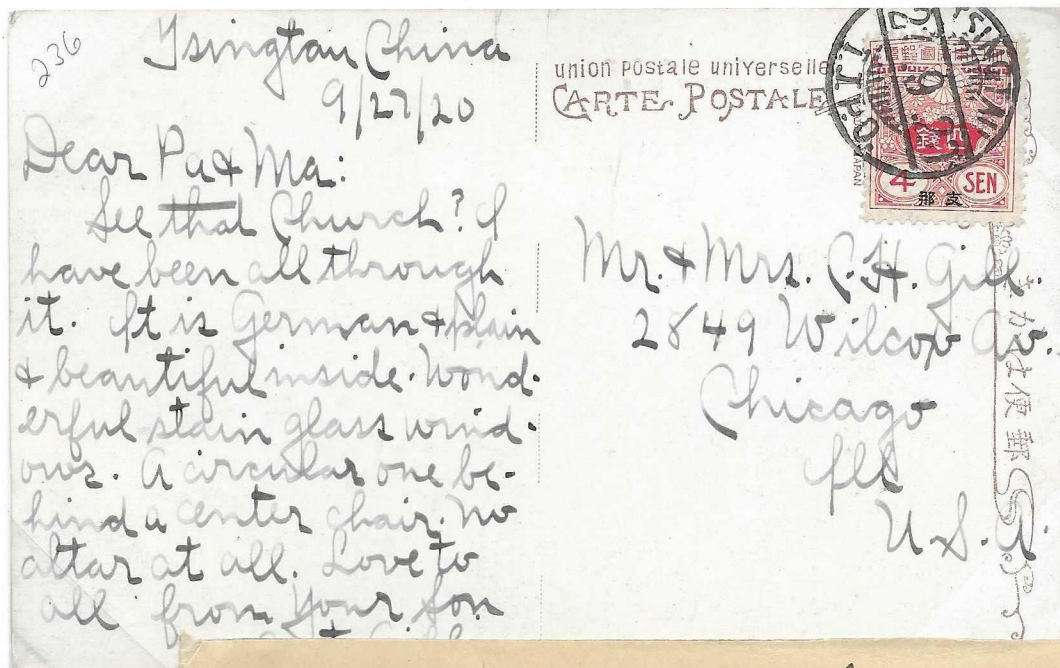
PASSED BY CENSOR
I.J.P. O. TSINGTAU



A special censorship marking in English was introduced for international mail, shown here in bright carmine and orange. This marking was in use for only a short time and is regarded as elusive.

KIAUCHAU
Japanese Occupation

Tsingtao
27 September 1920
29 June 1922



During 1919, a new type of cancel was used for international mail, inscribed "Tsingtau/I.J.P.O." This was in conformity with those used at the other Japanese offices abroad in China.