

PEACE COMMISSION
Versailles

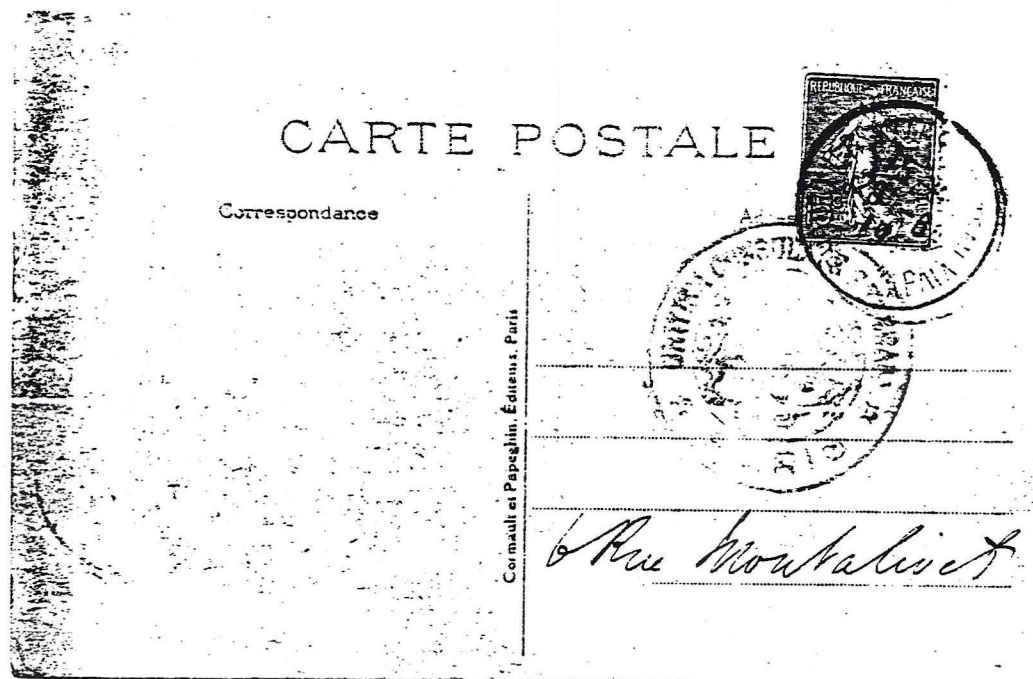
Versailles-Chateau
28 June 1919



As one of the key interested participants, the Belgians sent their own delegation to the Peace Conference at Versailles. The above cover was mailed from the special post office on the day that the peace treaty was signed.

PEACE COMMISSION
Versailles

Versailles-Chateau
28 June 1919

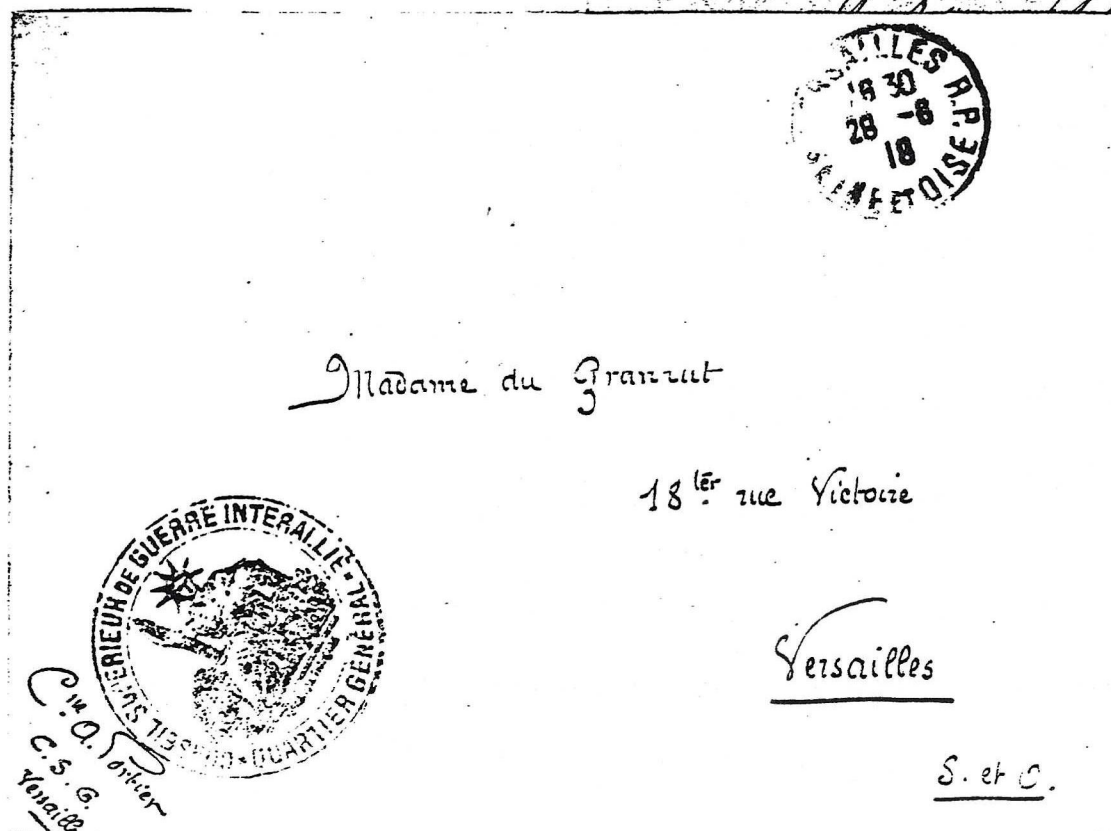
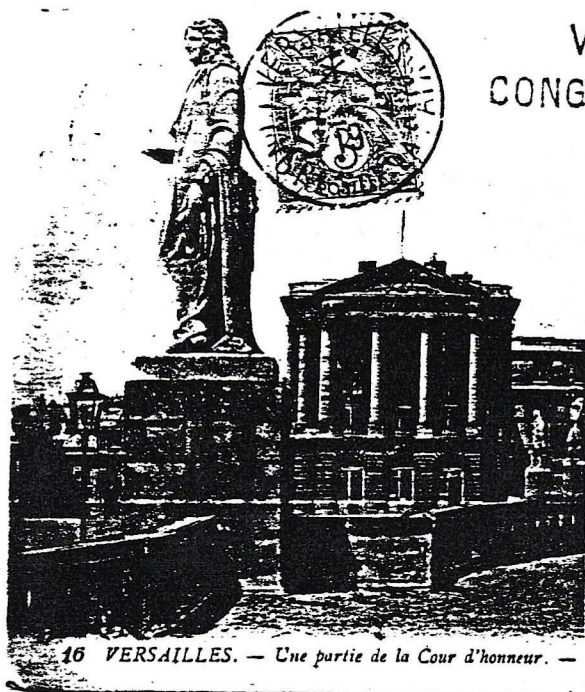


Postcard cancelled on the day the Versailles Treaty was signed and sent to the British Consulate General in Paris, presumably as a souvenir by a member of the British Peace Delegation.

PEACE COMMISSION
Versailles

Versailles
7 May 1919
28 June 1919

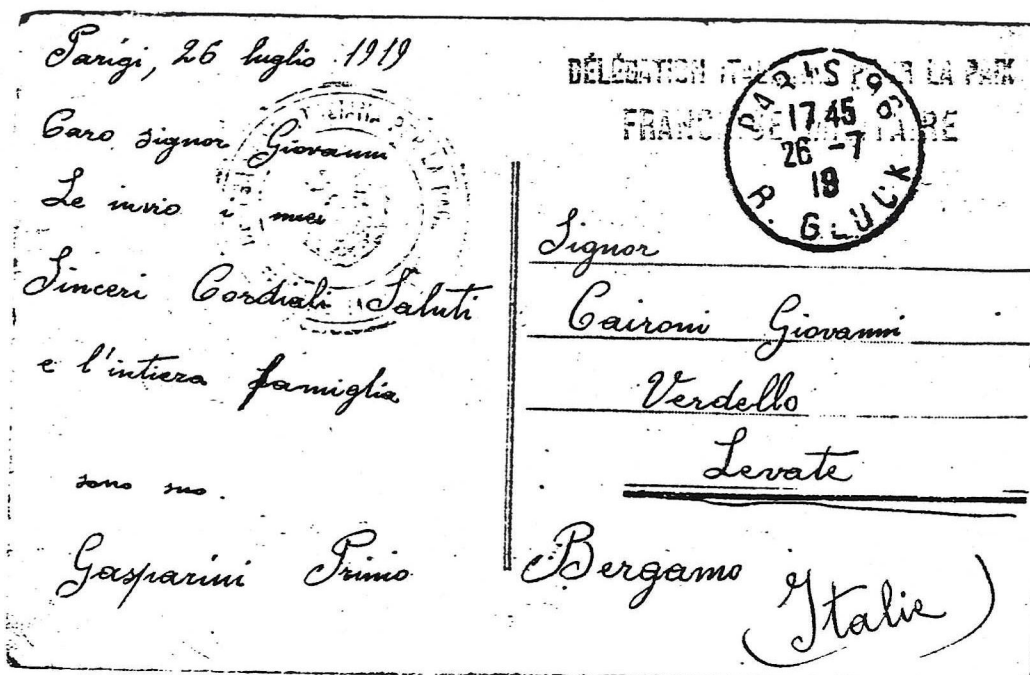
Versailles-Chateau
28 June 1919



Souvenir card mailed to Paris. Official cover postmarked on the day the Versailles Treaty was signed, sent by a French Delegate at the "Headquarters of the Interallied Supreme Council of War," which was responsible for enforcing the terms of the treaty. Private French cover mailed on the same day from the Chateau post office.

PEACE COMMISSION
Paris

Paris
24 February 1919
26 July 1919



Cards showing two different and elusive cachets of the Italian Delegates to the Peace Congress and the Military Section for the Peace.

PEACE COMMISSION
Versailles

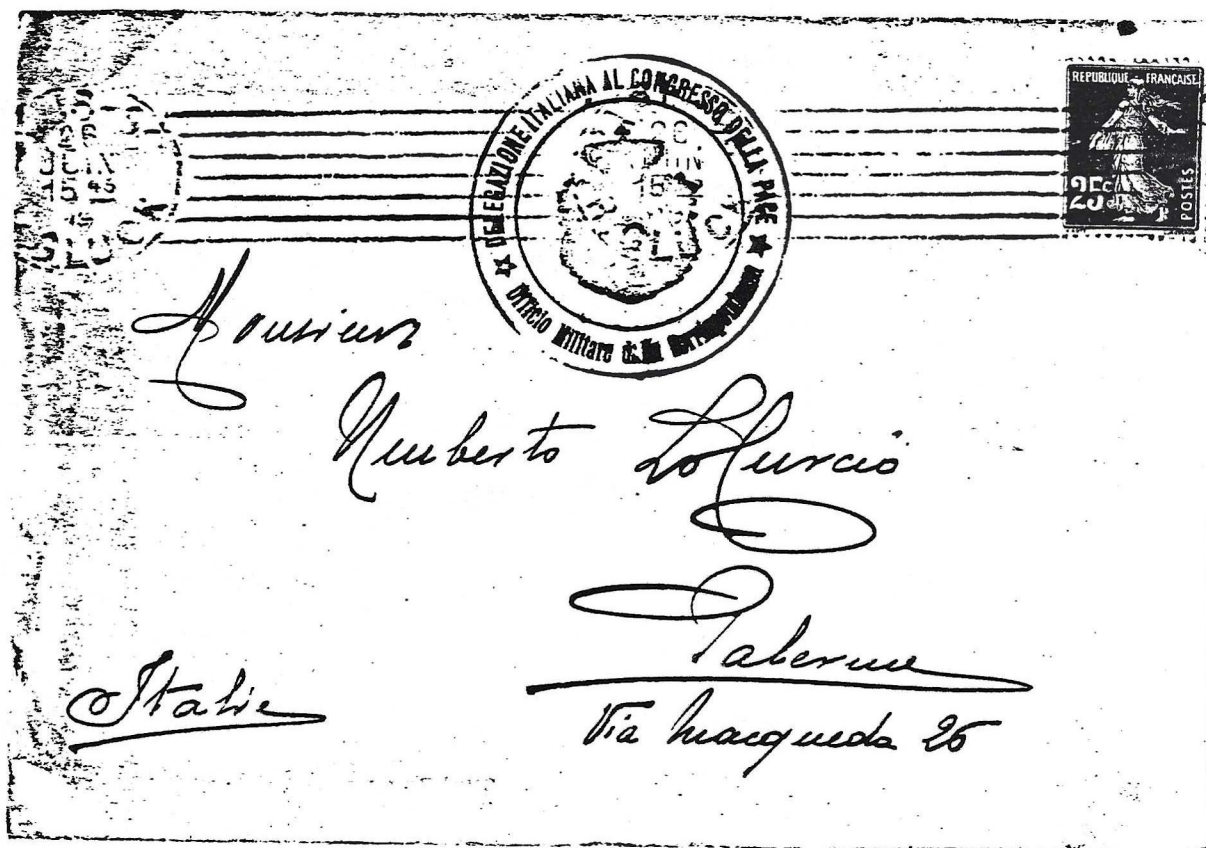
Versailles
4 June 1919
June 1919



The Italian Peace Delegation operated as a section of the Interallied Supreme War Council at Versailles. Above covers are from the correspondence of a Lt. Colonel to his family in Italy.

PEACE COMMISSION
Paris

Paris
26 June 1919

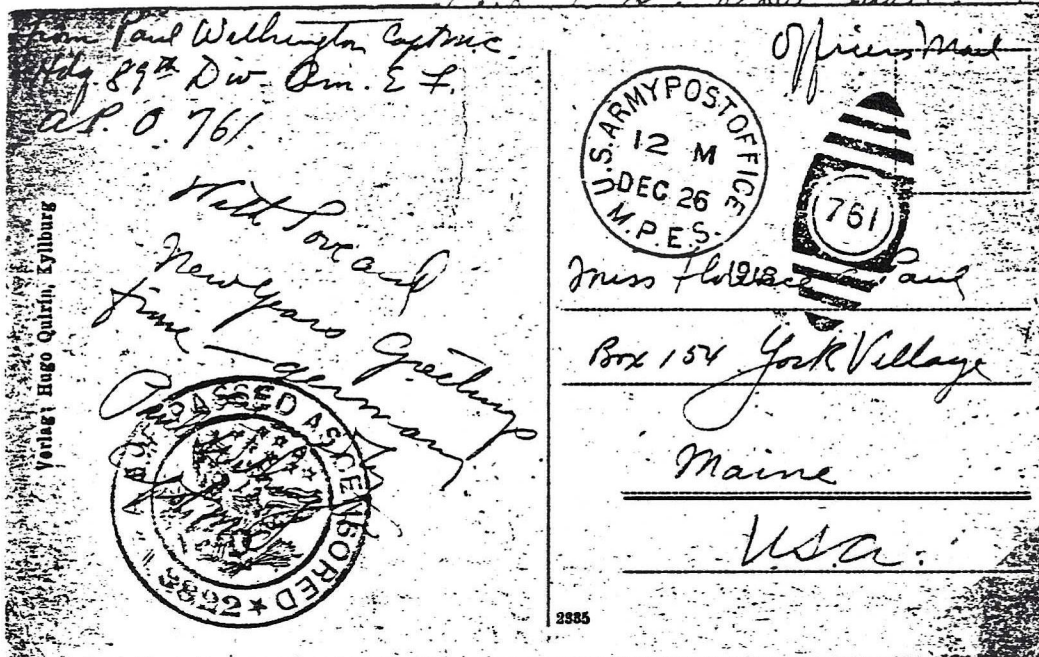
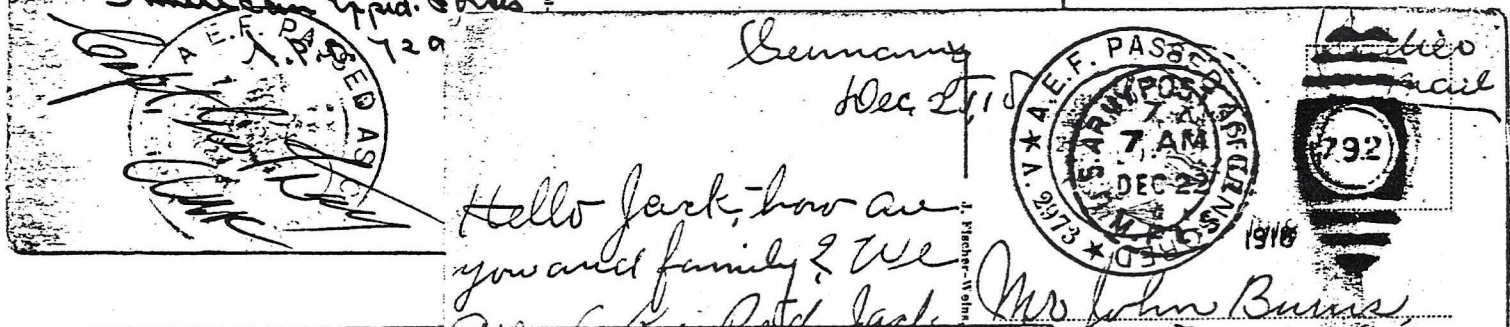
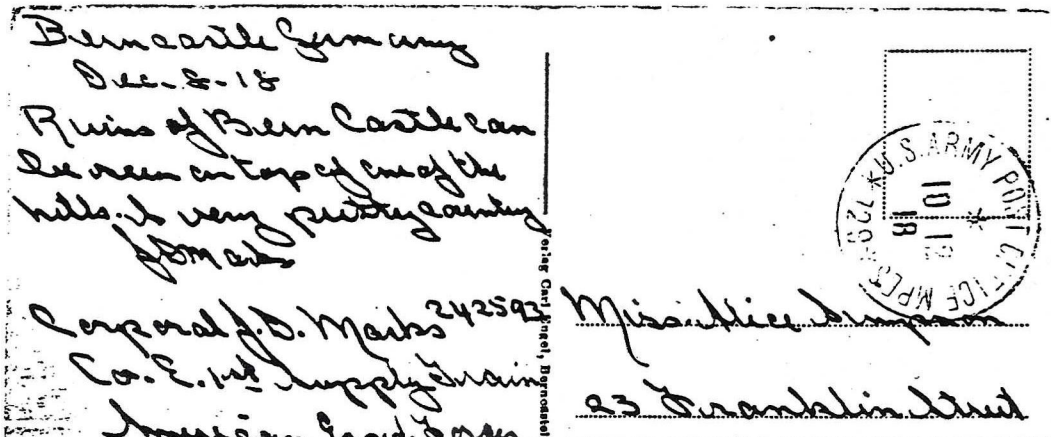


Implementing the terms of the peace treaty fell to the staff of the delegations operating in Paris. Above cover was sent by a member of the Military Section of the Italian Delegation to Italy.

OCCUPATION OF GERMANY

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

U.S. Army Post Office MPES
10 December 1918
22 December 1918
26 December 1918

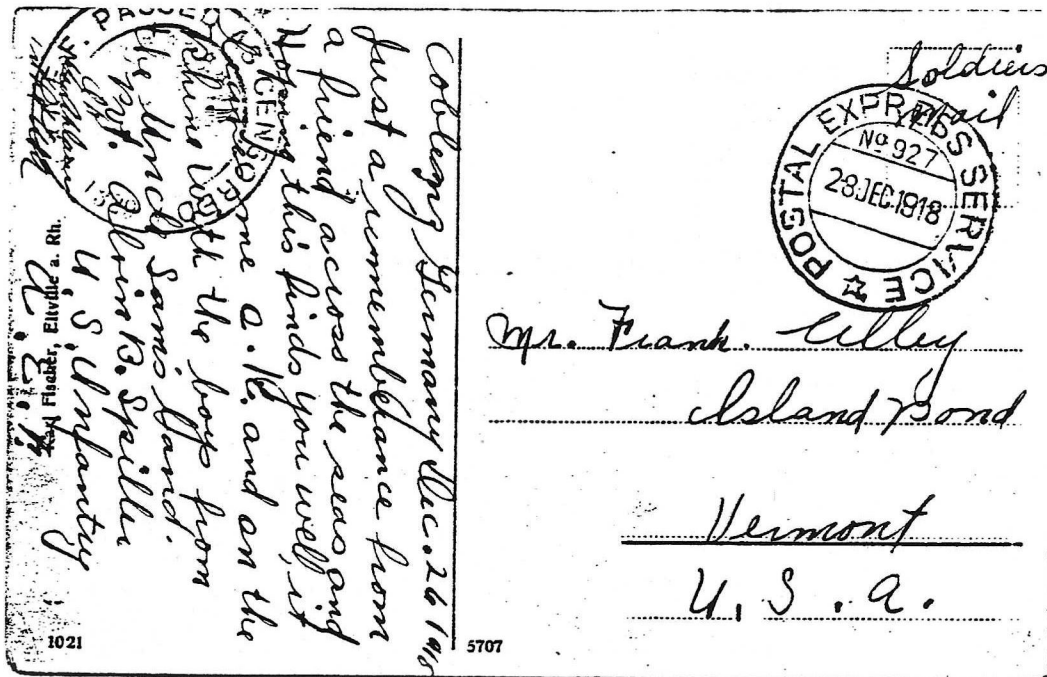


On 1 December 1918, the lead elements of the American occupation forces crossed into Germany, and by the 7th the III and IV Corps had reached the Rhine River, taking control of Coblenz. The VI Corps moved in a few days later and occupied the area around Treves. Initially, the same postmarks were used that had been issued in France. Mail posted in December that is identifiable as sent from Germany is relatively scarce. Above cards sent from MPES stations #729 at Montabaur, #792 at Wittlich and #761 at Kyllburg.

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

Postal Express Service
28 December 1918

U.S. Army Post Office PES
14 February 1919



Some of the APOs had been supplied with postmarks indicating the new version (PES) of the designation of the service, either altered to remove the "M" or with an entirely new device. Above cards sent from PES stations #927 at headquarters in Coblenz and #746 at Bertrich.

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

U.S. Army Post Office MPES
20 January 1919
25 February 1919
27 February 1919
1 March 1919

DRACHENFELS, besuchteste Höhe des Siebengebirges; auf schroffem Fels die Ruinen einer einmaligen Burg. An diese knüpft sich die Siegfried-Sage. Unvergleichlich schöne Aussicht ins Rheintal.

Ahrentes, Germany.
 January. 15-1919
 Sisters!
 Was in Colling yesterday
 was but did not think
 of the place most of
 buildings are old and very
 nice looking. Hope the
 and the are better.
 and the Colling
 Infantery.
 Mump & Co. Colo.

Soldiers
20 April
ARMY
SIN * 795 * PES

Postkarte

$$2u_n$$

Miss Clara Wagner

U.S. AIR MAIL 10
JUN 2 1964
NEW YORK, N.Y.



A circular postmark from the U.S. Army Post Office. The text "U.S. ARMY POST OFFICE" is arranged in a circle around the center. In the center, the date "27 SEP 41" is stamped. Below the date, the number "134" is visible. The words "Soldiers Mail" are written in a cursive script across the top of the circle.

Reached the Plains Dec 14th
crossing on Crow River with
Bridg who's was brief during
the War. Deutschland is active
- acts active in America is
active. Railroads & the settlers
quietly, will and settlers from the land
Frank F. Cooper

Überbiber, Germany.
12/24/18

Robert M. Feil
 Co. G. 28 Inf.
 W. C. F.

Friend: - Well Jim I am
taking in the sights
around Ger. I am find and
dand. Everything you is all
a right name.

U.S. ARMY POST OFFICE
* 1 - 3 *
729 M.F.S.
SOLDIERS
MAIL

Mr. James Miller
518 Berwick St.
White Haven Penn
U. S. A.

Because of the impending end of the war, some of the APOs were not issued a year dater for 1919. In such cases, the year date was removed or an altered "8" used on a temporary basis. Postcards above used from MPES stations #715 at Ahrweiler, #710 at Heddesdorf, #734 at Rengsdorf and #729 at Montabaur.

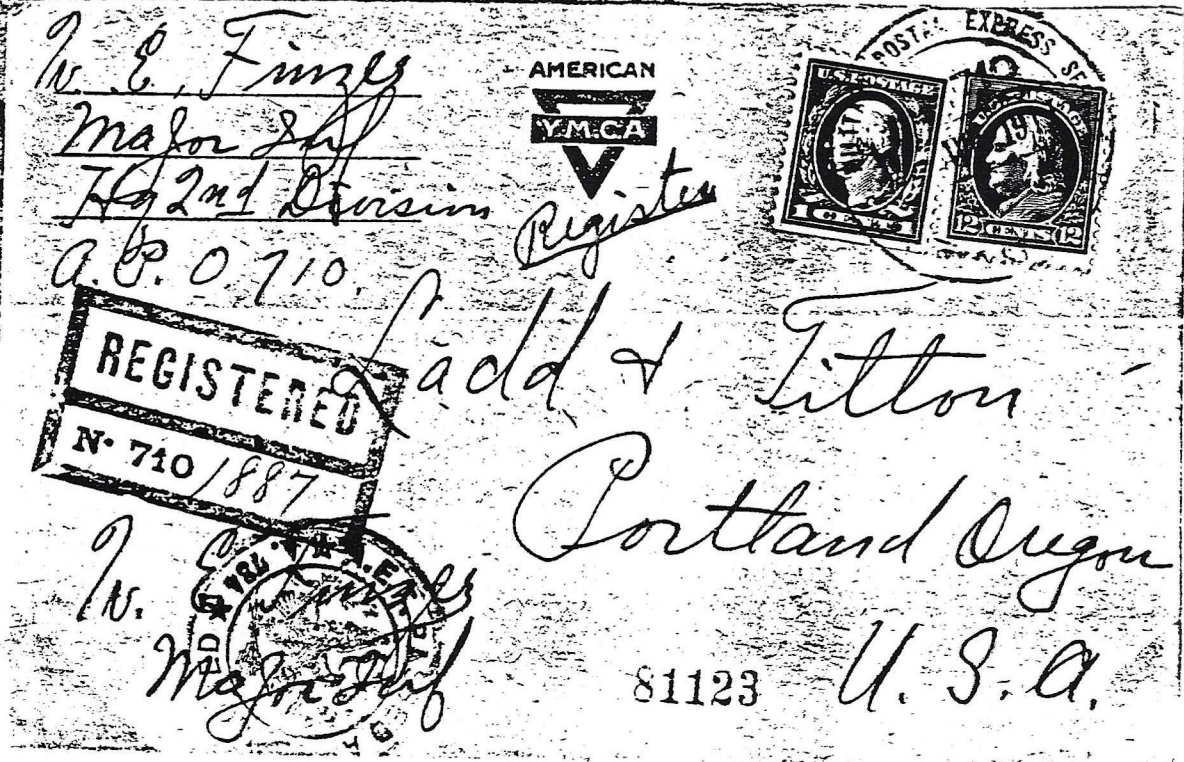
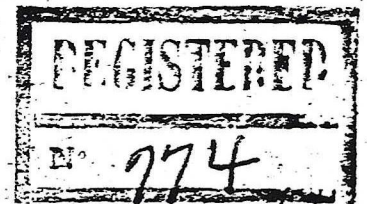
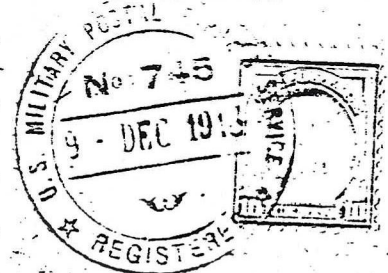
AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

U.S. Military Postal Express Service
9 December 1918
5 March 1919
2 April 1919

Chaplain W T Crocker
54th Pioneer Inf
Amer E F

Officers Mail

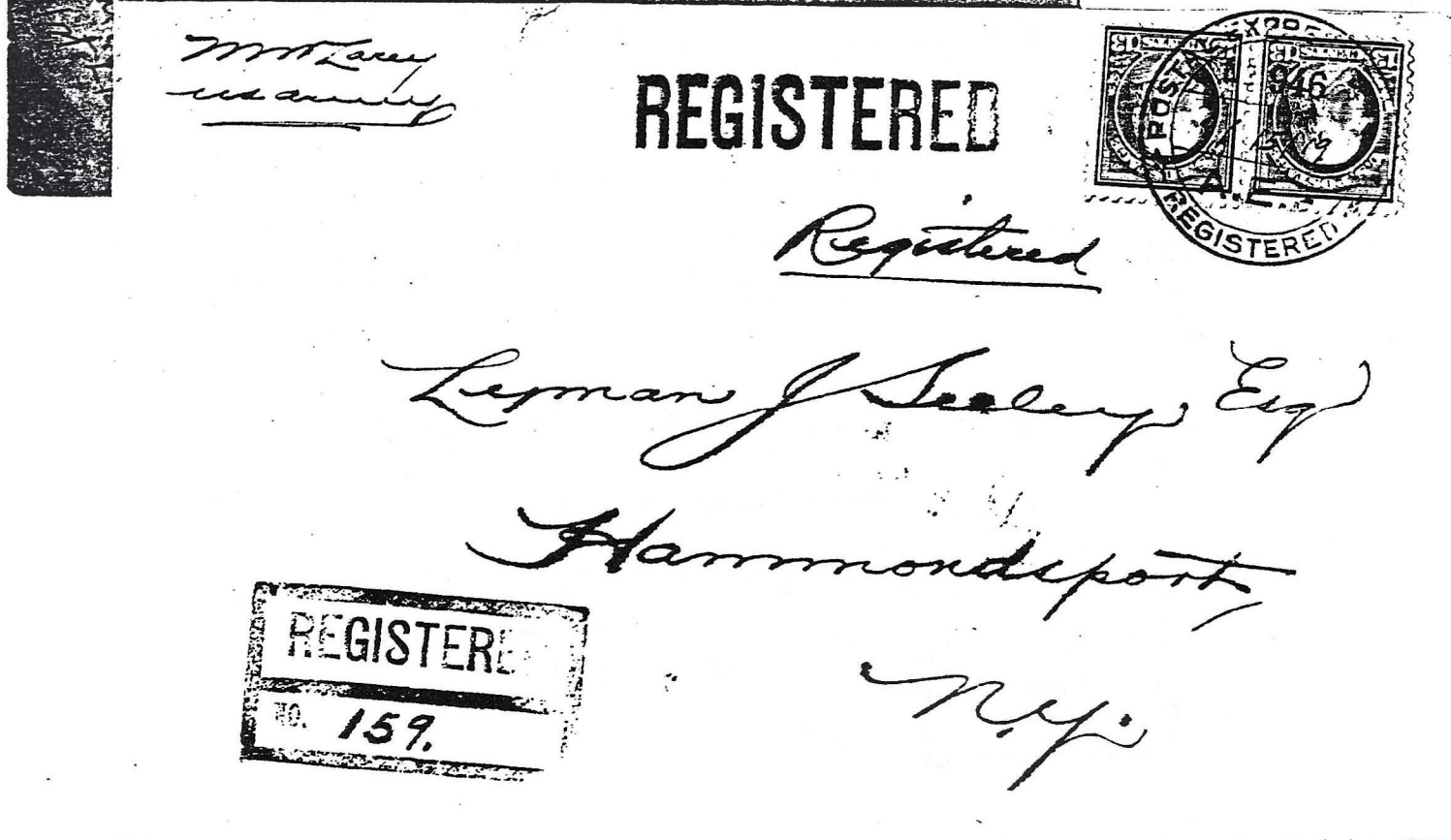
Farmers Loan & Trust Co



Registry service was available to the occupation forces. Initially, the special cancellations brought from France were used -- a large double circle with a small posthorn in the lower segment. Three different "Registered" markings shown, including straight line, box, and box with APO number. Upper cover dated 9 December 1918 is considered to be the earliest example of registered mail from Germany.

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

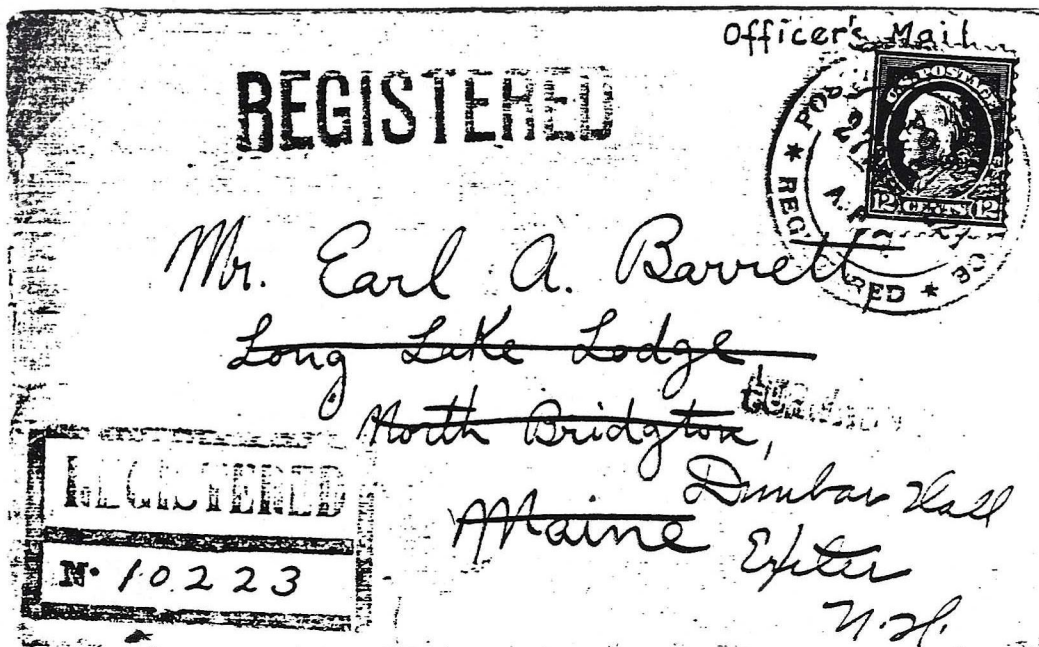
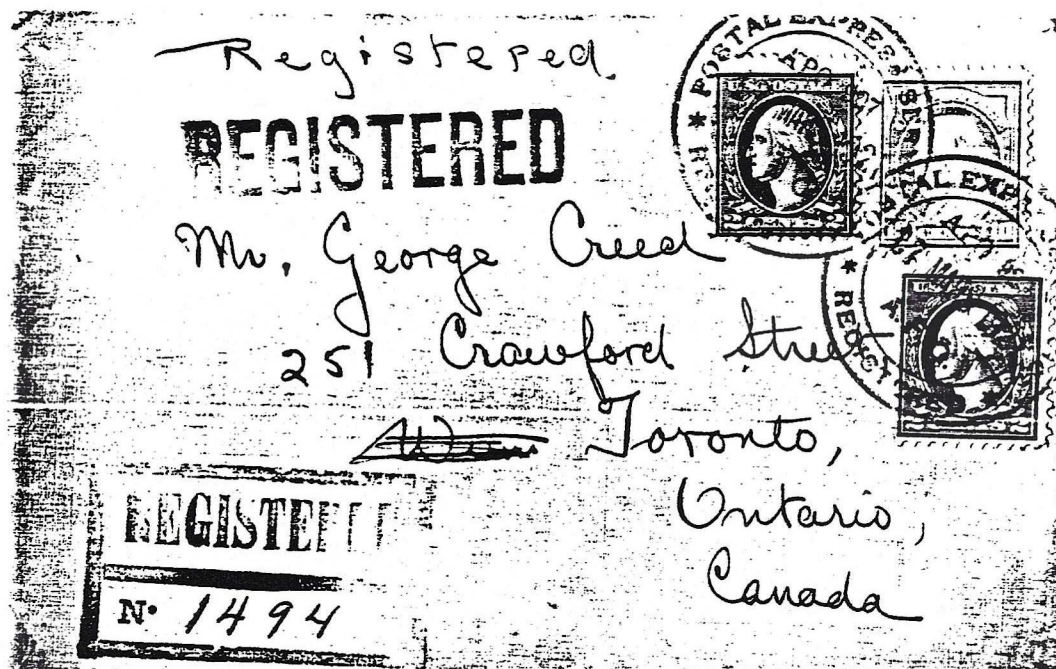
Postal Express Service
2 April 1919
15 August 1919



A second type of registry marking had been provided to the troops in France and was brought to Germany for the use of the occupation forces -- a large double circle with "A.E.F." in the lower segment. Lower cover sent from the American Military Mission in Berlin with unusual franking of 26 cents probably contained currency.

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

Postal Express Service
17 March 1921
27 August 1921



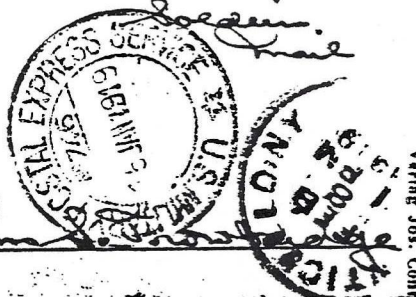
The third and final type of registry marking was provided specially for the use of the occupation forces in Germany — a large double circle with "A.F.G." in the lower segment. It was used only at APO #927 in Coblenz.

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

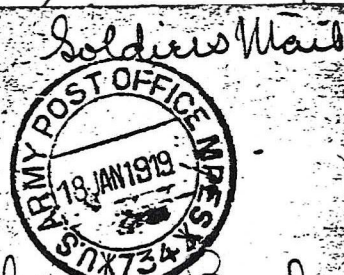
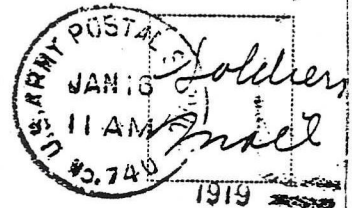
U.S. Military Postal Express Service
15 January 1919

U.S. Army Postal Service
16 January 1919

U.S. Army Post Office MPES
18 January 1919
23 January 1919



Pl. H.B. Mackay
H.P.O. #740 Co. A 3rd Amer. Tr.
amer C.F. France via N.Y.



Miss Eleanor Bush

Koblenz mit Ehrenbreitstein

Dear Mother:
Another good view
showing to Fort of
Ehrenbreitstein
Coblenz and
joining of
the Rhine
and the
Forest
Walben



Mrs. O. H. H. H.
#258 Wayne St
Lima, Ohio
U.S.A.

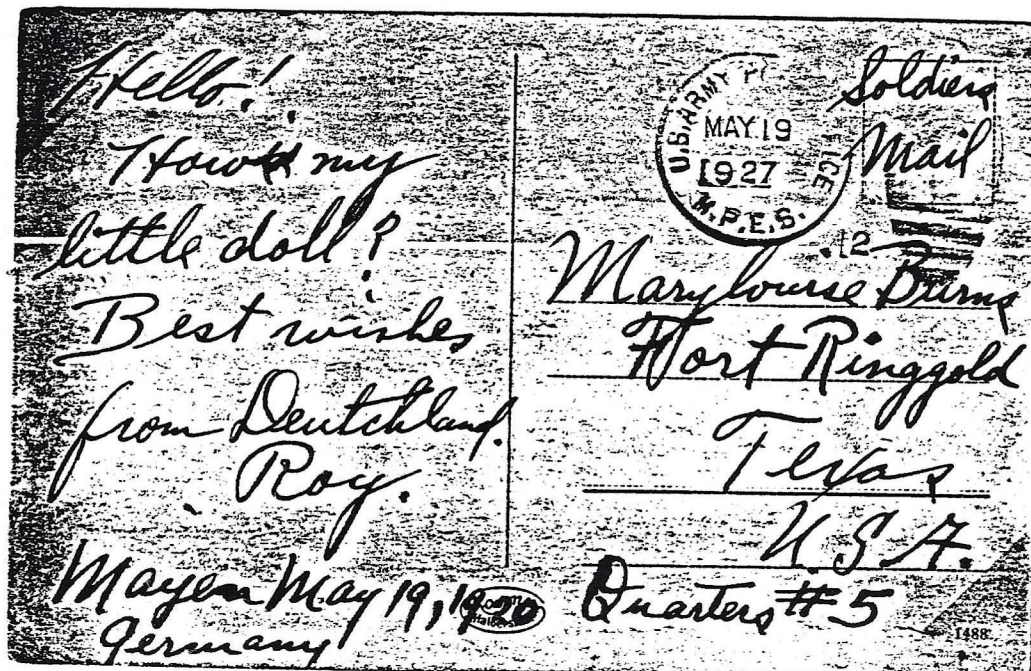
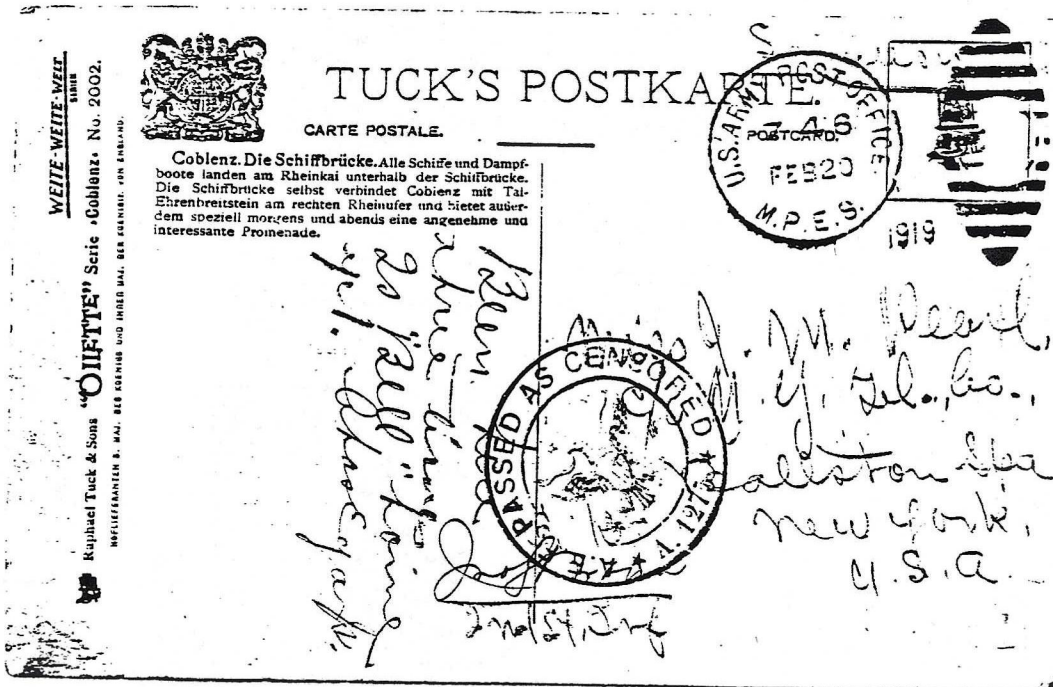
K.R.B.
C.A.R. 318

Several different types of postmarks brought from France continued to be used in the early months by the occupation forces in Germany. Above examples show four variations, used at stations #746 (Bertrich), #740 (Andernacht), #734 (Rengsdorf) and #775 (Cochem).

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

U.S. Army Post Office MPES
20 February 1919

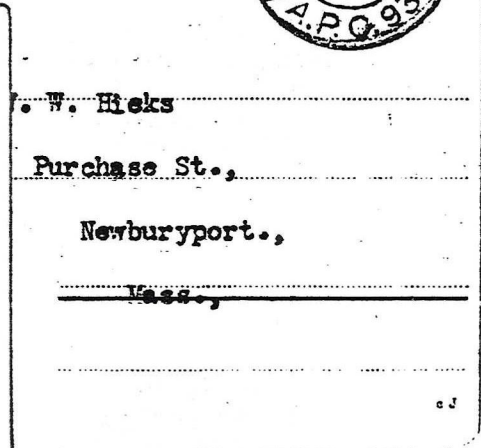
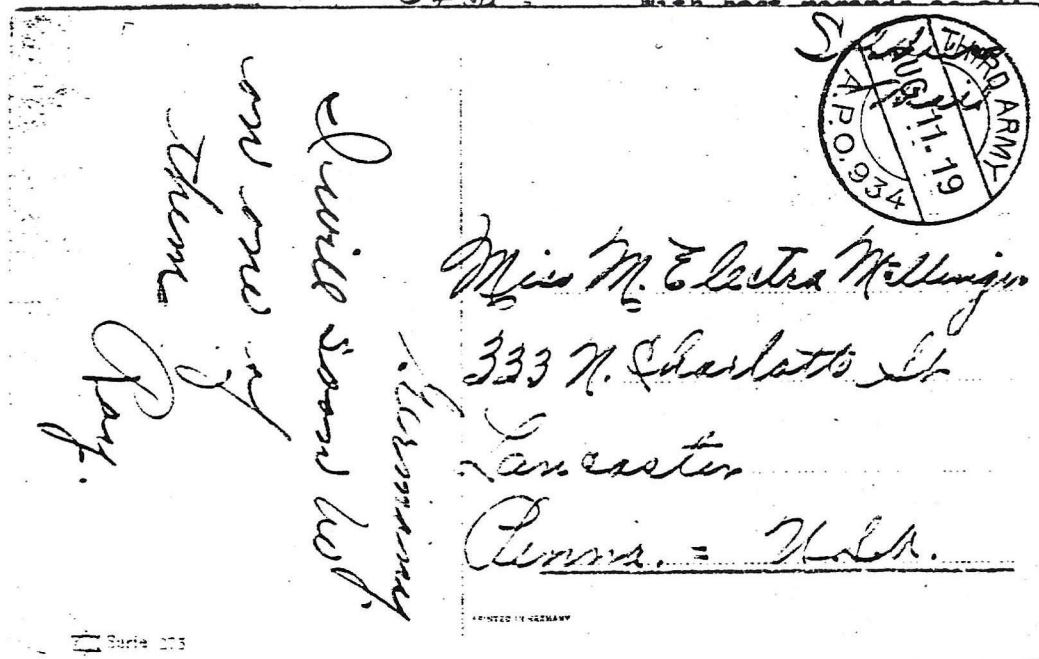
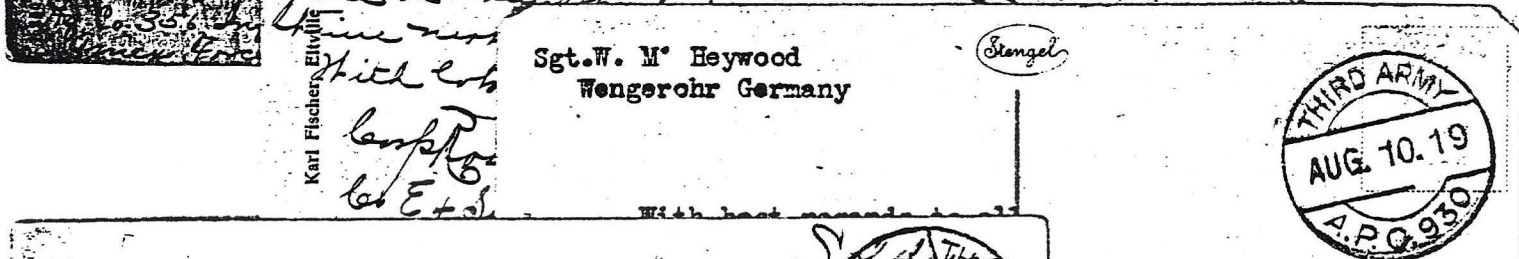
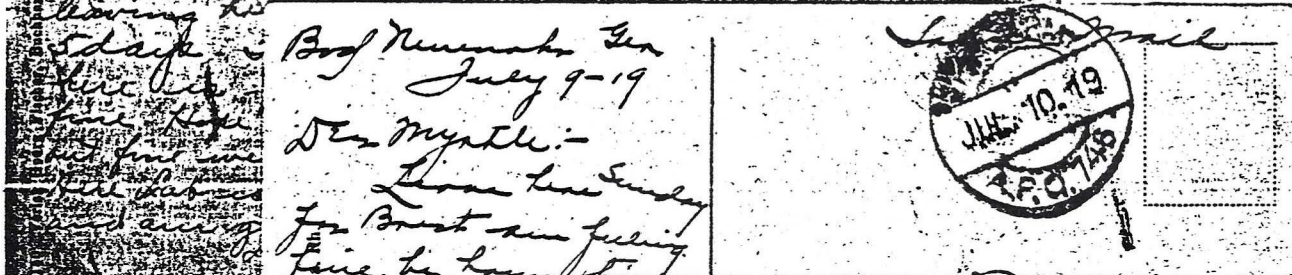
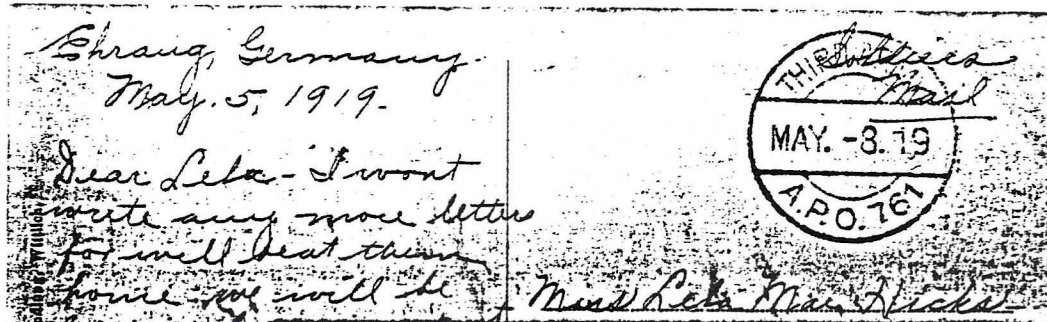
U.S. Army Postal Service MPES
19 May 1920



Two types of provisional cancellations are known, with the station number being removed from the circle in the middle of the killer and added to the central portion of the dial. As shown, these are associated with MPES #746 at Bertrich and #927 at Coblenz.

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

Third Army
8 May 1919
10 July 1919
10 August 1919
11 August 1919



In March 1919, a new series of postmarks was introduced for the Army of Occupation. There were eleven different A.P.O. numbers for the American-supervised districts in the Rhineland, (plus one each for Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg and the Military Mission in Berlin). However, most of these offices were short-lived; in anticipation of the signing of the peace treaty, the U.S. government in April ordered a major reduction in the size of its forces. By 2 July the Third Army was disbanded and the small remaining group was designated as the American Forces in Germany (AFG).

AMERICAN FORCES
Germany

HENRY G. VERBEYST
38 th U. S. Infantry
"Rock of the Marne"
American E. F.
Army of Occupation.



Soldiers Mail

Third Army
27 March 1919
22 April 1919
16 May 1919

Off. Harry L. Osterman

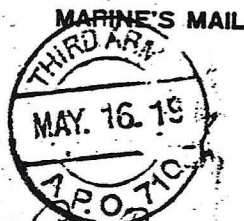
*1st Lt. Chester Hatch
No. 359th En.
American E.F.*



1st Lt. 38th Infan

Mrs. A.M. Barnard

1st Lt. 38th Infan
John J. Ackerman
Headquarters Company
5th Regt. U. S. Marines,
2nd Division,
A. E. F. — A. P. O. 710.



Mrs Anna E. Corroll

R. F. D. #1

Cortland

U.S.A.

N.Y.

The occupation forces were scaled back rapidly, and most of the APO's were closed between April and August 1919. With the departure of the 1st Division on 15 August, only the small AFG contingent based on the 8th Infantry Regiment remained in Germany.