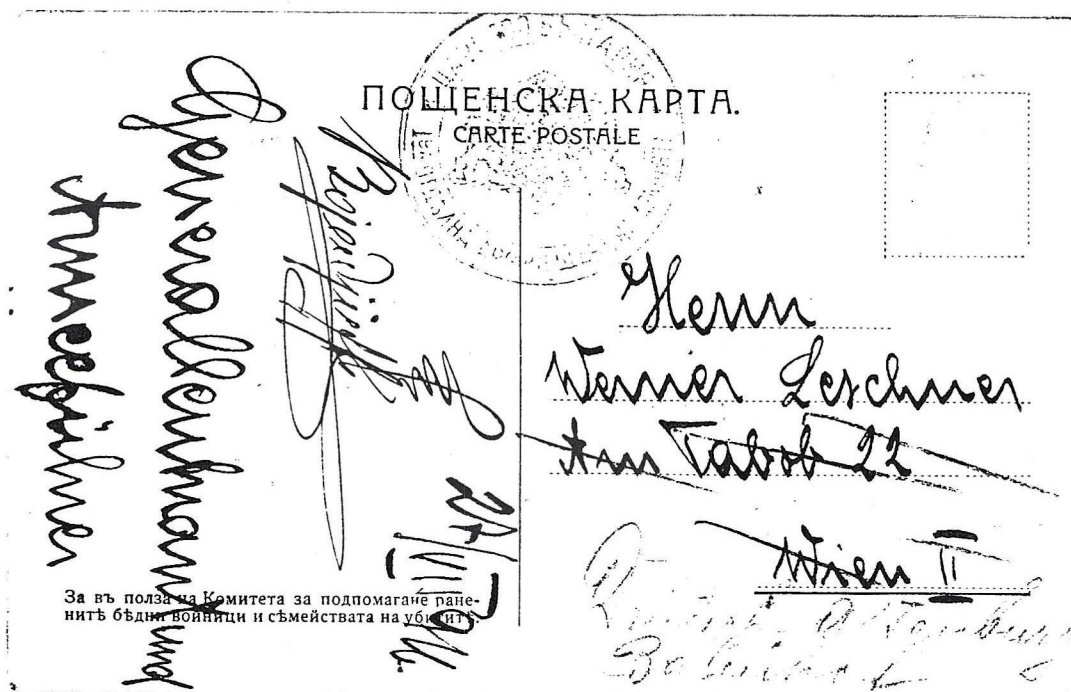


WORLD WAR I

Still smarting from its defeat in the Second Balkan War, Bulgaria waited for its chance to recover its lost territory. When the Central Powers were ready to deal with Serbia, the Bulgarians joined in the war on 5 October 1915. In a few weeks, the Serbs were overrun and administrative responsibility for that country was divided, with Austria-Hungary taking charge of the northern and western parts of the country and Bulgaria the eastern and southern areas. Fighting continued on the Salonica front until Bulgaria surrendered on 29 September 1918.

Field Post
27 June 1916



Bulgarian field post material from the wartime period is available in substantial quantities, so items showing only military cachets are deemphasized in the exhibit. However, this card was sent from First Army Headquarters and is unusual in that it is signed by General Bojadieff, the supreme commander of the Bulgarian Army.

WORLD WAR I Occupation of Turkey

As an inducement for joining the Central Powers, Turkey agreed to transfer the southern suburbs of Adrianople (Odrin) and a small bit of surrounding territory to Bulgaria in the fall of 1915. This meant that two new Bulgarian post offices could be opened: Odrin and Kouleli Bourgas (now Pithion in Greece).

Kouleli Bourgas
7 May 1916

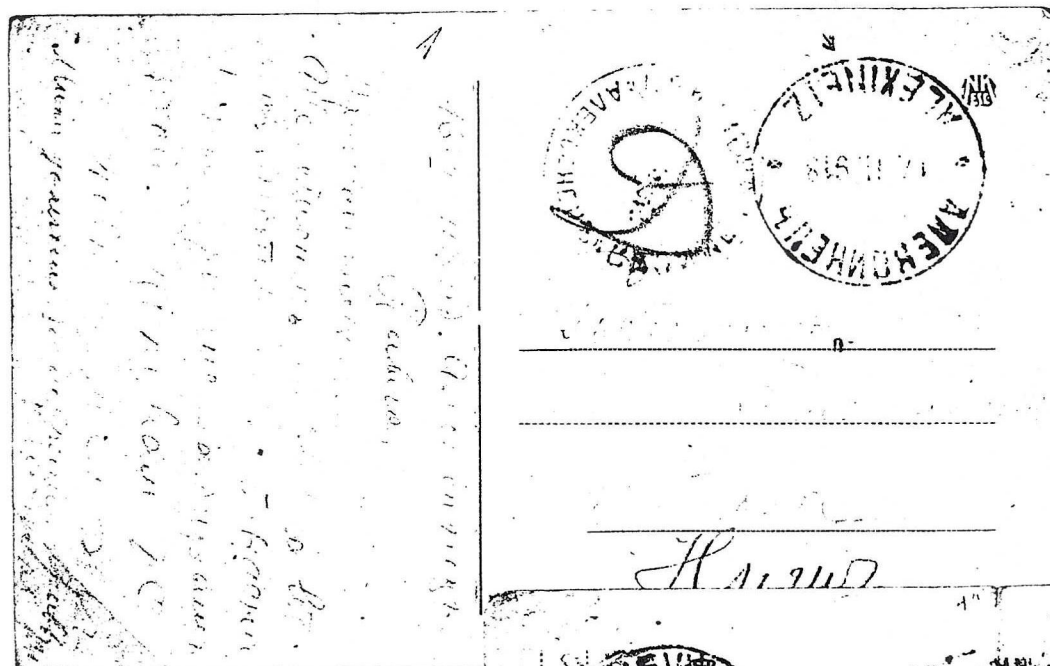
Odrin
15 February 1917



Odrin cancel is shown on registered letter to Constantinople, an unusual usage.

WORLD WAR I Occupation of Serbia

The conquest of Serbia was swift, and the Bulgarians took over the administration of that part of the country lying to the south and east of a line drawn along the Morava River to Aleksinac (Alexinetz) thence southwest to the Albanian border near Prizren. The first of an eventual 90 Bulgarian post offices in this area were opened on 24 October 1915 at Kriva Palanka and Tsarevo Selo. The occupation of this territory continued until the war's end.



Alexinetz
17 February 1918

Babouchnitza
30 June 1916

Bela Palanka
1 December 1916



Only Bulgarian postal paper was used in the territory. Except for provisional postal markings, offices used bilingual Cyrillic/French postmarks similar to that in the photocopy above.

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Serbia

Bitolia
 28 February 1916
 29 July 1916



Bitolia was the exception to the general rule about the length of the occupation. It was captured by the Bulgarians on 30 December 1915 but held only until 19 November 1916 when it was retaken by the reconstituted Serbian army moving up from the Allied base at Salonica. However, that was the extent of the Serb advance, and the situation then remained stable until the final phase of the war.

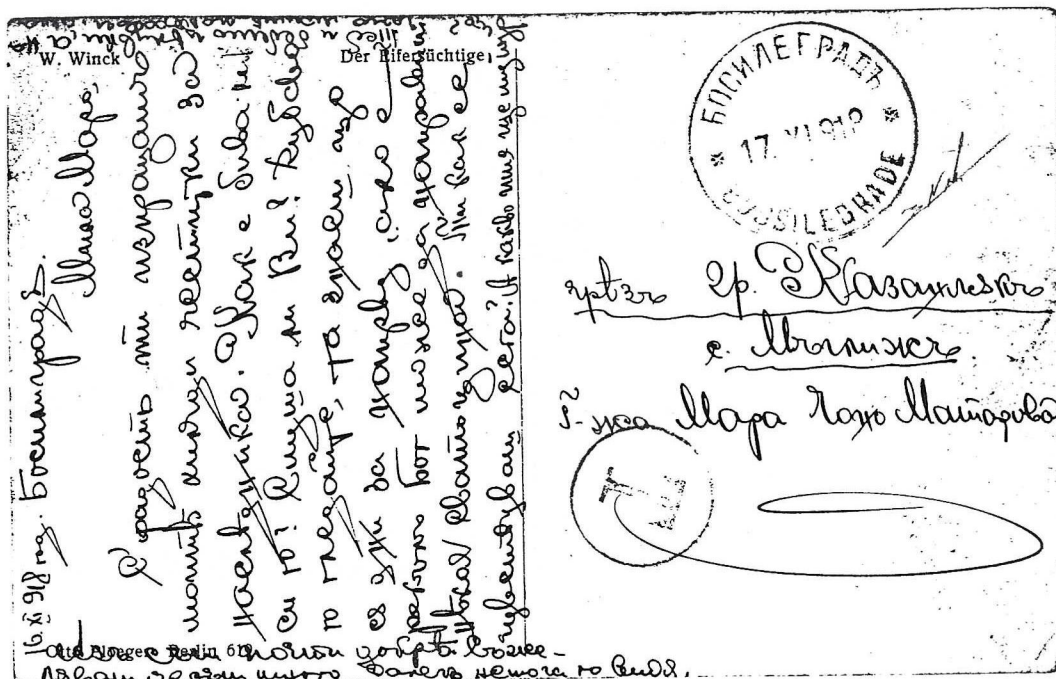
Shown above are both civil and military uses from the Bulgarian occupation period.

WORLD WAR I

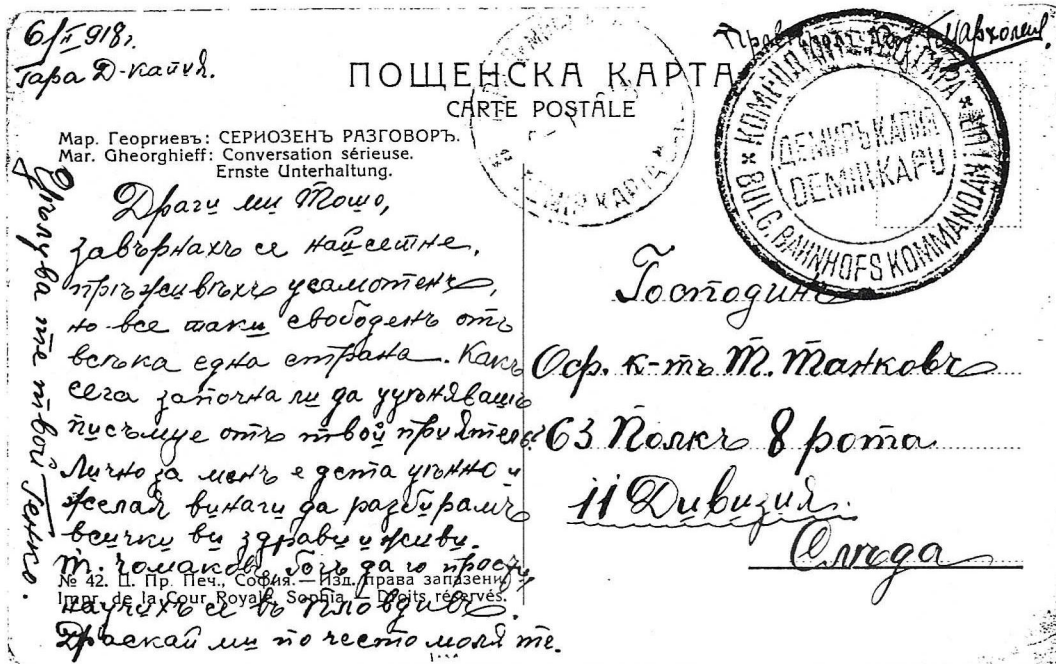
Occupation of Serbia

Bolevatz
25 January 1916

Bossilegrade
17 November 1918



The postmark of Bossilegrade (Bosilegrad), located just inside the Serbian border, is unlisted by Rasic.

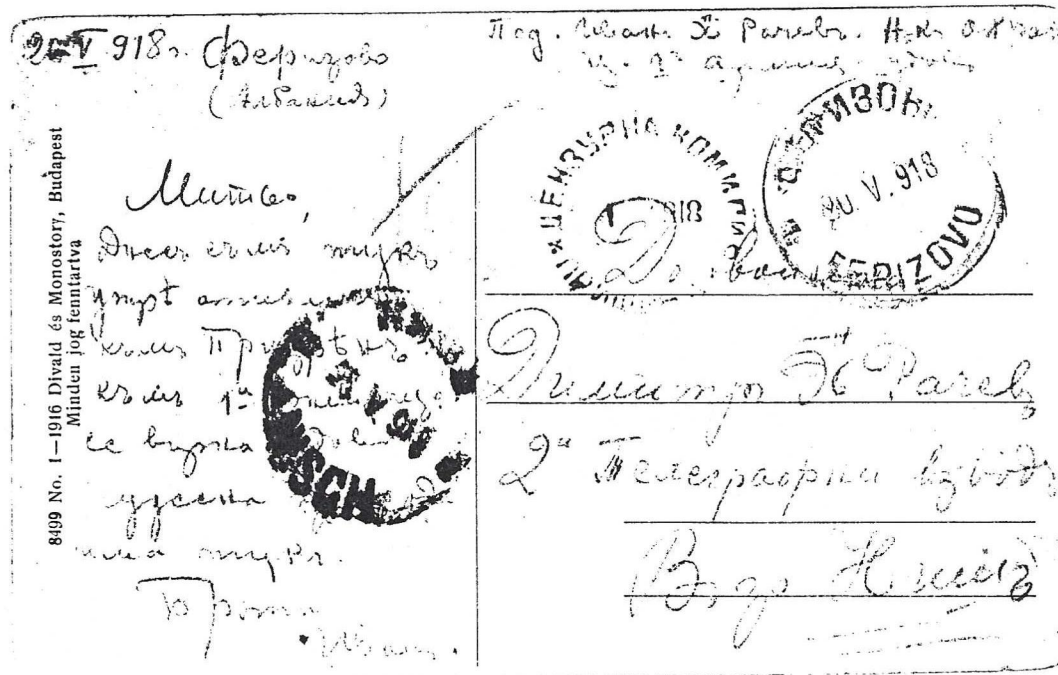
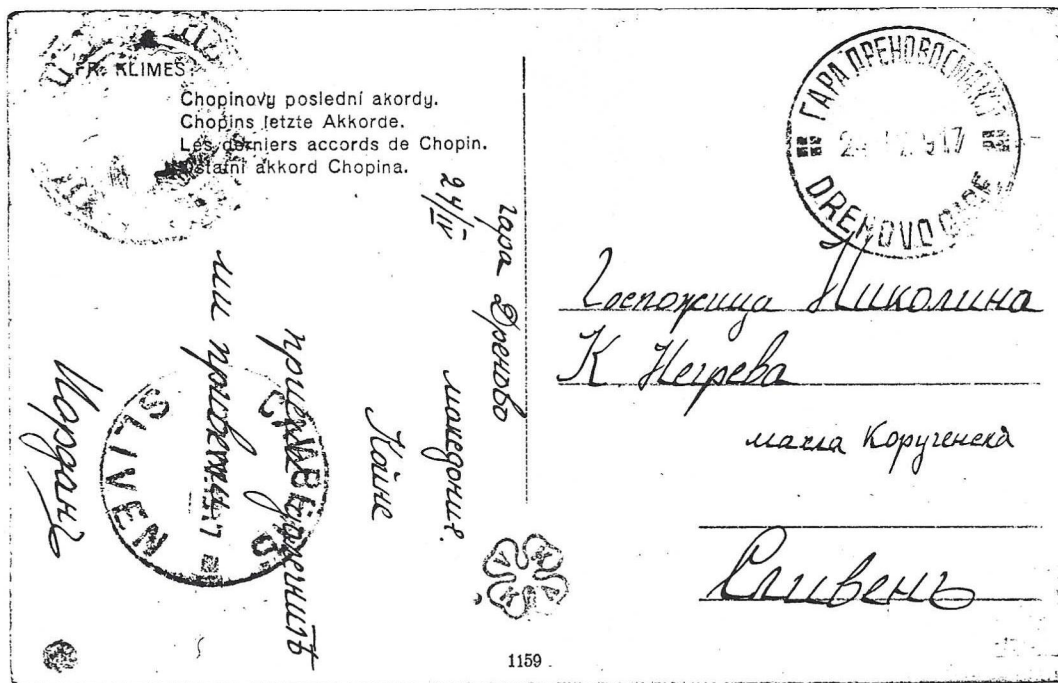


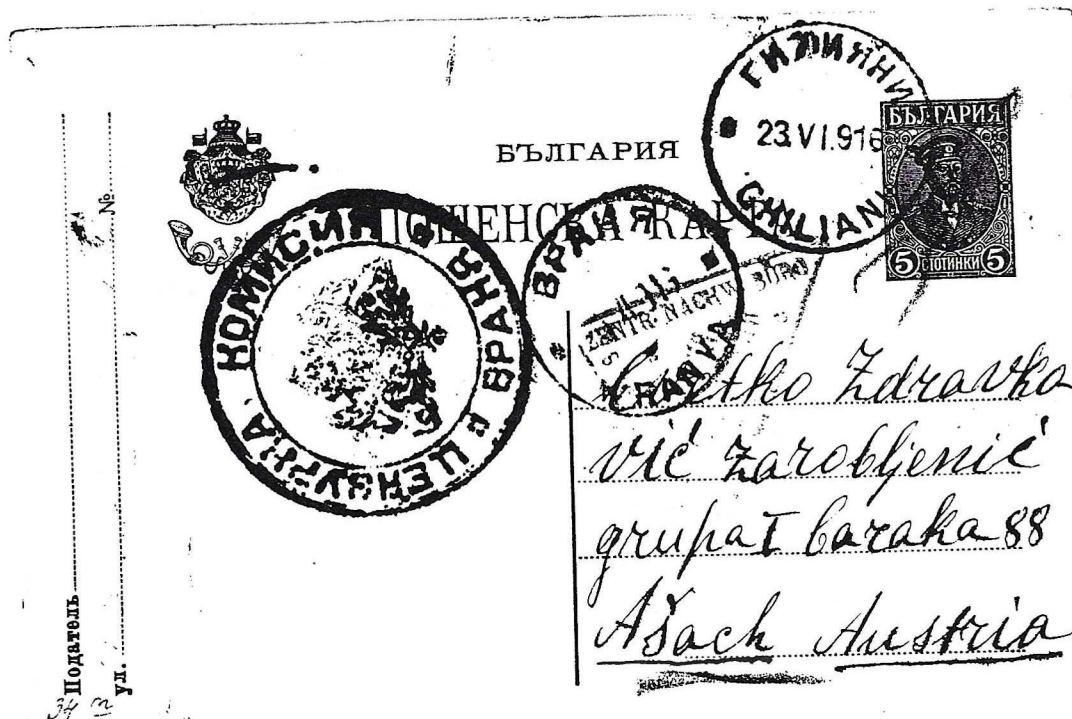
The Demir Kapia cds is a variety used at the railway station, accompanied by a Cyrillic-German unit marking of the "Bulgarian Railway Headquarters." According to Rasic, Despotovetz was the final Bulgarian post office to open in Serbia. However, the above example is five weeks before his opening date.

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Serbia

Drenovo Gare
24 April 1917

Ferizovo
20 May 1918

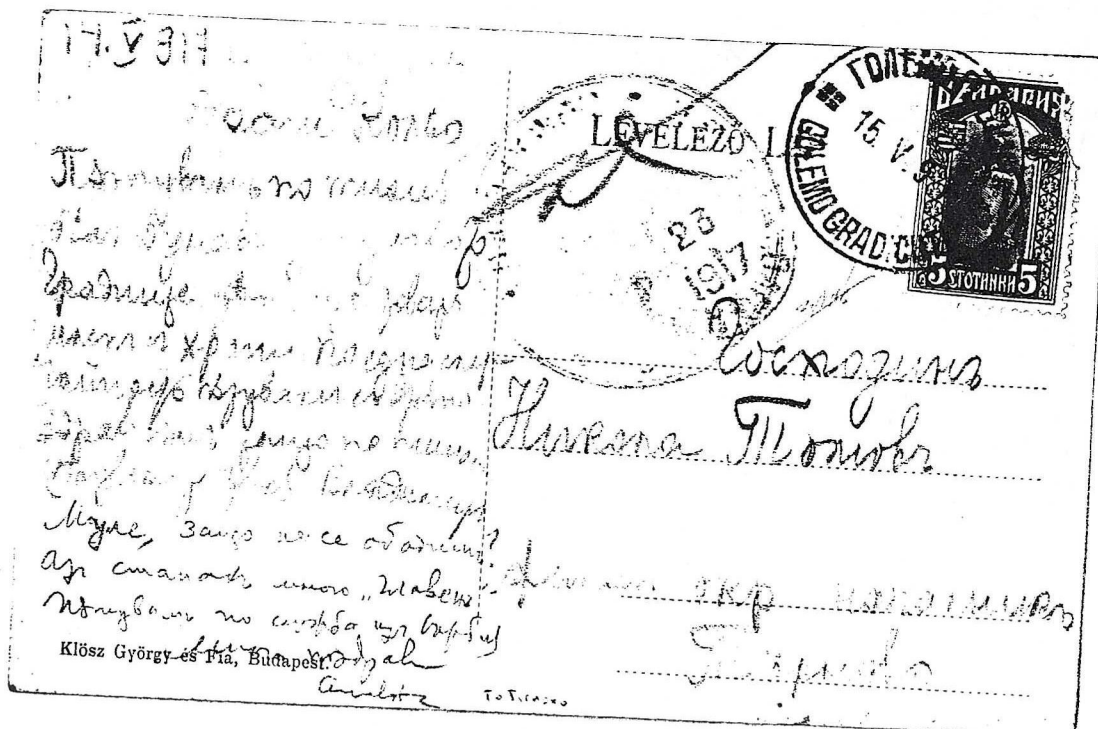




WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Serbia

Golemo Gradichte
15 May 1917

Gradichte
26 August 1918

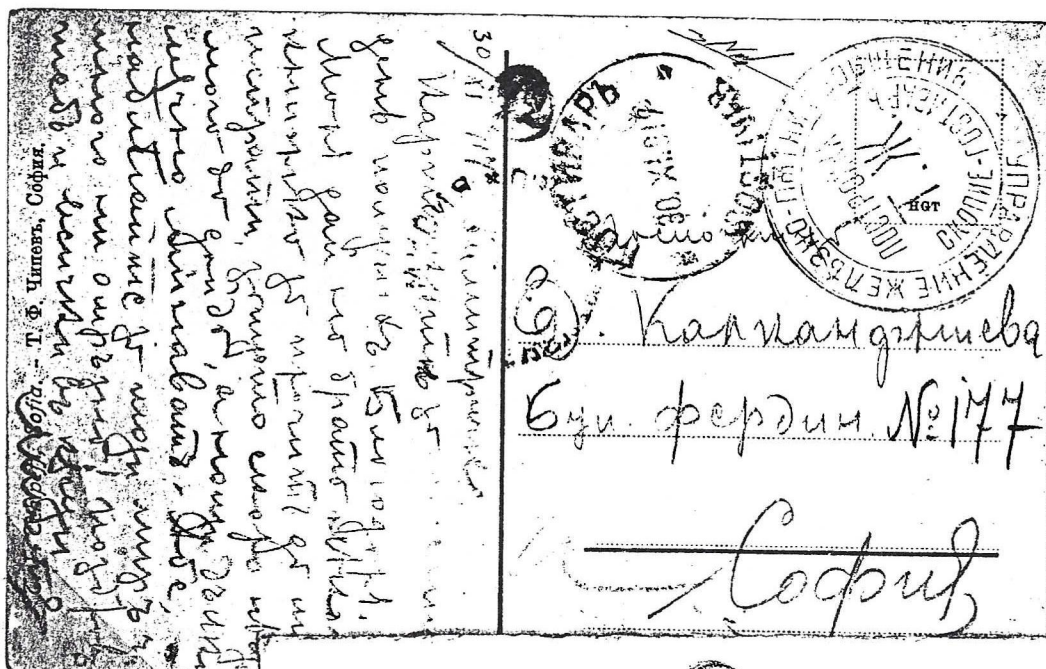


Upper postcard has the normal civil postmark of this occupied town. Lower card mailed from the same place to a Serbian POW held in Austria-Hungary, with censor mark used in lieu of postmark.

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Serbia

Gostivar
 15 May 1917

Goloubetz
 5 June 1918



The registered cover from Golubetz was mailed to Vienna by an Austrian military liaison officer serving with the Bulgarian forces.

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Serbia

Jabare
30 January 1918

Katchanik
3 January 1917

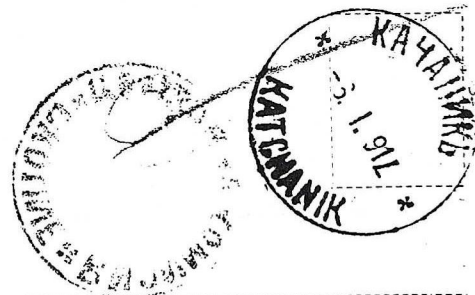
Х. 55
17 4c

До

Р/ Харамлика на Моравската областна
Воевна Инспекција



г.р. Глигор



Kichevo
27 February 1918

[illegible]

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Serbia

Kiupria
18 January 1917

Kniajevetz
10 August 1916

ZUCKERFABRIK UND RAFFINERIE

IN ČUPRIJA



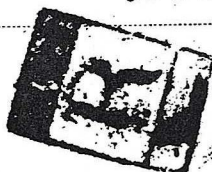
№ 50
10 gr

Markoprij' Pivo

3

Čita peditel, Moldavie

fran



акс. поштом

K 219

1866

P

v

Prate T

Ferdinandova tr. 5. 21.

*Австрија
Остаток - Ватикан
Португалија*

*Почта
улица
улица*



БЪЛГАРИЯ

ПОЩЕНСКА КАРТА



ZENSUR-
ARTEILUNG
OWIE

Arti. Widener

N. 25 499 Kreiger

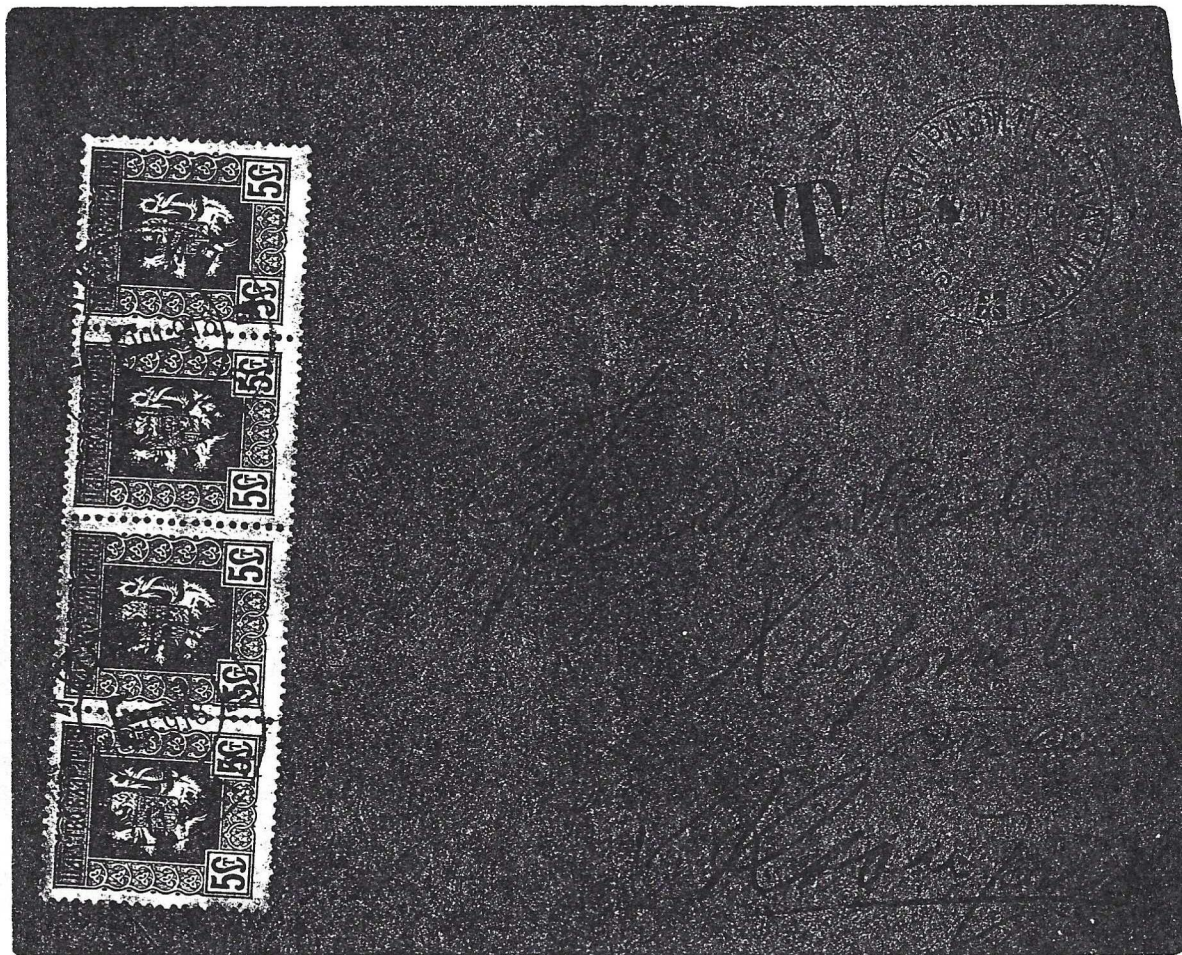
gen. Lager Glanet

Brühnenbahn gebüt

Brüte

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Serbia

Kiupria
25 July 1916



Envelope mailed unfranked from Field Post Office 5 to Kiupria. However, it was assessed double deficiency postage due of 20 stotinki on arrival because of the absence of a military endorsement. The postage due indicated by provisional overprint of "T" on strip of four 5 st. Liberation of Macedonia stamps. A very unusual usage.

15.7.

TARJETA POSTAL
UNION POSTAL UNIVERSAL
MARRUECOS

CORRESPONDENCIA

ПОСЛОДНИЙ КУНЕВЕР

Изъ дохождъ въ нѣмъ
судебнаго въ нѣмъ
мѣстѣ на нѣмъ
привѣтъ. Но нѣмъ
дѣлѣ, но нѣмъ
прѣмъ на нѣмъ
въ нѣмъ. Мнѣ
здѣмъ на нѣмъ
прѣмъ на нѣмъ
Судебнаго привѣтъ

Судебнаго привѣтъ

ПАТОВО
Sello
317

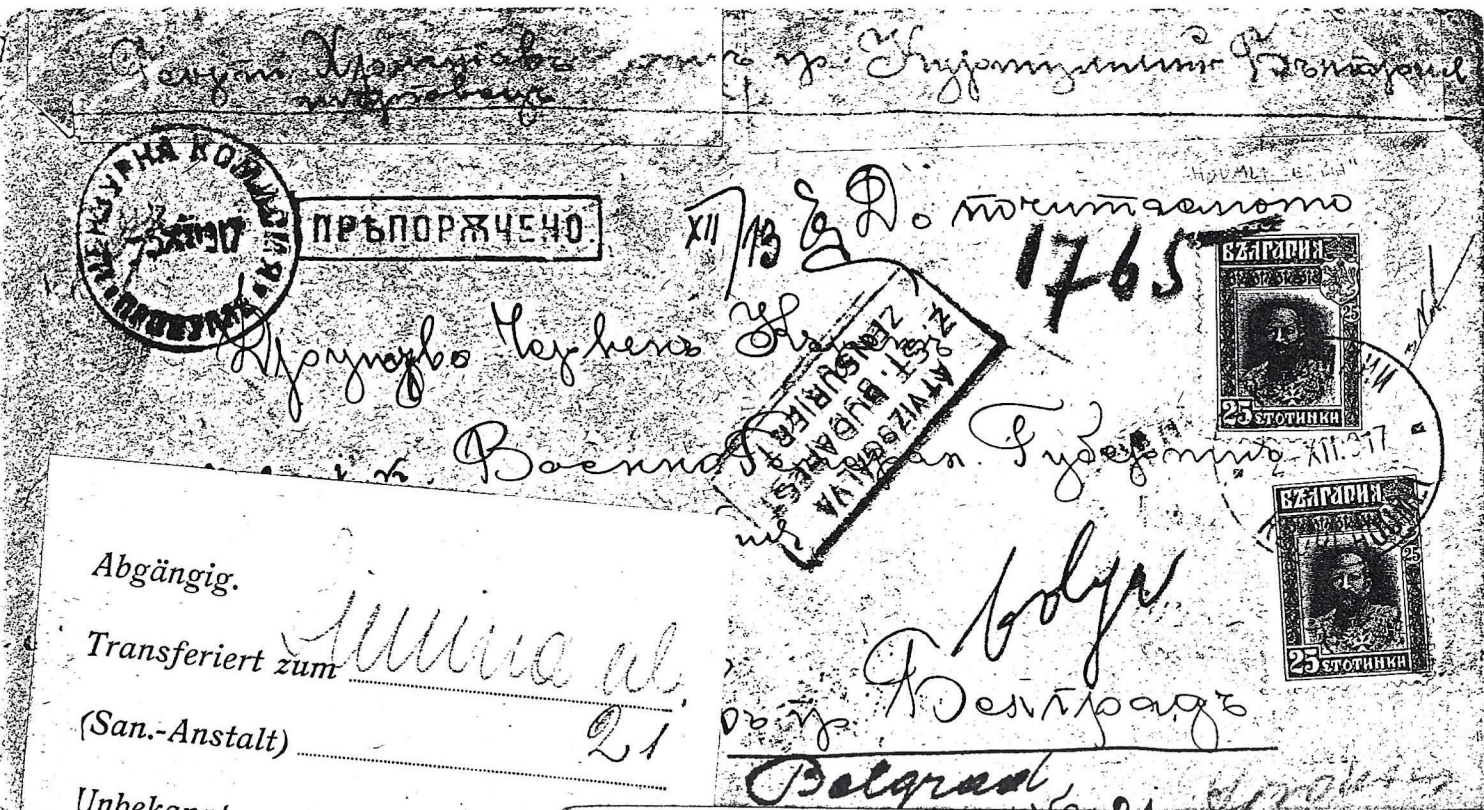
ДИРЕКЦИОН

ПОСЛОДНИЙ

Димитрий Куневъ
окр. управленіе
по нѣмъ

Fotografia Neuer, Tanger, (recolecciones) 17.

Krivolak Gare
11 June 1918



Pichon: Iphigénie.

Криволак. 11 юни 1918 г.

Милостиве и много любезно,
скоро ще ви видя,
всичко ще го дам на вас -
на, много ви благодаря,
ко, всесна.

Тук е.
И Криволак не гана -
ка се и мисля да ви дам.
Тук е, много.

Saion J. P. P.
2089

Криволак
Добре



Г-н. Криволак
Г-н. Криволак
Г-н. Криволак

Г-н. Криволак

J. Plichta, Praha I-321.