

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Romania

Kavarna
8 November 1916

Silistra
19 November 1916

Подателъ № _____
ул. _____



БЪЛГАРИЯ
ПОЩЕНСКА КАРТА



Г-н. Дукелъ
Г-н. Гиневъ

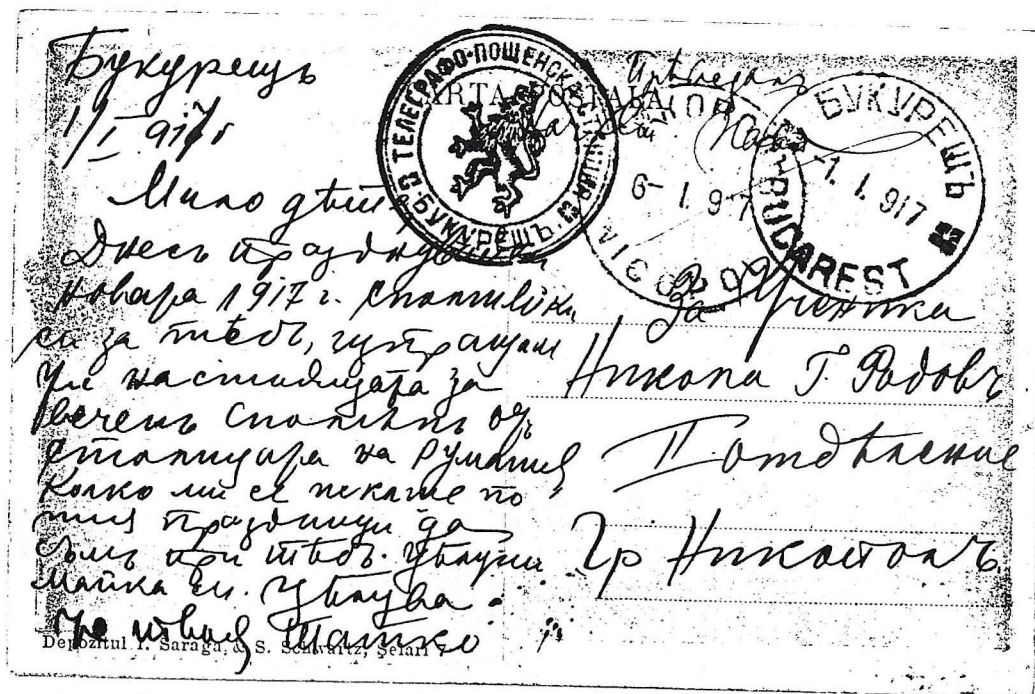
гр. Варна



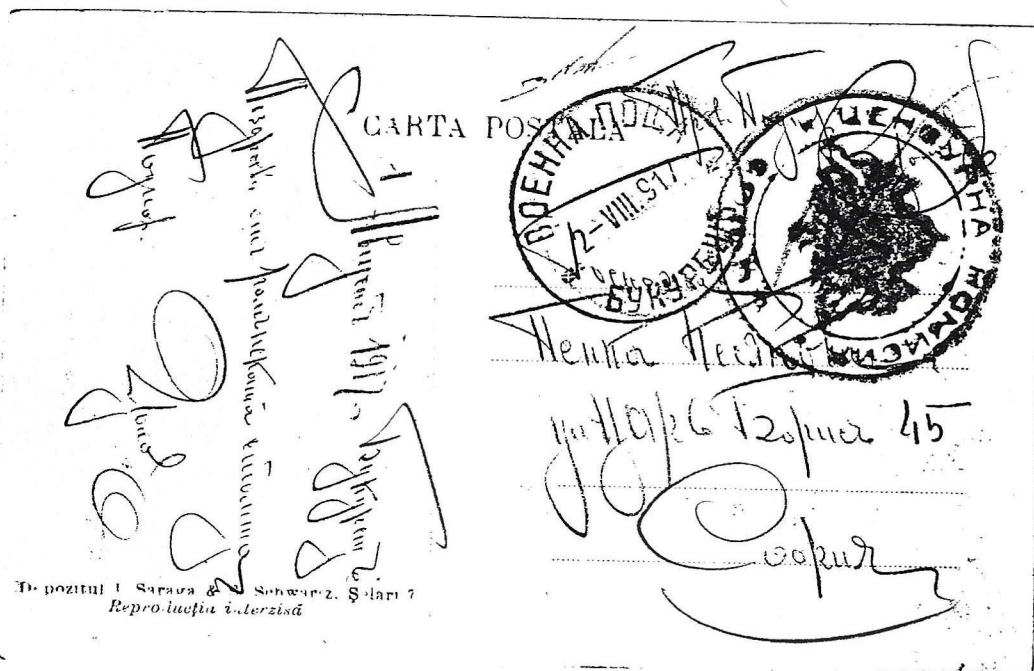
Silistra was the main port of the Southern Dobrudja on the Danube. In addition to its cds, a special circular censor mark was supplied for use there, in this case on a registered cover to Austria.

WORLD WAR I **Occupation of Romania**

The second aspect of the occupation was the establishment of Bulgarian postal services in Romania proper. There were several such offices, mostly concerned with the prompt forwarding of mail from the occupation troops back to Bulgaria. The Bulgarians captured Bucharest, the Romanian capital on 6 December 1916 and established both civil and military offices, which remained in service until the end of the war.



Bucarest
 1 January 1917
 2 August 1917



Upper postcard shows use of the bilingual Cyrillic/French civil postmark for Bucharest as well as purple cachet of the "Telegraph-Postal Station/Bucharest." Lower card shows all-Cyrillic postmark of the fieldpost office, with red censor marking applied on arrival at Sofia.

43320

Главна Телеграфо-Пощенска Дирекция.

Изпълва вложителът

Изпълва чиновникът

Пощенски запис № 43320

Издаденъ въ гр. 2.XII.1917

на 80 л.

Подписъ на чиновника:

Клеймо
изпр.
писм. 40

Стойность на записа
(съ цифри)

	лева	ст.
Злато . . .	80	—
Сребро . . .		
Размѣни . .	80	
Всичко .		

Г. Ковчеджика на 53 л. внесе (словомъ) лева осънде
за Г. Обучински Киселъ въ а. Сириници (Радомир)
ска окопъ
въ гр. Радомир ул. или село.

In addition to the normal civil and military postmarks, a special all-Cyrillic marking was provided for money order business at Bucharest. Example shown above on a form transferring 80 leva to Radomir. Very unusual.

WORLD WAR I

Occupation of Romania

Braila
24 August 1917

Fitechti
30 May 1917



In addition to Bucharest, several other offices were opened in Romania proper. One of the most important was at Braila, located on the northernmost part of the Danube, before the river turns east to the Black Sea. Fetesti is in Southern Romania, about 100 miles east of Bucharest.

**WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Romania**

Giurgiu
1 April 1917

Kalarasche
22 June 1917



Madame
Marie Wautschewa
Tontschalarowa
Rue "Glaston"

Sofia



Giurgiu is a major river port located just across the Danube from the Bulgarian city of Roustchouk (Ruse). Note that this philatelically-inspired cover is franked with the complete set of four values of the Bulgarian definitive series that were overprinted "Posts in Romania/1916-1917." Censor marking of Ruse in green.

WORLD WAR I Occupation of Romania

The third aspect of the occupation was the assignment of the administration of the Northern Dobrudja to Bulgaria. This large territory consisted of the entire area of Romania lying to the east of the Danube River. Although not actually annexed to the Bulgarian kingdom, postal services were provided for both civil and military users in the major towns in the area until the end of the war.

Babadag
1 June 1918

Hirsovo
6 February 1917

Главна Телеграфо-Пощенска Секция.

7682- Мѣсто Пощенск

ПОЩЕНСКИ ЗАПИСЪ № 62 Л. 1 СТ.

Г. Шригорюков внесе (словомъ) лева шестъ-
десетъ и два лева
за Г-ца Н. Антонова

въ гр. Варна ул. или село Антипи I № 3

ПОЩЕНСКИ ЗАПИСЪ № 7682

Издаденъ въ гр. Бабадаг 1- VI. 1918

Подпись на чиновника:

Стойность на записъ (съ цифри)	
лева	ст.
Злато . . .	
Сребро . . .	62
Размѣни . . .	
Всичко . . .	62

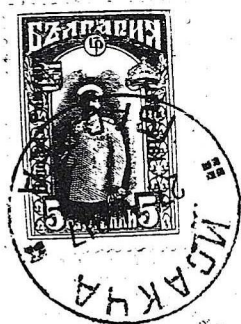
Стереот. — 2002—1917

Bilingual Babadag cds used on a money order form to send 62 leva to Varna.

**WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Romania**

Isaccea
27 May 1917

Kara-Omer
22 June 1917



Isaccea
27.5.17

Madame

Lionna Th. Gutschewski



Клара
Виктора Гутчевски
Виларска манастир
Турк

Postmarks of two additional small towns in the Northern Dobrudja. Examples of these are very difficult to find, even on philatelically-inspired covers.

WORLD WAR I

Occupation of Romania

Koustendja
13 November 1917
17 August 1918



Koustendja (Constanta) is Romania's major shipping port on the Black Sea. Postcard has military unit cachet in purple and censor marking in red. Inbound cover mailed unfranked from Sofia. On arrival, five of the 1 stotinka overprinted stamps were applied and handstamped with a "T" in a circle to indicate postage due. In addition, it can be noted that the cds of Koustendja is in error, with "H" being included instead of the proper "N."

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Romania

Koustendja
25 November 1916
5 January 1917

Expediția de
No.
CARTĂ POSTALĂ

Notițe de Corespondență:

Parte rezervată adresei:

Draga Kallinka
omul ioreny svuy
mury i zryre
sh zrybavay
za v sm zlyushay
stany sh zryre
Kusma om moye
moye Kallinka

Kallinka P. Trozreva
ul. Kirovskaya
ul. Kirovskaya



ВОЕННА
ПОЩЕНСКА КАРТА

Освобождана
се отъ
пощенска
такса

Поща
ул. Кирова

Всичко

ОБЩА

Да се пишатъ само частна
работи. Картата ще бъде
унищожена, ако съдържа
военни новини.

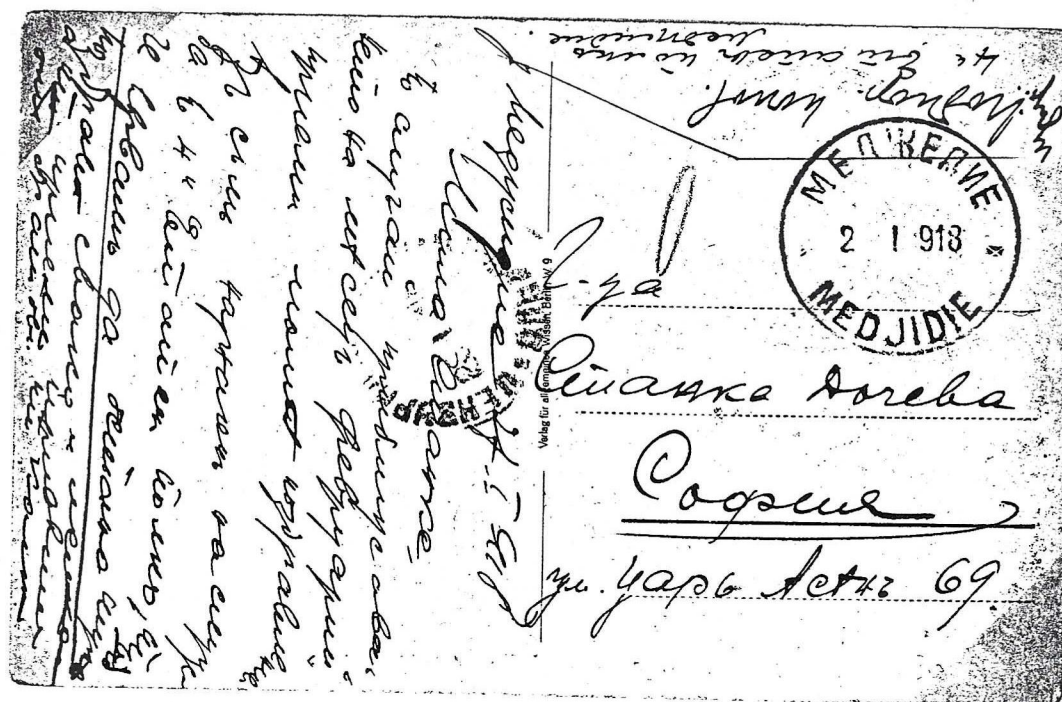
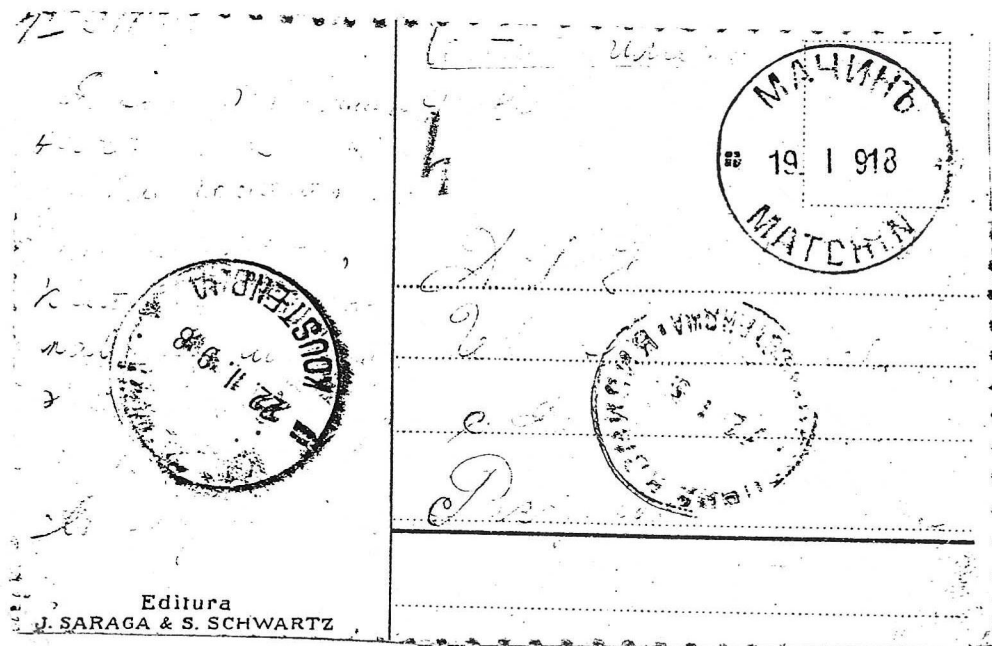
гр. или село

Because of its economic and political importance as the capital of the Dobrudja, Koustendja received considerable attention from the Bulgarians. This meant providing a larger variety of cachets, which were used either in conjunction with or in lieu of postal markings. Those shown above are unusual examples.

WORLD WAR I
Occupation of Romania

Matchin
19 January 1918

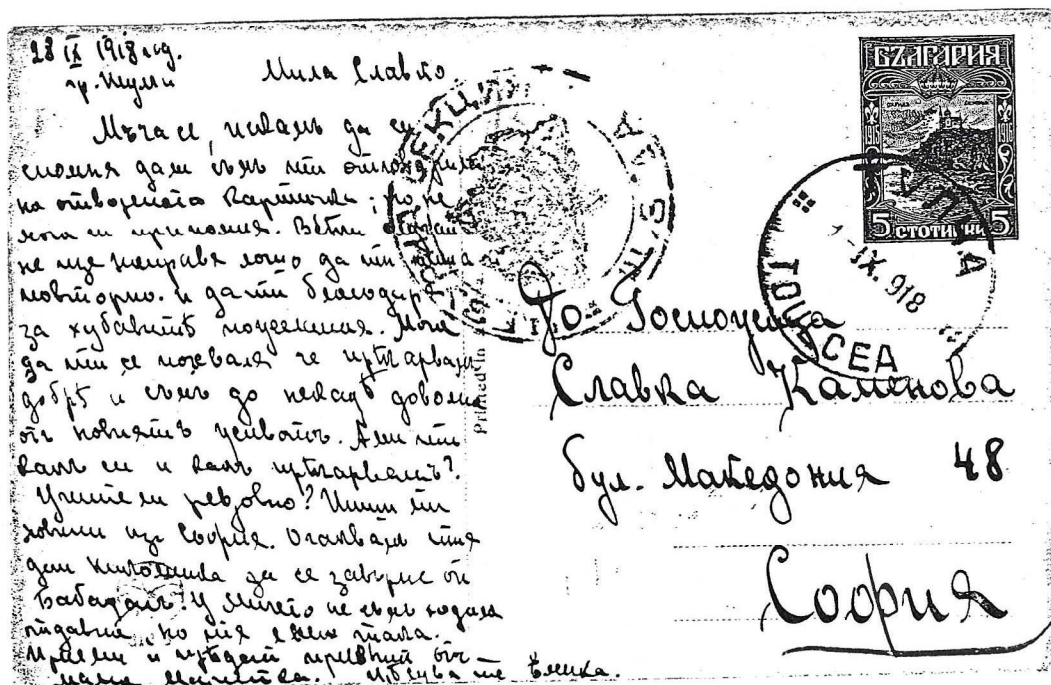
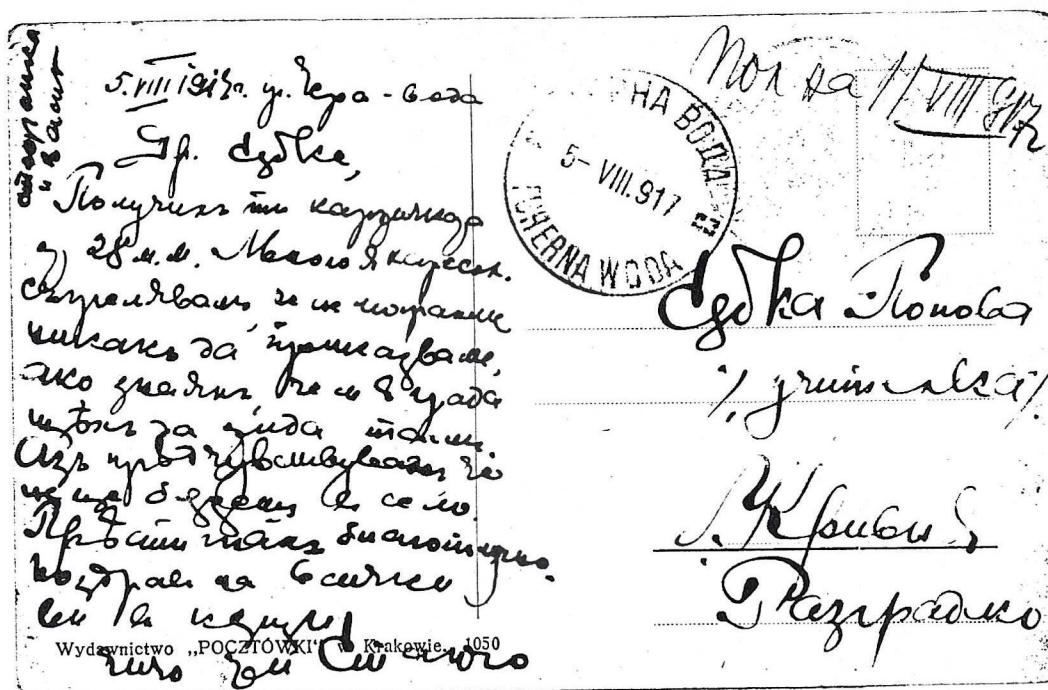
Medjidie
2 January 1918



Matchin (Macin) and Medjidie (Medgidia) were small towns but nevertheless received new Bulgarian bilingual postmarks during the occupation periods. Examples of both are scarce.

Tcherna Woda
5 August 1917

Toulcea
1 September 1918



The last two towns (alphabetically) in Northern Dobrudja for which Bulgarian postmarks are shown are Tcherna Woda (Cernavoda) and Toulcea (Tulcea). Examples of their markings are very difficult to find.

**WORLD WAR I
Special Patriotic Postcards**

Gumurdjina
26 November 1916

Skopje
29 October 1917

Philippople
30 November 1916

Balkanansichtskarten des Kolonial-
Kriegerdank E. V. + Berlin W. 35



Печатно произведение.



Eberhard Galen

The subjects on the cards shown are German Field Marshal Mackensen (commander of operations in the Balkans), General Schekoff (commander of the Bulgarian Army), and the music of the "Schumi Maritza" (the Bulgarian national anthem).

Balkanansichtskarten des Kolonial-
Kriegerdank E. V. + Berlin W. 35



General S
Oberbefehlshaber der I

Willy Moralt:

Печатно произведение:



Herru

Balkanansichtskarten des Kolonial-
Kriegerdank E. V. + Berlin W. 35

Шуми Марица. Schumi Maritza.
Български народен химнъ Българische Hymne.



Willy Moralt: Philippopel



*F. 76.
Fräulein
Johanna Windlanot
Cecilienstr 15
Lehlendorf 7000
Hannover bahn, Германия.*

As a fund raiser for the Red Cross, a German organization created a set of patriotic postcards (six for Bulgaria and six for Turkey) in honor of its Balkan allies. The purchasers in Germany added their addresses, and the cards were shipped to the Balkans to have them franked, postmarked and mailed. The Bulgarians even issued a special 3 stotinki overprint on 9 March 1916 for use on these cards. As shown, some were used in the occupied territory.

WORLD WAR I
Special Patriotic Postcards

Sofia
26 November 1916

Skopie
25 November 1916
29 November 1916

Balkanansichtskarten des Kolonial-
Kriegerdank E. V. • Berlin W. 35



Печатно произведение



J. H.

Herrn

Herrn Radoslawoff

The subjects on the cards shown here are German General von Gallwitz, a Bulgarian General and Dr. Radoslawoff, the Prime Minister of Bulgaria.

Balkanansichtskarten des Kolonial-
Kriegerdank E. V. • Berlin W. 35



Печатно произведение



J. H.

Herrn

Director a D. Carl Schreiber

Balkanansichtskarten des Kolonial-
Kriegerdank E. V. • Berlin W. 35



Prof. Michailoff

Печатно произведение.



Herrn Oberleutnant

P. Schmidt

Freskowatz. 1. 1916

Herrn dorf in Berlin

Willy Moralt: Kathedrale in Sofia

Германия.

Above are examples of the other three patriotic postcards sold by the Kolonialkriegerdank E.V. to benefit the Red Cross. These are also franked with the special 3 stotinki overprints that was issued just for use on these cards.

WORLD WAR I

The Bulgarians celebrated the Liberation of Macedonia by issuing a number of commemorative stamps, although these do not seem to have been widely used, especially in the occupied territory. In total, nine stamps were issued during the period of the occupation, the initial set of six on 14 July 1917. Six more were released in the postwar period (but valid only for internal postage). Two additional designs were prepared but not issued.

Sophia
7 October 1917

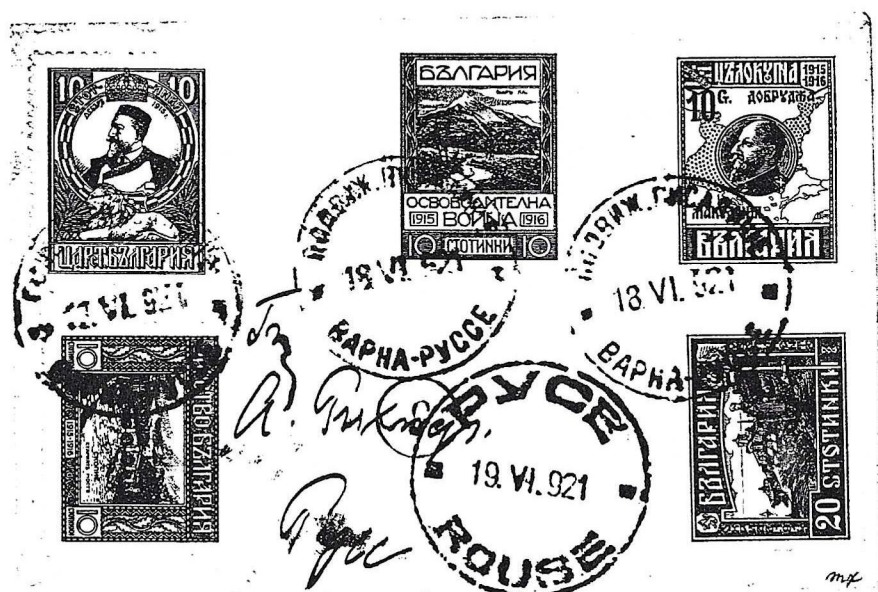
Choumen
10 June 1919



Covers shown above are franked with eight different Liberation stamps, albeit the upper example is strictly a CTO product with the 2 leva orange value (not issued until 1919) added and backdated to 1917 to complete the set.

WORLD WAR I

TPO Varna - Rouse
18 June 1921



Small envelope with CTO examples of a Liberation set prepared for issue in 1918 but not sold until 11 June 1921. The designs were not politically correct, especially the 10 st. with (the late) King Ferdinand and a map of enlarged Bulgaria as of 1916, which included the Dobrudja and the occupied Greek and Serbian areas. Thus, they were not valid for use on international mail. The 50 stotinki and 1 lev stamps for this set were prepared but never issued.

Sofia
31 December 1926

SOUS-COMMISSION
D'EMIGRATION GRECO-BULGARE
EN BULGARIE

Recommandée



Madame Emma Huguenin

Impasse des Hirondelles 6

La Chaux-de-Fonds

Suisse



N°

In order to try to reduce future conflict in the Balkans, the Allies encouraged population exchanges so that people of the same ethnicity would live in the new borders of their own state to the extent possible. As an example of this effort, the corner card of this cover indicates that it was sent by the "Sub-Commission for Greek-Bulgarian Emigration in Bulgaria." Unfortunately, this didn't work.