

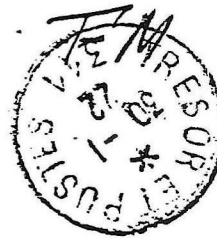
FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Poland

Tresor et Postes 311
30 January 1922

Warszawa
14 August 1923

MISSION MILITAIRE FRANÇAISE
EN POLOGNE

AÉRONAUTIQUE



Monsieur M. Jecqueux
La Rouhere

Par avion Varsovie-Paris

Off. Adm. 1ère cl.-sup.
Mission militaire française
Paris



Perçu free mks. 3000

Par avion

France

Monsieur R. Francois

44 Boulevard Duano
Paris 18e

Expres

The French Aviation Mission remained in Poland well after the end of the border hostilities. Lower cover was mailed by an officer in Warsaw after the closing of the French field post, thus utilizing the Polish postal system.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Lithuania

Mission Militaire Francaise en Lituanie
June 1920

6. Bouché
TSF
Kaunas
Lithuanie



Mado -

Lourire -

26 rue Cambou

Paris 1^{re}

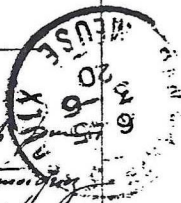
France.

L 27-4-20

Chère Henriette

Je vous remercie beaucoup
des souhaits que vous me témoignez
et c'est très gentil de votre part.
J'espère que vous êtes tous 3 bonne
santé. Il fait un peu froid ici et le
travail est très - Pourquoi n'avez-vous
pas ?

Où, sans doute - Que devrais-je dire moi !!
Où, gentille amie, que votre souvenir
égaye la maison et que vos joies soient
meubles des vôtres vous êtes contente
No. 132
Je vous embrasse un gros baiser et accepte-vous !!
Avec toute tendresse

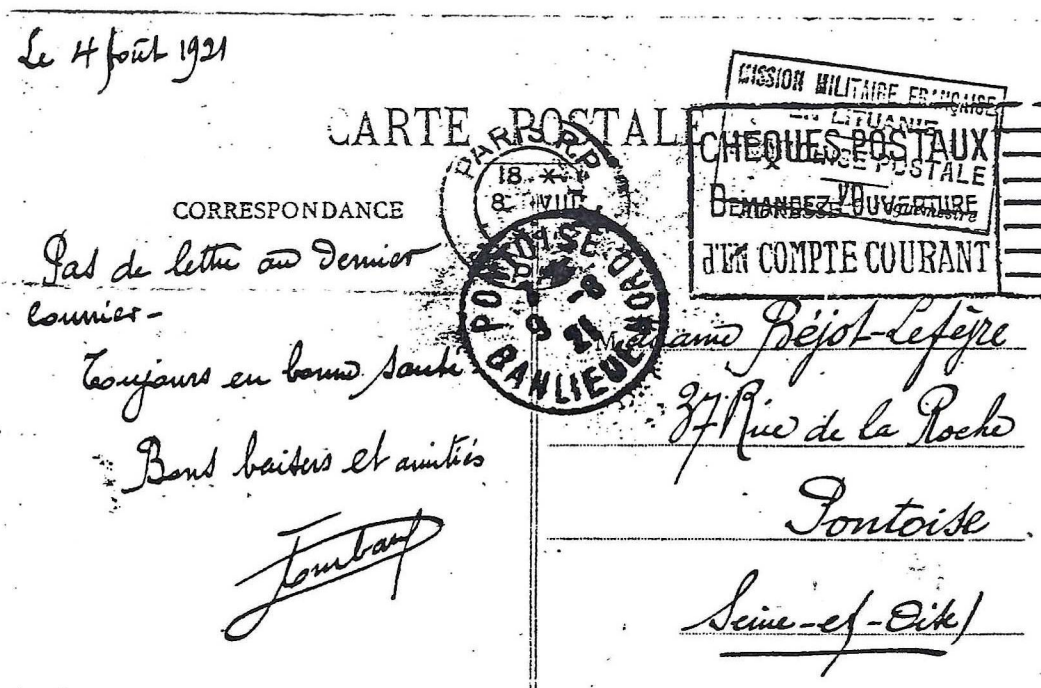
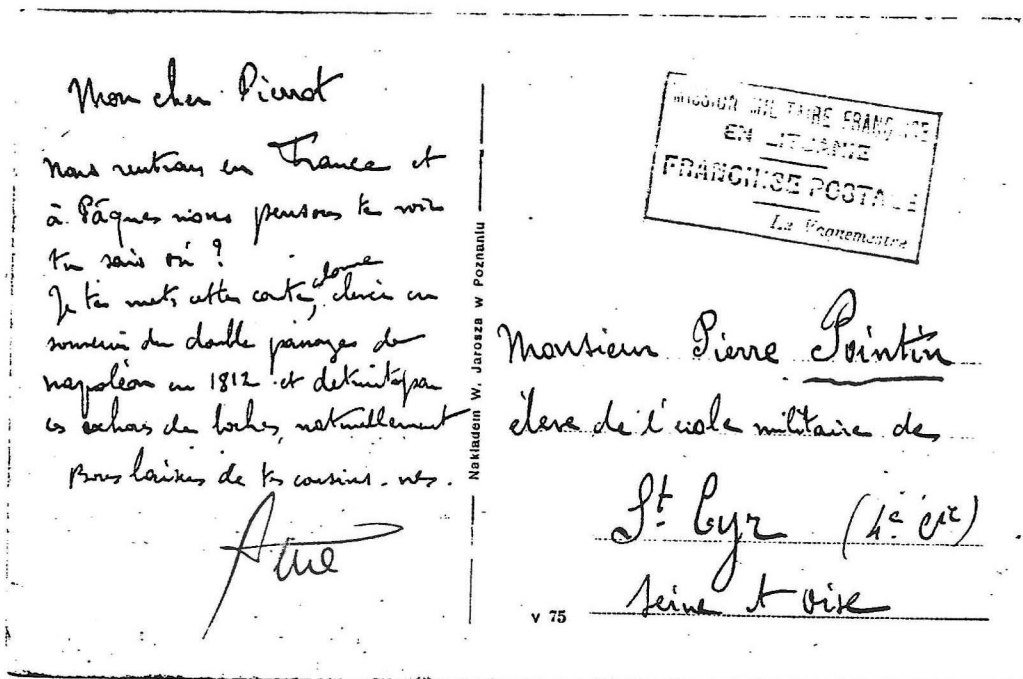


Mlle Henriette Odestainville

quai de Commerce 1. Saub

Meuse.

Cover and picture post card showing two different types of cachets of the Military Mission, which was located at Kaunas. Sent by military pouch to Paris.



Picture post cards of Kaunas and Paris showing use of later rectangular style of Military Mission marking. Sent by military pouch to Paris.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Latvia

Commission Interalliee
des Regions Baltiques

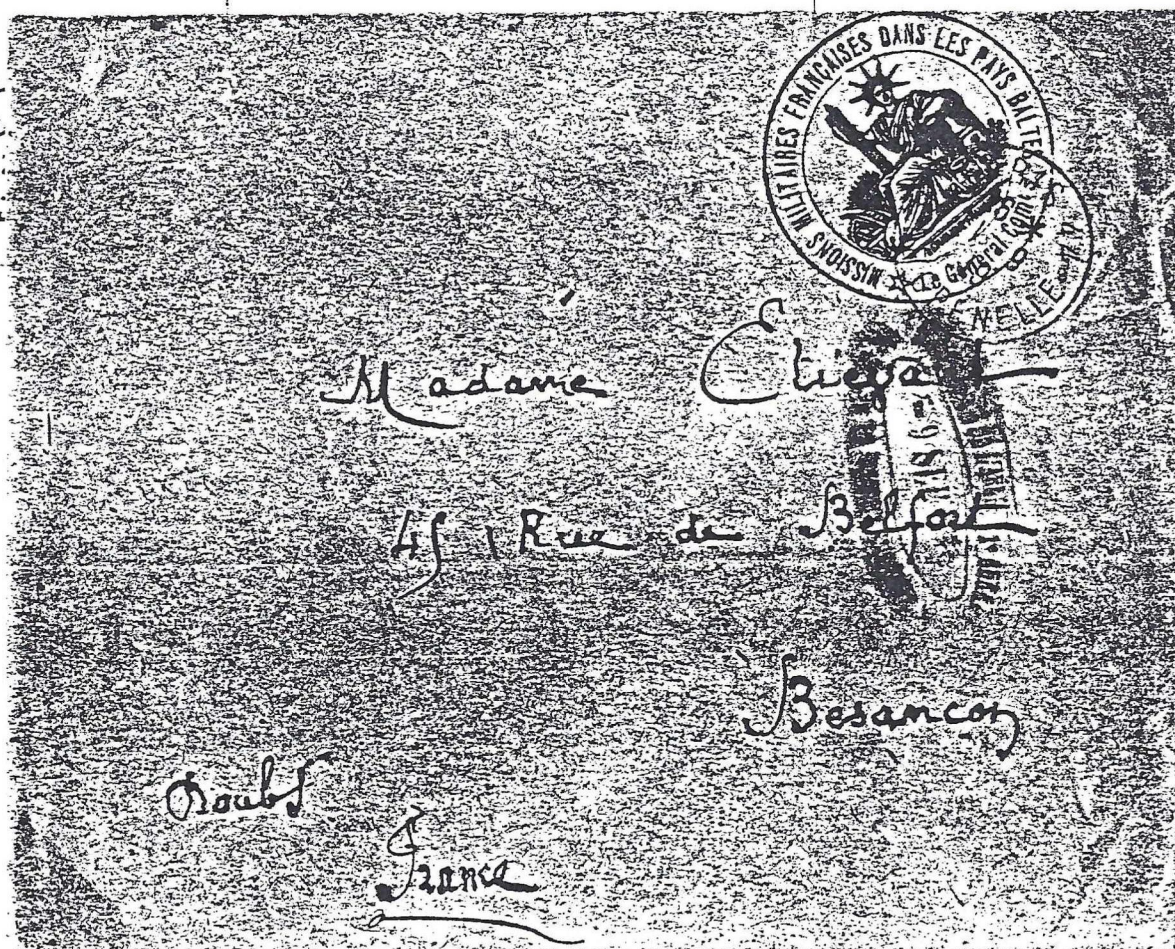
Missions Militaires Francaises
dans les Pays Baltes
September 1919

Chavli 22

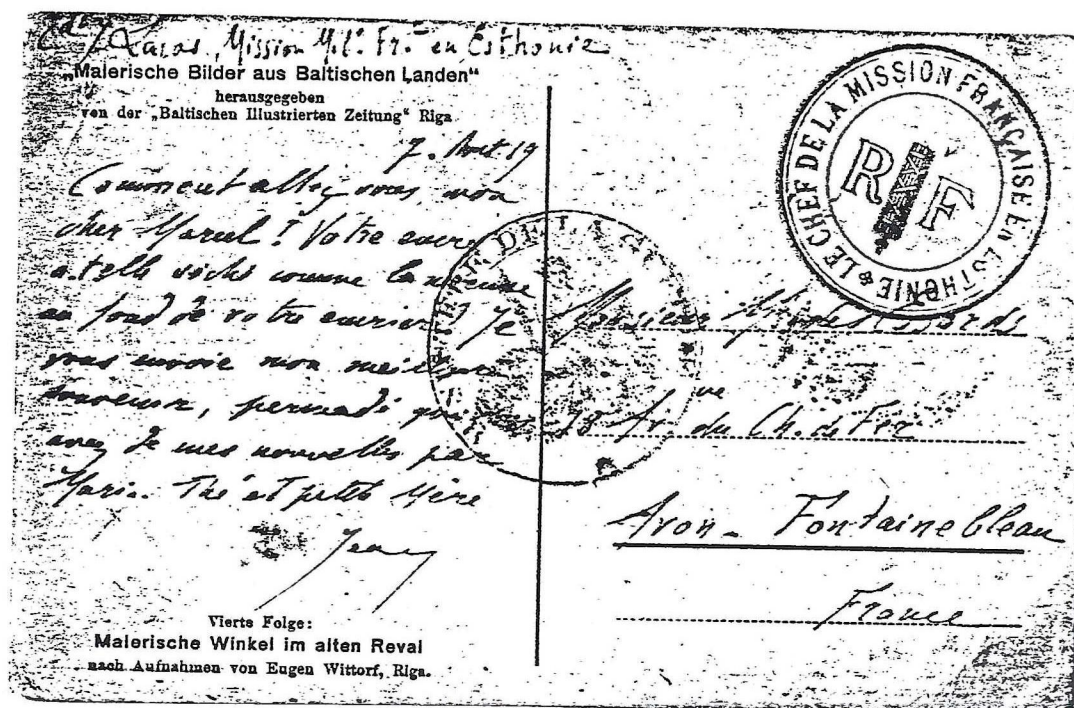
25 Martin P.
Min. St. Ind.

Madame E. Martin Prével
28 rue d'Asses

Bonne au
maman. J.
de retour.
Ton vilain



An Inter-Allied Baltic Commission was established to support the newly independent republics in the area. The above picture post card of Riga was sent postage free to Paris.



Picture post card of Tallinn sent from a member of the French Military Mission in Estonia. There was no field post service from the Baltic region, so transmission was by military pouch to Paris as attested by the cachet of the Ministry of War.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Finland

Helsinki
9 April 1923



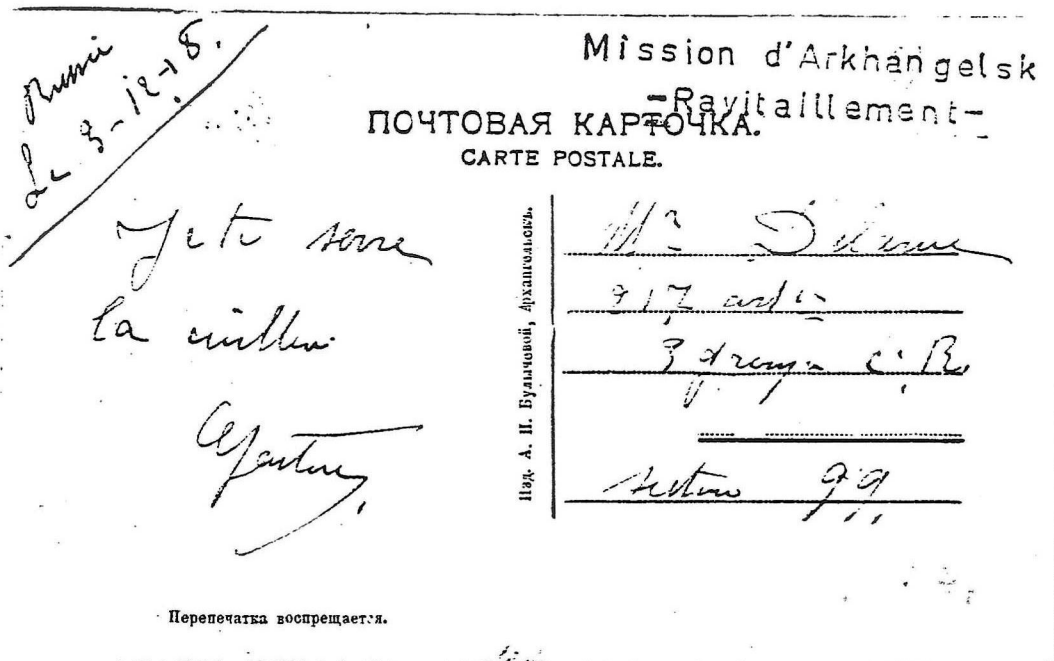
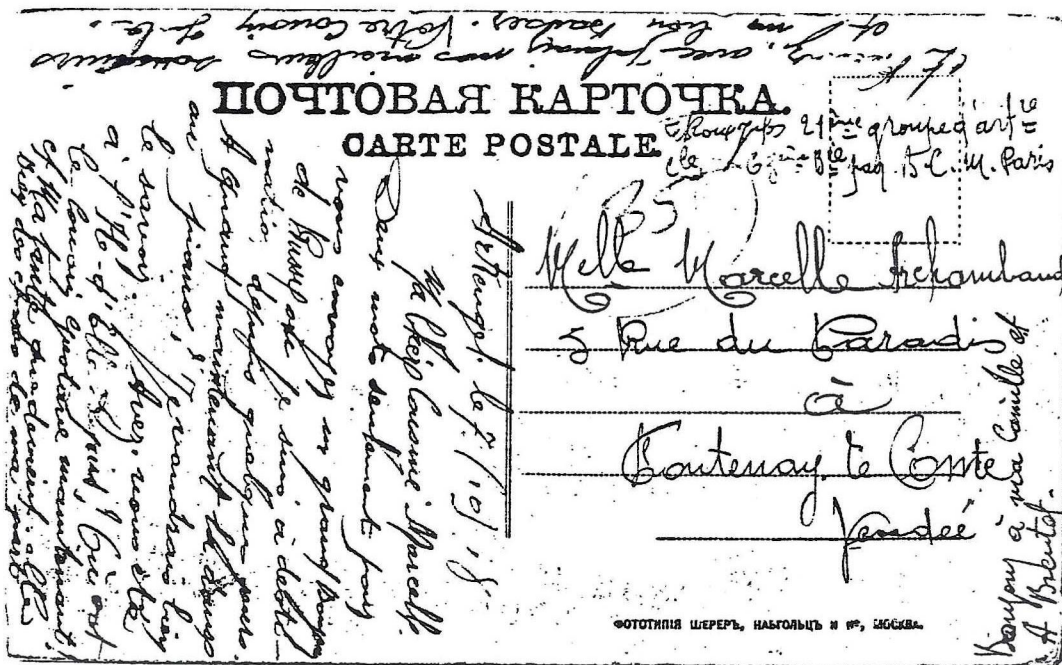
Cover from the French Naval Mission in Finland sent to the Chief Commissioner of the Naval Administrative Center in Paris.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD

North Russia

Archangel
7 October 1918

Mission d'Arkhangelsk
3 December 1918



Archangel was the main port for the transfer of war materiel from the Allies to Russia during World War I. After Lenin signed an armistice with the Central Powers, preventing these supplies from falling into German hands was a principal factor in the French decision to intervene in North Russia. In July 1918, the 21st Infantry Battalion (600 men) plus a small force of Marines were landed at Murmansk. Most of these troops were transferred to Archangel in August. Unlike that of the Americans in North Russia, the French mail did not go through the British field post offices but generally traveled by military pouch to Paris.

The French maintained a small flotilla in North Russia during the intervention, made up mainly of small vessels such as minesweepers and dispatch boats. The *Gueydon* and *Conde* were old protected cruisers with crews of approximately 600. During this period, French warships did not have on-board postmarks, but sailors were entitled to the free frank if they used the French naval postal facilities.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
North Russia

Mer Blanche/Mikula
29 May 1919

2 MAI 1919 (nits)

mention dans le genre de celle ci :

Mlle E. A. Medvedev. Naval Board

24 MAI 1919

n. 18.

Mer Blanche -
Mikula -

Chers parents,

Nous sommes partis ce matin de Mourmansk pour
Cherbourg.

De Mourm.

M. A. Medvedev

car elle a

46 - Hotel Mourmansk

29 MAI 1919

Cherbourg. 19 juin

Monsieur et Madame Lelacov
Compagnie en chef de la Marine

Rue Beauregard

Cherbourg

M. A. Medvedev

FRANCE



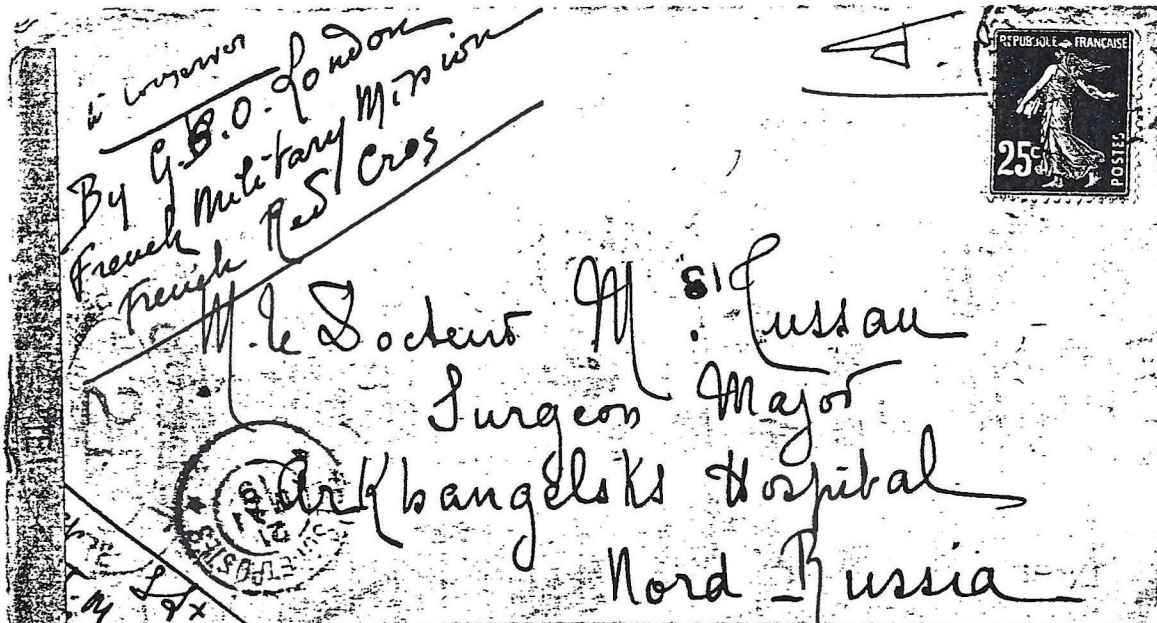
Many Russian sailors in North Russia were Bolshevik sympathizers, so the Allies seized a number of Russian warships. The *Mikula Saninovich* was one of two Russian icebreakers to receive a French crew after it was taken over. Manuscript endorsement indicates the origin of the cover as being from the *Mikula* at Murmansk in the White Sea.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
North Russia

P. B. 2
21 June 1919

Archangel
4 August 1919

Inbound Mail



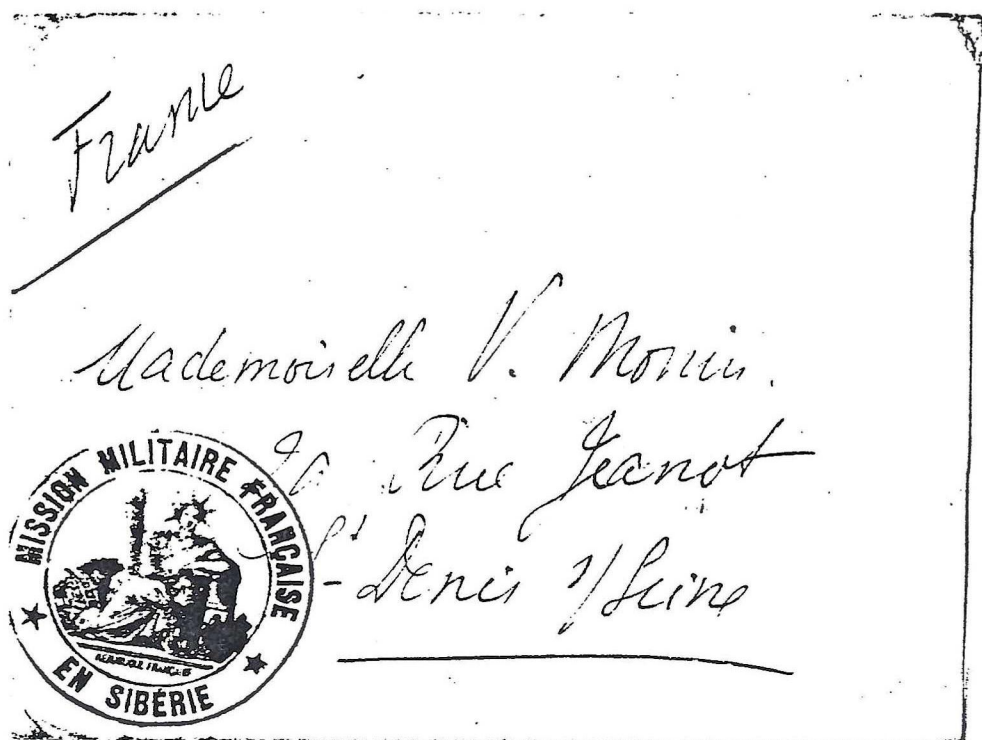
BASE CENSOR NO. 3.



The absence of French field post facilities meant that incoming mail to the troops was not entitled to free postage, but had to be franked at international rates (i.e. a 25 centime letter rate plus 15 cent. for the registry fee) as it was addressed to a foreign country. The upper cover was censored before leaving France, while the lower example was censored at the Base Post Office for North Russia in Liverpool.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Siberia

Mission Militaire Francaise en Siberie
January 1919



In late July 1918, France dispatched a military mission to Siberia. Its commander, General Janin, was designated to take command of all of the Allied troops in the region. However, this proved to be a military and diplomatic disaster as General Janin initially had no combat troops of his own, and each of the other Allies had their own military and political agendas. Above cover sent by a Lt. Colonel on the General's headquarters staff.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Siberia

Corr. d'Armee/Shanghai
6 October 1918
21 August 1919

Expoit de l'Arm. S. au 16^e Colonial 1^{er} C^o Bataillon Siberien
Forces Francaises, Siberie

Tientsin-Chine
1 December 1919

Cette



Monsieur Ossant

Cladivostok, le 11-12-1919.

CARTE POSTALE

Chère Mathilde
Tout de même j'ai reçu
une de tes lettres, et suis tout
heureux de vous savoir en
bonne santé.

Postkarte - Cartolina Postale - Post Card
ОТКРЫТОЕ ПИСЬМО



Mlle Mathilde Paris

France

Monsieur Emile Tropicier

Négociant en Vins

à Tonnas



Recher
sin (vins)
France

60
102.⁰⁰
52
4.9
4.68
98.5

(Air)

Desrousseaux states that at first mail from French troops in Siberia was sent via the French post offices in China. As can be seen above, this practice continued for some mail (probably based on destination) well into the intervention period. Mail so postmarked as been recorded addressed to China, Indochina and France.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Siberia

Batallon Colonial Siberien
24 April 1919
15 November 1919

Artillerie Coloniale/
Batterie Siberienne
1 August 1919

Expéditeur: Sargent Léon Walch. Batⁿ Col^{le} Siberien.
Chelyabinsk, ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА
le 24 avril 1919.

Monsieur Léon Walch
Maison J. Walchmann & Co
2038 Tanking Road

BATAILLON COLONIAL SIBERIEN
LE COMMANDANT

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
CARTE POSTALE
Harbine 15/XI-19.

BATAILLON COLONIAL SIBERIEN
LE COMMANDANT

195. rue de l'Industrie
Jenneppe Immeuble
Pochique.

Expéditeur: Sargent Léon Walch. Batⁿ Col^{le} Siberien.
Chelyabinsk, ПОЧТОВАЯ КАРТОЧКА
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le 24 avril 1919.

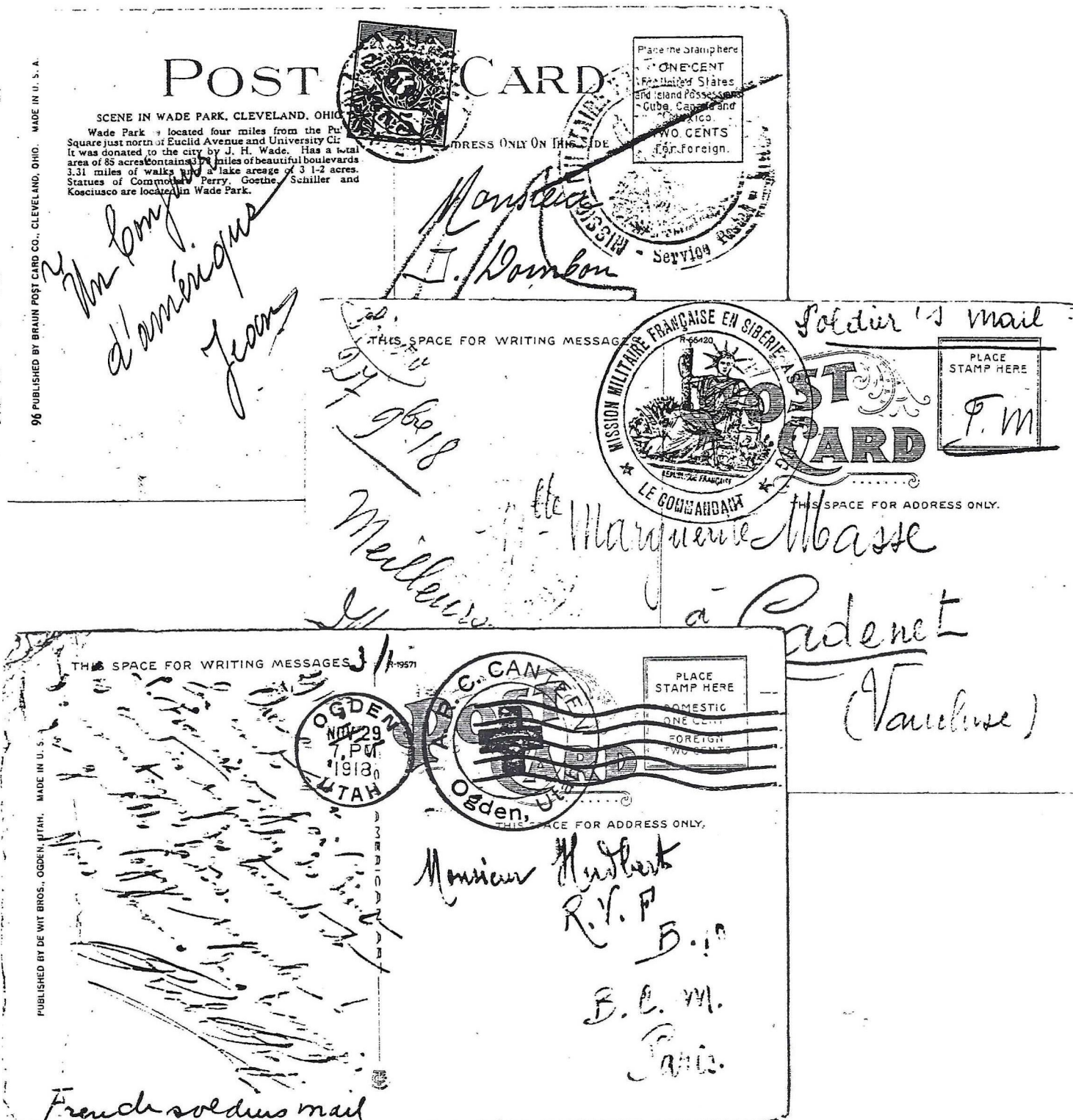
Monsieur Léon Walch
Maison J. Walchmann & Co
2038 Tanking Road

BATAILLON COLONIAL SIBERIEN
LE COMMANDANT

The principal combat unit supplied to General Janin -- not later than October 1918 -- was a battalion of Tonkinese troops. Mail from this unit is found with "Colonial" unit cachets as above. Note the manuscript datelines of Chelyabinsk, Harbin and Krasnoyarsk.

**FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Siberia**

Mission Militaire Francaise en Siberie
November 1918



Military personnel from France were sent to Siberia via the United States. The first recorded mail from these troops in transit is from Chicago in September 1918, and additional examples from interior locations are recorded through November. This mail was entitled to free postage back to France if properly endorsed (although subject to postage due if sent to a foreign destination, e.g. Switzerland above).

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Siberia

Mission Militaire Francaise en Siberie
December 1918
February 1919

M. Yarnie. Constructeur. Parc 407 Aviation Française en Siberie par 1019

Chien loir de la France, je vous envoie un bonjour d'hiver avec mes choses à vous. Mlle L. Lagarde

1-12-18.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
DEC 3 6:00 PM 1918

Post Card

Mlle L. Lagarde
54 Avenue Victor Hugo

AVIATION

The Fine Arts Palace. — Erected as part of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, was designed by R. B. Maybeck, and called forth more eulogiums than any other individual building in the Exposition. The building is the arc of a circle in form and its outer circumference measures 1190 feet. The Rotunda, surmounted by a dome 162 feet high and 116 feet in diameter, stands within a small lake, which mirrors its classic outlines. In response to an unanimous public demand this splendid building was retained permanently by the city.

*Mon cher Marin
Receis mes meilleurs
souhaites de l'*

POST CARD

ADDRESS

*Monsieur Bremond
Salins d'Hyères
(Var)
(ee)*

MISSION MILITAIRE FRANCAISE EN SIBIRIE

French Soldier's Mail

**NATIONAL DEFENDERS CLUB
OF THE PRESIDIO
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

1224 LOMBARD ST.

*Monsieur Lefebvre
à Mont-Louis
France*

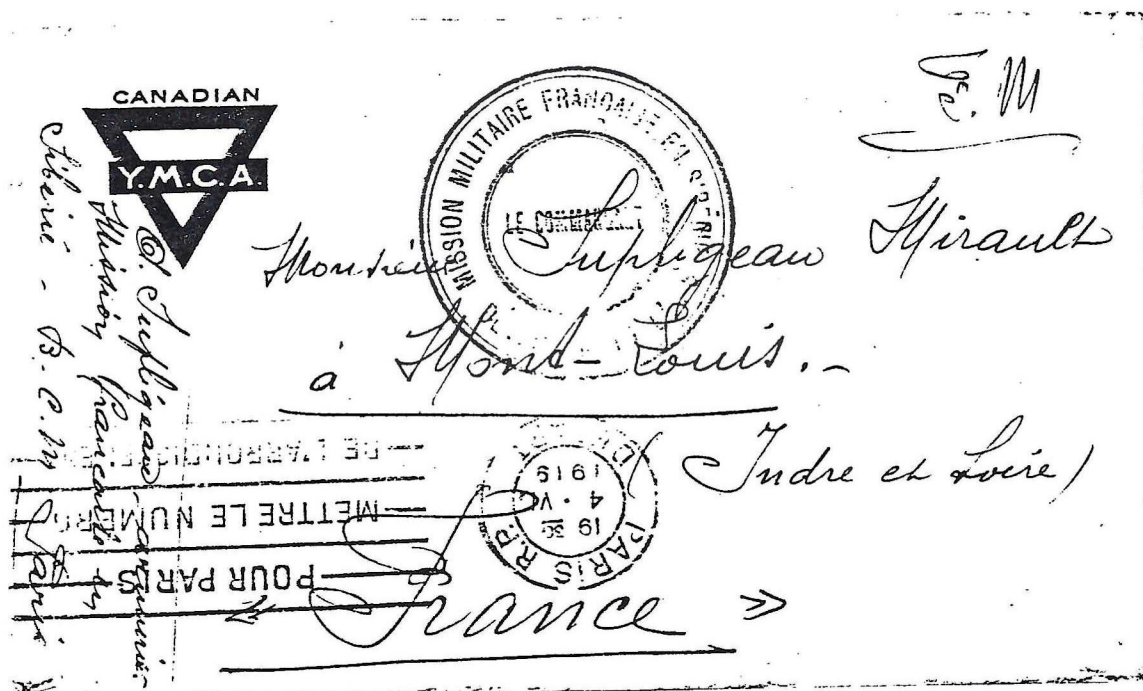
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
FEB 1 2 PM 1919

MISSION MILITAIRE FRANCAISE EN SIBIRIE

Additional mail from the French troops in transit through San Francisco is recorded from December 1918 through February 1919. All of the recorded usages of the "Parc d'Aviation" and "Aeronautique" handstamps are from December 1918, suggesting that those units shipped through San Francisco in that month.

FRENCH FORCES ABROAD
Siberia

Mission Militaire Francaise en Siberie
May 1919



The French stationed postal units along the Union Pacific Railroad to handle mail from the troops in Siberia. From the lack of postal markings (other than French arrival postmarks) it appears that the mail processed by these units was sent onward in sealed bags. Mail to destinations outside France is very scarce; it was franked with U.S. stamps on arrival in San Francisco.