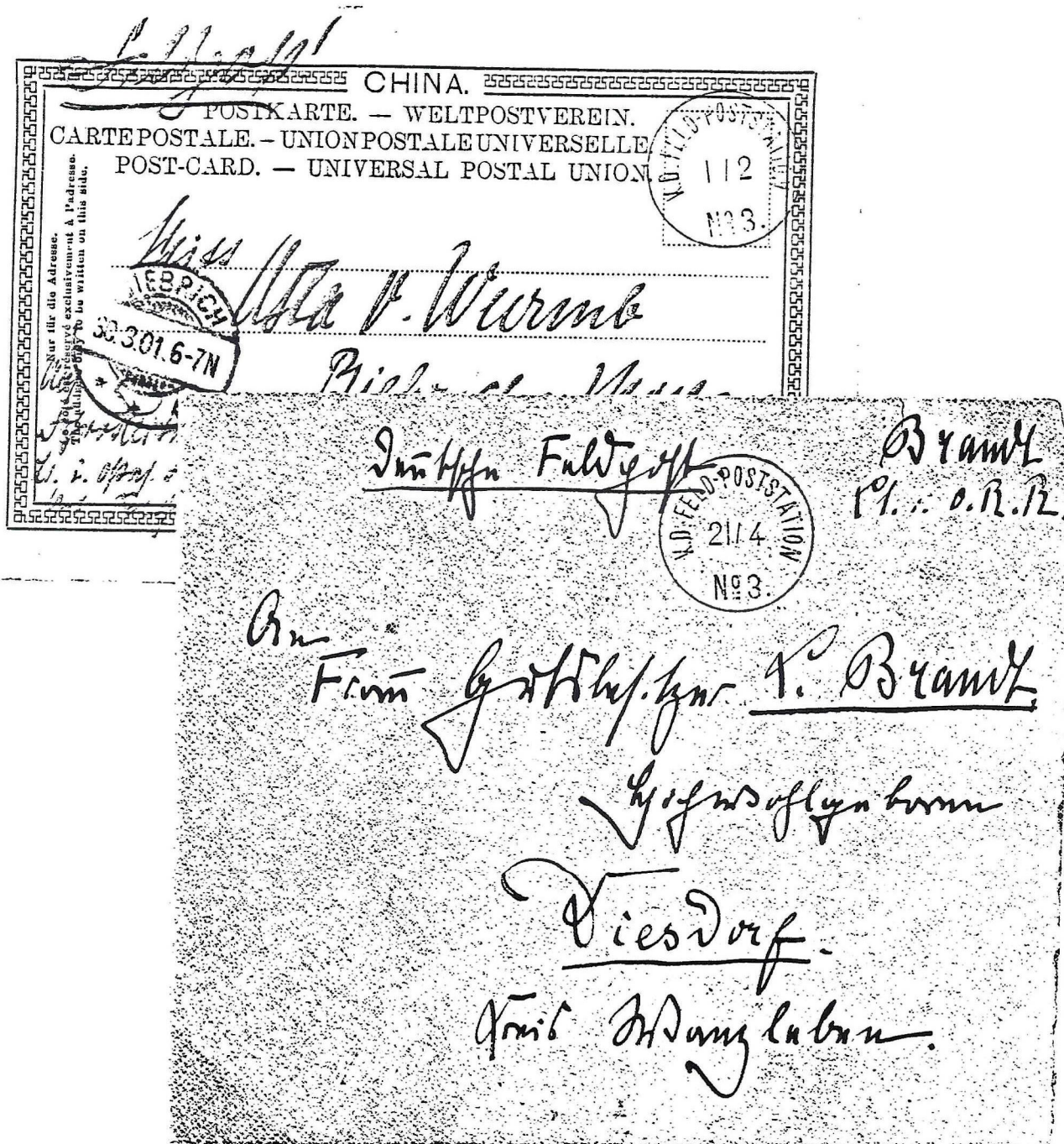




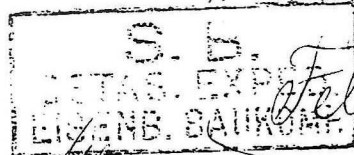
FPS № 3 operated at Yangtsun from 2 September 1900 until 30 April 1901. Yangtsun was garrisoned by about 300 German troops and was (until repair of the bridge across the Grand Canal in December 1900) an intermediate terminus on the Peking-Taku railroad. Examples of mail from this Station are relatively scarce.

Letter mail from the East Asia Expeditionary Corps is considerably less common than postcards.

German Field Post

FPS № 4 (Tongku)
26 February 1901
21 February 1901

Mr. R. Ratz, Deutsches Rotes Kreuz III. Expedition
China, Yangtsun?



Feldpostbrief

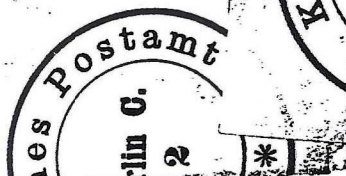


Herrn

Max Ratz

Germania
fr.

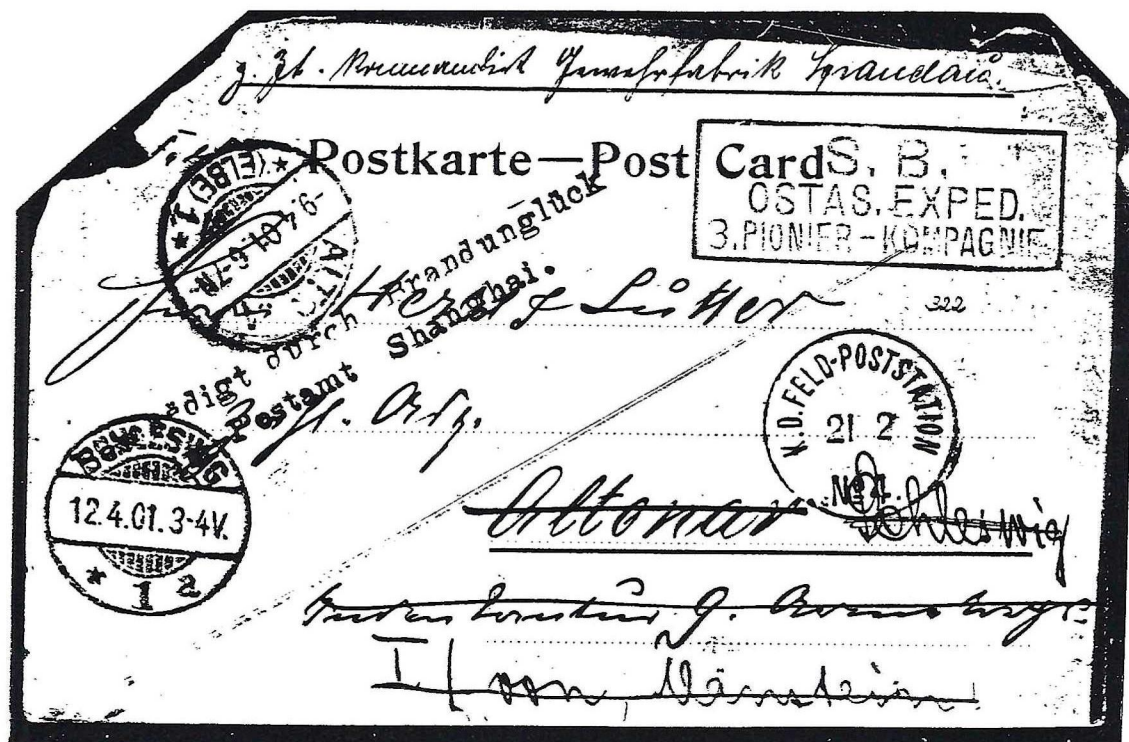
Postamt
Linsigang



German Red Cross

At the time this cover was sent there was a German field post office in Yangtsun. Most likely it was carried by a member of the railway labor company to Tongku to speed transmission.

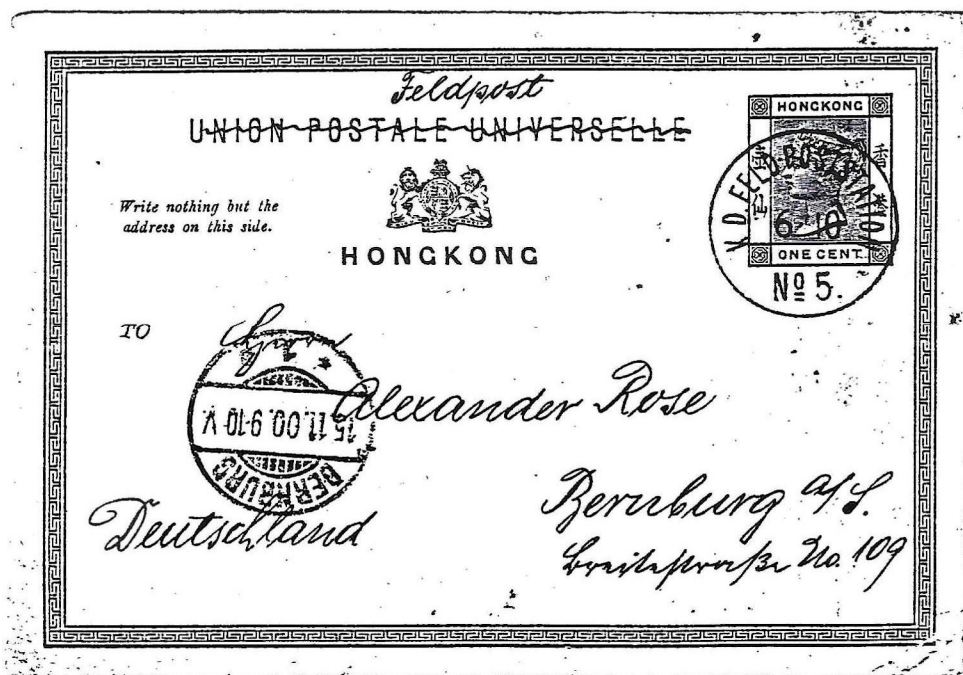
"Damaged by accidental fire in Shanghai Post Office," handstamp applied to mail damaged by fire started by exploding fire-crackers in parcel on 28 February 1901. Usually found on fieldpost mail posted between 18 and 24 February.



FPS № 4 was the longest-serving of the German Field Post Stations in North China, operating at Tongku from 2 September 1900 - 31 August 1901. Mail from this Station (along with that of FPS № 2) is the most common German military mail of the Boxer Uprising.

German Field Post

FPS N° 5 (Tientsin)
4 October 1900
6 October 1900



FPS N° 5 operated in Tientsin from 3 September to 7 November 1900. As the Base Post Office was also in Tientsin, this station's services were not much in demand, and its mail is relatively uncommon.

Registered mail sent from the Field Post Stations in North China usually does not bear any transit markings of German post offices -- civil or military -- in China. (Registry label has been removed from top cover.)

German Field Post
4th East Asia Inf. Rgt.

FPS N° 6 (Fuping)
18 May 1901

The scarcest numbered German Field Post Station



FPS N° 6 is not only the shortest-lived of the numbered Field Post Stations of the East Asia Expeditionary Corps, but the only one to have supported a German ground forces in combat during the Boxer Uprising.

FPS N° 6 operated at Tingchou from 18 April to 4 May 1901. The literature differs regarding its disposition after that. Friedemann, apparently the best-documented, has it on the march from 5 to 15 May, and at Fuping from 16 May to 25 July 1900.

In May 1901 there was a resurgence of Boxer activity south of Paotingfu. The Boxer units were dispersed and driven westward by French and Imperial Chinese troops. Meanwhile, a German force operating west of Paotingfu encountered several Boxer units, probably in flight from the Franco-Chinese force, and destroyed them. The German force then went into garrison duty around Fuping for a short time before being withdrawn to Paotingfu and Peking.

German Field Post
4th East Asia Inf. Rgt.

FPS N° 7 (Paotingfu)
4 February 1901
6 March 1901
22 June 1901

Feldpostbrief.

Einschreiben.

Feldpoststation Nr. 7
der I. Armee.
Eingeschrieben.
N° 318.

R



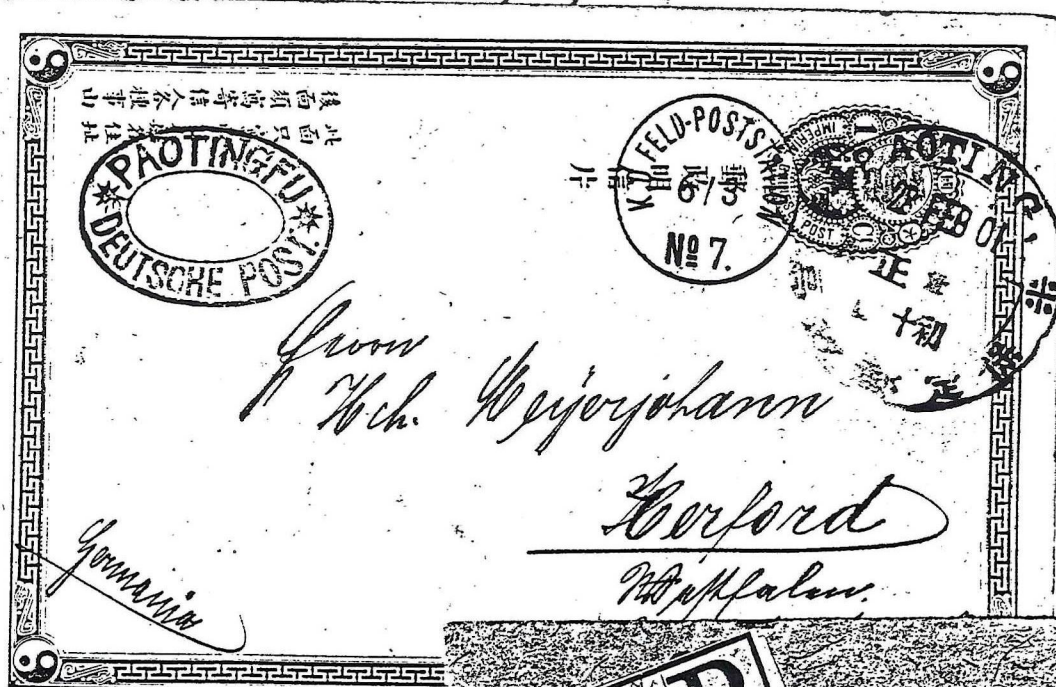
An den Verlag Mllstein

*Ab. Ober. Lagers
Ch. o. J. R.*

150

Berlin

15 Hochstr. 23

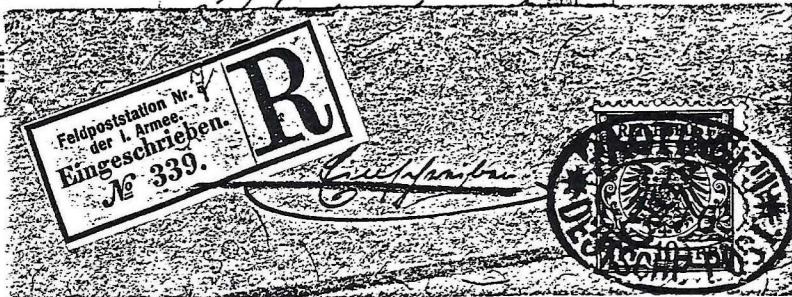


*Gross
Hch. Weijerjohann*

Herford

Westphalen.

Gomaria



FPS N° 7 operated at Paotingfu from 2 November 1900 until 25 July 1901. The Paotingfu double oval handstamp was an officially-sanctioned auxiliary mark, not intended to be used as a cancel. It is scarcer with date than without. Note the modified registry label on piece.

POST—EINLIEFERUNGSSCHEIN
UEBER.

Postanweisung } No. 16
Brief. }

Werth 325.15 Mk.
genau

Empfänger St. Avold

St. Avold

Paotingfu 1 Februar 1901.

K. Deutsche Feldpost 4
Mögel

K.O. FELD-POSTSTATION
1/2
№ 7

Receipt for money order with a value of Mk. 325.15 sent to St. Avold, Lorraine. A very unusual usage.

German Field Post

FPS № 8 (Shanhaikwan)

22 March 1901

18 May 1901



Postanwalter Prof

W. L. L. L.

Spätkarte

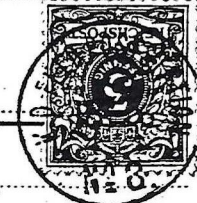
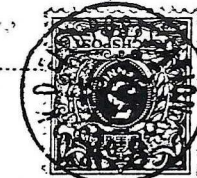
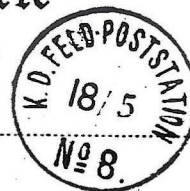
Postkarte



Deutsche Reichspost

Postkarte

(Antwort)



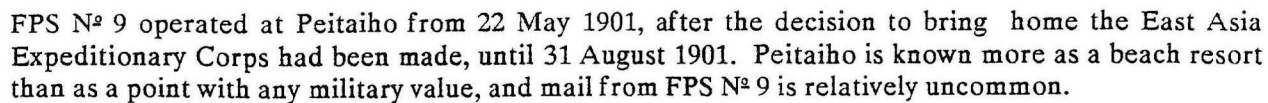
Dortmund

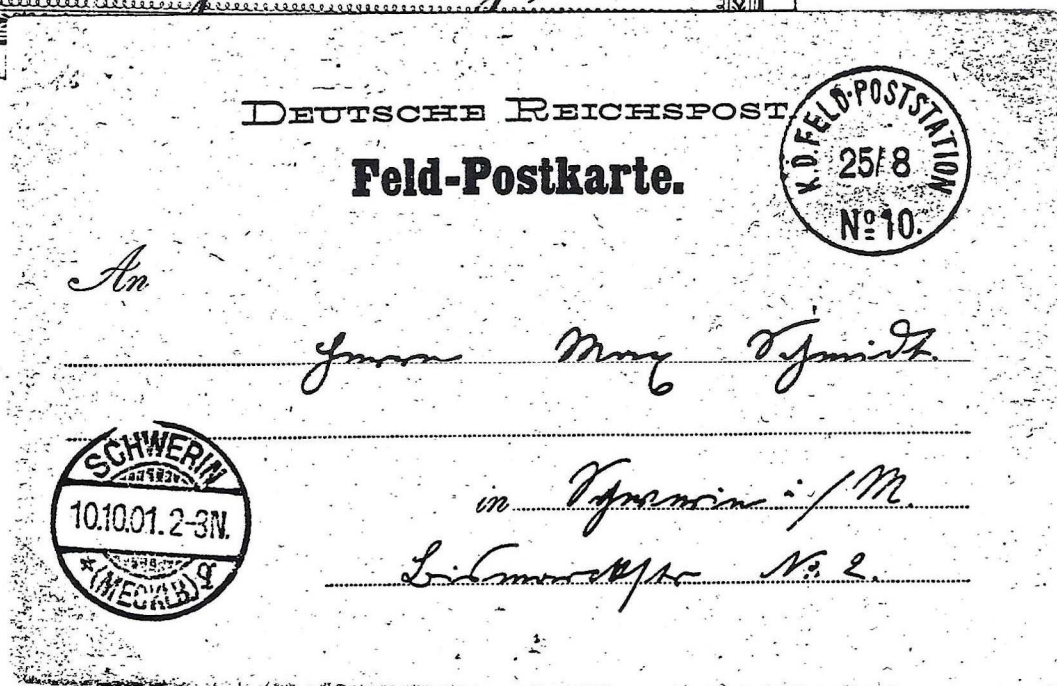
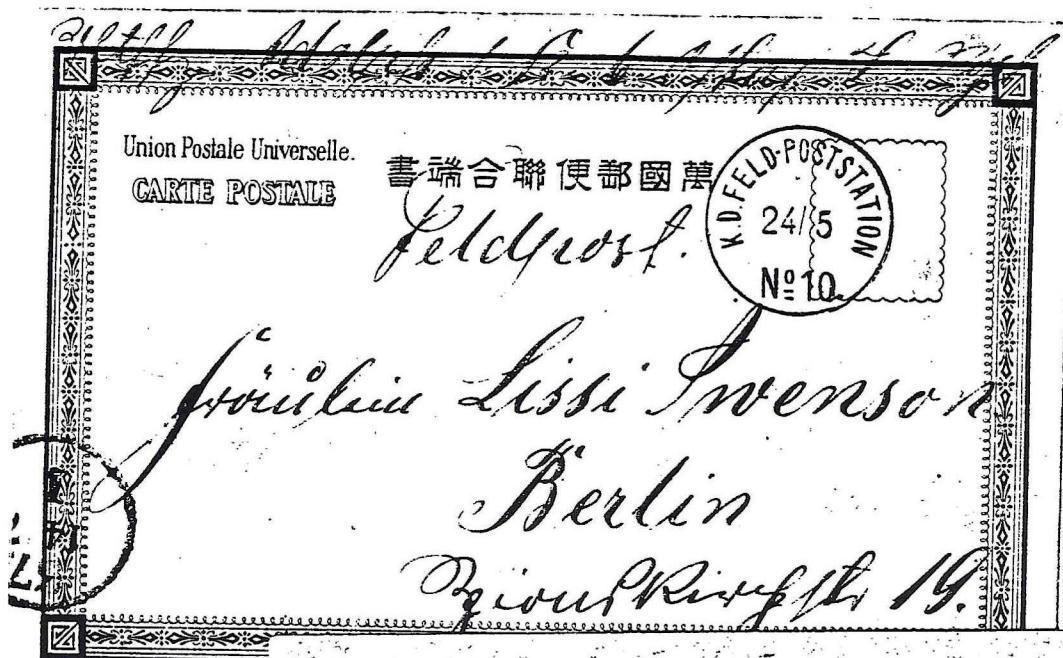
W. L. L. L.

Germany

FPS № 8 was established on 26 November 1900, in anticipation of the freezing of the Taku harbor and movement of port operations to Shanhaikwan. It continued in operation there until 31 August 1901. The double-circle handstamp was an officially-sanctioned auxiliary marking. Unlike its counterpart at Paotingfu, it appears not to have been used as a cancel by FPS № 8. After closing of the Field Post Station, it became the first cancellation of the German civil post office in Shanhaikwan.

FPS № 9 (Peitaiho)
31 May 1901
20 August 1901





FPS № 10 served at Kaiping from 21 May - 31 August 1901. After FPS № 6, it is the scarcest of the numbered German military post offices in China during the Boxer Uprising.

Taku South Fort FPS
June 1901

Full Postkarte

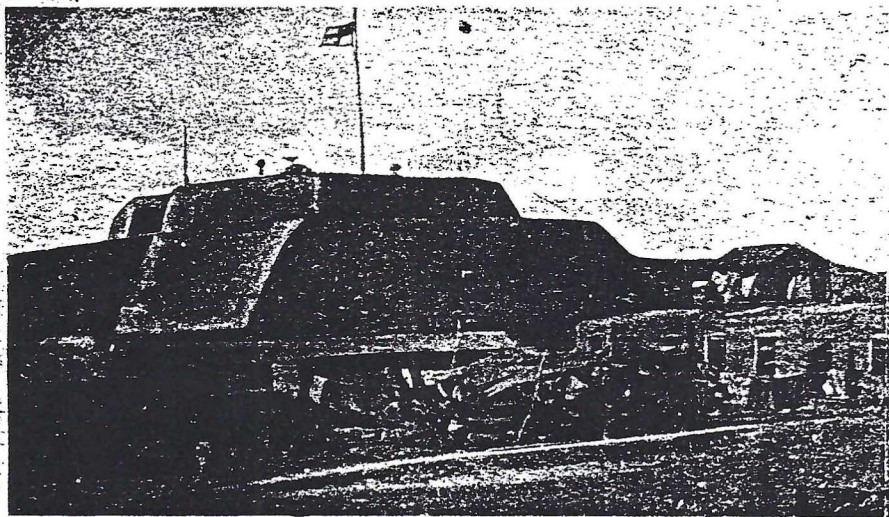
Lyman G. Merrill

v. Salzmann

Well

Wohnung
(Straße und Hausnummer)

C. 154



Aug 1.
K. S.
an ton
riv. Ba
bia?

Takufort. Hissung der deutschen Flagge.

Takufort. Hissung der deutschen Flagge. V. 7. 9. 01. Bild f. meine Ab-
gesandte nach China geschickt, um hier in Verbindung mit
meiner hochwichtigen Person. einen guten Namen zu machen

The Field Post Station at Taku South Fort was opened under the direction of a Navy officer as early as 18 September 1900. Cancellations are known appropriately used from 9 November 1900 until 1 January 1901 (or only until 26 November 1900 per the Kolonialpost Arge). The Taku South Fort cancel continued to be used after January 1 as a favor cancel.

German Field Post

East Asia Army Gen. Staff, Admin. Section.

Civil Post Office: Peking

November 1900

17 December 1900



Normal transit time was about 7 weeks, indicating mailing date of early November 1900.



On 11 September a German civil post office opened in Peking, remaining open until 15 March 1917.

At first, this post office used 2 undated cancels made of soft (shown above) or hard wood. These were replaced on 14 November 1900 by a steel datestamp in the normal style.

German Field Post

Civil Post Office: Peking-Taku TPO
June 1901

Deutsche Reichspost
Luft Postkarte

An *General*
von Salzmänn
...



 in _____
Wohnung
(Straße und Hausnummer)

Deutsche Reichspost
Postkarte

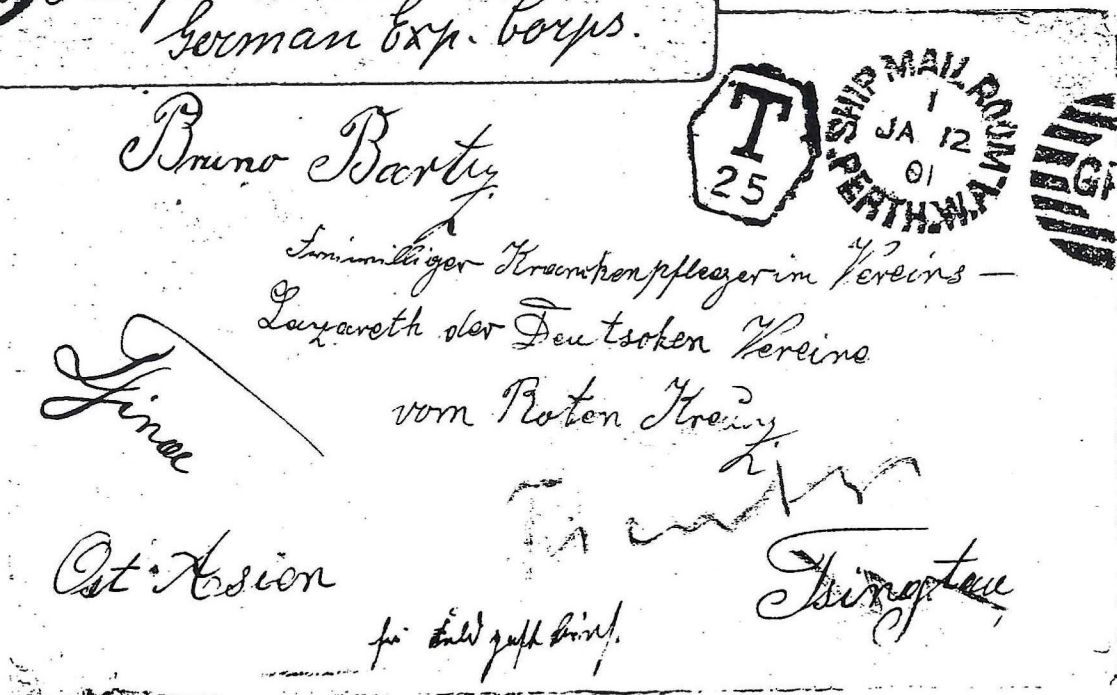
An *Frau*
Matilde Lorschach
Lippstadt
in _____
Wohnung
(Straße und Hausnummer) *Lange Str. 2.*



From 17 October 1900 to 25 March 1901 the German civil postal service operated a travelling post office between Peking and Taku. Through service was provided after 22 December 1900, when the bridge and track that had been destroyed by the Boxers was repaired. The normal cancel has 3 stars at the base. Favor cancels were supplied after the TPO service closed (as here, to the famous philatelist General von Salzmänn). A similar marking with 1 star is known only as a favor cancel.

German Forces

Incoming Mail
20 July 1901
February 1901



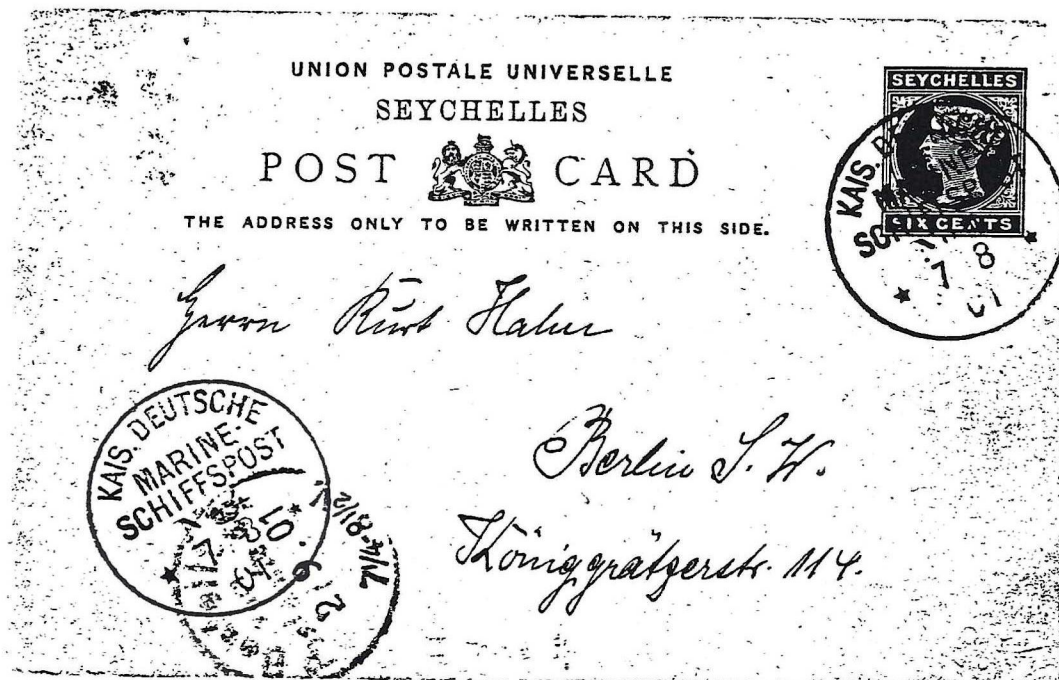
Mail to German forces which originated in Germany was directed to the German Base Post Office in Tientsin. Mail from non-German territories followed paths selected by the country of origin.

British practice for mail addressed to "China" was to route it to the Hong Kong civil Post Office. That office was on excellent terms with the Imperial Chinese Post Office (which was under the direction of an Englishman), and routinely sent non-C.E.F. mails north to Shanghai for onward dispatch by the Chinese. The Chinese Post Office, choosing to ignore the Chinese government's declaration of war against the Allies, provided consistently excellent service to Allied military personnel and civilians throughout North China.

Note that the bottom cover is to a German Red Cross worker.

German Field Post
SMS Irene

Return To Germany
7 August 1901



On 1 July 1901 *SMS Irene* (MSP 4) began her return to Germany after 6 years on the China station. Her route carried her to the Seychelles before she turned north for the Suez Canal.

German field post offices in China were not notably concerned about whose postage they favor-cancelled so long as the "Feldpost" endorsement necessary to secure free postage was present. Troops (including sailors) en route home from China were still entitled to the free frank under the same terms as those in China. Thus, the card is postally notable not so much for the unusual usage of Seychelles stationery as for the lack of a postage due charge in the absence of the necessary endorsement.

German Field Post

Return To Germany
SS Bahia
SS Crefeld October 1900



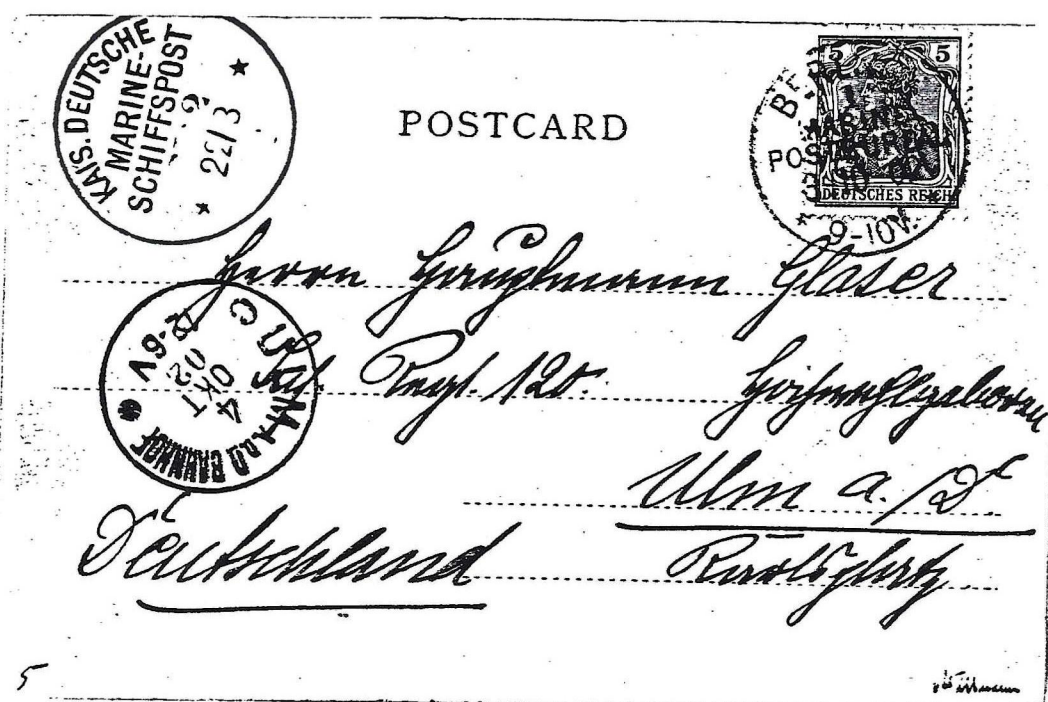
On 4 September 1901 SS Crefeld left Taku with troops of the East Asia Expeditionary Corps, delivering them to Bremerhaven on 29 October. Unlike the outward voyage a year earlier, Crefeld was not equipped with a military post office. Instead, it acquired for itself an unofficial "postmark," which it used from late August until late October.

SS Bahia, like Crefeld leased to return troops to Germany, left China on 9 September and arrived Bremerhaven 26 October. Though Bahia was equipped with a military post office for this voyage (MSP 48), it also used an unofficial "postmark" similar to that of the Crefeld.

German Field Post

Troop Transport
SS *Pisa* 22 August 1902

Provisional postage paid marking



As it had during the Boxer Uprising, the German government continued to lease commercial steamers for repatriating its troops from North China, and to equip them with military ship post offices during their lease. The MSP 2 postmark was assigned to the steamer *Pisa* for her voyage from Hamburg to Tientsin and back, 26 June - 9 October 1902. Her supply of 5pf stamps was exhausted on the outward voyage so that between July and September 1902 prepayment of postage on postcards was noted with a small manuscript "5" in the left bottom corner and the ship postmark struck at top left. Postage was applied on arrival at Tientsin or, as above, at the Navy Post Office in Berlin.