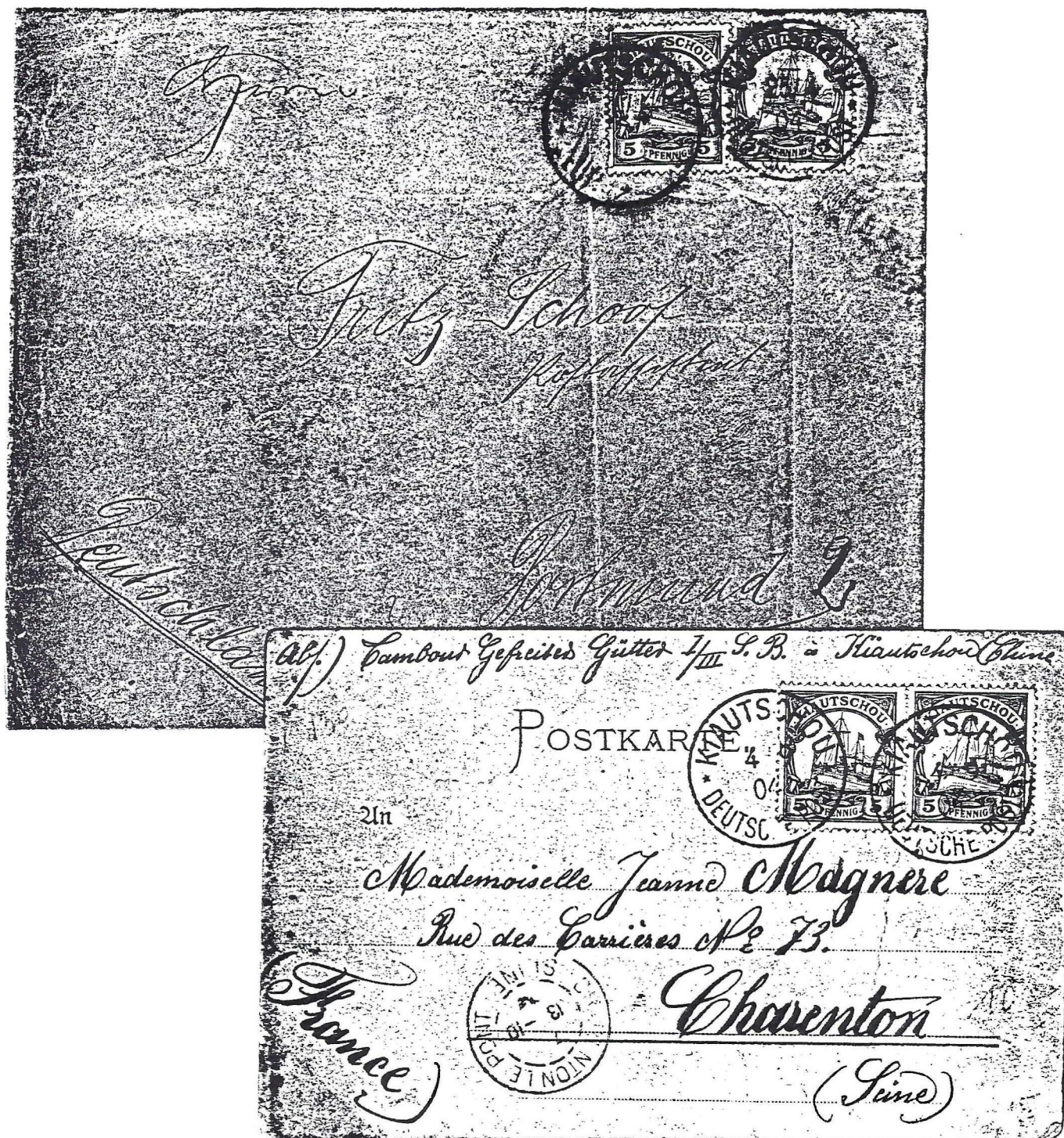


Kiautschou
3rd Seebataillon, 1st Co.
3rd Seebataillon, 1st Co.

Civil Post Office: Kiautschou
25 April 1904
4 September 1904



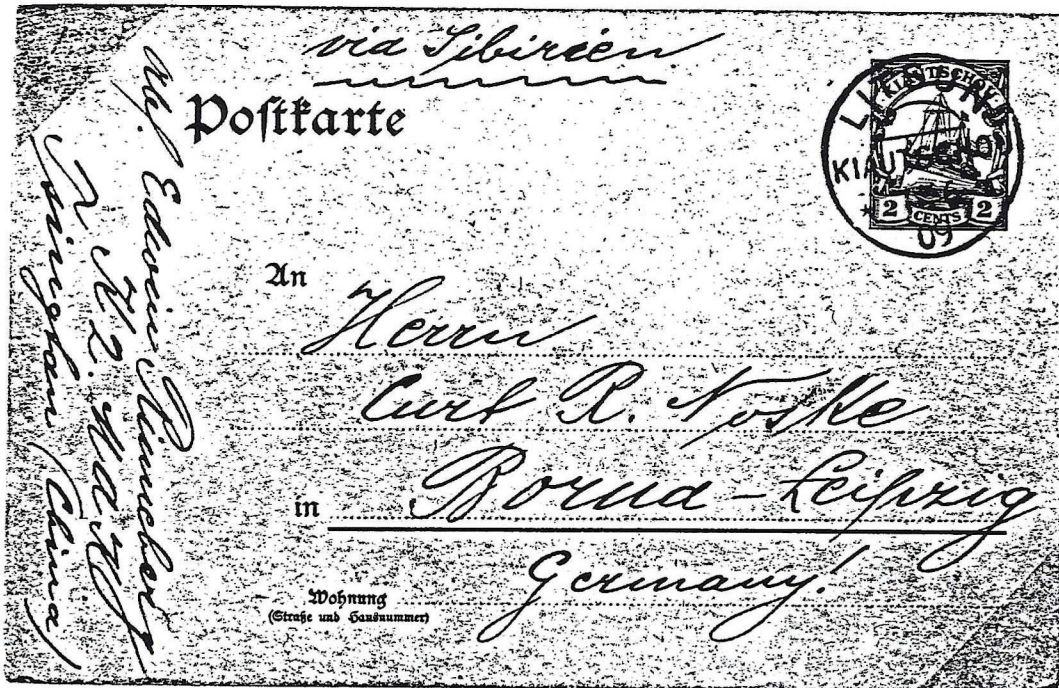
The German post office in Kiautschou (city) converted from a field post office to civil post office on 27 October 1900. It used the above postmark from 1 January 1901 until it closed, 31 December 1905.

Kiautschou

Civil Post Offices
Litsun: 11 June 1909

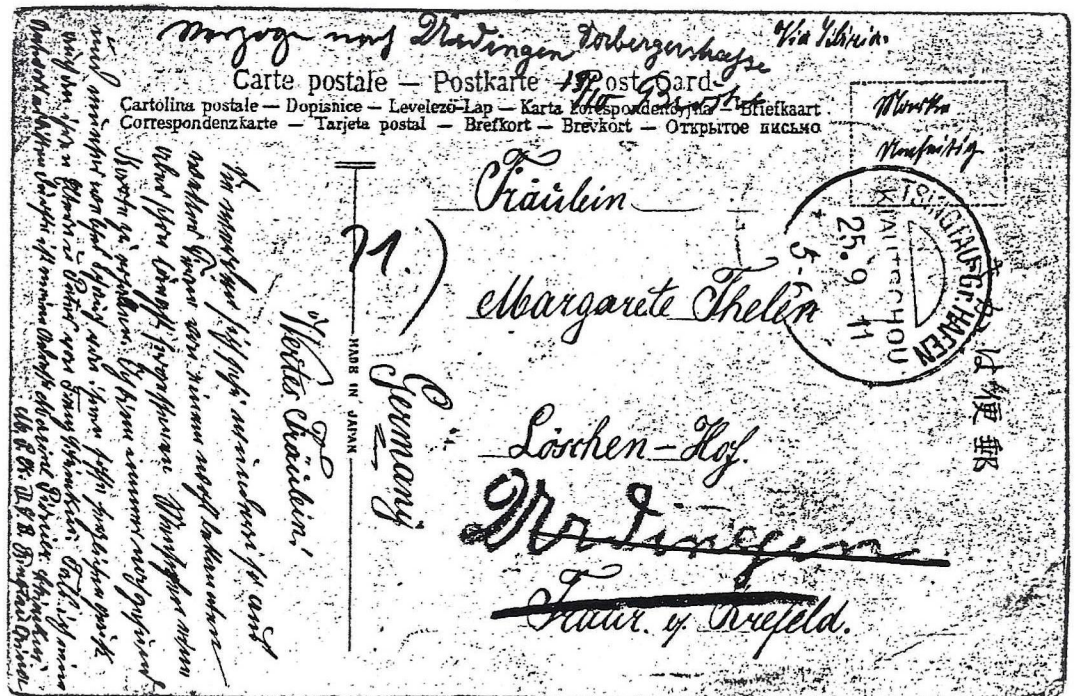
3rd Seebataillon

Tsingtau Gr. Hafen: 25 September 1911



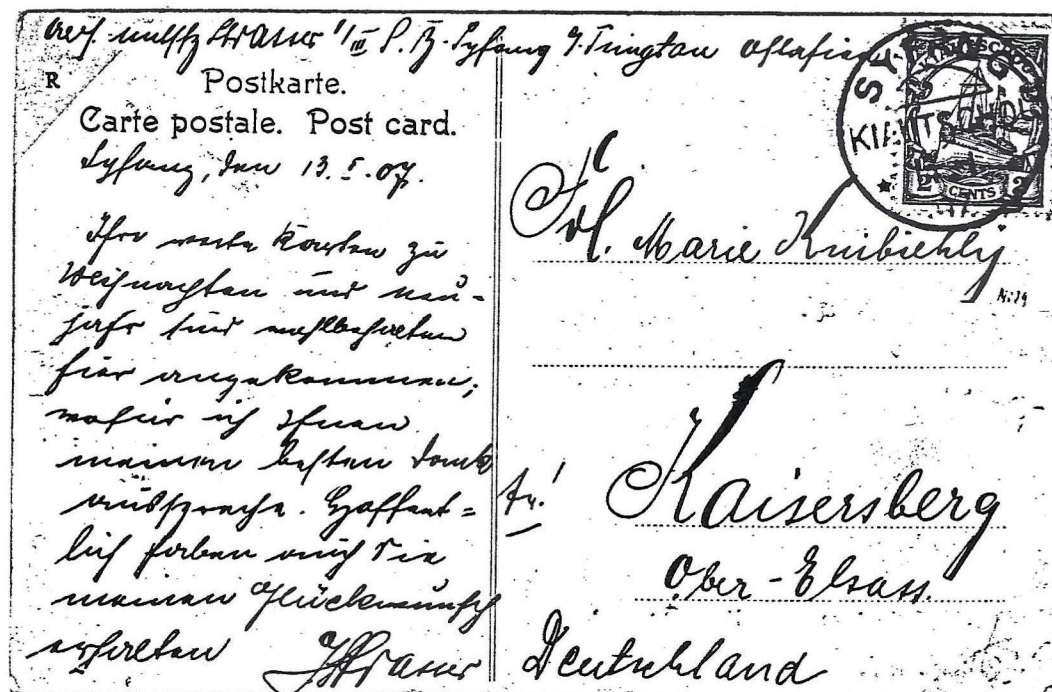
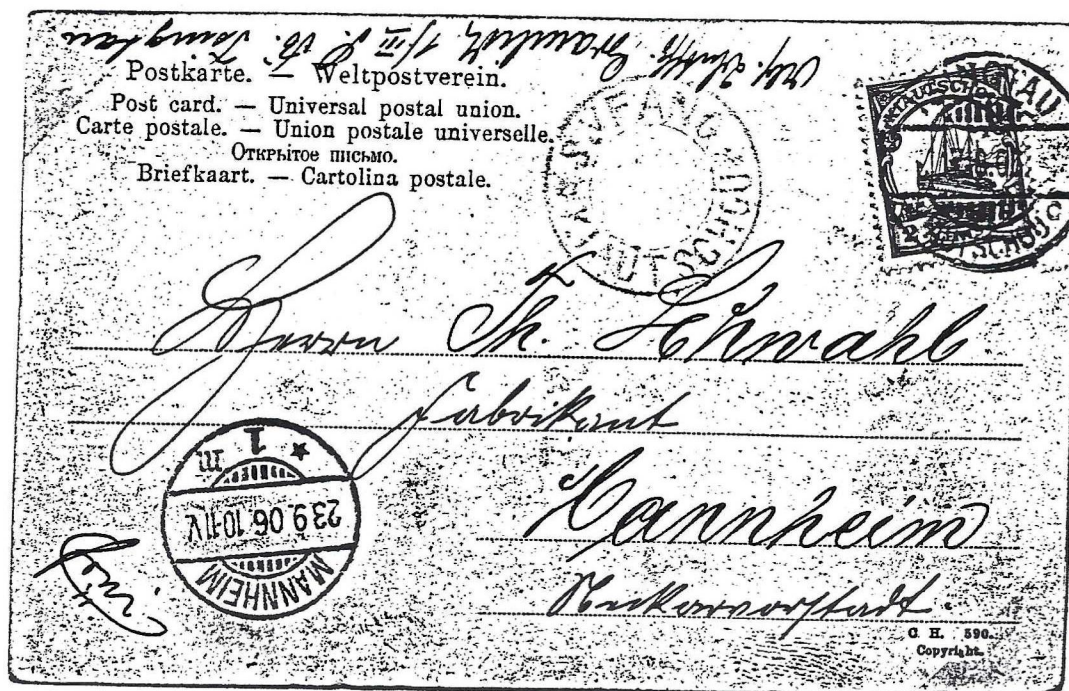
The Litsun postal agency opened 7 December 1904. Its regular cancel, shown here, arrived in March 1905 and continued in use until the agency closed on 20 September 1914.

The Tsingtau Grosser Hafen postal agency opened on 15 January 1910, at first using a Tsingtau cancel. It used its own cancel from 21 February 1910 until it closed in mid-September 1914.



Kiautschou
3rd Seebataillon, 1st Co.
3rd Seebataillon, 1st Co.

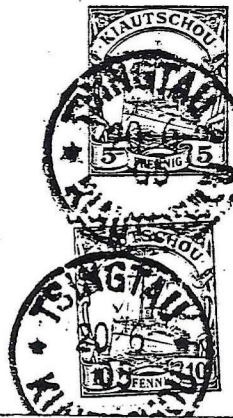
Civil Post Office: Syfang
17 August 1906
13 January 1907



Syfang, located on the rail line between Tsingtau and Tsangkou, had an auxiliary postal agency without cancel from 1903. On 1 August 1906 this was upgraded to a postal agency, but a regular cancel was not available until 1 November 1906. For 3 months, a wooden handstamp was struck next to the stamps, which were cancelled at Tsingtau. The agency closed in mid-September 1914.

Kiautschou
East Asia Occupation Bde., Syfang Garrison Administration
Tsingtau Field Battery

Civil Post Office: Tsingtau
20 June 1905
26 March 1913



Abschnitt. Coupon.
Kann vom Empfänger abgetrennt werden.
Postamt Tsingtau

Deutschland. Allemagne.
Auslandspostanweisung
Mandat de Poste International

über die Summe von (arabische Zahlen) 7.77 Gold

Umwandlungssatz: 1 Gold = 100 Pfennig
Gesählter Betrag: 777 Pfennig

Freimarken und Aufgabestempel.
Application des timbres-poste et du timbre d'origine.

Die Einheiten (Franken, Kronen, Mark usw.) in Buchstaben und in lateinischer Schrift zu zahlen an Paul Glade
payable à M. P.O.B. 248

Name, Wohnort und Wohnung (Straße und Nr.) des Absenders
Designation de l'expéditeur
Hahn Wachtel Feldbatterie

Name, Wohnort und Wohnung (Straße und Nr.) des Empfängers
Adresse du destinataire
M. Glade

Bestimmungsort
Lieu de destination
Honolulu

Bestimmungsland
Pays de destination
Hawaii Inseln

Gut für / Bon pour 7.77 Gold gleich / soit 777 Pf.

Aufgabe-Nr. / Numéro d'émission 2072

Tag der Einzahlung / Date d'émission 26.3.13

Bureau expéditeur
Tsingtau
(KIAUTSCHOU)

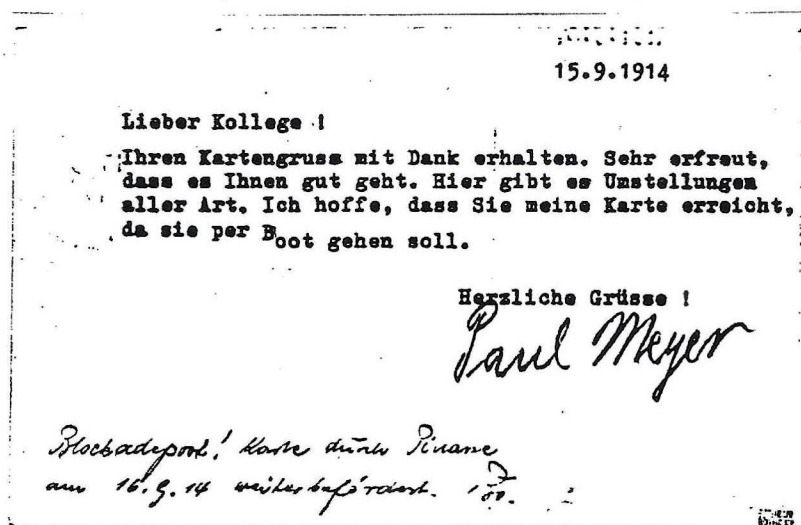
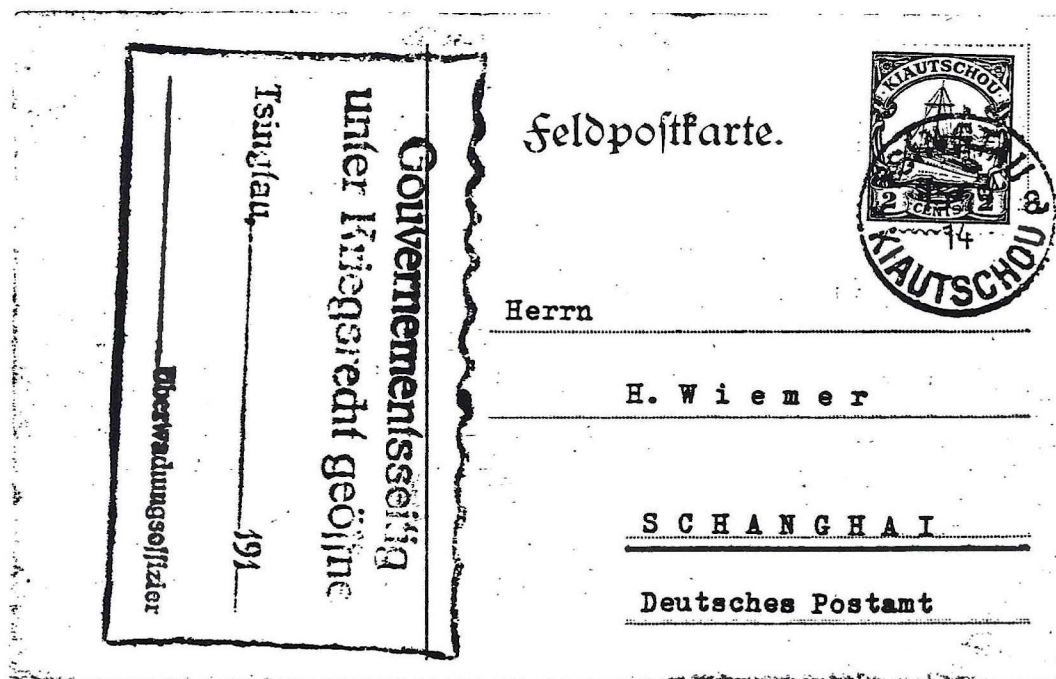
Unterschrift des Annahmbeamten.
Signature de l'agent qui a dressé le mandat.
M. Glade

Postwert
Indications de service.

Elements of the post-Boxer East Asia Occupation Brigade were stationed along the Shantung Railway in Kiautschou, even though there had been virtually no Boxer activity in Shantung Province. Additionally, the Kiautschou Protectorate government had troops directly under its command which remained when the Occupation Brigade was disbanded in 1906.

In 1905 Syfang had an auxiliary postal agency for the collection and distribution of mail, but without canceller, so mail was cancelled in Tsingtau.

Money order forms with imprinted postage, as used in Germany, were not produced for the colonies as the limited usage did not justify the additional printing or overprinting. Instead, local postage was applied to a generic form.



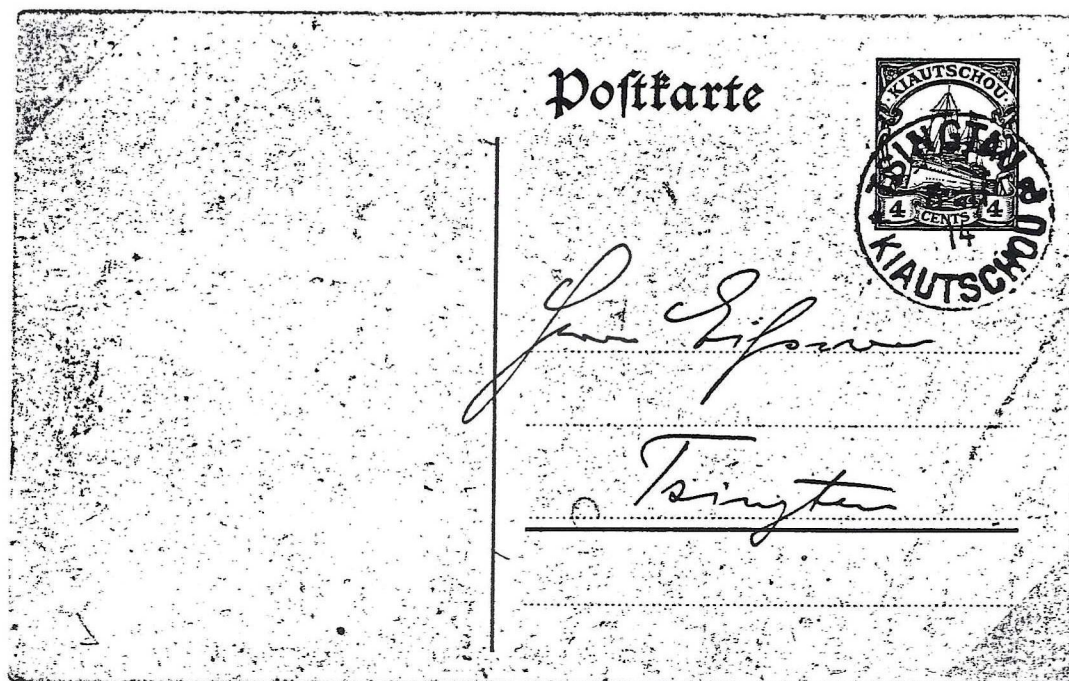
Both Friedemann and Wolter state that censorship of letters out of Tsingtau began on 20 September 1914. Therefore this is an early usage of the handstamp, on mail between post office workers.

Carried on the last sailboat to leave Tsangkou for Taputur, that route being closed when the Japanese occupied Kiautschou (city) on 16 September. Thereafter very little mail left the protectorate.

Kiautschou

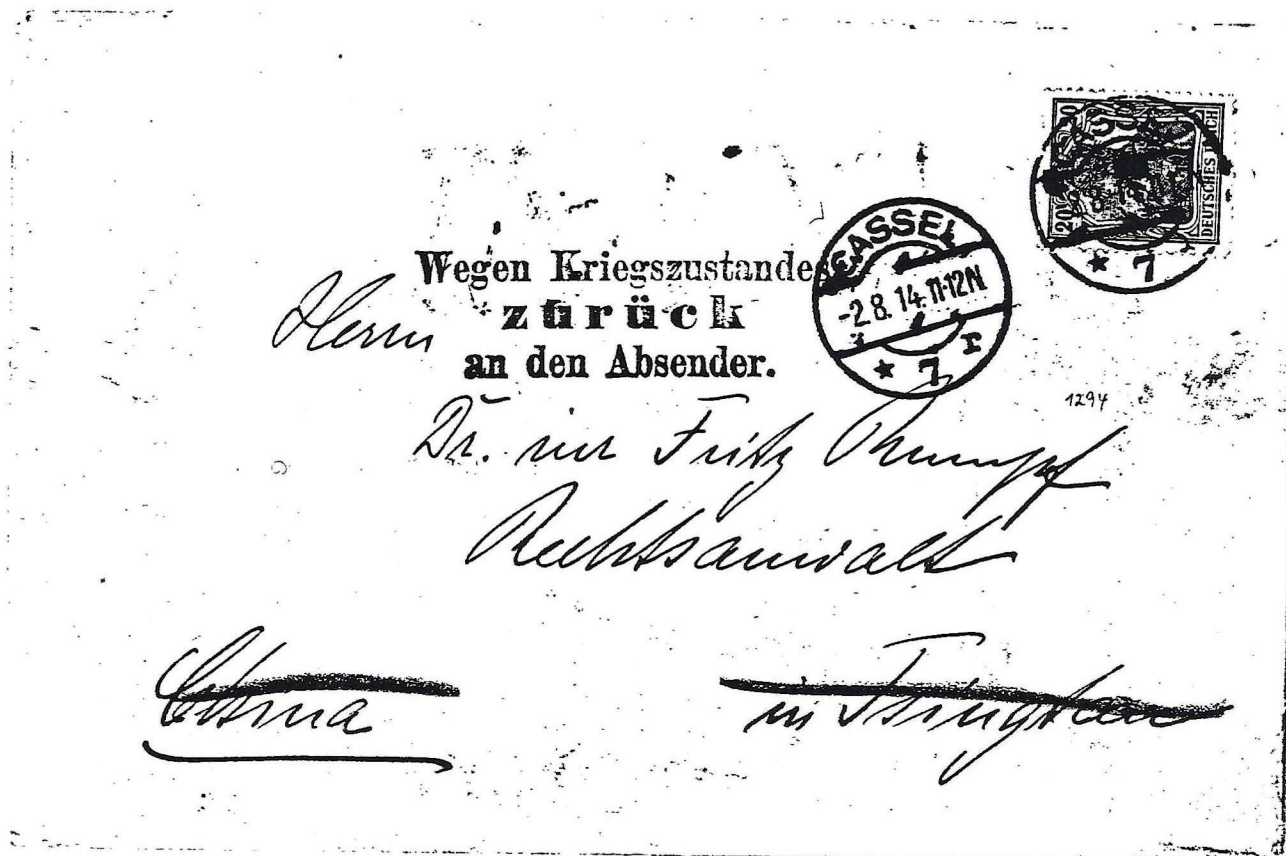
Tsingtau
5 November 1914

Wartime Postal Card



Despite heavy Japanese and British shelling of Tsingtau, which began on 29 October and continued until the surrender, life went on in Tsingtau as normally as possible. Sometime after the Japanese invasion a new 4¢ postcard was issued. *Michel* records a usage on 2 November, and the latest usage recorded in the *Neues Ganzachen Katalog* is 5 November. Cancelled cards are extremely scarce.

Souvenir usage by Garrison Construction Assistant Eissner (who, having been mobilized for military service, was entitled to free frank his mail but who could also recognize a 4¢ bargain when he saw it).

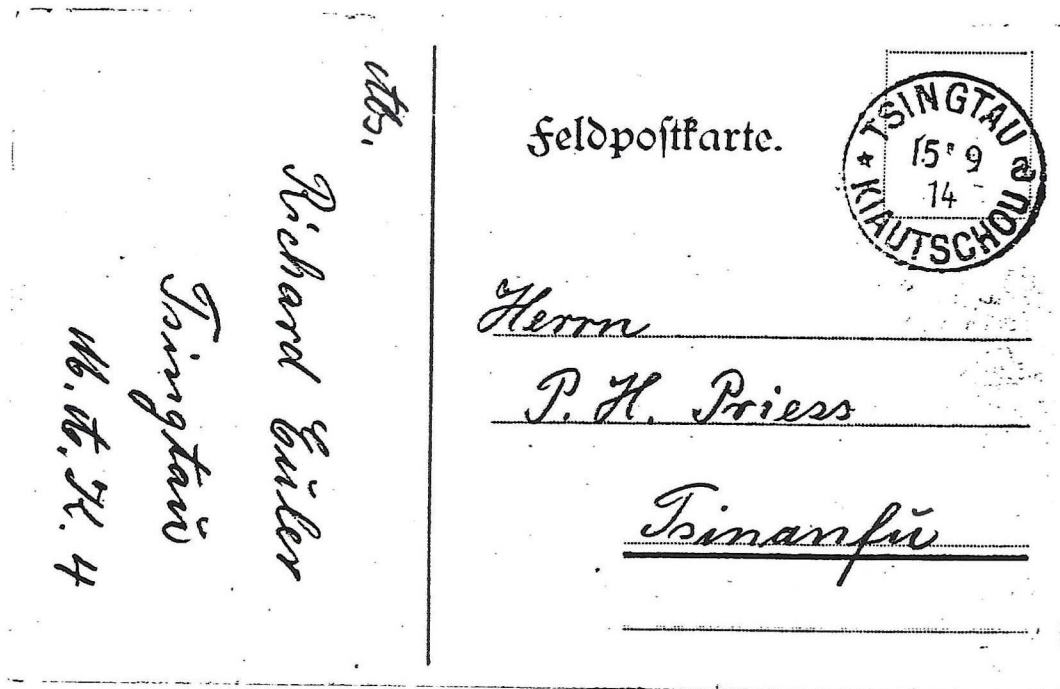


Mailed in August 1914

Letters to the German colonies were being mailed right up to the outbreak of the war. However, due to the British blockade and capture of German ships on the high seas, there was no opportunity of delivery. Such mail was marked "Return to sender due to the state of war" and sent back to the writer.

Kiautschou

Tsingtau
15 September 1914



On 30 July 1914 a State of Siege was declared in Tsingtau; complete mobilization was ordered on 2 August. From the end of July until mid-August, various German land- and sea-based units in China converged on Tsingtau. Sailors not placed on crews of ships sent into the Pacific were added to the local garrison, which reached a maximum strength of 6000 to 7000 men. Japan demanded removal of the German fleet from the Far East and surrender of Kiautschou on 15 August and on 23 August, having received no reply, declared war on Germany. The Japanese invasion of the leased territory began on 18 September and ended with the surrender of Tsingtau on 7 November.

Free franking was introduced throughout the German military upon the German declaration of war against Russia on 1 August 1914. No land-based field post offices were established in Kiautschou.

Kiautschou

Tsingtau
26 August 1914
15 September 1914

On 4 August the Protectorate's regular imperial mail boat, *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*, was outfitted as an "auxiliary cruiser" (raider). The Shantung Railway line remained open for mail and passengers until 30 August when German engineers blew up the major bridges between Kiautschou (city) and the leased territory.

Tsingtau 21/8/14.
Liebe Frau
seit 2 Tagen bin
ich hier in 3. Seel
G. K. und f. d. f. d.
Vorber. und den
Kampf. Ich
erf. und den Japan
bevorsteht. Für
ca 6-8000 Mann
und werden uns
gegen den Japan
übermacht zu nehmen

Feldpostkarte.



24
Frau
Johanna Sichter
Freiburg Baden
Talstr 52

Tsingtau d. 14/8-14

Hochgeachteter Herr Vater
mit diesen wenigen Zeilen
möchte ich Ihnen wissen lassen
das ich immer noch am Gipfel
hänge mit der H. H. H. H. H.
sinn H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
aber glücklich einige Kommen
was ist den aus der geworden
hier haben wir nur D. D. D. D. D.
H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
sehr sehr sehr bei der M. H. H. H.
L. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
und den H. H. H. H. H. H. H.

Feld Postkarte
Carte postale - Post

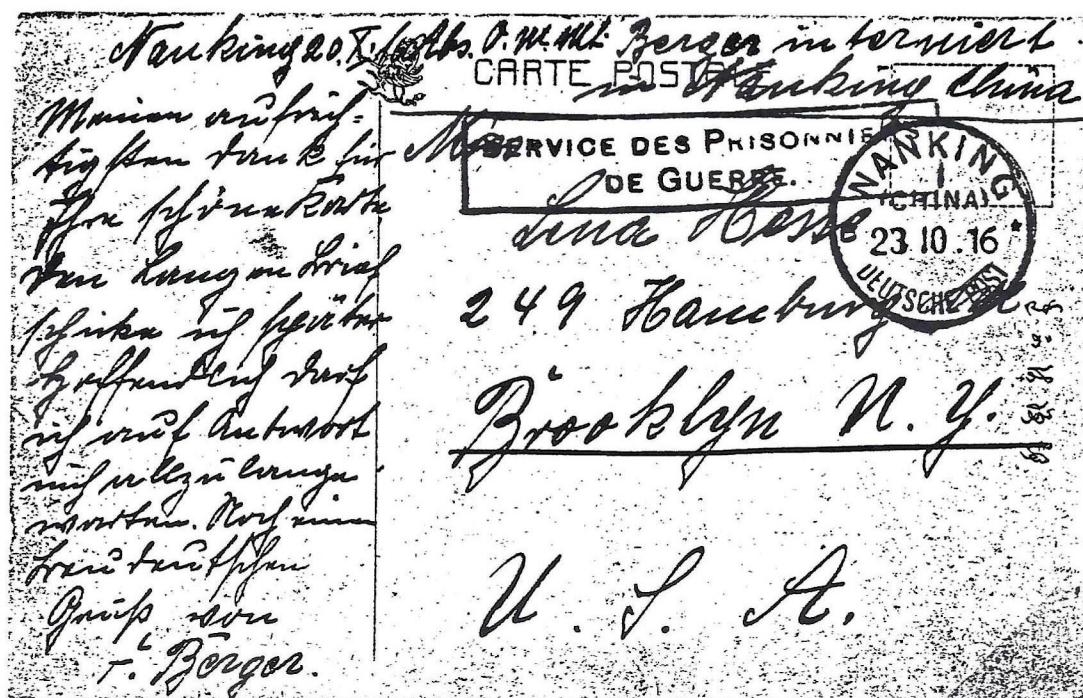


H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
Kaiserlich-Deutsches Consulat
in
Nanking
China

From 30 August to 16 September (when the Japanese occupied Kiautschou) mail was sent from the Protectorate by sailboat from Tsangkou to Taputur (in the neutral zone), from there overland to Kiautschou, and onward by rail. German post offices in China outside the Protectorate were not affected by the Japanese move into the Kiautschou protectorate.

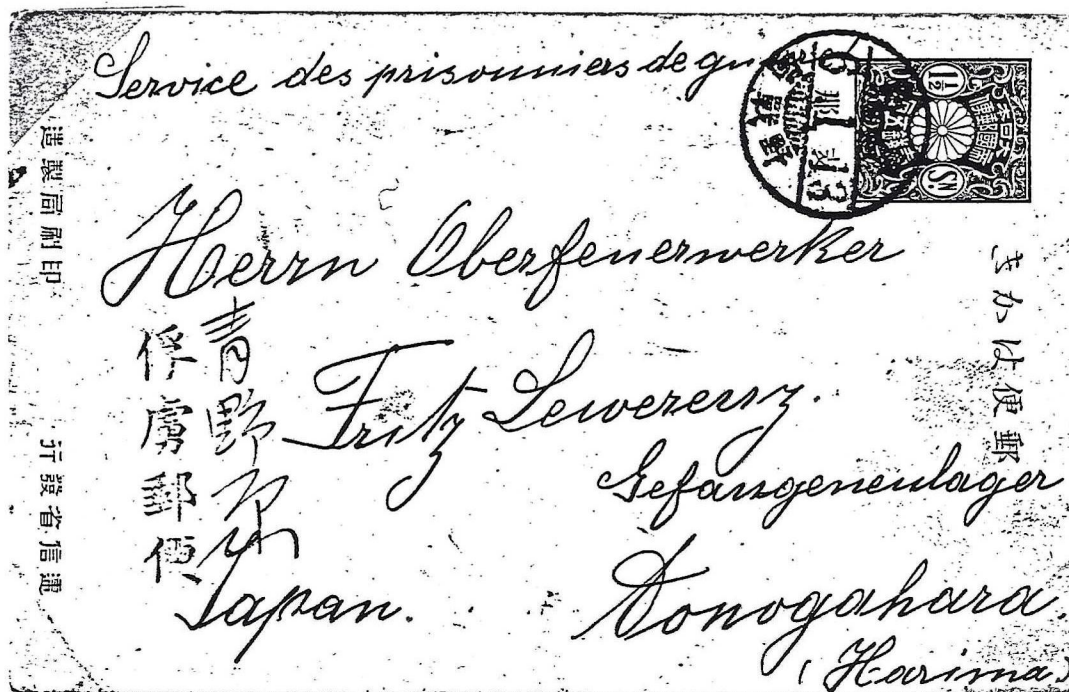
Joh. Geschke, Tsingtau

6132 13 E



Torpedo Boat S90 attempted a breakout from Kiautschou but was unable to leave Chinese waters due to the British-Japanese blockade. The crew, 64 men, scuttled their craft and moved inland by rail, under arms. China, then neutral, interned them as armed belligerents when they arrived at Nanking.

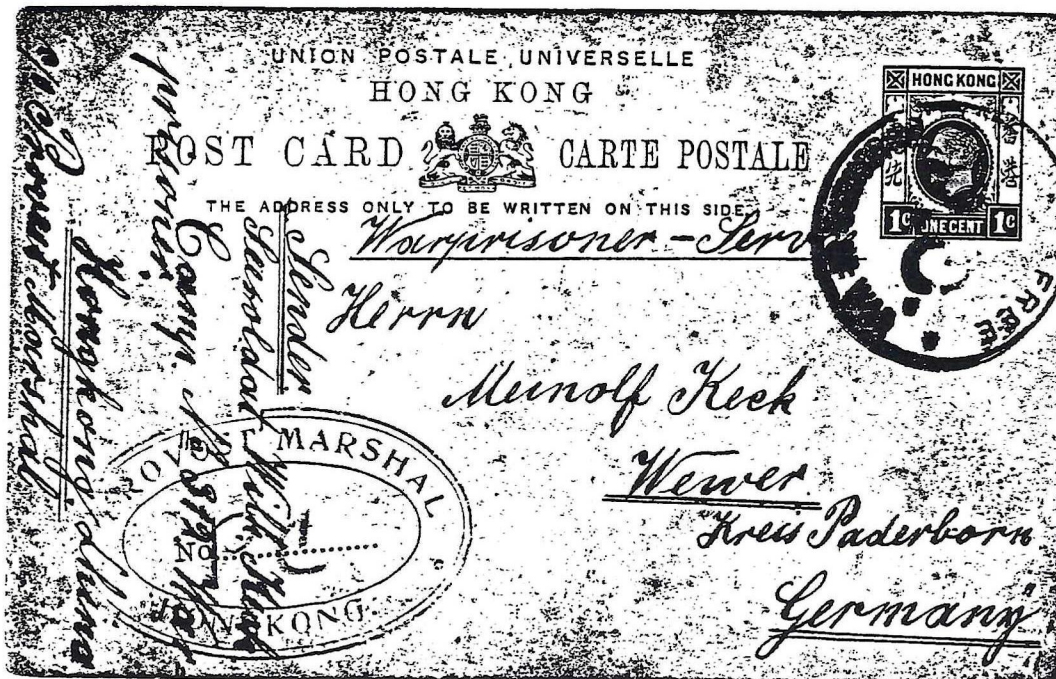
Prisoners of War
24 December 1916
13 January 1917



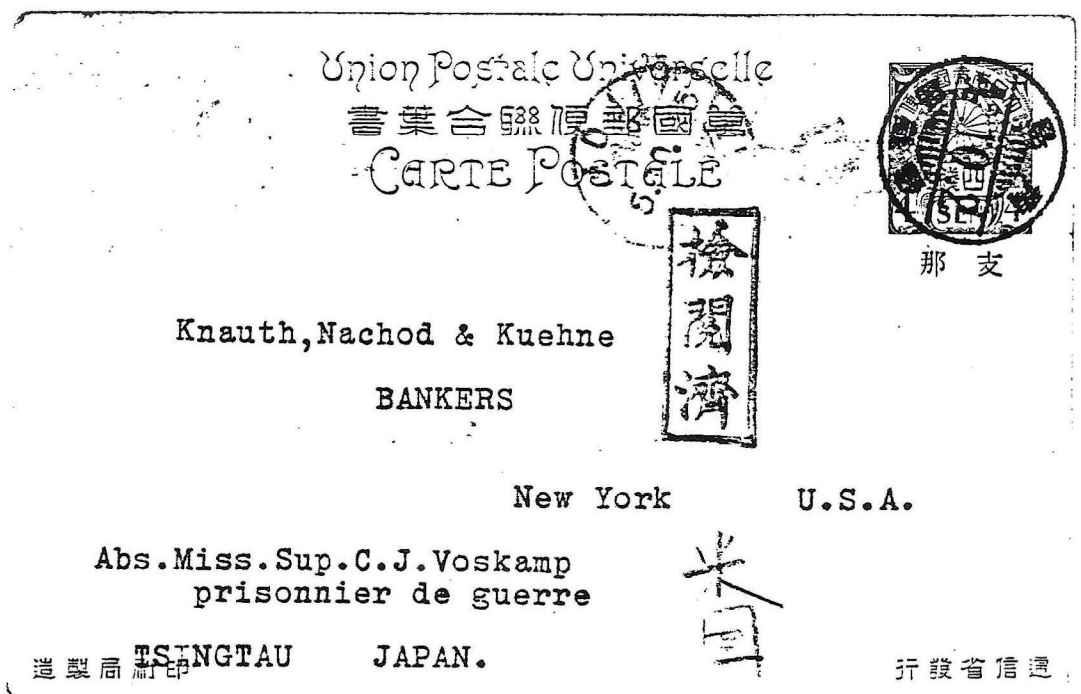
Within hours of their surrender nearly all of the German military personnel from Tsingtau were on their way to 18 prisoner of war camps in Japan. Seriously wounded POWs came under British control in Tsingtau and some of these were later moved to Hong Kong and Australia. About half of the German troops in Kiautschou at the time of the surrender were reservists mobilized from the civilian population of the Protectorate. Many of these left family in Kiautschou when they went into captivity.

Kiautschou
Hong Kong POW Camp
Tsingtau POW Camp

Prisoners of War
2 January 1916
4 October 1915



Keck was one of 78 severely wounded Tsingtau POWs taken into custody by the British. His Hong Kong POW number, 312, reflects additional POWs from the local population and from merchant ships.



German missionary prisoner. Adult male Germans who were not in the military when the Japanese took over were imprisoned in Tsingtau. Postage was not free to countries other than their homeland.

Kiautschou
Tsingtau to Fukuoka Camp
Bando Camp to Narashino Camp

Prisoners of War
1 April 1915
8 September 1917

送製局刷印

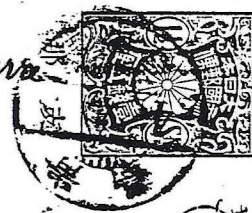
行發省信通

Service des prisonniers de guerre

Seiner Excellenz

Herrn Gouverneur Meyer-Waldeck

Am 13/4 Fukuoka
+ Japan



郵便

SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Seiner Excellenz Herr 109

Herrn Kapitän z. S. Bando

Meyer-Waldeck

Narashino



Absender: Mr. Meyer
Bando bei Tokushima
Japan

During World War I the convention regarding Prisoner of War Mail was that it was to be sent free of postage charges to and from the prisoner and his home country. In Japan, Tsingtau was regarded as "home" for the Kiautschou prisoners. However, Japanese authorities in Tsingtau, perhaps to emphasize that the former protectorate was no longer German, required that postage be paid on mail going to the prisoners.

Mail to the last German Governor of Kiautschou. Card, postmarked Tsingtau, notes "the city is quiet."