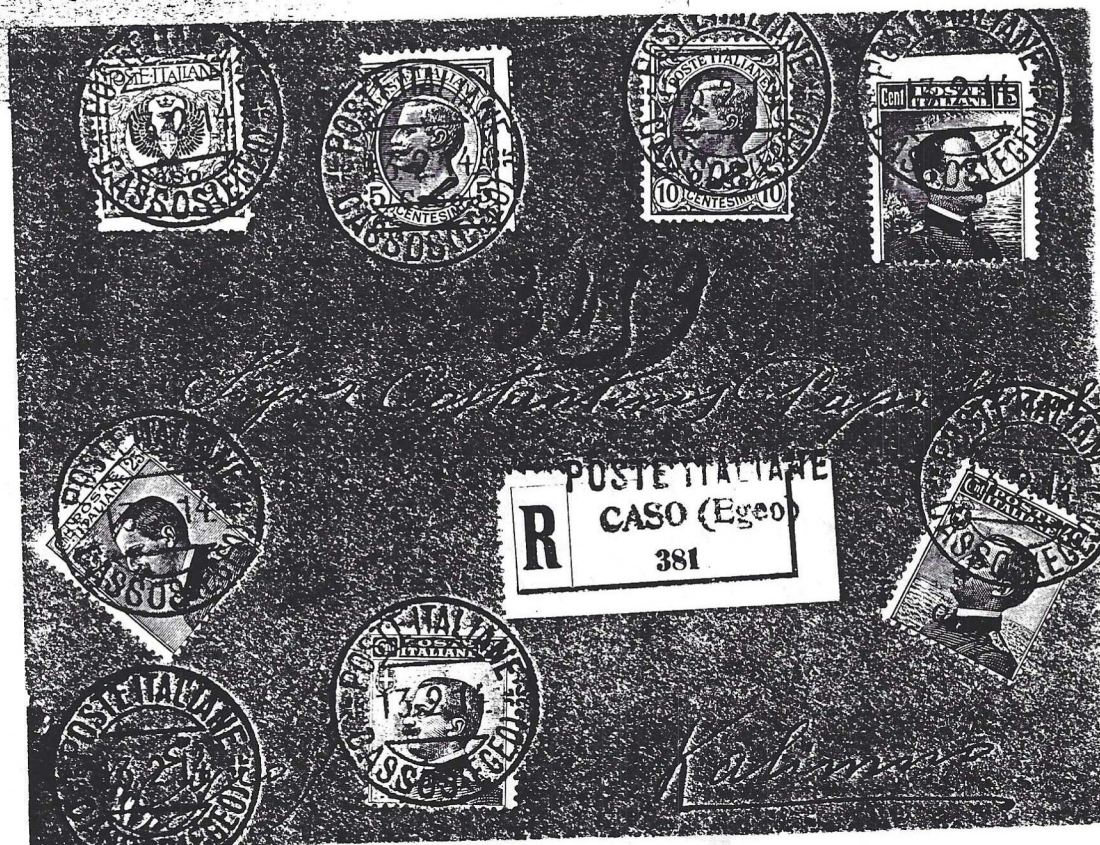


CASO
Special Overprints

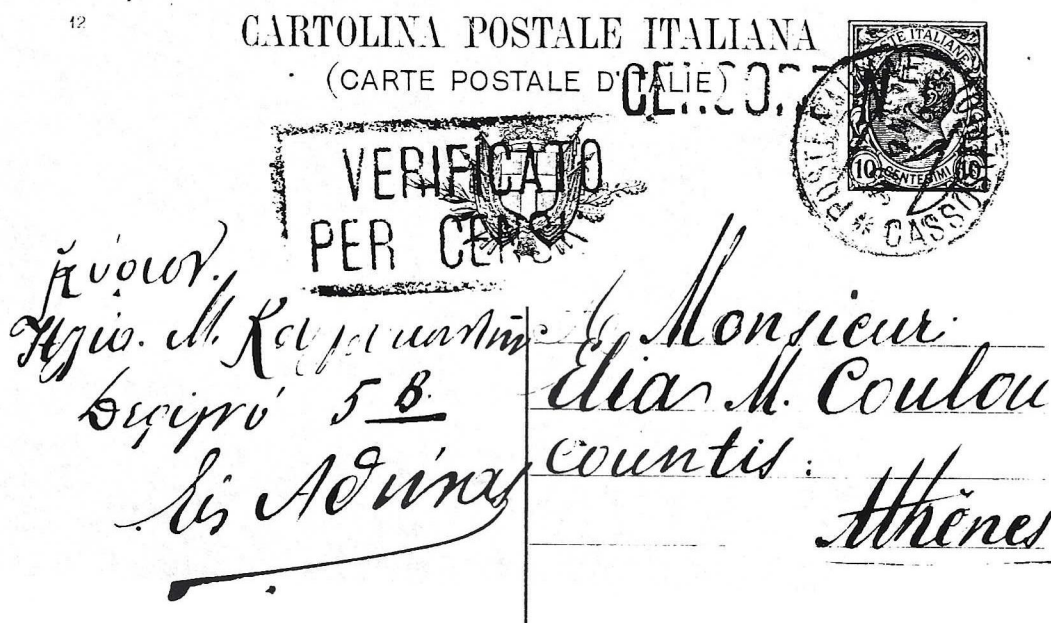
Poste Italiane/Cassos (Egeo)
13 February 1914
19 May 1914

L' « Alpino » che occupa Cassos (Egeo) il 13 Maggio 1912

Τό « Ἀλπίνο » κατέλαβε τήν Κάσσον (Αἰγαῖον) τῆς 13 Μαΐου 1912



As elsewhere, the rubber cds was replaced with a steel cancel in April 1913, which remained in use until at least 1923. Picture postcard depicts the occupation of Caso by marines of the *R. Nave Alpino* on 13 May 1912. Although the cover is philatelically-inspired, it is unusual inter-island mail. Interestingly, based on the backstamps, Caso was sufficiently off the beaten path that it took 9 days to get to Rhodes and another two to Calimno.



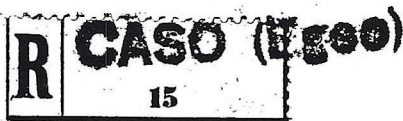
These cards would likely qualify as representing commercial mail from Caso. Both bear World War I censor markings and were sent to France and Greece, respectively, the former at the printed matter rate.

CASO
Special Overprints

Poste Italiane/Cassos (Egeo)
26 September 1919



Reg. Maggiore
D. M. Arturo Calchi
Villino 30¹ P. Agnese



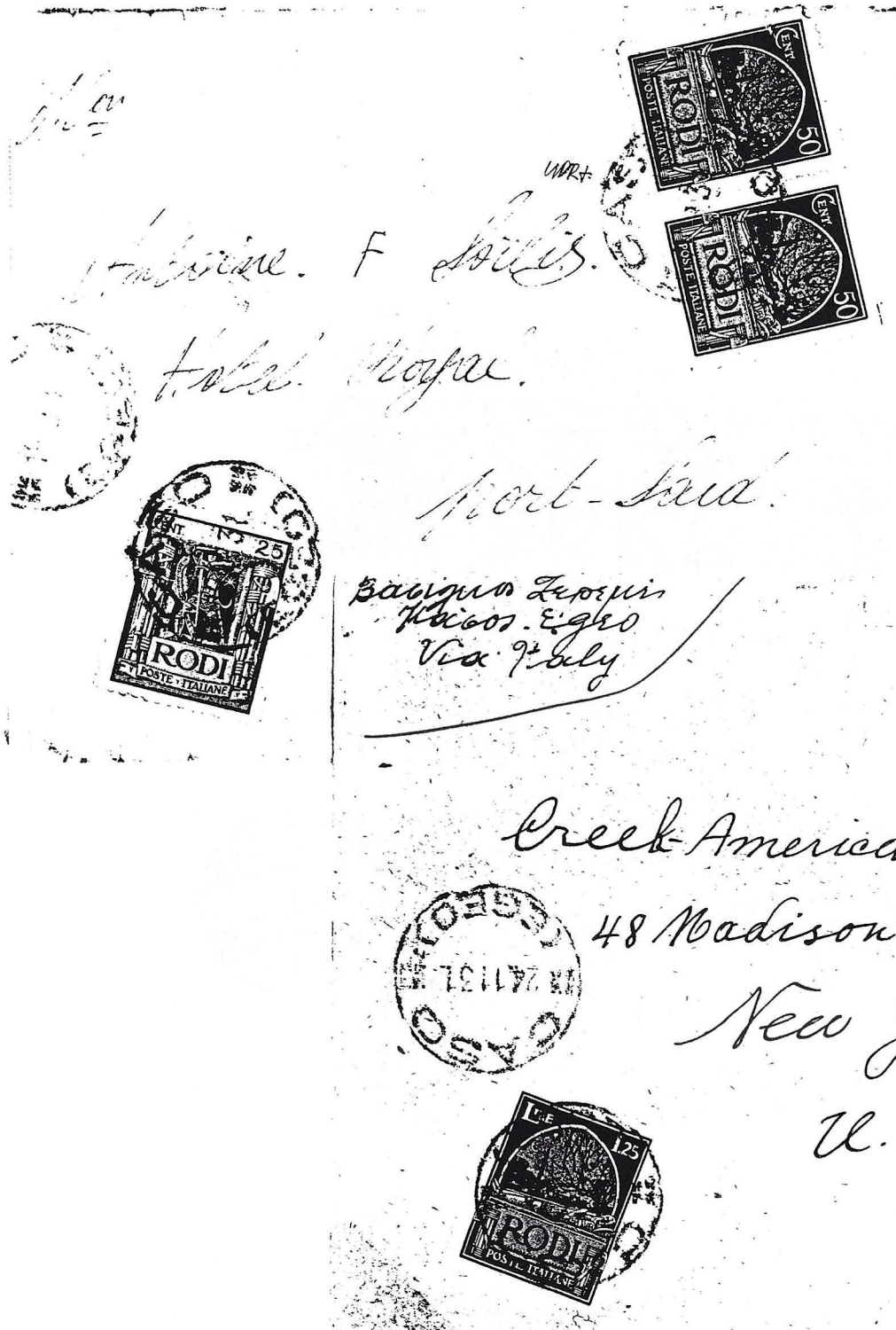
Modena



Unusual franking with a strip of 5 of the 20 cent. surcharge on 15 cent. used to send a registered letter to Modena. On the reverse is a unit cachet of the "Headquarters of the Military Presidio/Caso." Note provisional registry label.

CASO
Rodi Definitives

Caso (Egeo)
19 August 1931
24 November 1931

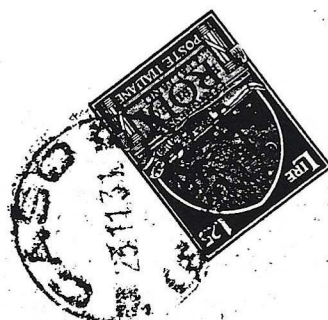


Postal activity on Caso was quite limited so it did not have the proliferation of postmarks noted for the other islands. In fact, this single type was the only one in use from its introduction in 1926 until the end of the Italian administration. Usage of the "Rodi" definitives was normal for this period, shown here paying the international letter rate of Lire 1.25 to Egypt and the U.S.

CASO
Eucharistic Commemorative

Caso (Egeo)
23 November 1931

M²



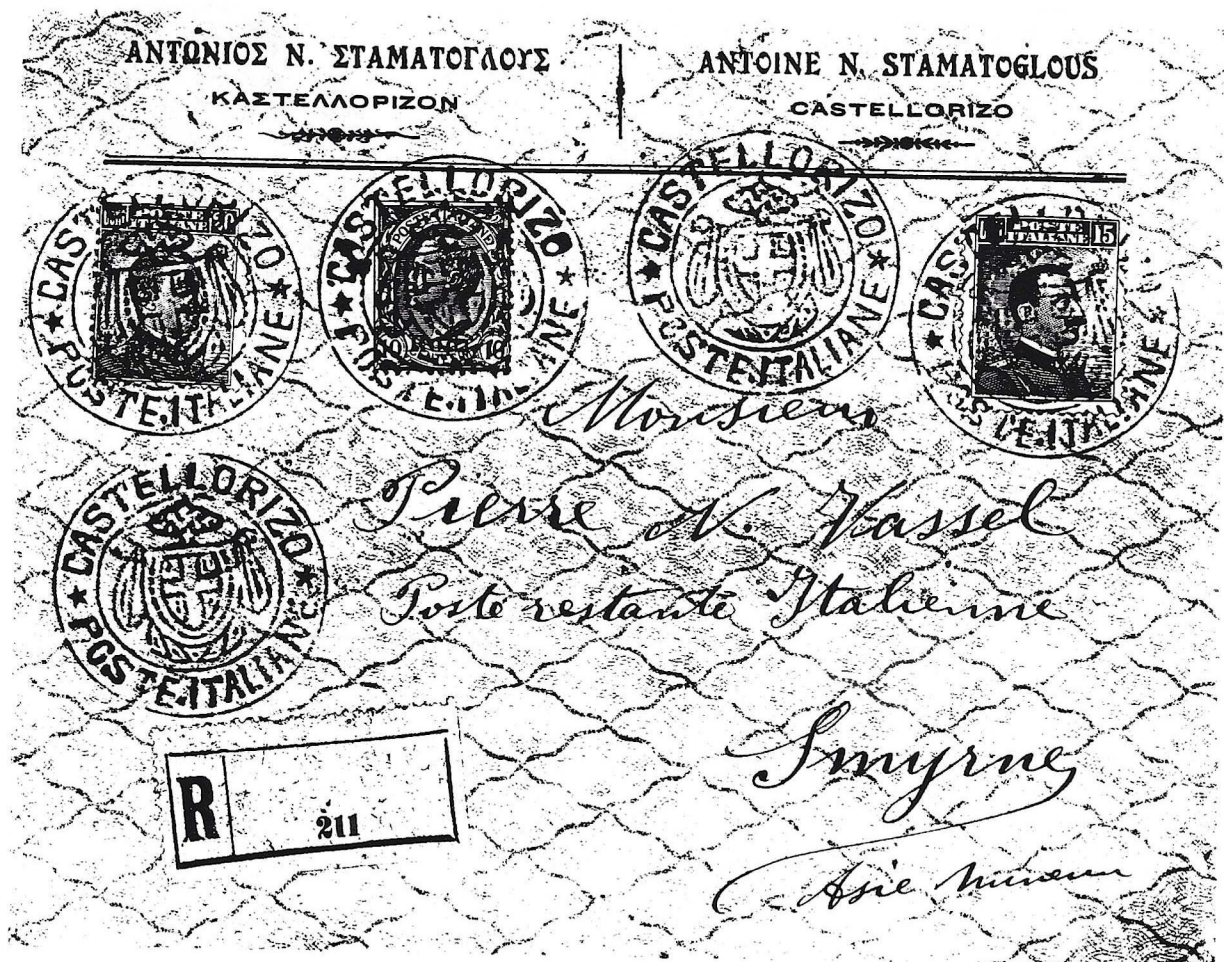
Michel Sofilos
- 36 - Dwight st -
San Francisco California
U. S. A -

This cover is franked with one of the overprinted stamps commemorating the 1931 Eucharistic Congress held in Rhodes. Use of commemorative stamps on commercial mail is very scarce, in this case the Lire 1.25 value paying the international letter rate to California.

CASTELROSSO

Unlike the other islands, Castellosso was not in the Aegean Sea but in the Mediterranean off the south coast of Turkey. It consisted of only 4 square miles and had a population of about 11,000. The Allies thought that the port of Megisti had some strategic value, so the island was occupied by France at the end of 1915. Following the end of the war, the Peace Commissioners assigned the island to Italy. The Italians attached it to the Aegean Islands colony for administrative purposes, so its postal history is included in this exhibit. The Italian takeover became effective on 1 March 1921.

Castellorizo/Poste Italiane
April 1921



At first, the only stamps available were Italian definitives overprinted "Rodi" and, as the special datestamp had not been delivered from Rome on time, the post office used a temporary device featuring the Italian coat of arms for a few weeks. The above cover was backstamped in transit at Rhodes on 9 April 1921.

CASTELROSSO
Special Overprints

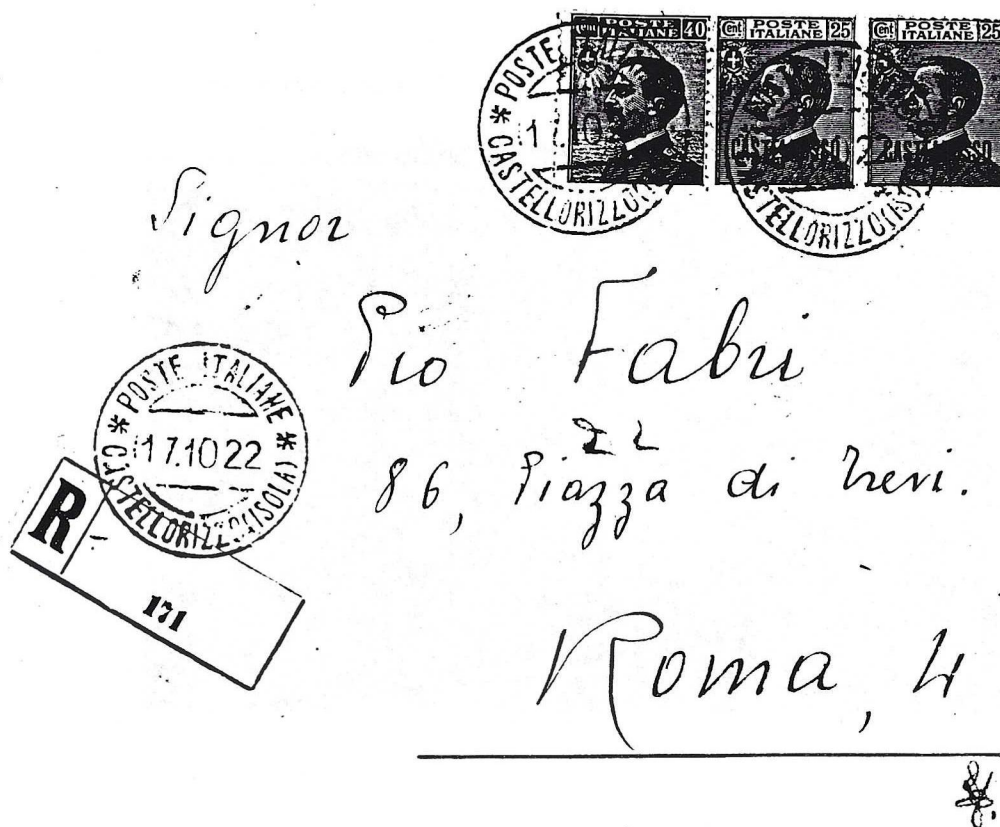
Poste Italiane/Castellorizzo (Isola)
13 January 1913



To publicize the new territorial acquisition, a set of overprints on Italian stamps with a horizontal "Castelrosso" was placed on sale on 11 July 1922. Three values are shown here used on a picture postcard to Genoa. Note that in spite of the Italian spelling used for the overprints, the postmark used was inscribed "Castellorizzo."

CASTELROSSO
Mixed Franking of Italian & Overprinted Stamps

Poste Italiane/Castellorizzo (Isola)
17 October 1922



This cover is unusual in that it is franked with a combination of overprinted and unoverprinted Italian stamps and has a generic registration label which was struck with the postmark to show the originating post office.

CASTELROSSO
Special Overprints

Poste Italiane/Castellorizzo (Isola)
19 April 1923
25 October 1923

à
L'agence Supérieure
de la Compagnie Universelle
Maritime du Canal
de Suez



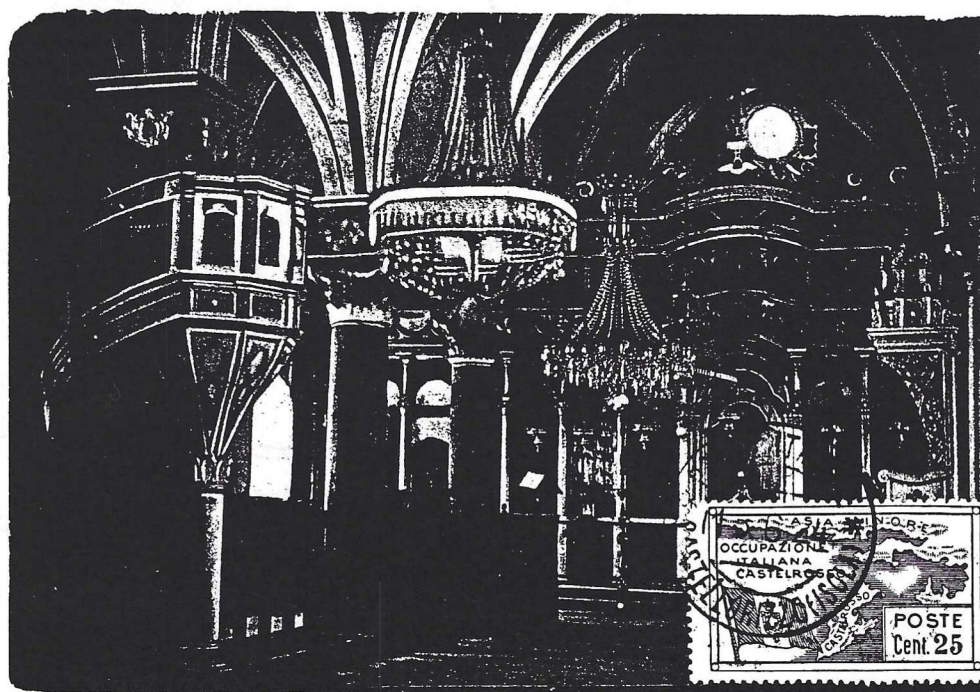
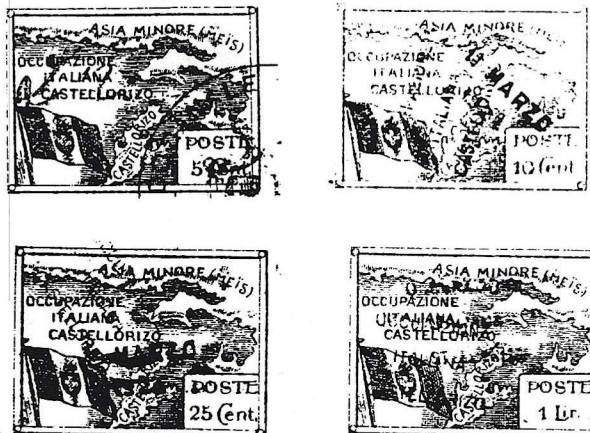
Κυρία
Ελένη Νικολαΐου Γερασσιμίδου
Cleri Nicola Gerassimidis
Ελληνική
Μακεδονία
Castoria Macedonia
Greece.

The Castellorosso (Island)" postmark was in service from 1921 until 1925; its use on commercial mail with the overprinted stamps is elusive. Upper cover sent to the Suez Canal Company in Ismailia, Egypt. It has a transit mark of Alexandria on 1 May 1923 and a receiving mark of Ismailia the following day. The 60 cent. denomination of this series is seldom seen on cover. Lower cover with handstamped registration label sent to Castoria, Greece and has an additional Lire 1.25 in postage affixed to the reverse. Transit markings of Rhodes and Piraeus.

CASTELROSSO
Annexation Commemorative

Poste Italiane/Castellorizzo (Isola)
15 June 1924

Some entrepreneurs, probably associated with the Municipal Council, arranged for the printing of a set of labels depicting a map of the island and tried to convince the Italian postal authorities to issue these as stamps to commemorate the Italian annexation. This proposal was rejected, probably because of the crude nature of the printing, but the Italians liked the idea and ordered a set with a similar design to be printed in Rome. A few of the "essays" or original labels exist overprinted "Italian/Occupation/Castelrosso" and the date.

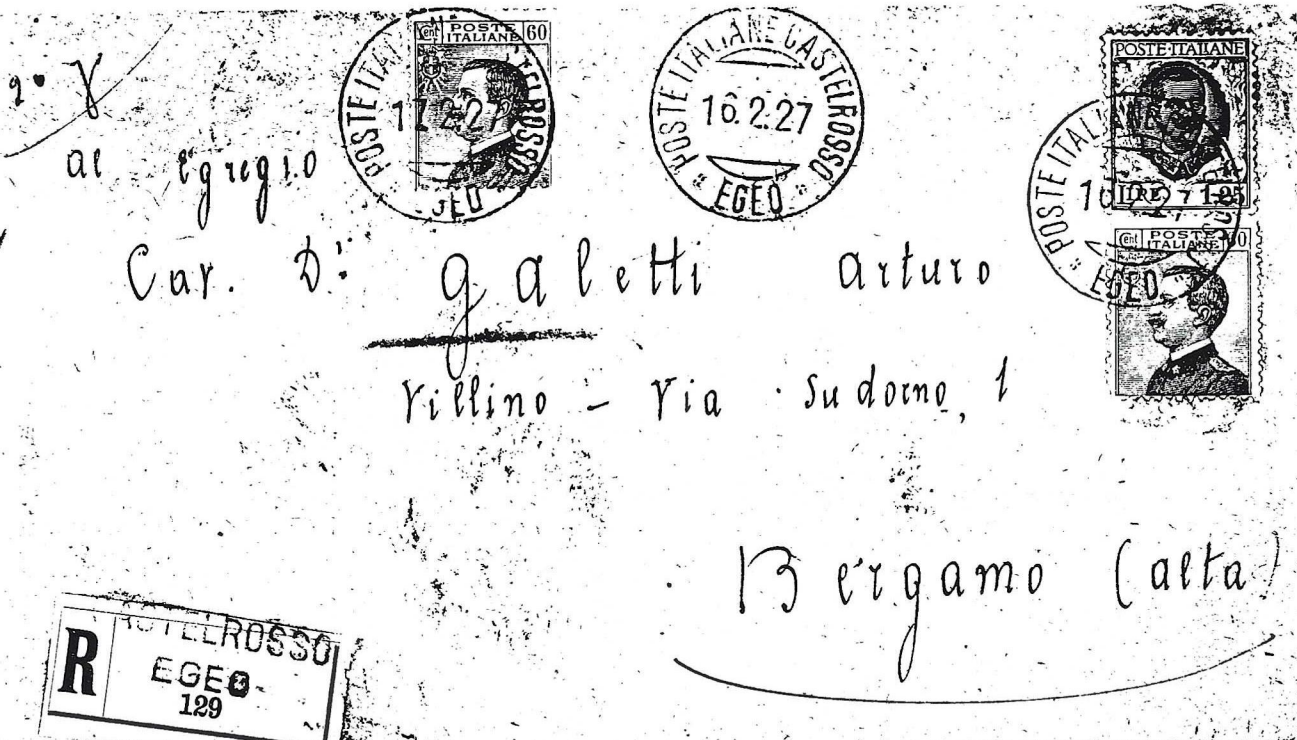


Soliti da Castellorosso - Interno della chiesa Cattedrale di S. Costantino

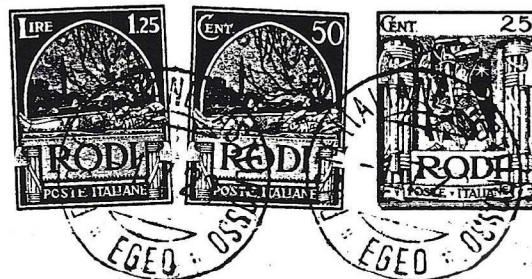
The actual stamps were issued in March 1923 in a quantity of 100,000 sets to commemorate the second anniversary of the Italian annexation. These stamps are rarely seen on cover, and this example was used to frank a picture postcard to Rome.

CASTELROSSO
Unoverprinted Italian Stamps
Rodi Definitives

Poste Italiane Castelrosso/Egeo
16 February 1927
1 July 1929



*Par donar
Beirut. Attene*

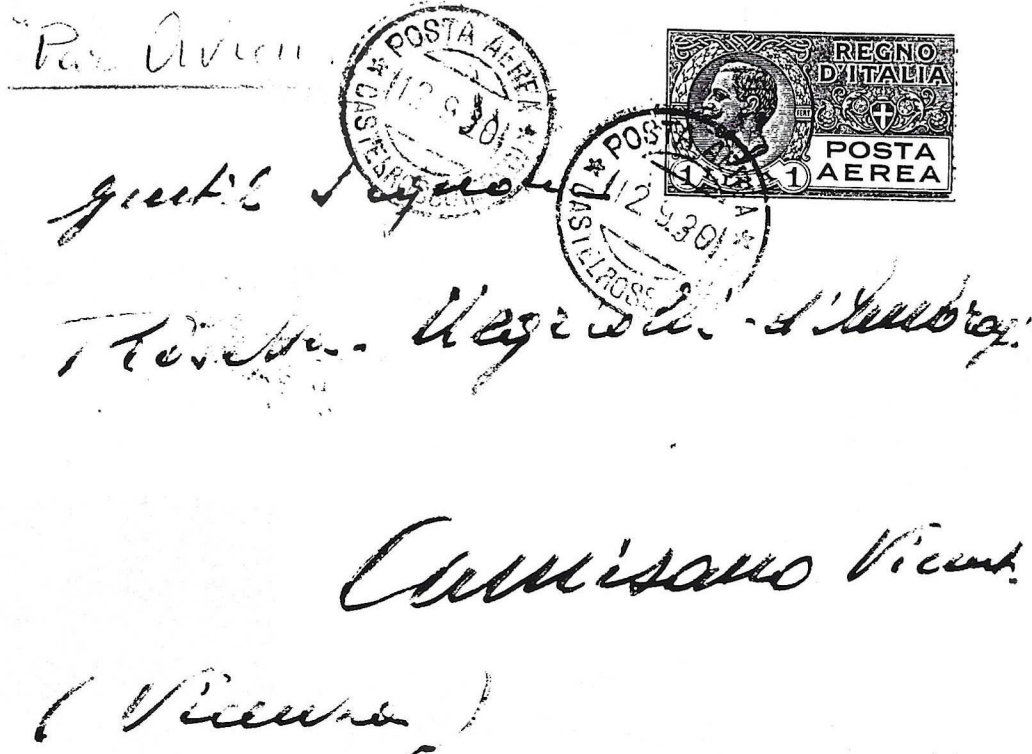


*Monsieur
Ath. Metaxas
Corfu (gréco). Commissaire de Police*

In 1925, a new postmark was provided that gave the correct name in Italian and indicated the colony (Aegean Islands) to which the island was attached. This marking was used until 1940. The Tchilinghirian handbook states that it is "scarce on stamps of Italy." Lower cover flown on the Airunion route from Castelrosso via Beirut to Athens. It was backstamped on 1 July in Beirut and in Athens on 3 July, with a receiving mark of Corfu on 5 July.

CASTELROSSO
Italian Airmail Stamp

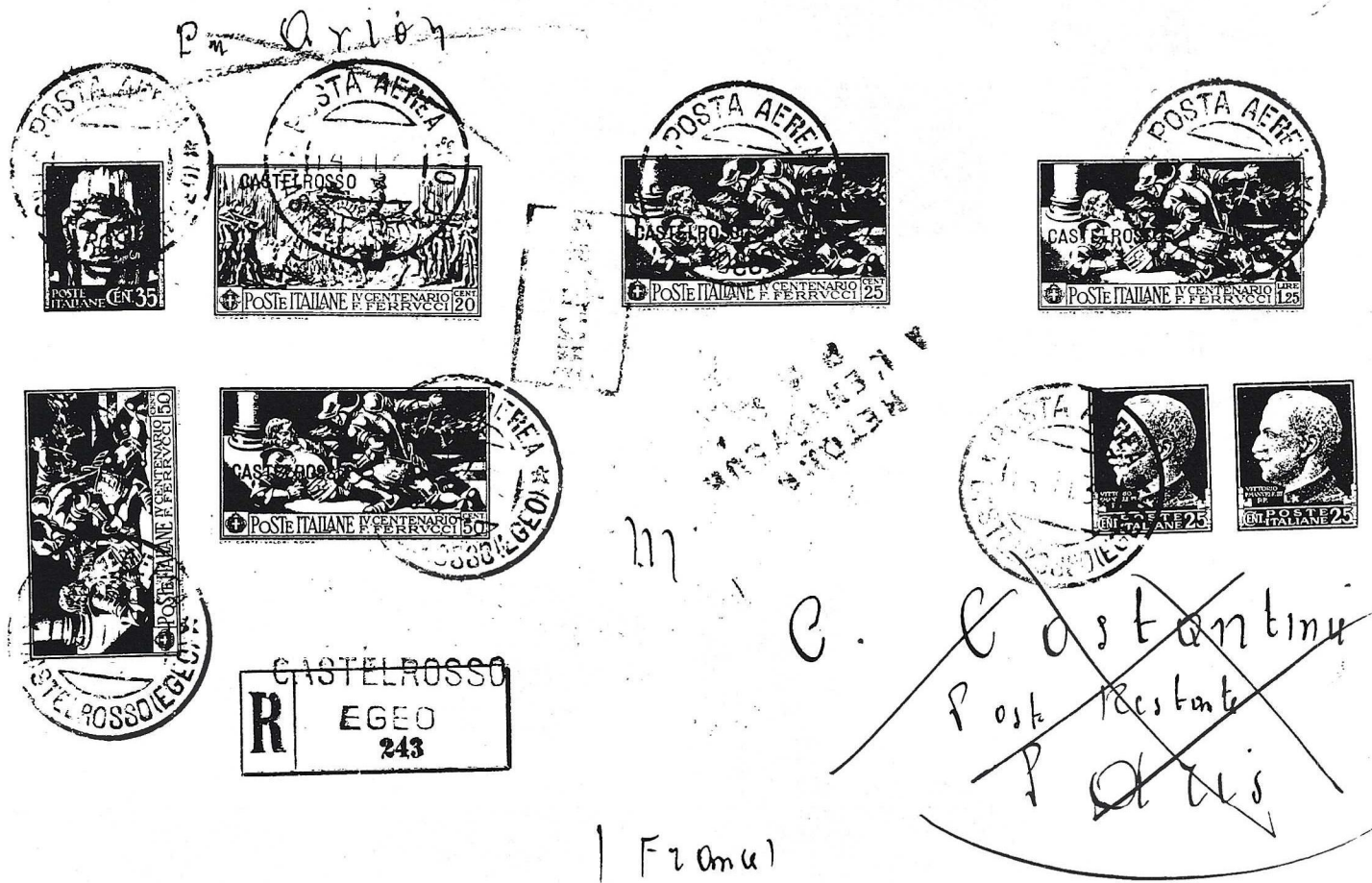
Poste Aerea/Castelrosso (Egeo)
1 September 1930



No special airmail stamps were issued for Castelrosso, but normal Italian ones were valid for postage. Backstamped in Naples and Rome, this cover was received in Camisano Vicentino on 15 September 1930. The Tchilinghirian handbook states that the airmail postmark is "rare on ordinary or Air Mail stamps of Italy."

CASTELROSSO
Mixed Franking of Italian & Overprinted Stamps

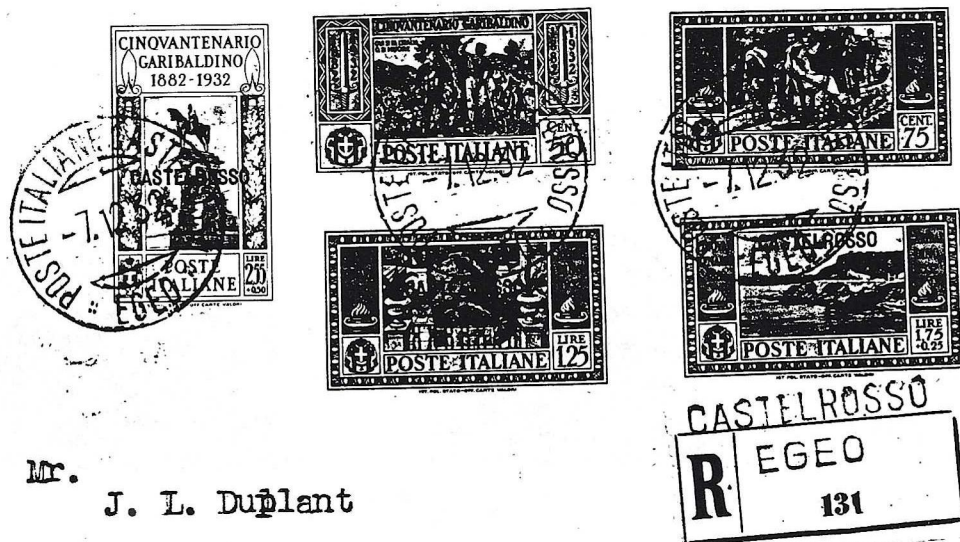
Poste Aerea/Castelrosso (Egeo)
14 November 1930



As for the other islands, the Francesco Ferrucci commemoratives were overprinted for Castelrosso, with 12,000 sets being issued on 20 October 1930. This cover was franked with an unoverprinted commemorative and several regular issues as well as four of the overprints. Addressed to General Delivery in Paris, it could not be delivered and was returned to Castelrosso, arriving on 31 December 1930.

CASTELROSSO
Special Overprints on Commemoratives

Poste Italiane Castelrosso/Egeo
7 December 1932



Mr.
J. L. Duplant
137-43 Willow Place

N.Y. Springfield, L. I.
=====



J. L. Duplant
137-43 Willow Place

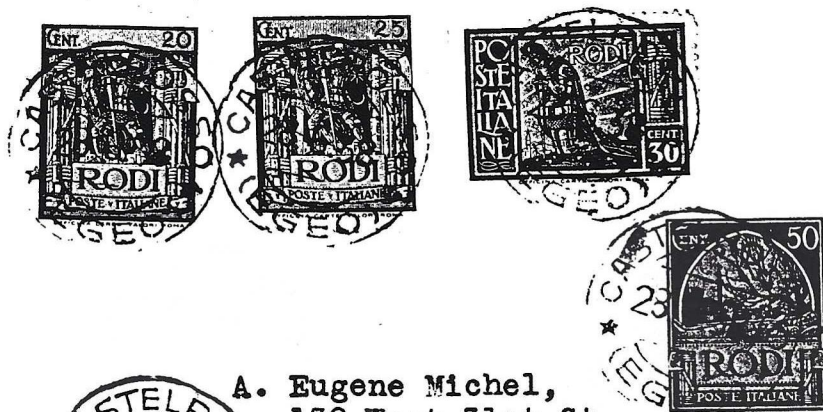
N. Y. SPRINGFIELD, L. I.
=====

On 28 August 1932, 10,000 sets of the Italian stamps commemorating the death of Giuseppe Garibaldi were overprinted and issued for Castelrosso. The above registered covers were philatelically prepared but sent properly through the mails and were delivered in Springfield Gardens, N.Y. four weeks after mailing.

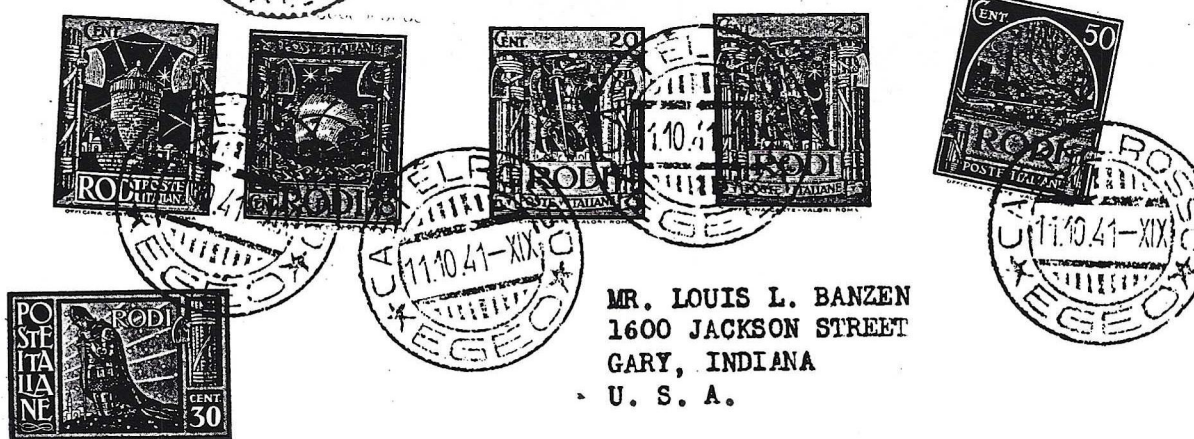
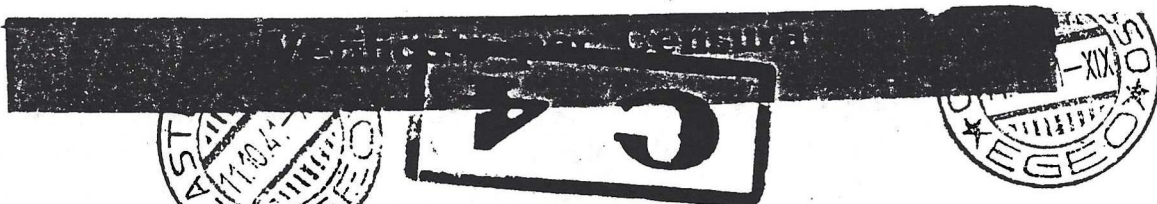
CASTELROSSO
Rodi Definitives

Castelrosso/(Egeo)
28 June 1938

Castelrosso/Egeo
11 October 1941



A. Eugene Michel,
132 West 31st St.,
New York, U. S. A.



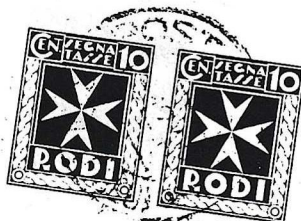
MR. LOUIS L. BANZEN
1600 JACKSON STREET
GARY, INDIANA
U. S. A.

The postmark on the upper cover was introduced in the mid-1930s and used into the 1940s; this example used on a cover to the U.S. has a transit marking of Rhodes on 3 July 1938 on the reverse. The final postmark of the Italian period was used in 1941 and 1942; it is distinguished by heavy vertical bars above and below the bridge containing the date. By this time, Italy had entered the war, so the letter was censored.

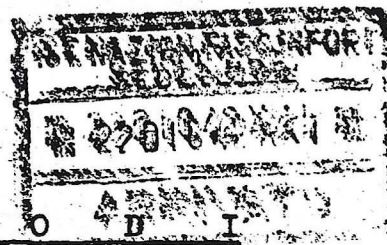
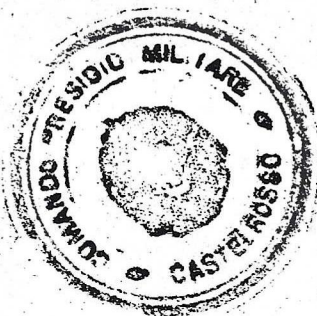
CASTELROSSO
Military Mail

Comando Presidio Militare/Castelrosso
December 1942

n° 1244/L



ALL'ISTITUTO NAZIONALE FASCISTA PER L'ASSICURAZIONE
CONTRO GLI INFORTUNI SUL LAVORO



This official cover with cachets of the Military Headquarters on the Island of Castelrosso was sent to the Fascist National Insurance Institute on Rhodes. The cover has no Castelrosso postmark and was not accepted as postage free upon arrival. At that point, two 10 cent. postage dues and a 5 cent. definitive were added and cancelled with the "Posta Aerea/Rodi (Egeo)" postmark on 18 December 1942.