# A STUDY OF IMPERIAL CENSORSHIP IN BERMUDA, EXAMINATION OF TRANSIT MAILS DURING WORLD WAR II

**SCOPE:** Presents the evolution, nature, scope, and consequences of transatlantic civil transit mail examination in Bermuda by *British Imperial Censorship of Posts and Telegraph*, including pertinent data about the movement of international mails during WW II. With two minor exceptions, the exhibit does not present covers to, from or within Bermuda itself, or covers examined by the five military censorship organizations in Bermuda. Selected rates, the consequences of war as reflected in the mails are also presented.

BACKGROUND - WAR BEGINS AND EVERYTHING CHANGES: Britain's pre-WW II plan for a sea-power based censorship ring against German sea mail at Liverpool and Gibraltar was nullified by the German conquest of Western Europe and Scandinavia and by Italy's entry into the war. It was compounded by Pan Am's transatlantic air service, begun May 1939, bypassing British sea power and carrying rapidly growing volumes of mail. Bermuda, located close to or on established transatlantic sea and air routes in the Western Atlantic, was the choice for a new Censorship ring. Bermuda, Imperial Censorship Regional Headquarters, became WW II's largest transit censorship operation with a peak strength of 700± examiners in July 1941.

#### **EXHIBIT ORGANIZATION**

- 1. Bermuda Station Evolves as Censorship Moves West.
- 2. Staff Organization.
- 3. Labels Used in Bermuda.
- 4. Movement of Bermuda Censors.
- 5. Cover Origins and Destinations.
- 6. Death, Destruction, Diversion, and Displacement
- 7. Post-war Release of "Condemned" and "Prize Court" Mail.

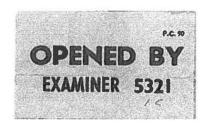
OPENED BY
EXAMINER 5321

Logo identifies Sections 1 - 7

**RECENT RESEARCH YIELDS NEW INFORMATION:** The exhibit presents the results of extensive original study based on: data from 7800 Bermuda censored covers in a collector survey, recently declassified Official WW II Censorship documents, and formation of a personal 2200 cover study collection, extending knowledge of Bermuda Imperial Censorship well beyond previous studies.

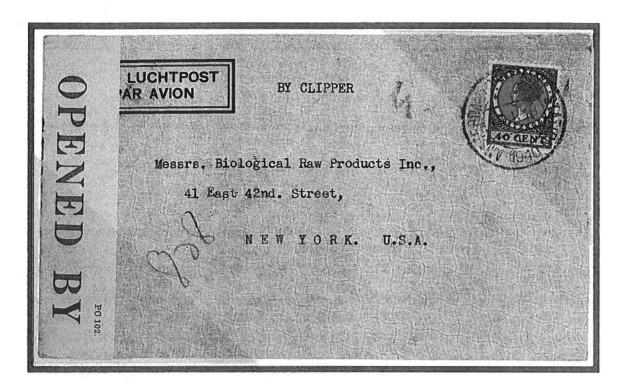
Censorship begins: 18/1/40 east-bound flight of American Clipper Baltimore 16/1/40 b/s, 3 reported 6Peso45 air mail rate to Italy. CM21 h/s used for this flight only.





#### **SECTION 1 - CENSORSHIP MOVES WESTWARD**

**SECTION 1A, CENSORSHIP BEGINS** With the start of WW II, Pan Am's B-314 Clippers on the FAM 18 transatlantic route begin to use the existing Darrell's Island, Bermuda sea plane base as a stop on 6 Sept 1939. Two Imperial censors begin mail examination 18 Jan 1940 (title page). Thereafter PC 102 label was used exclusively until Summer 1940.

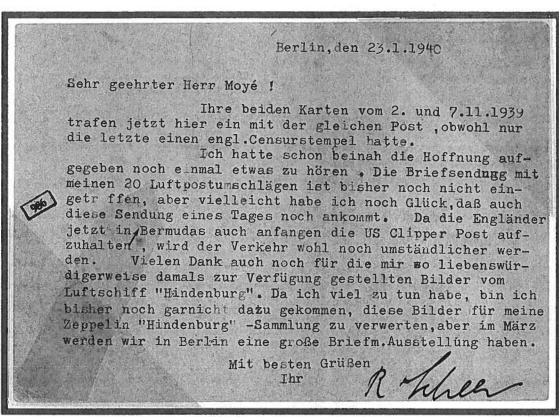




One of 7 reported covers from 1<sup>st</sup> west-bound mail, departing Lisbon 27 Jan 40 on return flight of *American Clipper*, opened by Imperial Censors upon Bermuda arrival 28 Jan 1940. *Posted Amsterdam 12 Jan 40, flown to Lisbon by KLM. Lisbon 17 Jan 40 transit cancel on reverse*. Air mail letter rate of 40c for <5g. to the US

SECTION 1B, IMMEDIATE IMPACT





The impact of censorship was immediate. This postal card, sent just 9 days after the 1<sup>st</sup> Imperial Censors arrived in Bermuda, emphasizes the perils of wartime for the stamp trade. It reads:

"Dear Mr Moye! Both your cards of 2. And 7. November arrived here in the same mail, although only the latter contained an English Censor cancel.

I had almost given up hope of hearing anything again. The dispatch with my 20 airmail covers has still not arrived, but perhaps I will be lucky and it will come some day. Since the British are also beginning to detain the Clipper mail in Bermuda, communication will probably be more troublesome. Many thanks also for the pictures of the airship "Hindenburg" which you so kindly made available to me. Since I have much to do, I have until now never gotten around of making use of these pictures for my "Hindenburg" collection, but in March we will have a large stamp exhibition in Berlin."

## SECTION 1B, IMMEDIATE IMPACT (CONT.)

After 50+ years much evidence of espionage/intelligence remains classified. But, the message on this postal return card boasts openly about German influence in the halls of Congress. The UK was a great pains to blunt this - thus the necessity for censorship.

New-York den 26. Februar 1941. Lieber Bruder u. Familie. -Deine Karte vom 22. Dezember 1940 soeben exhalten und freute uns alle so gute nachricht von Euch zu bekommen. Bei uns ist noch alles beim alten und biz diese Karte Buch erreicht, sind wieder viele Wochen rumm und vieleicht kommt diese Karte nicht zu Buch. Habe zwei offene Briefe an Euch via Chipper gesand & da ja die Englaender alle Post stehlen in Bermuda da ist an sten abwarten dem wir hier haben unter der Hetze wieder sehr viel zu leiden, macht ein Deutscher den Schnabel auf so ist er als gegen America verfolgt desshalb sind die meisten Deutsch-Americaner ruhig. Wir haben noch gute Americaner im Konkress & die lassen die Englaender hier schon nicht zu weit kommen Lasst cefters von Euch was Hoeren und seit alle recht herzlichst von uns allen gerruest besonders die Eltern von Fred Fetterroll & Familie. Schreibe MEINE ADRESS & No. 135-EAST-81 ST. A.

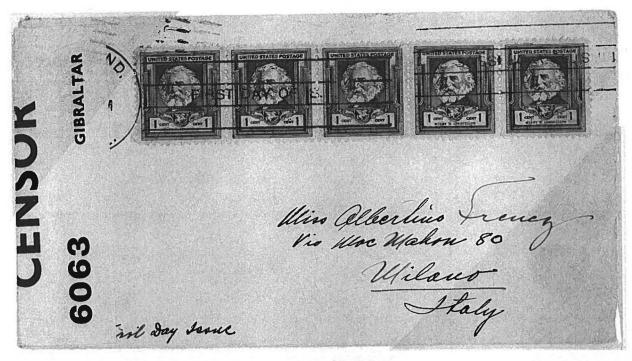


"New York, 26. February 1941

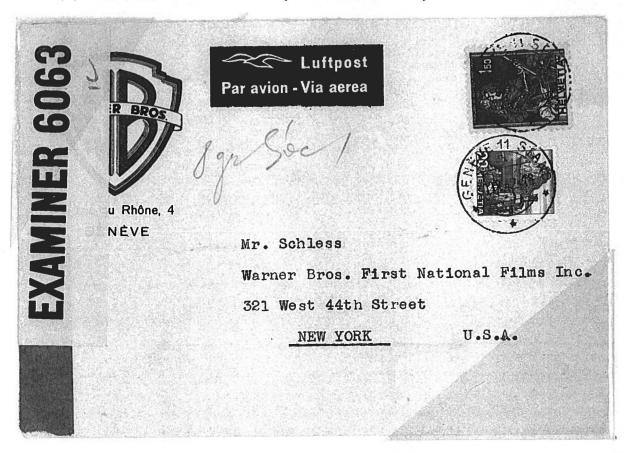
#### Dear Brother and Family:

Your card of 22. December 1940 has just now been received: all of us are delighted to receive such good news from you. Everything is the same with us and until this card reaches you many weeks will have passed: perhaps you will not even get it. I have sent two open letters to you via clipper, and since **the British steal all the mail in Bermuda**, it is best to wait because we still have much to suffer here under the hunt. If a German opens his mouth, he is persecuted as anti-American; therefore most German-Americans remain quiet. We still have good Americans in Congress who do not allow the British here to go too far......."

**SECTION 1C, STATION ENLARGED, GIBRALTAR TRANSFERS** The Gibraltar Imperial station was closed 15/6/40 after Italy declared war on Britain. The Imperial Censorship staff was repatriated to England, many of whom were then transferred to Bermuda as its first major staffing increment. Examiners kept their numbers; Examiner 6063 serving at both Gibraltar and Bermuda.



16/2/40 Famous American 1¢ FDC (5¢ surface mail rate) examined in Gibraltar

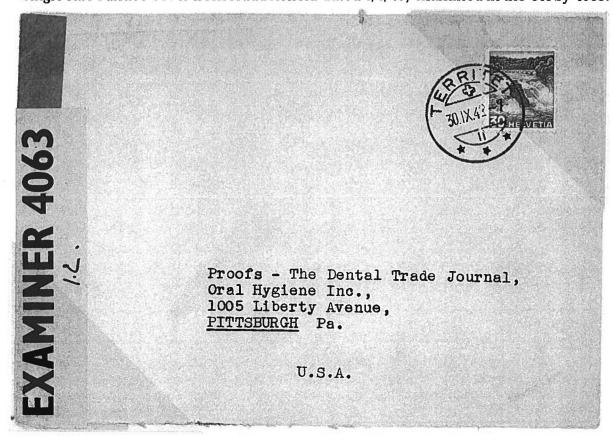


Cover to Warner Brothers from its Swiss subsidiary posted 30/9/42. Examiner 6063 in Bermuda 9/40 to 10/43.

**SECTION 1c STATION ENLARGED (CONT), UK TRANSFERS** In addition to the initial contingent from Gibraltar, examiners were sent from the UK itself. These covers show the UK and Bermuda assignments of Examiner 4063

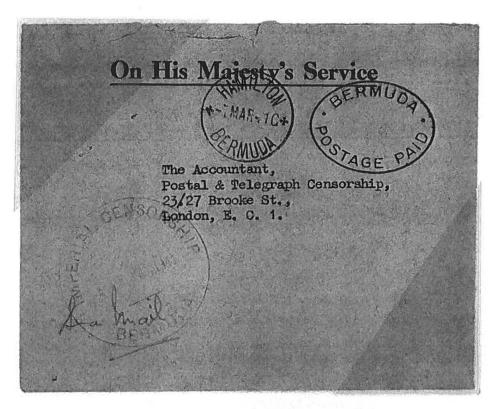


Single rate surface cover from Huddersfield dated 6/6/40; examined in the UK by 4063.

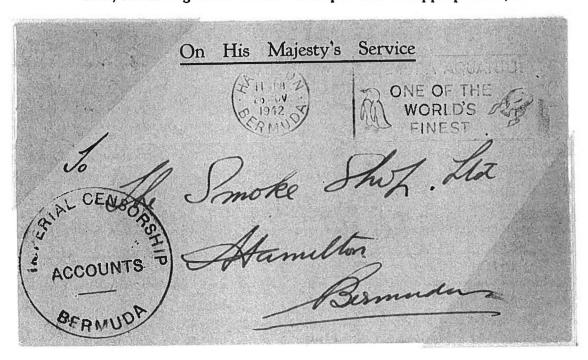


Single rate surface cover from Territet posted 30/9/42; Examiner 4063 in Bermuda 9/40 to 12/42.

**SECTION 1D, AN ORGANIZATION DEVELOPS** Starting with two examiners in January 1940, the Bermuda Station grew to an organization of more than a 1000 examiners and support staff, **the largest in the world**, yet covers from the Imperial Censorship Organization itself are **rarely** seen.



Cover from Imperial Censorship on 7 March 1941 to the 'home office'. Apparently Censorship did not have any stationery of its own, but used generic OHMS envelopes with an appropriate h/s.



This cover is unusual, the "On His Majesty's Service" is **printed in very dark blue** rather than the usual black.

**SECTION 1D, AN ORGANIZATION DEVELOPS (CONT.)** Censorship leased two war-emptied resort hotels in late 1940, providing a large and growing Censorship staff a place to live and work. Covers from examiners living at *Bermudiana* and *Princess Hotels* (See return addresses on the flaps) are censored, even though sent by Imperial examiners. To avoid morale problems of examiners reading each others' mail, the 1 st letter was read by a Terminal Censor and the 2<sup>nd</sup> by a UK examiner. Obverses shown @50%.

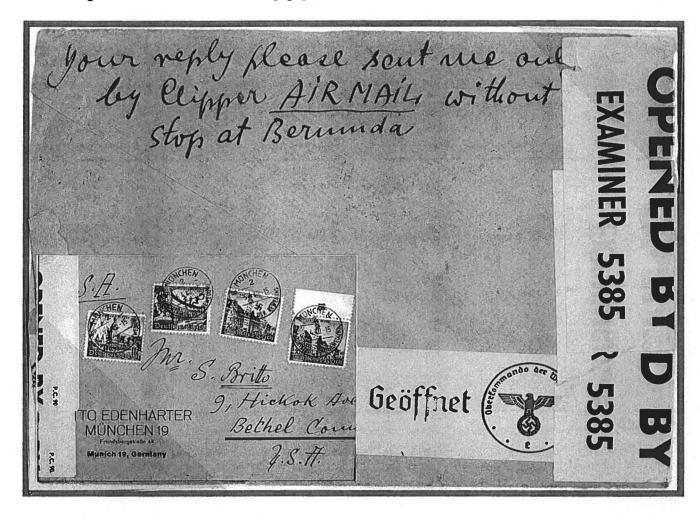


Cover mailed 11/2/41 (3d surface rate <1oz + 3d registration = 6d), arriving in Finland (via Liverpool) 11/5/41. Sender was likely a Finnish & other Scandinavian languages expert. Cover also censored in Finland - the label and purple h/s over Bermuda Terminal PC 102 label of Examiner 77.



Hamilton, Bermuda letter posted to Middlesex, England on 15/7/41. Letter air mail rate  $<\frac{1}{2}$  oz = 2/-.

**SECTION 1E, EVADING CENSORSHIP** The start of censorship caused an immediate US diplomatic and business outcry, resulting in Pan Am bypassing Bermuda for many flights from March to August 1940. The Germans took advantage of this air mail censorship gap; sea mail was still examined.



German correspondents on both sides of the Atlantic were equally determined to avoid Bermuda.



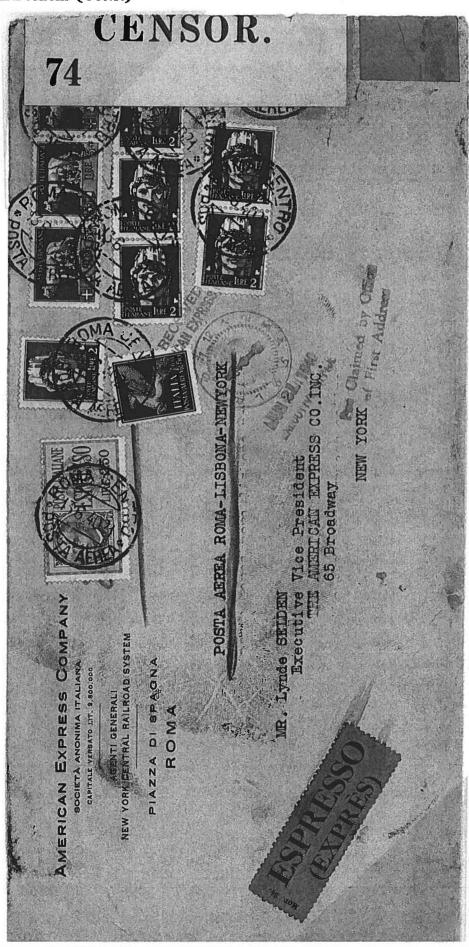
## SECTION 1E, EVADING CENSORSHIP (CONT.)

Pan Am FAM 18 was to avoid a Bermuda stop from March to August 1940, but circumstances occasionally made it necessary. This cover, posted in Rome 13/6/40 and carried on PAA trip #140, Dixie Clipper, was in Bermuda on 17/6/40, getting an unexpected Censorship exam. It was in NYC by 20/6/40 (b/s).

Exprès / Special Delivery covers transiting Bermuda are rarely encountered.

Franking (90 g letter)

2.50 L - o'seas exprès 3.00 L - surface rate 24.75 L - a/m surcharge 30.25 L = Total



## SECTION 1E, EVADING CENSORSHIP (CONT.)

From 29 Dec '40 to 10 Dec '41 *LATI*, the Italian international airline, operated mail regular service to and from S. America. With all Pan Am flights now stopping at Bermuda/Trinidad, the LATI route was used to avoid British Censorship. Additionally a land/air route across Russia (until June 22, 1941) provided another alternative



SECTION 1E, EVADING CENSORSHIP (CONT.)





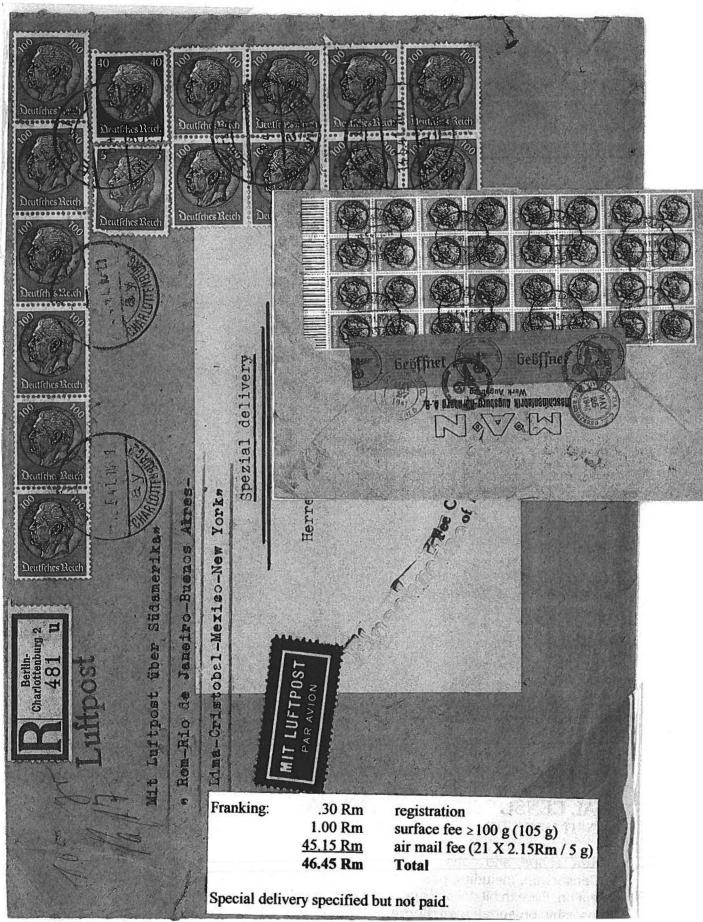
Note the Routing instructions on this (from **Graz, Austria**) and the next two covers as writers sought to avoid Censorship in Bermuda and Trinidad.. There was variation in mail routing as it traveled up the west coast of the Americas. This cover has an uncommon backstamp from the **US Postal Agency, Cali Columbia.** 

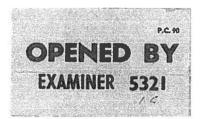




An **Official** cover from the Italian Ministry of Culture has a transit b/s from **Lima**, **Peru**. The m/s "<u>Linea Speciale</u>" inscription specifies the South American west coast route. Double air mail rate to US via LATI required 34.75 L franking.

SECTION 1E, EVADING CENSORSHIP (CONT.) Note the much more specific routing instruction on this cover, yet it bears a Balboa, Canal Zone backstamp. The air mail rate for these covers was 4.5X that of the PanAm FAM 18 route to New York (see below).





#### **SECTION 2 - ORGANIZATION OF EXAMINERS**

'Tables' of 15 - 20 examiners were organized under a Deputy Assistant Censor, **DAC**, each with specialized knowledge of subjects such as banking, languages, commerce, or geopolitics.

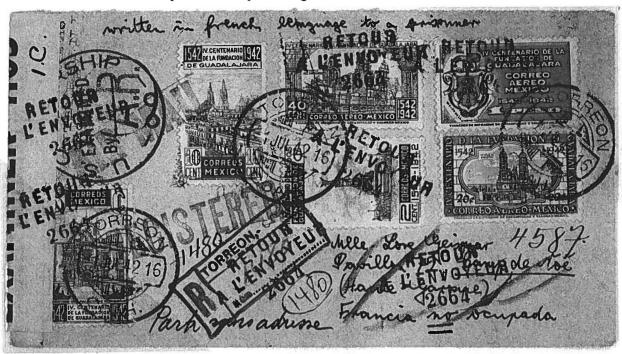
**SECTION 2A, INTERNEE/PRISONER OF WAR** Letters to and from **Camp Les Milles**, Vichy France. Note: 1<sup>st</sup> addressee had escaped, "Evadé", letter returned by Chief Postal Officer (Le Vaguemestre)





## SECTION 2A, INTERNEE/PRISONER OF WAR (CONT.)

There were many French internment camps, two others were **Camp de Noe**, Haute Garonne and **Camp de Gurs**, Basses Pyrenees. They are tangible evidence of the Holocaust.



Torreon, Mexico, 1 Jul 42, franked with Guadalajara Quadricentennial to Camp de Noe, Haute Garonne, Unoccupied France. All stamps and previous markings obliterated with censor h/s: "Retour / a L'envoyeur / 2664". M/s notation "Parti sans adresse", a euphemism for transport to a German death camp. Returned by surface.



Bottom cover is unusual, going to another detainee in Canadian Camp 42.

SECTION 2A, INTERNEE / PRISONER OF WAR (CONT.)

1. U. S. A. 167 **EXAMINER 6753** Popl. L. W. Smith. 6936. Absender: - Bezelehaung: Stalag XX A (3A) girt Circle SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE id, Calif., U.S.A. PRISONERS OF WAR CORRESPONDENCE. KLAPOSTAGE FREEDNO FOR SET RECUIRED **NOV 22** ROLL CALL 2 shipman Wright, R.N. Asoners of War Information Bureau RE CREEK COAL COMPANY, INC. CHURC 17 BATTERY PLACE New York Absender to lead to le CAPITAINE GEF. NO. 874 BLOCK 11

Cover 1. English POW, 1 Dec 41, in German Stalag XX A to US with early US label. Returned US covers: Cover 2 to Royal Naval Officer via German POW Bureau and Cover 3 to French POW in Oflag VI D Surface POW mail was postage free, so censors removed commemorative stamp.

## SECTION 2A, INTERNEE/PRISONER OF WAR (CONT.)

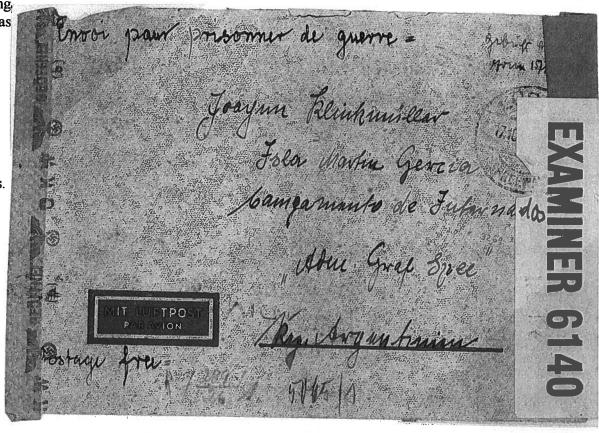


Letter from Italy 15/7/42 to Italian POW in US Camp at Danbury CT. Only single rate a/m surcharge of 2.70 L paid (actually .05 L underpaid) as POW surface rate was free.



## SECTION 2A, INTERNEE/PRISONER OF WAR (CONT.)

Special expedited handling, of post-free POW mail was provided by both sides to avert retaliation against their own POWs. Cover from Germany to a crew member of the scuttled German ship, *Graf Spee*, who was interned on Isla San Martin, Argentina. 20/12/42 Buenos Aires b/s.

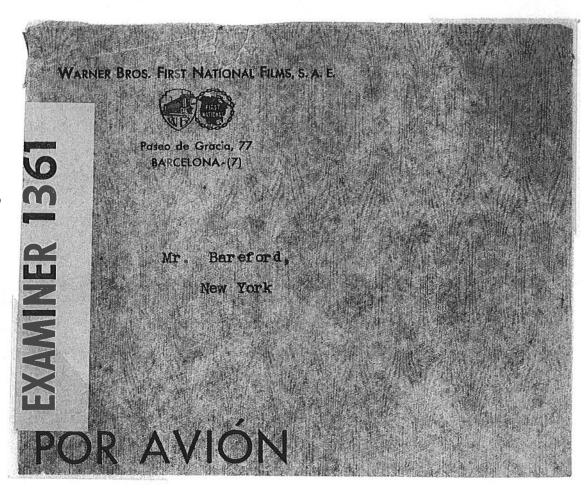


## SECTION 2B,

TRAVELERS CENSORSHIP
A stand-alone Travelers
Unit of 6 - 7 examiners at
Darrell's Island Seaplane
Base, examined letters
being hand carried by
passengers on Pan Am
flights or ships, as well as
interrogating passengers

and crew. This cover has no franking, postmarks, or complete mailing address.

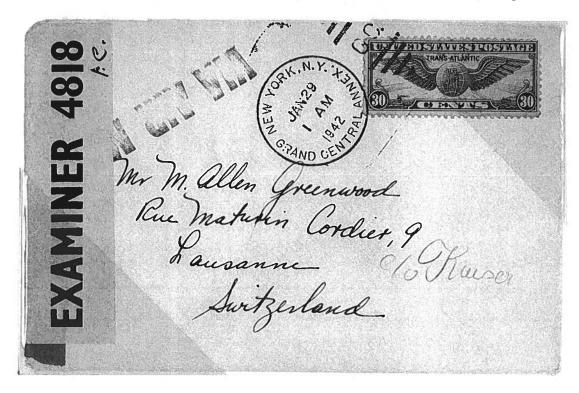
Four reported.



**SECTION 2D, PRIVATE** This was another large unit of Censorship, examining solely mail between individuals. It was entirely staffed by female "Censorettes".

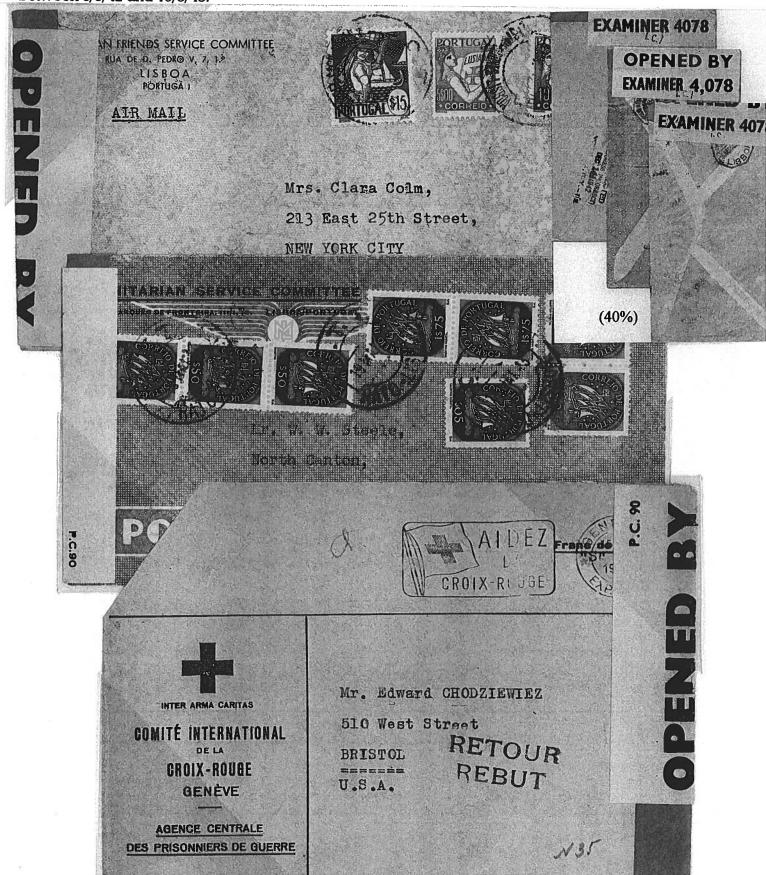


The envelope lining has been stripped out as a part of the examination process.

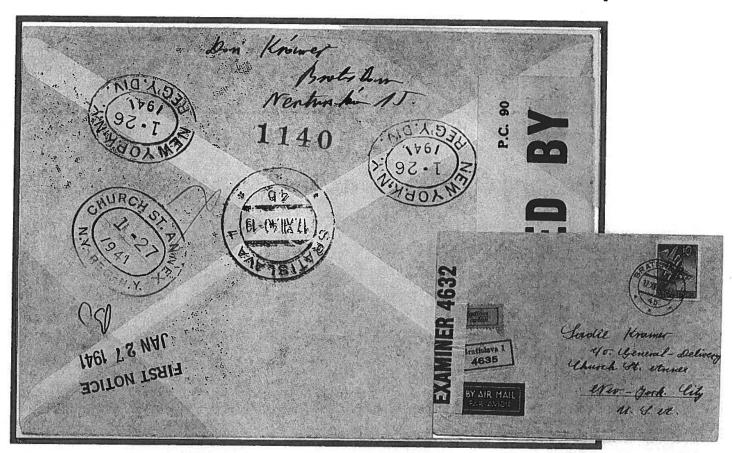


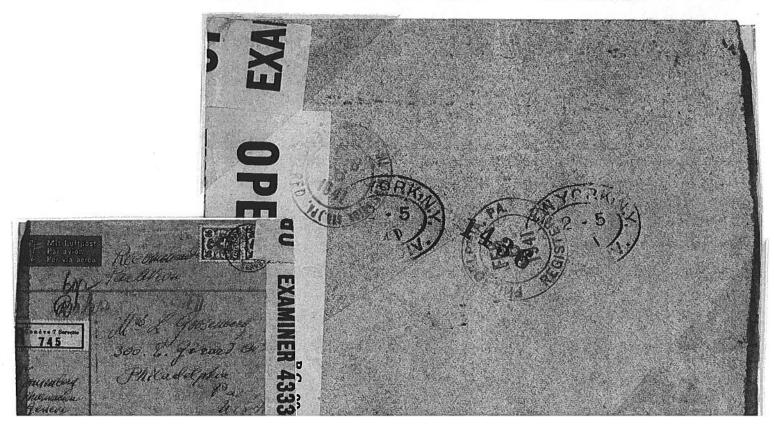
Cover from an extended correspondence between US and Switzerland. Since Spain, Portugal, Sweden, and Switzerland were neutral more covers to and from them are seen.

**SECTION 2E, RED CROSS & HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS** A section handling mail to or from organizations serving prisoners of war, refugees, internees, and others dispossessed by the war. The covers show one examiner, #4078, using two styles of label, examining mail from three such organizations between 8/5/42 and 19/5/43.

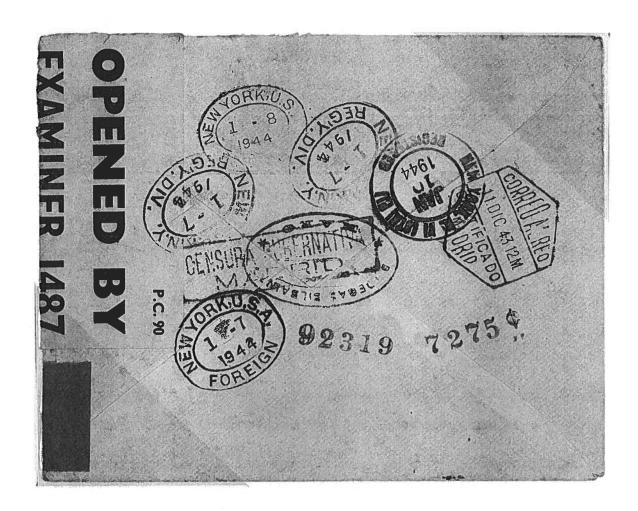


SECTION 2F, REGISTERED MAIL The Registry Section, located in a secure area, assured contraband was identified, seized, and protected and that legitimate valuables reached their destination. Starting in mid-Jan. 1941 a 4 or 5 digit h/s number (between 1000 and 99,999) was applied to the back center of each envelope. Mail from a given flight or ship was kept together until it continued its journey. These next 3 covers show numbers at the extremes (earliest reported use) of reported numbers. The number 1st appeared in deep grey-purple, six reported, but by the end of January the h/s was in red and would remain so for general registered mail. This is the lowest reported red number.





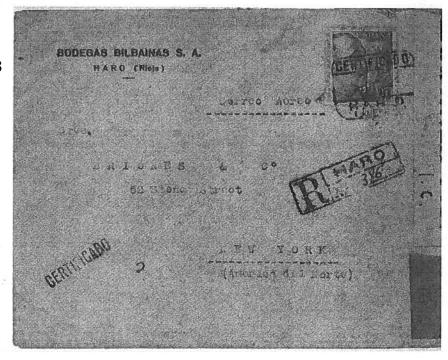
## SECTION 2F, REGISTERED MAIL (CONT.)



Cover with high Bermuda registry number. Also shows US registry numbering system begun in mid-1943 using a purple, four digit h/s in a slightly different typeface, with a "¢" suffix added to distinguish the US number, 7272¢, from the Bermuda number, 92319.

## Franking:

9.40 P = 2 X 4.70 P/5 g a/m rate \_.60 P = registry fee 10.00 P = Total



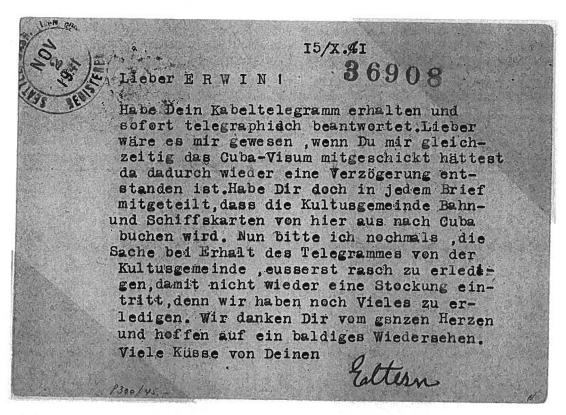
#### SECTION 2F, REGISTERED MAIL (CONT.)

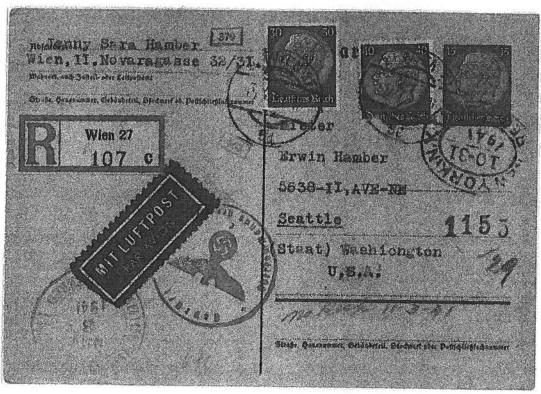
The presence of the registry number is very helpful in collecting and studying censored covers, as it confirm Bermuda censorship. Not all examined mail was closed by a label if it was not opened, or rather if it was opened surreptitiously with no traces of the examination, or was a postal card.

Cover 1, Breslau 27 Jan 41, reg. cover from Jewish sender ("Israel" middle name) to US Immigration authorities. German censorship in Frankfort ("e" tape & h/s), (50%). Cover 2, Shanghai, China, 10 Sep 41 'Two-Ocean' reg., Exprès cover to Vienna, Austria (b/s 12 Nov 41), (75%).



**SECTION 2F, REGISTERED MAIL (CONT.)** Registered postal card (5/10/41) from Jewish sender ("Sara" added to name) in Vienna, Austria seeking son's assistance with emigration through Cuba. NYC arrival 31/10/41. German censorship in Frankfort.





Franking:

0.15 Rm - postal card surface

0.30 Rm - registration fee

0.40 Rm - a/m surcharge

0.85 Rm - Total





Cover, 1st examined by Germans (secret ink testing smear on face and blacked out text). The British were capable of and took great pains to read the crossed out text to see what the Germans wished to conceal.

Cover posted 16/12/42 at Gordola, reposted Locarno 24/1/43. Mail interruption due to German seizure of Vichy France (crossed out "Retour-Zuruck" h/s).

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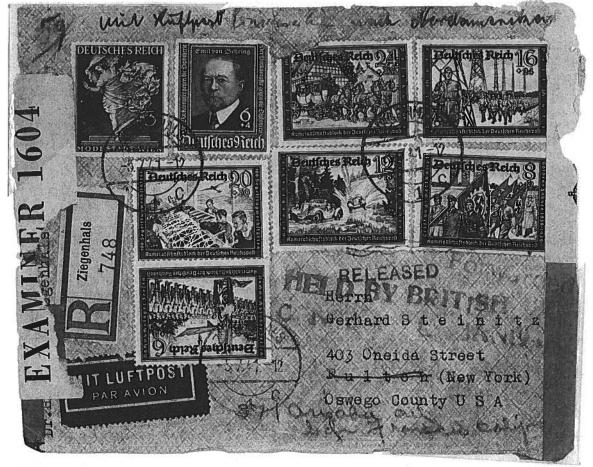


Portuguese cover with multiple impressions of Bermuda "Securities" handstamp - Discovery copy. Unique Bermuda green registry number, 63003, (100% inset) rather than the usual red! A UK-US special handling system referred securities-containing mail to a US Federal Reserve Bank for contraband evaluation and possible seizure.. Liechtenstein cover is 2<sup>nd</sup> known copy and has normal red h/s (inset). Bermuda CL9b # 6197 label.

SECTION 2I, STAMPS An important aspect of German foreign exchange. Bermuda strangled the trade, and individual collectors were trampled. These covers, one in each direction, were intercepted and seized, only reaching their destinations post-war. Exhibit Section 7 expands on the marks from the condemnation process. Only condemned cover to Denmark. Probably from last big pre-war US stamp show + official USPOD notice.



New 50¢ transport air mail FDC. Over franked by 5¢ (30¢ a/m + 15¢ reg.). Copenhagen b/s 9/2/46!!



Properly franked 95 pf reg. a/m single-rate cover (5/7/41) to US plastered with semi-postals (? a numeric code). Cover received in NYC 5/3/46. Transition Labels, Section 3b, shows 2<sup>nd</sup> #1604 label.

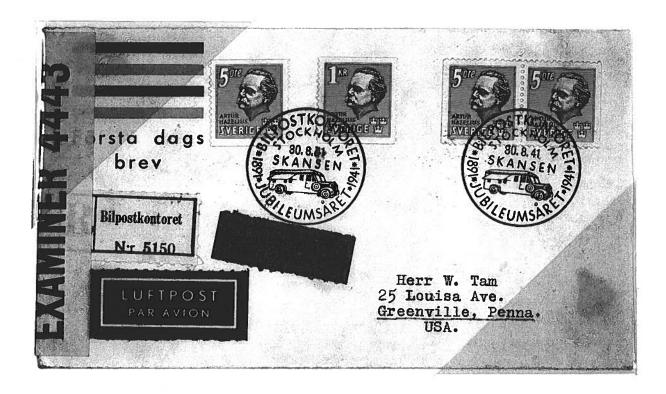
## **SECTION 21, STAMPS (CONT.)**

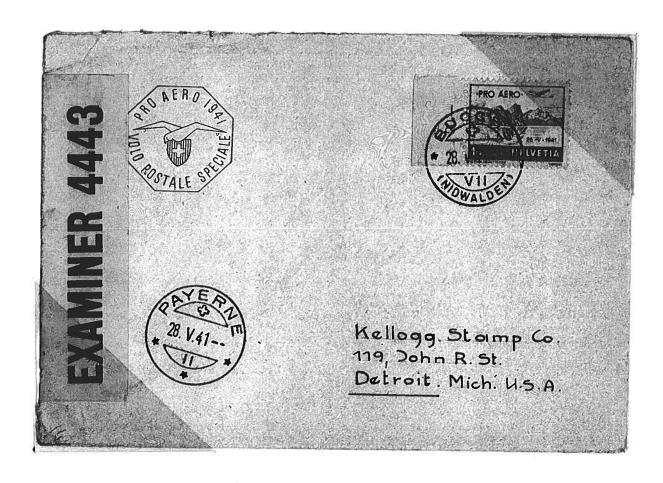
Philatelic mail was not always condemned, as it was in the case of the previous two covers which had a belligerent/occupied nation at one terminus or the other. This unusual and very philatelic dual franked cover was examined, but allowed to pass between the US and Switzerland and return.



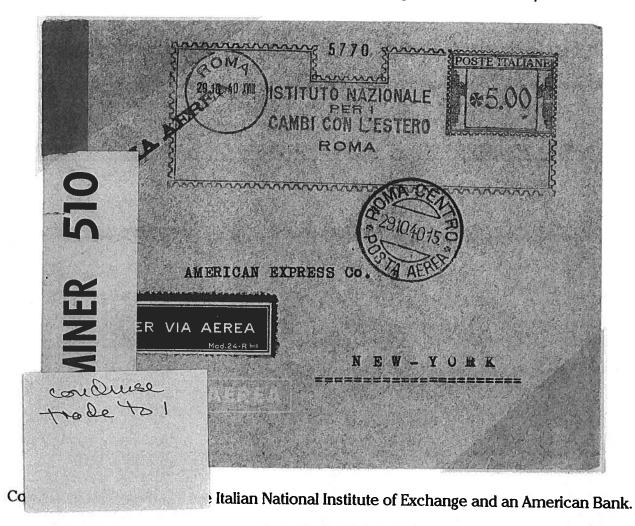


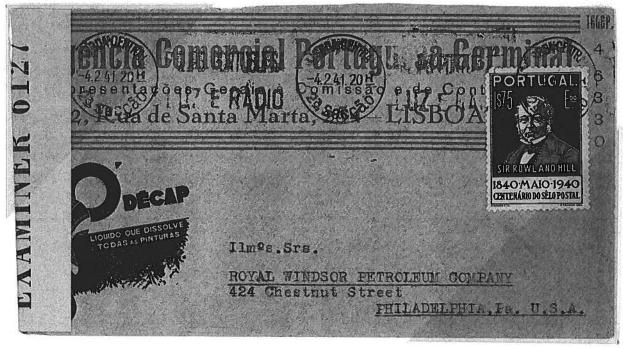
## SECTION 21, STAMPS (CONT.) Examiner 4443 was responsible for screening philatelic covers.





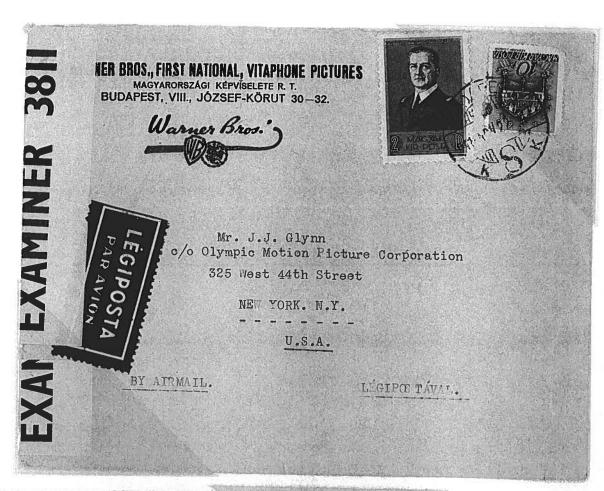
**SECTION 2K, TRADE** Business mail was one of the largest divisions of Imperial Censorship which was vitally interested in detecting and interrupting any trade which might benefit the Axis powers.

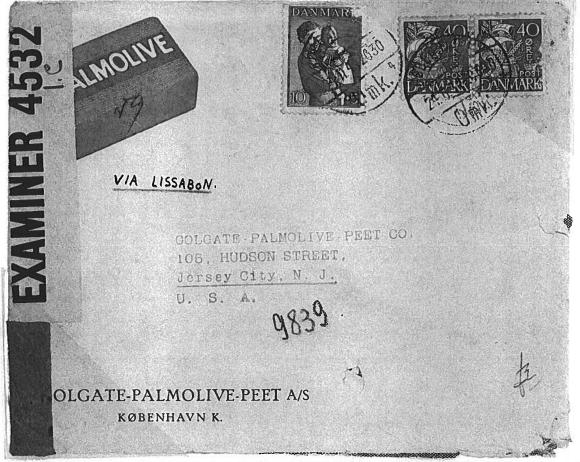




Correspondence between commercial petrochemical firms in Lisbon and Philadelphia.

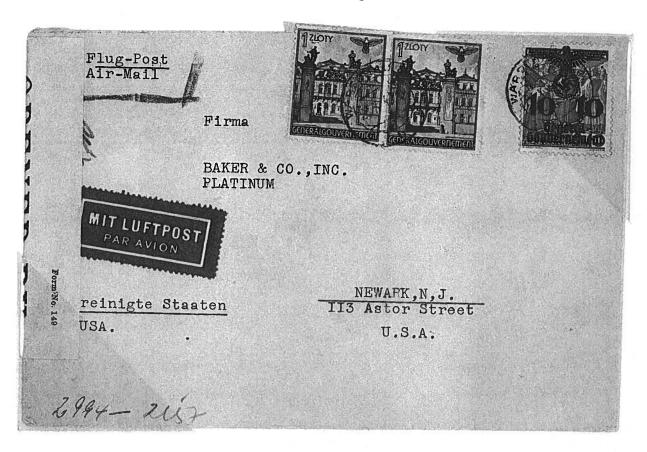
SECTION 2K, TRADE (CONT.)

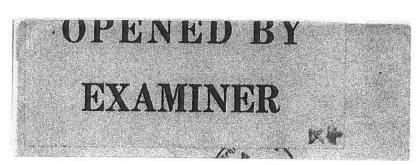




Trade was important between US companies and their foreign subsidiaries. The US was concerned the UK would learn US trade secrets. Heated Diplomatic exchanges on the subject led Pan Am to bypass Bermuda for portions of 1940. US concerns never fully abated.

**SECTION 2K, TRADE (CONT.)** A key aim of Censorship was to eliminate German trade in strategic materiels, such as platinum! Such letters would have been examined by a Trade Table for information about precious metals and strategic elements such as tungsten.

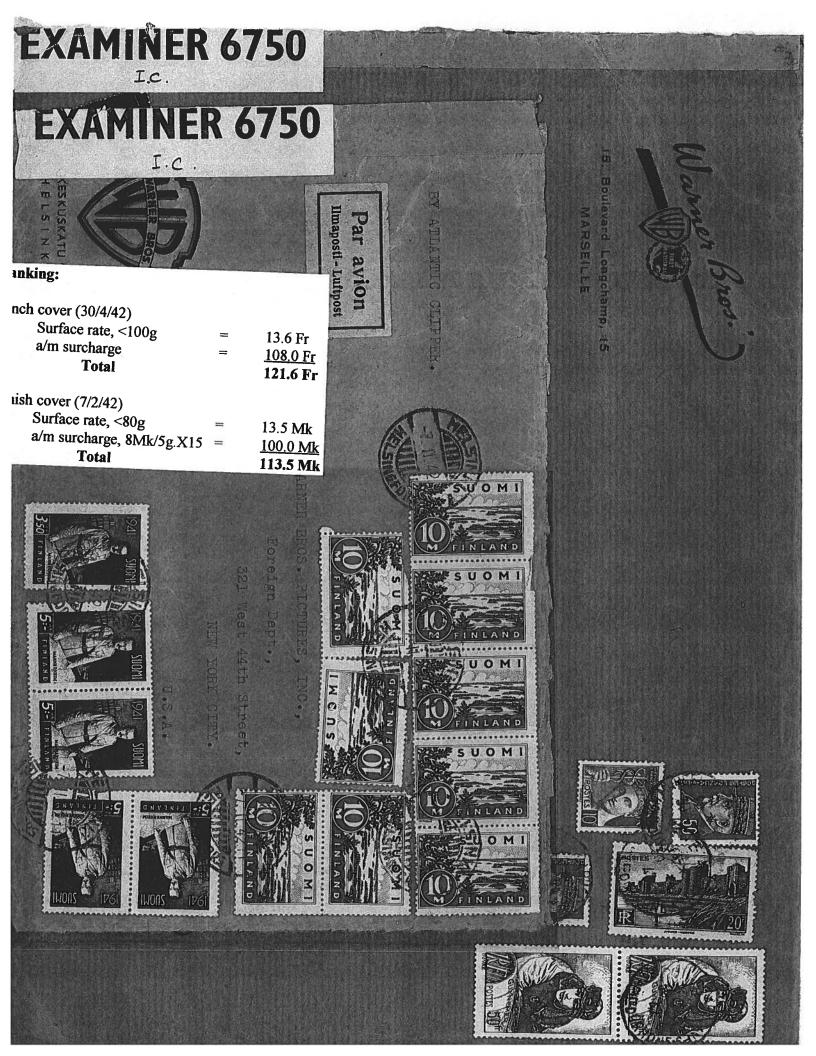


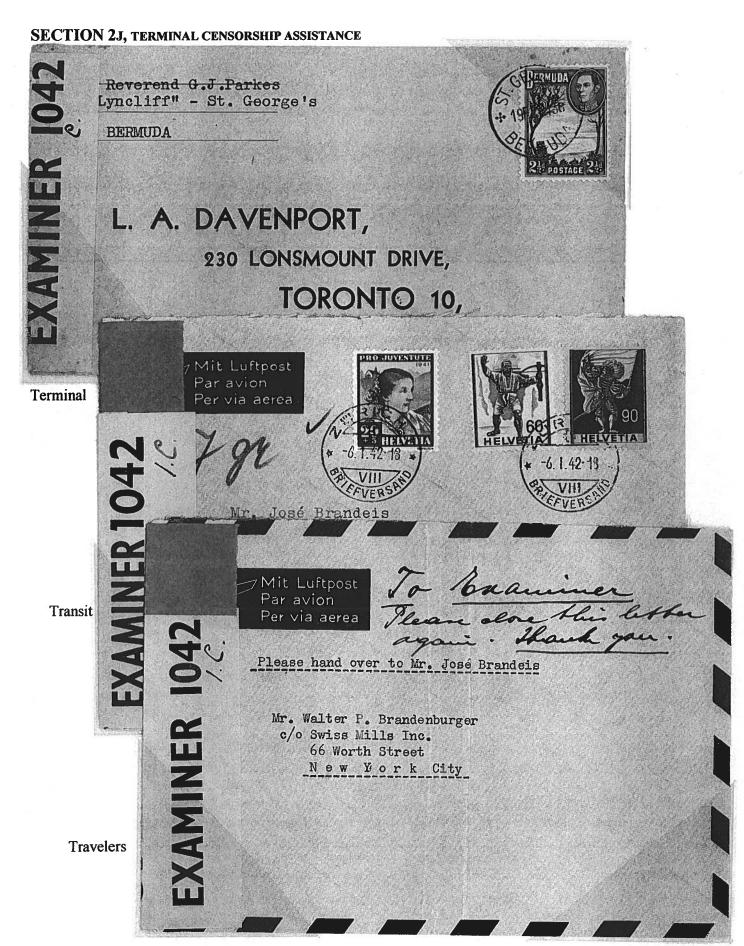


(Copy 100%)

Poland (Occupied), 21/10/40, cover from Warsaw to Newark, NJ. Closed with Local Bermuda CL 10 unnumbered label, examiner's m/s initials "DCH" added in blue pencil - **only such cover reported.** Carried by Deutsch Luft Hansa (DLH) to Frankfort then to Lisbon and PAA FAM 18. Franking: 60 groszy surface rate <20g + 2 X a/m surcharge 75 groszy/5 g= 2 Zloty 10 groszy

Trade/business correspondence often used oversize envelopes with very high franking of these overweight items. Two such covers are on the next page. Very few of these have survived.





On occasion transit censors helped examine terminal mail leaving Bermuda, using transit PC90/CL5 labels, which are not otherwise recorded being used by terminal censorship in Bermuda. Here, the examiner added an m/s "C" rather than the usual transit "I.C." - 25 such covers have been recorded. Examiner 1042, a general factorun, also assisted at Travelers Censorship as well as performing his/her usual transit duties.



Special linguist examiners were skilled in over 30 languages, many were fluent in several languages with one knowing seven languages! Examiner 5175 was skilled in Eastern European languages.

#### SECTION 2M, UNCOMMON LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT (CONT.)

Just as west-bound letters from several countries sharing a common language group were seen by a single examiner, so were east-bound covers from a variety of countries which shared a common language - in this case Czechoslovakian.





# **SECTION 3, THE LABELS**

A wide range of resealing labels were used on examined letters. For clarity most labels are scanned at 100%, a few entires are scanned at 75%. The label numbering system, not elsewhere available, fuses the alphanumeric systems of Ludington and Torrance & Morenweiser.

SECTION 3A, EARLY LABELS This distinctive label, in shades of red, was the only one used until Summer 1940, and then along side new labels until November 1940. 65 PC 102 examiner numbers reported (51 // 201). It is uncommon due to its brief period of use, the low volume of mail at the time, and PAA frequently.

bypassing Bermuda from 4/40 to 8/1940.

CL2 (PC102) label Local 207 reported 1/40 - 11/40

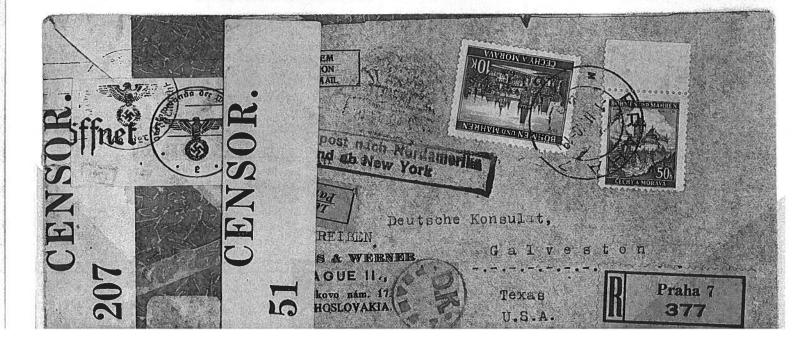
Posted 19 Aug 1940, carried by land to St. Gallen, Switzerland, by land/rail to Rome via Chiasso, by Ala Littoria to Lisbon, by FAM 18 to NYC, arriving 3 Sep 1940. It is the only reported cover from Liechtenstein with a PC 102 label.

#### **Franking**

30 Rp - surface 30 Rp - registry 240 Rp - a/m surch. (4X 60 Rp/5 g) **300 Rp - Total** 

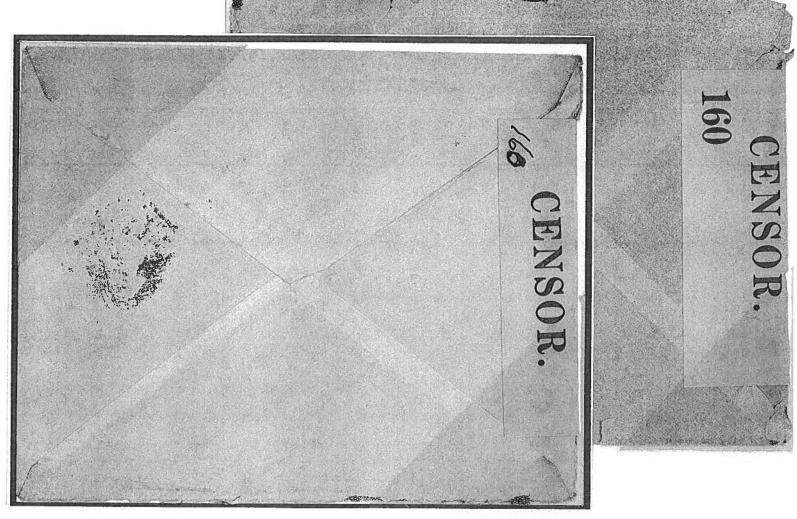


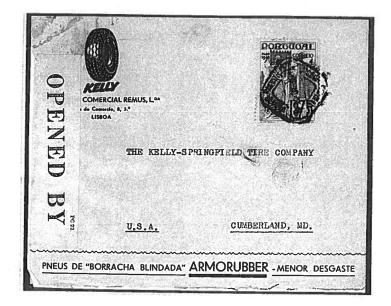




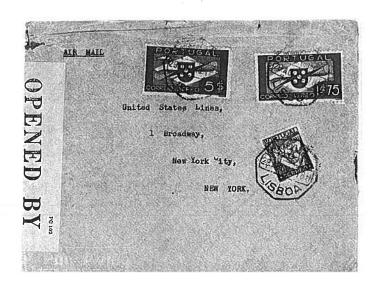
numbers.

SECTION 3B, TRANSITION LABELS Rapid Station growth, beginning 6/40, exceeded label supplies. A mix of local, early, makeshift, and new UK labels were used to meet demand. The following five transition labeled covers, excepting the CL10 label with 3 known, are the sole examples thus far reported.





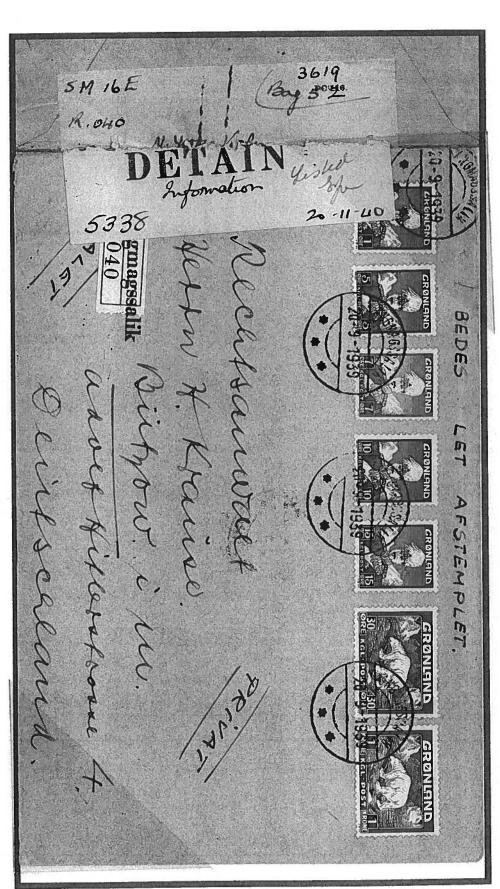
PC 22 (CL 1) label, an unnumbered style normally used for terminal mail, with added m/s "160" on a transit cover from Lisbon, p/m 16/8/40. Also a PC 102 labeled cover for same examiner before the supply ran out. Obverses @ 50%. Note similarity of ink and type face for both labels.



SECTION 3A, EARLY LABELS, local PC116 "Detain" label used only 20 Sep. - 9 Nov. 40, 6 reported .20 Sept 40, Angmagssalik (FDC for this P.O.), Greenland - 1 reported. Philadelphia b/s 4 Nov 40; NYC b/s 12 Nov 40, Bermuda - 20 Nov 40.

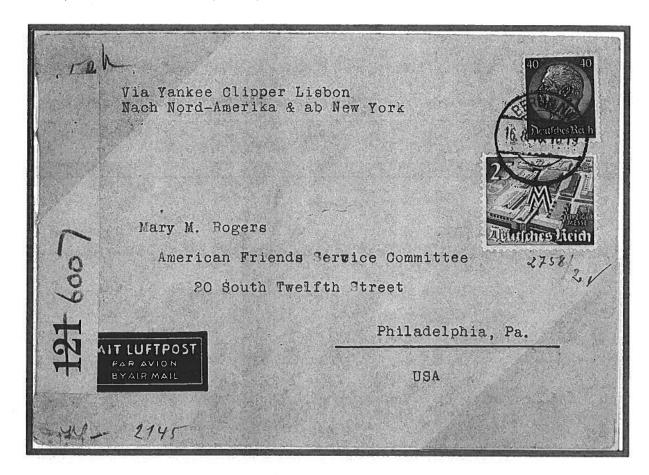
#### Legend for info on label

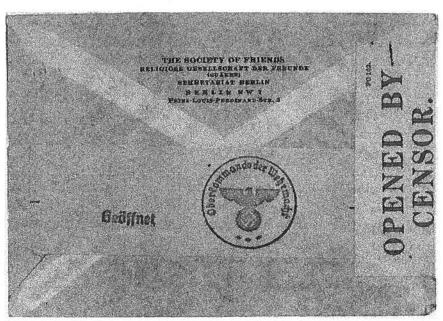
- 1). "SM 16E" = 16<sup>th</sup> eastbound ship's mail examined at Bermuda.
- **2).** "3619" = Bermuda Examiner;
- 3). "By 52" = PC 102 number of DAC,
- 4). "R.040" = mail bag #,
- 5). "N. York Koln",
- 6). "Information" = nature of contents and reason for detention,
- 7). "5338" = Bermuda examiner,
- 8). "Listed EJR" = initials of registry file clerk;
- 9). "20 Nov 40" = date of Bermuda detention.



†Portion of discontinued "Detain" label used to close envelope - Unique

#### SECTION 3B, TRANSITION LABELS (CONT.)



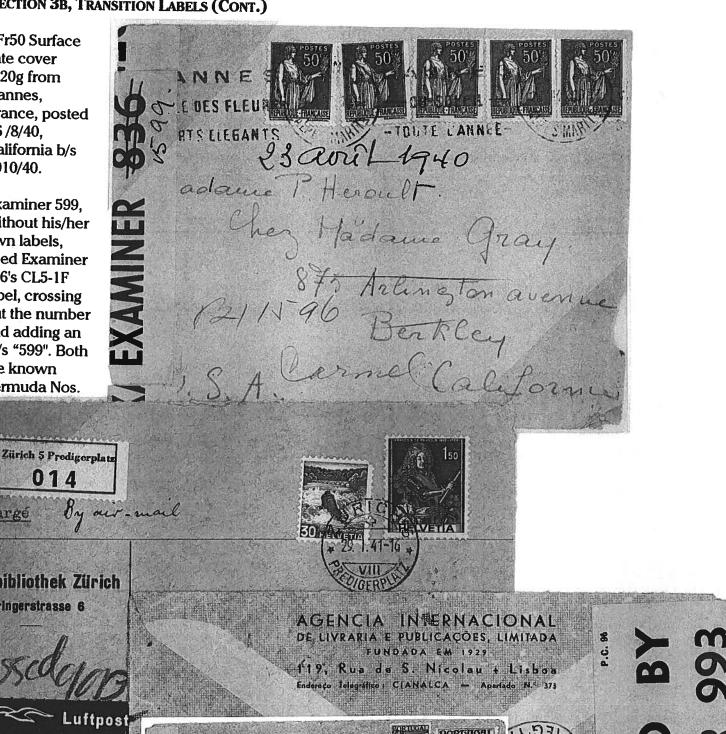


Air mail cover from "The Society of Friends", a Quaker humanitarian agency in Berlin posted 16 Aug 1940, bearing a local PC 102 label, the printed "121" crossed out, and an m/s 'Imperial' number 6007 of a former Gibraltar examiner added.. Generic German OKW (Oberkommando der Wehrmacht) label on the reverse. Pan Am had just resumed the Bermuda stop.

# SECTION 3B, TRANSITION LABELS (CONT.)

2Fr50 Surface rate cover <20g from Cannes, France, posted 26 /8/40. California b/s 1010/40.

Examiner 599. without his/her own labels. used Examiner 836's CL5-1F label, crossing out the number and adding an m/s "599". Both are known Bermuda Nos.

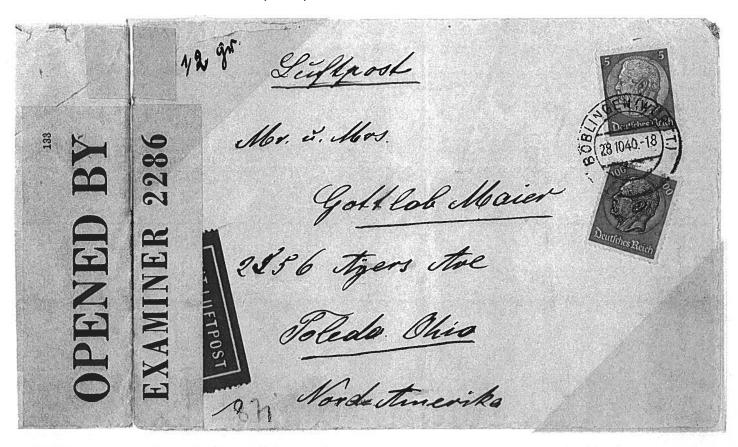


lentralbibliothek Zürich Zähringerstrasse 6 Luftpost Par avion - Via aerea

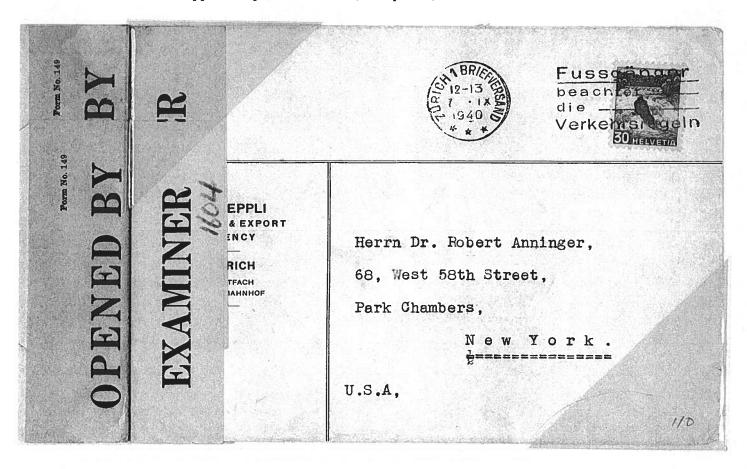
014



Examiner 993 (Bermuda, 17/7/40 - 11/2/44), out of labels, so m/s "Passed 993" added directly to cover. Second cover shows usual label for 993.



Label CL8, Local, "133" appears in place of "PC 90", 4 Reported, 28/10/40 - 1/6/41.

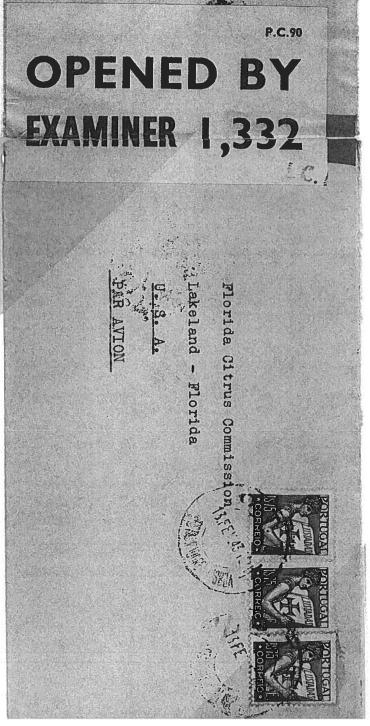


**Label CL 10,** Local, 4 Reported, 7/9/40 - 21/10/40. Said to have been used for Travelers Censorship, but no philatelic evidence has emerged to support this.

SECTION 3C, PERMANENT LABELS There are three general categories of Bermuda labels: 1.) Imperial labels from Britain; 2.) Regional labels used elsewhere in the Caribbean, likely printed in Bermuda; and 3.) Local Bermuda labels originating in and used only in Bermuda. The Imperial CL5-1"x" label numbering system used here combines Ludington's CL5 category for PC 90 labels with Torrence & Morenweiser's PC 90 numbering system. The Bermuda Station operated for 23 months before the world-wide Imperial Station coding system was begun in December 1941, so labels may be seen with or without the Bermuda "IC" code.

**Label CL5-1A,** Imperial 3177 reported, 30/6/40 - 11/4/44. Label CL5-1B, Imperial, Comma only, 123 reported, 31/12/40 - 6/3/44.





Label CL5-1B2, No comma, printer's code. Imperial, 48 reported, 5/10/40 - 29/2/44. Label CL5-1B3, Comma and printer's code. Imperial, 5 reported, 23/12/41 to 16/3/44.



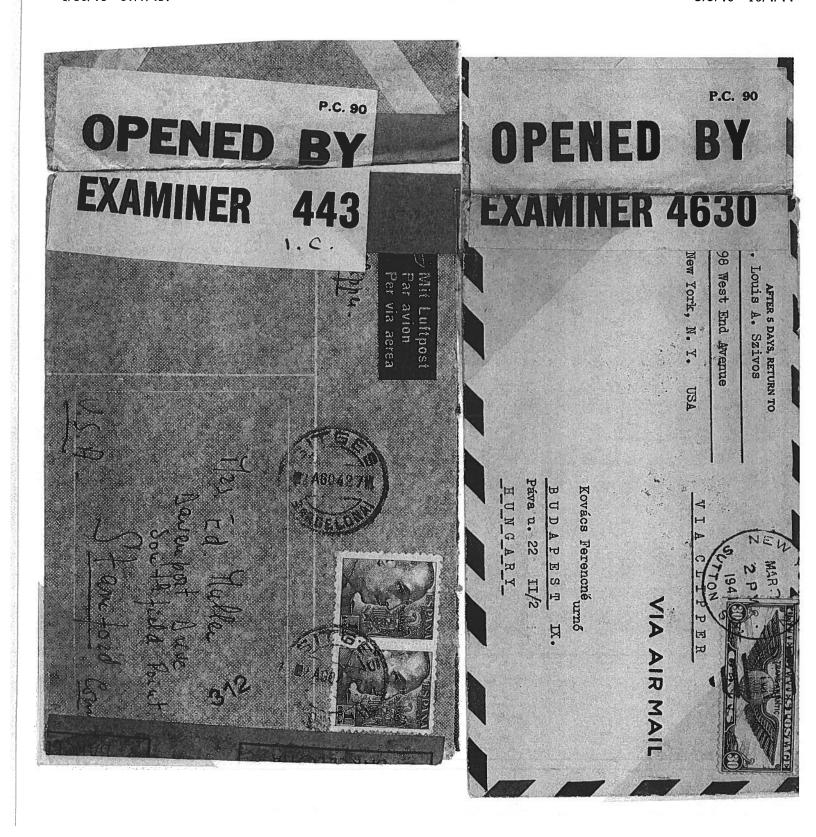
Label CL5-1Ba (var), Square comma, tall numbers. Imperial, 7 Reported, 21/11/41 - 13/2/42.

These are the only two numbers known for this label in Bermuda

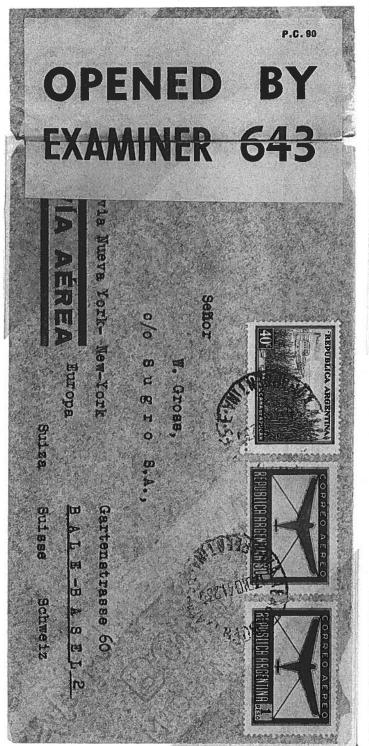
SERVICE SUSPENDED



Label CL5-1C, Imperial, Oval "O" of "Opened" 10 reported, 1/10/41 - 17/7/43. Label CL5-1D Imperial Tall "O" of "Opened" 1711 reported, 3/5/40 - 10/4/44



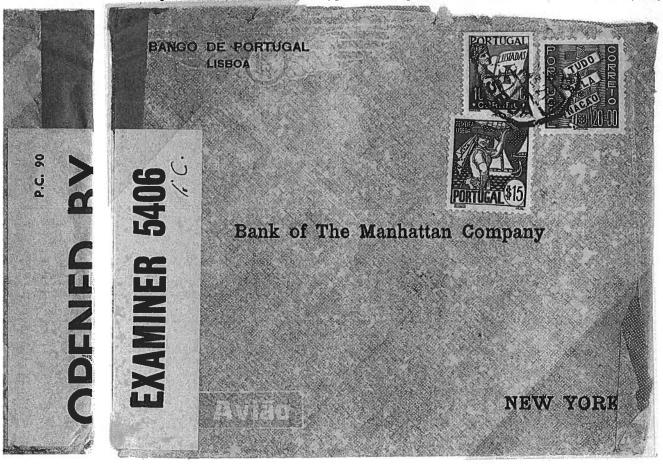
Label CL5-1F, Imperial, Splayed legs of "M" 928 reported, 8/6/40 - 8/4/44. Label CL5-1G, Imperial, Small "Examiner" & splayed "M" 411 reported, 4/7/40 - 4/4/44.







Label CL5-1S, Imperial, Very tall & slender typeface, 3 reported, 1/11/40 - 10/12/40, Discovery copy.

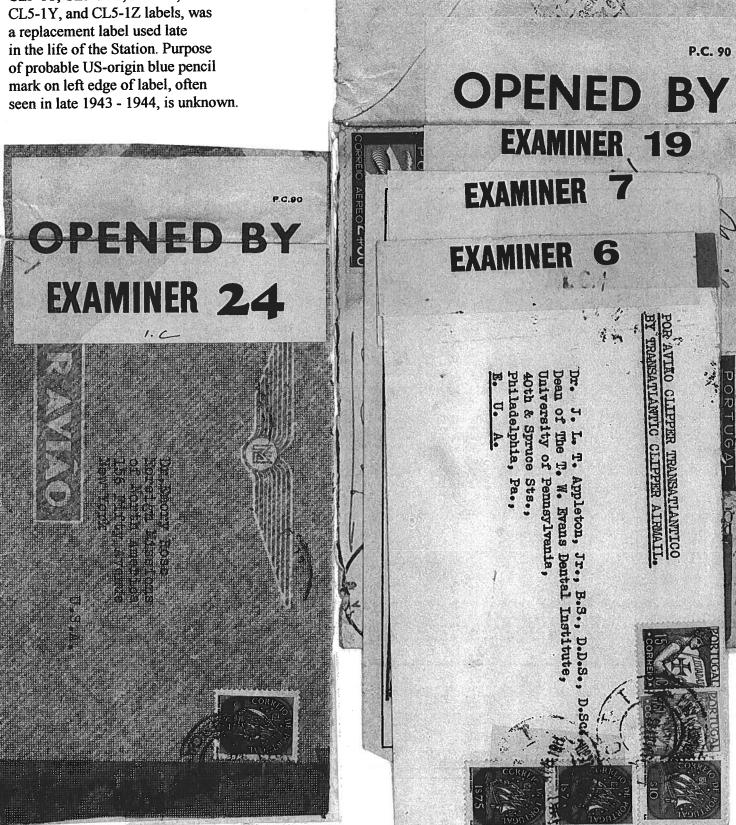


Label CL5-1T, Imperial, 1 reported, 1943, Discovery copy

Label CL5-1U, Distinctive numeral, Imperial, 1 reported, 28/2/44, Discovery Copy.

Label CL5-1X Small "examiner"& numeral Imperial, 11 reported 1/6/41 - 22/11/41.

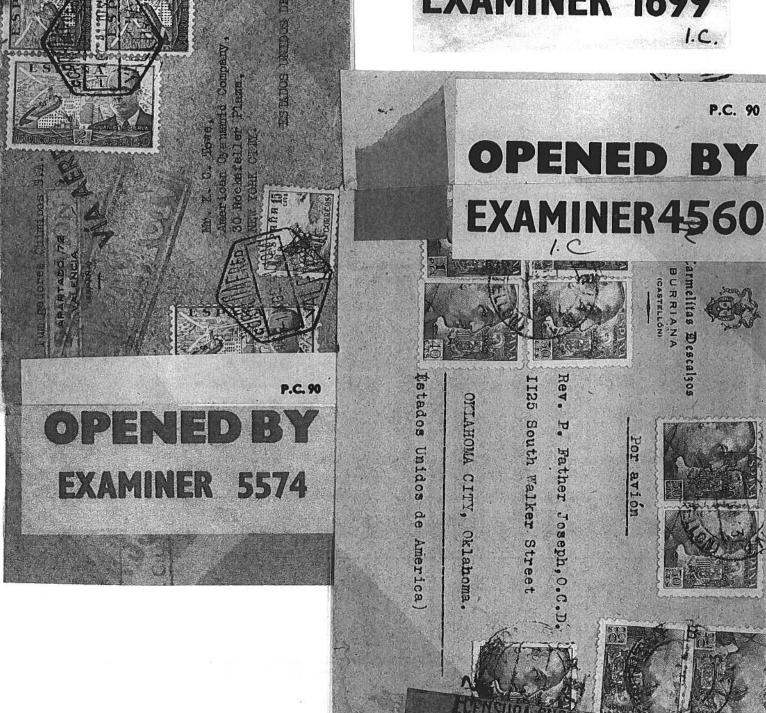
It, like many of the rare CL5-1S, CL5-1T, CL5-1V1, CL5-1X, of probable US-origin blue pencil



Label CL5-1Y, Imperial, top row of the CL5-1A label combined with bottom row of the CL5-1G label, 3 reported, 1/8/41 - 22/11/4, Discovery copy.

Label CL5-1Z, Imperial, similar to CL5-1A, but examiner number numerals are 1 mm taller and 7-8 mm wider than CL5-1A's numerals, (see 100% B&W scan). 3 reported, 12/11/41 - 20/6/43, Discovery copy.





SECTION 3C, PERMANENT LABELS (CONT.) The CL7 family of Bermuda-produced replacement labels. Individual labels generally in use for a period of only a few months. Very similar to the terminal censorship CL6 family of labels.

Label CL7a. Local, 125 reported, 12/10/40 - 1/3/44.

Distinctive typeface and "Opened By Examiner " in one line.

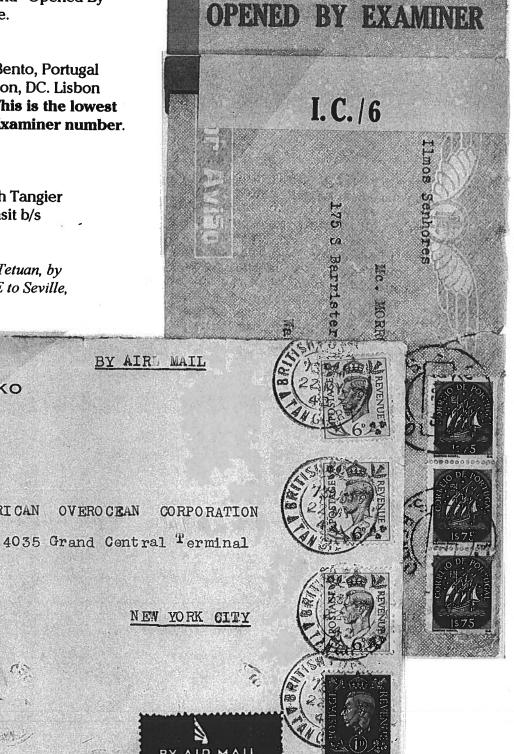
A/m cover from Sao Bento, Portugal (24/9/43) to Washington, DC. Lisbon air post b/s 25/9/43. This is the lowest reported Bermuda Examiner number.

A/m cover from British Tangier (22/5/42). Lisbon transit b/s 23 May 1942.

By surface transport to Tetuan, by air with Portuguese TAE to Seville, and on to Lisbon..

> PAUL BENKO TANGER

> > AMERI CAN



I. C./678

BY AIR MAIL

SECTION 3C, PERMANENT LARELS (CONT.) See next page for more details. Label CL7b, Local, Par avion - Via aerea 5 reported, 1/5/43 -30/12/43. second ma Distinguished by placement of slash between ' and 'C' and the lack of a period after 'l' and 'C'. A/m cover from St Gallen. Switzerland, (4/1/44). Also has German and US censorship. Sent via Basel to Berlin and then vi DLH to Lisbon. P.O. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER I/C1886

**SECTION 3C, PERMANENT LABELS (CONT.)** On at least two occasions Bermuda printers prepared CL7a labels with misplaced or absent characters, creating two of the rarest and most eagerly sought Bermuda censorship label varieties. In the case of the CL7c labels on this page the period after the 'C' was omitted so that it reads 'I.C/514' or 'I.C/782' rather than the normal 'I.C./514' or 'I.C.782'. The CL7b label on the previous page had both periods omitted and the '/' was misplaced so that the label reads 'I/C 1886' rather than 'I.C./1886'.

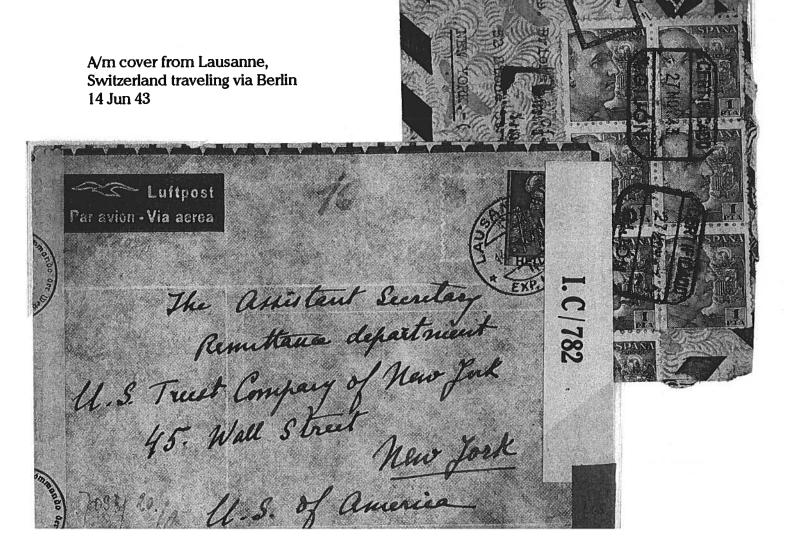
OPENED BY EXAMINER

I.C | 514

Label CL7c, local, 3 reported, 14/6/43 - 29/1/44.

Reg. a/m cover from Gijon, Spain (27/11/43), arriving in NYC (18/12/43), a transit time slightly over three weeks, which is about average.

Carried by land to Vitoria and then by the Spanish TAE Airline to Madrid (29/11/43) and on to Lisbon and Pan Am FAM 18.



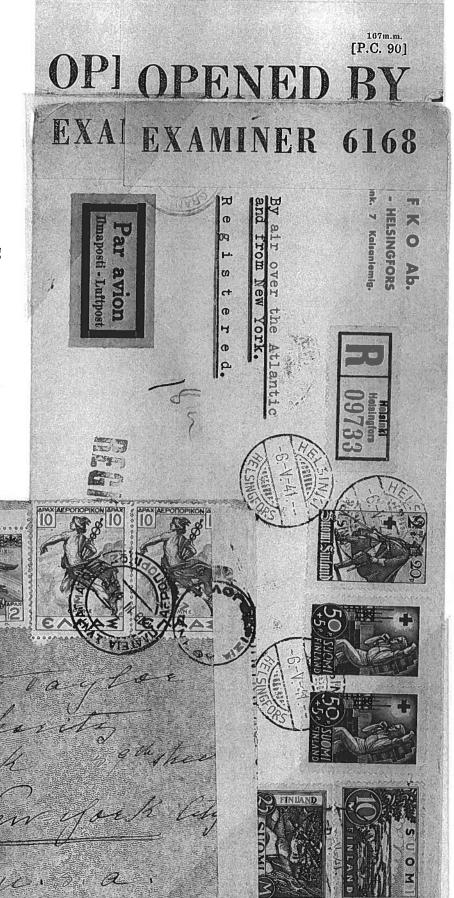
**SECTION 3C, PERMANENT LABELS (CONT.)** Bermuda-produced label, in similar font to other local labels used for transit and terminal censorship in 1940, was a replacement for Imperial labels.

Label CL9a, Local, 125 reported, 1/7/41 - 28/11/42.

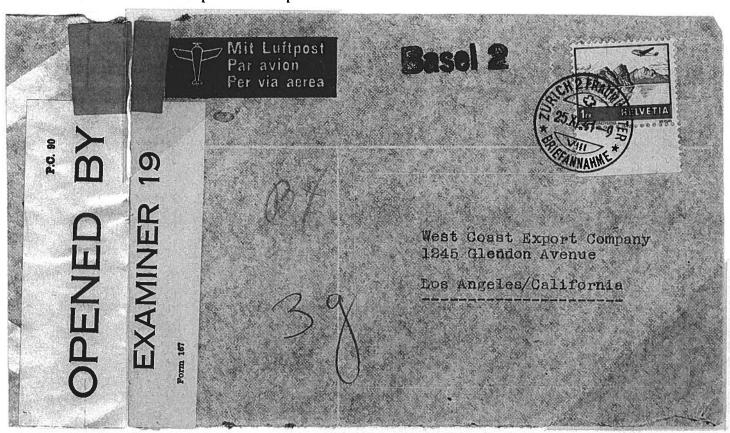
Has distinctive Bodoni typeface P.C. 90 appears in brackets. The label number, '167', has a series of suffixes ranging from a. to z. and a.a. to m.m., but the meaning of the suffixes is uncertain.

A/m cover from Helsinki Finland, 6 May 41. (167 m.m.)

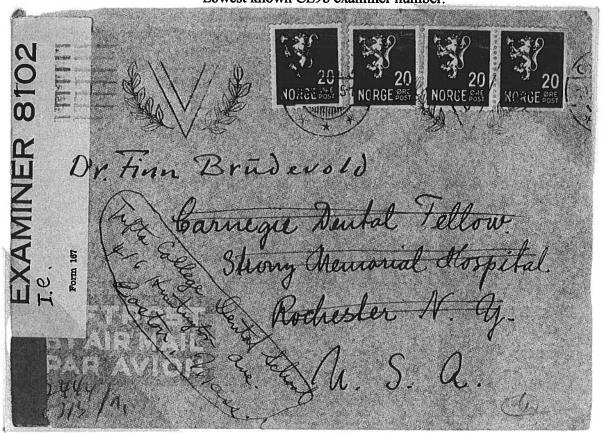
A/m cover from Athens, Greece 15 Mar 41. (167 u.)



**Label CL9b,** Regional, Form 167 LL Corner, 741 reported, 25/1/41 - 11/3/44. Bermuda-produced label with distinctive Copperplate Light Gothic #10 typeface was used throughout the Caribbean, particularly Trinidad. It was an Imperial label replacement.



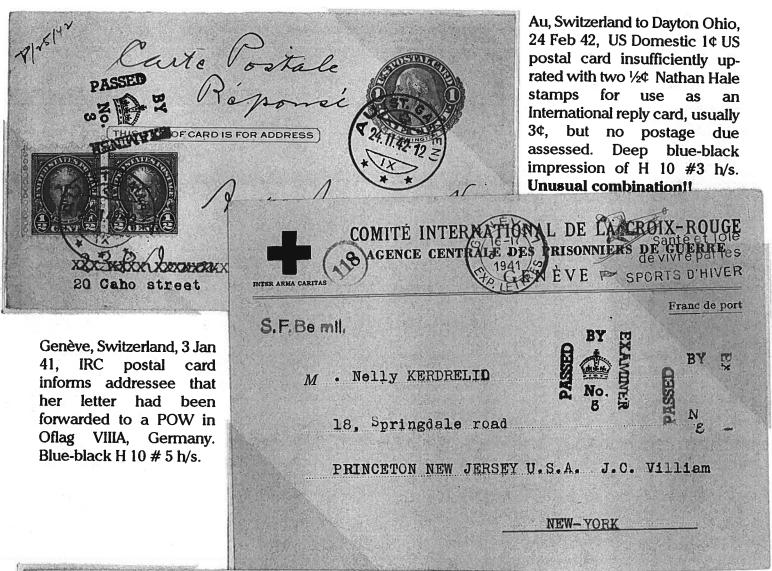
Lowest known CL9b examiner number.



Highest reported CL9b examiner number, also highest known Bermuda examiner number.

## SECTION 3D, IMPERIAL HANDSTAMPS AND POST(AL) CARDS

Alone among Imperial Stations, Bermuda lacked official h/s to mark inspected mail, particularly postal cards. As a result, Imperial h/s formerly used in Gibraltar (Type H 10, LKU there - 7/40) were pressed into service during 1941-2 (7 reported). Of h/s #1 - 6 known in Gibraltar, #3, 5, & 6 have been identified in Bermuda and are present in the exhibit.



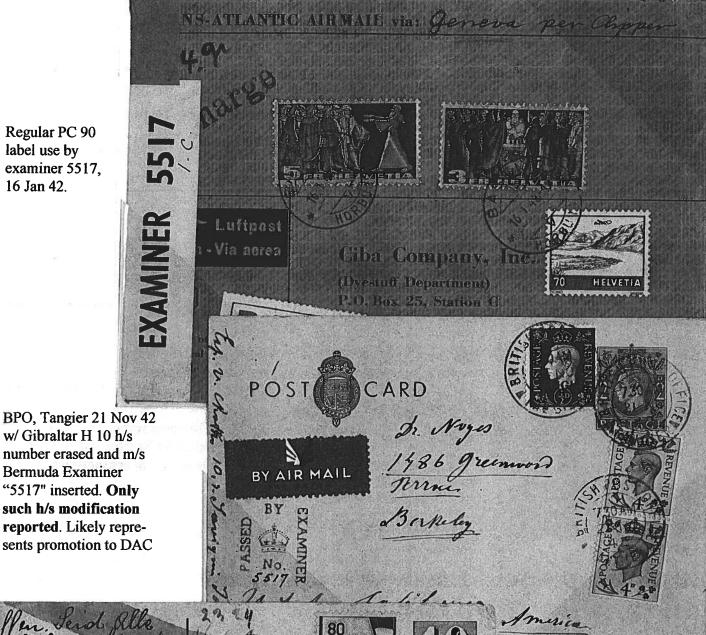
POSE CARD

THIS EDE LOTTE TO STATE STATES A NO. STATES AND AND A NO. STATES AN

Glendale, CA, 8 Jan 41, returned surface post card from Occupied France. Pale blue-black H 10 #6 h/s.

SECTION 3D, IMPERIAL HANDSTAMPS AND POST(AL) CARDS, (CONT.)

Regular PC 90 label use by examiner 5517, 16 Jan 42.

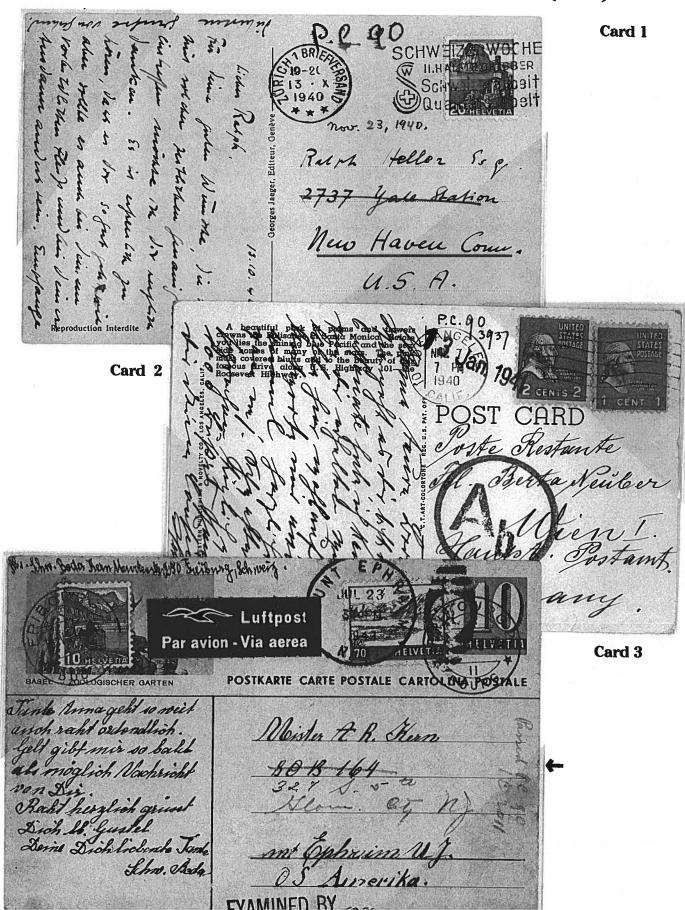




Switzerland, 10 Rp domestic surface postal card uprated to 90 Rp for a/m, 26 Oct 43 from Zurich to Brooklyn, NY w/ PC 90 label of Examiner 510 (rest of label stuck to message side of card). Was seized, released, and has US "HBBC" h/s upon release as well as secret ink testing. Discovery copy - tape not previously known on p/c presumably because it would

# SECTION 3D, IMPERIAL HANDSTAMPS AND POST(AL) CARDS, (CONT.)

Postal cards were also manuscript marked with a plain P. C. 90 (card 1) or P.C. 90 [examiner number] (card 2) before the 'IC' designation came into use, at which point an IC was added (card 3).



SECTION 4B. BERMUDA EXAMINERS TO TRINIDAD On 5 February 1941 Pan American Airways changed only the westward portion of its FAM 18 route for the months of February, March, and April, to go via Bolama, Portuguese Guinea and Port of Spain, Trinidad. During this time some FAM 18 planes also stopped in Bermuda, making attribution of covers problematic. Examiner 5593 was one of 50 Bermuda examiners temporarily transferred to Trinidad to help with the increased workload. He/she did not return to Bermuda at the end of the assignment. See the cover from Sumatra in Section 5e. for a cover censored by this examiner while still in Bermuda.



The use of a datestamp on the label began in Trinidad in April 1941, but was never used in Bermuda!



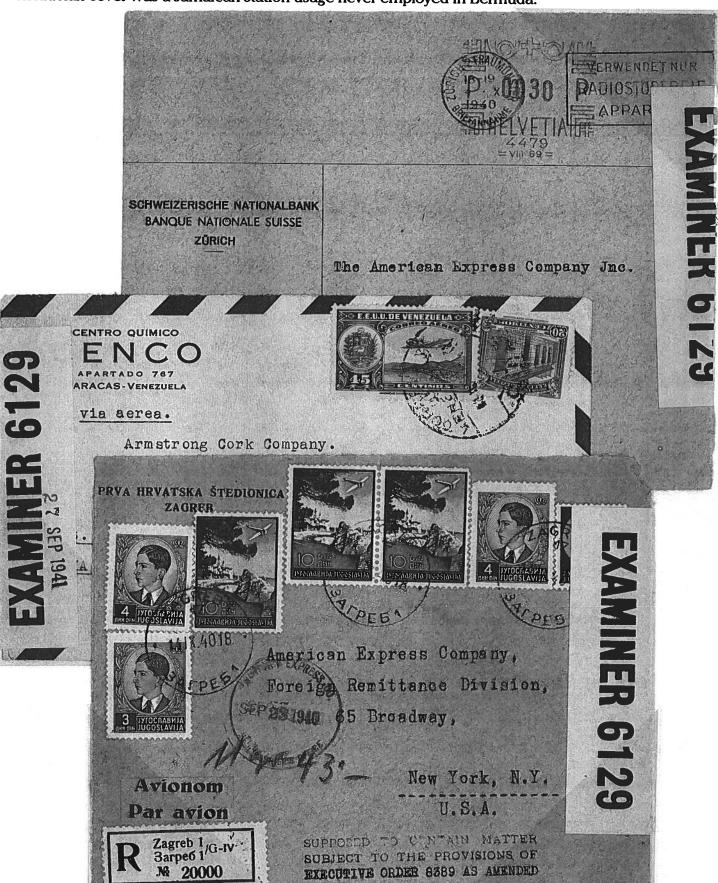
Top cover dated 15 Feb 1941 is from FAM 18 having traveled to Frankfort, Germany by surface transport and then by DLH to Lisbon. The bottom cover is dated 7 April 1941 and is from FAM 10 from Brasil which also had a terminus in Port of Spain where the covers were censored.

SECTION 4B, BERMUDA EXAMINERS TO TRINIDAD (CONT.)



Examiner 2275 served at Bermuda from October 1940 until the station closed. He/she was temporarily assigned to Trinidad in 1941 and, upon returning to Bermuda, brought and used Trinidad labels (Wike TR CL2D) for a time (this is the only reported such cover). This cover is at top and regular Bermuda labels and usages below, US cover 28/11/41 & Yugoslav cover 19/10/40.

**SECTION 4c, BERMUDA EXAMINERS TO JAMAICA** The other Imperial stations in the Americas, which were later to grow in size, were bolstered with experienced Bermuda staff. Examiner 6129, among the very first to arrive in Bermuda, (Jugoslavian registered air mail cover of 14/9/40 and Swiss surface cover of 1/10/40 - top) was transferred to Jamaica in mid 1941. The label datestamp of the FAM 5 Venezuelan cover was a Jamaican station usage never employed in Bermuda.

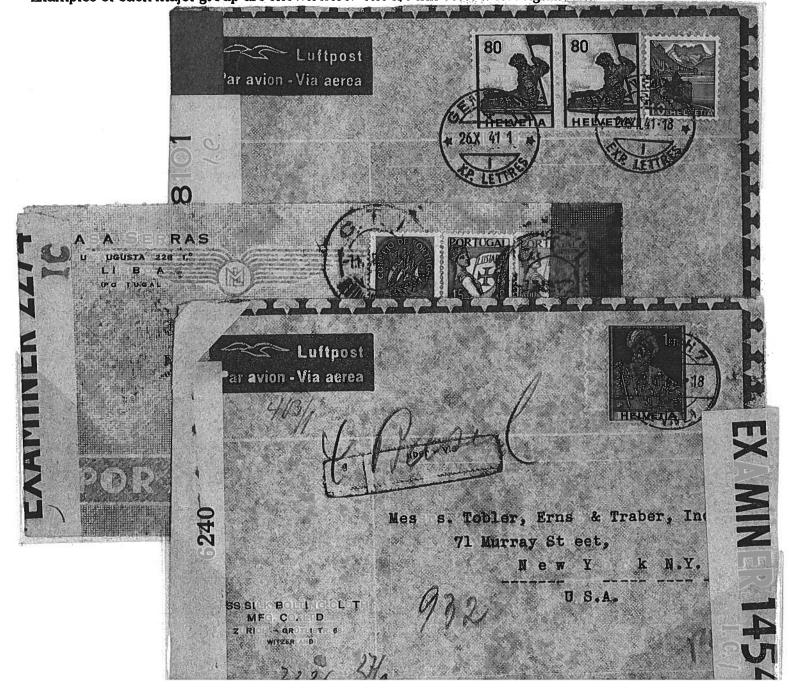


**SECTION 4D, WAS THE COVER CENSORED IN BERMUDA?** 80% of Bermuda-examined covers were resealed with the same Imperial labels used elsewhere in the UK; how can one be sure that it is a Bermuda cover? There are two eras marked by the use of alphabetic codes for all Imperial Censorship Stations beginning in December 1941: the **pre-IC era** and the **post-IC era**:

IN THE PRE-IC ERA there are four methods of determining that a cover transited Bermuda:

- letter followed the FAM 18 route (except some covers in Feb Apr 1941 when FAM 18 also stopped in Trinidad (see Section 4b) and sea mail between the continent and the US.
- presence of an examiner number known from the IC era.
- presence of a red registration number on the reverse of the cover (see Section 2f), and
- use of Bermuda-unique resealing labels: PC 22, PC 102, printed PC 90 family, and Form 149.

In the Post-IC Era, IC markings are definitive and may be: 1). handstamped (h/s); 2). manuscript (m/s); or 3). printed (the PC 90 family of labels with printed "IC" (see Section 3c, type CL7). 77% are marked with an m/s 'IC', 20% with a h/s, and <3% marked with a printed 'IC'. The h/s can be typeset or hand carved; the latter are more common as a group since there are 36 of them, but are much scarcer individually. Examples of each major group are shown here. The h/s ink color is not significant.



**SECTION 4D, HANDSTAMP VARIETIES (CONT.) 36 varieties** of handstamps have been identified. A representative sample is shown here As a group they are seen on 20% of the covers, but individually they are quite scarce.





SECTION 4D, HANDSTAMPS (CONT.) While h/s saw limited use, they were popular at some 'Tables'. The appearance of identical h/s on several different examiners' labels suggests the examiners all worked at the same Table. Since this group of covers is a mix of personal and trade mail, the common factor may

be the language of the letter.

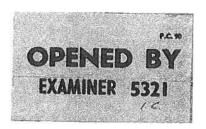
Monaco 5 Nov 42

Belgian Congo 16 Nov 42

Spain 21 Jan 43

Switzerland 1 Dec 42

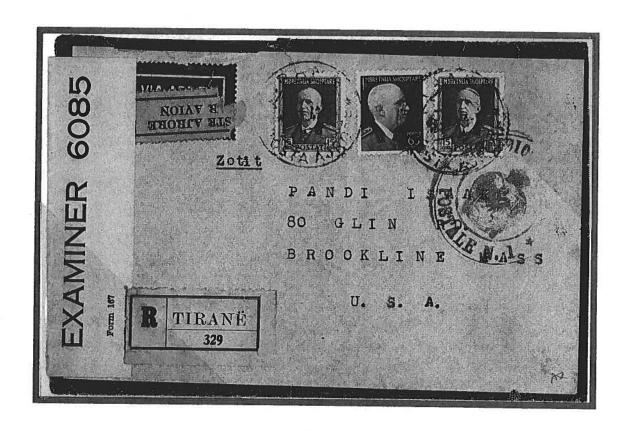




## **SECTION 5. ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS**

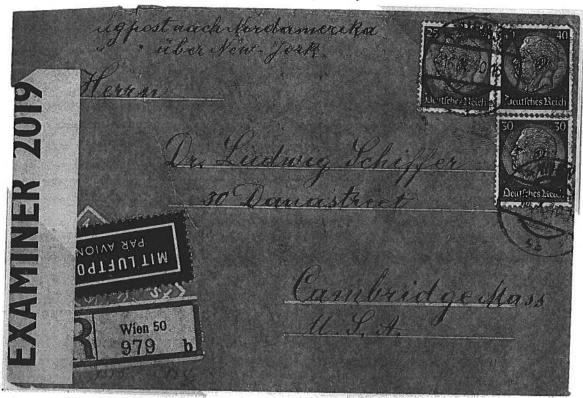
World-wide, war-induced changes in mail transportation made the sea routes near and the *Pan Am* FAM 18 air route between Lisbon and New York through Bermuda, into final common pathways of mail between the Americas and the Continent. The major countries of Europe and the Americas are the most commonly seen sources of covers, but **126 countries of origin and 82 countries of destination** have been reported. Many are not common and, in fact, **34 countries**, respectively, are known only from a single cover. The **US**, with **5140 covers** is the dominant destination, but only **588 covers originated** there. This Section is arranged geographically (Europe, Middle East, Africa and Eastern Atlantic Islands, North America including U.S. Territories, Central and South America, Pacific and Asia) and alphabetically (with an occasional exception) within region. Numbers of reported covers are in **bold type**. Air mail routes, which have been provided in previous sections, will be presented here only when new information is given and are *italicized*.. France, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland, which are well represented in the rest of the exhibit are excluded here.

## SECTION 5A, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS (EUROPE)

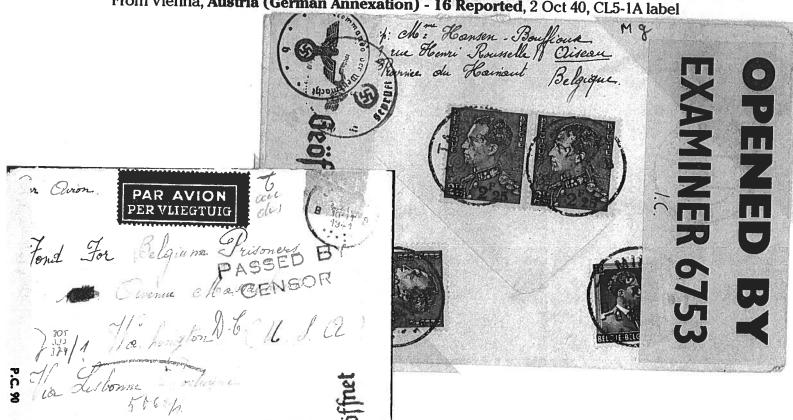


Tirana, Albania - two reported, posted 19 Jul 1941, Form 167 label. Likely by land to Belgrade, then by Ala Littoria to Rome, Lisbon, and FAM 18

# SECTION 5A, ORIGINS AND DESTINATION, EUROPE (CONT.)



From Vienna, Austria (German Annexation) - 16 Reported, 2 Oct 40, CL5-1A label

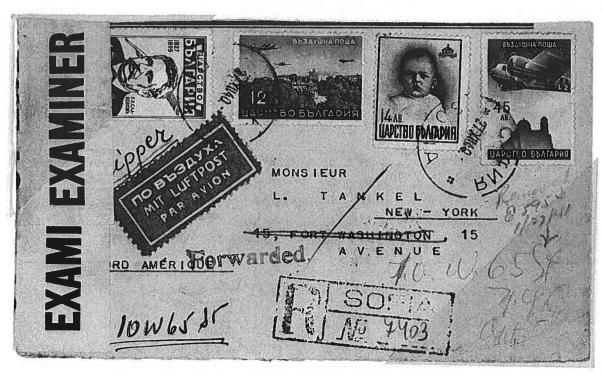


Tamines, Belgium - 29 reported, 28 Nov 41, en route at time of Pearl Harbor, Triple censored Franked with pair very scarce 2F25 on 2Fr50.

#### SECTION 5A. ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, EUROPE (CONT.)

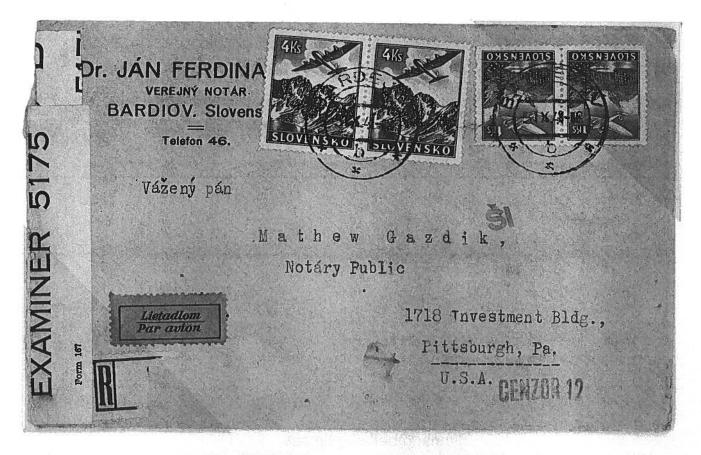


Prague, Bohemia & Moravia (German Occupation of western Czechoslovakia) - 18 recorded. To Santiago, Chile - 4 destination covers reported, 12 May 1941, carried by DLH via Frankfort (censored) to Lisbon. CL5-1A label.

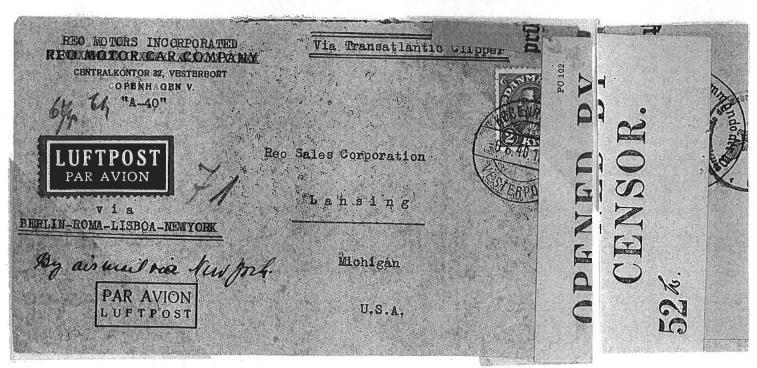


From Sofia, Bulgaria (16 covers recorded), 27 Dec 1940, CL5-1D label.

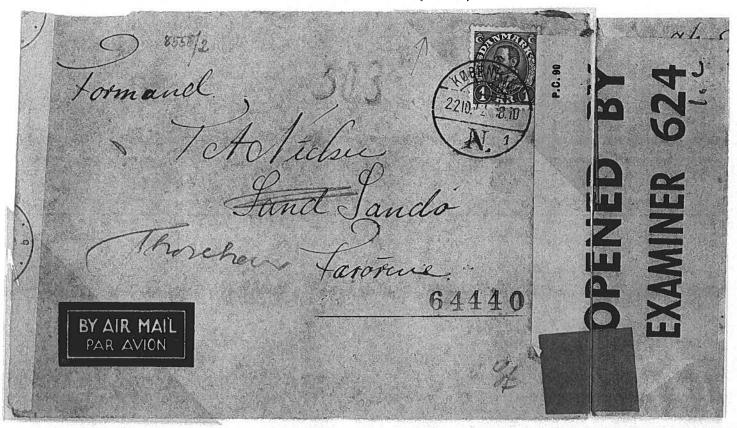
#### SECTION 5A, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, EUROPE (CONT.)



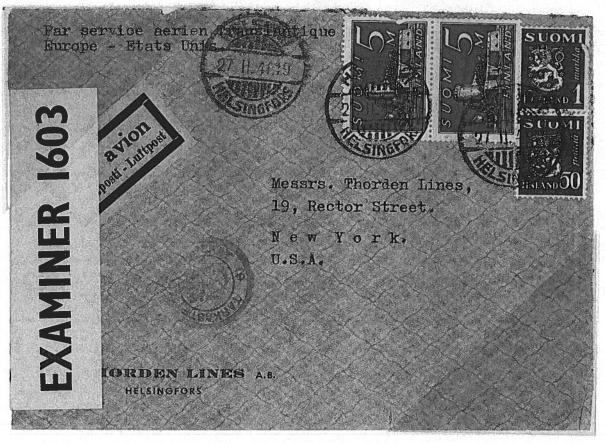
Bardejov, **Slovakia (German Dependency) - 8 recorded**, 5 Sep 1941, CL9b Form 167 label. By surface from Bardejov to Prague, by DLH to Berlin (censored) and Lisbon.



#### SECTION 5A, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, EUROPE (CONT.)

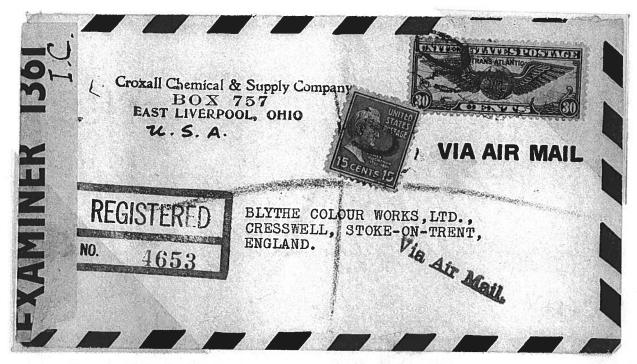


Copenhagen, to Faroe Islands (7 recorded) 24 Nov 1942. PC 90 CL5-1F label By DLH to Berlin and Lisbon, FAM 18 to New York and by sea to Faroes.



Helsinki, Finland - 44 covers recorded. 27 Feb 1941, PC90 CL5-1A label. Finnish purple censor # 61 h/s on face. Carried by Aero O/Y (Finnish) to Stockholm, then by DLH via Berlin to Lisbon.

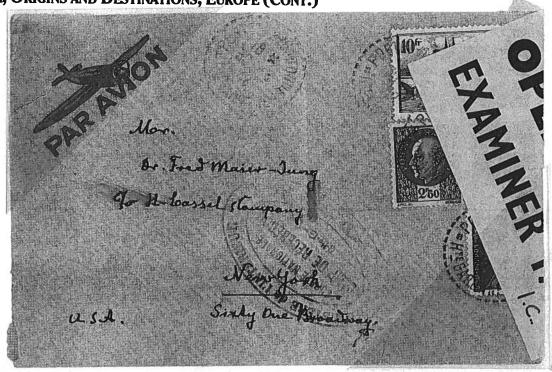
# SECTION 5A, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, EUROPE (CONT.)



E. Liverpool, Ohio, USA - 611 recorded, 28 Dec 1942 to Stoke-on-Kent, England - 83 recorded.



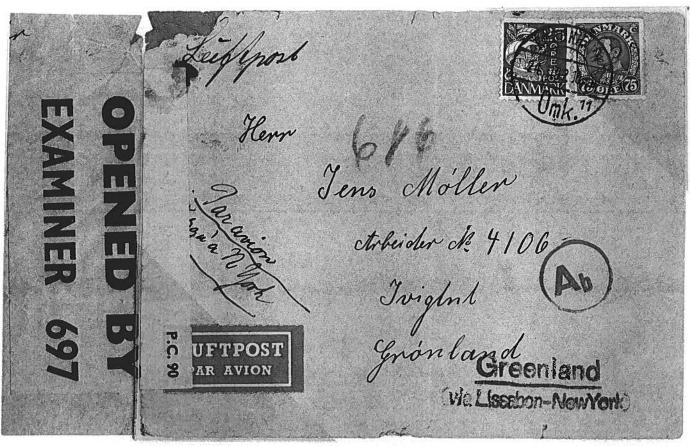
Athens, Greece - 8 covers recorded, 24 Oct 1940, CL5-1D label. Carried by Ala Littoria to Rome and Lisbon & FAM 18 to New York. Franking: 27 Drachma = 26 D. a/m rate <5 g+ 1 D. postal tax.



Camp de Recebedou, Vichy France - 669 covers recorded. 30 May 1942, PC 90 CL5-1A label This was an internment camp for Jews and political undesirables such as Gypsies. Oval purple Camp Censor h/s on face. Label placed obliquely to gain length for complete closure. Carried by land to nearest air field and then via DLH to Lisbon via Marseille.



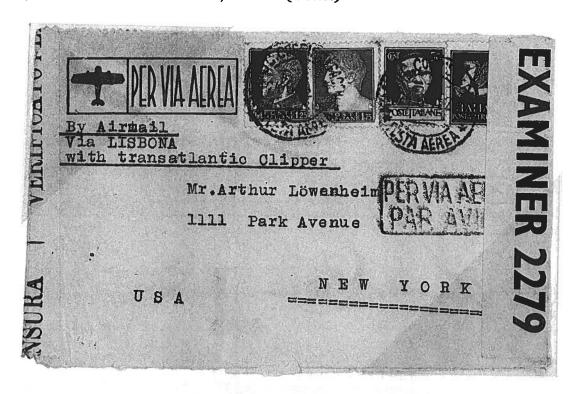
Berlin, **Germany - 156 covers recorded**. 14 Sep 1940, PC90 CL5-1D label. Franking for 23 g letter is :  $3^{Rm}20$  (surface rate >20 g and <40g = 40 pf + registration = 30 pf + 5 X 50 pf/5 g = 250 pf)



Cover from Copenhagen to Ivigtut, **Greenland (7 recorded)** location of aluminum mines, 24 Nov 1942, PC 90 CL5-1A label, # 697. By DLH to Berlin and Lisbon, FAM 18 to New York and by sea to Greenland.



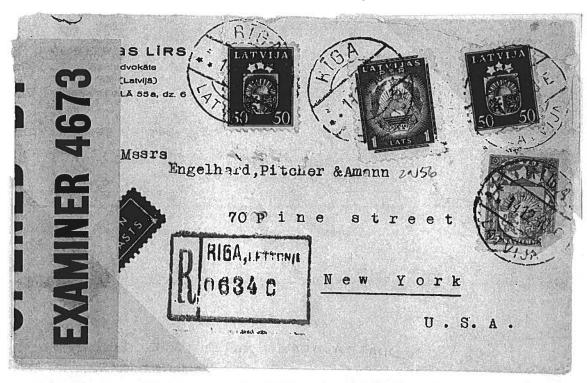
Budapest, Hungary - 35 covers recorded, 20 Oct 1941, PC 90 CL5-1A, Ala Littoria (Italian) from Budapest, via Rome to Lisbon. Franking: 1 Pengó 30 Fillér (surface < 20 g = 50 f + air < 5 g = 80 f).



Milan, Italy - 65 covers recorded, 10 Sep 1941, PC90 CL5-1A label. Italian censorship label on other end.



Riga, **Latvia - 3 recorded**, 13 June 1940, three days before Soviet occupation. *By sea to New York*, PC 90 CL5-1F label of Examiner 781, one of the **"12 Apostles"**, an early group of examiners who arrived in late June 1940. Surface rate < 10 g = 35S



Riga, Latvia (Russian Occupation) - 2 recorded, 14 Dec 1940, PC 90 CL5-1D label Unusual mixed Russian and Latvian franking. Carried by Aeroflot (Russia) to Berlin and then by DLH to Lisbon. Last day of Latvian domestic rate. Franking: 2.25 Lats (surface rate <10 g = 35 S + air rate  $<5 \text{ g} = 75 \text{ S} \times 2 + \text{registry} = 40\text{ S}$ 



Vaduz, **Liechtenstein - 16 recorded,** 7 Mar 1943, PC 90 CL5-1A label with handmade violet "I.C" h/s. *Carried by rail to Basel, Switzerland.* 

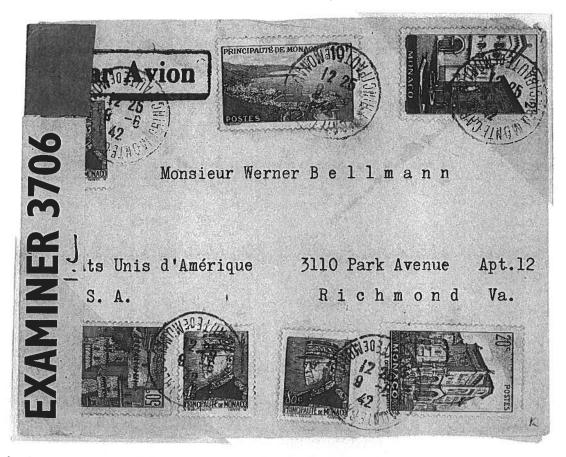
## Section 5a, Origins and Destinations, Europe (Cont.)



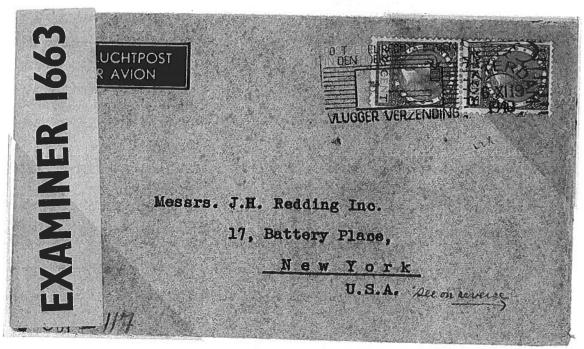
Vilnius, Lithuania (Russian Occupation) - 1 recorded, 3 Dec 40. PC 90 CL5-1D label. Surface to Riga, Latvia, Finnish AERØ/Y to Berlin, and DLH to Lisbon. Lithuanian stamps used.



**Luxembourg - 3 recorded**, 19 Sep 41. By rail to Frankfurt, Germany and then regular DLH air service to Lisbon. Same postal rates as Germany.



Monte Carlo, Monaco - 29 recorded, 9 Jun 1942, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Carried by land to Marseille and then by DLH to Lisbon.



Amsterdam, Netherlands (German Occupation) - 59 recorded, 6 Dec 1940, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Surface to Frankfort (censored), by DLH to Lisbon. Franking: 45 C <5 g; 22½ C orange stamp scarce on cover. Use of orange stamps was a gesture of Dutch (House of Orange) defiance.



Nannestad, **Norway (German Occupation)** - **18 recorded**, 28 Aug 1941, PC 90 CL5-1A label. *Carried by land to Oslo, then by DLH to Berlin (censored "Ab") and to Lisbon via Frankfort (Censored "Ae")*. Franking: 85 Ö = 30 Ö surface < 20 g + 55 Ö a/m surcharge <5 g.



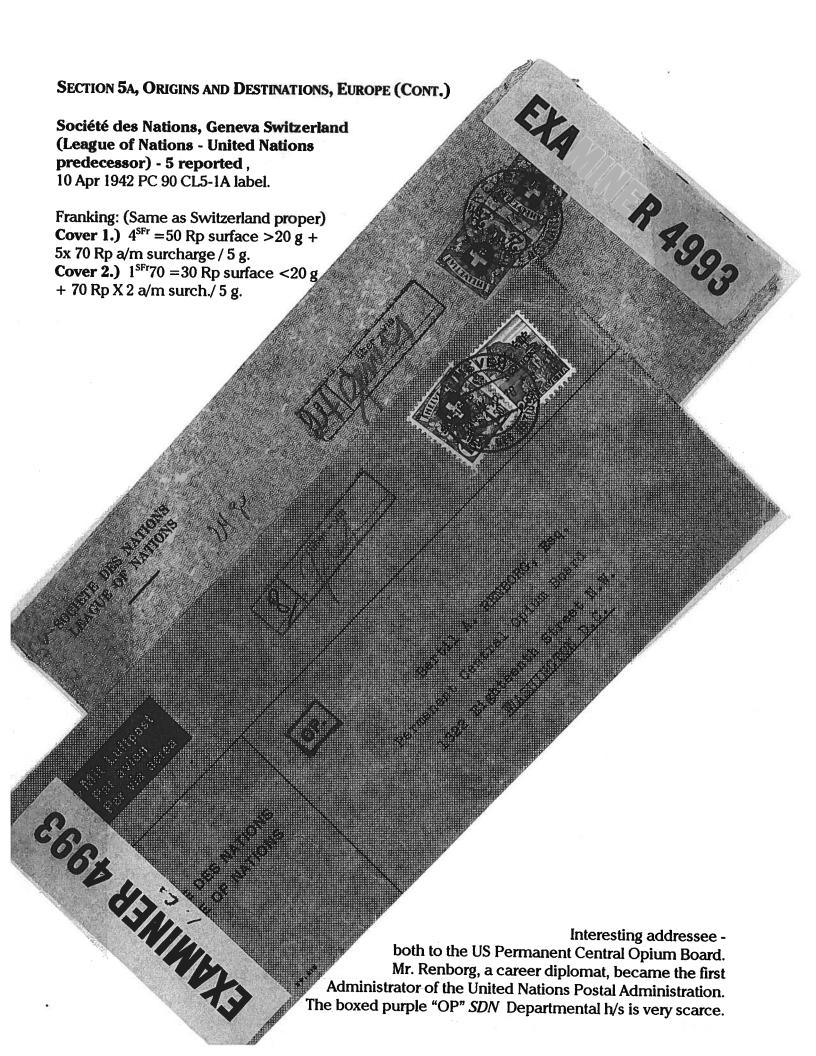
Rozwadow, **Poland (German Occupation) - 15 recorded**, 1 Jul 1941, PC90 CL9a (167p) label. By land from Rozwadow to Warsaw, by DLH to Berlin and Frankfort and Lisbon. Franking: 3.50 Zloty = .6 Zl registration fee + .6 Zl surface < 20 g + 2.4 Zl a/m surcharge < 15 g.

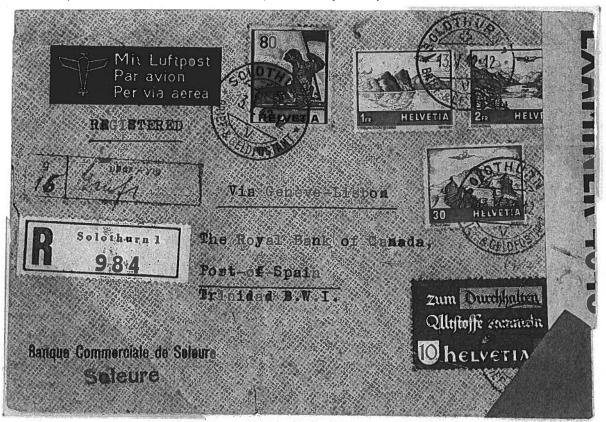


Arad, Romania - 12 recorded, 27 Sep 1941, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Romanian censor h/s on face. Carried by LARES (Romanian) to Bucharest, then by DLH to Rome and by Ala Littoria to Lisbon. Franking: 145 Lei = 25 Lei registration + 120 Lei a/m > 5 g < 10 g.

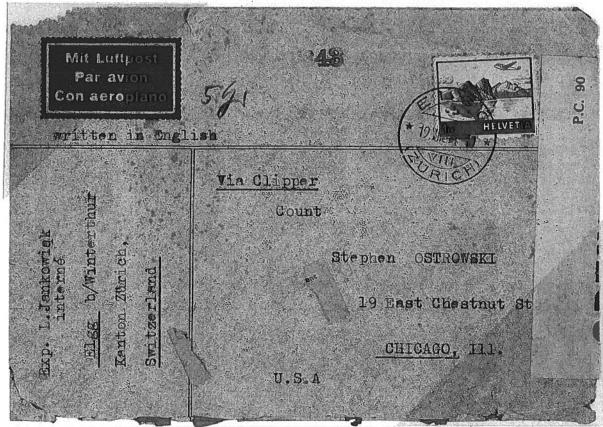


Moscow, Russia - 3 recorded, 7 May 1941, PC 90 CL5-1D label. By Aeroflot to Riga, Latvia by DLH to Lisbon via Berlin. German invasion of Russia, 22 Jun 41, effectively cut off a/m access to Lisbon.





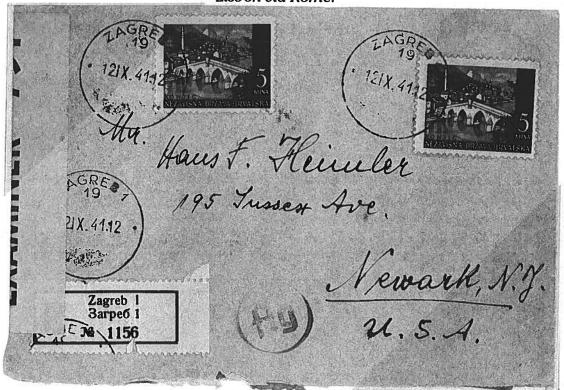
Solothurn, Switzerland - 1710 recorded, 13 May 1942 to Port-of-Span, Trinidad - only cover recorded to this destination, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Carried by truck to Marseille, by Air France (via N. Africa) to Lisbon, FAM 18 to New York via Bermuda, domestic air to Miami and FAM 5 to Trinidad.



Switzerland also had internment camps; a cover from Elgg is shown. It bears a Swiss trilingual military censorship label. Note same surname, Ostrowski (masc.) and as the 1st cover in Section 6, Ostrowska (fem.)



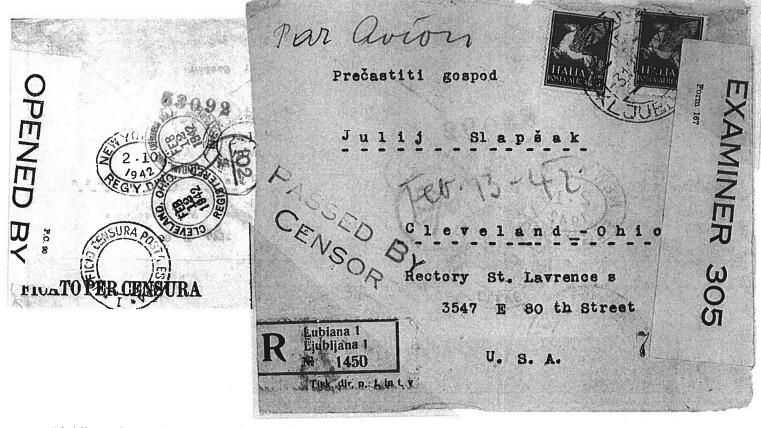
Zagreb, **Yugoslavia - 16 recorded**, 12 Sep 1940, PC 90 CL5-1D label. *Carried by Ala Littoria to Lisbon via Rome*.



Zagreb, Croatia (Yugoslavia - brief period of independence - only recorded cover), 12 Sep 1941 with PC 90 CL5-1F label # 791.

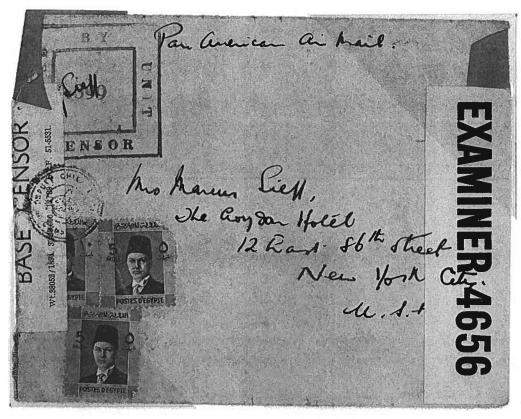


Fiume (Italian Occupied Croatia) - 1 reported, 16 Oct 1941, no Bermuda label but has Bermuda red registry number, 34638, on reverse . Suŝak is a small Adriatic island within Fiume. By sea to Fiume city (Rijeka), by land to Trieste, by Ala Littoria to Lisbon via Rome. Opaque envelope lining stripped out.

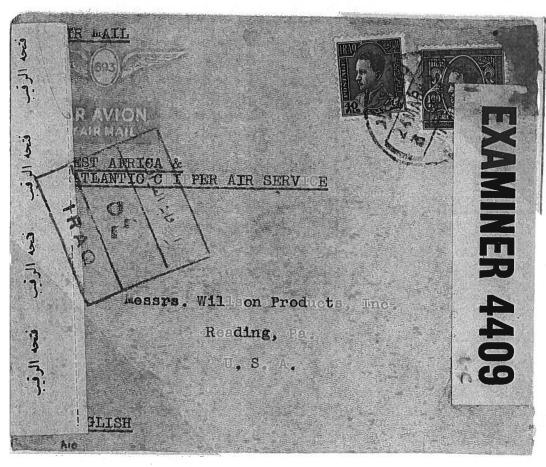


Ljubliana, Slovenia (Yugoslavia - Italian Occupation) - one reported, 3 Dec 1941.PC 90 CL9b, label. US and Italian censorship (triple censored). Same 5L50 a/m rate as Fiume.

### SECTION 5B, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, MIDDLE EAST



Military base, no location given, Egypt - 7 covers recorded, with uncertain 1941 date (received in New York 31 May 1941), PC 90 CL5-1D label. British military unit and base censorship as well as Egyptian markings. Carried by BOAC 'Horseshoe' route from Cairo to Durban and by sea to the US via Bermuda. Usual trans-Mediterranean route to Lisbon cut off by war.



Baghdad, Iraq - 6 covers recorded, 24 Mar 1943, PC 90 CL5-1D label. Iraqi censorship tape and h/s. Carried by BOAC on two legs of 'Horseshoe' route to Cairo and Khartoum, then by BOAC land plane across sub-Saharan Africa to Lagos, and by Pan Am's FAM 22 to US via Bermuda.

SECTION 5B, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, MIDDLE EAST (CONT.)



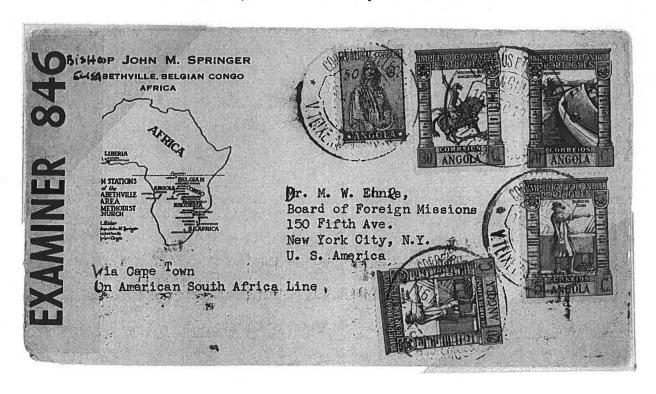
Beirut, Lebanon - 4 recorded, 3 Jun 1941, PC 90 CL9b label. By sea to Cairo, by BOAC 'Horseshoe' route to Durban, South Africa, by sea to Lisbon.



Izmir, **Turkey - 12 recorded**, 25 Oct 1941, PC 90 CL5-1A label. By Devlet Hava Yallari (DHY) from Izmir to Istanbul and on to Vienna (German Vienna "Ag" censor h/s) then by DLH to Berlin and Lisbon.



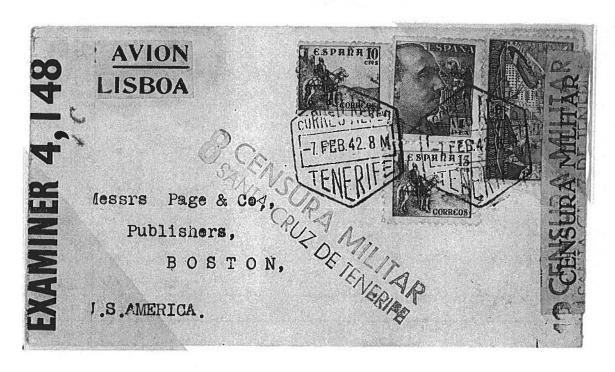
Algiers, Algeria - 36 recorded, 28 Jan 1941, PC90 CL5-1A #4442 label. By Réseau Aérienne Française (French) to Marseille, and by DLH to Lisbon via Madrid.



Luanda, Angola - 15 recorded, 16 Aug 1940, PC 90 #846 label.



Terceira, **Azores - 21 recorded**, 9 Feb 1944, PC 90 label CL5-1F label. Also US and Portuguese censorship



Tenerife, Canary Islands -16 recorded, 7 Feb 1942, PC90 CL5-1B Examiner 4,148. Santa Cruz de Tenerife Spanish censor label and tape. Carried by Iberia (Spanish) to Madrid via Seville and by DLH to Lisbon. Same 5P25 a/m rate as Spain proper.





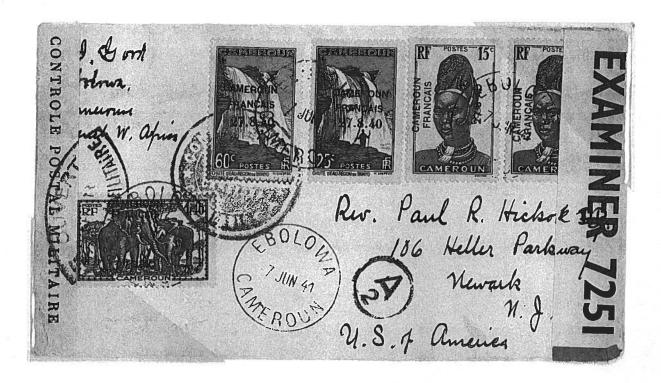
Leopoldville, **Belgian Congo - 42 recorded**, 31 Oct 1941, PC 90 CL5-1D label. Also has Belgian Congo censor tape. *By Sabena to Takoradi, Gold Coast, by BOAC West African Coast Route to Lisbon (21 /11/41 back cancel)* Two months later Pan Am would open the FAM 22 route from Leopoldville to the US. The mail on both routes would still be censored in Bermuda. *(See top cover next page)*.

Elisabethville, Belgian Congo - 42 recorded, 28 Mar 1943, PC90 CL5-1A label. Also has Belgian Congo censor tape and h/s. By Sabena to Leopoldville, then on FAM 22 route to US via Bermuda. (See previous page).

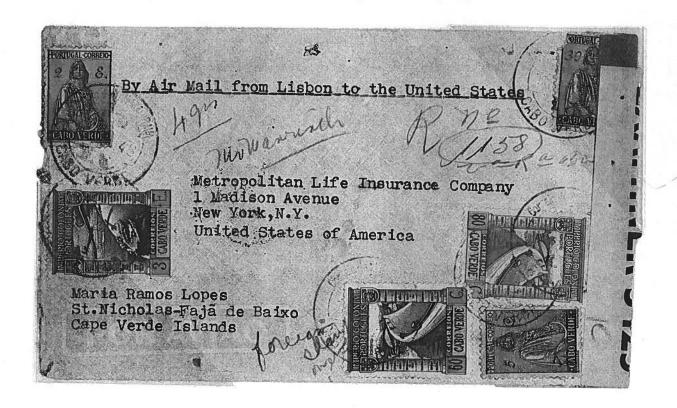


Buenos Aires,
Argentina to Las
Palmas
Canary Islands (only cover recorded to this destination) and then forwarded to
Leopoldville, Belgian
Congo (only cover recorded to this destination).

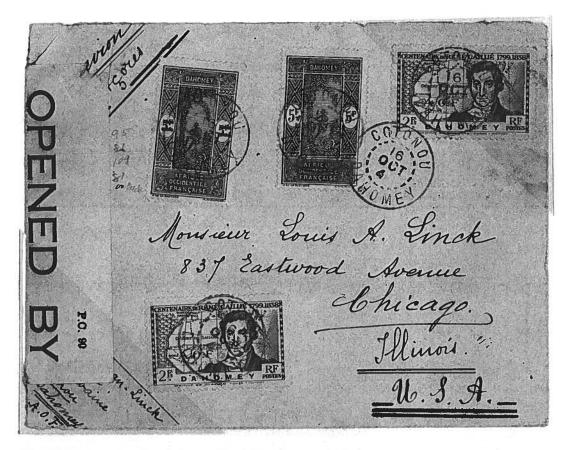




Surface mail Ebolowa, Cameroun (4 covers recorded), 7 Jun 1941, PC 90 CL5-1A label.



St Nicholas - Fajâ de Baixo, **Cape Verde - 3 recorded,** 10 Jul 1943, PC 90 CL5-1A label, Examiner 3425. Franked 7\$25 (3 stamps on reverse).

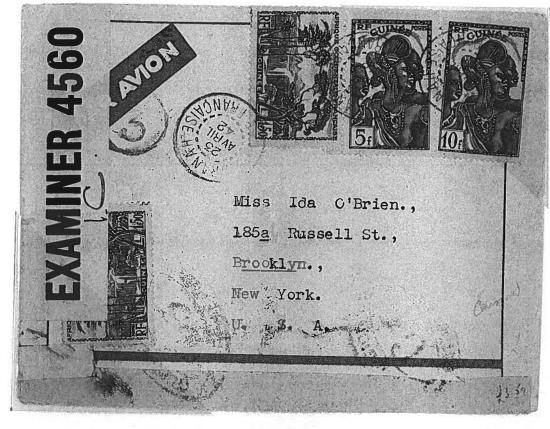


Cotonou, Dahomey - only recorded cover, 16 Oct 1941, PC90 CL9b Form 167 label # 5140.



Ouagadougou, Ivory Coast - 8 recorded, 26 Oct 1941, PC 90 CL5-1F label. Franking:  $18^{Fs} = 2^{FS}50$  surface < 20 g +  $3^{FS}50$  W. Africa surcharge +  $12^{Fs}$  a/m < 5 g.

Faranah, French
Guinea - 2 recorded,
23 Apr 1942, PC 90
CL5-1D label. By
surface to Conakry
French Guinea, by
Aero Maritime
(French) to Bolama
Portuguese Guinea, by
FAM 18 (Winter route)
to US via Bermuda.
Franking same as
previous cover.

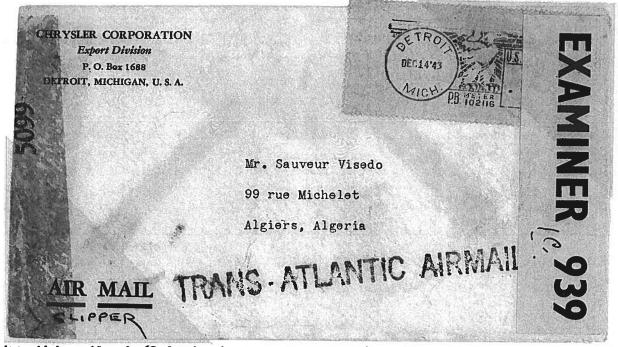


Rabat, French Morocco - 73 recorded, 3 Oct 1941, PC90 CL5-1D label. Destination Martinique (4 covers recorded). Also has **US** and Martinique censorship. To Algiers by R. Ae. F, (French) and on to Marseille, DLH to Lisbon, FAM 18 to US via Bermuda, US domestic air to Miami. and Pan Am FAM 6 to Fort de France.





NYC to Bou Arfa, French Morocco - 4 destination covers reported, 21 Jan 41, PC 90 CL5-1D label. US to Lisbon by FAM 18, by Iberia to Madrid and Spanish Morocco, ?by Reseau Aerienne Français to Casablanca and by surface to Bou Arfa, Morocco, Franking: 48¢ = 15¢ registration + 33¢ a/m per ½ oz. to French Morocco. Grey-purple Bermuda registration h/s "3270" used only last half Jan 1941.



Detroit to Algiers, **Algeria (2 destination covers recorded)** 14 Dec 43, at same 33¢ a/m rate for N. Africa as cover above. PC 90 CL5-1A Examiner 939.

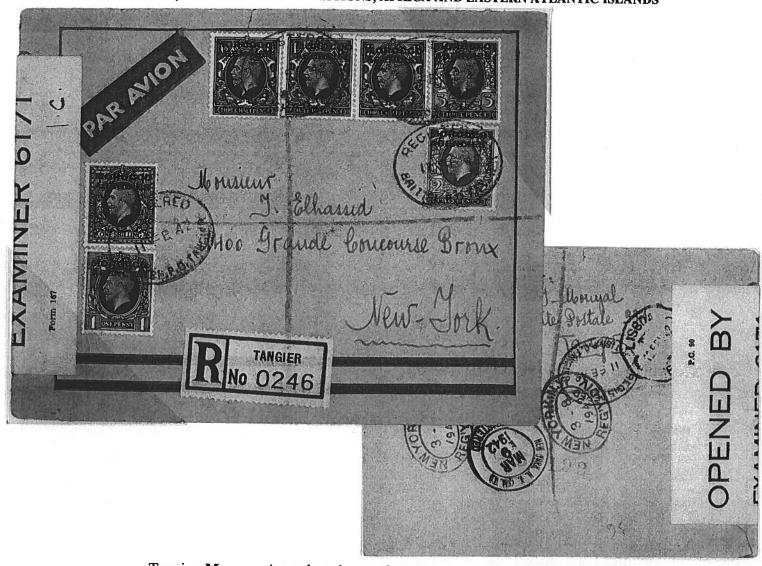
# Section 5c, Origins and Destinations, Africa and Eastern Atlantic Islands (Cont.)



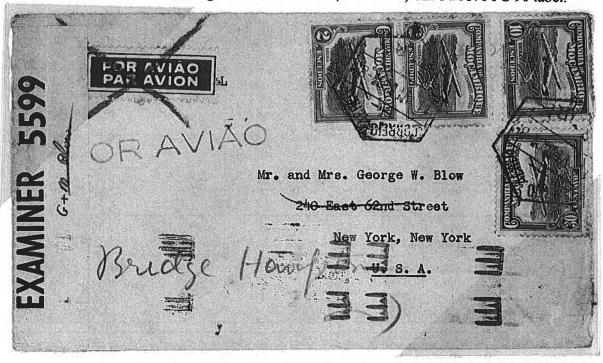
Tananarive, Madagascar - 3 recorded, 28 Feb 1941, CL9a [PC 90] 167g.g. label 5251. Seized and condemned in Bermuda (see Section 7) and released after the war.



Funchal, **Madeira - 30 recorded**, 26 Jul 1941, PC 90 CL5-1D label 4434. By sea (?) to Azores, by FAM 18 to New York, via Bermuda.



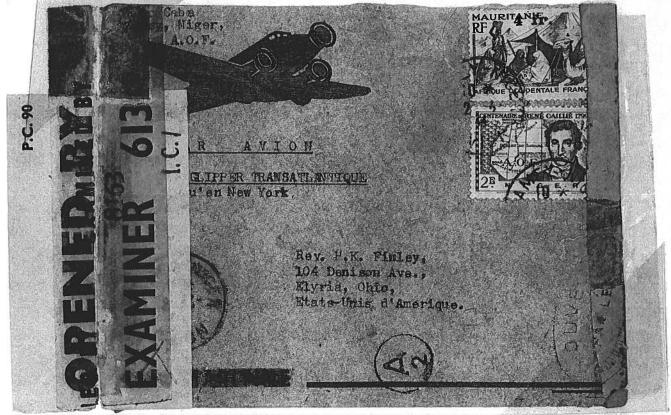
Tangier, Morocco Agencies - 1 recorded, 11 Feb 42, CL9b #6171 PC 90 label.



Beira, Mozambique Company - 2 recorded, 11 Jun 40, CL5-1G # 5599 label



Surface, Lourenço Marques, Mozambique - 3 recorded, 8 Feb 1941, with CL9a [167b.b.]PC 90 label.



Niamey, **Niger - 1 recorded**, 2 Mar 1944, CL5-1A label 613. French and US censor tapes. *By Réseau Aerién Française to Marseille via Tangiers*, *DLH to Lisbon*. Two stamps missing.

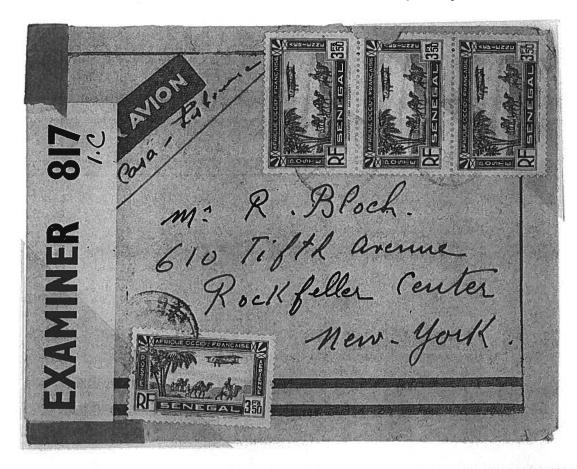


Bolama, **Portuguese Guinea - 5 recorded,** 20 Jan 1942, PC 90 CL5-1A label. *Carried on Winter route of FAM 18 to Port of Spain, San Juan, Bermuda and New York*,

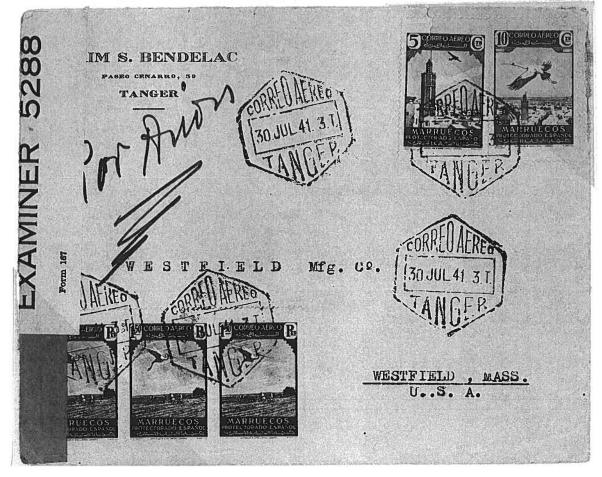


Usumbura, **Ruanda-Urundi - 2 recorded**, 13 Oct 1943, PC 90 CL9b label 2275. Leopoldville transit backstamp 24 Oct 1943. *By land/river (?) to Leopoldville, by FAM 22 to Port of Spain, by FAM 18 to San Juan and New York via Bermuda*.

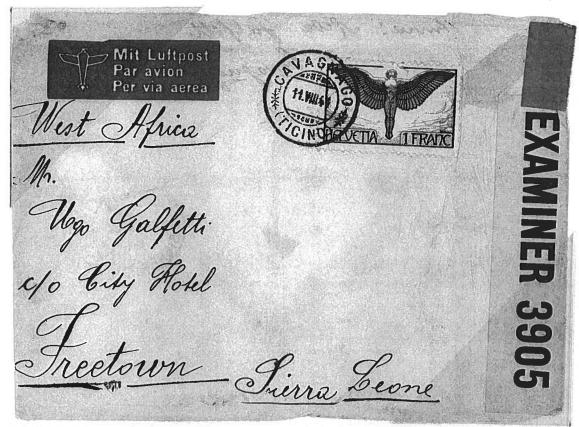
Senegal - 6
recorded, date
unclear, PC 90 CL51A label. By R. Ae. F
to Casablanca,
Tangier, and
Marseille, by DLH to
Lisbon.
Underfranked by .5<sup>Fs</sup>
(5<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>Fs</sup>50 stamp on
reverse) for usual
18<sup>Fs</sup>00 W. Africa rate.
No postage due
assessed.



Tanger, Spanish
Morocco - 8
recorded, 30 Jul
1941, PC 90 CL9b
label. by Trafico
Aero Espanol to
Madrid (31 Jul
backstamp) and
Lisbon. Same 4.65
Ptas a/m rate as
from Spain proper.



For well over 18 months fighting in the Mediterranean area interrupted mail service to west and south Africa, causing mail to cross the Atlantic twice. Here are two such covers: the only destination cover to Sierra Leone (11/8/41) and one of four to South Africa. (19/2/43).

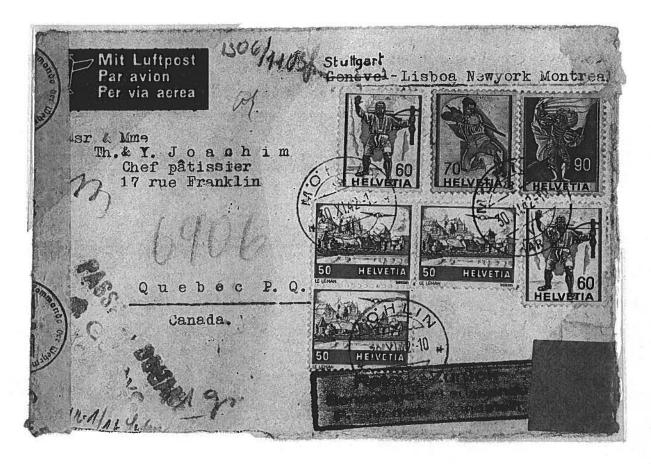


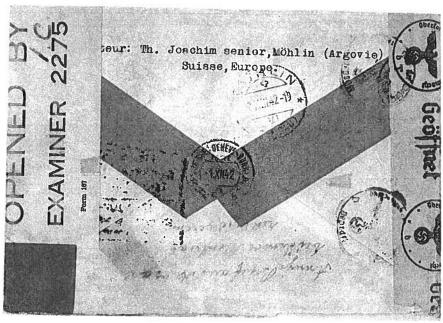


British Post Office. Tangier - 64 recorded. willen in Spanish 23 Apr 1942, PC 90 CL9b label. By Trafico Aereo MOSES PARIENTE Espanol (Spanish) to TANGIER (MOROCCO) Madrid via Seville and by DLH to Lisbon Per transatlantic clipper ar Aviou Mr. Abensur c/e Hudson Worth Corporation I, Worth Street New-York TUNISIE MEDIN DECOME TUNISIE DE COM U.S.A. mr. Laurence V- Benet 2101 Connecticut Avenue Washington D. C. M.S. America Etats Unis Amerique

Maxula Rades, **Tunisia - 11 covers recorded**, 10 Apr 1942, PC 90 CL5-1A label. French censor tape & h/s. By land to Algiers, by Réseau Aérienne Française to Marseille, and by **DLH** to Lisbon. Franking: 17<sup>F</sup>00 = 2<sup>F</sup>50 surface rate < 20 g + 12<sup>F</sup>00 a/m surcharge < 5g = 2<sup>F</sup>50 Tunisia surcharge.

## Section 5d, Origins and Destinations, North America





Mohlin, Switzerland to Quebec, **Canada (30 destination covers recorded)**, 30 Nov 1942, held because of mail suspension through France (see original Genève routing), reposted (crossed out "Retour-Zurück" h/s) 23 Dec 1942 now via Stuttgart. PC 90 CL9b Form 167 label. German Berlin censorship

This and the next 4 pages presents US covers to several European destinations, many of which are rare to uncommon!



To Biarritz, Occupied France - 125 recorded, returned with multiple French and US h/s. PC 90 CL5-1F label.



To Zvenice, Nasice, **Hrvatska (Independent Croatia) - 2 recorded**, 2 Dec 41. CL5-1A, PC90 label. Returned.

## SECTION 5D, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, NORTH AMERICA (CONT.)



To Budanest. Hungary - 11 recorded. only 1 with PC 102 label. 14 Sent 1940.

SECTION 5D, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, NORTH AMERICA (CONT) MAR 18 äken Naema Dehröder. Avvika Dweden PAR \* AVION To Arvika, Sweden - 22 recorded, 18 March 1942, PC 90 CL5-1F label # 5549. To Warsaw, Poland (General) Gouvernement) - 2 recorded 20 Sep 41, PC 90 CL5-1D 25/ label VIA AIR MAI CORNED AERE CLIPPER ER 4333 MRS HULDA SMITH, VIA GIOVANNI RICORDI NO. 30 MILANO, ITALY To Milano, Italy - 41 recorded, 12 March 1941

with PC 90 CL5-1D label.

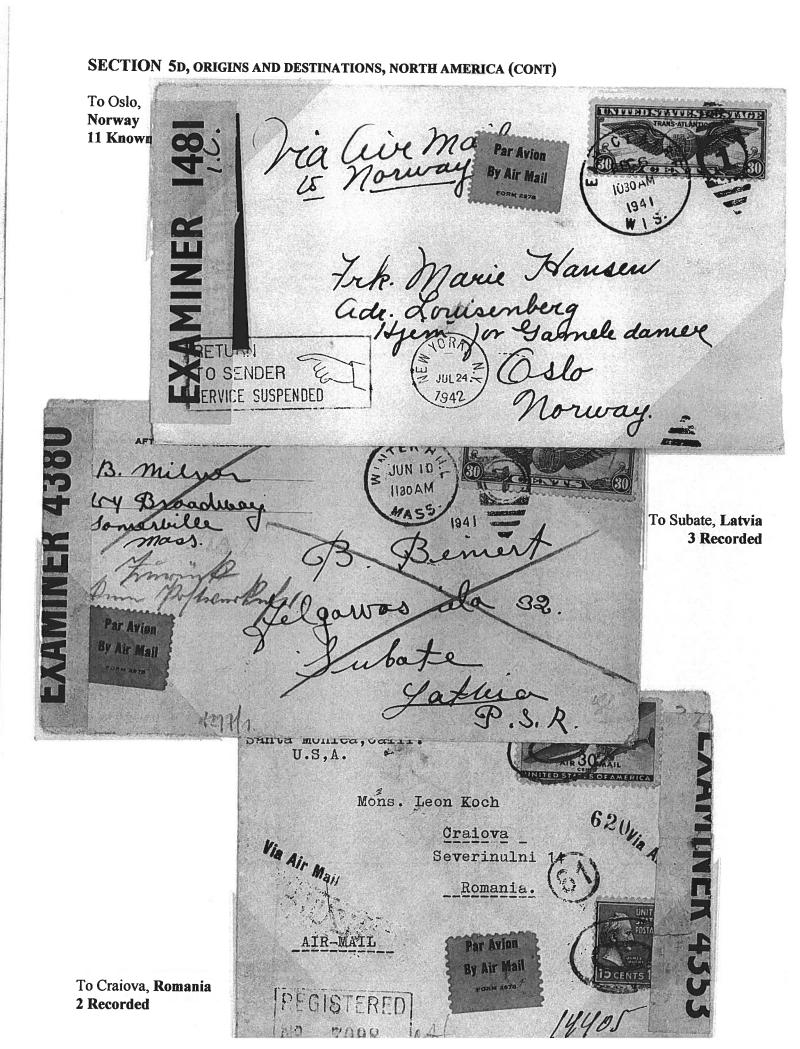
# SECTION 5D, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, NORTH AMERICA (CONT).



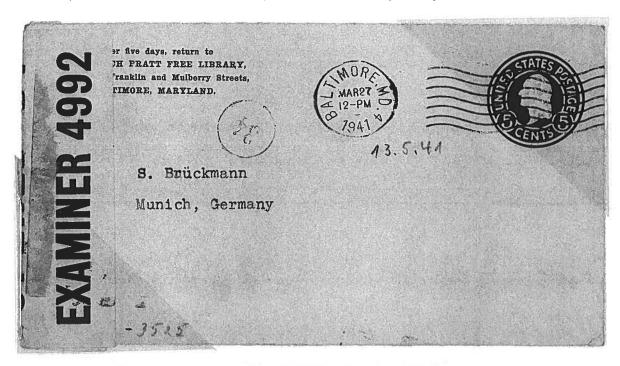
To Netherlands - 10 recorded, 10 Dec 1940, PC 90 CL5-1D label.



Zurich, Switzerland - 581 recorded, 7 Aug 1942, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Triple 90¢ franking for 1½ oz..

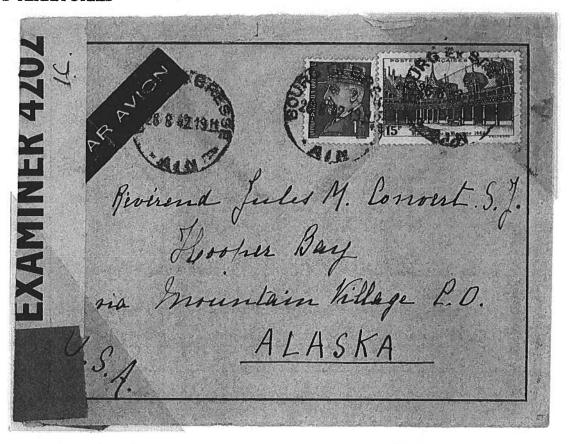


### SECTION 5D, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, NORTH AMERICA (CONT.)



To Germany - 92 recorded, 27 Mar 1941 with PC 90 CL5-1D label.

#### TO US TERRITORIES

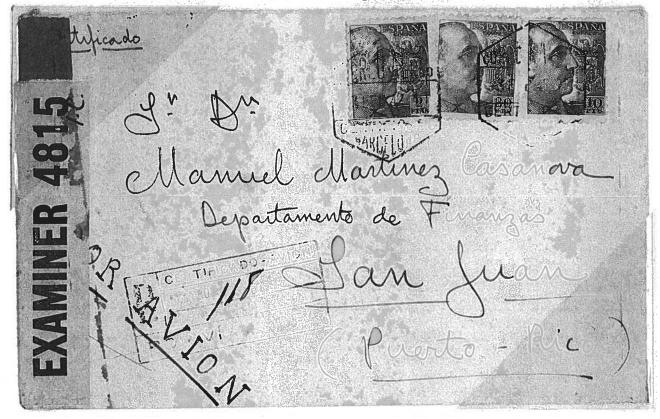


Bourg en Bresse, **France** to Hoopers Bay, **Alaska - only recorded cover**, 26 Aug 1942, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Usual routes to Lisbon, across Atlantic and US. Pan Am FAM 20 from Seattle to Juneau, by bush plane to Mountain Village and thence by coastal steamer and/or Alaska Dog Team Post to a Jesuit Missionary in a small coastal village on the Bearing Straits.

## Section 5d, Origins and Destinations, North America (Cont.)

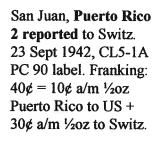


Horta, Azores to Cristobal, Canal Zone, - 3 reported, 23 Jun 41, PC 90 CL5-1D label.



Barcelona, Spain to San Juan, Puerto Rico - 2 recorded, 3 Feb 1942, PC 90 CL5-1D label.

Ancon, Canal Zone





IF NOT DELIVERED RETURN TO NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK PANAMA, R. P.

1 reported, 9 Nov 40, VIA AIR MAIL CL5-1A PC 90 label, underfranked

Credit Suissé, Berna, SWITZERLAND.

1 Schwendy R.M

Honolulu, Hawaii 2 recorded, to Scotland (77 for UK 17 Dec 1942, CL5-14 PC 90 label. Unique Barcelona transit censor. Note: pale purple h/s "I.C".

Franking: 65 ¢ = 15¢ 1 registry +  $20¢/\frac{1}{2}$  oz. Hawaii to US +

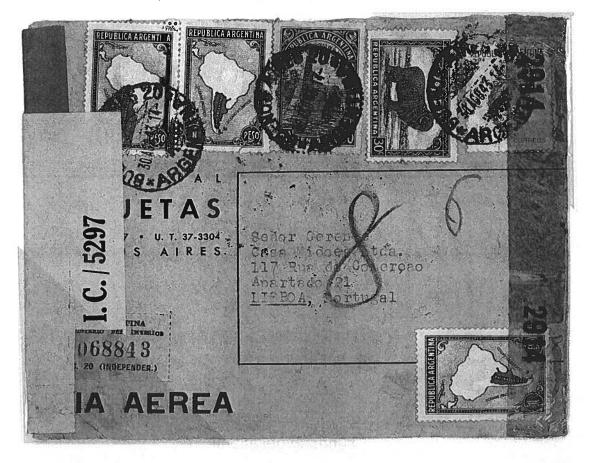
306/1/2 oz LIS to Scotland

By Air Mail FORM 2978

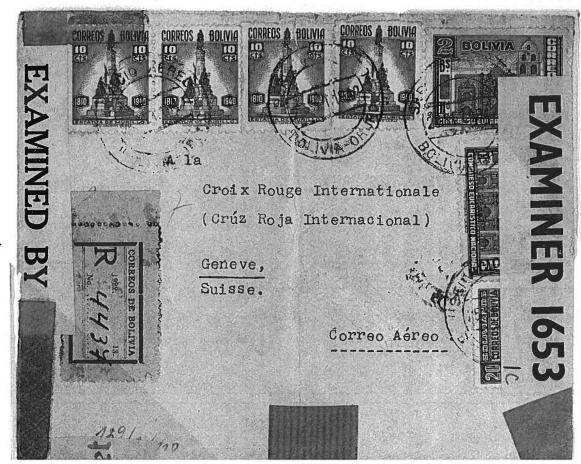
Trans-Atlantic Route

## SECTION 5E, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA

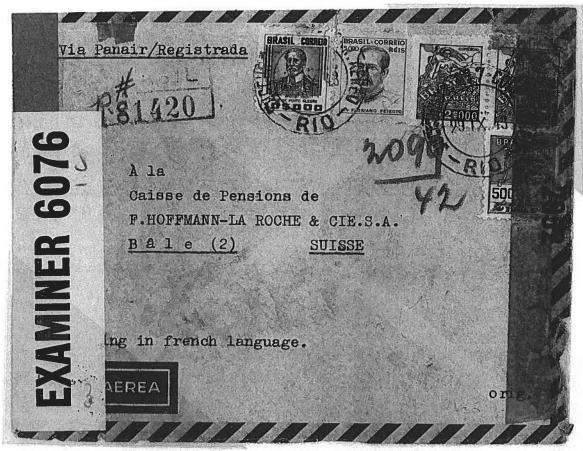
Buenos Aires, Argentina - 80 recorded, 30 Aug 1943, PC90 CL7a label. US cello 2914. Carried by FAM 10 to Trinidad, FAM 6 to Miami, domestic air to NY, and FAM 18 to Lisbon



Oruro, Bolivia -12 recorded, 25 Sep 1942, PC90 CL5-1A label, US tape on other end. Carried by land to La Paz, by PANAGRA to Cristobal. Panama, by FAM 5 to Miami, by domestic air to NY, by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda, by DLH to Paris (censored) and Geneva.



#### SECTION 5 E, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)



Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil - 56 recorded**, 29 Sep 43, PC90 CL5-1D label. US cello 2952. Carried via FAM 10 to Trinidad, by FAM 6 to Miami, by domestic air to NY, by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda, by DLH to Paris (censored) and surface to Basel.



Belize, British Honduras - 1 recorded, 30 Nov 42. Mail to or from British colonies rarely re-censored, particularly when to or from the UK. Pan Am FAM 5 to Brownsville, Tx, domestic to NYC, Pan Am FAM 18 to Lisbon, BOAC/KLM to London; 15 cents registration + 30 cents air ≤5 g..

## SECTION 5E, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS - SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)

Temuco, Chile - 34
recorded, 29 Dec 42,
PC90 CL5-1A label
#4952. Carried by
land to Santiago, by
an internal Air Line to
Rio de Janeiro, FAM
10 to Trinidad, by
FAM 6 to Miami, by
domestic air to NY, by
FAM 18 to Lisbon, by
DLH to Berlin
(censored), and by
land to Liegnitz,
Germany.





Bogota, Colombia - 23 recorded, 20 Dec 1941, Form 167 PC90 label. By AVIANCA to Medellin, by UMCA to Cristobal, by FAM 5 to either Brownsville or New Orleans, by domestic air to NY, by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda, by DLH to Paris (censored) and Zurich

## SECTION 5E. ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.) San Jose, Costa CORREDS DE COSTA BICA Rica - 6 recorded, 14 April 1941 PC 90 CL5-1A label. FAM 5 to Brownsville, etc. EXAMINER O AEREO VIA AIR MAIL Maison Feldmühle S.A. Fabrique de soie artificielle Rorschach St.G. TRANSATLANTIC Willemstad, Curação -IR-SERVICE 3 recorded. Probably via Central America. VIA AIR MAIL Comité International de la Croix-Bouge, n Swittennien othée Touzet BOX 468 VANA, CUBA CORREO AEREO - AIR XAMINE REPUBLICA DE CUBA Messieurs, LUMIERE" "BREVETS Villon 49, rue LYON (Rhone) FRANCIA

Havana, **Cuba - 22 recorded**, to Lyon, **France - 128 reported**, 25 Aug. 41, PC 90 label. Lyon, France 16 Sep 41. Pan Am FAM 6 to Miami, domestic air to NY, FAM 18 to France via Bermuda and DLH to Marseille, land transport to Lyon. Franking: 90 centavos = double a/m rate of 45 cent. < 5 g.

## SECTION 5E. ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)

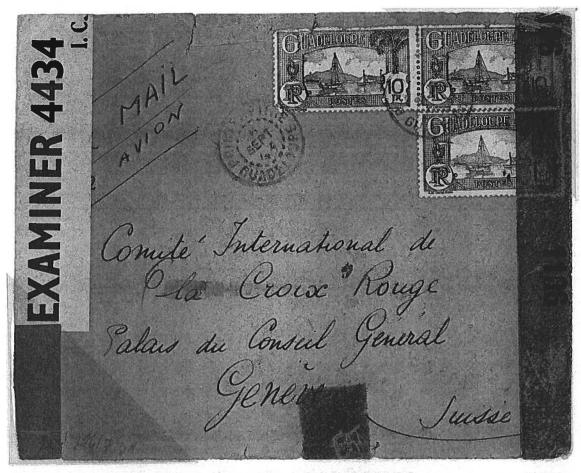


Ciudad Trujillo, **Dominican Republic - 6 recorded**, to Sibiu, **Romania - 2 reported**, 7 Mar 41, PC90 CL5-1D label. #4353.



Quito, **Ecuador - 6 recorded**, 8 Jan 41 to Geneve, Switzerland - 593 reported, PC 90 CL5-1G label. By PANAGRA to Cristobal, Canal Zone, by FAM 5 to Miami, by domestic air to NY, FAM 18 to Lisbon, by DLH to Marseille, and Lyon, and by land to Zurich.

#### SECTION 5E, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)



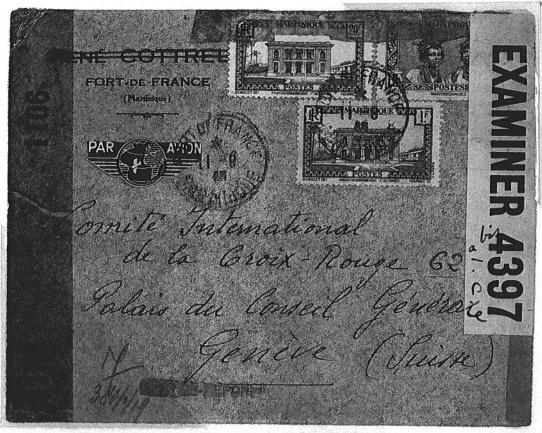
Pointe à Pitre, Guadeloupe - 2 recorded, 4 Sep 43, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Quadruple censorship (Guadeloupe, US, Bermuda, and Germany)- 14 covers recorded. Carried by FAM 6 to Miami, domestic air to NY, FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda, DLH to Paris (censored) and by land to Genève.



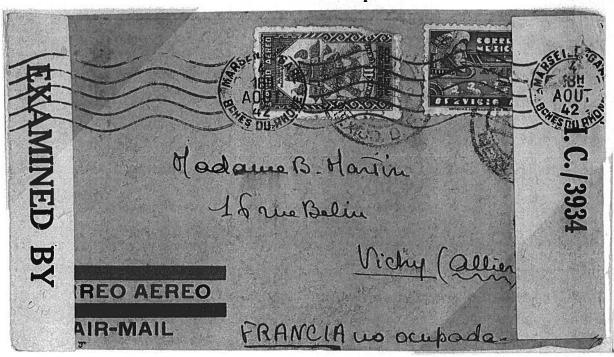
Guatemala - 11 Recorded, 21 Oct 40, CL5-1A label # 1645.



## SECTION 5E, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)



Fort de France, **Martinique - 5 recorded**, 11 Jun 43, PC 90 CL5-1D label. This cover also has **quadruple censorship: Martinique, US, Bermuda, and Germany.** Followed same routing as the cover from Guadeloupe.

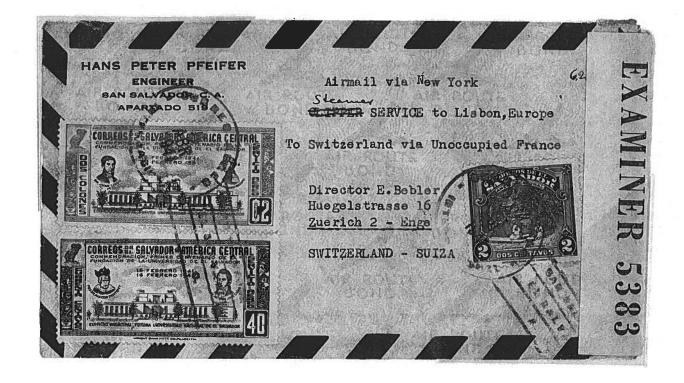


Cozumel, **Mexico - 39 recorded** 8 Jul 42, PC90 CL7a label. US tape on left end. By land to Meridia, by FAM 5 Route to Brownsville, TX, by domestic air to NY, by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda, by Ala Littoria to Marseille and then by land to Vichy.

## SECTION 5E, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)



Rio Hato, Panama - 11 reported, 1 Dec 41 with CL9b PC90 label to Denmark - 23 reported,.

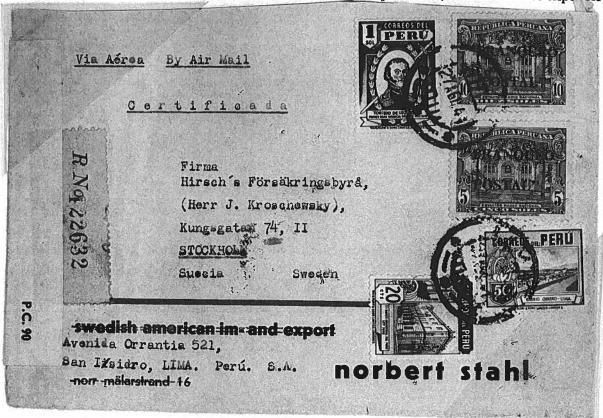


San Salvador, el Salvador 5 Apr 41 with CL9a(167n.n.) via air to NYC and steamer to Lisbon.

SECTION 5E. ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)

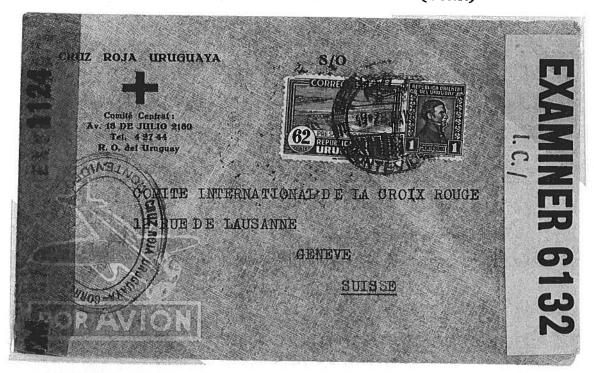


Asuncion, **Paraguay - 6 covers recorded**, 8 JAN 41, PC90 CL5-1D label to Nuemberg, Germany. Surface cover *via Grace Lines*, seized in Bermuda; released post-war; German label explains seizure.

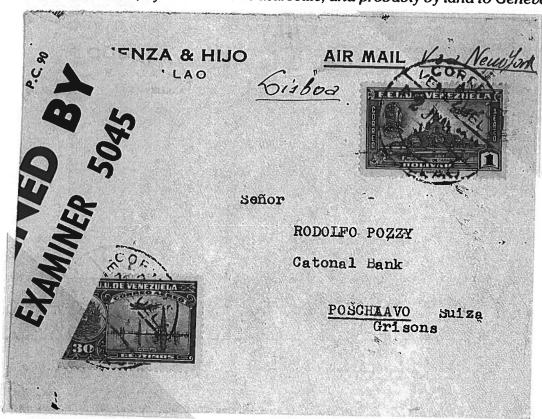


Lima, Peru - 46 covers recorded, 27 Aug 41, to Stockholm, Sweden - 26 destination covers recorded, PC 90 CL5-1G label Examiner 5549. By PANAGRA to Cristobal, Canal Zone, by FAM 5 to Miami, by domestic air to NYC, by FAM 18 to Lisbon, by DLH to Berlin and Stockholm.

## SECTION 5E, ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS, SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA (CONT.)



Montevideo, **Uruguay - 11 recorded**, 28 May 43, PC90 CL5-1D label, US cello 1124 on left end. By Pan Am FAM 10 to Port-of-Spain Trinidad, by FAM 6 to Miami, by domestic air to NY, by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda, by Ala Littoria to Marseille, and probably by land to Geneva.



El Callao, **Venezuela - 40 recorded**, 2 Jun 41, PC 90 CL5-1G label. By Linea Aeropostal Venezolana to Caracas, by PAN AM FAM 5 to Miami via Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, by domestic air to NYC, by FAM 18 to Lisbon, by Ala Littoria to Rome and land to Poscohiavo.

## SECTION 5F, ORIGINS, PACIFIC AREA

Covers representing the far reaches of mail passing through Bermuda. The progress of the war interrupted the usual westward course of the mails from the western Pacific so that it now crossed the Pacific Ocean, the United States, and the Atlantic Ocean on FAM 18 via Bermuda to final destinations in Europe, becoming in the process "two ocean" mail.

Noumea, New Caledonia - 8 recorded, 22 Mar 43, PC90 CL5-1A label #4970. Has New Caledonian and US censorship. Likely carried by military aircraft to Hawaii, by Pan Am FAM 14 to San Francisco, across US by domestic air, by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda, by DLH to Lyon and by land to Geneva.





Padang, Sidempoean, Sumatra, Netherlands East Indies (NEI) - 2 recorded, 28 Oct 40, PC 90 CL5-1G label. Has NEI censorship. BY KNILM to Soerabaja, Java and Tarakan, Batavia; by KNILM contract carrier to Manila; by Pan Am FAM 14 to San Francisco via Hawaii (Honolulu backstamp, 14 Nov 1940); By domestic air to New York (17 Nov 40 b/s); by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda; by DLH to Marseille; by surface transport to Zurich (Hallau backstamp 9 Dec 1940).

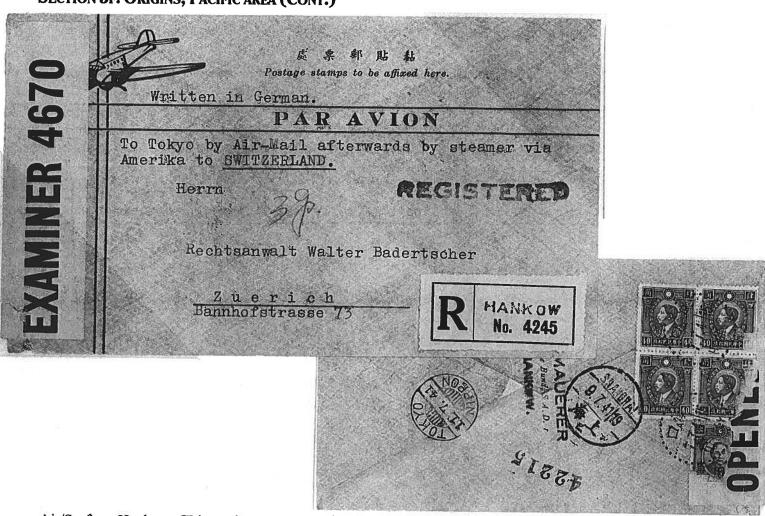
## SECTION 5F. ORIGINS, PACIFIC AREA (CONT.)

Manila, **Philippine Islands - 2 recorded**, 28 Jun 41, PC 90 CL5-1G label. By Pan Am FAM 14 to San Francisco via Hawaii (Honolulu b/s 3/7/41), by domestic air across US to NYC, by FAM 18 to Lisbon via Bermuda (Red '20826' h/s on reverse confirms Bermuda transit on FAM 18), by DLH to Marseille, by rail to Basel (17/7/41 b/s) - a 20 day journey!! Franking to Europe = 1.72 Pesos/15 g. + .20 P registration.

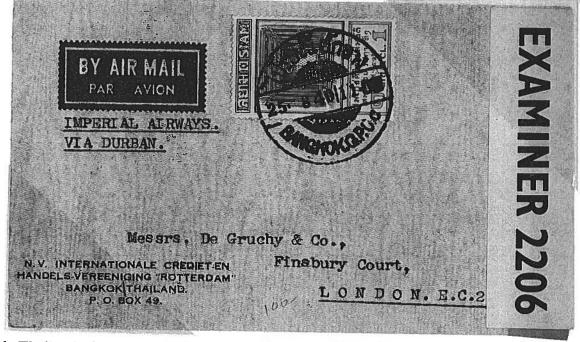




SECTION 5F. ORIGINS, PACIFIC AREA (CONT.)



Air/Surface, Hankow, China - 6 reported, 7 Jul 41, PC 90 CL5-1D label. Shanghai transit b/s 9/7/41, Tokyo transit b/s 11/7/41.



Bangkok, **Thailand - 3 reported**, 25 Aug 40, PC 90 CL5-1A label. Examiner 2206 in Bermuda last half of 1940 to mid-1943. In June 1940 *Imperial Airways*' "Empire Route" to SE Asia via Mediterranean and Near East was cut by Axis advances. Letter directed to recently established *BOAC* "Horseshoe Route" appears to have gone east on the two-ocean route instead. (2 week delivery time versus 4 to 7 weeks via Durban).

#### SECTION 5F. DESTINATIONS, PACIFIC AREA.



Genève, Switzerland to Saigon, French Indochina - 1 reported, 25 Aug 41, PC 90 CL9b label (5638 in Bda 13/9/40 - 5/3/42) w/ transit b/s: Bermuda registry # 25725, NYC 9/9/41, San Francisco 11/9/41, Honolulu 21/9/41; Hanoi 9/10/41, and Saigon 11/10/41. Surface from Genève to Lisbon, PanAm FAM 18 to NYC via Bermuda. Domestic air in US. Pan Am FAM14 to Hong Kong via Honolulu, Dai Nippon to Saigon via Hanoi.



Zurich, Switzerland to Manila, **Philippine Islands - 1 reported**, 15 Dec 41, PC 90 CL5-1G label. Examiner 5593. Mauve US "REBUTS" and "Return to Sender / Service Suspended" h/s.

## SECTION 5F, ORIGINS AND DESTINATION, PACIFIC AREA (CONT.)



From Mukden, Manchukuo - 2 Reported, 8 Aug 41, to Switzerland CL5-1F label.

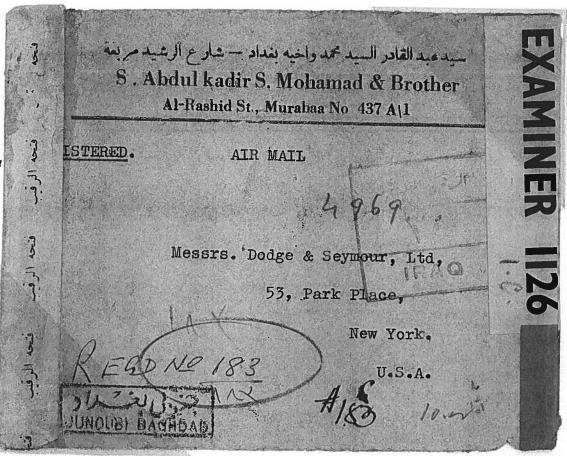
Papeete, Tahiti - 2
Recorded, 27 Apr, 42 to
Monte Carlo, Monaco 1 recorded - (redirected
to France), PC 90 CL9b
Examiner 4344 label Quadruple censorship
- Tahiti, US, Bermuda,
and France.



## SECTION 5G, MULTINATIONAL CENSORSHIP

Bermuda censored covers are seen with censorship of other countries of origin, transit, or destination, or all three

Dual censorship (Iraq and Bermuda) Baghdad, Iraq - 6 covers recorded. 1 May 43, PC 90 CL5-1A label. By BOAC 'Horseshoe' route to Cairo and Khartoum, then to Lagos, Nigeria, and by Pan Am FAM 22 to US via Bermuda.



Triple censorship (France, Bermuda, and Martinique) - 4 destination covers recorded. 14 May 41, PC 90 CL5-1A label 3594. By land to Marseille, by DLH to Lisbon, by FAM 18 via Bermuda to New York, by domestic air to Miami, by FAM 6 to Martinique. Redirected back to US by same route.

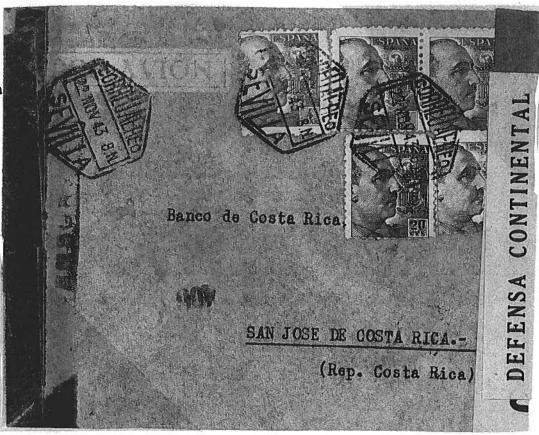


## SECTION 5G, MULTINATIONAL CENSORSHIP (CONT.)

Quadruple censorship - 14 reported (French and British left end, US and Bermuda right end). Tananarive, Madagascar (3 reported) 22 Feb 44, PC90 CL5-1D label #4488. Carried by Lignes Aériennes Militaires (LAM) to Khartoum, by BOAC to Lagos, by Pan Am FAM 22 to US via Bermuda.



Quadruple censorship, Spain and US left end, Bermuda (under) and Costa Rica right end. To Costa Rica (4 reported).

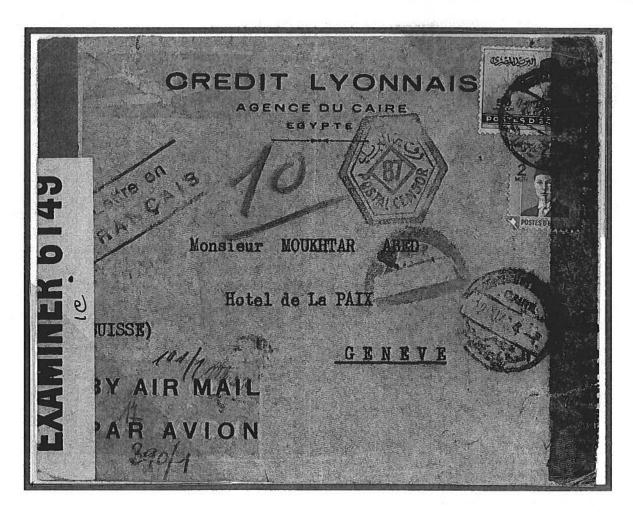


## SECTION 5G, MULTINATIONAL CENSORSHIP (CONT.)

<u>Quintuple censorship</u> - only cover reported: Egypt h/s on face and tape under at left: Nigeria semicircular h/s on face; US cello on right, Bermuda PC 90 CL5-1D tape at left; German OKW tape and h/s (x = Paris) on reverse.

Cairo, Egypt - 7 covers reported, 12 Nov 43. For a nominal journey of 1500 miles it crossed the Atlantic twice covering 14,680 miles en route. Cairo to Khartoum by BOAC "Horseshoe Route", by BOAC "Horseshoe Route", by BOAC sub-Saharan landplane route to Lagos, Nigeria, by FAM 22 to Miami, by domestic air in US to NYC, by FAM 18 to Lisbon, by DLH to Paris and Lyon, by land to Geneva!!!





## SECTION 5G, MULTIPLE CENSORSHIP, BERMUDIAN



Evidence of cover referral among Bermuda Examiners is **rarely seen**. Cover from Nice, to Havana, **Cuba - 15 recorded**, 28 July 41 with Marseille customs tape & h/s **(one reported)** arriving 18 Aug 41. It has PC90 CL5-1A label #1683 with an additional m/s "4314"; both known Bermuda examiners.



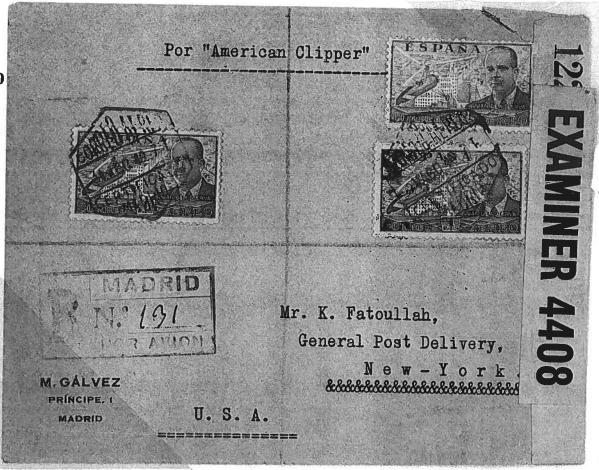
Sucursal, **Mexico - 12 reported**, 17 Jun 41, PC 90 CL5-1A #1126 and CL5-1A #1683 labels, both known Bermuda examiners. Cover was condemned and released (see h/s) after war, Meoune b/s 2 Feb 46!!

## SECTION 5G, MULTIPLE CENSORSHIP, BERMUDIAN (CONT.)

Recent evidence shows that some oversight and/or consultation (most likely within Tables or Departments) was signified by m/s examiner numbers (cover 1); initials (cover 2); or signatures (covers 3 & 4). The rules which governed this practice are not known, but numbers are seen on US and UK labels with some frequency. (see also Danish cover in Section 5a and the French cover on the previous page). These examples represent 6 of 7 reported covers.



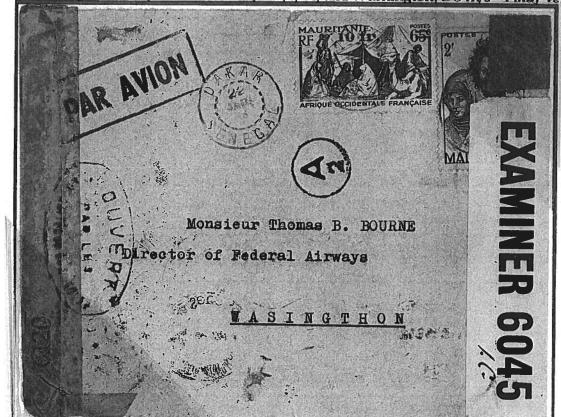
Madrid 31 Aug 40. Only reported cover w/ both PC 102 and PC 90 labels



SECTION 5H, THE STATION **CLOSES** 

The exhibit began with the 1st air mail examined in Bermuda. Now, 4+ years later, its work successfully done, the Station closed on 1 May 44. Cover from the last mail examined in Bermuda, from Dakar, Senegal - 6 recorded, 22 Mar 44, Lisbon transit b/s 30/3/44, and Washington, DC m/s "4 May 1944 rec'd" on

reverse.

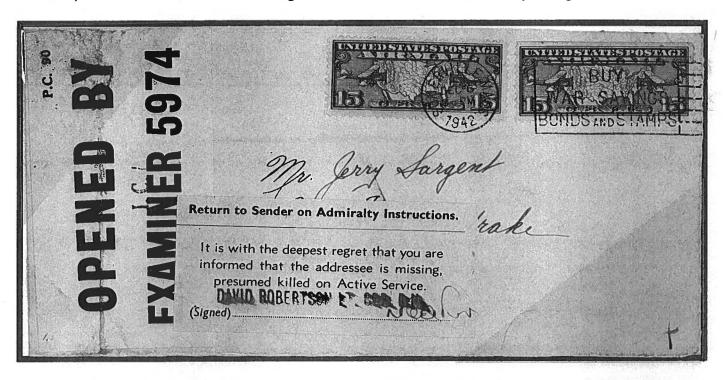


However, the impact of Censorship activities would be felt for another seven years!!

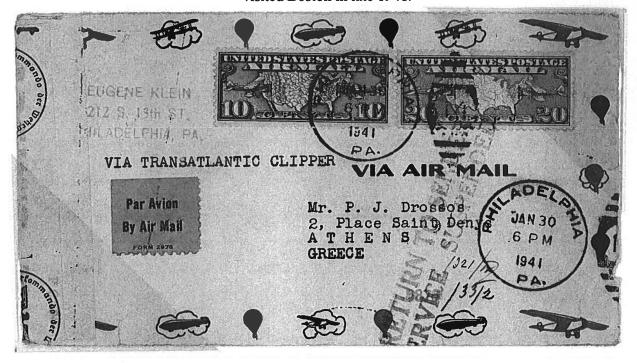
# SECTION 6, TURMOIL AND TRAVAIL



WW II mail reflects all of the various disruptions war inevitably brings: lives are ended, people displaced, air, sea, and land mail routes are interrupted and diverted, and normally inviolate mail and contents are seized and held (see Section 7). Such events often sent mail though Bermuda which would not normally have gone there.



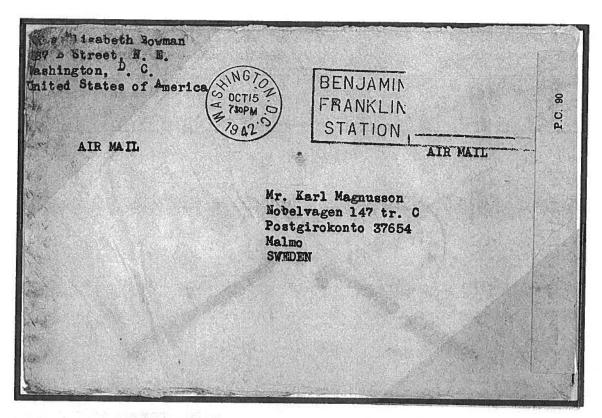
Letter from Somerville, MA to addressee killed in the sinking of *HMS Firedrake*, 22 Dec1942 - only such reported cover. HMS Firedrake was a WW II Lend-Lease US Destroyer on Atlantic convoy duty which had visited Boston in late 1941.



Cover to Greece returned from Vienna by Germans during Italy's unsuccessful invasion of Greece. Bermuda PC90 label CL5-1D # 4370 under German OKW "g" tape and handstamp.

## **SECTION 6, TURMOIL AND TRAVAIL**

One of the remarkable records of trans-Bermuda flights by Pan Am is that only one plane crashed, with loss of some life and mail, for the duration of the war! This is a **crash cover** from the flight and loss of the *Yankee Clipper* on 22 Feb. 43. The stamp floated off the cover and was lost.

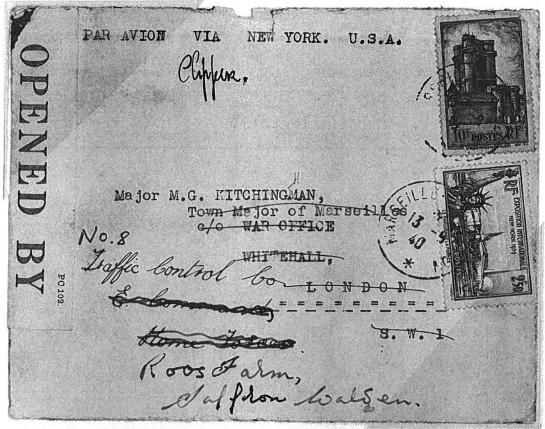


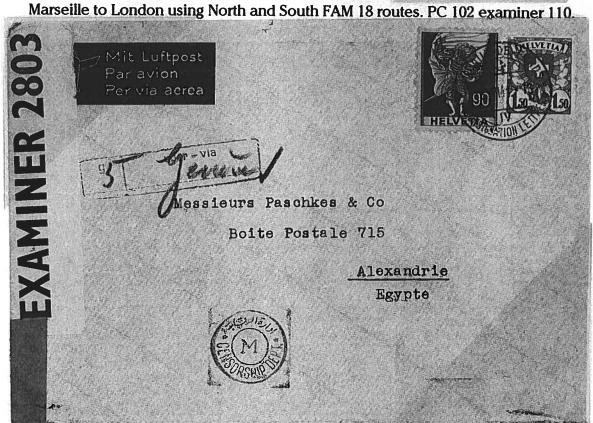
Inneliggande försändelse har skadats av vatten vid förlisningen av en Clippermaskin på Tajofloden utanför Lissabon den 22 febr. 1943

Swedish label explains the event which befell the Clipper mail. (150%)



Travel between cities only hundreds of miles apart became journeys of thousands of miles when usual air routes were unavailable due to war. Here covers **cross the Atlantic twice!** 





Chaux-de-ronds, Switzerland to Alexandria, Egypt - 1 reported, 18 Aug 41, via FAM 18 and Bermuda. Examiner 2803 (PC 90 CL5-1A label) in Bermuda Jun 41 through Oct 42.



Bhuket, **Thailand - 2 reported**, 6 Jun 41 **to Trieste**, **Italy**, **unique combination**. Intended trans-Siberian route lost to German invasion of Russia, 22 Jun 41. Cover water-stained, stamp lost in the mails, space covered by faint Japanese h/s and Italian label. Examiner 1492 in Bermuda 2/41 to 2/43.



War in Middle East/N. Africa occasionally made 'Horseshoe' air route unreliable and slow. Two-ocean route confirmed by Honolulu b/s, and **Bermuda transit by red registry number 26667.** As Imperial examiners saw cover in Hong Kong (note rare circular Hong Kong "air transit" h/s #5.), it was not re-examined in Bermuda.

An irony of the war from the postal perspective was that, while mail service between the US and Germany was cut (except for POW/Internee mail) after Pearl Harbor, Germany could and did continue to exchange mail with neutral, and often Axis-friendly, countries in South America. This mail was allowed to pass through Bermuda and the US after censorship!!



Hamburg, Germany, 31 Oct 42 to Buenos Aires, Argentina with Bermuda PC 90 CL7a label.

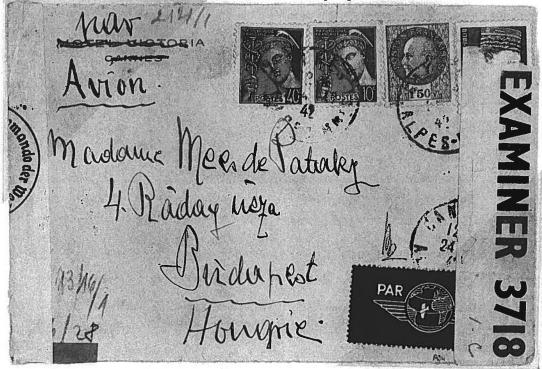


Santiago, Chile, 26 Nov 42 to Augsburg, Germany, Bermuda PC 90 CL5-1A label.

Misdirected mail did not disappear in war-time, bringing mail to Bermuda which it would not have otherwise seen. In some cases it is easy to determine the source of the error, as with 1 st cover to Worcester, MA, rather than Worcester, UK. In 2<sup>nd</sup> case one can surmise the Axis had 'granding as well as the Allies.

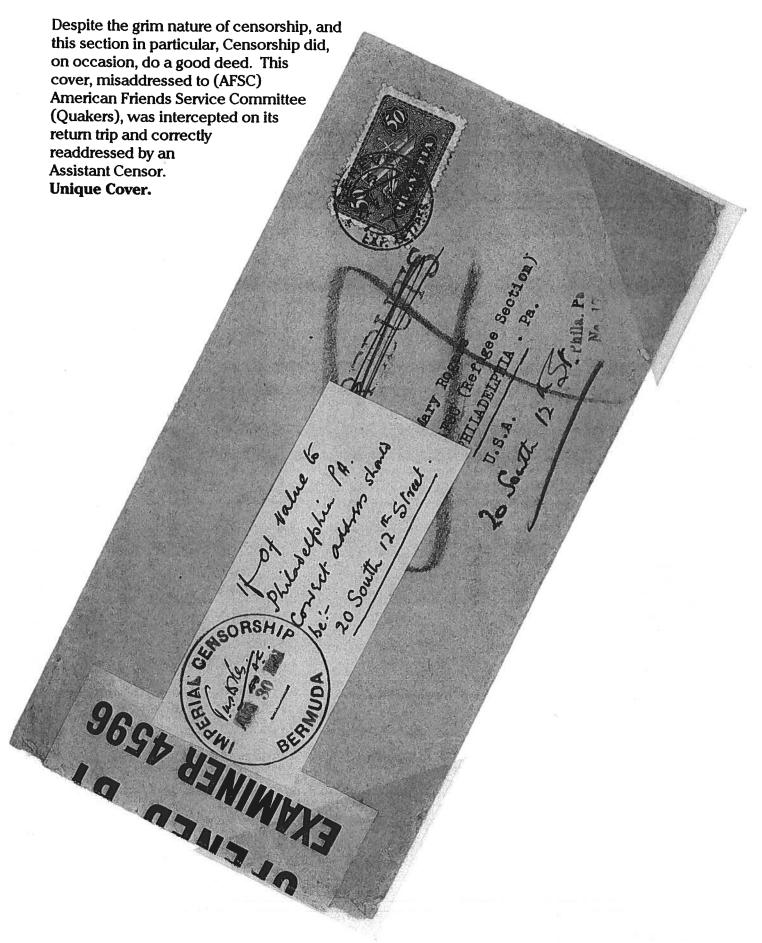


Geneve, Switzeriand to Worcester, England, 3 Apr 43. German OKW Berlin tape & h/s. NYC 1/8/43, Worcester. Mass b/s 2/8/43; 2<sup>nd</sup> NYC b/s 3/8/43. Registered with 44984 Bermuda number and PC 90 CL5-1A Bermuda censor label. Note purple handmade h/s.

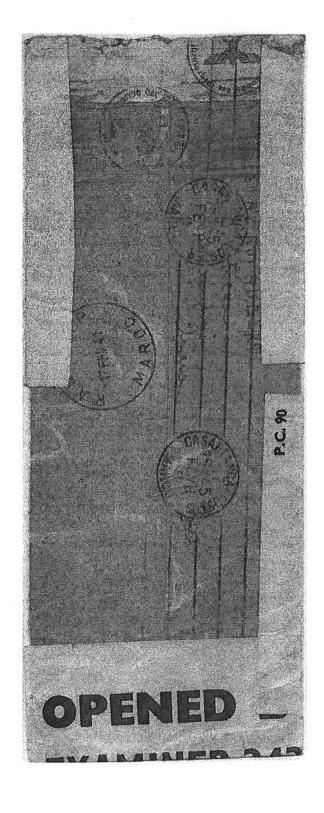


Cannes, France to Budapest, Hungary, 24 Dec 42. 1st German OKW 'x' Paris tape and red "Gefpruft Dienstelle Feldpost 45190" h/s. To Lisbon and Bermuda, Examiner 3718 PC 90 label over Paris tape. No US markings, so returned from Bermuda? 2nd German OKW 'b' Berlin tape over the 1st. Misdirection may be due to confusion following German seizure of the rest of France a month earlier.

## Section 6, Death, Destruction, Diversion, and Displacement (Cont.)



Shanghai, China - 5 covers reported, 25 Oct 40, PC 90 CL5-1A label # 3430 (Polish language expert). By rail to Kharbin, Siberia, by trans-Siberian Railroad to Moscow, by rail to Berlin (German censorship) and south through Europe to Mediterranean, by sea to destination, Casablanca, Morocco - 3 covers reported - (arr. 17 Feb 41). Polish refugee had moved to US. Redirected to USA via Rabat 17/2/41 and 30 Centimes Morocco postage due added. By sea to NYC via Bermuda and by rail to Chicago. An extraordinary trip.





P.C. 90

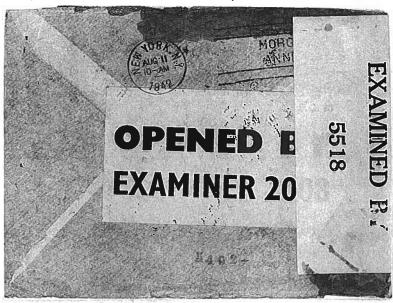
Whether following fleeing refugees, as in the previous cover, or transferring business people, the postal



Dakar, Senegal, 9 Jun 42 with proper 23<sup>Fr</sup>50 a/m franking from French West Africa to US via Casablanca (17/6/42), Lisbon (19/6/42), NY (10/7/42) to Spokane, WA (12/7/42). Bermuda censorship en route, PC 90 CL5-1A label 2302 w/ m/s "IC". Registered cover (Bermuda registry number 47781 - subsequently crossed out) was opened and contents inspected in Spokane. Addressee, a mortgage banker, had moved to England, so the cover was resealed and forwarded after re-registration, a 15 ¢ US prexy applied to cover US registration fee, and new registration number, 1814, applied.. Spokane (20/7/42) and NYC (21/7/42). Re-censored in UK (opened out PC 90 T&M 1K1 4683 label).

As the events immediately surrounding and following Pearl Harbor unfolded, the postal systems struggled to adapt and to deliver the mail, sometimes without success, due to circumstances

beyond their control.

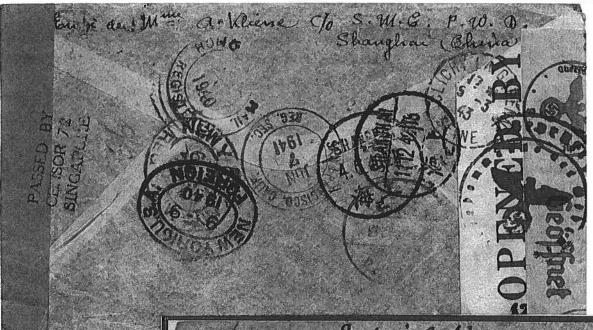




NYC to Batavia, **Dutch East Indies - 1 reported**, 6 Dec 41. Intended to go via FAM 14 transpacific route. It likely never left US west-bound as last FAM 14 flight (*Anzac Clipper*) left Treasure Island 6 Dec PM. The rest of its journey is conjectural. It may have gone out on FAM 18 to Lisbon or on a FAM 22 bimonthly flight to Africa via Bermuda and Puerto Rico, (FAM 22 Boeing B314 aircraft used NYC as home base as Miami did not have B314 maintenance facilities - mail and passengers were shuttled from Miami to San Juan). Either way, it was censored in Bermuda, PC 90 # 2008 (in Bda Oct 40 to Feb 43) just before IC marking began. It then probably went by ship to Durban, South Africa, the *BOAC* "Horseshoe Route" as far as Calcutta (DHA/21 h/s) by which time the Dutch East Indies fell to the Japanese. It was then returned to the US, 11 Aug 42, and was censored finally by US Examiner 5518.

## A 37,000 MILE JOURNEY OF 1001 DAYS

<u>Date</u>	Location	<u>Event</u>
2/6/40	Shanghai	Letter posted m/s instruction - "Air France per steamer on June 2"
4/6/40*	Shanghai	CDS -instruction altered to steamer on 6 June
10/6/40		Air France and Imperial Airways service suspended
?/6/40	Hong Kong	To Manila on FAM 14
?/6/40	Manila	To Honolulu on FAM 14
?/6/40	Honolulu	Registry b/s, to San Francisco on FAM 14
?/6/40	San Francisco	Domestic air to NYC
22/6/40	NYC	Registry b/s, to Bermuda on FAM 18 (PAA trip #147, Yankee Clipper)
22/6/40	Bermuda	PC 102 label, Examiner 103
?/7/40	France	"Retour a l'Envoyeur / Relations Postales / Interrompues" h/s
?/8/40	NYC	NYC foreign 9/9/40 b/s
7/6/41	San Francisco	S.F. Reg. Sec 7 Jun 41 b/s
???	Singapore	Passed by / Censor 72 / Singapore h/s & tape
11/12/42	Shanghai	CDS
???	Shanghai	Surface to Nanking
???	Nanking	Air to Kunming on CNAC
???	Kunming	Air to Calcutta on CNAC
???	Calcutta	"Horseshoe route" BOAC
2/2/43	Ankara 🔍	CDS
?/2/43	Vienna	German OKW "g" tape & h/s
5/3/43	Clichy	CDS *Bolded markings appear on the cover.







#### **SECTION 7, POST WAR RELEASE OF DETAINED MAIL**

Some Bermuda-examined mail was seized either for contraband control purposes or national security. Closure of the Bermuda Station on I May 1944 and the end of WW II on 2 Sep 1945 did not end the effects of censorship. These covers are eagerly sought and bear additional interesting markings.

**SECTION 7A, RELEASE OF CONDEMNED MAIL** Bermuda-condemned mail was returned to the UK, released in early 1946 with "Released and wavy line" h/s (Torrance & Morenweiser H 14 A & B), and sent to US where 4 types of hastily produced "Held by British Censor" (HBBC) h/s were hastily applied (good impressions are scarce) in NYC. Of course, released covers to non-US destinations do not have these NYC h/s.



## **SECTION 7A, RELEASE** OF CONDEMNED MAIL

Marseille, France, 10/8/41, with faint H 14B UK h/s near PC 90 CL5-1D label, and US Type 2 HBBC h/s.

Portuguese/French covers with rare front portions of PC 93 label still attached. Blue St. Andrews Cross. The "S" of "CENS" was replaced inverted at some point. Note upright and properly aligned 's' in " CENS" on small cover.

The Type 2 h/s seems to have been used for unregistered mail.



Form No. 160a. [P.C. 93.]





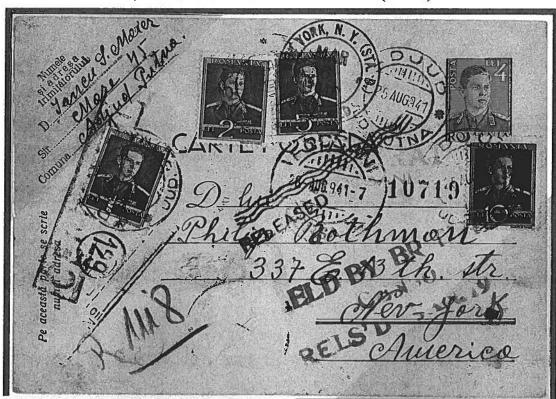
James G.

ELD BY BRITISH C

IELD BY BRITISH CENS ELEASED' JAN 1946

HBBC Type 2

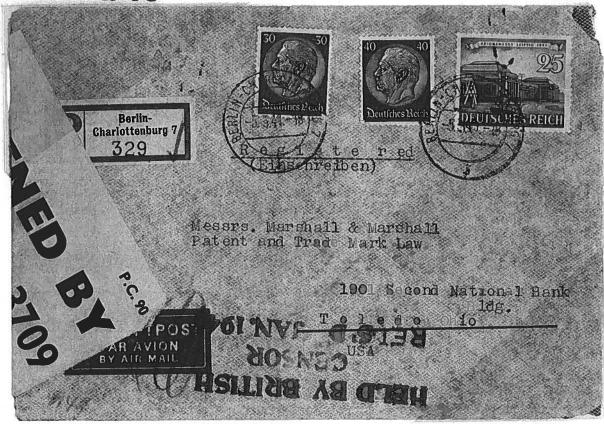




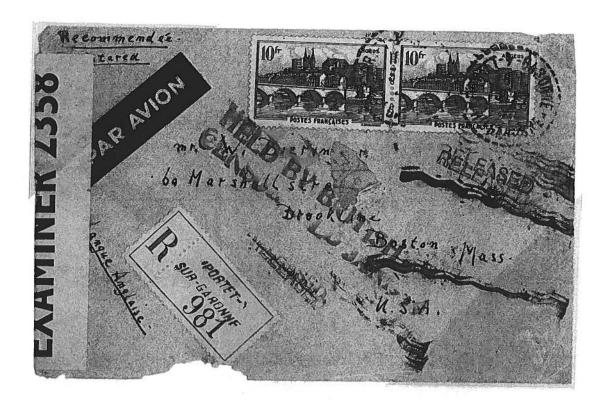
Romania, p/cs rarely seen!! Red reg. # 36545 on message side, proves Bermuda interception. Reason for holding not known; Romanian Embassy says letter contains ordinary family news; perhaps it was for the stamps? Has UK H14B h/s and mauve NYC Type 3 HBBC h/s, 25 Aug 41 to NYC. Stamp appears missing bottom left center. Domestic 4 Lei p/c rate uprated to 22 Lei for international service.

# HELD BY BRITISH CENSOR RELS'D JAN.1946

HBBC Type 3



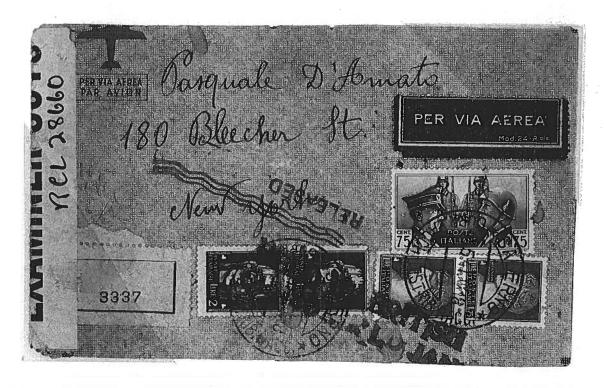
Berlin, Germany, 5/3/41, with black Type 3 HBBC h/s - 4 reported,. This is an early state of the h/s; the 4 and 6 in the date would be lost sequentially in March and not replaced. 4 Feb 41 NYC b/s.



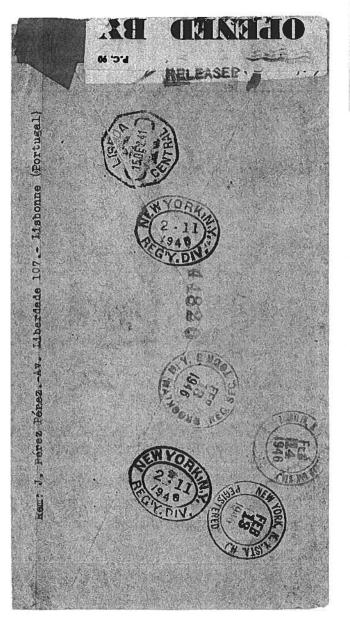
# HELD BY BRITISH CENSOR R'LD JAN1946

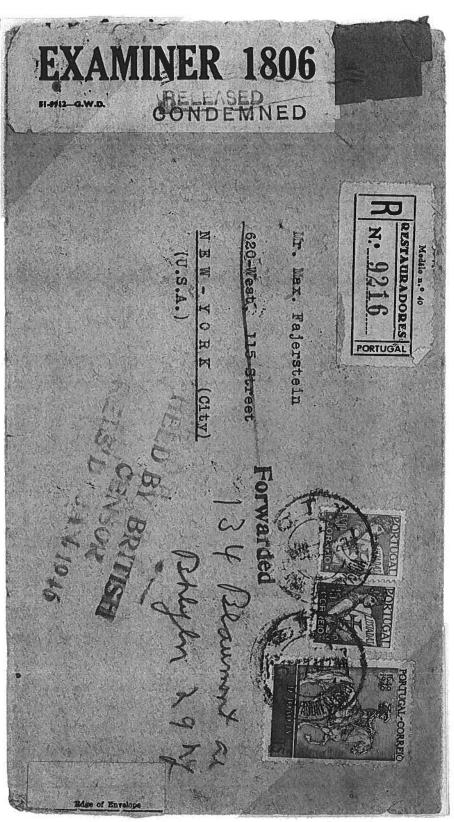
Internment Camp de Recebedou, Haute Garonne, France, 13 Jul 42. Double circle camp censor h/s on reverse. PC90 CL5-1A label. UK type H 14A "Released" h/s and Mauve US Type 4 HBBC h/s.

HBBC Type 4

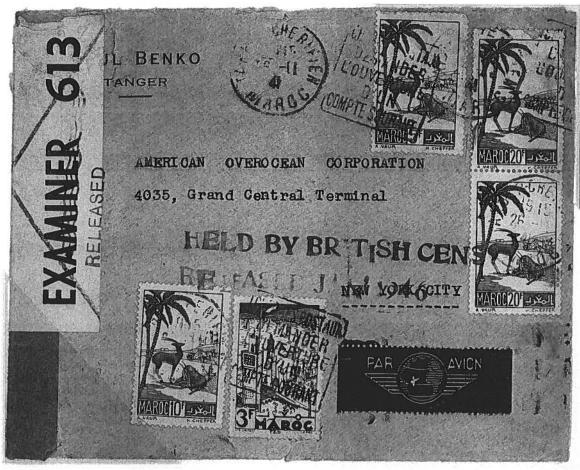


Salerno, Italy, 3 May 41, PC 90 CL5-1D #5916, condemned (RCL 28660) and released with US Type 4 HBBC h/s in black - only recorded copy. The Allied Italian campaign would begin with the invasion of Italy at Salerno!





Lisbon, 14 Dec 41, intercepted in Bermuda (PC 90 Label of examiner #5545 under UK label at left, marked with blue St Andrew's Cross). Red Bermuda registry #44820 on reverse. Remnant of pink PC93 EOE label. Transferred for evaluation to the UK where it was "Condemned" (this h/s used only in the UK!) by examiner #1806, T&M PC 90 1i1. At war's end "Released" and sent to US, arriving 11 Feb 46. Only such cover reported.



Cover notable for having blue St Andrew's Cross (the 'X' from corner to corner) applied when a letter was transferred to another examiner/section. Seen only on 'released' letters.

NON-US DESTINATIONS



Reg. a/m cover to France lacks NYC HBBC h/s. Has m/s "RCL 50,264" ('Registry, Condemned Letters) number and UK "released" h/s. Cover reached France 7 Jun 1946 (m/s notation on reverse)!

NON-US DESTINATION, WESTERN HEMISPHERE, BUT NO US MARKS

Valencia, Spain to Panama City, **Panama** -**1 recorded**, 23 Mar 1941, Intercepted in Bermuda, PC 90 CL5-1D label, condemned and given RCL 20558. "Released", arrived in Panama 14/3/46 (!), purple h/s "Llegó conforme está" applied.

This and cover to Argentina below, are the only reported condemned covers to these destinations.



Lyon, France, 4 Jul 41 to Buenos Aires, PC 90 CL9b 342 condemned, reason for 2<sup>nd</sup> inspection in 1942, PC 90 CL-1A is unknown. "CCF" Perfin stamps, Credit Commercial de France. Arrived 30 Mar 46.

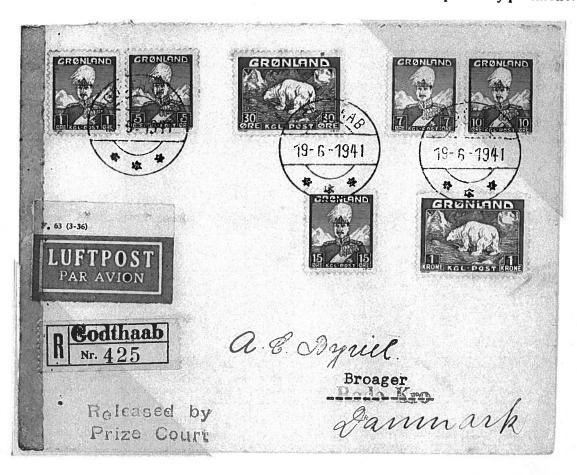




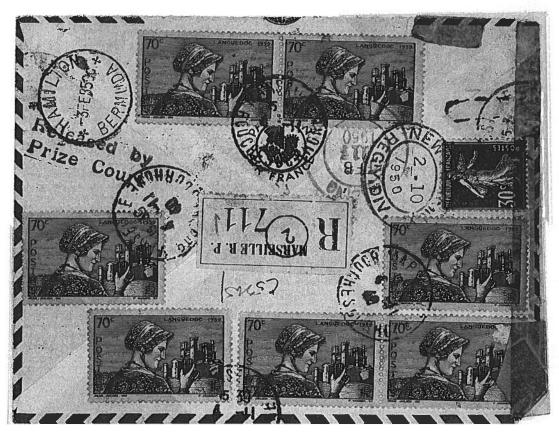
#### SECTION 7B, RELEASE OF PRIZE COURT MAIL

Detained Prize Court mail was held in Bermuda until after the war and released beginning in 1948, continuing until 1951 in five separate releases. The 58 Prize Court covers recorded were primarily philatelic.

Godthab, Greenland with red 'Prize Court' handstamp (4 reported). From 1st release of mail in August 1948. Red Bermuda registry number 29502 on reverse.



Marseille, France, black handstamp (51 recorded), 4 Nov 1940, before initiation of Bermuda registry number system. From 2<sup>nd</sup> release (Feb 1950).



## SECTION 7B, RELEASE OF PRIZE COURT MAIL (CONT.)





Cover from Chicago to Overveen, Netherlands. Seized in Bermuda by Prize Court from the SS Excalibur ("42E") on 12-13/5/41. Stamps were considered currency. The cover has violet h/s - 3 reported in this color. The Dutch mimeo label on reverse (also known in lower case) was placed there by COVAL, formed by the Dutch government to see this mail reached its intended destination in 1951. The label reads: "After confiscation by the British authorities, document released through the intervention of COVAL (Commission for Confiscated Cargo) in Amsterdam." The significance of the numbers on the face of the cover is unknown.