

Dated Journal

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Netherlands Philately

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Volume 49/6



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Magazine Editor

Ben Jansen
1308 Pin Oak Drive
Dickinson, TX 77539-3400
asnpmagazine@gmail.com

President

HansPaul Hager
465 Potter Rd.
North Kingstown, RI 02852
hphager@aol.com

Vice President

Franklin Ennik
3168 Tice Creek Drive #3
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
ennik123@att.net

Treasurer

Hans Kremer
14 Jolie Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94597, U.S.A.
hkremers@usa.net

Secretary

Ben Jansen
1308 Pin Oak Drive
Dickinson, TX 77539-3400
bjansen@uh.edu

Board of Governors

Jan Verster, Vancouver, Canada
John Hornbeck, Chicago, IL
Benjamin Bump, Hampden, MA

Advertising Manager

Meindert Mossel
Lijsterlaan 21
1971 KT IJmuiden
The Netherlands
Mgry21@planet.nl

Librarian

Stuart Leven
stulev@ix.netcom.com

Auction Manager

Hans Moesbergen
12739 W. Wilshire Drive
Avondale, AZ 85392-6563
hans@moesbergen.net

Webmasters

Alex Nuijten
stampculture@gmail.com
Arno Kolster
akolster@mindspring.com

British Representative

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Meindert Mossel

German Representative

Peter Heck

Magazine Editorial Committee

vacant

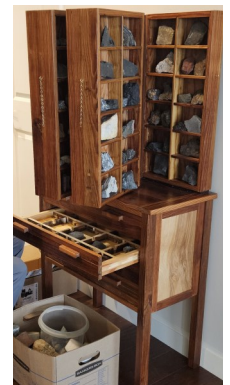
Editor's Message

July, 2025

Dear Fellow Collectors,

The final issue of volume 49 is in front of you. In the next issue we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the American Society for Netherlands Philately. It is not too late yet to submit your one-to-two page article about your favorite Netherlands (and its former territories) stamp or cover to be included in our special anniversary issue.

Some of you may know that one of my other hobbies is woodworking. Before it got too hot in my non-airconditioned workshop, I managed to complete the cabinet shown at right, that can hold more than 100 rock specimens. The rock samples were collected by a friend who designed drill bits for the mining and oil exploration industry. The cabinet has four drawers with dividers, and two sets of hinged display cases. The cabinet is made from long-leaf pine, harvested from virgin Texas wood in the early 1800's by settlers, and reclaimed from a house in Galveston owned and restored by our friend.



Have fun,

Ben

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Advice to Authors

Please submit your text in MS Word, and indicate where each illustration belongs. Submit illustrations as full color scans (at 300 dpi or better). Contact the Magazine Editor in case of questions.

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Netherlands, Queen Wilhelmina type Veth Overprint with 21 Cent

by Adam van der Linden

Introduction

Since 1924, there have been various series issues of Queen Wilhelmina of the type called VETH.

The "call name" type VETH comes from the name of the designer Professor Dr. Jan Veth of this beautiful series with the image of Queen Wilhelmina with her hair up.

The first series of three stamps concerns the Exhibition series of 1924, followed in the same year by 14 values without watermark. In 1926/1927, three "Guldenswaardes" were added, also without watermark. As the icing on the cake, 22 values with watermark followed between 1926 and 1939.

And if that was not enough, four series were issued between 1925 and 1930 with different types of syncopated perforation. But of this stream of issues and values, only the 22½ cent olive brown in 1929 with watermark was overprinted by **21 cent**. The beautiful overprint letters were designed by J. van Krimpen, who later became a very famous designer of several stamps and series, and printed in letterpress by Joh. Enschedé & Zonen. In total, 1,831,100 stamps of the 22½ cent olive brown were overprinted.

And of course there is a reason for this; the 22½ cent olive brown was primarily issued for a domestic, registered letter up to 20 grams (7½ cents plus 15 cents). On November 1, 1929, the rate for a domestic letter up to 20 grams was lowered to 6 cents, so there was a need for a value of 21 cents. Because the 22½ cent olive brown had become redundant, it was decided to overprint it with 21 cents. It would take until 1931 before a new value of 21 cents appeared, also in the color olive brown. The rate of 6 cents was maintained until September 1, 1937.

It seemed like a challenge to me to be able to show what the possibilities are with the 21 cent overprints, so here we go.

Domestic mail



Teteringen, December 24, 1929. Registered letter to Zwolle. Tariff: domestic letters till 20 gram from 11-1-1929 till 9-1-1937 6 cent. Registration from 3-1-1921 till 4-1-1939 15 cent. Together 21 cent.



Maastricht, January 25. 1930. Registered letter to Aachen, Germany. Tariff: border tariff, equal to domestic rate if the distance between the two post offices was less than 30 kilometers.

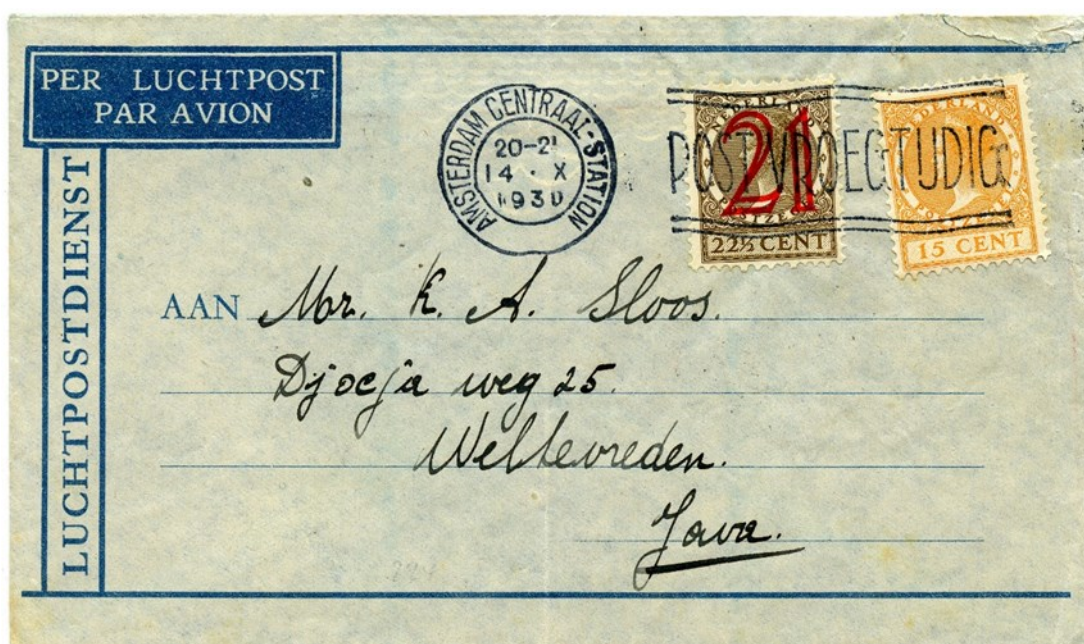


Amsterdam, January 4, 1940. Registered letter to Bussum. Tariff: letter through 20 gram from 9-1-1937 10 cent. Registration from 4-1-1939 10cent. In total 20 cent, 1 cent too much.



's-Gravenhage, July 27, 1931. Registered letter to Ede. Tariff: letter through 40 gram from 11-1-1929 till 9-1-1937 12 cent, registration 15 cent, together 27 cent.

Mail to the Dutch Indies



Amsterdam Centraal-station, October 14, 1930. Airmail letter destined for Weltevreden, Java, Dutch Indies. Tariff: as domestice Nederland 6 cent, air surcharge 30 cent per 5 gram. Together 36 cent.



's-Gravenhage, December 12, 1929. Airmail letter to Soerabaja, Dutch Indies. Tariff: letter per 20 gram or less, 10 cent. 21-40 gram is 20 cent. Air surcharge 10-20 gram 75 cent, each additional 20 gram 75 cent. Total 1,70 gulden, 1 cent too much.



Veenendaal, Februari 7, 1933. Airmail letter to Belawan, Dutch Indies. Tariff: same as domestic letter till 20 gram 6 cent, air surcharge 10-20 gram 75 cent. Together 81 cent. Arrived in Belawan 18 Februari 1933, postmark on reverse.



Haarlem, September 24, 1930. Front (bottom) and back (top) of letter by airmail to Tandjong-Priok, Dutch Indies. Tariff: same as domestic letter till 20 gram 6 cent, air surcharge 6-20 gram 75 cent. Together 81 cent, 3 cent too much. An exact franking with multiple 21 cent overprint stamps is not possible.

On reverse, arrival postmark Weltevreden 10-4-1930 plus a large purple handstamp of the "Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland" and mail carrier **B 26**.

Mail abroad



's-Gravenhage-Wittebrug, March 21, 1932. Letter to Paris, France. Tariff: letter of 16 gram from 11-1-1928 till 11-1-1946 12½ cent, express surcharge 25 cent, declared value for 50 gulden/100 francs base rate (registration) 15 cent, variable rate 10 cent per 150 gulden. Total: 12½+25+15+10 cent = 62½ cent, ½ cent too much. An exact multiple franking with the 21 cent overprint is not possible.



Amsterdam, January 7, 1930. Registered letter to Gnaschwitz bei Bautzen, Germany. Tariff: letter till 20 gram 12½ cent, registration 15 cent. together 27½ cent. Arrived in Neukirch, 1-9-1930.



Amsterdam-Hemonystraat, November 25, 1929. Registered letter to Ludwigslust, Germany. Tariff: letter till 20 gram 12½ cent, registration 15 cent. Together 27½ cent.

Mail to Belgium



Amsterdam, June 27, 1930. Registered letter to Bruxelles, Belgium. Preferential tariff to Belgium: letter till 20 gram 10 cent, each additional (or part of) 20 gram 7½ cent. 181-200 gram = 1x 10 cent + 9x 7½ cent = 77½ cent. Registration 15 cent. Total 92½ cent. Mail carrier 404 A in circular marking. Crinckled envelop due to heavy contents, and nine wax stamps on reverse.

The internment camp in Harderwijk (1914 – 1918)

by Emiel van Wezel

My hometown Harderwijk is a quiet city along the former Zuiderzee on the western border of the Veluwe national park. Today, there is very little to remind visitors that Harderwijk played a significant humanitarian role during World War 1. Between 1914 and 1918, thousands of Belgian servicemen found refuge here in an “internment camp.” In this article I will showcase some of the postal items from my collection of this period. But first, let’s take a quick deep-dive into history.

The German attack on Belgium

On the 4th of August 1914, Germany launched a risky military operation which has become widely known as the Von Schlieffen plan. The objective of this plan was to cross the Belgian border, make a wide flanking maneuver around the French fortifications near the German border in the north, quickly encircle Paris and finally drive the French forces back. Since England would most likely also be dragged into the war if Germany attacked Belgium, the entire operation relied on speed.

Belgians fleeing to the Netherlands

During the first weeks, the allied forces were smashed. Liege with all its fortresses fell to the Germans on 15 August 1914 and Antwerp had to surrender on 9 October 1914. During the first few months of the war, a million(!) Belgian refugees fled to the neutral Netherlands to escape from the advancing Germans. Besides these civilian refugees, more than 30,000 Belgian soldiers and thousands of German deserters fled to our country during the war.

In 1907, the Netherlands had signed a treaty which obliged us to “intern” foreign soldiers should an international conflict arise. Essentially, this meant disarming them and finding suitable accommodation for them. In legal terms, they were neither refugees nor prisoners of war. The Ministry of War now had to act quickly and Harderwijk was selected as one of the locations for an “internment camp.” It was a logical choice, since this town had a longstanding military tradition and many of the Dutch soldiers who had occupied its military barracks had been sent to the Belgian border.

The arrival of Belgian soldiers in Harderwijk

The first Belgian soldiers arrived in Harderwijk during the night of 11 and 12 October 1914. In a few days, their number would grow to a few thousand. Initially, they were housed in the already existing military barracks, in the Grote Kerk of Harderwijk and in large white army tents on a large terrain of 79 acres in the middle of the heath, just 2 km southeast of town. Only months before, this location had still been in use as a military training site.

On the 8th of November 1914, shortly after he had arrived here, the Belgian soldier Eduard de Graef wrote a card (see Figure 1 for the picture side and Figure 2 for its message side) to his parents who had recently fled to Zundert (in the southern part of the Netherlands). With a touch of irony he writes:

“On the other side you see part of our new lodgings. As you can see, we all have a villa. Each of these tents has enough space for 8 to 16 men. I certainly do not sleep and eat quite as good as at home, but I can manage”.



Figure 1: Picture side of card mailed from the camp in Harderwijk on November 8, 1914.

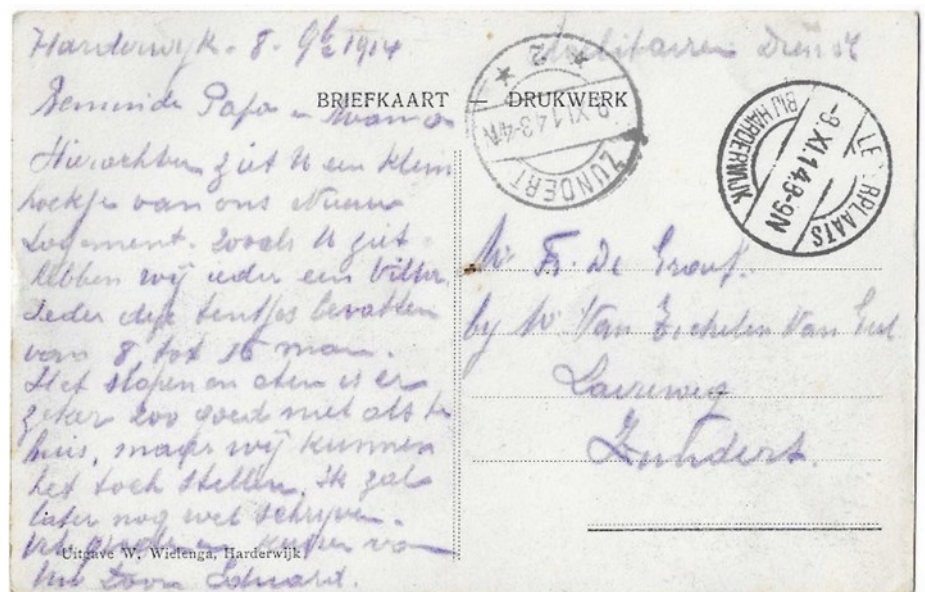


Figure 2: Message side of card shown in Figure 1.

With regard to the address used, Zundert did not have official street names yet in 1914. Civil registration records of a later date show that that Victor Franciscus van Tichelt, a brewer and miller by profession, lived with his wife at the Meirseweg. This was close to an estate called “Hof te Laer”. Perhaps this is why the sender wrote down the address as “Laereweg”. Franciscus de Graef and his wife Maria had found shelter with this family.

It was obvious however, that the interned Belgian soldiers could not remain in their temporary lodgings indefinitely. With the winter rapidly approaching, a more permanent solution had to be found. For this reason, it was decided to replace the army tents with 50 new wooden barracks. The construction of these barracks started in the early days of December 1914 and was completed in a matter of weeks with the help of many interned soldiers. As soon as they were ready, Belgian soldiers who were still staying in town were moved to these new quarters, with the exception of a handful of officers.

Each barrack measured 51 x 13 meter and gave shelter to 250 soldiers. At its peak, 12,500 Belgian servicemen found refuge in this camp. A huge number, especially if you consider that at that time, Harderwijk only had 6,500 inhabitants.

In the camp, privacy was non-existent. Soldiers had to sleep together, each in their own (improvised) sleeping bunk. Clothes were simply hung on a rope between two roof beams which also served as a shelf for personal belongings. There was no heating and the camp was crawling with rats. In fact, the interned soldiers could earn some extra money by catching these furry creatures. Each killed rat was good for 2 ½ cents, a very welcome addition to the daily allowance of 10 cents.

On a card (see Figure 3 and 4 for picture and message side, respectively) written on the 9th of October 1915 to a cousin in France, soldier Jules Madeleine describes one of these barracks as follows:

Dear Cousin,

I have read your letter with pleasure and I am glad that you and your parents are in good health. With me, things are going slightly better even though I still can't eat brown bread. I am sending you a card which shows the inside of a barrack. What you see here, is a familiar sight around here. Some men keep themselves busy making a box, a cord or by writing letters whereas others are lying on a sack of straw while talking to each other about the war. Our beds are improvised using the wooden (vertical) panels intersecting with the floor. And look at our clothes which are lingering everywhere inside! A strong and long embrace from your loving uncle.

Jules Madelein - row B24 Camp Harderwijk
Netherlands



Figure 3: Picture card showing the interior of a barrack at Camp Harderwijk.

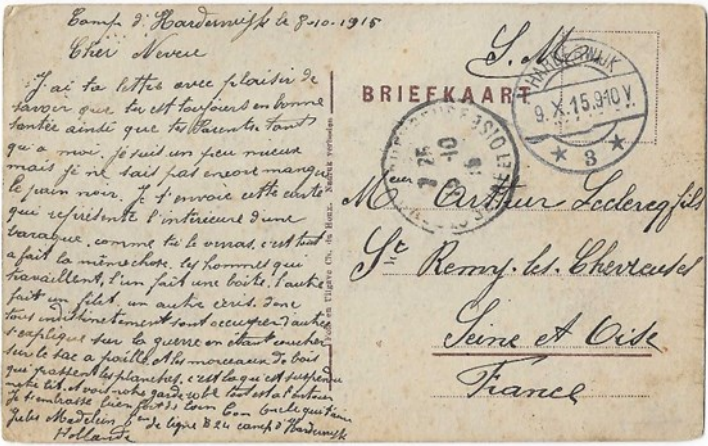


Figure 4: Message side of card shown in Figure 3.

In short, the conditions in the camp were far from ideal. In a message (Figure 5 and 6) to his niece in Pierrefitte (France), Emiel Rentiers remarked that “our kitchens have no modern equipment and the soup kettle, carried by the chasseur and the pioupiou, contains 22 portions of soup of which the quality cannot be underestimated.”

In French, ‘chasseur’ refers to a soldier serving in light infantry or light cavalry regiments, and ‘pioupiou’ is French slang for a “rookie.”



Figure 5: Soup carriers in Camp Harderwijk.

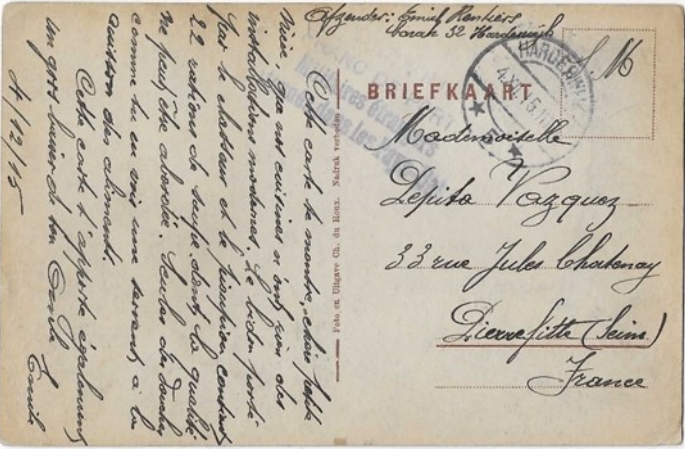


Figure 6: Message side of card shown in Figure 5.

In the early days of the camp, boredom was a major issue. Different ways had to be found to keep the interned servicemen occupied, be it with sports, work, education or otherwise. Many initiatives came from the soldiers themselves and were facilitated and financed by the camp administration. Over time, all kinds of facilities became available in the camp, some of which were not even available to other citizens in Harderwijk. For instance, the camp had its own newspaper, a church, a theater (Figure 7), and sports facilities.



Figure 7: Theatre in Camp Harderwijk.

Working in and outside the internment camp

During the first months of the camp's existence, working was only allowed in the camp itself. People were paid to do all kinds of jobs in the kitchen, the supply buildings, the canteens, workshops, etc. Early 1915, the authorities became more flexible and started to allow working outside the camp on a very small scale, provided there was no risk of fleeing. In April 1915, these possibilities were broadened. The main condition of the Dutch government was that this should not in any way damage the interest of Dutch employees or industries. For example, finding employment in the Dutch diamond industry was not allowed. Various groups of interned soldiers found employment with companies in a so called "interneringsgroep" (internment group). To every group of 10 interned soldiers in such an internment group, one guard was assigned. The largest group of interned soldiers was employed in the coal mines of Limburg.

Benoni Duthoit, a shoemaker from the Flemish city of Roeselare (known for its shoe trade) and interned in camp Harderwijk, applied for a suitable position as a shoemaker (see Figure 8 and 9) with a company in Dongen where he hoped they could use his skills:

Harderwijk, 28 August 1915

Sir,

As you will have heard, Belgian soldiers have been permitted to work in various types of industry.

Since I have worked as a shoe cutter for various shoe factories in the Belgian city of Iseghem and therefore have profound skills for this type of trade, I am taking the liberty of asking you if you could employ me in some way. Hoping for a satisfactory answer I remain

Your obedient

B Duthoit

Benoni Duthoit had arrived in the Netherlands on December 19, 1914. After the war, he and his wife moved back to Roeselare.



Figure 8: Address side of card mailed by B. Duthoit.

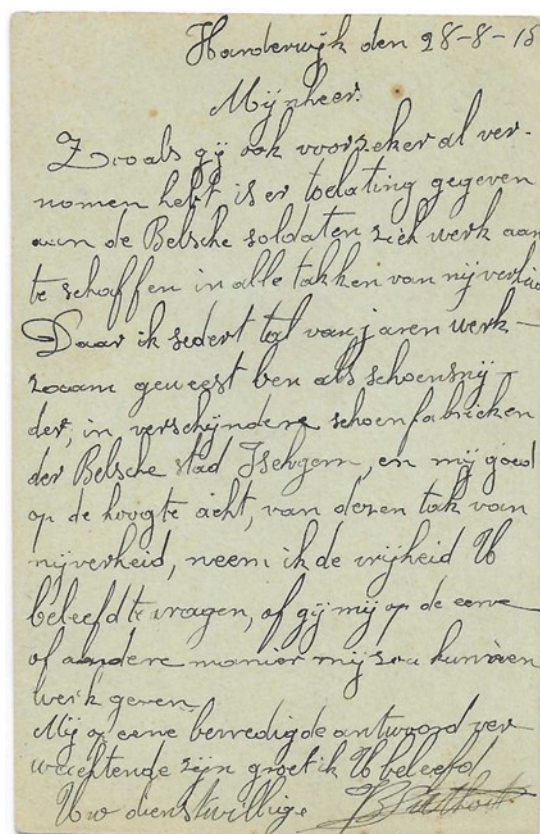


Figure 9: Message side of card mailed by B. Duthoit.

Dissolvment of the internment camp

The First World War ended on 11 November 1918. In December of that year, most Belgians headed back to their country.

In Harderwijk, only a small sign reminds us today of the original location of the internment camp. Furthermore, the Oostergaarde Communal Cemetery in Harderwijk contains a plot where 349 Belgian servicemen are buried (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belgian_Military_Field_of_Honour_1914%E2%80%931918).

Of the original camp, nothing has survived, although strictly speaking, this is not entirely true. At a short distance from Harderwijk, in the forests near Staverden, a wooden building was set up in 1921 for recreational purposes, using the materials of one of the barracks in Harderwijk. This building exists to this day.

Postal characteristics of mail sent by interned soldiers in Harderwijk

When collecting and studying mail from this fascinating period, some basic knowledge is required of some of the postal characteristics of this period. As a reference for this article, I have mostly used (and summarized) the excellent work of Arnold Holleman who sadly passed away in 2013.

PORTVRIJ ("Postage free") marker

On 11 August 1914, post offices received an instruction stating that all mail from interned soldiers should carry the following text:

PORTVRIJ

Franc de Port

Militaires étrangers internés dans les Pays-Bas

For obvious reasons, the last sentence was split across two lines on the PORTVRIJ stamp.

Usage of the “POSTAGE FREE” (PORTVRIJ) instruction became mandatory on 18 November 1914. From this date onwards, this marker was always used for mail dispatched from the camp. For some reason however, it was often omitted on mail that was sent from the post office in town. Why this is the case, has never been fully clarified.

Barrack number

On letters sent to the internment camp, you will nearly always find the number of the barrack in which the interned soldier was staying. See for example the card shown in Figure 10. It was mailed to the interned Belgian Victor Noelanders in barrack 35.

On a miniature model of the camp (Figure 11), built by an interned Belgian soldier in 1916 as a farewell present to the camp commander, these barrack numbers are also displayed. Assuming that these numbers reflect the actual numbers used in the camp, you can get an idea as to their exact location within the camp.



Figure 10: mail to internee in barrack 35.

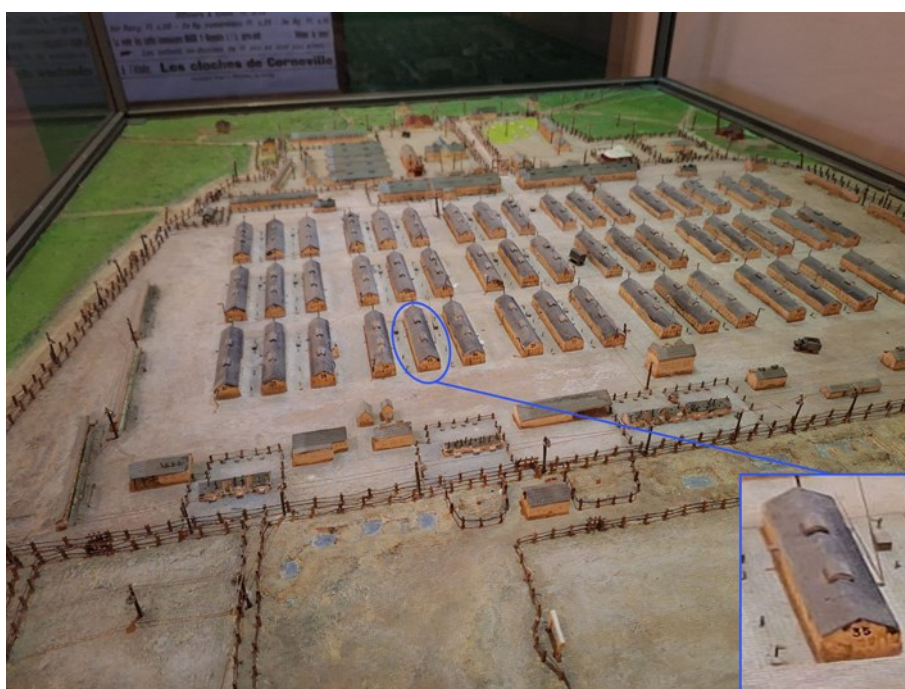


Figure 11: The camp's miniature model, showing the location of barrack 35.

Cancellation stamp

Whether or not a letter was dispatched from the camp can easily be determined by studying the cancellation. When it contains the text “LEGERPLAATS BIJ HARDERWIJK”, “HARDERWIJK-4” or “HARDERWIJK-5”, the letter or card has been posted in the internment camp. If it contains the text “HARDERWIJK-1, -2, -3 or -6”, it was sent from the post office in Harderwijk town. Full details can be found in Table 1.

Table 1: Overview of cancellations used on camp mail.

Text	Description	Example
LEGERPLAATS BIJ HARDERWIJK	For this stamp, several periods can be distinguished: 1909 – 12 June 1914 - Military trainings were often held in Harderwijk during summer. During such trainings, a special post office would be in operation which used this particular stamp. The last one was held from 3-12 June 1914. 5 November 1914 – XX November 1914 - the special post office was reinstated, but this time for the interned Belgian soldiers and their Dutch guards. For this period, mostly stamps with a date of 5 or 9 November 1914 have surfaced. XX November 1914 – 24 November 1918 – in the course of November, the internment camp's administration received the stamps "HARDERWIJK-4" and "HARDERWIJK-5". In this period, the "LEGERPLAATS BIJ HARDERWIJK" stamp was solely used for post sent by the Dutch guards of the internment camp.	
HARDERWIJK-1	Used in the post office of Harderwijk town. Rarely seen on post from interned soldiers.	
HARDERWIJK-2	Used in the post office of Harderwijk town. Used for registered mail.	
HARDERWIJK-3	Used in the post office of Harderwijk town.	
HARDERWIJK-4	Used in the internment camp as of November 1914. Compared to "HARDERWIJK-5", this cancellation stamp is quite rare.	
HARDERWIJK-5	Used in the internment camp as of November 1914.	

Table 1 <continued>

HARDERWIJK-6 (fat “6”)	Used in the post office of Harderwijk town.	
HARDERWIJK-6 (slim “6”)	Used in the post office of Harderwijk town.	

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The Extensive Dutch Women's Rights in Colonial America

by Hans Kremer

In 1621 the government of the Dutch Republic granted the Dutch West India Company (W.I.C.) a monopoly over all Dutch trade in the Americas.

In 1624 the Nieu Nederland (New Netherland), shown in Figure 1, was the first W.I.C. ship to carry settlers to the Dutch colony of New Netherland. On board were mainly Huguenots (Protestants).

"For over forty years, the women living in New Netherlands had more rights than women in many other countries, including France, Germany and England. Women could go to court to initiate legal proceedings and argue their own cases. For example, an unmarried, pregnant woman could prosecute the alleged father in a paternity proceeding. Women in these cases often won and the prevailing woman could force the man to marry her, or if he was already married, secure a dowry, childbirth costs, and child support.

Equality among Dutch colonists was demonstrated by the practice of women retaining their own last name at marriage. Children were given their fathers' first name as their surname for life. There were no generational family names and everyone kept their name regardless of marital status [1].

Prenuptial agreements were standard in the colony and were also a way that women could achieve a degree of autonomy. The prenuptial agreements enabled women with money and/or property to keep their wealth after they married.

Both men and women typically ran their businesses from their homes, allowing women to take care of their families and also be a businesswoman [1]."



Figure 1: 1924 1-cent Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary stamp, issued by the USA, showing the Nieu Nederland.



Figure 2: Anneke Jans

Anneke Jans (Figure 2) was one of the first and most famous woman in New Netherlands. She was born in Norway.

In 1623, when she was 18, she married a 21-year-old Norwegian seaman, Roelof Janszen.

After moving to the Netherlands, and having taken out Dutch citizenship, they emigrated to the New Netherlands in 1630 where they found employment at the Rensselaerswyck estate.

Roelof, was given a grant in 1636 for a 62-acre farm of his own near today's World Trade Center. He died suddenly in 1637 at age 35.

Anneke (widowed with six children) married again. In 1638, she married the well-educated Dominee (Pastor) Everardus Bogardus, who became minister of the Dutch Church on the lower tip of Manhattan. Bogardus was a controversial figure, one of the many outspoken critics of Governor Kieft. The Governor had instigated brutal and unnecessary attacks against native tribes, much against Bogardus' beliefs. Once Governor Kieft was replaced by Governor Peter Stuyvesant (Figure 3) in 1647 Kieft (upon Governor Stuyvesant's advice) was recalled to Amsterdam along with Pastor Bogardus. In Amsterdam all their grievances would be aired. However, they

never reached Amsterdam, since the ship they ran aground on the coast of Wales. Bogardus left Anneke another large parcel of land, this one on Lower Manhattan (Tribeca).

When Anneke was widowed a second time at age 42, she had nine children to support, was cash-poor and land-rich with two farms.



Figure 3: USA (1948) and Dutch (1939) stamps honoring Peter Stuyvesant.

Thus, indirectly, Peter Stuyvesant (through Bogardus death) had made Anneke Jans a very rich woman.

Anneke moved back to Albany where she died in 1663.

Her will stipulated that her estate be divided equally among her seven surviving children. The 62 acres allegedly were sold (but not signed by all her children) in 1671 by her heirs and turned over to the British crown after the English ousted the Dutch. Queen Anne granted the land to the Trinity church in by then New York.

Anneke's many descendants claimed for years that they were the rightful owners of the land in Manhattan. The notoriety of the case and the huge amount of money at stake gave rise to many subsequent lawsuits. Well into the 1900s, Anneke Jans litigation continued in New York; none was successful.

Note

In 1664, English law had replaced Dutch law and England's paternalistic assumptions on matters such as names, inheritance rights, property rights prevailed. The many freedoms once enjoyed by New Netherlands women disappeared for centuries.

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Book Review: Royal Netherlands Forces (RNF) Censorship 1942-1946, by Fred J. Nash

Reviewed by Marinus Quist

Those of you who collect Netherlands East Indies (“NEI”) postal history relating to the WW2 era have probably seen an occasional cover with an RNF censor marking on mail originating from Dutch military personnel based in Australia or in areas of the Eastern NEI liberated from the Japanese occupation by Allied forces. I first became aware of these censor markings in the 1975-issued Po-en-Po booklet (Postal History Series No. III) written by Drs. W. J. van Doorn about postal issues in the Netherlands and the NEI immediately following WW2. Van Doorn’s booklet mentions that most of the RNF censor markings consist of a 35mm double ring cancel reading “Passed by / R.N.F. Censor / ----- / No. ____ (par)” and that he was aware of them originating from the following locations: Hollandia (Nos. 32, 33, 35 and 40), Biak (No. 34), Morotai (No. 38), Balikpapan (No. 48) and Taranakan No. 50). He also mentions a handful of other RNF censor markings with a different format, citing an article by J.A. D. Krajenbrink in the December 1966 issue (no. 74) of “De Postzak”. In 1984, P.R. Bulterman in his book about the postal markings of the NEI from 1864 to 1950, added only Merauke (nos. 2 and 56) to the list of round RNF censor markings and also mentions a few other military censor markings with a different format. Then in 2001 and 2003, a couple of articles by Han Dijkstra in ZWP publications 128 and 135 examined several of the circular RNF censor markings in more detail, especially those used in Merauke, Netherlands New Guinea, which was never occupied by the Japanese.

Now, after considerable research (especially during the Covid shutdown), fellow ASNP member, Fred J. Nash, with the help of numerous members of Studiegroep ZWP, has put together a beautifully illustrated large format soft cover 76 page book that greatly expands the number of known RNF censor markings. First, Nash describes the historical background of the Dutch military presence in Australia during WW2 and in the Eastern NEI in the war’s immediate aftermath, including photos of various Dutch military facilities utilized during that period and numerous interesting postal markings connected therewith. It turns out that the double ring circular RNF censor markings (which actually measures between 36 and 37 mm) were used in Australia as early as December 1942; but, as various places and islands in the NEI were liberated from the Japanese occupiers, the use of such markings (starting in unoccupied Merauke in September of 1944) expanded to such areas where Dutch military personnel were integrated with Allied forces. Nash and his ZWP collaborators examined 280 covers and scans with RNF censor markings and have found that RNF censor markings were numbered from 1 to 63. From that number range, they were able to find examples of 30 different RNF censor markings and listed their findings in a handy table, showing number, location of use, ink color, and date range. This is followed by more than 30 pages of full-size color illustrations of covers with many of the listed RNF censor markings, interspersed with a few historical black and white photos. Then there are six pages of the RNF censor markings, in actual size and color (save for three in black and white) in sequential order, followed by an updated six-page table of Allied military post offices in Australia, the Eastern NEI islands, and Dutch Southeast Borneo. (This table, which is still being researched by various collectors and collector groups, is a greatly expanded table of the one found in Bulterman’s above-referenced book.) Nash’s book finishes up with an appendix, which contains several interesting postal history subjects ancillary to the primary subject of his book, as follows: 1) Mail via the Netherlands post office in Brisbane and the Brisbane mailboxes, 2) Concession rates, 3) the Australian Comforts Fund/ The Salvation Army/ YMCA envelopes, 4) Family correspondence, 5) the Freemantle submarine base and the Royal Netherlands Navy in Perth, 6) Return addresses, 7) George Adams Tattersall’s, and 8) a table of relative rarity of the RNF censor markings. (The bottom line is that all of the RNF censorship markings are rare; but, in several cases, only one example is known.) Finally, there are two helpful maps (Australia and Eastern NEI) on the inside of the back cover showing the various locations referred to in the book.

The book was published in October of 2024 by the Studiegroep ZWP (founded in 1968), a philatelic society of specialist collectors of the postal history of the former and present Dutch overseas territories (Tropical Netherlands) and Dutch interests in Australasia. The front cover is shown on the next page.

Because the subject matter of the book is quite limited, only 80 copies were produced in the 1st printing, of which the author received about 20 copies, and about 40 were kept and sold in Holland, with one being sent to Australia. Hopefully, the author has a few copies left for those who would like to buy one (\$20 including S&H). He can be contacted at: fredthehiker@gmail.com. All collectors who have any examples of RNF censor markings in their collections are urged to send scans to Fred Nash. Fred hopes to publish an Addendum with updates in a year or two, if enough new information emerges.



Recent Issues



Novel Giants April 22, 2025

The sheet with 10 stamps depicts portraits of well-known, living Dutch authors: Kader Abdolah, Abdelkader Benali, Peter Buwalda, Adriaan van Dis, Jessica Durlacher, Bregje Hofstede, Mensje van Keulen, Astrid Roemer, Manon Uphoff and Tommy Wieringa.

The Dutch title of the issue is 'RomanReuzen,' derived from an initiative to counter the decline of reading in The Netherlands.

The stamps have been designed by Lex Reitsma from Haarlem

New Dutch Design — Greetings April 22, 2025

The sheet of six stamps is the second in the new series about Dutch Design. The stamps come in two different designs. The three stamps at left show a child petting a cat and two people with the arms wrapped around each other. The stamps at right depict two persons embracing each other.

The stamps were designed by second-year Graphic Design students at ArteZ in Zwolle



See also <https://www.postzegelblog.nl/>

Fibula of Dorestad

May 9, 2025

The sheet with six identical stamps shows the brooch found in 1969 in a water well dating from the era of Dorestad, near the present location of Wijk bij Duurstede. The brooch was made around 800 ac and is one of the top pieces in the Rijksmuseum voor Oudheden (State museum for antiquities) in Leiden.

The sheet and stamps were designed by Studio Maud van Rossum from Amsterdam.



Camping in The Netherlands

June 10, 2025

The sheet contains six different stamps, each with a camping method, ranging from caravan and camping bus to wanderer tents. The stamps have a cloud-like shape and form a continuous camping scene together with the background. The back of the sheet contains a simple camping recipe for macaroni. The sheet and stamps were designed by the alleburen office from Arnhem.



Experience Nature —Under Water Life St. Eustatius June 10, 2025

The sheet shows ten under water animals in their natural habitat, each on its own postage stamp.

The graphic designer is Frank Janse from Gouda.

New Members

This time we welcome two new members.

Paul Janssen lives in Dublin, Ohio and collects Netherlands, including FDCs, printing errors and variations, cancellations, and revenue and railroad stamps. He is also a masterful building of LEGO constructions, including replicas of Dutch stamps.

Michael Brekelmans from Rijswijk in The Netherlands, collects Netherlands and its former possessions, including stationery and covers, cancellations, field post and EO philately. Those of you who are members of Po&Po will know that he is its chair, and also acts as editor of their publication 'De Postzak.'

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