MIDDLE EAST
WWI
Cairo to Damascus & Baghdad

Jamie Smith



OAS Post Free Postcard to Johannesburg, South Africa.
APO SZ 22 28/9/17. Port Said Harbour Office.
Passed by Base Censor EEF - EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

This display is the copyright of Jamie Smith. It cannot be copied in full or in part without the express written agreement of the author, Jamie Smith, and the South African Philately Club.

BASIC MILITARY HISTORY IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

In the period leading up to World War I Great Britain centered her interest around Egypt but trading all over specially in Turkey. Germany traded in opposition but centered her interest around Turkey, opening up a railway – the Oriental Express and telephone a line. Also Kaiser Wilhelm declared himself the defender of the Muslim faith.

With the beginning of W.W.I German ships in the Mediterranean area ran to the Black Sea, mining the Bosphorus as they went. (The S.S. General although a merchant ship carried enough mines to do the job. The German navy then joined the Turkish Navy even to the extent of wearing the Fez and eventually bringing Turkey into the war by shelling Russian cities from the sea. Bulgaria joined the Central Powers but Italy which was expected to join them joined up with the Entente, i.e. Great Britain and France.

The main areas of fighting were in Egypt which has already been dealt with under that country, in Northern Italy against the Austrians and Bulgarias, in Salonika, Greece against the Bulgarians and the Austrians, in Gallipoli against the Turkish, Mesopotamia and Persia against Turkey and in Palestine also against Turkey, all areas being backed by Germany. Further there were attempts by Germany to spread its influence into Rumania, the Balkans, Southern Russia, Persia and finally into Afghanistan in an attempt to incite the Afghans into taking action against India and by so doing disrupt British trade and keep India's military forces at home fighting the Afghans.

Great Britain fought alongside France in many areas and used troops besides her own from South Africa, India, Australia and New Zealand.

Fighting in Mesopotamia was mainly directed from Bombay, India and later from Egypt. Selonika, Gallipoli and Palestine were controlled from Cairo, Egypt.


DATE DENARO PER LA VITTORIA:
LA VITTORIA È LA PACE
Copy of WW1 'Fund raising' poster.
BANCA ITALIANA DI SCONTO

GERMAN - OTTOMAN EMPIRE RELATIONSHIP.



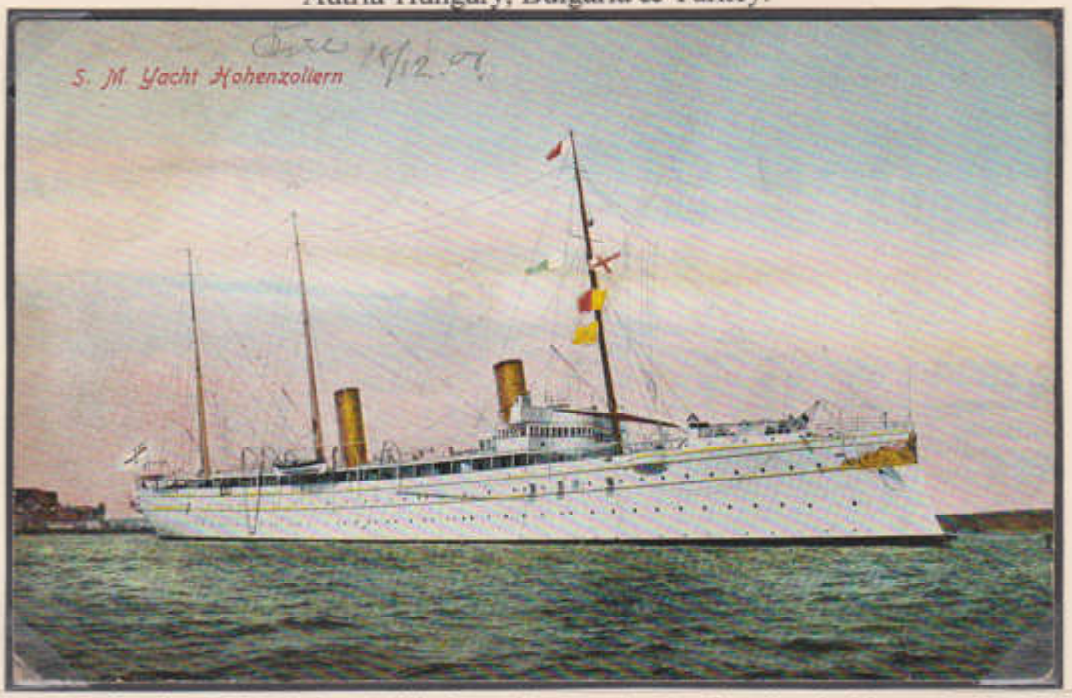
Card produced by 'Trucards' London of
Kaiser Wilhelm II 1888-1918
who led Germany into World War I.



Poster stamp depicting the leaders
of Germany, Austia-Hungary & Italy.
Germany & Austro Hungary formed alliance 7/10/1879
Italy joined 1882 only to leave & declare war
on her partners in 1916.



Poster stamp showing a meeting between Germany,
Autria-Hungary, Bulgaria & Turkey.



After he became Kaiser in 1888, Kaiser Wilhelm sailed up the Dardenelles in his yacht S.M. Hohenzollern to meet the Turkish Sultan, Mehmed V. Here he promised to be a friend and protector of the Ottoman Empire and more to do the same for the Muslim Faith. By this promise he hoped to take control of the Middle East, the Suez canal and eventually India. First making sure that Germans and Austrian Hungarians were 'Honourary Muslims'.

GERMANY – KAISER WILHELM.

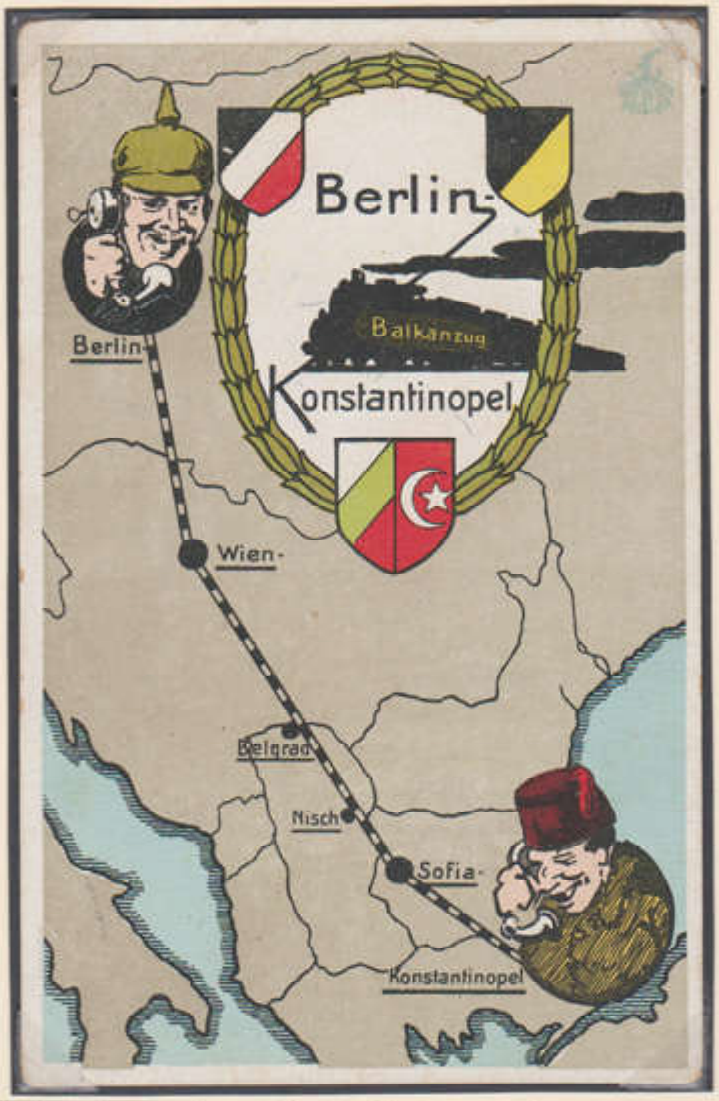


Visiting card of 'Wilhelm' German Kaiser and King of Prussia.



Kaiser Wilhelm in the uniform of a British field Marshall. It was customary for visiting kings to wear the top military rank and uniform of the country being visited.

EVENTS THAT HELPED CEMENT THE GERMAN - TURKEY MILITARY RELATIONSHIP.



Post card depicting the opening of the Berlin-Constantinople (The Orient Express) railway together with the telephone communication between the two countries.



Italian satirical post card showing the 'Sick old man of Europe) - Ottoman Empire and the crews of the German Navy 'Goeben & Breslau).

AUSTRIA - HUNGARY - MILITARY.



Vienna.
26/9/15.

'Feldkirch' cachet.

1915 military cover from Vienna to Luzern-Switzerland with 'KuK Militar Uberprufungkommando / Feldkirch' cachet.



La favorita (cigarillos) silk depicting a Austro Hugarian flag and soldier 1917-18



Austro Hungarian infantryman on Card from 'Soldiers of the World' produced as freebee by Chix Confectionary in 1962.

The Austrian Hungarian Empire joined Germany to form the 'Central Powers' in WW1.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY - MILITARY.



K.u.K. Feldpost No.26.

Unit cachet. 43 Telegraph Division.

Receiving. St Gallen Switzerland. 1/9/15.

Austrian military post card with K.u.K. feldpost stamps from a soldier with the 43rd. Telegraph division. addressed to St. Gallen-Switzerland.



Austrian-Hungarian 'Feldposte Karte' used at Semily (Austria - was to become Czechoslavakia) Addressed to Bratislava. This card is from the Czechoslovac Legions who took Bratislava on 1/11/19

BULGARIA - MILITARY.

Bulgaria fought with Serbia & Greece against the Ottoman Empire during the first Balkan war (1912), against Serbia & Greece in the second Balkan war (1913) and with the Central Powers during WW1 & the Axis Powers WW2 against the Allies.



La Favorita (Cigarillos) silk on card depicting Bulgarian flag & soldier.



Unused Bulgarian 'Field Card'.



2/1/17.

Bulgarian 'Field Card' 2/1/17.

BULGARIA - MILITARY.

Prior to World War 1.



Post card depicting Bulgar troops from the revolution agaist the Ottoman Empire in 1876.



Poster stamp depicting
a Bulgarian infantry soldier.



Post card depicting Bulgarian troops as P.O.W. after fighting in Cresna 1913.
At this period Bulgaria after being allied with Greece and Serbia in 1912 were fighting against then

BULGARIA - MILITARY.

1st & 2nd Balkan Wars (1912 & 1913) and World War 1.



Modern miniature sheet of Bulgaria depicting high ranking officers of WW1.



Advertising card of 'Little Cigars' Depicting the Bulgarian flag.



Liebig advertising card depicting the Bulgarian Army during the Balkan wars.

In October 1912 Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia and Montenegro as Allies attacked the Otterman Empire who at the time were heavily involved in a war with Italy, this after having been part of that empire and having signed a secret pact together. This was known as the First Balkan War.

After having signed a peace treaty with Turkey, Bulgaria encouraged by Austria an Hungary fought Serbia and Greece in the Second Balkan War over the spoils of the first war. This resulted in Bulgaria suing for peace.

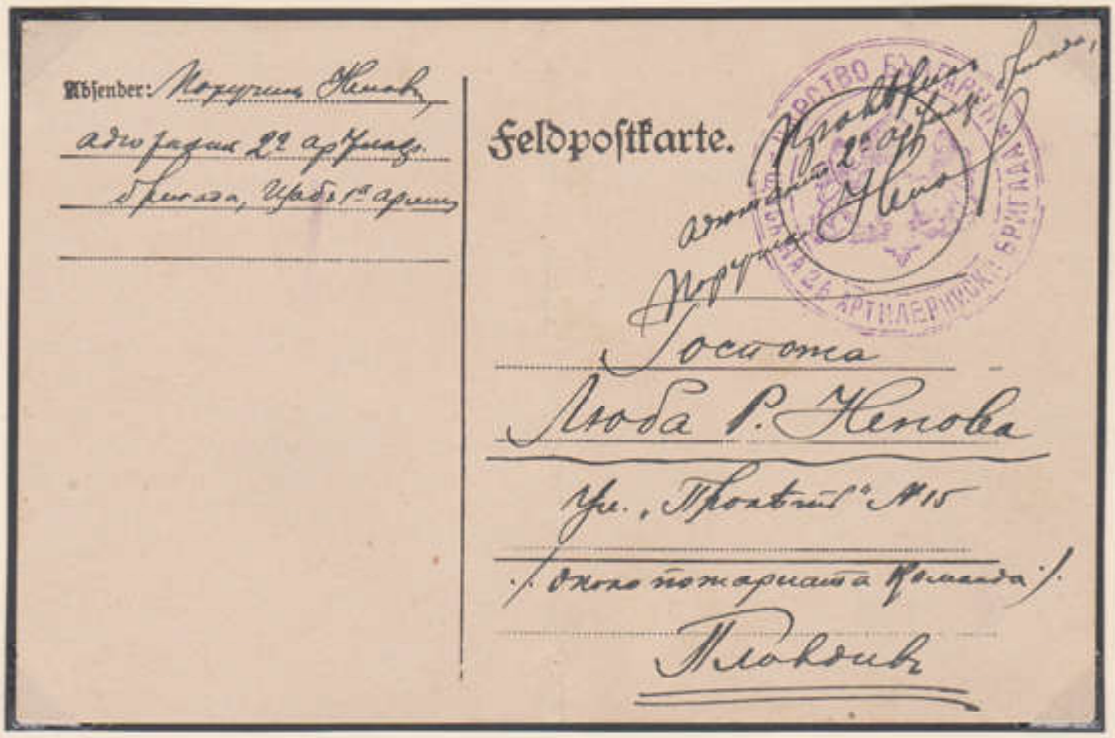
Bulgaria sat out the first year of WW1 before joining with Axis Powers in September 1915 against Serbia and Romania thus causing Britain, France and Italy to declare war on Bulgaria.

BULGARIA - MILITARY.

Postage free 'veldpost' cards.



Bulgarian Post Free military card from World War 1.



Bulgarian Post Free 'Feldpostkarte' (Field Post Card) from World War 1.

RUMANIA - MILITARY.

Romania fought against Bulgaria in the 2nd Balkan War and joined the Allies in 1916 during WW1 but was quickly occupied by Germany & Austria.





Player's cigarette card depicting the flag of Romania.



La Favorita (Cigarillos) silk on card depicting Romanian flag & Soldier.



Liebig advertising card depicting the Rumanian Army during the Balkan wars.



Censored Military Post Card of Romania from Sissilica (1916) with military cachet of the Liberation Expedition.



Reproduction (2000) of Will's Cigarette card depicting king Ferdinand of Romania.

RUMANIA - MILITARY.



KuK M.P.O.
No. 1174.
Albania.

Austrian military cover used to Rumania.
The KuK Field Post Office 1174 was used in Albania
and the cover is addressed to Szatmar Nemeti in Rumania.



1 Leu Revenue stamp
of the German 9th. Army.



Christliches Andenken im Gebete
an den
tugendsamen Jüngling
Josef Schwarzenböck
Bauerssohn von Haun,
Pfarrei Rattenkirchen,
Landsturmmann im 2. bayer. Reserve-Infanterie-Regiment, 6. Kompagnie,
welcher am 24. August 1916 durch Verschüttung im Alter von 26 Jahren 6 Monaten den Heldentod fürs Vaterland starb.

Der Arm, der starke, sinket kraftlos nieder,
Es ruht das tapfere Schwert in seiner Scheid',
Die Lippe bleich geschlossne Augenlider,
Beendet ist für dich der blutige Streit.
Auch unsere Wangen bleichen sich voll Schmerzen
Und unsere Augen, sie sind rotgeweint,
Ein großes Weh wühlt drinnen in den Herzen,
Denn wir verloren Sohn, Bruder, Freund.
Nur eines ist, das uns noch läßt bestehn
Das hoffnungssprießend Wort: „Auf Wiedersehn!"

Guter Herr Jesu, gieb ihm die ewige Ruhe. (300 Tage Ablaß.)

C. Riesen, Mühldorf.

German 'Death Card' issued by relatives. Josef Schwarzenbuck belonged to the Bavarian army
and died on Somme by being buried alive. He is wearing the same uniform that was worn by the army
that invaded Rumania during the same month that he died August 1916.

Rumania entered WW1 on 27/8/16. It was her hope to obtain Transalvania
from Ausria-Hungarian Empire after the war. The Cental Powers invaded Rumania
Immediatly fighting the Battle of Tutrakan 2-6/9/16. She was to sign an armistice with the Central Powers
9/12/17 but finally re-entered the war on the side of the Entente (Allies) 10/11/18 with but one day to go.

TURKEY - MILITARY.



La favorita (cigarillos) silk on card depicting Turkish soldier & flag.



Liebig advertising card No.1 depicting Turkish troops during the Balkan Wars.



Liebig advertising card No.2 depicting Turkish troops during the Balkan Wars.



Cachet. 'K.u.k. ung. Militare…'.

Manuscript. Kospolisium 1/2/17.

Censored. 'Zensuriet'

Censored Austrian 'Feldpost' card with K.u.k. ung. 'Militarestationkommando' cachet from Constantinople, addressed to Austria.

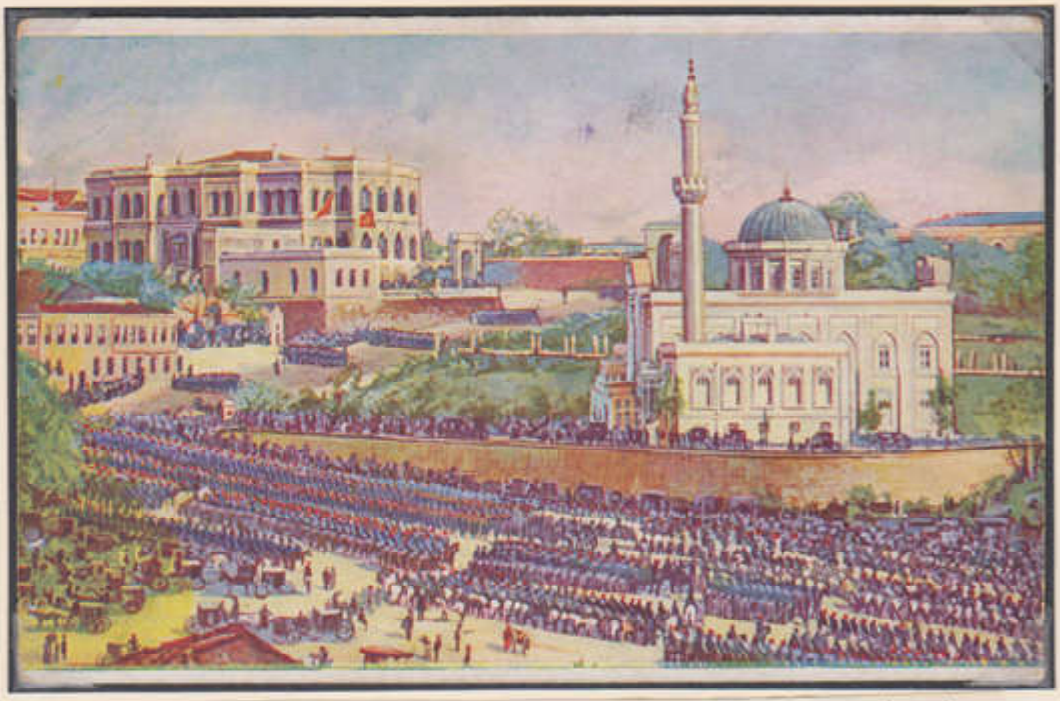
Turkey fought against Italy 1912 and in the Balkan Wars against Serbia, Montenegro & Bulgaria 1912-13, much weakened she sided with Germany & Austria during WW1 with their officers controlling her forces.

TURKEY - MILITARY.

War declared on Turkey by Britain & France 31/10/14.



Flag of Turkey
on advertising card of
'Recruit' Little Cigars.



Post card depicting Turkish soldiers at the Ceremony of Selamlik (Probably 1904) in Constantinople. War was declared on Turkey by Britain and France on 31/10/14 due to her involvement with Germany in attacking Russia and was reputed to be a big British diplomatic mistake.



Reverse transit.
Kirmanch.
Persia. 20/6/14.

Kerbala
Mesopotamia.
1914.

Isphahan.
Persia.
30/6/14.

Cover from the Turkish Ottoman Empire. Sent from Kerbala Mesopotamia during 1914 using a 1 piastre Turkish stamp. It was to be this issue of stamps which had been printed by the British firm Bradbury Wilkenson which was to be surcharged and overprinted for use in occupied Mesopotamia (Iraq) on 1/9/18.

OTTERMAN EMPIRE – WORLD WAR 1.



Otterman stamp depicting Mehmed V who reigned as a figurehead 27/4/09-3/7/18 for Enver Pasha. In his role as Caliph he issued a call for a Jihad (all Muslims) against the allied Powers.



Enver Paſcha, der türkiſche Kriegsminiſter und Höchſtkommandierende der geſamten türkiſchen Streitkräfte.

German Magazine cutting from the period depicting Enver Pasha 22/11/1881 – 4/8/1922. He led the 'Young Turk Revolution' of 1908, becoming the main leader of the Otterman empire in both the Balkan Wars and World War I. He also held the post of Minister of War in 1918 it was he who decided to join with the Axis Powers. He was also one of the main perpetrators of the Armenian Genocide being responsible for the deaths of between 800,000 and 1,800,000 Armenians.

CONSTANTINOPLE - TURKEY.

British trade with Turkey 1890.



Richmond.
Surrey.
4/10/90.



Reverse.
B.P.O.
Constantinople.
8/10/90.

2½d. single rate cover to a Capt. W.N. Young R.N.R. of the S.S. Fulford at Constantinople.



French post card depicting the Corne D'ore & docks Constantinople c1890.

IRAQ.

Indian Post Office in Basra - Iraq.



Basrah,
Iraq.
28/11/96.

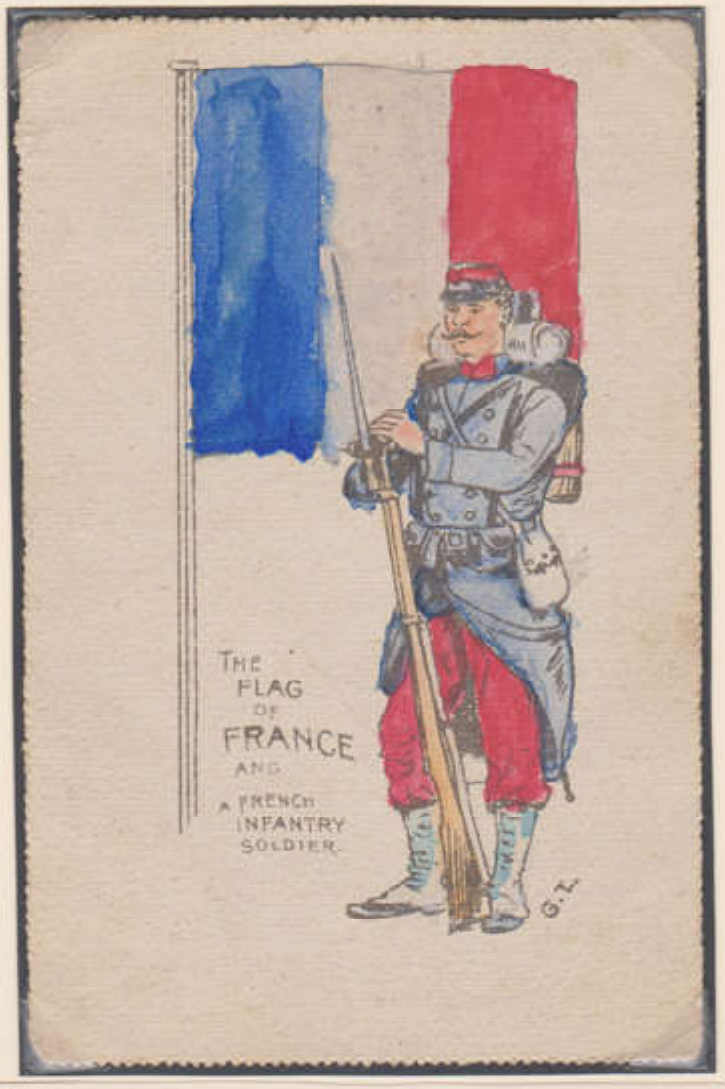
Bombay,
India.
?12/96.

Part registered cover with 8 x 1a. 'India Postage' cancelled Busrah at the Indian Post Office in Basra.



Post card depicting 'The Strand' Basra.

FRENCH MOROCCO - WORLD WAR I.



Hand coloured post card depicting French Infantry soldier and flag.
Card was sent from England 1907 but this uniform was still in use at the beginning of WWI.



Post free French military cover from Djebla Morocco to La Calle France
with receiving strike on reverse 1916. Also with cachet of the commanding officer at Djebla.

Le Petit Journal

SUPPLÉMENT ILLUSTRÉ

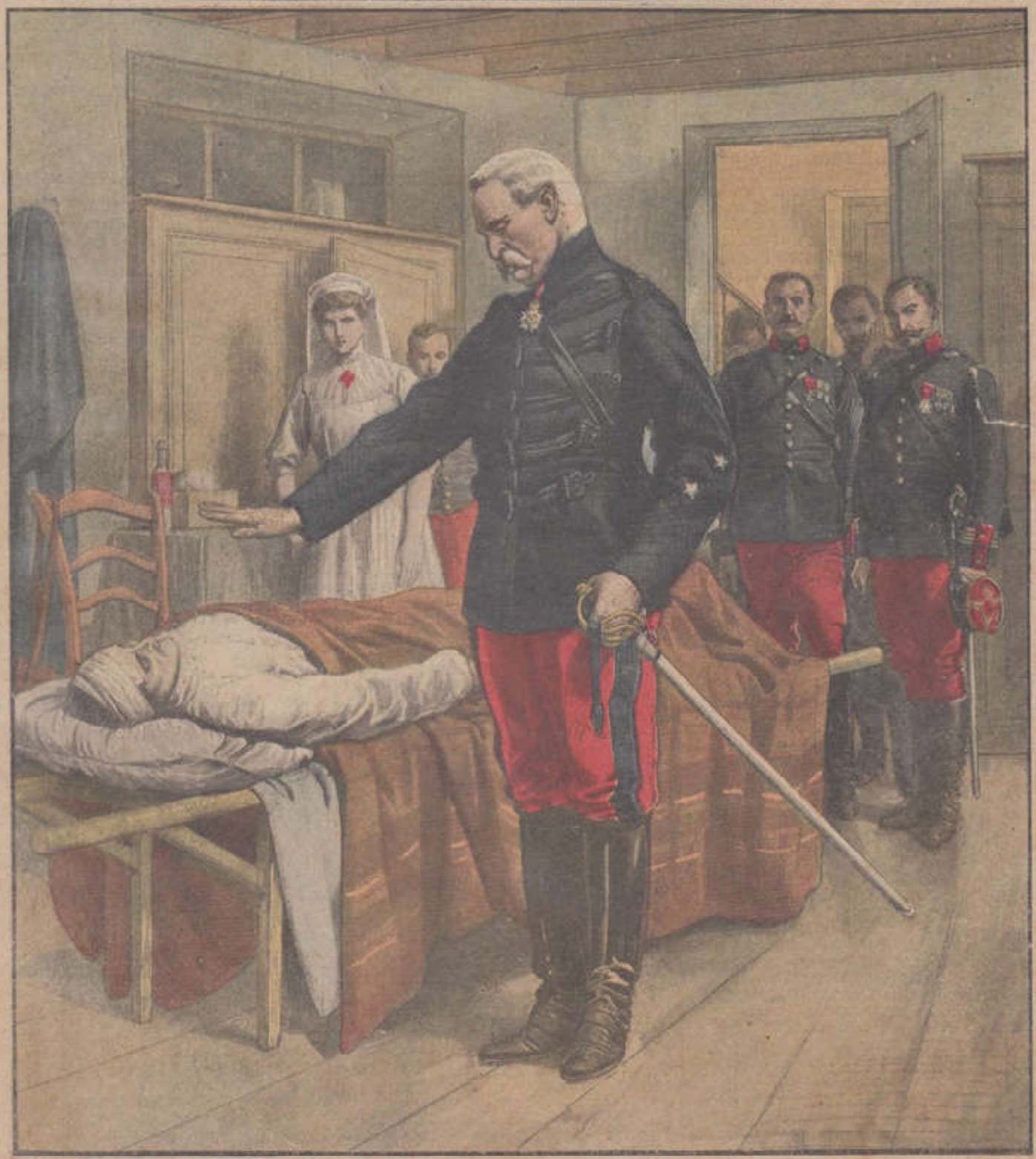
ADMINISTRATION
61, RUE LAFAYETTE, 61

On s'abonne sans frais dans tous les bureaux de poste

25e ANNÉE — N° 1243

18 OCTOBRE 1914

	Six mois	Un an
SEINE et SEINE-ET-OISE	2 fr.	3 fr. 50
DÉPARTEMENTS	2 fr.	4 fr. »
ÉTRANGER	2 50	5 fr. »



« Va, mon fils ! Tu as la plus belle mort que l'on puisse souhaiter. »

ITALY WORLD WAR 1.

Invasion and occupation of Albania during WW1.



Post card depicting the an advance guard of the Italian army.



King Victor Emmanual III.
King of Italy 1900-1946.



Red Cross 5c. poster stamp depicting the country of Italy dated 1915.

Vlore is marked as part of Italy on the map as Vallona Being occupied 1914-1920

Before WW1 Italy and Austria-Hungary had been instrumental in the creation of an independent Albanian state. At the outbreak of war Italy invaded the southern half of the country to stop it falling into the hands of the Austro-Hungarians and because by controlling the port of Vlore and the island of Sazan it gave them control over the entrance to the Adriatic Sea

ITALY - MILITARY - W.W.1.

Military cards.



Bergsaglieri -1914.



Italian infantryman - 1915.

All three large cards are from 'Soldiers of the World' produced as freebees by Chix Confectionary in 1962.



Americain infantry (Doughboy) 1917-18.



La Fovorita (cigarellos) silk depicting American flag and soldier 1917-18.

During WW1 the Italians were fighting on their north and north eastern fronts against Austrian-Hungarian forces assisted in the later stages by the Germans (including Erwin Rommel- the Desert Fox). They were also involved in Salonika against the Austrian-Hungary and Bulgarian forces and to a lesser extent in Palestine against the Turks. Again in the later stages they were assisted by the British, French and American forces. American soldiers of the 332 infantry regiment (including Ernest Hemingway the author) together with Ambulance drivers and airmen joined them in 1917.

ITALY - MILITARY.

British Forces fighting with the Italians in Italy.



A.P.O. S.70.
Faenza.
Italy.

Censored O.A.S. post card from British troops serving in Italy.
A.P.O. S70 known used at Faenza, Italy 21/7/17 - 15/11/19.



Leibig advertising card showing the
Italian Bersagleirs1836, 1859 & 1900.



Cigarette silk showing the regimental badge of the Durham Light Infantry. The 12th, service Battalion were stationed in Italy during 1917.



Post card depicting British
and Italian troops joining forces.

GREECE - MILITARY.

Greek participation in 1st & 2nd Balkan Wars and WW1.



Stamps, probably colour trials for an unofficial issue depicting King George 1 of Greece 1863 - 1913) and the Parthenon. King George was assassinated during the 1st Balkan War two weeks short of fifty years on the throne. It has been said that he was assassinated on orders of the German Kaiser as he was replaced by King Constantine who was married to the Kaiser's sister Sophia and as an honorary German Field Marshall was more in line with German interests.



Flag of Greece from 1822 - current.



Liebig advertising card depicting the Greek military during the 1st Balkan war and in ceremonial dress.

Greece allied to Serbia, Montenegro and Bulgaria in the 1st Balkan war against the Otterman Empire (Turkey) 1912-13 and with Serbia & Rumania in the 2nd Balkan War against Bulgaria 1913. Despite being pro-German, King Constantine 1 was forced by the British & French in alliance with exiled Prime Minister Eleutherios Venizelos and after allied troops had been landed at Selonika to fight with the Allies (including Serbia) against combined German, Austrian, Hungarian and Bulgarian forces.

SERBIA - MILITARY.

King Peter of Serbia.



25 Dinar.



20 Dinar imperforate.

King Peter 1 depicted on 1911 definitive stamps of Serbia.





Post cards depicting King Peter 1 (29/6/1844 - 16/8/1921) of Serbia, he is shown wearing military and ceremonial uniforms. Credited with bringing democracy and leadership to Serbia, he actively fought with France during the Franco-Prussian War of 1871, in the Serb uprising against the Otterman Empire in 1876 and as King visited his troops in the trenches during WW1 when he joined the Entente fighting the Austrian Hungarian Empire.
He was King of Serbia 1903-1918 and King of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes 1918-1921.

SERBIA & MONTENEGRO - MILITARY.

1st & 2nd Balkan Wars (1912 & 1913) and World War 1.



Post card depicting General Putnick
The Serbian commander.



Patriotic 'Poster Stamp'
Depicting the Serbian military & flag.



Player's cigarette card depicting the flag
of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats & Slovaks
(October - December 1918). Became Yugoslavia.



Reproduction (2000) of Will's
cigarette card depicting H.M. king
Nicholas 1 of Montenegro.



Liebig advertising card depicting the Serbian & Montenegro Army
during the Balkan wars.

During the First Balkan War Serbia was allied to Bulgaria, Greece & Montenegro against Turkey which the Allies won but due to a disagreement with Bulgaria she became allied with Greece against that country in the Second Balkan War were again she was on the winning side.
During World War 1 she was allied Britain, France and Italy in against the Axis Powers.

MONTENEGRO - MILITARY W.W.1.

Occupation of Montenegro by Austrian-Hungarian forces.



Post free Austrian-Hungarian 'Feldpost' card depicting Sultan Mehmed V1 of Turkey, Emporer Frans Joseph of Austria-Hungary together with Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany and King Ferdinand of Bulgaria (Leaders of the Central Powers WW1). It is from Cetinje - Montenegro (FPO 349) and is addressed to Graz - Austria (addressee not here) and returned to F.P.O. '349'.



This post card depicts mountain troops, thought to be from Montenegro either during the Balkan wars or WW1.

MONTE NEGRO - MILITARY.

1st. (1912) & 2nd. (1913) Balkan Wars.



Post card depicting Monte Negro artillary.



Silk depicting Monte Negro flag & soldier during the Balkan wars.



Post card depicting Monte Negro & Serbian forces during the Balkan wars. Red & white flag (Monte Negro), Red, white & Blue flag (Serbia).

The three Slavic allies, Bulgaria, Monte Negro & Serbia faught against Turkey in the first Balkan war of 1912. The war ended with the Treaty of London in January 1913. In June 1913 Bulgaria declared war (second Balkan war) on Serbia and Greece over the split up of Macadonia after the first Balkan war, later Monte Negro entered the war against Bulgaria as did Turkey. Afrter a few months of fighting Bulgaria asked for an armastice.

KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS & SLAVAKS - YUGOSLAVIA.



Commercial cover of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats & slovaks (Yugoslavia) to London. Cancelled Gruz 20/3/23. Stamps depict King Aleksandra 1. (King Peter 1 died 1921).

INVASION OF SERBIA BY CENTAL POWERS - AUSTRIA-HUNGARIAN TROOPS.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military Censor.



Brod. Serbia. 15/1/15.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military.

Postage free post card cancelled Brod - Serbia and addressed to Bohemia.
With K.U.K. cachets of the regiment and military censor.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military. Uzice.



Uzice. Serbia. 24/9/17.

Cachet. French P.O.W.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military. Censor.

Cachet. Serbian Red Cross. Geneva.

Austrian-Hungarian 8 heller (filler) 'Feldpost' card dated 15/1/15 and used from Uzice - Serbia to France.
Addressed to a P.O.W. in France (Detachment P.G. - Prisonnier de Guerre).
At origin it has received the Austro-Hungarian military K.U.K. 'war commando' cachet plus military censorship.
Directed through Geneva - Switzerland where it received the Serbian Red Cross cachet, eventually receiving the French P.O.W. cachet in France (purple cachet over lower portion of 'stamp' {covering part of removal}).
The card originally had an additional stamp or label to the left of the 'stamp' which was removed by the censor, this would have been to check if there was writing under the stamp which was quite normal during censorship.
Suspicions would have been aroused as P.O.W. mail was free or the 'poster label' was offensive to the entente.
(note original feldpost stamp has been invalidated by 'blue' lines).

INVASION OF SERBIA BY CENTAL POWERS - AUSTRIA-HUNGARIAN TROOPS.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military Censor.



Brod. Serbia. 15/1/15.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military.

Postage free post card cancelled Brod - Serbia and addressed to Bohemia.
With K.U.K. cachets of the regiment and military censor.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military. Uzice.



Uzice. Serbia. 24/9/17.

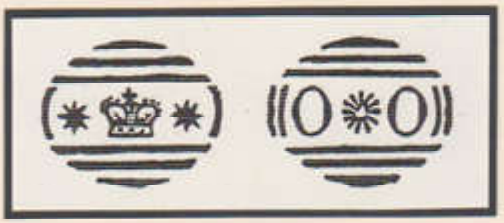
Cachet. French P.O.W.

Cachet. K.U.K. Military. Censor.

Cachet. Serbian Red Cross. Geneva.

Austrian-Hungarian 8 heller (filler) 'Feldpost' card dated 15/1/15 and used from Uzice - Serbia to France.
Addressed to a P.O.W. in France (Detachment P.G. - Prisonnier de Guerre).
At origin it has received the Austro-Hungarian military K.U.K. 'war commando' cachet plus military censorship.
Directed through Geneva - Switzerland where it received the Serbian Red Cross cachet, eventually receiving the French P.O.W. cachet in France (purple cachet over lower portion of 'stamp' {covering part of removal}).
The card originally had an additional stamp or label to the left of the 'stamp' which was removed by the censor, this would have been to check if there was writing under the stamp which was quite normal during censorship.
Suspicions would have been aroused as P.O.W. mail was free or the 'poster label' was offensive to the entente.
(note original feldpost stamp has been invalidated by 'blue' lines).

THE CRIMEA WAR - OCTOBER 1853 - FEBRUARY 1856.





The two cancellations used in the Crimea.
The crown between stars and the star between cyphers.

1d. red with watermark large crown.
cancelled with star between cyphers.
(also known as OXO).



1st. Class. Piper Muir,
42nd. Regiment of Foot.
Amphibious assault on
Kerch.



2nd. Class. Pte. McNamara.
5th. Dragoon Guards.
Heavy Brigade charge at
Battle of Balaklava.



40p. Sgt.Maj. Edwards.
Scots Fusilier Guards.
Gallent action at
Battle of Inkerman.



57p. Sgt. Powell.
1st. Regiment of Foot Guards.
Faught at Battles of Alma
and Inkerman.

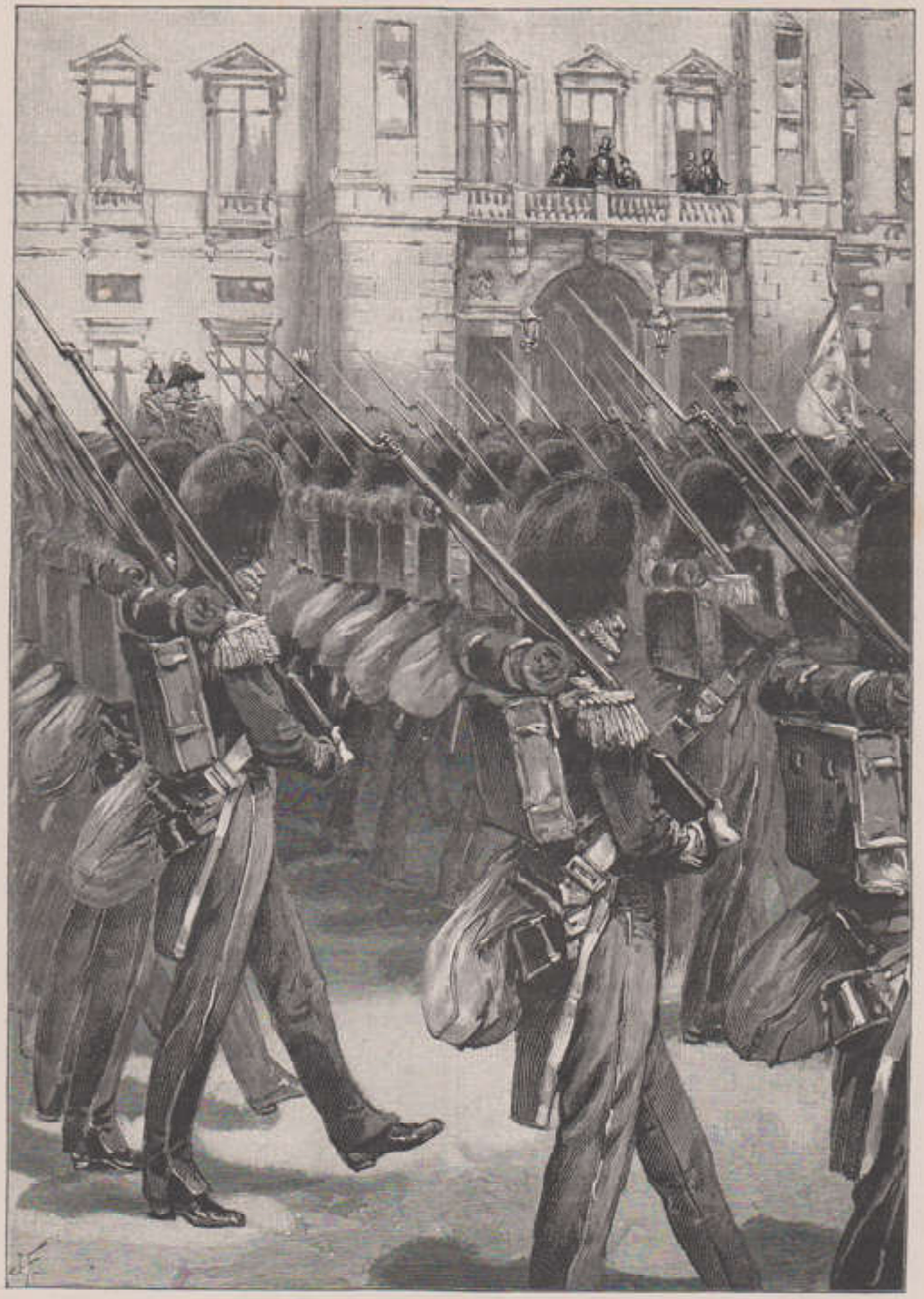


68p. Sgt. Maj. Poole.
Royal Sappers & Miners.
Defensive line at
Battle of Inkerman.



£1.12. Sgt. Glasgow.
Royal Artillery.
Gun Battery at Besieged
Sevastopol.

2004 150th. Anniversary of the Crimean War.



THE QUEEN BIDDING FAREWELL TO HER GUARDS (*p.* 86).

The Queen bidding farewell to her Guards.

THE CRIMEA WAR - OCTOBER 1853 - FEBRUARY 1856.

French, British & Turkish Empires together with the Kingdom of Sardinia against the Russian Empire.



Price's Patent Candle Co.
Advertising card depicting the 'Charge of the Light Brigade' 25/10/54 with Lord Cardigan who led the charge.
600 charged - 195 returned.



Post card depicting the stand of the 23rd Argylle & Sunderland Highlanders (the thin red line) .
At the Battle of Balaclava in 1854. Turkish soldiers also stood in the line with them.

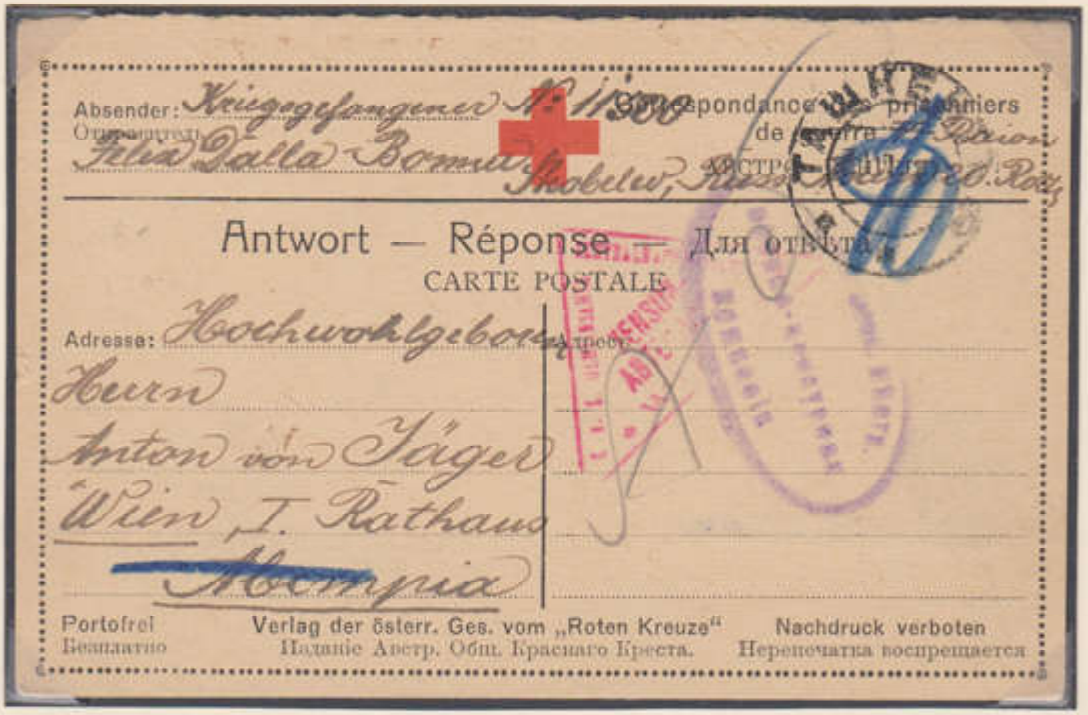


A Wizard Comic 'freebee' depicting the charge of the 'Black Watch' at the Battle of Alma 20/9/54 led by Sir Colin Campbell (mounted).

Although most of this war took place in the Crimea Peninsula smaller campaigns took place in western Anatolia, the Caucasus, the Baltic Sea, the Pacific Ocean and the White Sea.



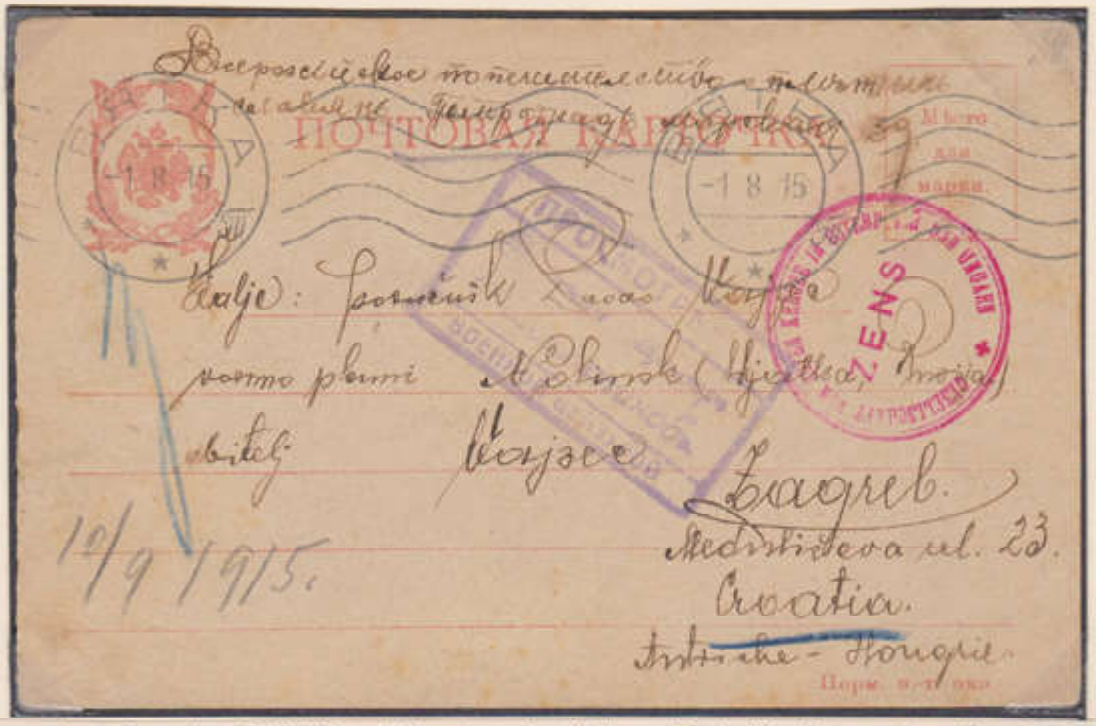
Post card depicting German & Austro -Hungarian troops fighting the Russians in the Carpathian Mountains during World War I.



Post free, Red Cross P.O.W. card from an Austian-Hungarian POW in Russian camp at Skobelev dated 13/1/16 with Tashkent date stamp of 1916 and oval censor's cachet (Speeckaert type 2). Addressed to Vienna where it received the red triangular censor's cachet.

RUSSIAN / HUNGARY - MILITARY.

Russian P.O.W. in Hungarian Croatia.



1915, Russian post card used as P.O.W.card (postage free). From 'Brtka'? addressed to a Russian P.O.W. in Zagreb - Croatia.

Censored by Russian (violet cachet) and Austrian (red cachet) authorities.

Russia was fighting the Central Powers at the time and Croatia was under Austrian/Hungarian Empire at the time.



French post card depicting Russian artillery 1914-1915.

RUSSIA - MILITARY.

Prisoner of War mail from Russia.



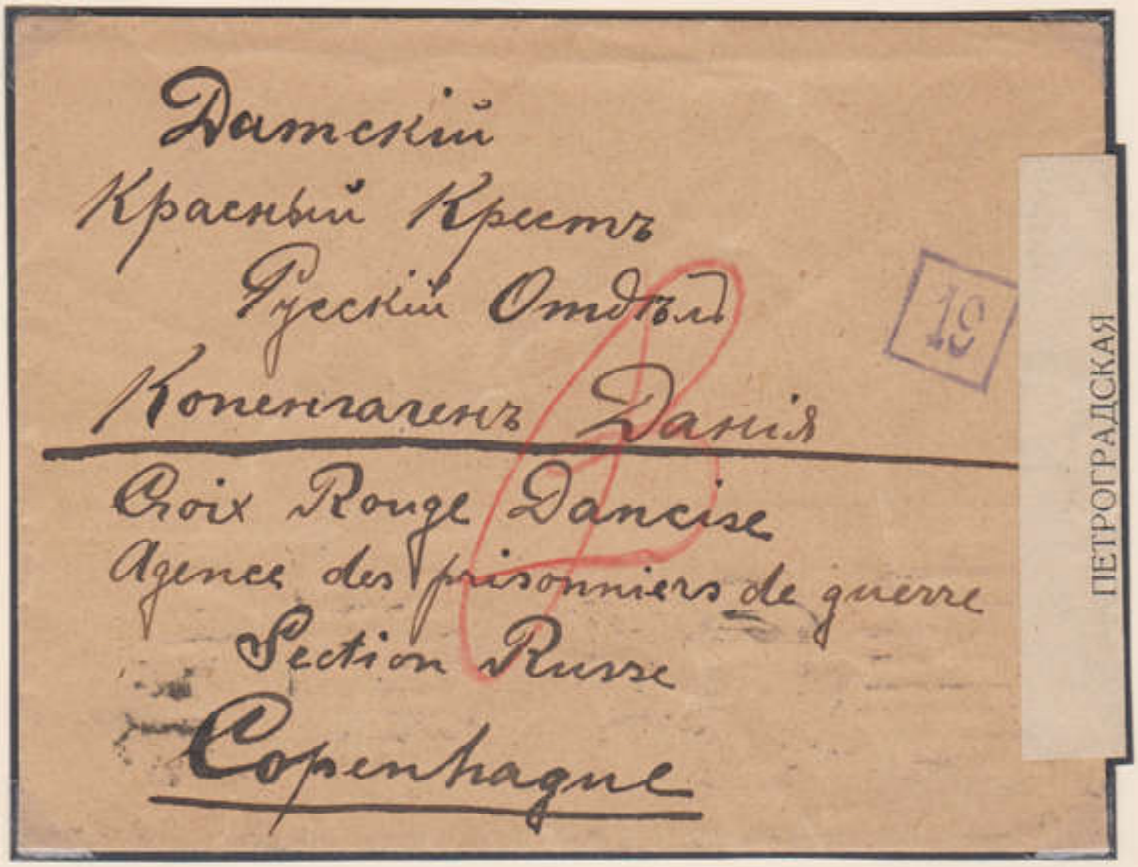
Sugan.
Georgia.
31/7/16.

20 Copeks, Registered cover from Sugan - Georgia - Russia
addressed in Russian and French to the Danish Red Cross in Copenhagen.
The charge would be for the registration fee as P.O.W. mail was free.

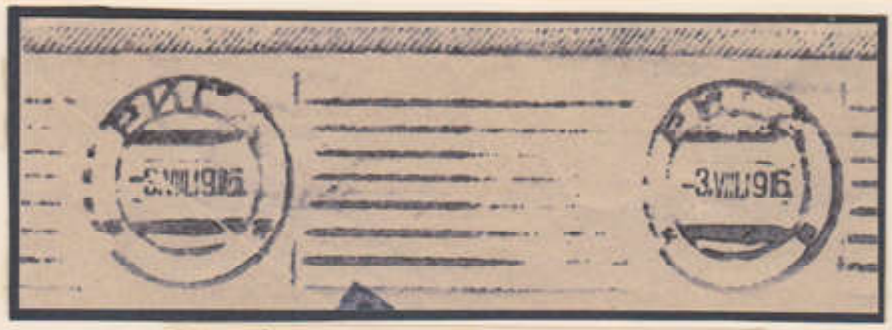
The Red Cross set up an Agency in Geneva Switzerland during 1914.
Later agencies were opened in other neutral countries i.e. Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands.
The agencies kept records of P.O.W., handled gifts and money orders from families handling
over 5,000 queries a day and operated until 1919.

RUSSIA - MILITARY.

Prisoner of War mail from Russia.

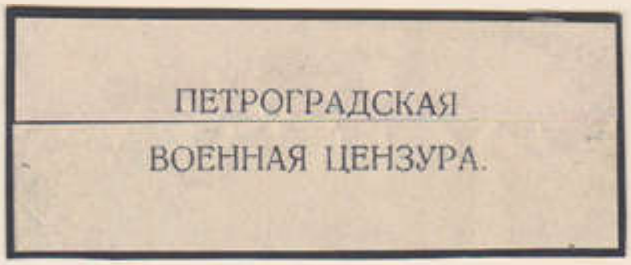


Postage Free, censored cover from Russia addressed in Russian and French to the Danish Red Cross in Copenhagen.



3/8/16.

Scan of reverse Russian machine cancellation.



Scan of Russian censor's label.

The Red Cross set up an Agency in Geneva Switzerland during 1914.
Later agencies were opened in other neutral countries i.e. Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands.
The agencies kept records of P.O.W., handled gifts and money orders from families handling over 5,000 queries a day and operated until 1919.

RUSSIA - MILITARY.

Prisoner of War mail from Russia.



La Favorita (Cigarillos) silk on card depicting Russian flag & Soldier.



The Grand Duke Nicholas Commander of the Russian in the East.



Russian post card from the P.O.W. camp at Penza in S.E.Russia to Szabed in Hungarian occupied territories of Transylvania (Now Sabab in Mures District). Censored by the Russian & Austrian authorities.

Russia sided with the Allies during WW1 fighting on the Eastern Front and against Turkey & Northern Persia. The revolution in 1917 ended Russian participation in that war.

RUSSIA - REVOLUTION.



French Military Censor. Label.

Moscow, 29/12/17.

T ?.

Moscow Censor.

French Military Censor's

Reverse. Blunay (France). 10/3/18.

Censored cover from Moscow - Russia to Chevalleyres - Romande - Switzerland
with Blunay (S.E. of Paris) transit strike.
Cover censored in Moscow and by the French Military, one stamp has been removed
which was normal censoring procedure looking for writing under the stamp.
Contents reveal that a Madame Bon Jour has previously lived in Switzerland and is looking for friends.
The Russian address on the front of the cover is the sender's address followed by the address in Switzerland.

The Russian Revolultion was a series of revolutions in 1917.
The Tsar was deposed during the first revolution in February.
During October the second revolution the removed the Provivisional Government
and it was replaced with a Bolshevik (communist) government.

A peace treaty signed on March 3, 1918 at Brest-Litovsk (now Brest, Belarus) between Russia
(the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic) and the Central Powers
marking Russia's exit from World War I.

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

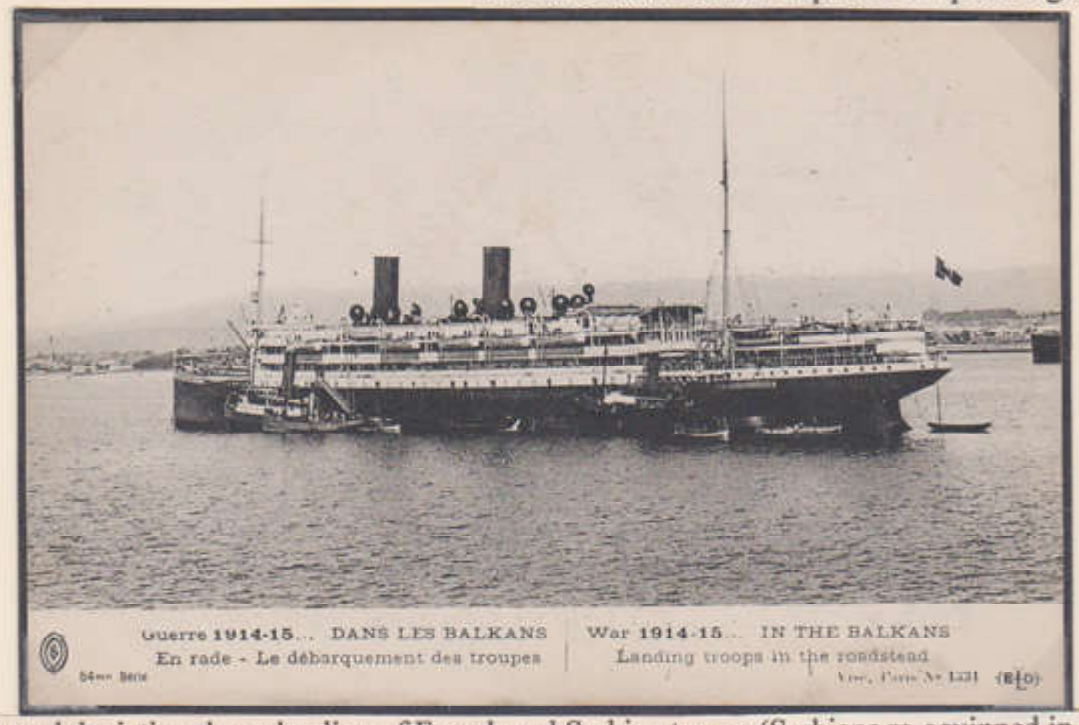
French troops at Selonika.



Flag of France depicted on Player's cigarette card.



French General Sarrail depicted on spinet cigarette silk.



Post card depicting the unloading of French and Serbian troops (Serbians re-equipped in Crete) from a French ship at the Selonika roadstead in the Balkans in autumn 1915.



Post card depicting General Sarrail (who was given command of Allied troops in Macedonia when Greece invited the Allies to assist the Serbians) when visiting Zeitinlic camp in the Balkans

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

Operations in Selonica (Thesselonika) against pro-German Bulgaria.



A.P.O. S.X.4.
Salonica -
Kalamaria.
5/10/18.

Greek post card used by the British military and censored at Selonica - Greece. Postage free despite the printed 5c.This type of censor's cachet was used by the M.E.F. & E.E.F. October 1917 - 1920.



Post card from & of Salonica - Greece,
cancelled with the 'B' canceller of the same design as the above card 18/11/16.

In an attempt to assist Serbia against Bulgaria and the Central Powers, the Entente in 1915 under French General Sarrail were invited/invaded neutral Greece and opened the Macadonian front. They were too late but defended the front until they were ableto retake Serbia late in 1918.

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

British troops at Selonika.



Indian F.P.O. 33.
Lombot - Selonica.
Greece. 2/10/17.

British A.P.O. S.X.4
Kalamaria - Greece.
3/10/17.

Passed by
Censor. 410.

4 1/2d. rated, censored O.A.S. cover from Selonica addressed to United Kingdom.



Post card depicting the city of Selonica in N.E. Greece.

During October 1915 a British-Franco force under French General Sarrial landed at Selonica at the request of the Greek Government to assist Serbia which had been invaded by Bulgarian, German & Austrian Hungarian troops they arrived too late as Serbia had been defeated but were forced to stay where they were as all shipping was tied up at Gallipoli. They were re-inforced with Serbian, Russian, Italian and later by Greek troops. Several battles were fought, the British fighting mainly in the Lake Doiran area.
The troops remained there until the armistice 30/8/18.

FRANCE - SALONIKA , GREECE – MILITARY.



A.P.O. 40, 18/10/14. (France).

Censored, Postage Free, Post Card addressed to London with P.B.C. cachet No. 986 and A.P.O. 40 cancellation. From France to London.



F.P.O. G.X, 15/1/17. G.H.Q. Salonika.

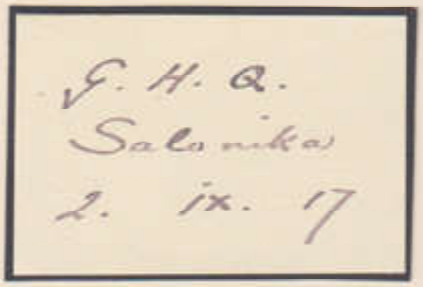
Censored, O.A.S. cover from G.H.Q. Salonika to London.

The sender is Lt. Col. Edward L. Shute and he is writing to his wife. The card is part of a 184 item correspondence which is mainly from G.H.Q. Salonika. It is known that he originally was posted to France but the dates are not available. The covers I have seen put him in G.H.Q. Salonika from at least 15/1/17 until 29/12/18 where he served as the 'Chef de Liaison' (Head of Liaison) with the French forces. (First British troops arrived in Salonika October 1915).

MACEDONIA – SELONIKA – WORLD WAR 1.

Types of censor's cachet's used on Lt. Col. E.L. Shute correspondence to his wife 1917-18.







Censor's cachets Nos. 445 & 4024 on mail originating at G.H.Q. Salonika.

MACEDONIA – SELONIKA – WORLD WAR 1.

Censor's cachets on Lt. Col. E.L. Shute correspondence to his wife 1917-18.



Sequence of censor's cachets 302, 303 and 304 on mail originating at G.H.Q. Salonika.

GREECE - MILITARY.

British troops in 'Happy Valley' Camp - Selonika, North East Greece.



F.P.O. T 26.
Happy Valley Camp
16/4/16.

Military Censor's
'P.B.C. No.2251'.

O.A.S., Post Free, Censored post card from F.P.O. T 26 which Proud records as being at the Happy Valley Camp in Greece. It had been at Lambet 11/12/15 - 6/4/16 and is not recorded again until 31/10/16 - 15/6/18 when it is recorded as being on the Dorian Front, this card falls into the seven months unrecorded period between. The Dorian Lake was on the southern line of the Macidonian Front where British troops (and others) were fighting the Bulgarian Army 1916-1918. It would appear that the Lambet camp was at Selonika and is now the Lembet Road Military Cemetry.



Scan of reverse side of post card depicting a Greek Soldier in national costume.

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

French troops (and Bulgarian P.O.W.) in Selonika.



Post card depicting Bulgarian P.O.W. under French officers at work in Salonika.



French post card showing The Aviation Park of the Eastern Army
'Trying the aparatus' in Salonika.

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

The great Selonika fire of 1917.



TRESOR ET POSTES 509
6/6/16. - Selonika.

Postage free french soldier's cover post marked 'TRESOR ET POSTES 509' Canceller was used by the 122 nd. Infantry division at Solinika - Greece 6/6/16.



La Favorite Cigarilo card (silk on board) depicting the French flag and a French soldier.



Post card depicting French troops assisting against the fire that destroyed two third of the city of Selonika.

The fire started in a house occupied by refugees. Although not a direct result of the war British and French troops did not help in the early hours of the fire as they refused to let water that was for their camps be used and when assisting to put the fire out the French military even asked for payment.

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

Other Allied troops involved in the Balkans.



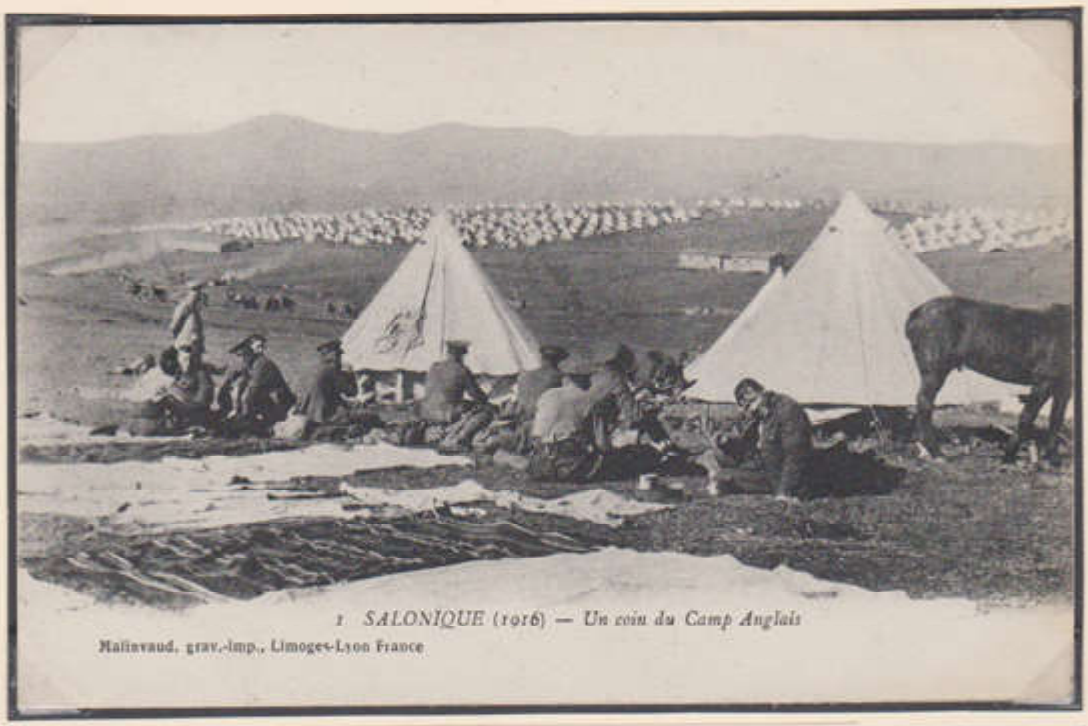
Post card showing a Russian officer with manuscript 'Silonique 1917').



Postcard showing a Sengalese soldier quarding the colours at Zeitinlic camp in the Balkans, Sengalese also faught alongside British, French. Russian, Indo-Chinese, Indian, Italian, Greek and Serbian troops in Balkans.

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

British troops in Salonika.



Post card depicting a British camp at Selonika.



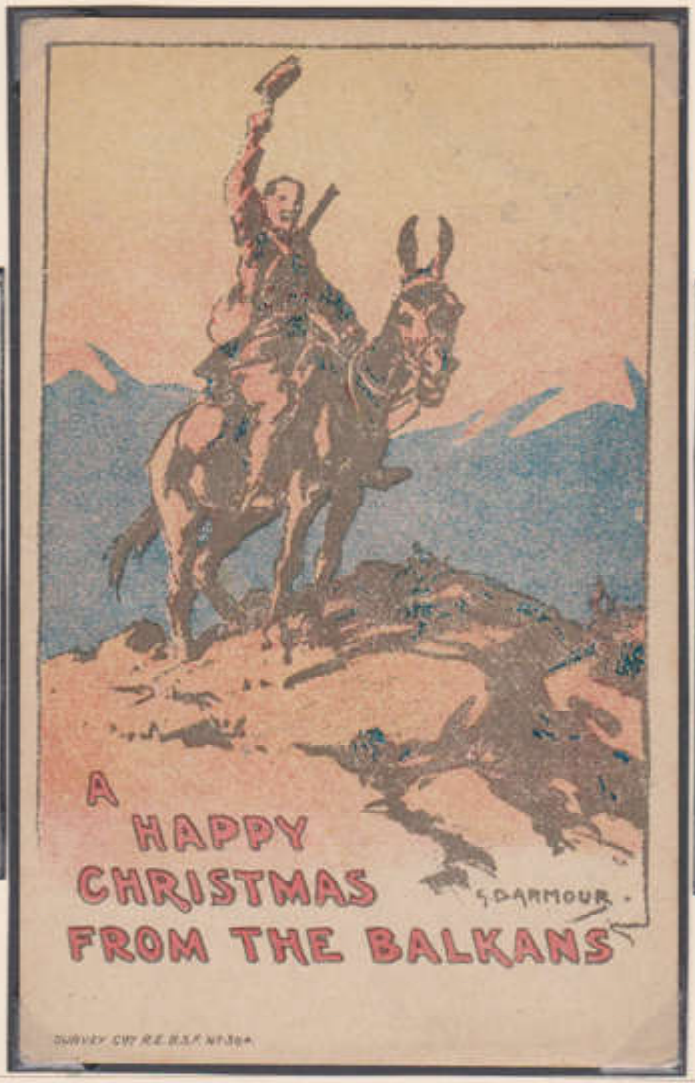
British Christmas card from the Selonika Army for 1918.

MACEDONIA - SELONIKA FRONT (GREECE) WORLD WAR 1.

British troops at Selonika.



Silk Union Jack from the Kensitas Ciarette collection.





Original paper cover for Kensitas Cigarette Silks.

Second Christmas card from Selonica with same front as below. Cancelled S.X.1 6/12/17.



A.P.O. S.X.6. 5/12/17. Vertekop, Greece.

O.A.S. postage free cover from Vertekop - Greece to United Kingdom.

Allied troops came to the aid of Serbia after it was attacked by Bulgaria (largest army in the Balkans). Serbia was eventually defeated but after the push by the Allies in September 1918 they were liberated.

GALLIPOLI.

Cover sent to a member of 7th. Staffordshire Regiment at Gallipoli.



Wolverhampton. 19/9/15.

Cachet. Post Free P.O.W.

Galeta - Turkey. 16/10/15.

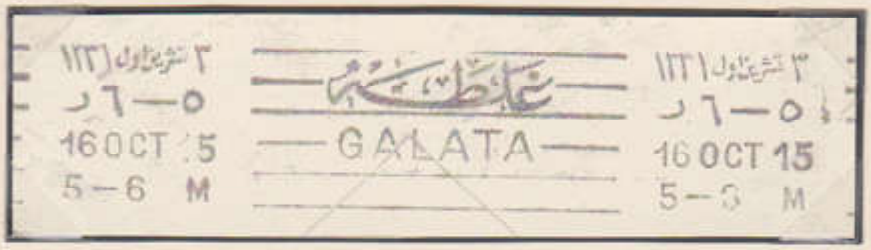
Turkish Censor's label.

Stanboul. 1920.

Lichfield. 2/7/20.

London. 8/7/20.

Cachet. Return to Sender.



Scan of Galata machine cancellation on reverse.

2 1/2d. single rated cover to a Lieutenant A.J. Shaw-Hellier of the 7th. South Stafford Regiment. Cover originally addressed through 'The Central Post Office, Gallipoli, c/o The G.P.O. London (Mount Pleasant). In London it received the P.O.W. Postage Free cachet and forwarded. Received at Galata - Turkey 16/10/15 (reverse machine canceller). Here in was held in transit reappearing in 1920 with a Turkish censor's cachet tied by an Stanboul strike. Returned to Lichfield - England 2/7/20 (probably one of the civil post office handling excess A.P.O. mail. Re-addressed to Messrs Cox & Co. (Army agents attending to officer's banking). Received London 8/7/20 where the R.T.S. cachet was applied and re-addressed to the sender in red ink (as per U.P.U. ruling). It is not known at which stage the authorities or the sender were informed that the officer had been killed in action at the village of Anafarta at Gallipoli 9/8/15.

TURKEY WORLD WAR 1 – GALLIPOLI.

Turkish post card depicting Limon Von Sanders of Gallipoli.



Sirkedji, Constantinople. 11/2/17.

German General Limon Von Sanders who commanded the Turkish troops at Gallipoli. Shown here on a Turkish post card from Sirkedji (Sirkeci) Constantinople 11/2/17. Addressed to Leipsig – Germany.



General Limon Van Sanders, same photograph from a German paper.

GALLIPOLLI CAMPAIGN.



Deutch Military Mission Feldpost. Cancelled 1916.

Postage free post card from a German soldier serving with the Turkish forces at Galipoli. Dated 29/11/15.



One of the guns of a French battery in action near Seddul Bahr, Gallipoli. The apparent liberal supply of ammunition seen in the photograph will soon be consumed.

Scan of newspaper cutting depicting a French gun in action at Seddul Behr - Gallipoli 1916.



Player's cigarette card depicting a solier of the 5th bn. The Lancashire Fusiliers. who faught at Galipoli.

GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN.

Photographic post cards.



Landing troops and horses at the Dardanelles.



Shrapnel Valley – Gallipoli.

TURKEY – DARDANELLES & GALLIPOLI – MILITARY.

French Troops and Turkish Big Guns in action at Chanack.



Un-posted post card presumably from the Dardanelles-Gallipoli area from a French Soldier to a second French Soldier in the Northern French trenches.



Scan of front of post card depicting the big guns at Chanack.

It was usual for soldiers, because of censorship to use illustrated post cards to indicate where they were. In some cases even sending the card in an envelope which appears to be the case here as there are no postal markings. A second hidden message may have been...
'And you think you have problems!'.

THE DARDENELLES – WORLD WAR I.



A German propaganda post card allegedly showing an Allied ship in dry dock at Valletta-Malta after being damaged in the Dardenelles.
It was in fact a pre-war photograph of a French ship that had been damaged in a collision.



Map of the area which Winston Churchill as the First Lord of the Admiralty had chosen to create a second front. He intended to force the Dardenelles to connect the Black Sea to the Mediterranean After the Germans under the guise of the Turks had closed the straits with mines taken into the Black Sea aboard the German ship 'General'. This was a fiasco leading to an even greater disaster at Gallipoli under Admiral de Robeck of the Royal Navy.

TURKEY - DARDANALLES - MILITARY.



4½d rated registered cover from the R.A.S.C. Depot at Kelia (Kilia Liman - port. One mile north of Maidos now Eceabat)) in the Dardenelles. Addressed to U.S.A.

F.P.O. 15.
12/4/23.



Back of cover showing 3d. Registration rate + 1½d for first oz ? And American receiving strikes

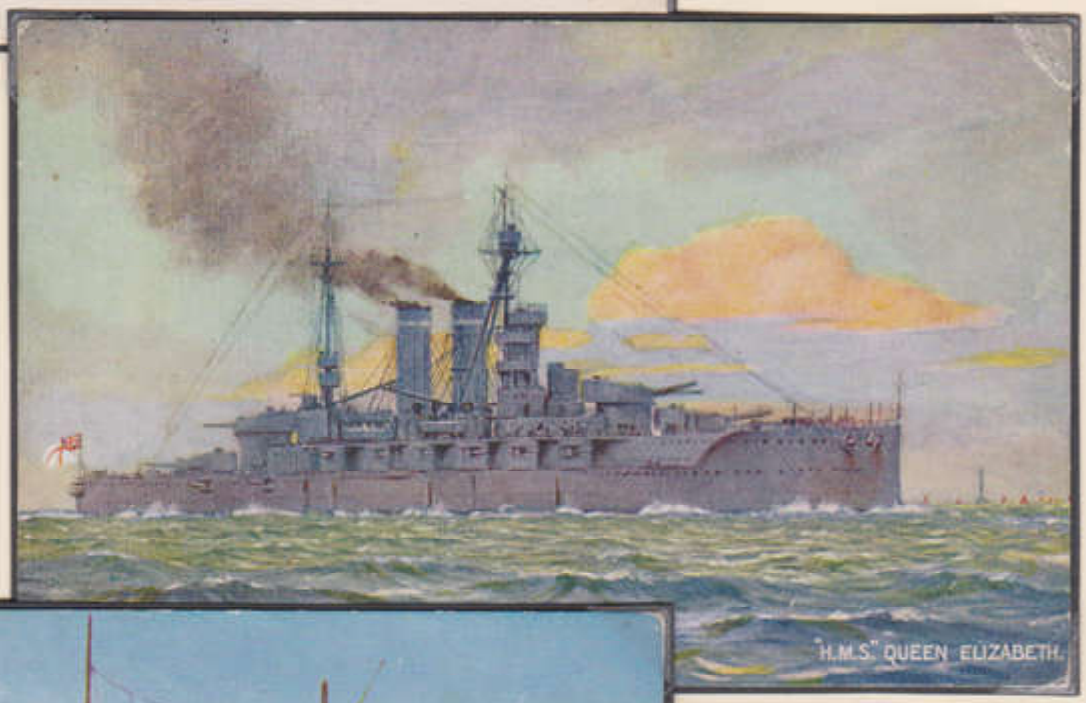


Liebeg advertising card depicting the British & French ships (with map) in the Dardenelles during WW1 naval engagements between February & March 1915.

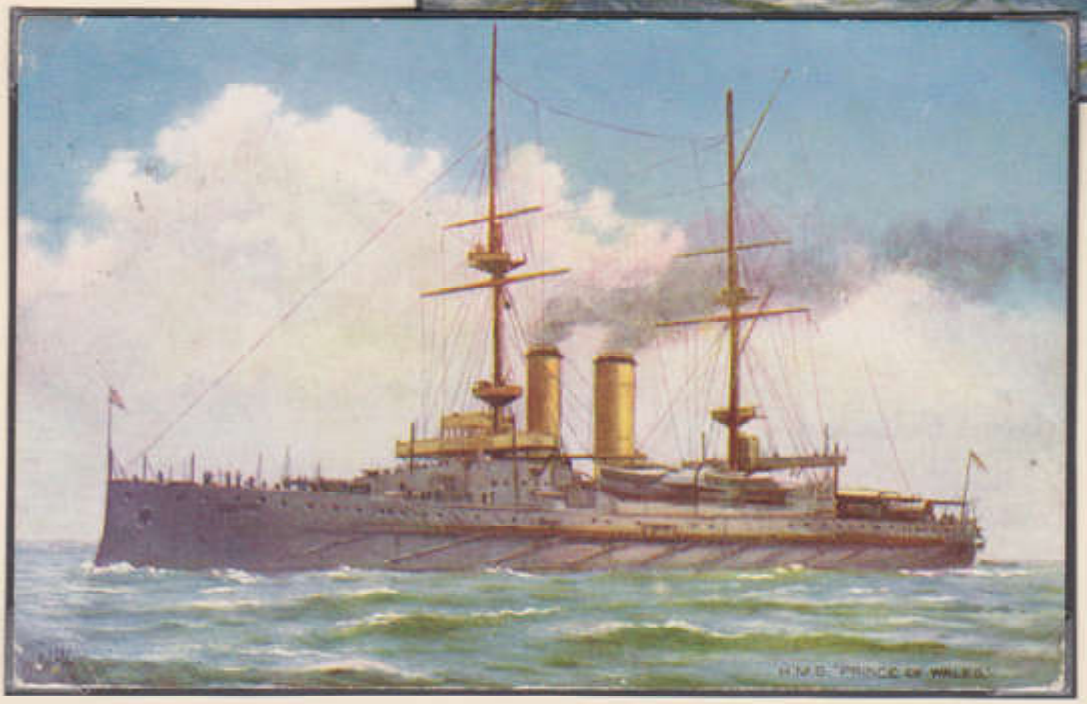
SHIPS INVOLVED AT THE BATTLE OF THE DARDENELLES & GALIPOLI W.W.1.



The Union Castle mail ship.
Was converted to a hospital ship.



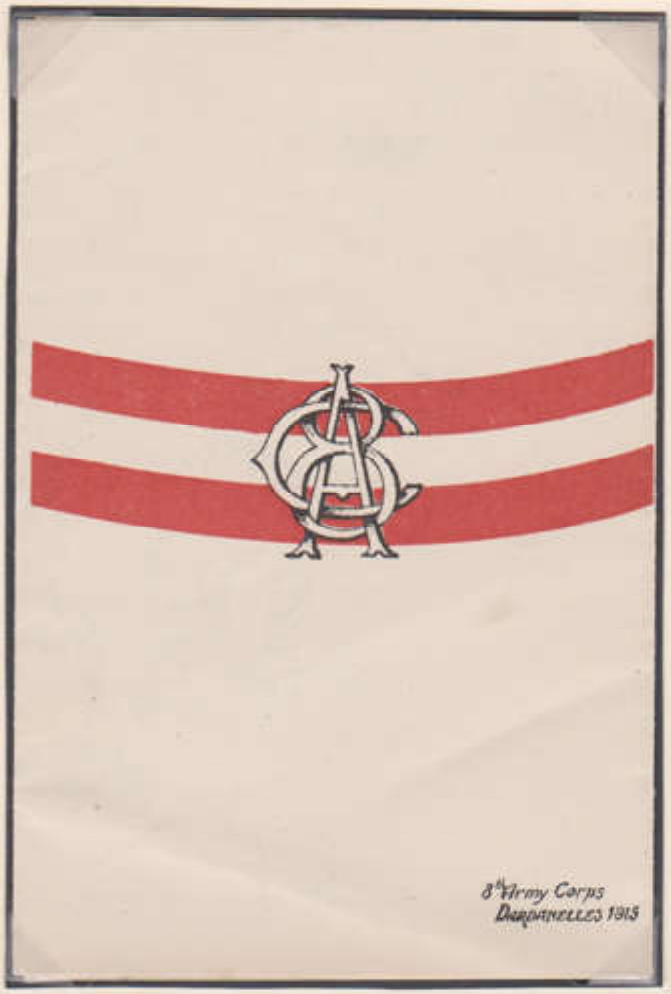
H.M.S. Queen Elizabeth.



H.M.S. Prince of Wales.

GALLIPOLI.

1915 8th Army Corp. & (S.S. River Clyde at Sidal-Bahr) in the Gallipoli.



1915 8th Army Corps Christmas Card from the Dardanelles.



Scan of Inside ('K' Kitchener).

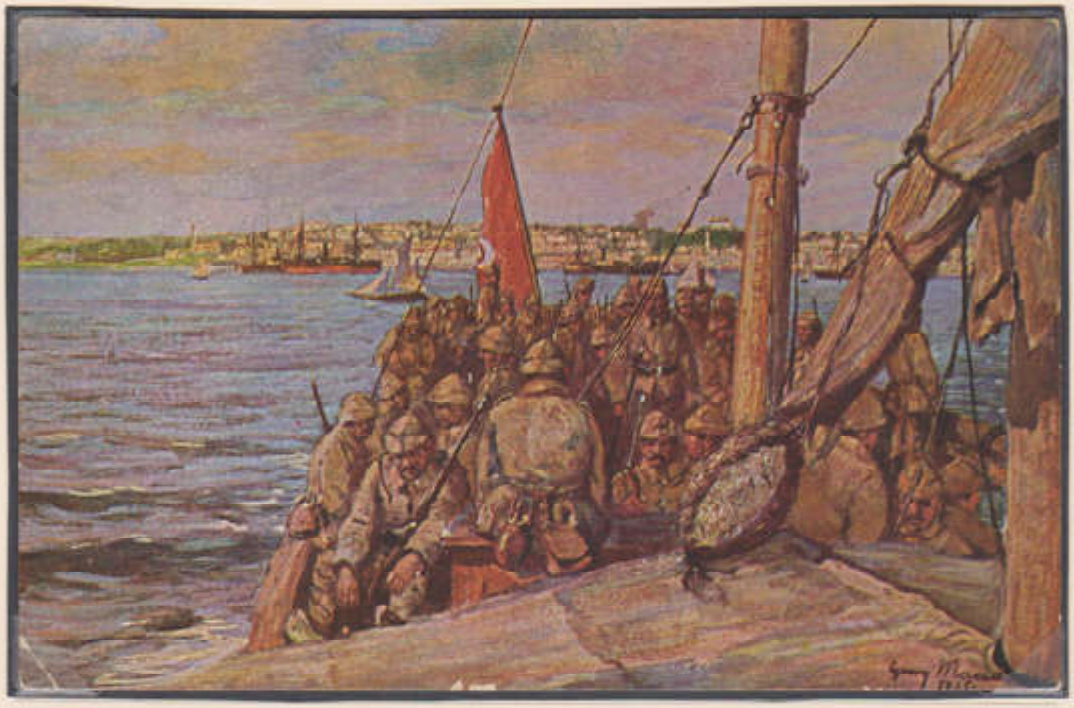


Photographic post card of the beached S.S. River Clyde.

The S.S. River Clyde was a river collier which was run ashore under the fort at Seddulbahir -Gallipoli on west coast of the peninsula, late April 1915. She carried Royal Munster Fusiliers & Hampshire Regiment soldiers who left the ship by ramps. Of 200 troops disembarked only 21 reached the shore, the rest being mowed down by machine guns, 6 Victoria crosses were awarded. During and after the engagement the ship was used as a breakwater and quay, provided fresh water and used as a dressing station. She was later re-floated, repaired in Malta and sold to the Spanish.

TURKEY – DARDANELLES & GALLIPOLI – MILITARY.

Turkish troop movement.



Post card depicting Turkish troops being rushed over the Dardenelles at Cnanak (also spelt Canakkale & Chanak) to fight on the Gallipoli Peninsula opposite.



Large sea facing gun at Chanak on the Dardenelles. Shown here on a post card with manuscript 'Destroyed by the demolition party of H.M.S. Resolution June 21st. 1920.



Map of the Gallipoli Peninsula showing the ground held by the Entente and illustrates the operations for the withdrawals from Cape Helles & Sulva Bay.

Some of the Anzac Supermen at Anafarta Bay



The new landing-place on Gallipoli. British troops congregated on the beach of Anafarta (or Suvla) Bay, situated on the northern side of the peninsula, and whence the Anzacs are co-operating in renewed heroic attacks on Sari Bair ridge. Even the Germans have grudgingly admitted the valour of the men from "down under."



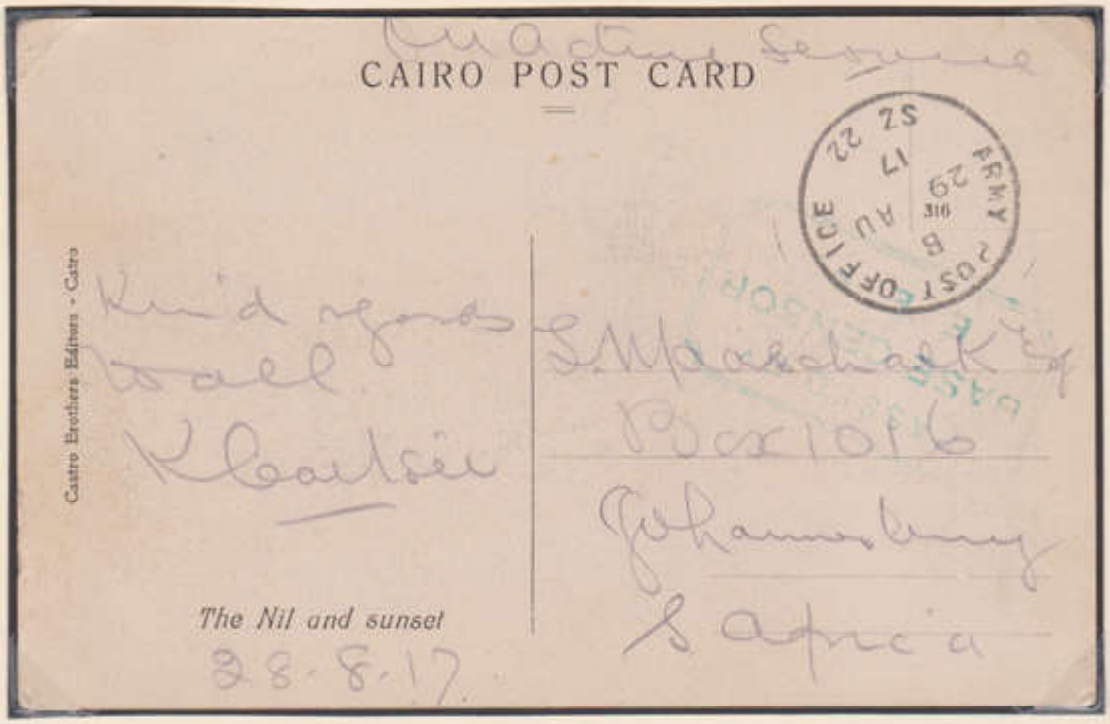
General view of Anafarta Bay, showing the hill of Lala Baba, taken after fierce fighting. Inset: Colonial soldier quenching his thirst at a well sunk in the beach of Anafarta Bay immediately the successful landing manœuvre was carried out.

Australia - ANZAC.
50th. Anniversary of Gallipoli 1915-1965 - issued 21/10/64.
Depicting Simpson and his donkey.

Page from the 'War Illustrated' dated 18/9/15.

EGYPT - MILITARY.

EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.



A.P.O. SZ 22.
28/9/17.
PORT SAID
HARBOUR
OFFICE.

PASSED BY BASE
CENSOR E.E.F.
EGYPTIAN
EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE.



SCAN OF CANCELLATION

O.A.S. POST FREE POST CARD TO SOUTH AFRICA.
SOUTH AFRICANS WERE SERVING WITH THE E.E.F. TOGETHER WITH BRITISH, NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIAN FRENCH AND INDIAN TROOPS. A.P.O. SZ 22 SERVED AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE - PORT SAID 20/4/16 - 30/7/19.



German 'Poster Stamp' Depicting the French Zoueve Troops from North Africa of which General Baillout was the GOC during WW1.



BRITISH OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH / POSTCARD DEPICTING GENERAL ALLENBY (LATER FIELD MARSHELL VISCOUNT ALLENBY) WHO LED THE E.E.F. INTO ARABIA AND FRENCH GENERAL BAILLOUT (WHO ENTERED JERUSELEM WITH GENERAL ALLENBY). PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN IN ISMAILIA.

EGYPT - MILITARY.

INCOMING MAIL FROM U.K. TO E.E.F.

LONDON.
2/4/17.

A.P.O. S Z 7.
22/4/17.
L of C.
EGYPT/
PALISTINE.

A.P.O. S Z 12.
25/4/17.
ABOUKIR.





Incoming mail from United Kingdom to Egyptian Expeditionary force (E.E.F.) At the time of posting between the Canal Zone (left 18/2/17) and Gaza - Palistine. Re-directed back to Moustapha Barracks (shown below) at Aboukir - Alexandria.

MANUSCRIPT RE-DIRECTED. 'MUSTAPHA' ALEXANDRIA.

MANUSCRIPT. c/o ABUA KIR ALEXANDRIA.

SCAN OF REVERSE SHOWING RECEIVING / TRANSIT A.P.O. S K 7 STRIKE AND MANUSCRIPT RE-DIRECTION INSTRUCTIONS



MOUSTAPHA PASHA BARRACKS AT ABOUKIR - ALEXANDRIA.

EGYPT - MILITARY.

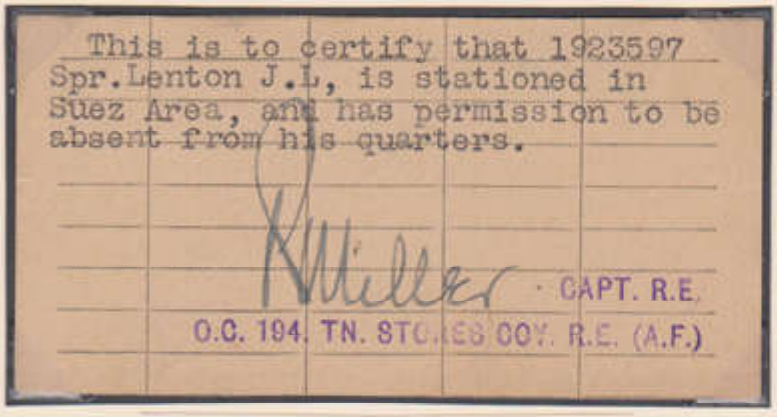
Egyptian Expeditionary Force (E.E.F.).



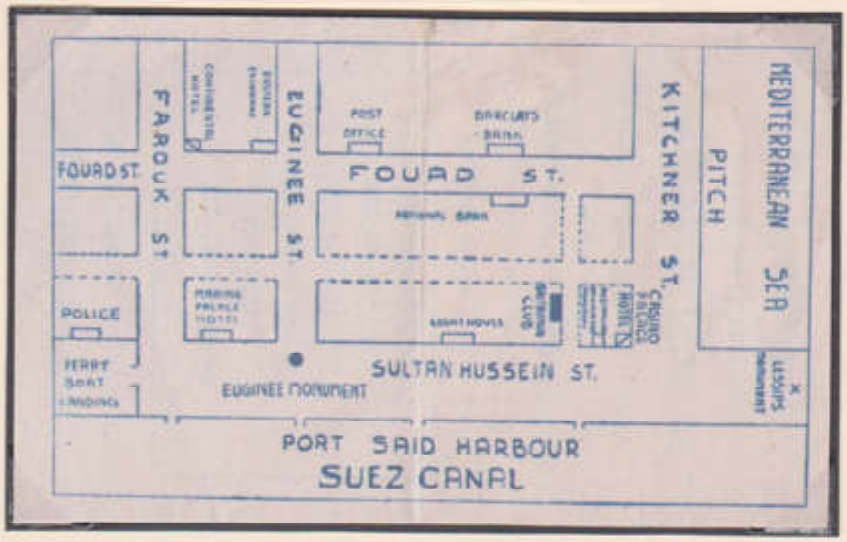
A.P.O.
13/10/18.

E.E.F.
Base Censor.
Cachet.

Censored post card from Port Suez to England. two areas have been heavily erased by the censor.



Royal Engineers Pass. for Suez Area.



Scan of reverse of card showing directions.



Front of Advertizing Card
for 'the Briannia Club' in Suez.

It is not certain if the card is WW1 or WW2.



A LANCE-CORPORAL OF THE 'EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE' (E.E.F.) WEARING A UNIFORM OF THE ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT (GOAT HAT BADGE) WITH MANUSCRIPT E.E.F. EGYPT 1918.



FIELD POST OFFICE SZ 11. 6/2/18. ALEXANDRIA.

PASSED BY CENSOR. No. 3888.

O.A.S. POSTAGE FREE Y.M.C.A. 'EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES' ENVELOPE, CENSORED AND ADDRESSED TO UNITED KINGDOM.
F.P.O. SZ 11 WAS SITUATED IN THE MOUSTAPHA PASHA BARRACKS - ALEXANDRIA 9/10/16-30/9/19.

EGYPT - MILITARY.

Egyptian Field Force in Egypt 1920.

POSTAGE FREE
E.E.F.
Cachet.



Indian Base Office 'E'.
E.E.F. 5/6/20.
(Used from 1918-1920).

O.A.S., Postage Free (with E.E.F. cachet), cancelled with the Indian Base Office E - E.E.F. cancllation dated 5/6/20, located somewhere in N.E. Egypt. Addressed to Calcutta - India.

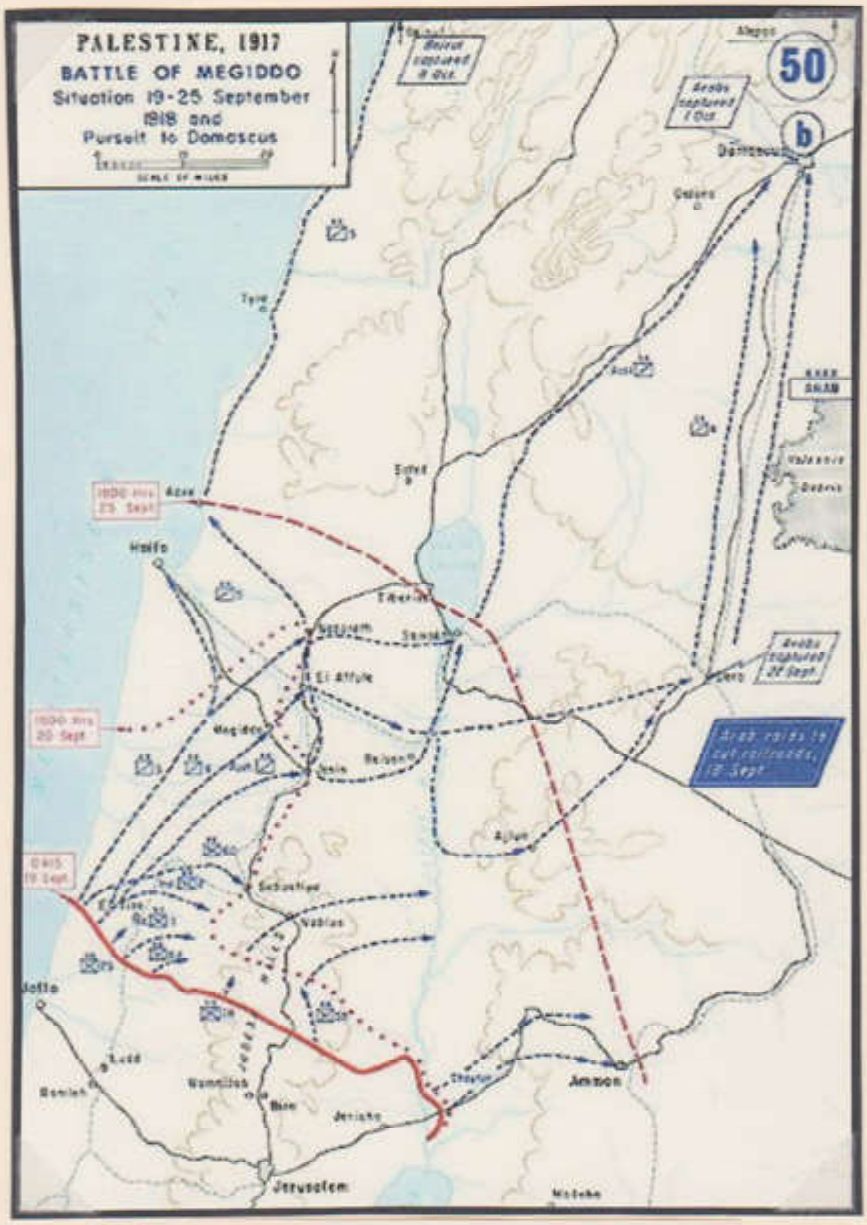


19/9/18.

Photographic post card depicting Arab Irregulars, used by a German soldier from somewhere in the Palestine - Syria area. On the card he says that these are the troops that he is fighting with and comments that he wished that they could fight as good as they look.
These Arab fighters were usually Bedouin tribesmen who faught against the British forces on the Suez and in the deserts of Egypt, Palestine, Syria and in Mesopotamia. Incidently who also faught for the British as with Laurence of Arabia and Faisal in Syria.

PALESTINE - EGYPT - MILITARY.

The British advance into Palestine.



Map showing military moverement during 1917.



Post card depicting Turkish & Arab prisoners in Egypt with British & Australian cavalry.
This could only have been in the Sinaii as the Sinussi in the west had been defeated.
The invasion by the E.E.F.of Palestine commenced in 1917, Jeruselum falling in December.

GERMAN TROOPS AT 'EL ARISH' IN THE SINAI DESERT.

Post card from a German soldier with the 351 'Mine Thrower' section of the I Expeditionary Corps.

1 Expeditionary Corps – el Arish – Sinai, 6/9/16.



A 'Postage Free' Post card from a German soldier (The German's were assisting the Turkish army with native Arab troops to invade Egypt across the Sinai Desert and then across the Suez Canal). The card has two cachets, the first a 'Brief Stempel' of the 'Mine Throwing' section and the second the postal cancellation of the 1 Expeditionary Corps. Card depicts a Jerusalem scene and is addressed to Berlin.

(In January 1915 Native troops were issued with a large can of water to cross the desert and then told to use the empty can to swim the Suez Canal where they expected an uprising of local Egyptian Arabs to support them which never happened!).



Internet map showing 'el Arish' on the coast and the water pipeline laid down by the British troops between August 1916 – January 1917 to invade Palestine from Egypt.

GERMAN TROOPS AT 'EL ARISH' IN THE SINAI DESERT.

Post card from a German soldier with the 351 'Mine Thrower' section of the I Expeditionary Corps.

1 Expeditionary Corps – el Arish – Sinai, 6/9/16.



A 'Postage Free' Post card from a German soldier (The German's were assisting the Turkish army with native Arab troops to invade Egypt across the Sinai Desert and then across the Suez Canal). The card has two cachets, the first a 'Brief Stempel' of the 'Mine Throwing' section and the second the postal cancellation of the 1 Expeditionary Corps. Card depicts a Jerusalem scene and is addressed to Berlin.

(In January 1915 Native troops were issued with a large can of water to cross the desert and then told to use the empty can to swim the Suez Canal where they expected an uprising of local Egyptian Arabs to support them which never happened!).



Internet map showing 'el Arish' on the coast and the water pipeline laid down by the British troops between August 1916 – January 1917 to invade Palestine from Egypt.

EGYPT - MILITARY.

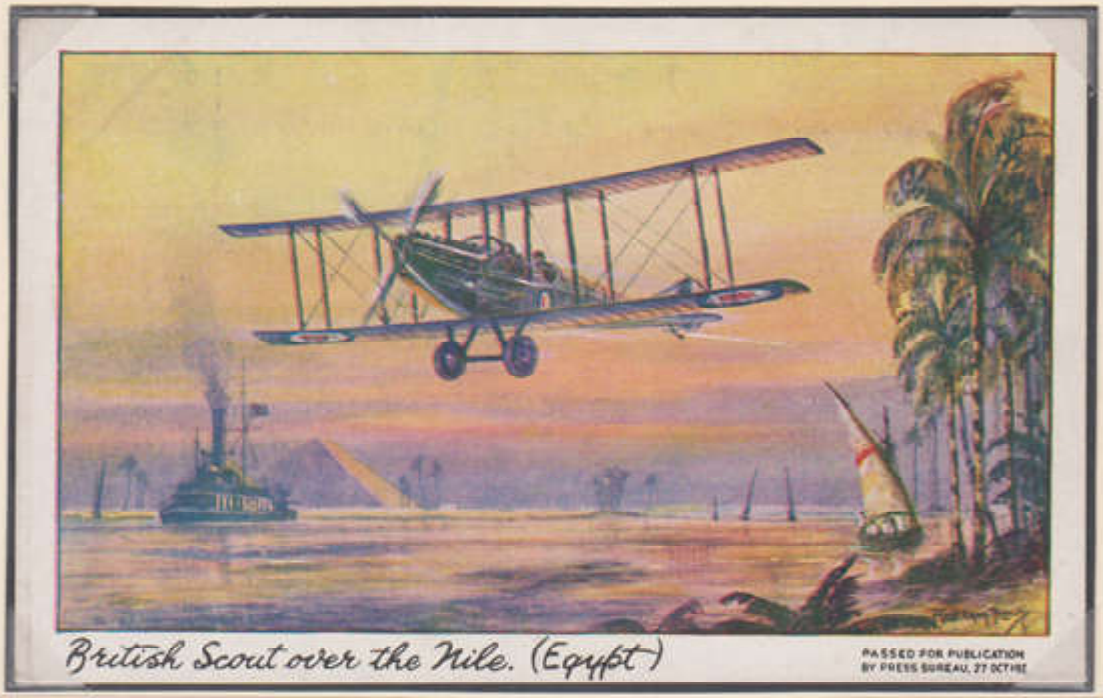
Turkish Sinai campaign.



Photograph of German transport park in the western Sinai.



Photograph of German transport at el Arish-Sinai (on coast).



Post card depicting a scout of the R.F.C. over the Nile.
These scouts opperated over the Sinai and dicovered the Turkish invasion during January

EGYPT - MILITARY.



F.P.O. F2.
Cairo.
14/11/17.

Passed by
Censor.
No. 4462.

Censored, O.A.S. cover from the Y.M.C.A. with the E.E.F. Cancelled F.P.O. F2 in Cairo.



Post card depicting the Ghurkh Rifles. These troops from Napal fought alongside British and other Indian troops from the Western Front to Burma, including, Egypt, Gallipoli, Palestine, Mesopotamia, Persia and East Africa.

MALTA - EGYPT - MILITARY.

ROYAL MALTA ARTILLERY IN EGYPT.



Malta.
10/3/17.

Passed by Censor.
No. 3147.

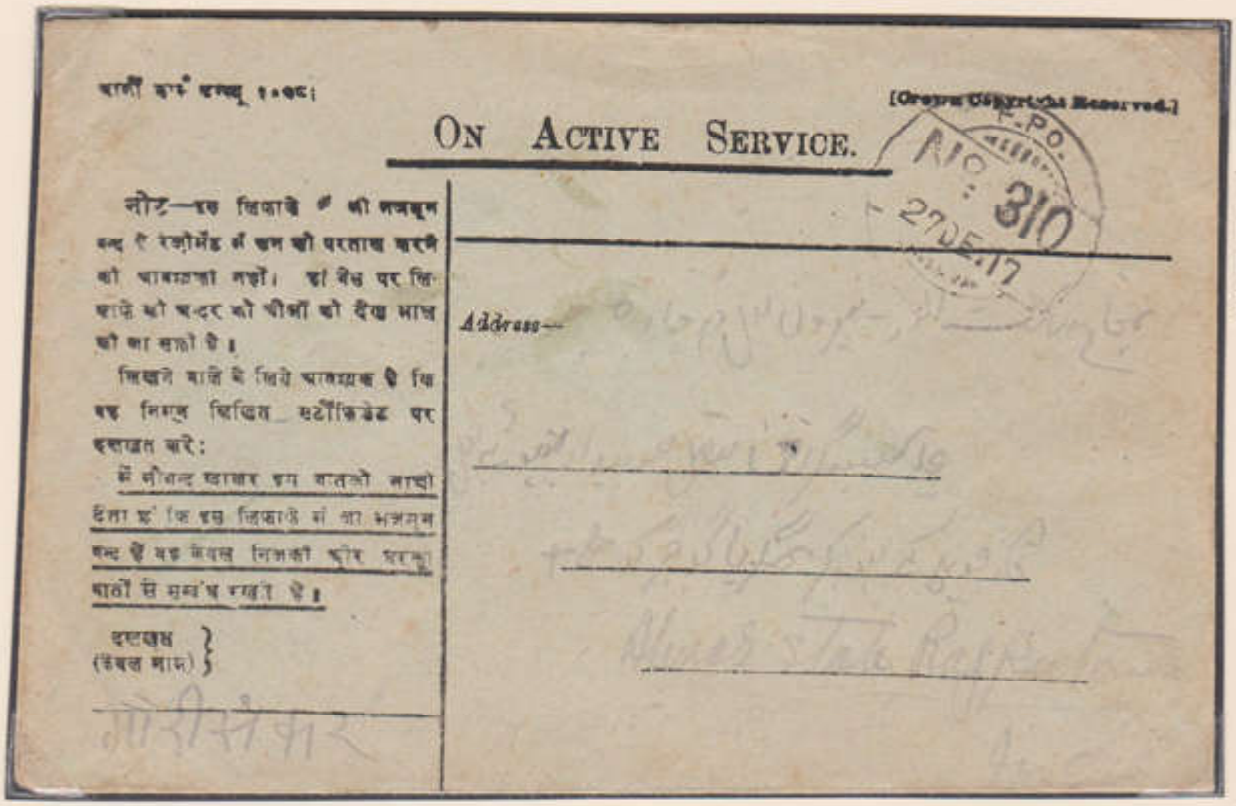
1d. Cover from Malta to Capt. W.R.Gatt who served with the Malta Artillery in Egypt, Palestine & Gallipoli during W.W.1. Censored by the military (triangle) and Egyptian civil (star) censors.



Post card depicting Artillery during WW1. Because of the flashes on helmets they are thought to be South Africans who fought againt the Senussi in NW Egypt and again with the E.E.F. in Palestine.

TURKEY – PALESTINE – INDIA – WORLD WAR I.

Indian troops in Palestine 1917.



Indian
F.P.O. 310.
Palestine.
27/12/1917.

Indian 'Honour' envelope worded in Hindi. (up to three letters could be included for censorship at base instead of at unit level for privacy). Addressed to Rajputana in India (Now Pakistan) and cancelled by the Indian military cancellation F.P.O. 310 which at the time was in Palestine.







Internet scan of Indian soldiers at prayer in Mesopotamia
together with Players cigarette cards depicting Indian military in dress uniform.

PALESTINE - SYRIA - MILITARY.

E.E.F. in Palestine & Syria 1917 - 1918.



Bombay, Postage due 1 anna.

Reverse. Bombay G.P.O. 5/9/18.

Postage cancelled. Base Postal Depot. Bombay.

Reverse. Base Postal Depot. Bombay. 6/9/18.

Unstamped cover from India to the Commanding Officer of the 6th. Mounted Brigade with the Dessert Mounted Corps of the E.E.F. At the time, late 1918 the corps would have been in Palestine or Syria (Damascus fell 1/10/18). The cover was taxed 1a by the civil authorities but this was cancelled by the military post office.



My staff.



Our camp after the storm.
(November is the rainy season)

Photograph of a camp (Ludd?) in Palestine after a storm in November 1917. The officer who wrote on the back was probably the commanding officer as he describes the second photograph as his staff.

PALESTINE MILITARY.

E.E.F. stamps used in Palestine.



O.E.T.A.E.E.F.
Jerusalem.
11/11/18.

1 mil rated cover to Kaliub - Egypt (morth of Cairo) from Jerusalem cancelled with the 'O E T A E E F' (Occupied Enemy Territory Administration Egyptian Expeditionary Force) Jerusalem canceller dated 11/11/18 (the day WW1 finished).

Stamps with values of 1 mil - 20 piastre were printed by the Stamping Department, Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House London and issued from 16/7/18. On 1/9/20 they were overprinted 'Palestine' in three scripts.



Post card of the period depicting the Barracks in Jerusalem.

PALESTINE - MILITARY.



A.P.O. 44. 20/4/18. (Palestine).

Palestine censorship. No. 2.

Receiving. Port Said. 23/4/18.

1 Piastre blue surcharged 5 millimes E.E.F. stamp from a military post office in Palestine addressed to Port Said in Egypt. It would appear to be from a french civialian which would indicate that civilians were allowed to use military post offices. A.P.O. 44 is reported by Proud as being H.D. i.e. Home Depot and not seen.
This card appears to be a first for Palestine.

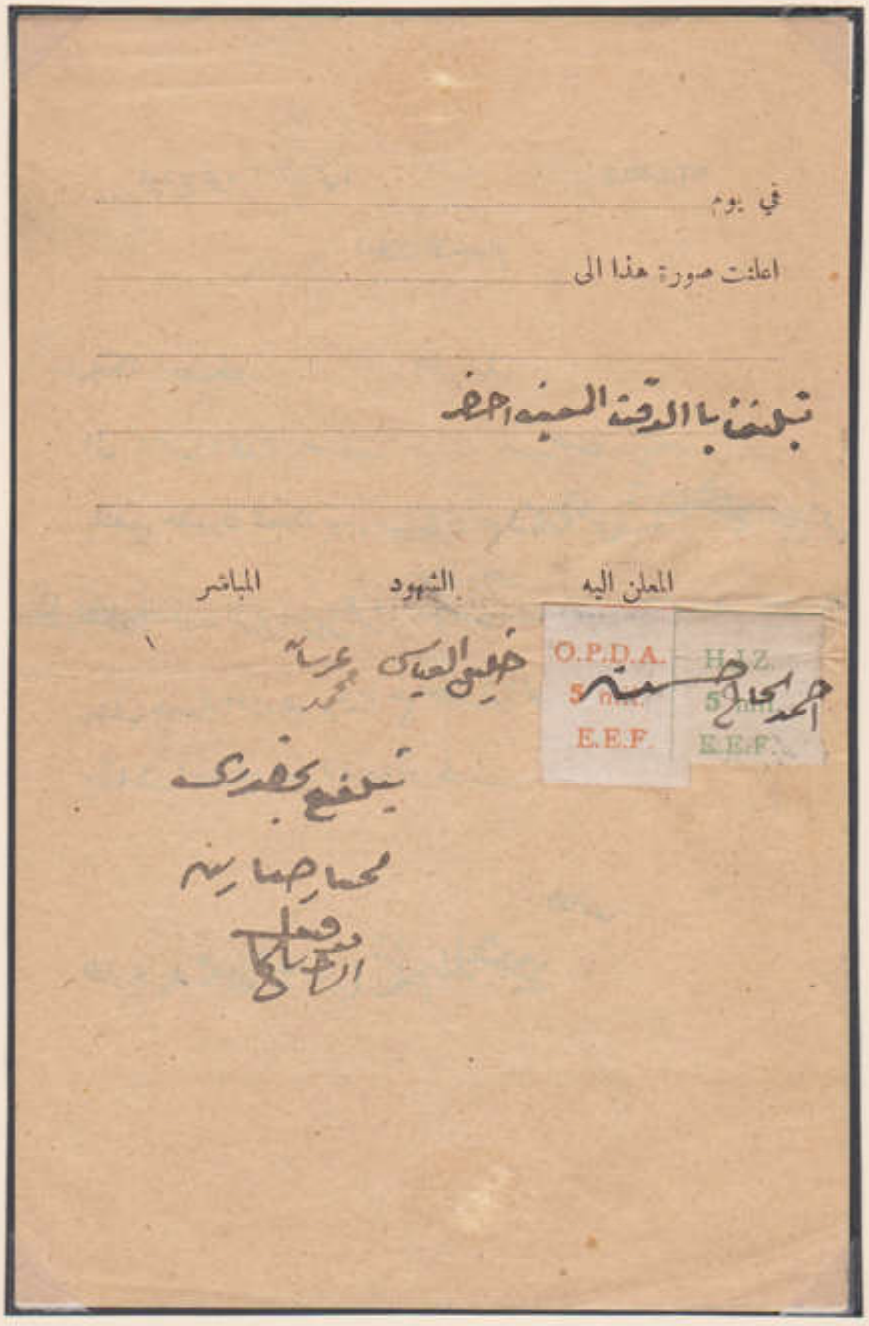




Post cards depicting the 'Sausage Balloon' being transported in Palestine and ascending in France.
Balloons were used for observation (with basket) or for keeping enemy aircraft from machine gunning troops.

PALESTINE - MILITARY.

E.E.F. Revenue Stamps.



E.E.F. receipt with two imperf' 5mil. E.E.F. British Administration revenue stamps of 1918-19 attached. 5 mil. orange O.P.D.A (Ottomane Publique Dette Administration) & 5 mil. green H.J.Z. (Hejaz Jordan Zone). The railway was originally built by the Turks (1900-1912) to convey passengers to the holy sites of Mecca & Madina from Turkey and Syria. During the war it was attacked by Laurence of Arabia with his Arab military. Later it was of importance to the British Military so was repaired and improved. To help pay for repairs and improvements a variety of legal and adminisrative documents were taxed, proceeds being paid into the 'Hejaz Railway Debenture Fund'.

TURKEY - MILITARY.



Remains of train sabotage in Sinai Desert.



Hejez railway 1914.



Bedouin (troops?) hung for being involved in the attacks on Turkish trains in the dessert.
Laurence of Arabia was involved in many of these attacks on the Hejez Railway which was the narrow gauge railway that ran from Damascus to Medina (originally intended to reach Mecca250 miles further south).
The central officer is wearing a German uniform.

EGYPT - PALESTINE - SYRIA - MILITARY.

Incoming mail via Alexandria redirected to Palestine and Syria.



Ilford.
10/1/19.

Military
(Alexandria)
21/1/19.

Alexandria.
27/1/19.

F.P.O.GM1.
Haifa,
Palesine.
31/1/19.



Pair 1d. incoming covers to Alexandria addressed to the 7th. Surrey Field Artillery with the E.E.F. Each censored by the Alexabdria 'Star in Circle' but showing the two sizes of the same strike. One is redirected to Heifa - Palestine and the other to Aleppo - Syria.

Scan of reverse.



Eltham S.E.9.
24/5/19.

Receiving.
Alexandria.
8/6/19.

Palestine - Military.

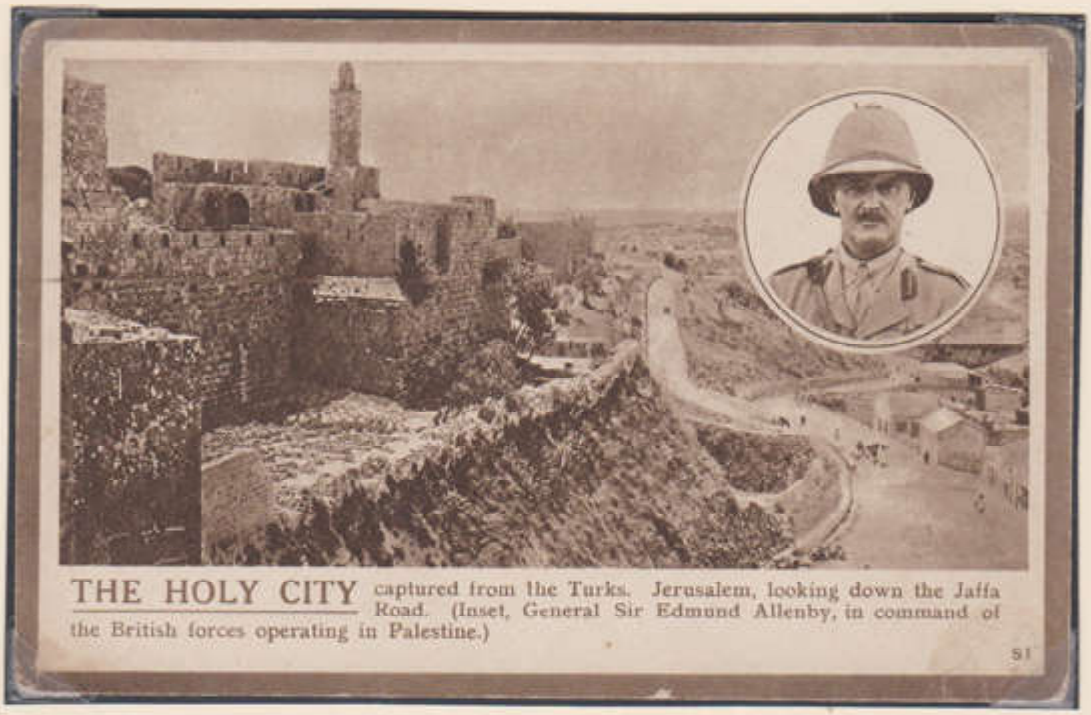
Cover from the advance into Palestine.



F.P.O. H 20.
12/4/18.
Jerusalem

P.B.C.
No. 942.
Palestine.

Censored O.A.S., Y.M.C.A. postage free cover from Jerusalem - Palestine addressed to Capt. Gatt of the Royal Malta Artillery in Alexandria Egypt and cancelled with the F.P.O. H20 cancellation of Jerusalem 12/4/18. The canceller was used in Jerusalem 3/1/18-18/9/18.



Post card of Jerusalem - The Holy City wit inset of General Allenby who commanded the British forces in Palestine. The city was entered during December 1917. The General entered on foot 11/12/17.

TURKEY - (SYRIA) - WW1.



Halep (Aleppo).
5/3/17 - (Syria).



Scan of reverse of cover.

1Piastre 10Paros stamps of Turkey on cover, passed through the civil post office to Hanover - Germany from the German Consulate in Aleppo in the Turkish Empire (Syria to be). Military mail would have been free.





25r. Stamp of King Feisel of Iraq
Issued during 1931.

Lt. Col. T.E. Lawrence and Emir Feisel in 1919.

Part of reproduction of a photograph taken in1919 in Scotland aboard H.M.S. Orion of Emir Feisel and T.E. Lawrence. The two had entered Damascus in September 1918. In 1920 Feisel was to become King of Syria only to be deposed by the British & French. He then became King Feisel of Iraq 23/8/21-1933.
Lt. Col. Lawrence had been with the Intelligence in Cairo and worked with the Arabs against the Turks he was to finish his military career as an airman on air sea rescue at R.A.F. Calshot south of Southampton.

PUNCH, OR THE LONDON CHARIVARI.—May 8, 1918.



THE JUNIOR PARTNER AGAIN.

Mehmed (*in Mesopotamia*). "WELL, I HOPE WILLIAM'S GETTING NEARER THE SEA, FOR I'M GETTING FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY FROM IT."

Sultan Mehmed V of Otterman Empire (23/4/09-3/7/18) in satirical cartoon from 'Punch'.

GERMAN INVOLVEMENT IN TURKEY WW1.

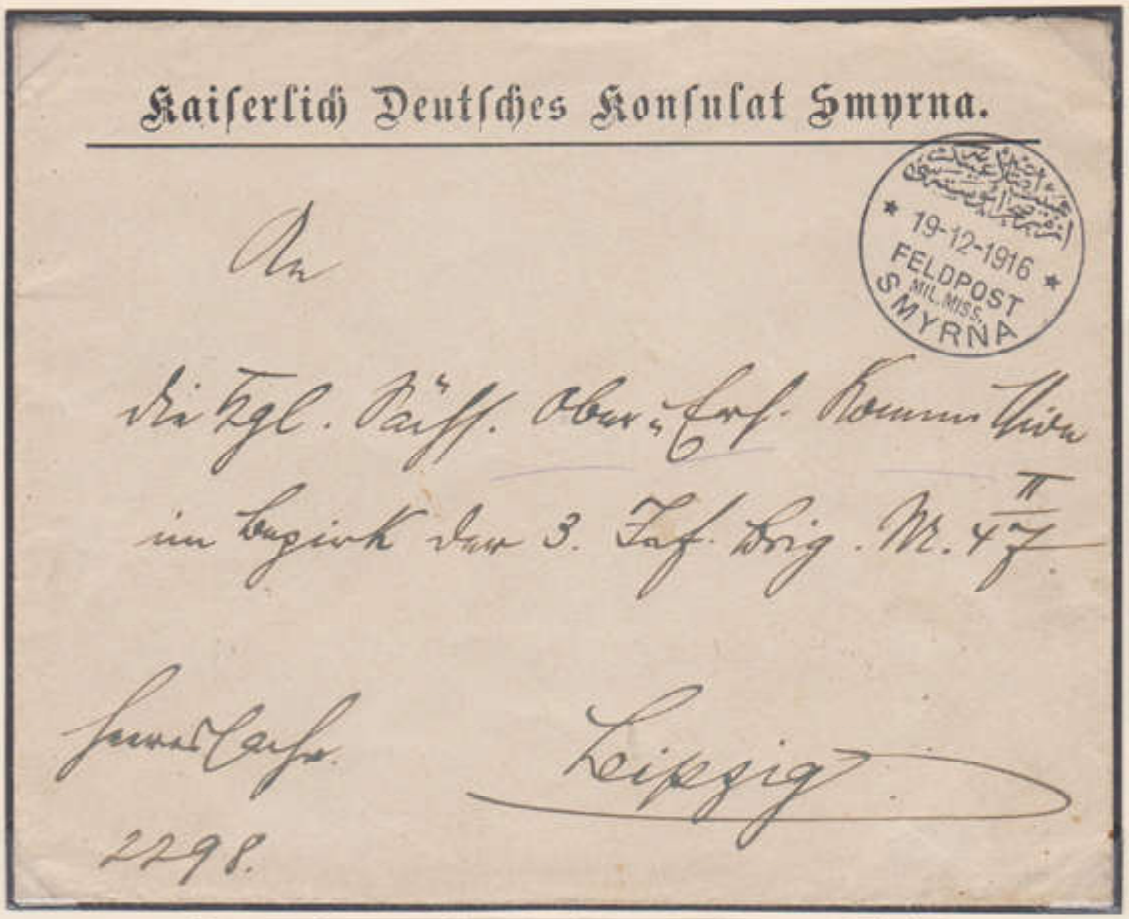


Wilhelm Leopold Colmar, Baron von der Goltz (1843-1916).

1 June 1883.
Became military advisor to Turkish army.

1914-16.
Served as commander in Chief of Turkish Forces.

1916.
Conducted the siege of the Anglo-Indian force under General Townsend in Kut.



Postage free cover from the 'feldpost' at Smyra to Leipzig.

Feldpost.
19/12/16.
Smyrna.



Wafer of the German Consulate at Smyra.

GERMAN TROOPS IN TURKEY.

Constantinople – 13/11/18.



Field Post cover from a German soldier sent to Germany two days after the armistice 13/11/18. The cachet is that of a 'Flugel-adjutant (Aide-de-Camp) u. Generalstabsoffizier (General Staff Officer) Sr.Maj. Des Sultans (To the Sultan)'.



Modern map of Turkey showing Constantinople (Now Istanbul).

OTTOMAN EMPIRE - MILITARY.

German military on Euphrates and Tigris.



Manuscript. 'Marine Post'.

Djerablus. Turkey (now Syria). 2/3/18.

Post free post card from a sailor with the German Euphrates Flotille at Djerablus in Turkey (now in Syria). The railway ended here and boats were offloaded onto the Euphrates No more than 200 german sailors would have been involved.



Unused post card with original photograph taken at Mossul (seen from Ninivah) on the Tigris in Mesopotamia showing a German soldier in the forground.

TURKEY - MILITARY.

German forces

1918.



Constantinople.
3/3/18.

German 'Feldpost' cover from Adana in Southern Turkey with overprinted Turkish stamps cancelled at Constantinople and addressed to Bad Harzburg, Lower Saxony, Germany.
Cachet on reverse indicates that it is from the German school at Adana (Asia Minor).
It is believed that there was a German radio station there and it was also on the intended Baghdad Railway route were British P.O.W. were being used to extend the railway through the Taurus Mountains.



German school cachet on reverse.

TURKEY - MILITARY.

Turkish military censorship - Damascus.



Damas.
3/10/17.

Censor's
cachet.

Turkish Ottoman military censored cover dated 3/10/17, cancelled with Damascus '3' postmark.
Military star & crescent cachet appled in black. The iscription in the star reads
'MUAYENE OLUNMUSTER' (It has been examined) and in the crescent
ASKERI SANSUR HEY'ETI (Damascus Military Censor Commission).
The scene on the 10 Paras stamp depicts a Turkish soldier leaving his family.

TURKEY (MESOPOTAMIA) 1914.

Turkish pre-war cover to Isfahan - Persia.

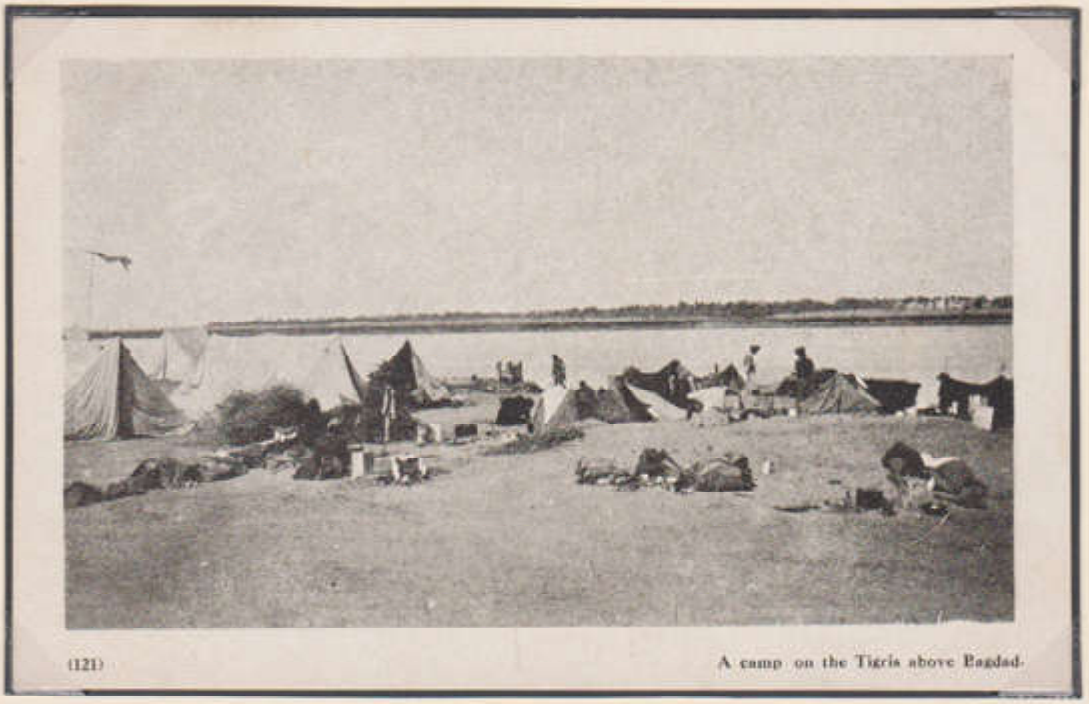


Kerbela.
Turkey.
?/4/14.

Kirmanchah.
Persia.
(Arrival).
15/4/14.

Isfahan.
Persia.
21/4/14.

cover from Kerbela (Karbela) on Euphrates river opposite Babylon in Mesopotamia (now Iraq). Rated 2 piastre and addressed to Isfahan in Persia (now Iran).



Post card depicting Bedouin camp on Tigris River in Mesopotamia.

GERMAN NAVY WITH TURKISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.



Photographic post card depicting,
S.S. Goeben entering the Black Sea through the Bosphorus 1914.



MarineSchiefspost.
No19.
12/10/18.

Marine
Schiefspost.
No19.
28/9/18.

Two cards from the German Ship S.S. Goeban renamed 'Lavous Sultan Selim I'.
Cancelled by German Schiefspost Marine canceller number '19'.

GERMAN NAVY WITH THE TURKISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

S.M.S. Goeben in Constantinople.



MSP No. 29.
4/1/15.
(S.M.S. Goeben).

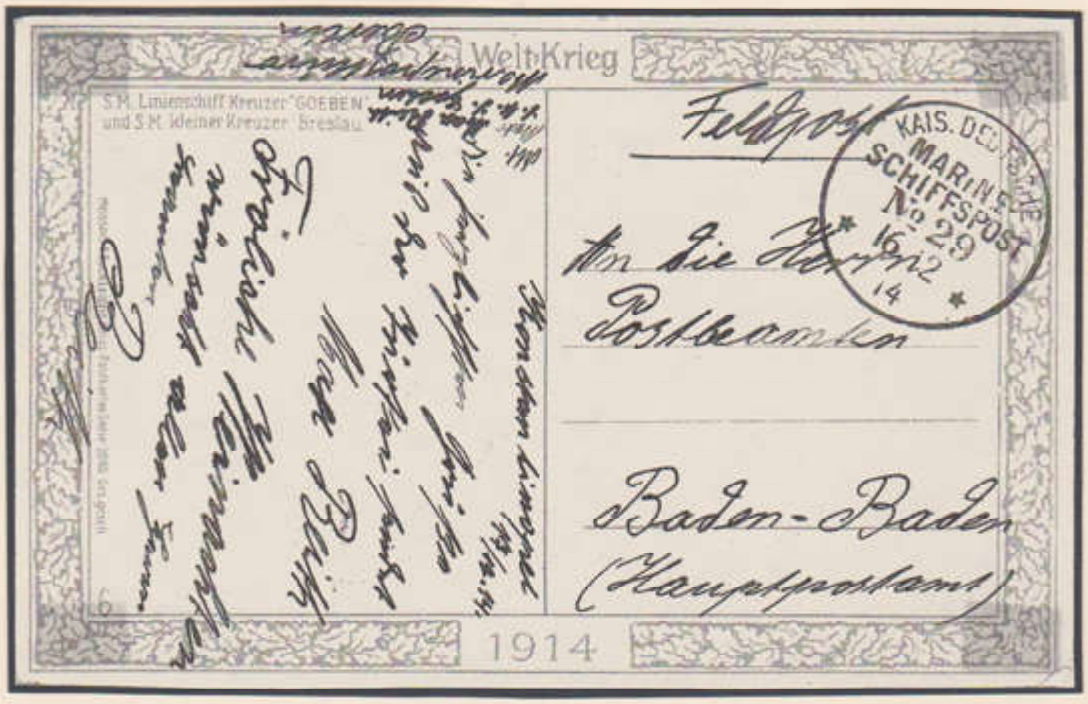
Postage free, post card from S.M.S. Goeben From Constantinople to Hannover-Germany.



Scan of reverse. showing three sailors (Matrosen) with hatbands of 'S.M.S. Goeben'.

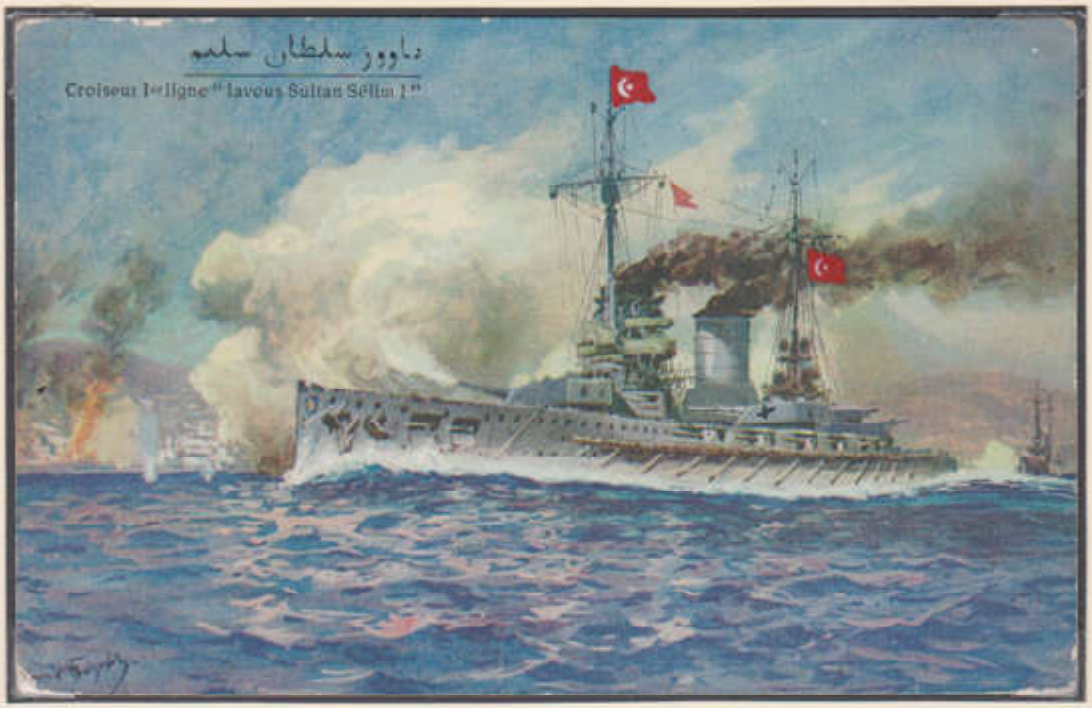
GERMAN NAVY WITH THE TURKISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

Feldpost card from S.M.S Goeben re-named Lavous Sultan Selim 1.



MSP No, 29.
16/12/14.
(S.M.S. Goeben)
re-named.

Scan of lower card being postage free 'feldpost from S.M.S. Goeben at Constantinople.



Turkish post card showing 'Lavous Sultan Selim 1' being the former S.M.S. Goeben.

On 29/10/14 The Goeben and the Breslau both German ships while flying Turkish Colours bombarded the russian port of Sevastopol thus bringing Turkey into the war.

GERMAN NAVY WITH THE TURKISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

Photographic aspects.



The crew of SMS Goeben
taken with the German Battle flag.



SMS Goeben with SMS Breslau
along side during the visit of
Field Marshall Mackensen
with a Turkish admiral.

The two ships
had made the run from the
Mediterranean to join the
Turkish Navy
at the beginning of the war.

Note: sailors wearing the Turkish Fez



The crew of SMS Goeben

GERMAN NAVY WITH THE TURKISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

Photographic aspects.



The German East African Line steamer (Dampfer) 'General'.



The German East African Line steamer (Dampfer) 'General'.

The German East African Line steamer (Dampfer) 'General' was in the Mediterranean Sea when war broke out, by prearranged orders she made for the Turkish port of Constantinople where she joined the Turkish fleet. Among her duties was that of F.P.O. for the German troops. When she made the run she just happened to be carrying military supplies including sea mines which presumably were the mines to be laid in the Dardanelles.

GERMAN NAVY WITH TURKISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.



MSP No. 14.
Dampfer 'General'
16/6/16.

Post card showing the '***Torghoud-Reiss***' of the Turkish Navy in Constantinople used in the same manner as the above post card. The ship, formally the SMS '***Weissenburg***' was purchased from Germany in 1909.



MSP No. 14.
Dampfer 'General'.
2/11/15.



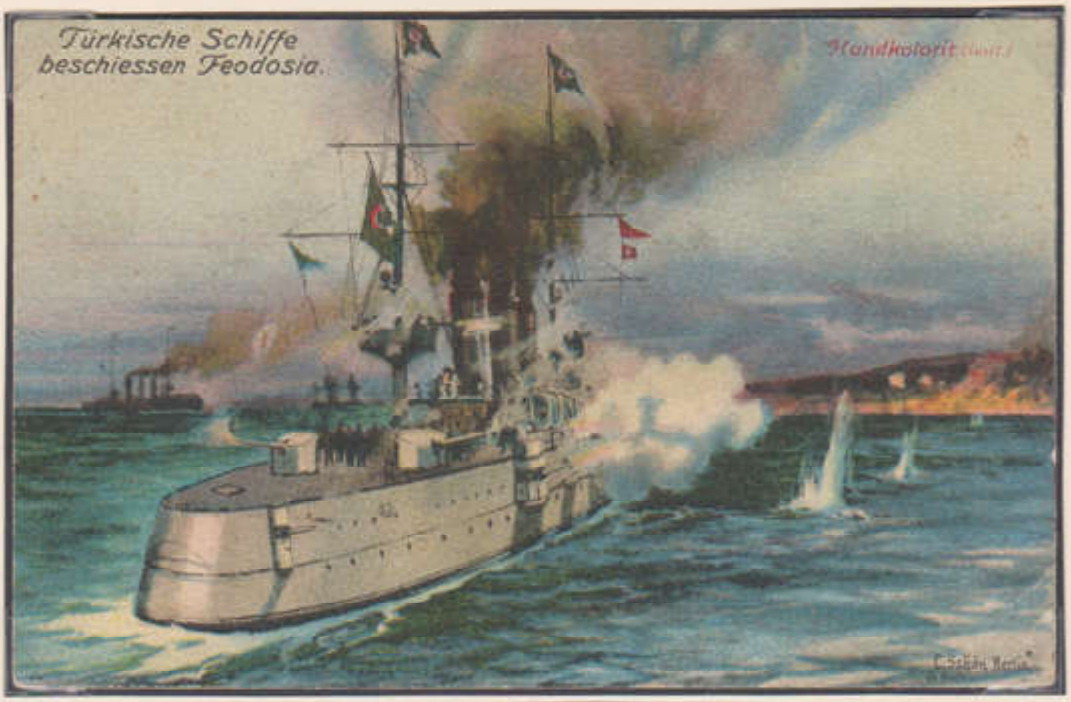
Post card showing the 'Torghoud-Reiss' of the Turkish Navy in Constantinople used in the same manner as the above post card. The ship had been the bought off Germany in 1909 (formally SMS 'Weissenburg).

At the outbreak of war in August 1914 the German Battle Cruiser '***Goeben***' (renamed ***Yuvuz Sultan Selim***) and the Light Cruiser '***Breslau***' (renamed ***Madilli***) were part of the German Mediterranean Fleet, they evaded the British Fleet by going to Constantinople where they flew the Turkish Flag but retained captains and crews. During this period they fought the Russians thus bringing Turkey openly into WW1 (previously there had been a secret agreement) on the side of the Central Powers. The Steamer (dampfer) '***General***' was part of the Ost-Afrika Linie, when war broke out she was also in the Mediterranean and sailed for Turkish waters serving with the Turkish Navy throughout the war, retaining her German crew.

GERMAN NAVY WITH TURKISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.



Photographic post card depicting the shelling of Odessa – Russia by Turkish/German torpedo boats.



Post card depicting the shelling of Feodosia-Crimea-Russia by one of the German ships transferred to the Turkish Navy 29/10/14.
This ship has 3 funnels, Goeban had 2, Breslau had 4.

GERMAN SHIPPING IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (DARDANELLES).

German U-Boat fleet and Dampher (Steam Ship) 'General'.



Zurich, Switzerland. 8/11/15.

Cover from Switzerland addressed to a German officer of the German U-boat fleet in the Bosphorus (Dardanelles) in Eastern Mediterranean, addressed via Berlin.



Post card of the German steamship 'General' which was caught in the Eastern Mediterranean at the beginning of the war and managed to take sanctuary in the Black sea. It just happened to be carrying mines which were used to mine the Dardanelles and the Sea of Marmara.

RUMANIA - WORLD WAR I.

German Maritime Department Pass for the Rumanian port of Konstantza (Constanta) on the Black Sea.



Gültig nur für den Juli 1917

July 1917.

Marineabteilung
Konstanza.

Tages-
~~Dauer~~ Ausweis.

Leutenant Gutschar

ist berechtigt, das Hafengebiet jederzeit zu verlassen und zu betreten.

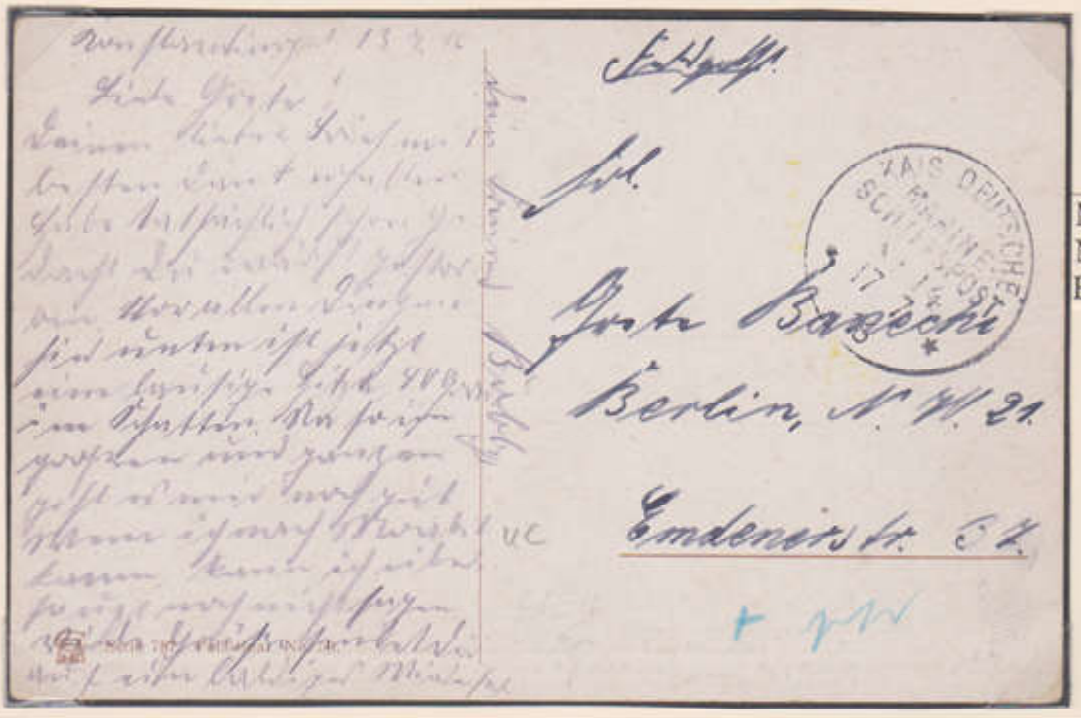
Konstanza, den 8. Juli 1917.

K.u.K. KAISERL. MARINE

D.E.V.D. 192

Kapitlnt. u. Hafenkapitän.

Pass for a Leutenant Gutichar to enter and leave the Port of Konstantza valid for the month of July 1917 and dated 8/7/17.
Signed by the Harbour Master and with his cachet applied in green.



Marine Schiffspost
No. 14 – 17/7/1916
Black Sea.

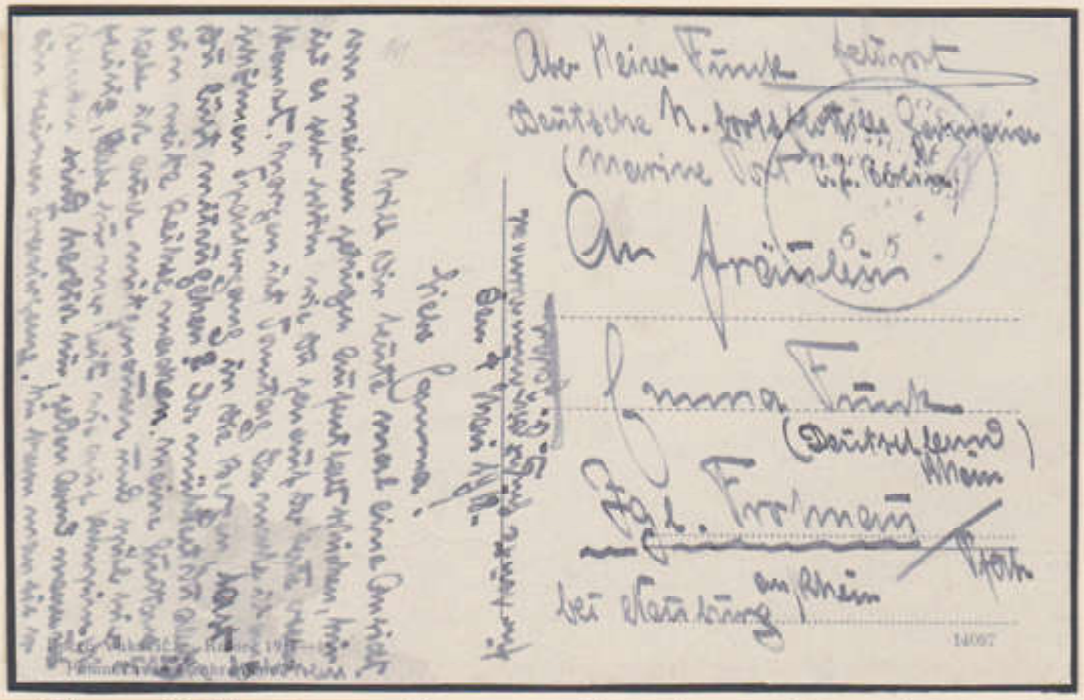
Postage free post card from the German ship 'General' which was in the Black Sea at this time.
The 'Marine 'Schiffspost' No.14 cancellation dated 17/7/1916 ties it to the ship and the Black Sea.

MONTE NEGRO - MILITARY.

German Navy - Submarines.



German 'Feldpost' post card depicting Cattaro - Monte Negro.



Scan of German 'Feldpost', postage free post card from the port of Cattaro in Monte Negro to Frohnau in Germany. Cancelled by unclear strike of No.64 - Medditeranean U Boat Flotilla. From the head stoker of the U Boat Flottila 'Germania'.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Relief column for the relief of the siege of Kut-Al-Amara on River Tigris - Mesopotamia 7/12/15-29/4/16.



Censor's cachet.
Indian 'D' Force



Indian F.P.O. 32 - 31/12/15.
Plus receiving strike for Montroux Switzerland dated 10/12/16.

Postage free, censored O.A.S. cover from a paddle boat on River Tigris censored by Indian 'D' Force censor. To Switzerland. Cancellation on reverse is Indian F.P.O. 32 31/12/15 which must have been on the boat as the last entry on the enclosed diary is 30/12/15. The recipitant appears to be the wife of the sender, no other letter apart from the diary was found. The black writing on left is from the later filing system for the proposed diary.



Tuck post card depicting one of the paddle river boats on the River Tigris brought from the River Irrawaddy - Burma to transport British and Indian soldiers up the River Tigris to try and relieve the siege of the British Army at Kut-Al-Amara. The boat has a barge strapped to both sides to allow cramped accommodation for extra troops as described in the enclosed diary.

The army at Kut (100 miles south of Baghdad) under General Townsend (8,000 men) was besieged 7/12/15-29/4/16 when it surrendered with 13,000 British and Indian troops. The first relief column of 19,000 men under General Aylmer proceeded up the Tigris from Basra on 25/12/15. The Historical advance (The Tigris Corps) began at Ali Gharbi 7/1/16 with the first battle at Sheik Sa'ad under Maj' Gen' Younghusband being fought between 6-8/1/16. The British involved 31,000 troops and the Turks under the German Baron van Goltz (died 19/4/16) had between 31,000-41,000. The British losing 30,000 dead or wounded with 13,000 taken P.O.W.

25.12.15. After all, I am spending up today. So like last year, but in different circumstances, I shall be scribbling in Journal day.

26.12.15. Embarked on board a river boat. These boats which are paddle steamers have been brought all the way from the Mediterranean for the transport of troops up the Tigris & Euphrates. Two barges are lashed along each side, in this way a considerable number of troops can be taken up in one trip.

We are crammed full. I have got quite a comfortable corner of the deck, where I have placed my camp-bed, where I live, sleep & eat, like everyone else. The journey on which I am bound is supposed to take 4 days, but I may have to get out half way, & do the rest by route march. I hope not the latter, as my pony is following by another boat – 2 days in arrears – there being no accommodation for animals (except the ship's boat) on this ship.

Contents of the cover from F.P.O. 32.
Five days from his proposed Diary 25/12/15-29/12/15.



The tomb of Ezra
by British war artist Donald Maxwell - 1918.

The tomb of Ezra is mentioned in the diary with other spots allowing the progress of the Boat to be recorded day by day.

Transcript of diary/letter postmarked 31/12/15.

25/12/15.
After all, I am moving up today, so like last year but in different circumstances, I shall be trekking on Xmas day.

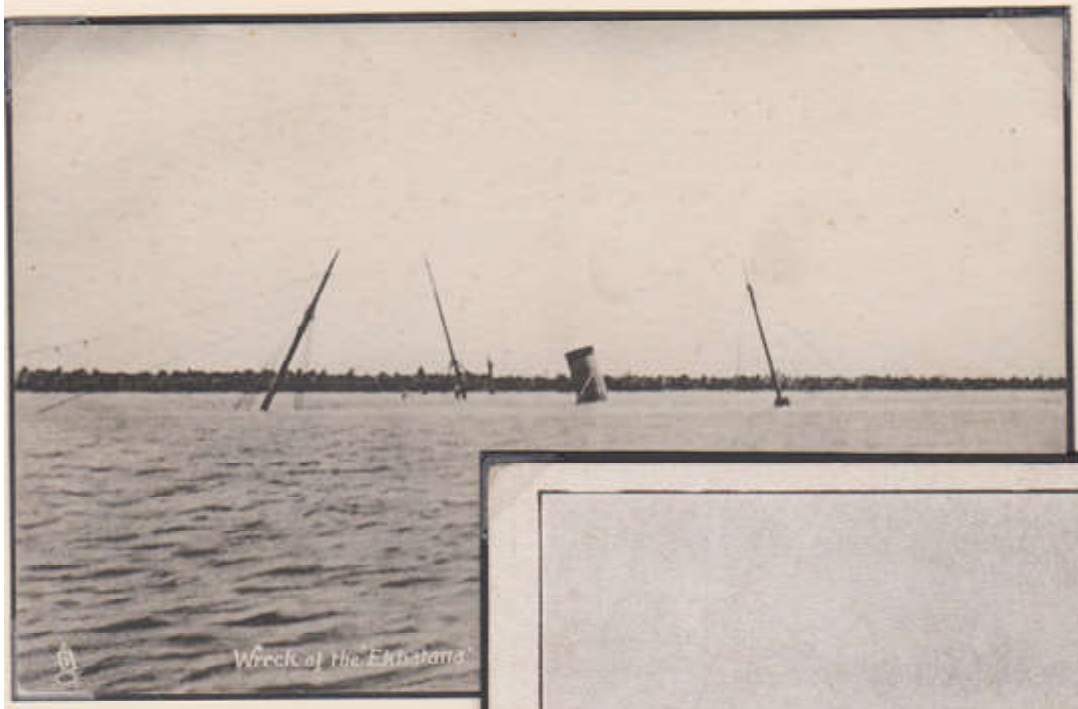
26/12/15.
Embarked on board a river boat, These boats which are paddle steamers have been brought all the way from the Irrawaddy for the transport of 'A' Corps up the Tigris and the Euphrates. Two barges are lashed along each side. In this way a large number of troops can be taken up in one trip.
We are crammed full. I have got quite a comfortable corner of the deck, where I have placed my camp-bed, where I live sleep and eat, like everyone else. The journey on which I am bound is supposed to take 4 days, but I may have to get out halfway, & do the rest by route march. I hope not the latter as my pony is following by another boat -2 days in arrears - there being no acom-modation for animals (except the ship's goat) on the ship.
A rather serious accident occurred whilst the troops were transferring on to this boat from the ocean - going steamer which brought them. Seven men and an officer were coming down the companion ladder at the side of the ship when and all were pre-cipitated into the water between the 2 ships.
All but one were rescued - an unfortunate recruit who had a belt-full of ammunition. The others escaped by hanging onto the end of the broken ladder which was still suspended by it's ropes, & by being pulled in from the paddle boat platform (sic).
We did not get off until after dark & I partook of my Xmas dinner of bully beef and plum pudding with which I had been presented before leaving our mess at the base turned out to be mouldy (sic).The country along the route is a sandy plain with scattered blades of grass sticking up at intervals. Villages are passed every two or three miles, these are made of reeds bent over to form arcs - and covered over with reed matting - looking like miniature air-ship sheds.
Some villages have a mud tower - also a rather miniature court.....? on, so that the man standing on the ramparts reminds one of the Egyptian & Indian pictures, where the archer is depicted out of all proportion to the tower that he is shooting from.
In the early morning we passed Kurnah (now called Al Qurnah) where the Tigris & Euphrates meet. The country between the two rivers is mostly marsh - land. It would appear that the chief industry is sparsely populated district is mat making - though I believe a certain amount of wheat is grown. It is hard to believe that his is the fertile valley of two rivers mentioned in the scriptures. Then it was served with canals of which only the traces remain, the Arabs having allowed them to fall away and fill up.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Early military action in Mesopotamia.



Post card depicting H.M.S. Espiegle at Shat-el-Arab Mesopotamia.



Wreck of the Ekbatana
at Shalt-el-Arab.
Four ships were sunk
in this region by the Turks
in an attempt to block the
passage of the invading
British ships heading for Basra.

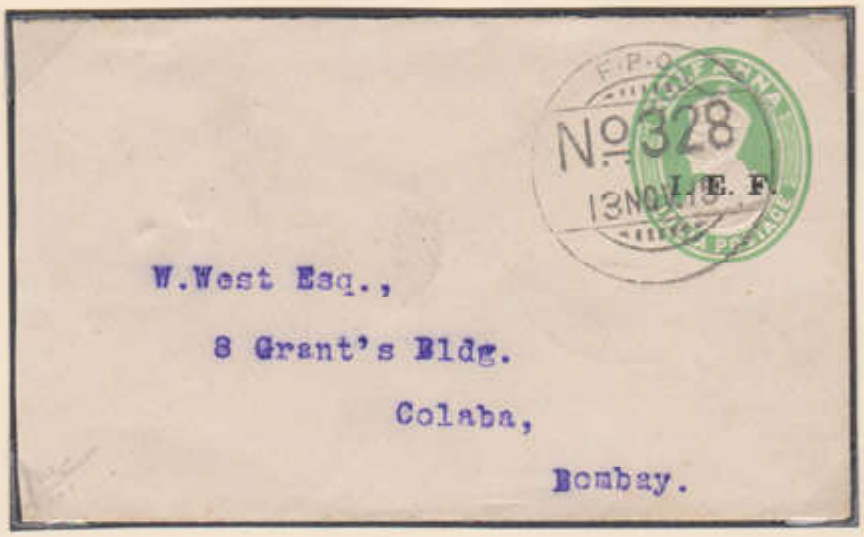
(Shat-el-Arab also spelt
Shalt-el-Arab).



Post card depicting Kurna (Kurnah) at the confluence of the Tigris and the Euphrates - Mesopotamia.
The title states before it surrendered 8/12/14.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) – MILITARY.
Indian Forces in Ctesiphon Area.

Indian F.P.O. 28 (Mesopotamia). 21/11/1915.



Half Anna Indian Postal Stationary envelope overprinted I.E.F. (Indian Expeditionary Force).
With 6x ½a. Stamps on reverse. The cover is from a British Officer, addressed to Colaba-Bombay.



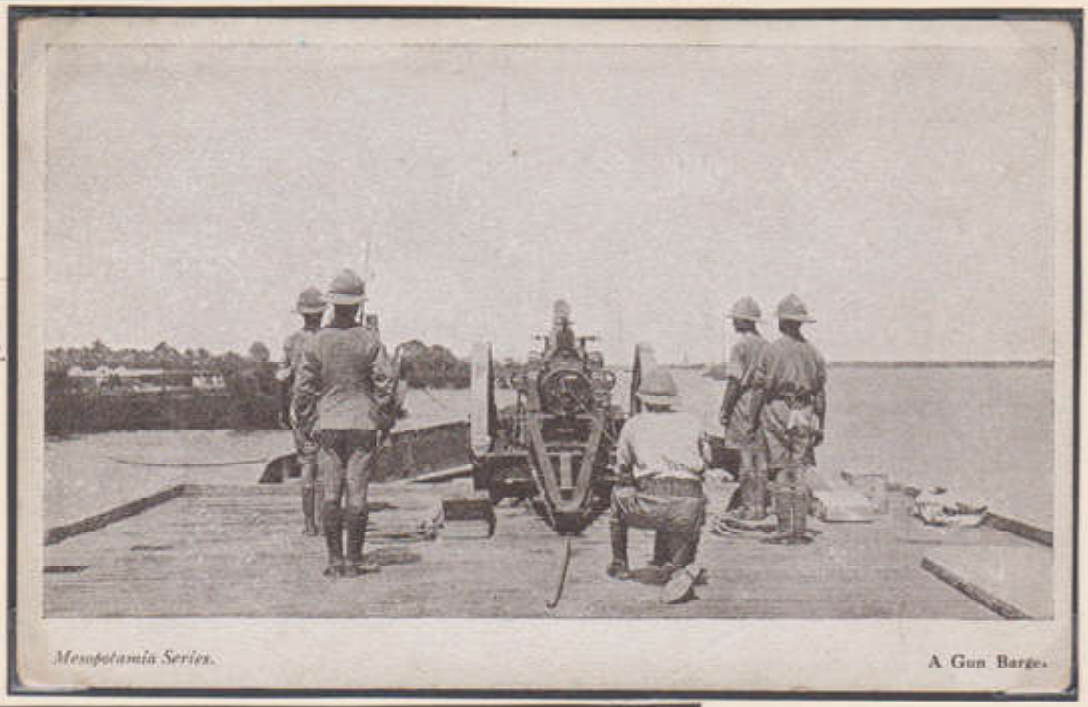
Scan of reverse.

Historical. During November 1915 6th Poona & 12th Indian divisions were in Mesopotamia.
The cover was sent just before the retreat from Ctesiphon to Kut-el-Amara 25/11 – 3'12/1915.
Kut-el-Amara surrendered 29/4/1916.

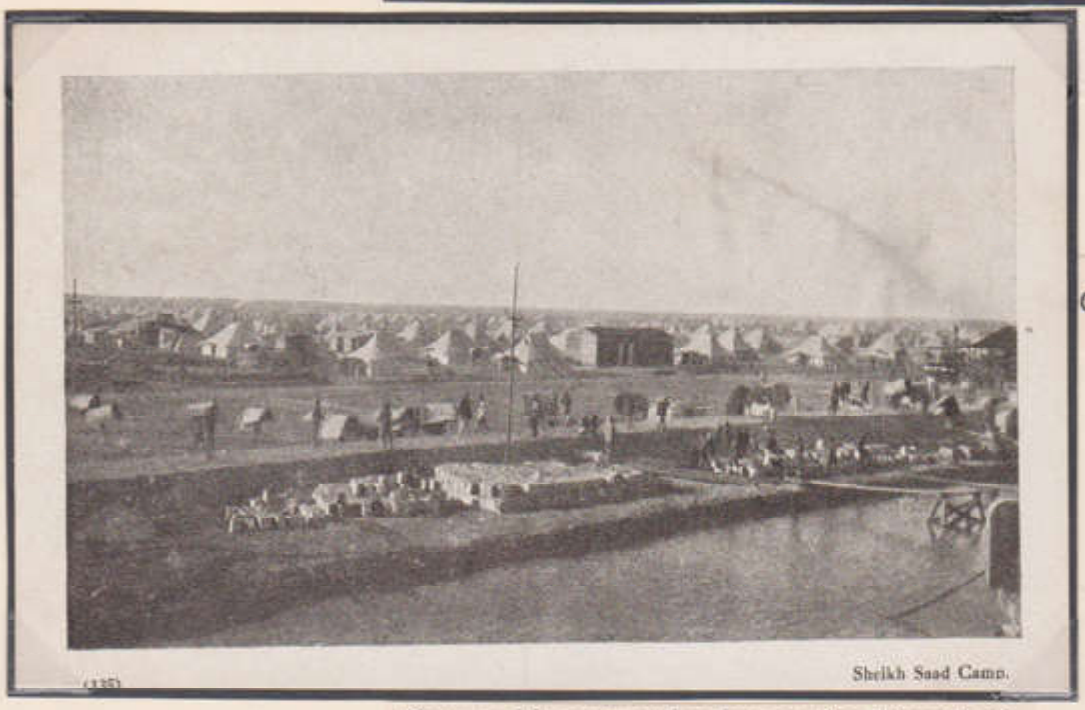
MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.



Troops boarding
river steamer at Basrah.



Gun barge
Artillary usually placed on front of a
monitor because of shallow draught.

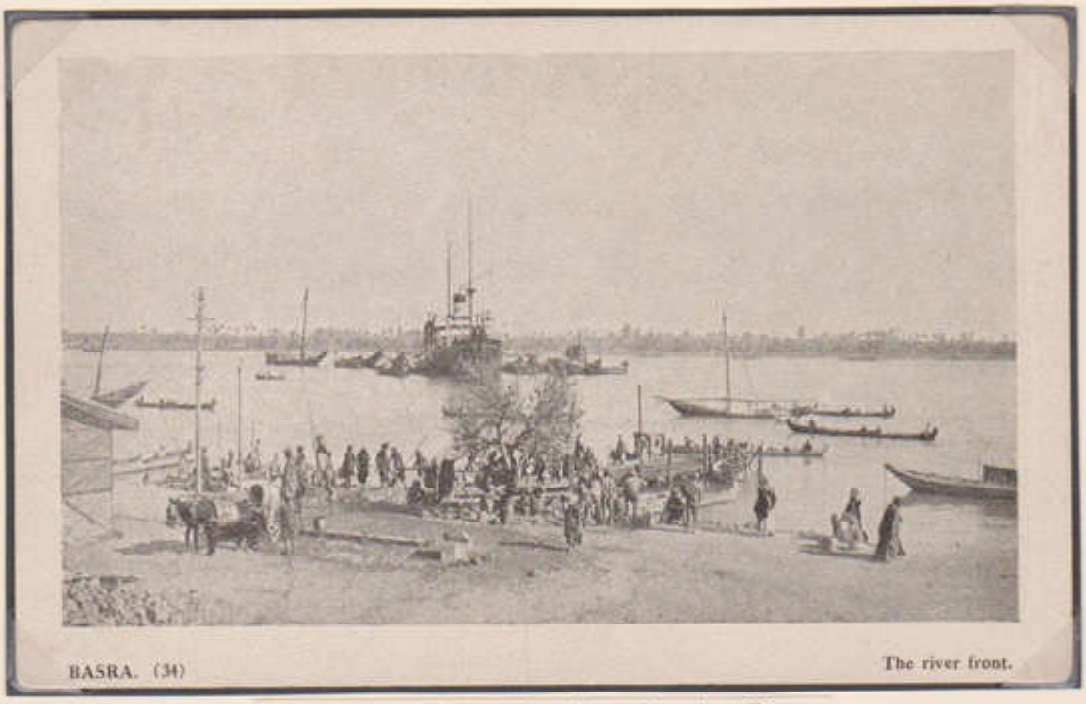


Sheikh Saad Camp.
On banks of Tigris. Scene of the battl
6-10/1/16 to releive Kut.

Photographic post cards taken on the River Tigris.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

WW1 post cards.



Post card depicting 'the river front' at Basra.

Armoured cars crossing the Diala River in Mesopotamia.





An advanced Prisoners Compound in Mesopotamia.

Patriotic post cards from Mesopotamia endorsed 'Presented by the Women of Bombay Presidency'.

MESOPOTAMIA - MILITARY.



Official photograph of the dockyard at Basra on the River Tigris during the war in Mesopotamia.
Barges and river paddle (transport boats) are being repaired.
This dockyard would have come under the Royal Navy.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.



Redirected censored cover from Mesopotamia.

Redirection, Amersham 6/4/16.



Scan of reverse strike. BASE OFFICE 'F'. Basra. 9/3/16.

Passed 'D' censor in magenta.



Redirected censored cover from Mesopotamia.

redirection, London 23/6/16.

Passed 'D' censor in violet.

Reverse, Base Office F. 13/5/16

This pair of covers were from the period when General Lake was attempting to relieve General Townsend at the siege of Kut. All operations failed and General Townsend surrendered with 13,164 soldiers on 29/4/16.

MESOPOTAMIA – MILITARY.

Relief column for the relief of Kut-el-Amara

Reverse strikes.
Indian 'I.E.F. Base Office 5' 2?/5/16
Cairo – receiving strike -14/6/16.



Censored, postage free, field service cover from the Indian 12th Cavalry who at the time were part of the relief column who had been trying to relieve General Townsend at Kut-el-Amara (Seige of Kut 7/12/15 -29/4/16).





Internet images of the Indian 12th cavalry.

The Times

HISTORY AND ENCYCLOPÆDIA OF THE WAR



MAJ.-GEN. SIR C. TOWNSHEND, K.C.B.

PART 123
VOL. 10, DEC. 26, 1916.

The Advance Towards Baghdad.

PRICE NET 8D
PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Printed and Published by The Times Publishing Company, Limited, Printing-house-square, London, E.C. All rights reserved.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.





Reverse strike.
Indian F.P.O. 85.
Baghdad.
12/10/17.

Censored, post free O.A.S. cover addressed to France with Indian F.P.O. 85 of Baghdad on reverse. Contents indicate that the writer may have been a civilian involved with the Y.M.C.A. He indicates that he has just opened a branch in Baghdad 'mainly for Indians'.



Post card depicting the 'Convalescent Camp' at Mohammerah on the Shat el'Arab in southern Mesopotamia.

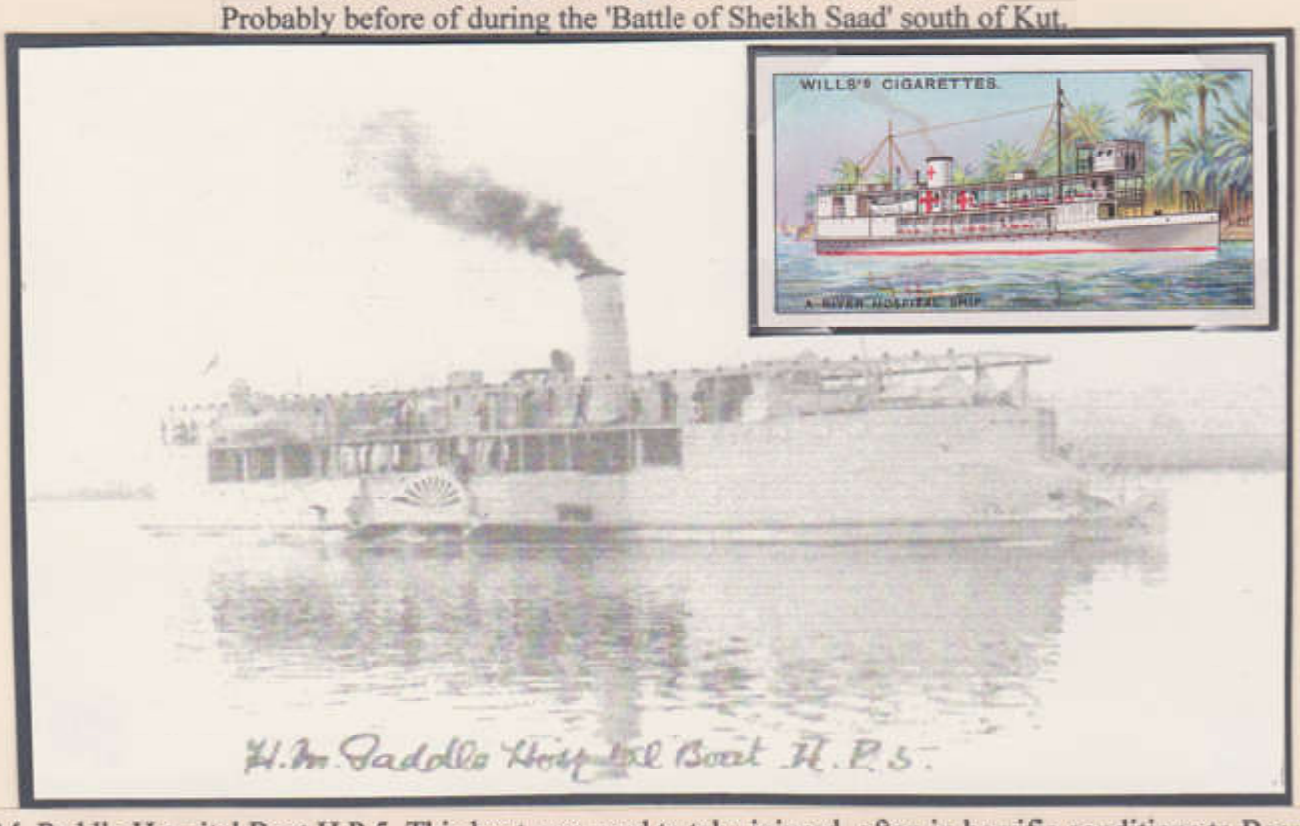
MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.



Original photograph of artillery on the banks of the River Tigris in Mesopotamia.



Post card depicting Artillery encamped in a date palms.
Probably before of during the 'Battle of Sheikh Saad' south of Kut.



H.M. Paddle Hospital Boat H.P.5. This boat was used to take injured, often in horrific conditions to Basrah.



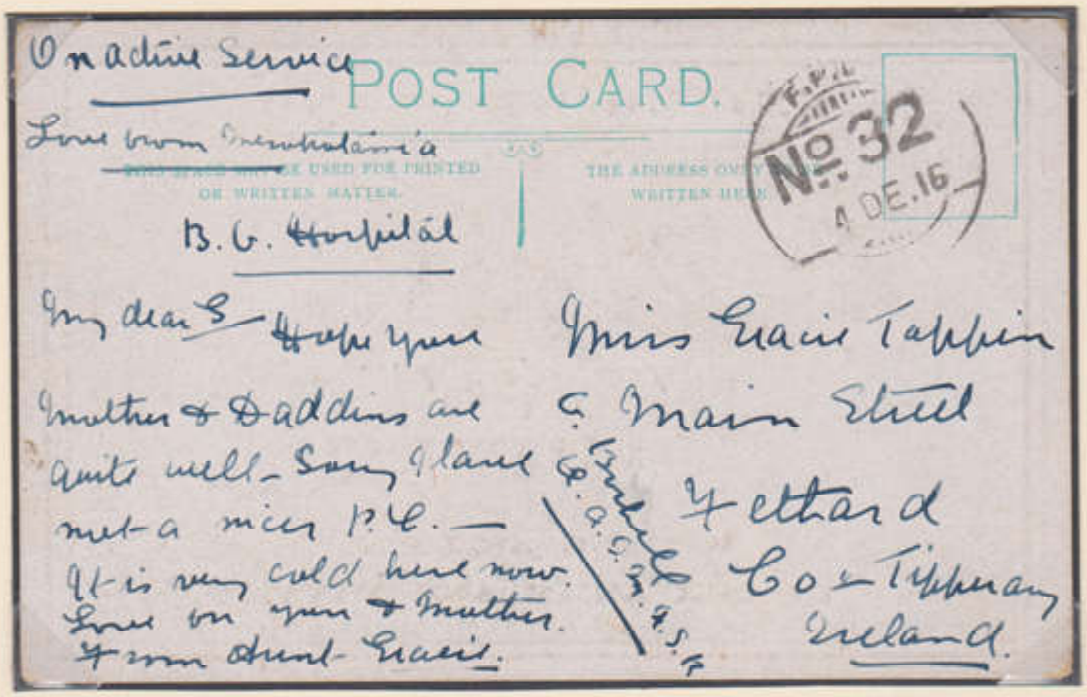
EN MÉSOPOTAMIE

Cavalerie britannique assaillie par le « Sam » ou tempête du désert

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) – MILITARY.

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Corps (Q.A.R.A.N.C.) Nurses serving in Basra Hospital.

Indian F.P.O. 32 (Basra), 4/12/16.



On Active Service Post Card from a Nurse Burchill? (Name & lettering undecipherable) of the Q.A.R.A.N.C at British Garrison (B.G.) Hospital in Basra. (F.P.O. 32 - Basra April 1915-1919).



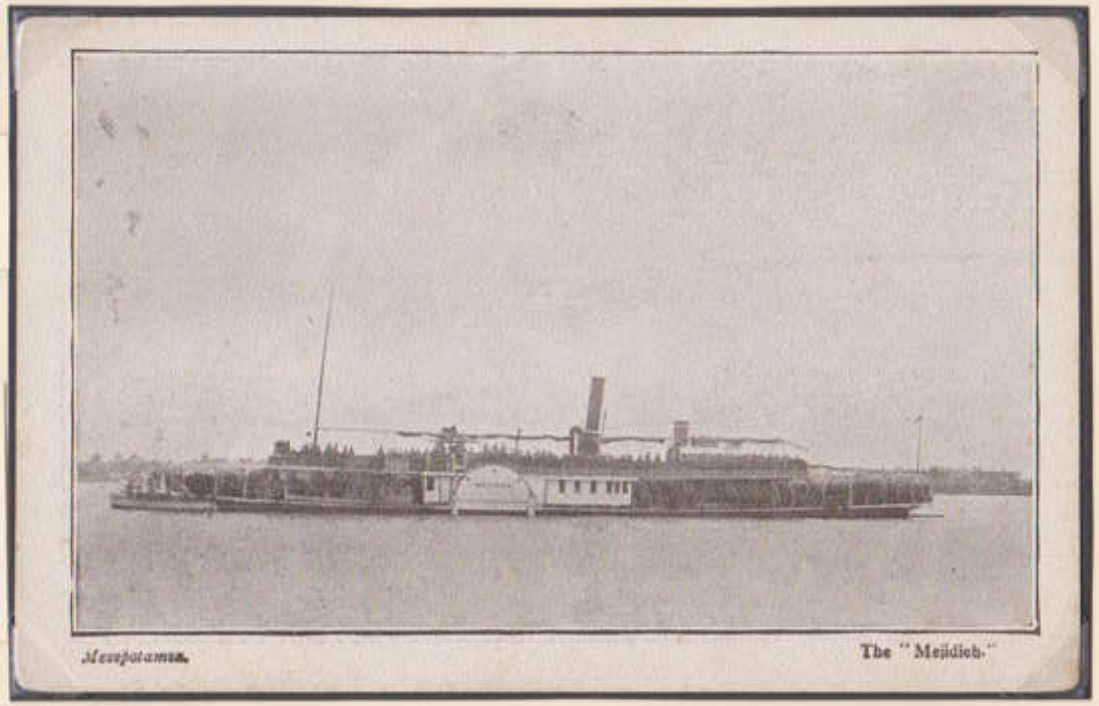




Scans of reverse of above post card, Basra Military Hospital and a group of nurses from that hospital. Both of the photographs are from the Internet, the last being from the Ethel Smithies (which one she is is unknown) collection taken while serving at Basra during W.W.1.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) – MILITARY.

Post Card depicting
the River Boat 'Mejidieh'.





Magazine cutting depicting the 'Mejidieh', with troop barge tied up alongside. Because of the lack of damage to the town it is assumed that this was before the surrender of Kut and its garrison of 10,000 by Maj. Gen. Townsend 29/4/16,

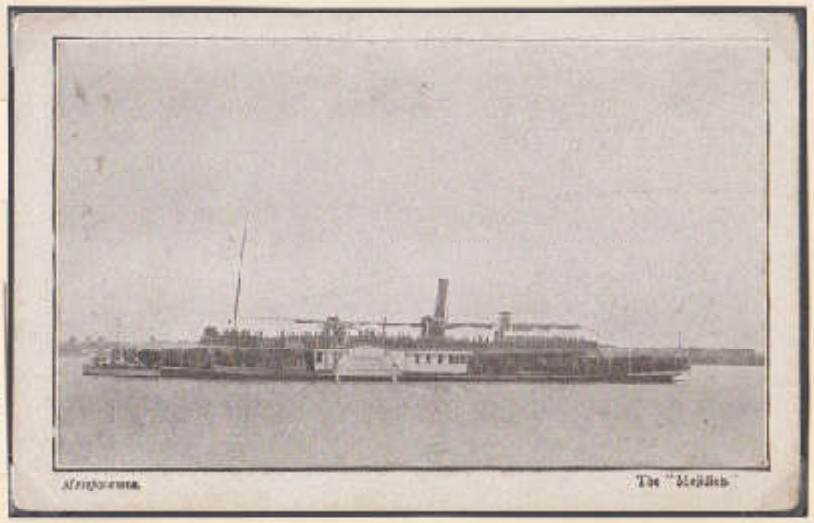


The village of Kut-el-Amara.

See Next

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) – MILITARY.

Post Card depicting the River Boat 'Mejidieh'.



Magazine cutting depicting the 'Mejidieh', with troop barge tied up alongside. Because of the lack of damage to the town it is assumed that this was before the surrender of Kut and its garrison of 10,000 by Maj. Gen. Townsend 29/4/16.





Kut-el-Amara in Mesopotamia, riconquistata dagli inglesi.

The village of Kut-el-Amara.

Rotated and Reduced
See Previous

The Times

HISTORY AND ENCYCLOPÆDIA OF THE WAR



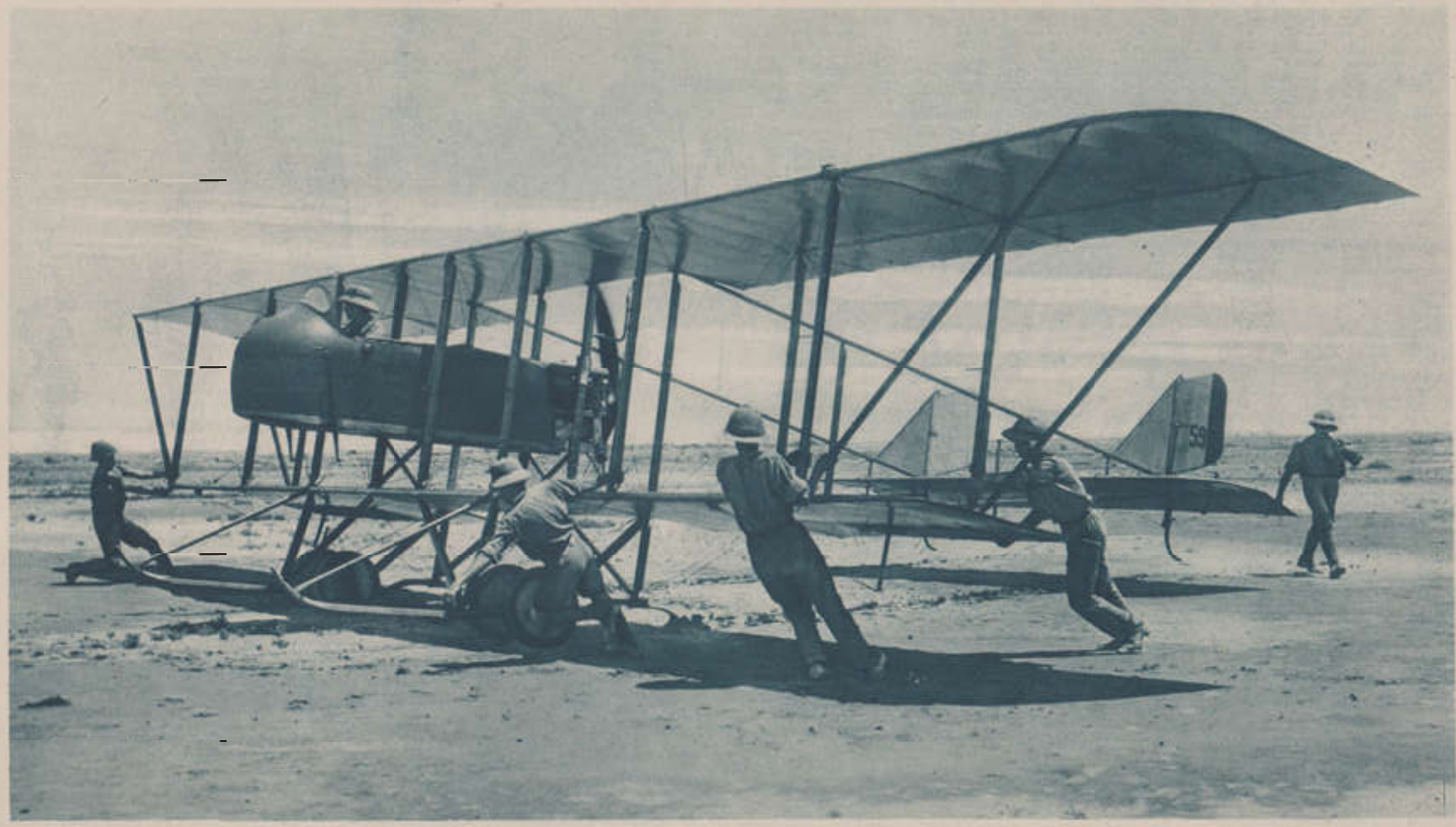
Lieut.-General Sir STANLEY MAUDE, K.C.B.,
COMMANDING IN MESOPOTAMIA.

PART 164
VOL. 13. OCT. 9, 1917.

The Capture of Baghdad.

PRICE NET 8D
PUBLISHED WEEKLY

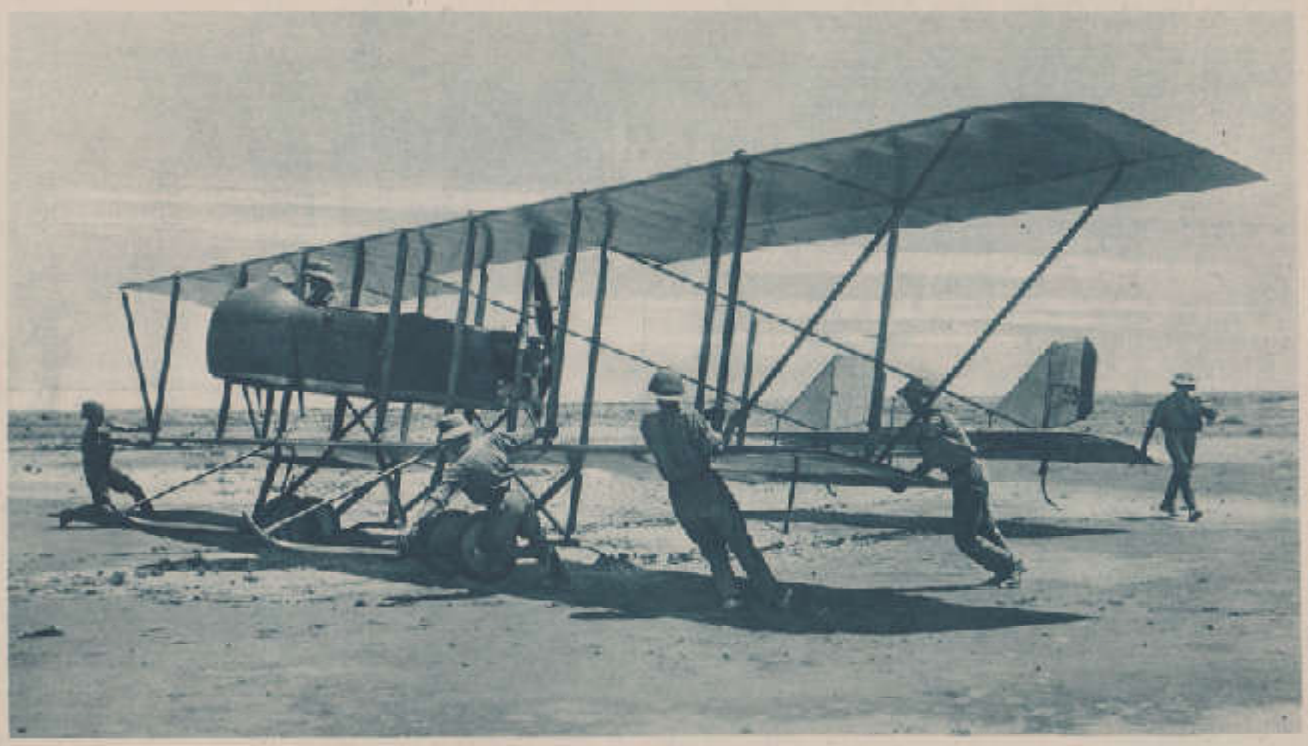
Printed and Published by The Times Publishing Company, Limited, Printing-house-square, London, E.C. All rights reserved.



WITH THE "R.F.C." IN MESOPOTAMIA: "TAXI"-ING BACK TO THE HANGAR THROUGH THE SOFT DESERT SAND.

The general public at home have yet to be informed in detail as to the doings of the detachment of Royal Flying Corps which has been—and is—on service with the British Expeditionary Force in Mesopotamia. The officers and men of the Corps have, however, distinguished themselves for their excellent and highly valuable work, particularly in reconnaissance, just as their comrades on other fronts have done. They have been specially commended at various times by General Nixon in his despatches, not only for the "accurate information" they provided him with day after day throughout his advance up country from the Persian Gulf, but also for their "intrepidity and devotion to duty" under fire on other occasions. During the siege of General Townshend's force in Kut a certain quantity of provisions

(Continued opposite.



WITH THE "R.F.C." IN MESOPOTAMIA: "TAXI"-ING BACK TO THE HANGAR THROUGH THE SOFT DESERT SAND.

The general public at home have yet to be informed in detail as to the doings of the detachment of Royal Flying Corps which has been—and is—on service with the British Expeditionary Force in Mesopotamia. The officers and men of the Corps have, however, distinguished themselves for their excellent and highly valuable work, particularly in reconnaissance, but as their comrades on other fronts have done. They have been specially commended at various times by General Maude in his despatches, not only for the "accurate information" they provided him with day after day throughout his advance up country from the Persian Gulf, but also for their "intrepidity and devotion to duty" under fire on other occasions. During the siege of General Townshend's force in Kut a certain quantity of provisions

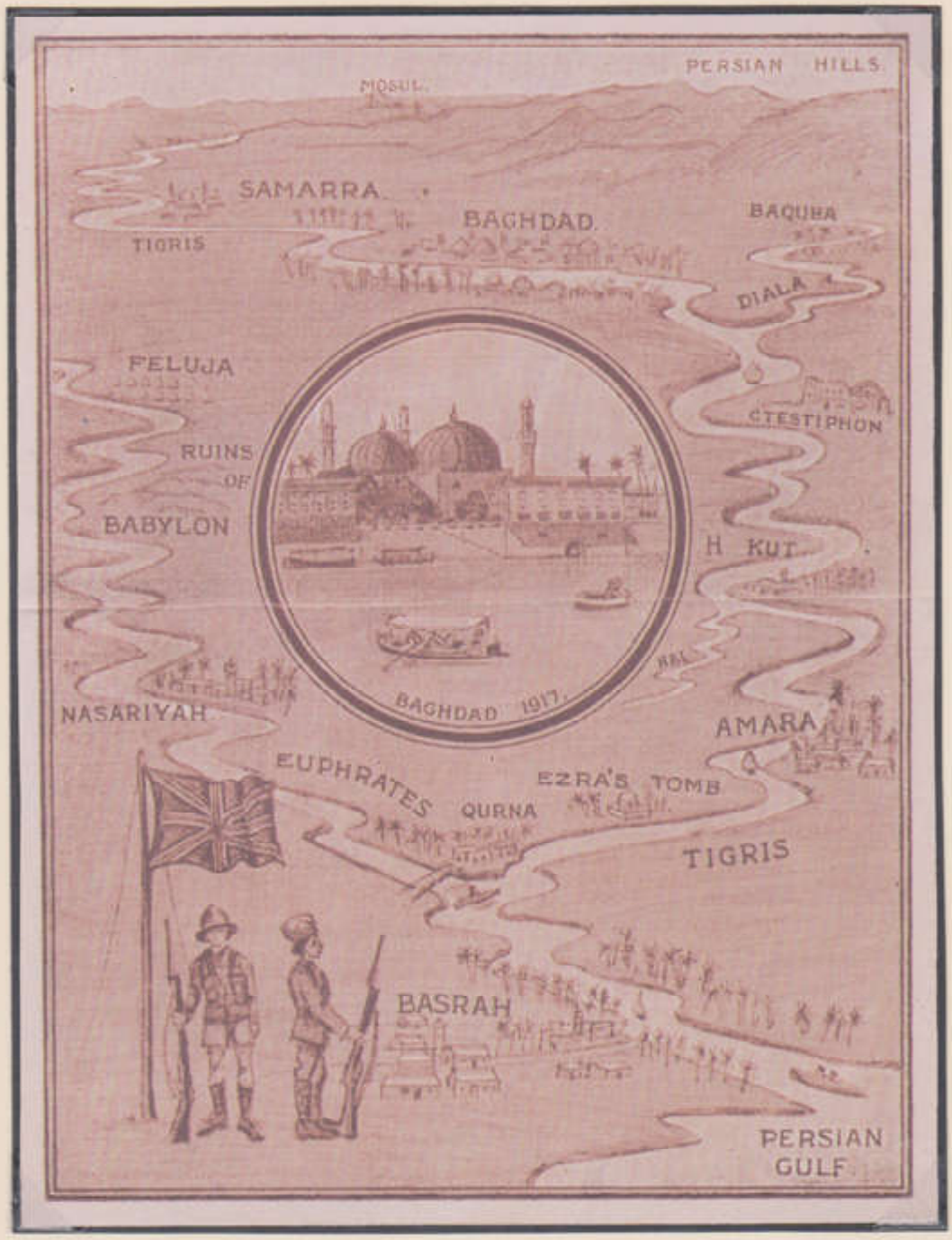
(Continued opposite.)

Reduced and Rotated
See Previous



1917-18 Season's Greetings card from Mespotamia.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.



Scan of center of 1917/18 Christmas/New Year card showing an aerial view of Iraq.
The main battle areas are Basrah, Kut, Ctestiphon, Baghdad and Mosel all on the River Tigris.



O.A.S. (postage free) Cover to India with censor's cachet 'D' of the Indian Expeditionary Force.



Reverse. F.P.O. 108.
Mesopotamia 28/11/18



Reverse receiving strike.
Ajmar 11/12/18.



Scan of Censor's cachet
On photograph below.



Censored photograph of mosque in Baghdad.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Incoming O.H.M.S. military mail to Mesopotamia from India.



South Parade
India. 31/5/17

1a. part O.H.M.S. cover from India using 'Service' stamps.
Addressed to a Captain with the 3rd.Bn. Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders attached to the 1st. Bn. The Seaforth Highlanders with Indian Expeditionary Force 'D' in Mesopotamia.



Post card depicting 'an Officer's billet' at Quanah (Kurna) on the River Tigris north of Basra.
Probably from early 1920's.

TURKEY – MESOPOTAMIA – WORLD WAR I.

The German Euphrates Flotilla.

10/2/18



Tarnstempel.
13/2/18.
(3 for 8).

Cover with contents from the head of the German Euphrates Flotilla – Lt. Capitan Martin v Cappeln (from 17/8/16) addressed to Berlin. Sent Postage Free and cancelled by the 'Tarnstempel' (F.P.O. 662).



Internet map showing the Tigris and the Euphrates.

TURKEY – MESOPOTAMIA – WORLD WAR I.

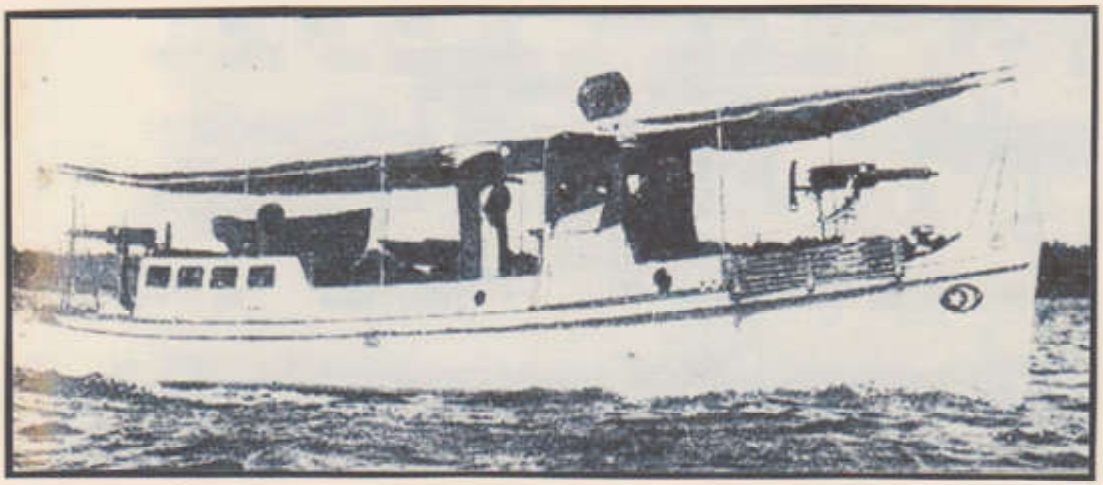
The German Tigris Flotilla.

15/3/1917.



Marine
Schiffspost.
No. 14 – 17/3/18.

Postage free (Feldpost) card from the Tigris Flotilla dated 15/3/1917 but cancelled by the Marine Shiffspost cancellation No. 14 dated 17/3/1918 (one is most certainly a mistake) which was the cancellation of the ship 'General' in Constantinopal which acted as the main center for military mail.



Internet scan of an armed British Thornycroft motor boat.

It is known that there were 22 armed motor boats with the Turkish Navy. 18 of these were British built Thornycroft motor boats, (some of which if not all had been captured at Kut when Turkish troops under the German officer Baron v Goltz captured Kut). At least 1 boat was re-captured and re-named H.M.S. Firefly. It is also believed that some of these boats were used by the German navy in the Tigris and Euphrates Flotillas. Some boats were also brought in by train and land by the Germans being used to protect convoys of war material from marauding Arab horseman who harassed the convoys also against the British Navy on these rivers. By the end of the war only 9 of the British boats remained in use.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Royal Army Medical Corps (R.A.M.C.).



Indian 1/2a. cinderella.
for the sick & wounded.
Depicts an injured Singh
in desert setting. 12/12/17.



Silk depicting badge of R.A.M.C.
Issued by 'Barney's' the ideal tobacco.
(John Sinclair - Newcastle on Tyne &
Edinburgh).



Post card depicting soldiers of the R.A.M.C.

The above items coould have come from any part of the Middle East as fighting took place in Egypt, Palestine & Mesopotamia,all of which would have been in desert setting where these uniforms would have been in use.

1918



1918 Christmas Card. The card – note the use of Shaw's 'Pygmalion' for Bloody.

Despite the U Boat and its crew,
I trust this Greeting reaches you
From this far land we curse till blue—
MESPOT !

A hotter place we know, but one,
In which we wish the Turk and Hun ;
We have our own ' place in the sun "—
MESPOT !

But still, we're winning "every time,"
So **cheerio** is the countersign
From this part of the Allied Line—
MESPOT !

Copy of the inside poem – note the use of 'Mespot', common during that period.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.



Censored (in red), post free O.A.S. cover addressed to United Kingdom.



Reverse M.E.F. strike.
3/12/18.



Photograph of a L/cpl in tropical uniform with pith helmet. Probably taken in United Kingdom as in Iraq shirt and shorts were normally worn.



Post card depicting the wreck of the Turkish gunboat 'Mermaris' Which was sunk by the Royal Navy on the River Tigris during the attempted relief of Kut 1915-16.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Baghdad.



Patriotic post card of Baghdad - Mesopotamia endorsed 'Presented by the Women of Bombay Presidency'.



Stamps of Turkey overprinted 'Baghdad in British Occupation' and additionally surcharged in annas.

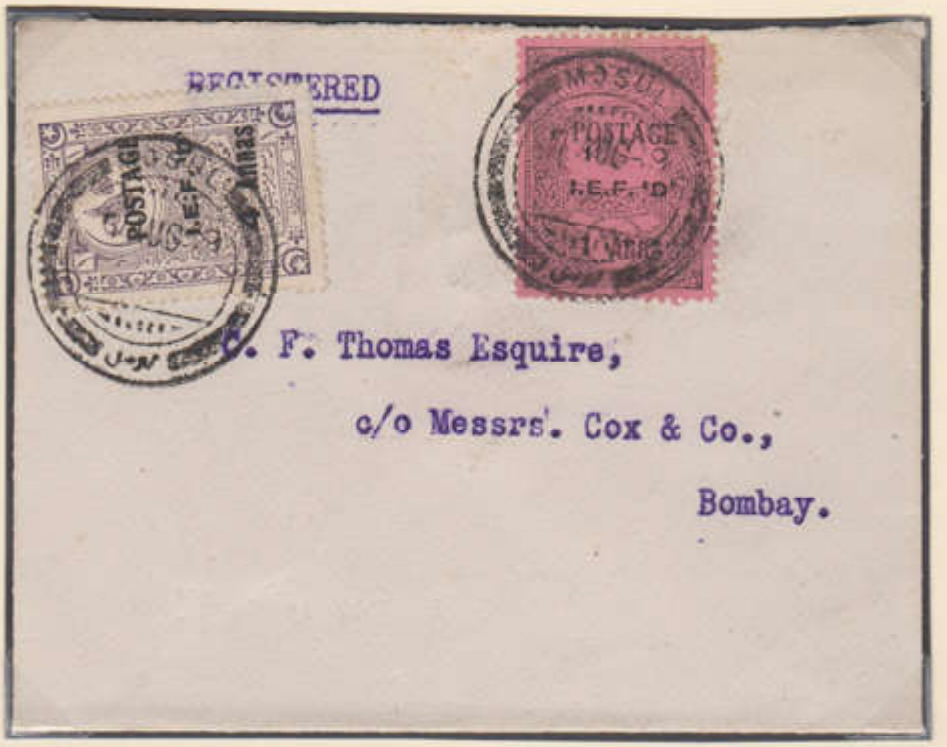
On 13/12/16 General Maundy launched the new offensive into Mesopotamia with 50,000 newly trained troops mainly comprised of Indians. On the 11/3/17 Baghdad was entered without a fight. As no stamps were available and for propaganda purposes captured Turkish stamps were overprinted for use in Baghdad from 1/9/17.

IRAQ.

1919. MOSEL OVERPRINT / SURCHARGE.



TURKISH REVENUE STAMPS OVERPRINTED AND SURCHARGED FOR USE IN MOSEL 1919.



5a. REGISTERED COVER FROM MOSEL 7/8/19 TO BOMBAY INDIA.

IRAQ.

STAMPS OF TURKEY OVERPRINTED 'IRAQ UNDER BRITISH OCCUPATION'.
VALUES IN INDIAN ANNAS & RUPEES.











ON STATE SERVICE.

SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS FOR THE U.P.U. (ALSO USED FOR PROPOGANDA PURPOSES).



BROWN.



RED BROWN.





½a. GREEN.





½a. BLUE GREEN SHADES.



1 ½a. BROWN.



1 ½a. RED BROWN.

SINCE TURKEY HAD ENTERED THE WAR THERE WAS A THREAT TO INDIA AND THE TELEGRAPH LINES. GREAT BRITAIN HAD FOUGHT IN THE SOUTH SINCE 1915 SUFFERING DEFEAT AT KUT IN APRIL 1916 WHEN SIR CHARLES TOWNSEND SURRENDED 10.000 MEN, MAINLY INDIANS. THE ADVANCE WAS TAKEN UP AGAIN LATE IN 1916, BAGHDAD ONLY BEING TAKE IN 1919. WHEN TROOPS ENTERED BAGHDAD LOCAL TURKISH REVENUE STAMPS WERE OVERPRINTED 'BAGHDAD' AND PUT INTO USE FOR POSTAGE AS HAPPENED AGAIN IN MOSEL. IN 1919 TURKISH STAMPS & POSTAL STATIONARY WERE OVERPRINTED FOR USE IN IRAQ.

IRAQ.

1919. TURKISH POSTAGE STAMPS OVERPRINTED 'IRAQ UNDER BRITISH OCCUPATION'.



'BRADBURY WILKINSON' PART IMPRINT.





1919 MINT. 'IRAQ UNDER BRITISH OCCUPATION'.



USED AT MOUSSOUL.
311/1/19.

IRAQ.

1919 'UNDER BRITISH OCCUPATION' OVERPRINTS.



BLOCK OF ½a. BLUE GREEN.



BLOCK 4a.



¼a. BOTTOM TWO ROWS SHOWING THE PRINTER'S 'BRADBURY WILKINSON' IMPRINT AND VALUE 5 PARAS AND ¼a. SURCHARGE. THE TURKISH VALUE ALSO IN ARABIC SCRIPT.

IRAQ.

1919 'UNDER BRITISH OCCUPATION' OVERPRINTS.



BLOCK OF ½a. BLUE GREEN.



BLOCK 4a



½a. BOTTOM TWO ROWS SHOWING THE PRINTER'S "BRADBURY WILKINSON" IMPRINT AND VALUE 5 PARAS AND ¼a. SURCHARGE. THE TURKISH VALUE ALSO IN ARABIC SCRIPT.

Reduced and Rotated
See Previous



SPECIMEN





SHADES.

















1r. FIRST PRINTING.
NOTE. TOUGRA.



1r. SECOND PRINTING.
NEW TOUGRA.
NO RIGHT HAND PORTION.









1919 IRAQ OVERPRINTS FURTHER OVERPRINTED 'ON STATE SERVICE'.

IRAQ.

IRAQ OVERPRINTS - POSTAL HISTORY.



KERBELA.
6/6/22.



AMERAH. 30/4/23.



SAMARRAH.
4/6/22



MOSEL.
3/6/22.



KURKUK.
1/10/22.



BUSRA.
21/2/20.

USED IRAQ OVERPRINTS.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Philatelic cancellation of Overprinted stamps by Indian F.P.O. 401.



Indian F.P.O. No. 401.
25/8/19.



Indian F.P.O. No. 401.
25/8/19.



Indian F.P.O. No. 401.
25/8/19.



Post card depicting Indian troops entrenching in Mesopotamia.



Baghdad.
22/1/1922.

3a. Rated commercial cover addressed to Germany.



Unused patriotic post card issued by the Woman of the Bombay Presidency in or about 1917. the cards depicted scenes from Mesopotamia during World War 1, this card depicting a bridge that had been destroyed by the retreating Turks. Lord Willington was the Governor of Bombay with his wife organising the 'Women's Branch'.



LOWER BAGDAD.
5/5/23.

6a. REGISTERED COVER TO SOUTH AFRICA.



LOWER BAGDAD
REG. LABEL.

SCAN OF REVERSE.

LOWER BAGDAD REGISTATION LABEL STUCK ON BY GUMMING WITH BRUSH.

IRAQ - MILITARY.



F.P.O. 36.
IRAQ.
12/12/18.

MILITARY COVER RATED 2 1/2 a. SURFACE TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
CANCELLED A FIELD POST OFFICE 36 IN IRAQ.



REVERSE STRIKE.
BAGHDAD. 12/9/22.

2a. ON PART FOLDED O.H.M.S. ENTIRE FROM G.H.Q. LOWER BAGHDAD.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.



Baghdad. 24/11/22.

Reverse strike Woolwich SE2 4/12/22.

9a. Air mail (Aereal Mail) cover to London dated 24/11/22 using stamps of Turkey overprinted 'British Occupation'. This cover would have been flown to Cairo by the Royal Air Force leaving Baghdad 25/11/22, (the 30th such R.A.F. flight), Cairo 26/11/22 arriving in London 4/12/22.



Post card depicting The 'Arch of Ctesiphon'.
It was in this area south of Baghdad that General Townsend who was leading the British troops on their first advance on that city at the end of 1915 fought the Battle where he was forced to retreat to Kut-el-Amara where he was eventually forced to surrender.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.



Upper Mogil.
21/10/22.

Cachet.
Ordnance depot.
Mogil.

Official military O.H.M.S. censored cover with 3a. stamp to pay the rate to India.

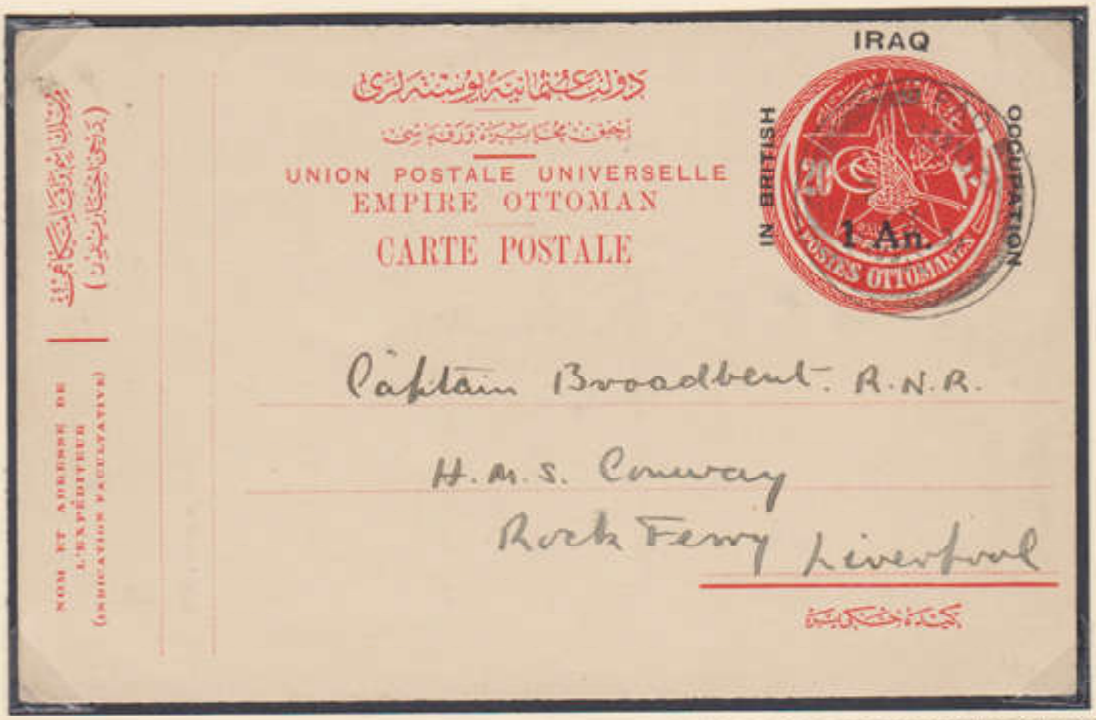


Post card depicting the British camp at Ali Gharbi north of Basra on the River Tigris. The original photograph would have been take during the advance north towards Baghdad during 1917. On a similar post card it was stated that the troops kept to the river for fresh water for themselves and their horses.
The card was published by A. Kerim for Tucks.

IRAQ. OVERPRINT ON POSTAL STATIONARY.



OVERPRINT ON MINT TURKISH REPLY SECTION OF 1a. 'REPONSE' P/S POST CARD.



FAO 3/1/21.

OVERPRINT ON 1a. TURKISH P/S/ POST CARD USED TO ENGLAND. CARD DATED 20/1/20.

IRAQ.

TURKISH POSTAL STATIONARY OVER PRINTED & SURCHARGED 'BRITISH OCCUPATION, IRAQ, ½ An (&1 An.)



MINT TURKISH POSTAL STATIONAR ENVELOPE OVERPRINTED / SURCHARGED ½a



BAGHDAD.
28/4/19.

1 An. TURKISH POSTAL STATIONARY ENVELOPE OVERPRINT / SURCHARGE UPRATED TO 9 ANNAS AND USED AIR MAIL TO BELGUIM. THIS ITEM WOULD HAVE BEEN FLOWN AS FAR AS CAIRO BY THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.

IRAQ.

IRAQ. OVERPRINTS FURTHER OVERPRINTED FOR REVENUE



MINT.
½a. WITH ½a. SURCHARGE IN MARGIN.



MINT.
THIN 'REVENUE'.



USED.
THICK 'REVENUE'.



1a. & 3a. OVERPRINTED / SURCHARGE FURTHER SURCHARGED
REVENUE. USED IN BAGHDAD.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Iraq overprint - On State Service - Cover.



Photograph of British troops in British Soldier's club - Ramadi.

Mosel.
9/3/23.

Busra.
13/3/23.

Dehli-India.
27/3/23.



No. 19/477 On His M

To,

Captain R.E. Banks,
2/11th Sikh Regiment
Staff Captain
J.A.G. Section A.H.Q. INDIA
Delhi

Captain
Adjutant 2/11 Sikhs.
Camp Mosul 9.3.23.

INDIA

2a. O.H.M.S. Official cover from Mosel to India with embossed 'Government of India' on reverse.

Scan of cover fron from Mosel to Dehli with Basra transit strike.

MESOPOTAMIA (IRAQ) - MILITARY.

Iraq overprint - On State Service - Cover.



Post card depicting British troops getting ready to embark on the Tigris.

Lower Baghdad.
30/11/24.

O.H.M.S.

To, The Right Hon'ble Sir Herbert S. Samuel P.C.G.B.E. His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner for Palestine Jerusalem

Cachet.
'Office of Baghdad High Commissioner'.

3a. O.H.M.S. cover addressed to Jerusalem - Palestine



Kut Camp.
26/3/22.

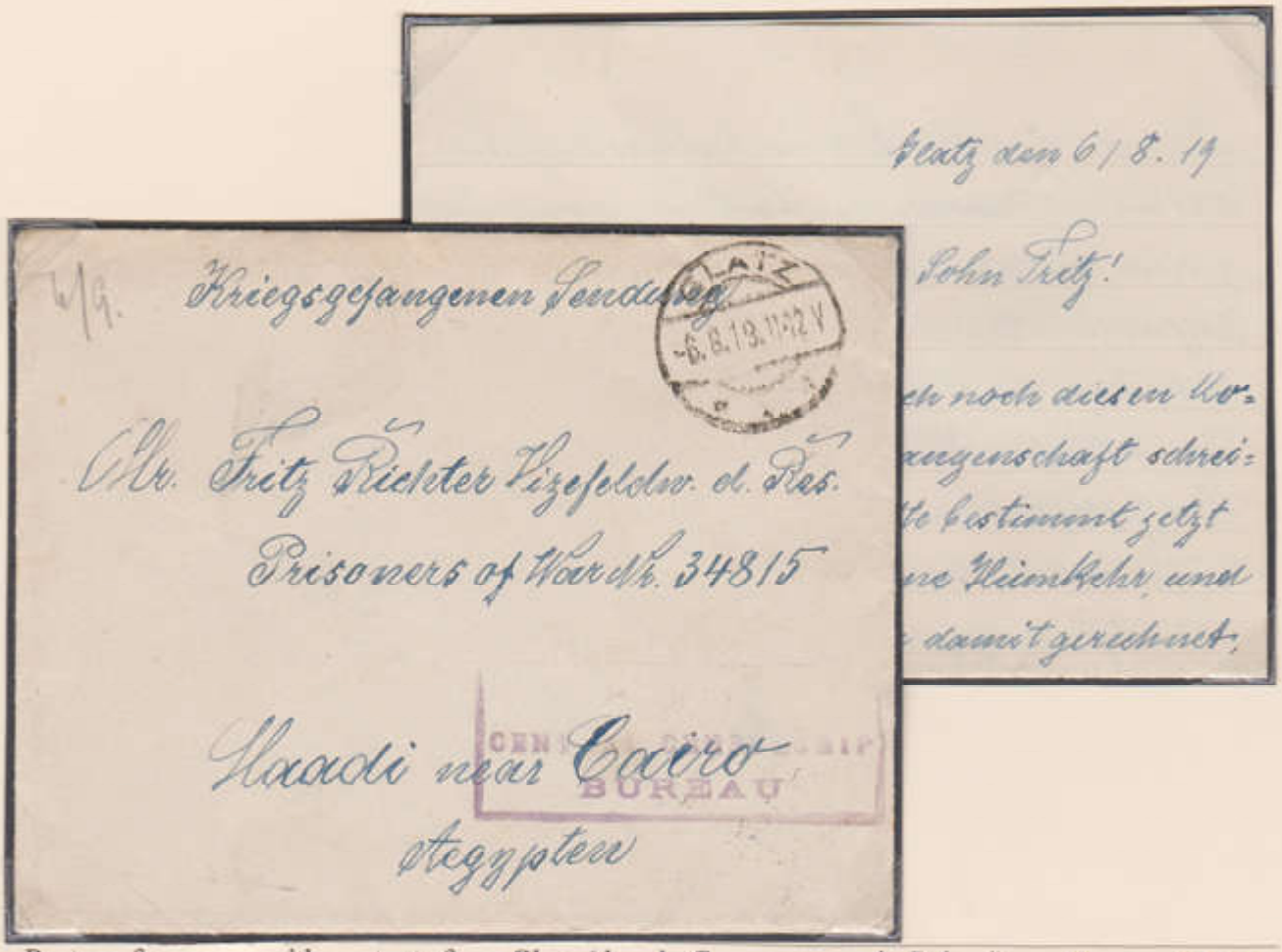
9a. Air mail cover from the British Camp at Kut.



Post card by Tuck depicting the British General (Military) Hospital at Basra.

EGYPT – P.O.W. CAMP.

German and Turkish P.O.W. at Maadi (Meadi).



Postage free cover with contents from Glatz (then in Germany now in Poland) to a German P.O.W. In Maadi P.O.W. Camp. Contents mention the fact that prisoners are still P.O.W. nearly a year after the armistice (some were P.O.W. Into the 1920's. - despite promises for release).

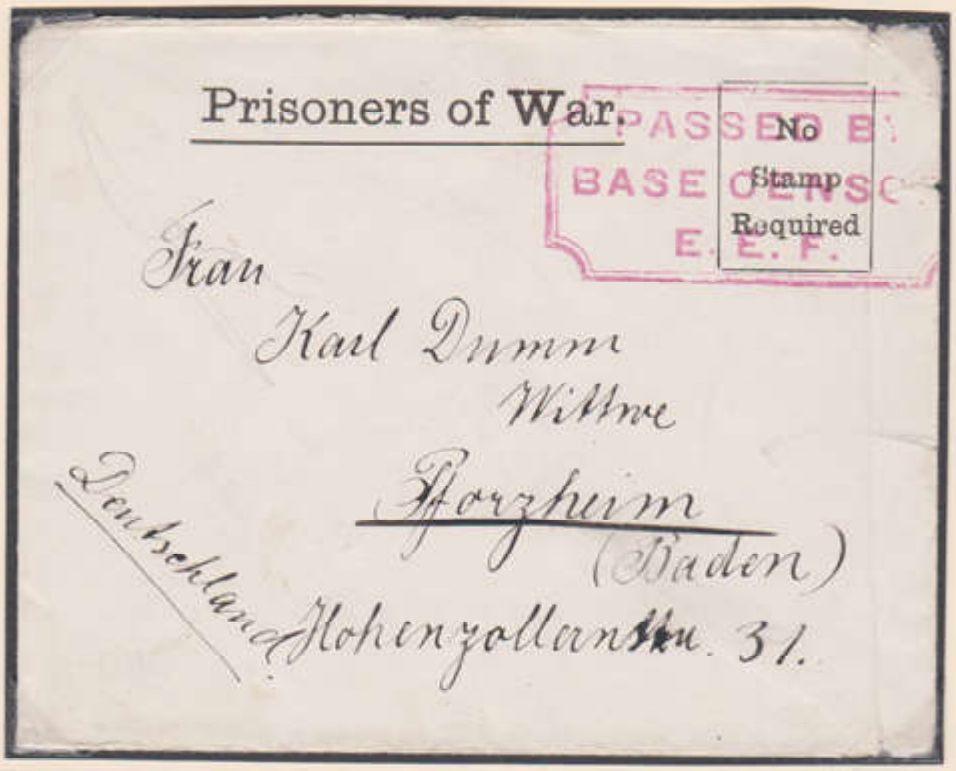


Post card from Mesopotamia depicting Turkish P.O.W. A film from the I.W. Museum shows Turkish P.O.W. at Maadi

Map indicating that Maadi was just south of Cairo

EGYPT - MILITARY.

German and Turkish P.O.W.



Passed by Base Censor E.E.F. (Cairo).

Reverse.
A.P.O. SZ10.
'C' canceller.
21/7/18.
Cairo.

Postage free, censored P.O.W. cover from a German P.O.W. in Cairo addressed to Baden - Germany.
The 'C' canceller on the reverse is unrecorded by Proud.



Post card depicting Turkish P.O.W. in Basra - Mesopotamia in 1917.
Many of the prisoners were later transported to P.O.W. camps in Egypt.

German and Turkish P.O.W. from Mesopotamia, Palestine, Syria, Turkey and East Africa were kept in Egyptian P.O.W. camps.

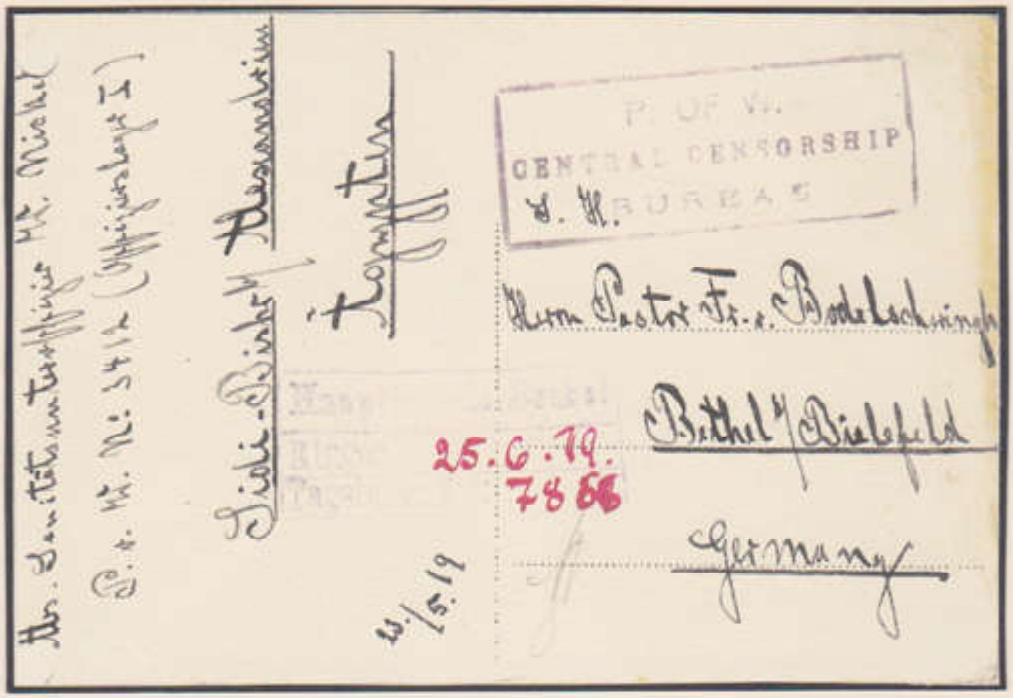
GERMAN P.O.W. CAMP IN EGYPT WORLD WAR I.

Sidi Bishr camp (Alexandria).



Photographic post card depicting German P.O.W. In the Sidi Bishr P.O.W. Camp depicting the Sanitation office Wilhelm Nickel from Bethal and Reinhard Grotz and Erich Auersch from Lagerzaun.

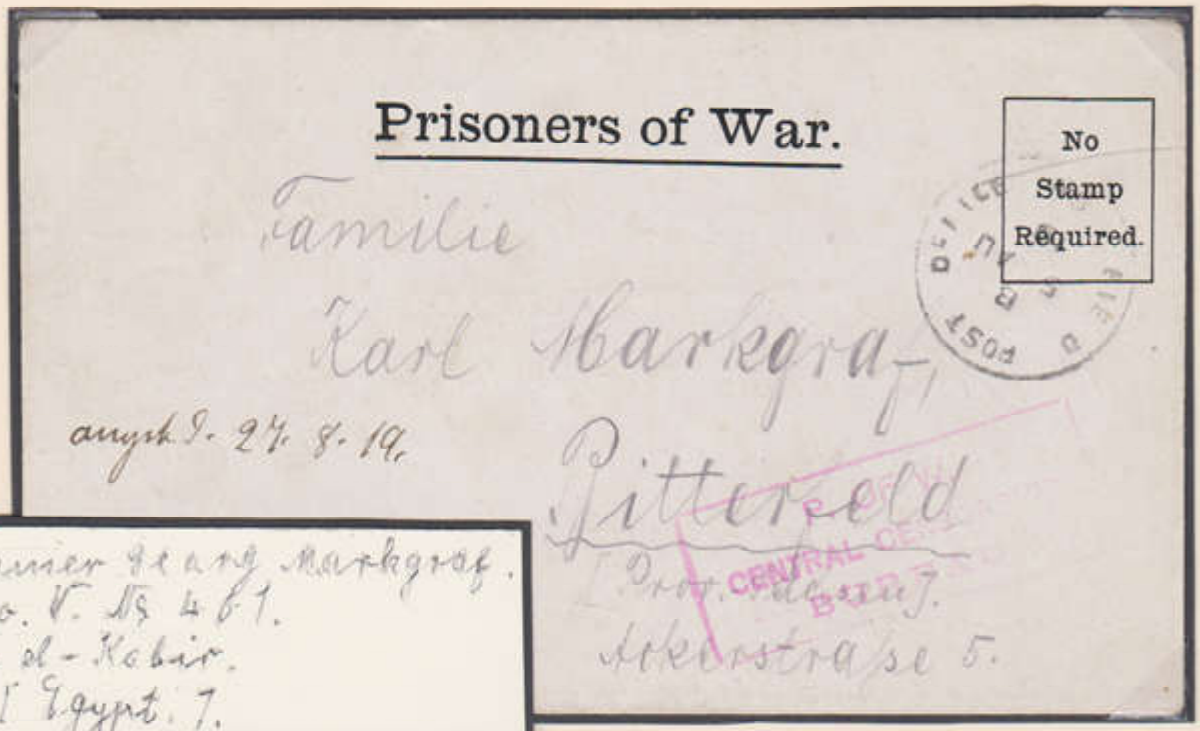
Sidi Bishr, Alexandria, Egypt. 23/5/1919.



P.O.W. Censor's Cachet.

Reverse of card addressed to Bethel – Germany and dated 23.5.1919. with the cachet of the P.O.W. Central Censorship Bureau.

GERMAN P.O.W. IN EGYPT.



(with scan of reverse address). British censored German P.O.W. entire from Tel-el-Kabir in Egypt to Germany.



Enlargement of center plaque.



German P.O.W. taken in G.E.A. in an Egyptian Camp.



German P.O.W. being marched through Cairo. Probably from Mesopotamia (uniforms).

TURKEY - MILITARY.

British P.O.W. in Turkey.

Odessa.
Russia.
24/5/15.



A.U.
No. 141.
German
Censor.

Red Cresent P.O.W. card with German censorship from a British P.O.W. in Turkey.
with machine cancellation of Odessa - Russia. There is no evidence to suggest the route used from that point.

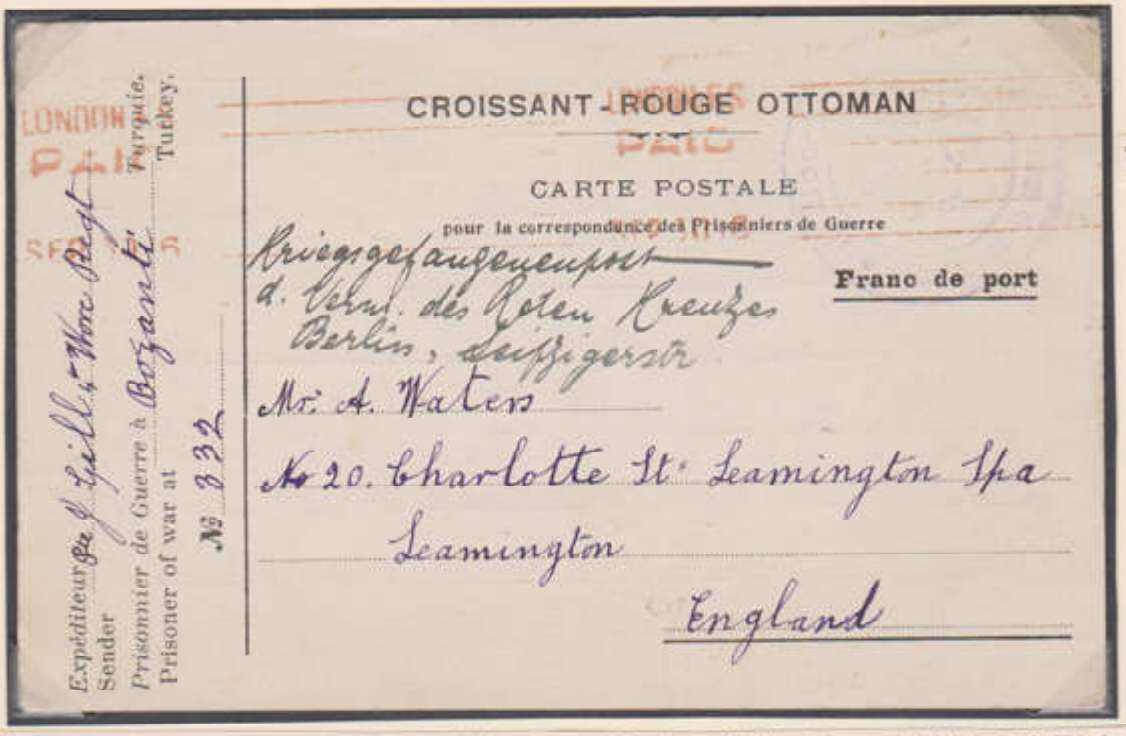


Photograph of Britsh P.O.W., probably taken when Kut Al Amara - Mesopotamia surrendered 29/4/16.
They are shown working on the Turkish Railway through the Taurus Mountains, being guarded by a German officer. (the ribbon below the third buttom is the Iron Cross which was only issued to Germans).

TURKEY - MILITARY.

British P.O.W. in Turkey.

London arrival, 30/9/16.



Turkish cachet.

Red Cresent P.O.W. card with Turkish censorship (top right). From a British P.O.W. in Bozanti which was a working prison camp where British troops (and Armenian civilians) were kept to be used making the railroad through the Cilisian Gates Connecting to the Baghdad railway. From a member of the 4th Worcester Regiment to Leamington -England. It is now known that this regiment faught at Gallipoli.



Nostalgia post card (+- 1950) taken from old photograph +- 1917).
Depicting Brish P.O.W. being marched into Jeruselem after being captured by the Turkish Army.

PERSIA.

INDIAN POST OFFICE IN PERSIA - BUSHIRE.



BUSHIRE.
7/5/99.

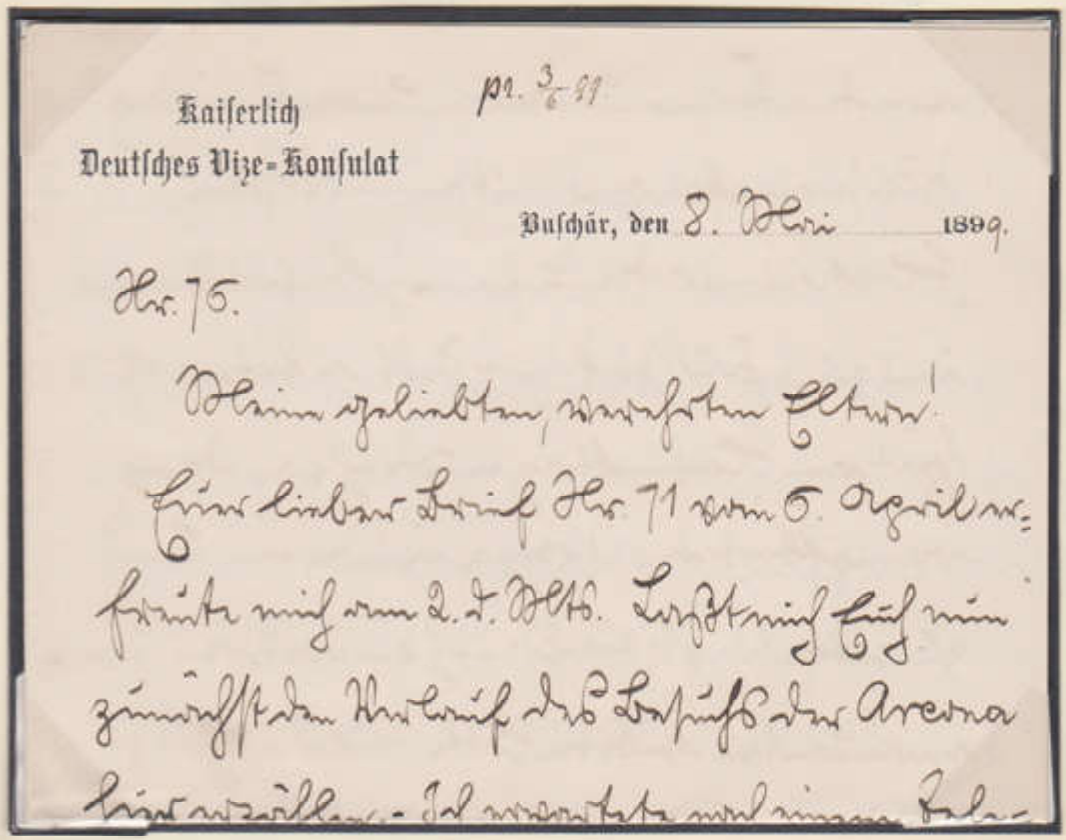
REG. BUSHIRE.
HANDSTAMP.

4 ½a. REGISTERED COVER TO GERMANY FROM THE GERMAN CONSULATE.

REVERSE RECEIVING STRIKE.



COLN.
26/5/99.



Kaiserlich
Deutsches Vize-Konsulat

pr. 3/6 99

Buschär, den 8. Mai 1899.

Nr. 75.

Ihrem gefälligen, werthen Schreiben
Ihres liebes Schreib Nr. 71 vom 5. April cr.
sandte mich vom 2. d. Mts. Leichtmich Euch nun
zunächst den Empfang des Schreibens der Arcona
hier zu bestätigen. Ich warte mit einem Schr-

CONTENTS.



BUSHIRE GERMAN
CONSULATE BUSHIRE.
SEEL

PERSIA.

SHAH AHMED POSTAL HISTORY.

Persian stamps overprinted 'Bushire - Under British Occupation'.



WITH STOP.



BOUCHIR 21/9/15.
NO STOP AFTER
OCCUPATION.



WITH STOP.



BOUCHIR.
22/9/15.

6c. PART LOCAL (6c. LOCAL RATE), CENSORED COVER.

1915. BRITISH & INDIAN TROOPS HAD TAKEN BOUCHIR AND OTHER SOUTHERN AREAS OF PERSIA 'TO PROTECT THE ROUTE AND TELEGRAPH LINES TO INDIA. AT THE SAME TIME RUSSIA INVADED FROM THE NORTH. BOTH BRITISH AND RUSSIANS FOUGHT THE TURKS PROTECTING ALLIED OIL SUPPLIES. IRANIAN NATIONALISTS FOUGHT BACK RECAPTURING SHIRAZ, THE COUNTRY WAS IN TURMOIL.



Player's cigarette card depicting the flag of Persia.

MESOPOTAMIA (PERSIA) – MILITARY.

Type written cover addressed to an Indian Lady at Madras
possibly informing her of her husband's condition or death in action.



Persia.



Postage Free, Field Service cover (with scan of reverse strike) addressed to Madras on east coast of India. As the the cover is addressed to an Indian lady and is type written it is assumed that this cover is from an officer in the Indian army to the wife of an Indian soldier who has been injured or killed in action. It was the practice of officers to write to the family in such circumstance. The smudged red cachet on the front of the cover has the word 'PERSIA' at the base on the left hand side and the B.P.O. Strike on the reverse. It is thought to have been applied in transit at Basrah.



Post Card depicting 'Troops in Camp' at Makina Masus.

PERSIA - MILITARY.

Indian troops in Persia.



Passed Censor 4.
Karachi - India.

12c. O.A.S. cover from Indian troops in Kirman Persia to Baluchistan - India using the Persian civil post.

12c. stamp and Kirman (Depart) cancellation on reverse
12c. Was the foreign rate for up to 1oz.



Patriotic Christmas & New Year post card presented by the Women of Bombay Presidency in Bombay with inset photograph of British Indian troops on the Persian Frontier of Mesopotamia.

PERSIA.

SHAH AHMED DEFINITIVE ISSUE 16/7/09 - 31/10/25.

British censorship within Persia.



TAURIS.
18/12/19.

TEHERAN.
23/12/19.

6c. LOCAL COVER FROM TAURIS TO TEHERAN, CENSORED BY THE BRITISH MILITARY.
(THE STRIKE IS LARGER THAN NORMAL).



PASSED BY
CENSOR.
No. 553.

SCAN OF REVERSE CENSOR's BRITISH MILITARY STRIKE.

At the end of the war in 1918, Russia was attempting to control the northern half of Persia while, Great Britain was trying to protect the oil fields to the south. Between them were the Persians themselves attempting to sort the whole mess of their country out uder the leadership of Ahmed Shah and the leader of the Persian Army Col.Riza Khan which was comprised mainly of Russian Cossacks. Eventually Col. Riza Kahn disposed Ahmed Shah and took over the country as Riza Shah Pahlavi in 1926. The British held contol through him especially of the oil fields which was their main interest. After Riza Shah acknowledged the Communist State, Russia gave up her intersts in Persia. During the 1919 - 1926 period (and after) British troops were present in the country and were censoring local mail.

PERSIA - MILITARY.

Local cover censored by 'DUNSTERFORCE'.

Dunsterforce.



Kasvin.
12/3/19.

Transit.
Terheran.
15/3/19.

Yezd.
5/4/19.

Local cover from Kasvin to Yezd censored by a Dunster force censor en route. 1k. stamp overprinted 6c. paid the local rate.

Dusterforce was created in 1917 with General Dunsterville in command to combat the Russians and their influence on the local tribes of Persia, also involved fighting the Turks. It Comprised mainly of British, Australian, New Zealand and Canadian troops with an armoured div. Also Armenian and Russian troops. It was to remain active after the war as proved by this cover dated 12/3/19.

BATUM - MILITARY 1919-1920.



Stamps from the locally printed 'Aloe' issue (4/4/19) overprinted 'British Occupation' (10/11/19).





Stamps from the locally printed 'Aloe' issue (4/4/19) overprinted 'British Occupation' (22/6/20).



Copy of photograph showing Crimean Tartars being interrogated by German officers during 1919. (During the British takeover in the (Batu, Tiflis & Batum) from 2/10/18 German troops & officers who had been fighting against the Allies with Turkey were used against Russian troops in the).

Because Great Britain had born most of the fighting (with the aid of the colonies) and expense fighting Turkey, she felt that it was her right to taken over the vacuum in the Caucasus created by the Russian Revolution. It was also convenient for the protection of India from the Russian threat and for the Batu oil. She eventually left 7/7/20 and the Bolsheviks took over in March 1921.

AFGANISTAN.

Business 'Advertising' cards.



Afganistan flag (with 1248 under flag in Eastern Arabic numbers) & camel caravan on A & BC chewing gum advertising caard of 1958.



The gate of Bala-Hissar Fortress in Kabul & Afgan soliers,depicted on Liebig advertising card - Circa 1907.



View of Kandahar and 'Mullah preacher of war' depicted on Liebig advertising card - Circa 1907.

During 1915-16 WW1 the Central Powers sent a delegation through Persia (the Niedermayer-Hentig Expedition) to Afganistan with gold to persuade the Afgan ruler Emir Habibullah Khan to invade India in an attempt to divert British troops away from 'Turkey' and the Western Front and start a revolution. It was also hoped that India would be lost, enabling Germany to move into that area after the war.

The End

This display is the copyright of Jamie Smith. It cannot be copied in full or in part without the express written agreement of its author, Jamie Smith, and the South African Philately Club

A grateful South African Philately Club thanks

Jamie Smith

for sharing his collection with us.

01/07/2020

If you have questions and want to contact Jamie, his email address is:

Jamie Smith <jamie.smith1935@hotmail.co.uk>

www.southafricanphilatelyclub.com