



France & Colonies



Philatelist

SMUGGLED MAIL FROM BESIEGED METZ

by Ernst M. Cohn

The subject of mail smuggling in the siege of Metz appears to have been covered only twice in some detail in the philatelic literature /1,2/ Whereas the *Manchester Guardian's* reporter George T. Robinson tried to smuggle out a letter that still exists today /3/, that letter never did make it through the lines but was returned to him. It seemed highly doubtful that a smuggled letter would turn up after more than a century. Albert Schneider, the Parisian dealer who is well known on this side of the Atlantic, too, managed to find one, which is now in my collection.

The condition under which this note probably left Metz is best explained in the memoirs of General Jarras, as quoted in reference (1):

Communications of the commander-in-chief with the emperor and the government were possible only by means of messengers as of August 18. At first, these men could fulfill their missions without too much difficulty, but the enemy tightened the investment so that they formed a continuous line around us that was nearly impregnable, and the number of those who continued to undertake missions was reduced in proportion.

...Nevertheless, some men who were intelligent, energetic and devoted, succeeded until September 1 in crossing the enemy lines in both directions and permitted Marshall

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Metz le 30 Septembre 1870

Maman:

Je profite d'une occasion imprévue que le temps
m'empêche de faire connaître à Duprat

pour vous donner de ses nouvelles.

Il est intact et se porte très bien.

M^r M^{me} Ballet et leurs enfants se portent
également très bien.

Excusez ce griffonnage que vous trace à
grand-peine ma main gauche. Les frus-
siens m'ont endommagé la droite. Je vais
bien et suis à peu près guéri.

Rappelez-moi au bon souvenir de toute votre
famille et agréez mes hommages respectueux.

Le Capitaine Bastien

M^{re} Duprat, chez M^{re} Lacaille, quai de
la Loire à Blois (Loire et Cher)

Figure 1

Bazaine to send dispatches to the emperor, to Marshall MacMahon and to receive the same from them.

...There is another messenger for whom I acted as an intermediary to Marshall Bazaine, I mean Mr. Prieskewitch, who was in the train of the army as an interpreter in the service corps of the Imperial Guard. Around the 15th or 20th of September this man had been sent by General Bourbaki because he had insisted upon demanding being charged with a mission, saying he was sure of success and in any case ready to risk his life...Anyhow, this Prieskewitch is one of two messengers (the other was Mr. Valcourt, interpreter of General Blanchard) who were sent by Marshall Bazaine on October 21, carrying the only dispatch from him that arrived at the seat of the Government of National Defense. At that moment it was very much less difficult to cross the enemy lines, that is how the two messengers arrived promptly before the Government of National Defense, which immediately decorated them with the cross of the Legion of Honor upon the simple excuse that they had run into some imaginary dangers...

After September 1 it had become impossible to find men who could or would undertake to carry dispatches to the other side of the blockading army. Useless attempts had been made even by those who had already carried out similar missions...

One interesting opportunity for getting out a message would have been on September 24, when the last contingent of a Luxembourg ambulance team, seven men, was permitted to cross the lines to get out of Metz. There were, in fact, eight people, because Bazaine had attached General Bourbaki, in civilian clothes, to the team and had ordered it to wait until it was dark, so Bourbaki would not be recognized (*Daily News*, Oct. 1, 1870, p. 3, col. 4). But that was not the opportunity used in this case, because the message shown in Figure 1 is dated September 30.

The sheet, which is blank on the back and bears no postal or private markings concerning its fate, shows a poorly written but nevertheless easily legible text:

Metz, 30 September 1870

Madam,

I profit from an unforeseen occasion, which time prevents me from mentioning to Duprat in order to give you news from him.

He is unhurt and feels very well.

Mr. and Mrs. Ballet and their children are also very well.

Excuse this scribble that my left hand traces for you with much difficulty. The



Figure 2



Figure 3

Prussians have damaged my right one. I am fine and am almost healed.
Give my best regards to all of your family and receive etc.

Captain Bastien

Mme. Duprat, c/o Mr. Lacaille, Quay of the Loire, at Blois (Loire & Cher)

With this note came the envelope, Figure 2, franked with a pair of 10-cent laureated Napoleon stamps, cancelled with the lozenge 506. The circular date stamp reads Blois (40), 1E/7 Oct. 70. It is addressed to Mademoiselle Narcisse Duprat, land owner, at Galan, Hautes-Pyrénées, P. Mme. Duprat. The envelope bears no other markings.

It is not clear whether that "P" means "for" or "by." Unfortunately, there is no covering letter with note and envelope, though more than likely that was included originally. Also, it seems odd that the sheet was not in an original envelope from Metz; perhaps the smuggler took it without envelope, or the recipient at Blois may have disposed of it.

A few days after Metz surrendered on October 27, 1870, the captured military that was not released on its word of honor was transported to Germany as prisoners. Where did Captain Duprat spend his captivity? I found the answer to that by pure chance in *Forum* No. 12 (1986) on page 43 that illustrates the front of an envelope postmarked on November 30, 1870, at Galan and addressed to Captain Duprat at Lübeck. The original was stated to be in the collection of Georges Schild, who very likely made available not just one but three photocopies of different envelopes from that correspondence, Figures 3 - 5. Of those, Figures 3 and 5 contain the endorsement, in German script, that they are free of postage according to the regulation of August 7, 1870. The one that arrived at Lübeck on November 27 shows the normal French PD, the one that arrived on December 1 shows the French PP. Both bear the Prussian district command's cachet with eagle, used here as a censorship marking. Figure 4, with the Galan postmark of 2E/30 Nov. 70, bears the handwritten French endorsement "free of postage, order of September ?, 1870" and is marked with the French PP. It is stamped "2½" (Silbergroschen) postage due, perhaps because of the absence of the German endorsement? There is obviously no censorship mark on the front.

Yet another letter for Duprat from Galan to Lübeck turned up as lot 612 in the 32nd SOLUPHIL auction of March 1988. The envelope is postmarked 27 December and the postage amounts to 30 centimes, apparently the correct postage to Lübeck minus the 20 centimes for internal French postage. A handwritten endorsement indicates that the letter was received on January 18, 1871. No censorship mark is visible.

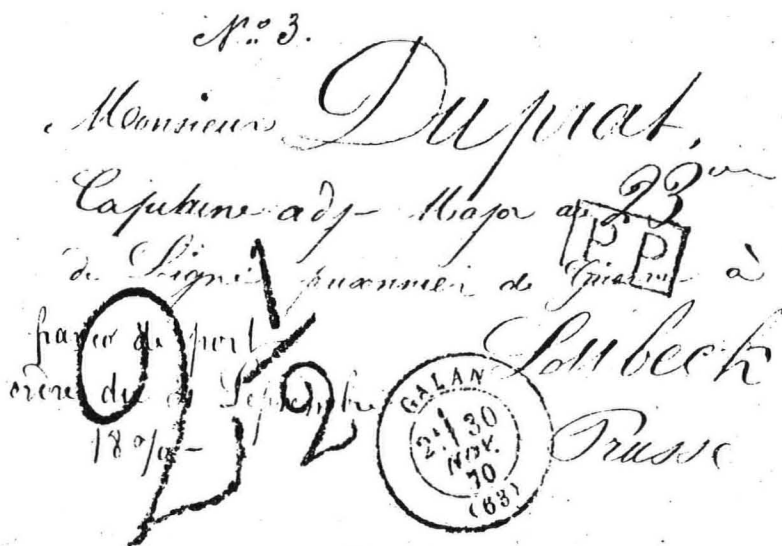


Figure 4

Finally, I got, together with the smuggled letter and its re-mailing envelope, a letter with envelope from Blois, dated April 28, 1871. By then Joseph Duprat had been released and moved to the French army, which stationed him with a temporary military unit at Cherbourg.

The Duprat correspondence is not a direct proof of the authenticity of the smuggled letter, but it is at least indirect proof.

Dedication

This article is dedicated to the memory of Louis LUTZ, who was a corresponding member of the Académie de Philatélie, the author of two detailed postal histories of Metz, a non-



Figure 5

competitive exhibitor at philatelic and other shows all over France to publicize our hobby, and a good corresponding friend who gave freely of his knowledge.

References

- 1). Luis Lutz, "Les Papillons de Metz - La poste à Metz du début de la guerre de 1870 à la capitulation," *Bulletin 22* (1968), *Société des Amis du Musée Postal* (Paris), 72 pp, esp. pp. 15-19.
- 2). Ernst M. Cohn, "Die 1870er Schmuggelpost zu Metz," *Forum* No. 4, (July 1979) pp. 5-9; *ibid.* No. 5 (July 1980) pp. 56-57.
- 3). Ernst M. Cohn and Cyril H. C. Harmer, "Metz Papillons: George T. Robinson's Air-mail of 1870," *American Philatelic Congress Yearbook* (1973), pp. 11-42.



FRENCH STAMPS USED AT THE SERBIAN POST OFFICE ON CORFU

by Richard M. Stevens

After the conquest of Serbia by the Central Powers late in 1915, a government-in-exile was established on Corfu. This Greek island had been occupied by French and British troops, and used for regrouping the defeated Serbian army. The Serbs established a civilian (as opposed to military) "Ministerial" post office to handle mail from the government-in-exile. The precise terms of the agreement under which this office operated can only be surmised today. Normally the office used French stamps, although a few covers bear Greek stamps, and at least one cover is known with an Italian stamp. After the liberation of Serbia during September 1918, the French stamps were supposedly replaced by the newly-issued Serbian stamps. This office used a large double-circle postmark inscribed MINISTARSKA POSTANSKA STANICA in Cyrillic characters, and also struck each cover with the POSTES SERBES handstamp.

In 1984 I authored a chapter in "Opinions II" regarding the POSTES SERBES marking. In it I indicated that I had seen the 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c, 40c, 50c, and 1F French stamps on cover or piece used from this office. This material seems to have become quite popular in recent years, and many covers with unusual frankings have appeared on the market. The purpose of this article is to record and discuss these extraordinary usages.

I believe one should divide the stamps and covers found with the POSTES SERBES mark-



Figure 1

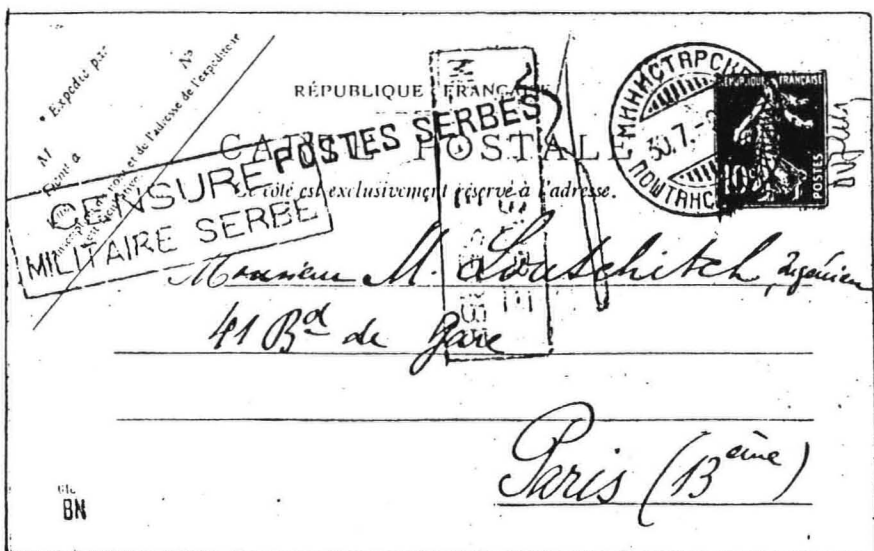


Figure 2

ing and MINISTARSKA cancel into three categories. First, there are those stamps which were actually sold at the post office, and were used on non-philatelic correspondence, almost always addressed to either France or Switzerland. Second are stamps which probably were not available for purchase at the Ministerial post office, but which have been accepted on mail which was then processed normally by the office. Last, there are those stamps which have genuine strikes of the POSTES SERBES marking and MINISTARSKA cancel, but which were probably struck only on request, and then returned without ever passing through the mail.

I feel quite certain that those denominations listed above (5c, 10c, 15c, 25c, 40c, 50c, & 1F) were all normally used at the Ministerial post office. The 1F is by far the scarcest of these. I now have two examples used with other denominations on pieces, probably cut from over-sized envelopes or packages. I have not yet seen an example on a complete cover which passed through the mail. A 1F on cover was offered by a New York auction house in April, 1984, but it bore a blank registration marking, and showed no evidence of having passed through the mail. I now believe that the 35c also belongs in this category. Prior to the beginning of 1917 this was the rate for a registered letter to France, so it is logical that such stamps were supplied to the Ministerial post office. The rate was increased within two weeks of the first appearance of the POSTES SERBES marking. A very attractive cover from December 29, 1916 was offered in a French sale in April 1985, and brought nearly 6000 Francs. Another cover with a 35c used with two 15c on January 13, 1917 appeared in a French net-price catalog in October 1984. I also have two examples used on pieces which I believe legitimate.

In Figure 1 is shown a cover that I was fortunate enough to acquire from a dealer at the INTERPEX show this year in New York. It bears a 45c and two 10c paying the double-weight registered letter rate to Switzerland. It is postmarked July 23, 1917, and has the red censor marking normally used at that time. This is the first example I have seen of the 45c used on a cover from the Ministerial post office. It is only moderately scarce on covers used from the Serbian post offices on the Salonika Front, and must have been on sale there. However, there seems to be no reason for this denomination to be supplied to these offices; until additional examples appear, I will believe that this stamp was brought to Corfu from the Salonika Front or France, not bought in the office there.

I have long recognized that one or more French dealers, or their agents, had arrived at Corfu by late September 1918, and had arranged to have large quantities of stamps struck with the POSTES SERBES marking and MINISTARSKA cancel. Mostly these were

used to make up the full sets from 1c to 1F that have long been available, all the the POSTES SERBES neatly struck diagonally. I had not been certain of any earlier instances of philatelic contrivance. In Figure 2 is shown a 10c postal card, used to Paris on July 30, 1917. It bears a short message in Serbian. I have seen other similar cards, all used the same date, and all to France, although to different addresses. I felt sure that these had been brought to Corfu by the sender, but considered them to otherwise be legitimate usages. This May a most extraordinary cover appeared in a German auction (with an equally extraordinary start-price): it bears a 35c, 10c, two 3c and a 1c, and clearly passed through the mail to Paris. It was also cancelled on July 30, 1917, and is addressed in the same handwriting as the 10c postal cards. Unfortunately it is hopelessly overfranked: the rate for a 20 gram registered letter was 40c, and heavier weights were all multiples of 5c. Although I would be happy to add this cover to my collection, I must consider the use of the 1c, 3c, and 35c stamps to be contrived, and must now recognize that any other covers to Paris on July 30, 1917 should be considered carefully.

In September 1918 there appear for the first time covers to addresses on Corfu, particularly to Monsieur Jean Pasqua, a censor in the Greek telegraph office. There seems to have been general confusion regarding the postage required on such covers: some have 10c, some 15c, and some 25c. In Figure 3 is a cover with just a 10c stamp, used on October 30, 1918. In Figure 4 is another cover with 10c postage, dated September 29, 1918, and charged 10 lepta postage due. It is an open question whether this postage was due because the rate should have been 15c, or because there was a Poste Restante (i.e. General Delivery) charge. Note that both of these covers bear Greek, not Serbian censor markings. Most of these covers are franked with single 10c, 15c, or 25c stamps. In May 1987 a French auction offered a Jean Pasqua cover bearing a single 1c plus blocks of the 1c, 2c, and 3c to make a 25c franking. The postmarks are dated September 1, 1918 which is atypically early for these covers. There is an "A. MAURY" handstamp next to each of the blocks. I suspect that these postmarks have been back-dated. On September 1, 1918 the offensive on the

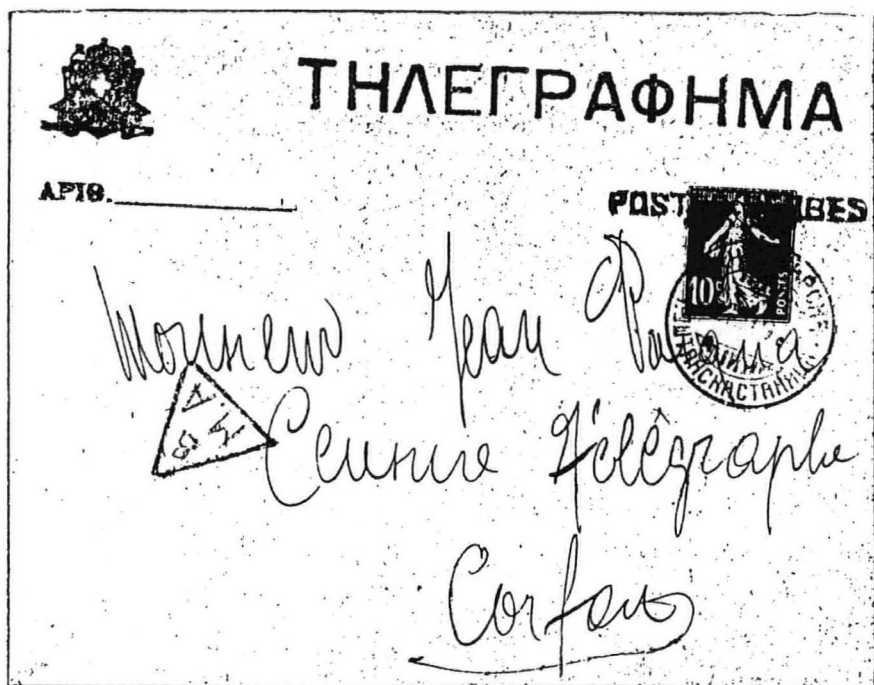


Figure 3

Salonika Front had barely begun; I do not believe any letter could have gone through the Ministerial post office at that time without undergoing Serbian censorship, and this cover has only a Greek censor-marking.

In Figure 5 is a final cover that I just acquired in a French auction. This is another Jean Pasqua cover, dated September 29, 1918. This cover has been franked with a strip of five of the 2c+3c charity issue of 1917. I feel certain that this issue was never sold at the Ministerial post office. In 1985 a New York auction sold a set from 2c to the 1F of these charity stamps cancelled on four pieces. The auction where I bought this cover also had a piece with the 1F charity and a 1F Merson. This cover has been charged 30 lepta postage due. Again, this postage due charge is open to multiple interpretations: my theory is that the Greek clerk did not recognize the French stamps, considered that it should have been paid at the Greek domestic letter rate of 15 lepta, and charged it the full 30 lepta postage due. Note that this cover was used the same day as the one shown in Figure 4, and appears to have had the due markings applied by the same clerk.

Considering the number of these strange covers which have appeared on the market recently, there are probably more to come. I believe all these items to have genuine markings, except that some cancels may have been back-dated. Most of them were clearly prepared using stamps supplied by the senders, and were addressed to confederates who would carefully save them, but I believe they did pass through the mail. If available in the \$100-\$200 price range, I feel these make interesting additions to a POSTES SERBES collection. However, I also believe a \$1,000 asking price is absurd, unless the cover clearly falls into the top category of a completely legitimate usage.

NOTES ON SOME "MAILS SUSPENDED" COVERS OF FRANCE AND INDOCHINA, W.W. II

by Jacques Desrousseaux

This is not a scholarly exhaustive study but a contribution from my collecting experience with Far East covers and intercontinental mail during WWII, stimulated by reading Robert I. Johnson's notes on mails suspended covers in his collection which he illustrated in FCP #202, Oct. 1985, pp. 101-103. We group our illustrations chronologically by historical periods. **I. May-July 1940** (French defeat of May-June, armistice of June 22, and organization of the partition of France):

On 1st August, the demarcation line through France between the occupied zone (Z.O.) and not occupied zone (Z.N.O.) was closed to mail, but since German troops occupied some regions, the mail was already cut off to them; for example, Johnson's cover of Metz 13/6/40 (see p. 102).

At that time there was great disorder. Generally internal mail was forwarded, more or less slowly; some external mail passed by way of Marseilles, but many destinations were prohibited. For instance: Peyrehorade (Landes) 22/7/40 to Phnompenh (Indochina), at 1 Fr surface rate, markings: INADMISS, and RETOUR/A L'ENVOYEUR/3217 (local mark).

Foreign mail to France was stopped during the forwarding or transit, by foreign postal service. Concerning intercontinental mail, I know of three important stopping points where mail was turned back or was kept until August 1940, though later they resumed the forwarding:-

A). Port Said - All mail to France was stopped here until the beginning of August. The last mail liner from Indochina, the *Felix Roussel*, reached Port Said on June 13, with the Far East mail to France. Then the mail of the French Navy in Alexandria (Force X) to France was also left at the ship-board post office, but the British prohibited the boat getting under way for France and seized it in July. All this mail was returned by means of British ship lines to the senders in the Far East, including the letters of the French Navy X Force that were addressed to France!

All covers received, at the Port Said P.O., a marking "Retour à l'envoyeur/Voyage Indochine France/du 17 Mai 1940 interrompu" (see Salles Tome V, No. 2057, also there was a similar type in rectangular frame). They arrived in Indochina in Feb. 1941. As a French liner of the new line Saigon-Madagascar-Dakar-Marseilles left Saigon on March 9, the P.O. there re-sent it by all covers addressed to Z.N.O. As Marseilles could not send mail to the Z.O., covers addressed to Z.O. were returned by Saigon P.O.

to the senders. If they could not find the sender, they kept the letter until the end of the War, for later sending to France in 1945-46; thus such covers would show:

dispatch postmarks of Indochina or Force X Alexandrie (the *Cuirasse Lorraine*, etc.),

Egyptian censor label and marking,

return marking "voyage interrompu,"

rarely markings of way to Indochina, e.g. British censorship of Singapore,

rarely French censor marking of Saigon, e.g. "Acheminement suspendu/PAR L'AUTORITE MILITAIRE,"

arrival marking of Hanoi or Saigon, Feb. 1941,

delivery postmark of France.

Each individual cover would only bear some of these markings, not all.

We know also of mail from China to France, June 1940, reaching Port Said by British means and returned to sender (Hong Kong March 1941). It bears Egyptian censor marks plus "NO SERVICE," "RETOUR" in a frame. From North China such mails were returned to France by way of Siberia, that was by now open for mail to Z.O. and Z.N.O. **B). London** - After the French lines were closed, Indochina and China sent their mail to Hong Kong, which sent it on to London, which for a short time returned such covers, marked "NO SERVICE/-/RETURN TO SENDER" and British censor markings. Then China sent the returned letters to France via Siberia: e.g. Peking June 7, 1940, censor label PC90, 1788, Peking 28/10/40, German censor marking in Berlin, and delivered to the Z.O.

C). Moscow - Before the armistice, Siberian mail to France passed by way of Leningrad-London-Dieppe. In June, the mail was held up by Moscow P.O., then in August or Sept. sent on to Berlin. The Germans sent the whole lot to Z.N.O., which delivered those addressed to Z.N.O.; but covers to Z.O. could not enter that zone and ended up in the

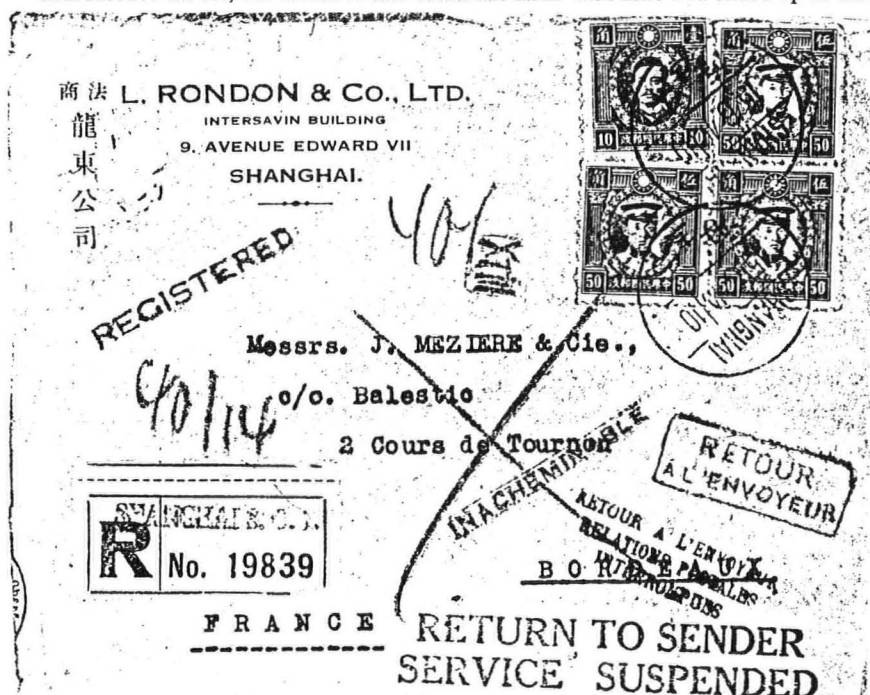


Figure 1. Shanghai 15/6/1940, Siberian mail, two black return markings of Agen, red marking of Marseilles, purple of U.S. Returned at Shanghai 17/1/1952. At the side label of Berlin for Siberian mail.

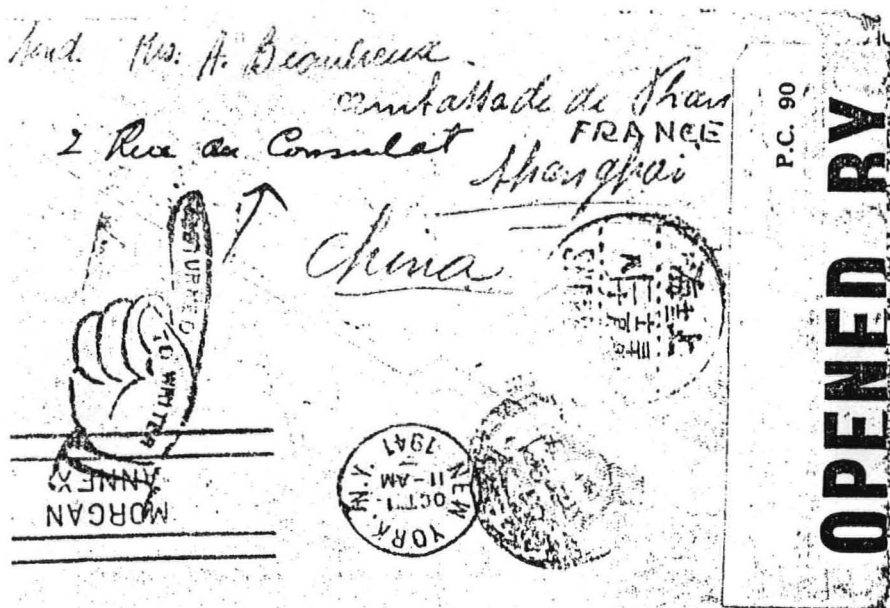


Figure 2. From Shanghai 3/6/40, sent eastward by airmail via New York and Lisbon. On back Hong Kong 6/6/40, New York 1/10/41; returned to Shanghai 20/12/41.

central return office of Marseilles. They bear the special return marking of that P.O. and were returned to the foreign senders (see under II, below). We know of covers from China and Philippines, June and July 1940, nearly all of which bear German censor mark "b" or a "diamond."

II. The Partition of France, 1/8/40 to 11/11/42

From 26/9/40 private postcards could be exchanged between the two Zones, but letters were returned to senders. There are many local markings on such returned covers.

The mail with foreign countries or colonies suffered many fluctuations.

A). With Foreign Countries - The Z.O. could only receive mail by German channels, opened in Nov. 1940, e.g. Chinese letters via Siberia. The Z.N.O. received letters of all countries, even enemies of Germany (U.K., later U.S.). The main way of entry was Lisbon-Madrid-Cerbere-Perpignan-Marseilles. The Central P.O. of Marseilles returned all letters it received for Z.O., sometimes after sending them to "local return centers" when there was a doubt. The central return marking of Marseilles is **RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR/RELATIONS POSTALES/INTERROMPUES** (37x10mm) (Figure 1). It was in red at first, then purple from Autumn of 1940, then blue from end of 1941. We know of another type: **INADMIS/RETOUR à l'ENVOYEUR** in large size--see illustr. p. 103 of FCP #202, near a local marking **INADMIS/ZONE OCCUPEE**.

Letters to Paris have only the central return marking, but letters to Cognac could also get a **RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR** unframed of the local return center at Limoges, letters to Bordeaux the markings of Agen **INACHEMINABLE** and **RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR** in frame, etc.

All returned letters passed by surface mail from Lisbon to New York. We know pieces from China, Japan, Philippines, South America, registered or not, sent by air or surface, generally by way of New York-Lisbon, sometimes by Siberia (see I.C. above). Many returned letters of the Far East bear a purple **RETURN TO SENDER/SERVICE SUSPENDED** (likely of New York), 70x12mm (Figure 1). Pieces from Shanghai have a **RETURN TO WRITER**. (Figure 2). Some examples:

Tokyo 24/5/40, surface, reg. Hong Kong 6/6/, censor PC 90/4252, Tokyo 30/6/41, in red.

Manila 28/5/40, air, cens. at Singapore and PC 90/4232, N.Y. 19/9, Manila 17/10/41, in purple.

Shanghai 3/6/40, air, H. Kong 6/6/, cens. H-K and PC 90/4634, NY 1/10, Shg 20/12/41, in purple. (Fig. 2)

Shanghai 3/6/40, via Siberia, censor Berlin, NY 25/6/ and 23/9, Shg 28/11/41, in red.

Shanghai 14/6/40, air, reg. cens. Singapore, NY 18/8/41, Shg 18/1/42, in red Necochea (Argentina) 24/7/41, surf. Cens. Bermuda PC90/520, Marseilles, Necochea 29/8/42, in blue.

(The last column is the color of the return marking of Marseilles.)

Some covers were returned to Shanghai after 7/12/41 (Pearl Harbor); likely they arrived by Japanese or Chinese boats.

Curiously enough, some mails could be forwarded from Lisbon to Z.O.; example: Sao Vicente de Cabo Verde 26/9/40, 1.75sc., surface, Lisbon 14/11, returned by Marseilles as addressee was in the Z.O., with return marking INADMIS (see FCP #202, p. 103), Lisbon 7/12 re-sent via Italy after crossing out the return marking, German censor label "d." arr. Puteaux (Z.O.) 2/1/41.

Such mail routed via Germany was also passed through Spain, which is not curious because Spain was friendly with the Axis. Covers bear Italian and/or German "d" censor labels, the Commission "d" being in Munich with three annexes in Italy.

B). With Colonies - Example of Indochina, while attached to the Vichy regime: After Air France closed its Far East line (June 1940), airmail could be sent by IAL/KLM or by PANAM transatlantic lines. After the last steamer liner (see I. A. above) surface mail was taken by British boats, to the east via US-Bermuda-Lisbon, to the west via South Africa-Bermuda or London-Lisbon. In 1940, senders sometimes sent letters to Z.O. by mistake or ignorance. Marseilles put its purple central return office marking

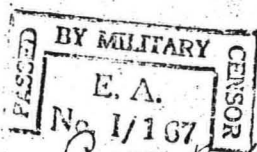
COMPAGNIE AGRICOLE & INDUSTRIELLE DE MADAGASCAR

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME, CAPITAL, 18.850.000 FRANCS

Agence de DIÉGO-SUA



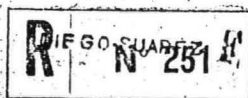
C^{ie} Agricole et Industrielle de Madagascar



49, Rue Grignan



Case Postale 800 Colbert



MARSEILLE

Inacheminable

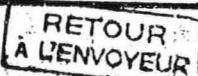


Figure 3. Diego Suarez 2/9/42, Kenya censor, ms "Inacheminable" and "Retour à l'Envoyeur" of D.S., Diego Suarez bs 13/1/43.

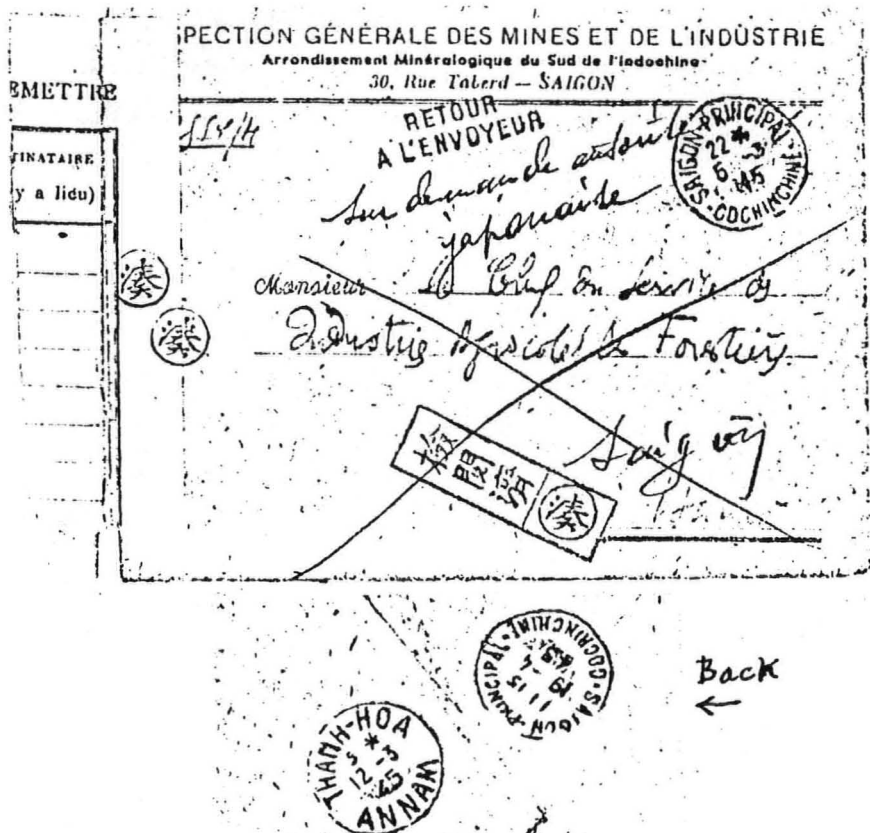


Figure 4. The Japanese army takes Indochina, March 9, 1945.

on them and re-sent the mail in June 1941; it arrived in Saigon by the *S.S. Ville de Verdun*, Nov. 2, 1941 and bears a delivery postmark of Nov. 3 to 6. The last piece I have seen, leaving Hanoi Feb. 13, 1941 to Bordeaux, was returned later and bears the INADMISS-RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR in a frame, the origin of which I do not know, perhaps a local return-office mark. Such mails bear sometimes the censor label PC 90 of Bermuda or London (used the same no.), postcards with the octagonal crown mark "passed" but nothing more (same origin but likely only Bermuda).

A wartime sea line Marseilles-Dakar-Madagascar-Saigon was opened in Nov. 1940 (from France) and in Feb. 1941 (from Saigon). From Nov. 1940 also, special postcards could be exchanged between the Z.O. and French colonies still under Vichy, especially Indo-China. But the British seized the last French liner, the *Compiegne*, near Le Cap on Nov. 2, 1941, the mail of which was released and delivered to Z.N.O. from June to August 1942, with censor label of South Africa, and sometimes of London (PC 90). But the French line was then closed. Examples:

Shanghai 4/10/41, 50ct., surface, to Madagascar, Saigon 17/10, "Retour à l'envoyeur/Service Suspendu" of Saigon, "Return to Writer" of Shanghai.
Hanoi R.P. 10/11/41, 8c stationery, surface, to Morocco; SERVICE DES REBUTS/OBJETS A CLASSER of Saigon, "Voir expéditeur Hanoi" ms for Return.

Until the Spring of 1942, British boats still forwarded mail of Madagascar to France. But of course nothing for Indochina, owing to the Japanese attack of 7/12/41 which cut off all airlines to the Far East; examples of last mails before Pearl Harbor:

Phnom-Penh 4/12/41, via Panam, 2p, censor "D1" of Phnom-Penh, SERVICE DES REBUTS/OBJETS A CLASSER of Saigon, RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR/SERVICE SUSPENDU of Saigon. Sender not found, forwarded to France after the War, arr. Chambery 1/3/46.

Hatinh (Annam) 8/12/41, 1.90p + military franchise, via Panam, Vinh 8/12, Hanoi censor 9/12 RETOUR/A L'ENVOYEUR in frame, Hanoi R.P. 13/12, Vinh 14, Hatinh 15/12 (del. to sender).

Bourg (France) 1/12/41, via Panam transatl. to Indochina, 19f, censor "1C", PC90 of Bermuda, RETURNED TO SENDER/SERVICE SUSPENDED 55x11mm, Bermuda or US?

Another letter of 12/11/41 was kept at Bermuda (censor label) and sent after the War to Saigon (1/3/46) with a lot of mails of "services suspendues." Marseille made use of a marking "Retour a l'envoyeur/acheminement impossible" in frame of 70x17mm.

Examples of other mails sent just after the War: Marseilles Aug. 4, 1941, 2Fr, to Saigon by surface, censor PC90/2067 (Bermuda), Saigon 17/10/45; Dakar, 1.5Fr, 28/8/42, Saigon 25/3/46

C.) Year 1942 – The transsiberian route was cut off on 22 June 1941, by the War between Germany and USSR. So then the Far East was wholly isolated by the Japanese War:

Blairgowrie, 3d, surface, via Siberia to Shanghai, censor PC90 7459, NO SERVICE/--RETURN TO SENDER.

But the route was restored in the first weeks of 1942, via Tiflis-Ankara-Balkans. As for Indochina, only postcards could be forwarded, likely on May 6 1942 with the opening from Z.O. station of Lyon, via Siberia to Indochina. We know of postcards with postmarks of France from 22/6/41 to 22/8/41. But a card of 29/8 bears RELATIONS SUSPENDUES and was returned to sender. We know of no further postcards before 1943.

In July 1942 covers to Indochina bear a marking "RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR/Courrier pour l'Indochine limité aux/Cartes postales non recommandées" (in black, only on non-reg. postcards). In September we see: RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR/RELATIONS SUSPENDUES in purple.

Madagascar – From the middle of 1942, the British stopped forwarding the mail. Letters of July to September are returned to sender, with censor markings of Kenya: label BRITISH CENSORSHIP and number; marking: PASSED BY CENSOR 3576, or "Passed by Military Censor-EA No 1/167." Later a manuscript "Inacheminable" and mark in frame RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR. (Figure 3). All the covers I have seen were returned to Diego Suarez 13/1/43.

D.) End of 1942 – In Nov. 1942 the Germans took Tunisia, but were defeated by the Allies and lose Tunisia in April 1943. On Nov. 11, 1942, the German army occupied the Z.N.O. of France, and the way Lisbon-Madrid-Marseilles was cut off and replaced by Lisbon-Irun-Bordeaux-Paris. In that critical period new restrictions were placed on mails. Of course exchanging mail with U.S. was prohibited: e.g. letter Michigan 31/3/42, 5c, surface, to Vichy, cens. Bermuda PC 90 - 6238, later 5115, returned to N.Y. 28/12/42, with marking of NY: SERVICE SUSPENDED/RETURN TO SENDER (40x9mm). Examples of Tunisia returns (mail with Z.N.O.):

France 27/11/42 surface, first letter returned, with RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR/RELATIONS SUSPENDUES in a frame of 54x14mm.

France 30/11/42, airmail, manuscript "Relations interrompues/Retour à l'envoyeur."

France 29/12/42 (airmail), French censor label, same return marking as first letter, and a manuscript label "Voir bulletin no. 256 Règle du 30/12/42."

France 9/1/43 surface, same label, last letter of this type, so we know that the decision of 30/12/42 which prohibited mail to Tunisia was already being applied since November.

III. End of the War – During the liberation of France, many covers were returned to senders, with local markings such asACHEMINEMENT SUSPENDU, RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR, with or without frame, etc. (1944).

Indochina - On March 9, 1945 Japanese troops attacked the French and took control of the colony. The post offices were closed, but re-opened from 16 March on. During the military operations the Japanese destroyed the mail, or kept it for further forwarding. But they returned to senders the mail of the civil post services:-

Saigon Principal 5/3/45 - Thanh-Hoa (RR station on Saigon-Hanoi line where mail was taken off and sent to the P.O.) - Japanese censorship with red and purple markings in characters: RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR of Thanh-Hoa, and "sur demande autorité Japonaise" (in manuscript)-delivery Saigon P. 19/4/45. (Figure 4).

Of course the Japanese cut off all entry and dispatch of foreign mails; they did not return letters but destroyed them. The Siberian route was still open in Feb. 1945.

From September 1945 to December 1946, Tonkin and North-Annam were under authority of Ho-Chi-Minh, which had a post office which was not recognized by the French so that external mail was dispatched by annexes of the French military P.O. Mail posted at Viet P.O.s to South-Indochina or foreign countries was returned to senders with the markings: "Gia lai nguoi gui" (=return to sender) and "Giao thong Binh-Chi" (=Mail exchange suspended).

From December 1946, the French and the Vietnam Democratic Republic of Ho-Chi-Minh were at war, and each belligerent established its own post offices in the areas it controlled at the time.

Finally, I should mention that the censors had their own policies or reasons for stopping mail that did not result from the general decisions of the powers or from exigencies affecting the routes of the mail.

-Dec. 1985

1849 FRENCH MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN THE ROMAN STATES

by William M. Waugh

The history of the French campaign in the Roman States in 1849 and the French siege and July 3 Capture of Rome has been written up in great detail. The military postal markings of the French expeditionary force during and after the campaign have been exhaustively studied by Foster, Geraci and their predecessors.

However, references are few in regard to the short-lived French 1849 military government in parts of the Roman States and the civilian postal situation during this period. Here are the few solid facts I have been able to find.

There were no formal zones of occupation of the forces of the five nations which intervened against the Roman Republic and in the chase after Garibaldi after the fall of Rome: France, Austria, Two Sicilies, Spain and Tuscany.

However, an informal French zone included Rome after its fall and at least some territory north of the Tiber River along the Mediterranean coast and inland at least as far as Orvieto.

General Oudinot's French troops started to land at Civitavecchia April 24, 1849. A French military governor was appointed for Civitavecchia.

Rome fell July 3. On July 4 in a proclamation to the inhabitants of Rome, Gen. Oudinot appointed Le General de Division Rostolan Governor of Rome and it stated that provisionally all powers were concentrated in the hands of the military authority.

Philatelic evidence shows a French government in the Province of Viterbo in July.

In early July the French requisitioned supplies from the municipal authorities at Orvieto. Garibaldian forces seized these supplies during their retreat.

The French military government came to a speedy end. On July 14, Oudinot proclaimed the restoration of Papal rule and on July 17 the Pope appointed a governing commission. The French forces reverted to the status of a large garrison.

Two franchise markings of the French military government are listed by Mario Gallenga in his book on the postal markings of Lazio. Both are from Viterbo in July 1849. A circular marking reads SEGRETERIA GLE. DELLA PROVINCIA DI VITERBO GOVERNO FRANCESE. A second similar marking reads POLIZIE PROVINCIALE DI VITERBO GOVERNO FRANCESE.



VITERBO

M. Sig. G. Gallenga
Montefiascone

The illustrated cover of July 12, 1849 also bears the straight line marking of Viterbo and is addressed to Montefiascone. It shows the civilian postal service was functioning during those troubled times, and during the period of French military rule.

References:

- M. Gallenga, "I bolli del Lazio dalle origini alla fine del XIX secolo." Storia postale Italiana, Part IV, Rome, 1976.
 G. Trevelyan, "Garibaldi's Defense of the Roman Republic." London, 1912.
 "Proclamation of II Generale Comandante in Capo, Oudinot de Reggio." Rome, July 4, 1849.



A PRISONER OF WAR LETTER FROM SEDAN 1870

by William M. Waugh

A cover from a French soldier captured at Sedan to his family in southern France, mailed in early September 1870 and delivered in November raises an interesting question. How did it get there while Sedan was under siege?

The letter inside the cover, in pencil on flimsy paper is datelined "Le 5 septembre à Sedan." The French had surrendered September 1.

The cover bears a French cds of Sedan, September 7, 1870. On the back is a November 6 strike of the cds of the Givet à Paris ambulant, and a November 21 cds receiving mark of Rognac (near Marseille).

On the front there is also a boxed PP marking showing the free mail privilege of a French serviceman.

Apparently the Germans did not immediately seize the French post office at Sedan. They were rather busy, with 26,000 casualties of both sides on the battlefield. They had 82,000 prisoners to handle and quickly moved the bulk of their victorious armies from the area for operations elsewhere. They appear to have taken over the Sedan post office later, as the old French Sedan cds is known to have been used to cancel German Alsace-Lorraine stamps.

Apparently this letter and other mail remained undisturbed at the post office, or more likely was put into hiding by patriotic postal workers.

In the opinion of various Franco-German War experts, when opportunity arose in November it was smuggled north into French-held territory.

Mezières-Charleville was just a few miles north of Sedan. The fortress of Mezières was finally attacked and captured by the Germans in January 1871. In November these twin cities were still in French hands.

Charleville was on the Givet à Paris railway line from Givet near the Belgian border to Reims and Paris. With Paris under siege, much of this line was inoperative in November. But part of the line was still operating with its railway postal service functioning. Ernst Cohn notes October 22 and 23 backstamps of this ambulant on personally entrusted mail from the balloon "République Universel" put into the mail at Renwez and Rocroi.

Le 5 Septembre a serant

Bien cher père et chère
mère je vous écrit ce mode lettre
pour vous faire savoir l'état de
ma santé je desire que votre
présente se trouve de même
bien cher père s'il la connaît
que je met par ici c'est la

ce que je suis toujours
votre dévoué
je vous a prais que nous
somme prisonnier a serant
met gire ~~par~~ fopa

tirer pienne pasque

nous somme ~~beaucoup~~ très bien

gait pasote sans courir

pour le moment

votre cher fils Constant

nous somme
George
Darnet
prisonnier

Figure 1

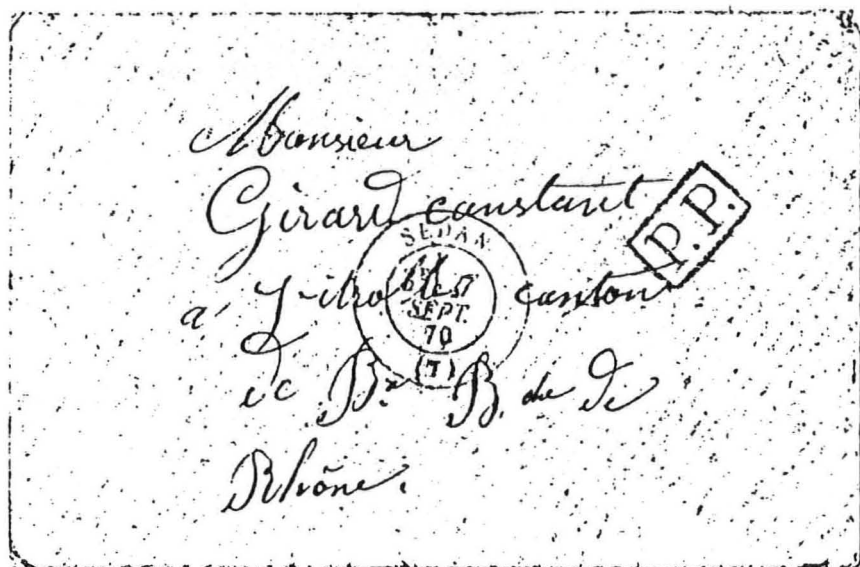


Figure 2

There are no other backstamps to give clues to the routing of the cover in detouring fighting zones in the last two weeks of its journey, from a severed rail line in northeastern France to its destination in the south.

References:

- "Encyclopaedia Britannica," 11th Edition, New York, 1910. E. Cohn, "The October Ballons Montes," F & C Philatelist No. 209, July 1987.
 "Oblitérations, Cachets et Timbres d'Alsace et de Lorraine de 1849 à 1871," SPAL, Bischwiller 1953.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGS

- "Catalogue Cérès, Tome I, France 1988." 400 pp., 85Fr; "Tome II, Nations Unis, Andorre, Monaco, Sarre, Territoires D.O.M. et Colonies." 1987, 55Fr. Cérès, 23 rue de Louvre, 75041 Paris Ol. (Cérès claims to give market prices, and they tend to be lower than Yvert).
 "Savoir Acheter et Vendre." By Jean-Claude Fourcaut. 1987, 50 pp. 69Fr. From the author, 2 rue Drouot, 75009 Paris (he is a well-known dealer in Paris).
 "La Poste en Dordogne." By M. Dupuis. 1987, 70Fr p.p.d., from author, 28 Quai Gambetta, 71100 Chalons-sur-Saone.
 "Timbres-Monnaie: Pochettes, Carnets, Jetons de France et des Colonies." By P. Bourstine. 1987, 104 pp. 180Fr p.p.d. The author, 105 rue Maurice-Challus, 03700 Bellerive-sur-Allier.
 "Catalogue Abad d'Andorre '87-88." 104 pp. 650 pesetas + post. The author, M. Abad, Avzda, Carlemany 41, Les Escaldes, Princip. d'Andorra.
 "Les Tarifs Postaux en France 1969-1986." By O. Ledanois. 1987.
 "La Philatélie à Travers un Périodique Spécialisé-Le Monde des Philatélistes." By J. Agard et D. Reix. Université de Paris II. Eary ING-PTT, 1984.
 "Almanac des Postes; Le Calendrier Révolutionnaire; Témoins de la Poste." Reprints from 1767-1941. H. Cappart, 1987, 38 pp. Supplement to Feuilles Marcophiles No. 251, 3rd Trim., 1987.

- "Atlas Historique des Timbres." By S. Rossiter and J. Flower. 1987, 336 pp. 150Fr + post. Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, 80036 Amiens Cédex.
- "Catalogue Neudin des Cartes Postales, Ed. 1988." 536 pp. 125Fr + post. From Image Document, 9 rue J.-F. Gerbillon, 75006 Paris.
- "Les Poinçons de l'Histoire, Les Sites et Les Villes." 1987, 595Fr by subscription up to 31 Dec. 1987. From the Musée de la Poste, 34 Blvd de Vaugirard, 75731 Paris Cédex 15. (See FCP #211, p.17 for note of explanation of this work). This is vol. 2 of a series to ultimately total 9 volumes. The 1st Vol., devoted to Personnages, appeared in 1987. The titles of future volumes are: #3--Monuments, Châteaux, Cathédrales (128 dies); #4--Sciences, Métiers Techniques (44 dies); #5--Communications, Transports, Ouvrages d'Art (101 dies); #6--Santé, Sport, Loisirs (102 dies); #7--Musique et Littérature (113 dies); #8 & 9, double vol.--Peinture, Sculpture, Métiers d'Arts (168 dies).
- "Stanley Gibbons Specialized France Catalogue 1988." 392 pp., 9.95 L + post. (incl. Monaco, Andorre, DOM-TOM).
- Publications of Le Club le Meilleur, B.P. 21, 77350 Le Mée-sur-Seine:
- "Catalogue Oblitérations Ferroviaires: Charente." 14 pp., 23.70F p.p.d.
- "Catalogue Oblitérations Ferroviaires; Charente Inferieur." 20 pp. 26.70Fr p.p.d.
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations Daguins Flamme Muette." 8 pp. 17.70F p.p.d.
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations FLIER Par Dept., Sauf Paris." 20 pp. 13Fr p.p.d.
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations KRAG Paris." 22 pp. 43.40F p.p.d.
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations KRAG Province." 90 pp. 70F p.p.d.
- "French Colonies Revenues (and Former Colonies Now Independent)." "part I. North African Colonies," 1987, by G.M. Abrams and Henri Janton. \$16.50 p.p.d. from Donald L. Duston, publisher, 1314 25th St., Peru, IL 61354. (Sponsored by the American Revenue Association). Part I contains Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Tangiers. A priced catalog. Spiral card covers. "Part V. Miscellaneous and Island Colonies," Jan. 1988, 89 pp. \$14.50 p.p.d. Includes Madagascar, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Reunion, etc. Parts II-IV will appear later in 1988.
- "Revenue Stamps of Monaco." Ed. and publ. by D.L. Duston, 1988. 19 pp. \$4.00 p.p.d., 1314 25th St., Peru, IL 61354.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

- On 8 April the 2F Philex-Jeunes 88 stamp was issued. On 9 April the 2.50 F Don du Sang. On 30 April the 2.20 and 2.30F Europas, Transports and Communications themes. On 10 May the 2.20F Jean Monnet appeared. On 21 May the 2.20 Valence (for Congress FSPF). On 28 May the 3.60 Assistance Médicale Internationale and 3.70F Accessibilité aux Handicapés. On 11 June the 3.70 Hermes Dicephale of Holy Roman Empire (80x26mm). On 18 June the 3.00 + 4.00 Bicentenary of the Revolution triptyque with PhilexFr 89 logo in center. On 18 June a set of four Animaux de l'Histoire Naturel de Buffon: 2F La Loutre, 3F le Cerf, 4F le Rénard, 5F le Blaireau. On 25 June the 2.50F Troupes Alpines.
- To be issued in July: on 2 July the 2.00F Roland Garros and 2.20F Château de Sedières. On 23 July the 3F Cirque de Gavarnie and the 2.00F Musée du Bateau-Dornenez.
- In late April or thereabouts the Liberté 3.70F rose began to show up at the main P.O.s with only one phospho bar!
- On 18 April the PTT issued without much warning the 2.20F Liberté current stamp with a surcharge "ECU/Om31..." which stands for European Currency Unit equivalent to 2.20F (as of the date of issue). The issue is a propaganda ploy for the ECU on the part of the French--the stamp will be used on much mail addressed to the various European Economic Community countries. The ECU equivalent will vary somewhat: thus 2.20F was .3146 ECU on 16 Jan., and .3154 on 22 Feb. The stamp is only valid in France. 55 million stamps were surcharged. The sudden release did not afford time for a First Day ceremony, but FD cancels can be obtained from the Service des Bureaux Temporaires 61-63

rue de Douai 75436. The Union of PTT Philatelists put out a souvenir card and envelope. It will be interesting to see what further comes of this venture of the PTT.

► Next January 1 the PTT will issue a 2.20F for the Bicentenary of the French Revolution in large format (31x52mm) with a design showing three birds soaring.

► For Monaco was issued on 15 Feb. four precancels representing the four seasons: 1.36, 1.75, 2.83, and 4.72F. On 30 March a 5F for the Assoc. Mondiale des Amis d'Enfants. On 21 April the Europa stamps: 2.20 and 3.60F. On 26 May a set of mushroom stamps: 2.00, 2.20, 2.50, 2.70, 5.00 and 7.00F. On 30 March Monaco issued a group of eight diverse commemorative stamps not sold individually: values were 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6F.

► Andorre issued on 20 April the 2.20 and 3.60F Europas. On 14 May a 2.20 Font Termal Escaldes. Andorre has issued a booklet of ten 2.20F in the Armoires design; the cover is in yellow with a print of the Armoires on back and an Andorran scene on front.

► New Caledonia issued on 24 Feb. a 400F for Université du Pacifique Sud; on 23 March 30 and 46F Aquarium of Noumea; on 13 April 19 and 21F showing regional Cases; on 27 April a 300F for 125th Anniv. of the Red Cross and Croissant Rouge. A 36 and 46F fish designs has also appeared.

► Polynesia issued on 16 March 11, 15, and 17F showing types of habitations; on 31 April a 400F Phare de Pointe Venus; on 20 May 52 and 54 and 64F paintings on TAPA.

► St. Pierre-Miquelon released a 5F for the winter olympics on 5 March. On 4 May 2.20F for Dr. Thomas. On 27 June an issue commemorating aviation: 5.00F Zeppelin, and 10F DC-3.

► Wallis and Futuna on 18 Feb. issued a 600F Roland Garros. On 21 March 70F for La Perouse. On 8 April 500F De la Tour. 5 May 100F for Journée Mondiale de Télécommunications.

► Recent French stamp denominations are avoiding values terminating in "5" in order to simplify things for the postal clerks. The only tariffs left requiring 5c are for journals sent abroad. The sale of 5c stamps is to be ended (perhaps already by April).

► An air service has been opened in Guiana between Cayenne and St. Laurent du Maroni with stops en route at Kourou (the satellite base) and Sinnamary. Covers carried with special cachet are available from the Assoc. Pegase, B.P. 20, 31650 Saint Orens, at 45Fr. Other philatelic souvenirs are available.

► The stamp bourse at Carré Marigny in Paris held a festival on May 12-15 at which experts Brun and Calves gave out opinions of items submitted by visitors.

► The traditional annual Salon d'Automne stamp show usually held in November will be held this year on Dec. 8-11 at the Place Champerret.

► Dr. Jacques Fromageat, the eminent student of the Empire and Bordeaux issues, and of various aspects of French postal history, died on 29 April at 80 years of age. He was very active in organized philately as an international judge, a member of the Académie de Philatélie, promoter of philately for juniors, and author of numerous articles.

► Claude Haley, designer and engraver of many French and colonial stamps died on March 8. A more or less self-taught artist who was a stamp collector, decided in 1960 he would enter the competition for stamp designs held by the PTT and thus his long career began. In 1987 he won the Grand Prix d'Art Philatélique at the Salon d'Automne for his Guillaume le Conquêteur stamp. His last work is a set of nature stamps to be issued on 18 June.

► Member Richard F. Winter has been elected a Director of the U. S. Philatelic Classics Society. His book with the late Mr. Hubbard, on the sailings of the transatlantic steamers will be published shortly by the U. S. Classic Society.

► At SPRINGPEX in March Bob Stone won the Grand Award and various special awards for his exhibit of St. Pierre-Miquelon Group Type (in 4 frames). The Grand prize was a large wooden clock in the old fashioned style--a very fancy award for such a small show.

► At NAPEX in May there were no French exhibits but a number of FCPS members were present and got together for lunch: Bill Waugh, Dick Stevens, Dick Winter, Bob Stone, Larry Jones, Jeff Bohn, Martin Stempien, Ed. Grabowski.

► ROMPEX at Denver in May was very successful from all reports. Stan Luft was the Show President and Awards Chairman. They gave out 18 Golds, of which our members took a good share: Dick Winter for his Transatlantic Mails, Gardner Brown for Aftermath of the Franco-Prussian War, Dick Stevens for Martinique Forerunners, Jerry Massler for Monaco Postal Stationery, Jeff Bohn for Franco-British Accountancy Markings 1843-75, Susan McDonald for BNA-U.S. Cross-Border Mails (won the Reserve Grand); Lewis Bussey

for French Naval Mails to America during WWII. Robert Kinsley obtained a Silver-Bronze for his French Somaliland 1890-1910.

► A party was held one night for the francophiles-19 in all-including: S. Luft and guest, Dick Stevens, Kay and Gardner Brown, Lewis Bussey, Bob Kinsley, Jacques Musy and wife, Alex and Pat Jackson, Chas. Sandberg, A. Wachinsky and Gene Tinsley.

***** CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES *****

(cont. from FCP #211)

Le Monde des Philatelistes

#415, Jan. 1988: Laurent: "Marcel Dassault-avionneur de Génie 1892-1986"; Buffier: "De Gaulle-Addenauer: Traite Franco-Allemande 22 Jan. 1963"; Julien: "Bande dessinée et philatélie"; "Repertoire des timbres Fr. de 1987"; Altériet: "Liberté vars (cont.)"; Jacques Jubert-"architect peintre et graveur"; Calves: "Expertise-Côte des Somalis 25c et 50c"; Prugnon: "1er émission de France-60 ans d'existence"

#416, Feb. 1987: Prugnon cont.; "L'Histoire de la Poste en band dessinée"; Julien: "Albert Décaris"; Altériet cont.; Guiraud-Darmais: "Monaco-flammes mécaniques"; Calves/Jacquart: "Expertise-Congo Française surcharge 1903"

L'Echo de la Timbrologie

#1594, Jan. 1988: Bastien: "Philatélie moderne" (cont.); Danan: "Les timbres socio-postaux 1891-1944"; "Un chouette concours"; "Changement de cotes Yvert cat. 1988"; Venturini cont.; Podevin: "De R.A.P. au R.P.P."

Journal of the France and Colonies Philatelic Society (GB)

Vol. 37, #5, Sept. 1987, Wh. No. 165: Reader: "Philatelic Exhibits in German occupied Paris (cont.)"; Bellack: "Early ambulant p.o.s in Alsace"; Barker: "GB-Fr foreign postcard rates"; Berkinshaw-Smith: "Correspondance d'Armée Hué, 1877-9"; Newbury: "Monsieur Pellevilain of Rouen 1870"; Barker: "Siège of Paris: Mon. Pellevilain"; Jones: "People on French stamps-cont."

#166, Dec. 1987: Richardson: "1909 Amiens strike stamp"; Jannings-Bramly: "The false Mersons"; Round: "Martinique 1908 stamp issue"; Jones: "1981 artistic crafts issue"; Coles: "French post office as a debt collector-the recouvrements service"

Timbroscopie

#43, Jan. 1988: Jamet: "Le 15c semeuse lignée, emploi et contreemplois d'une star postale"; Projets de la Poste-international G. Lormand"; Storch et Francon: "Relance les Mouchons"; Melot: "Territoire de l'Inini"

Documents Philateliques

#115, 1st Trim 1988: Hurtré: "Le type Champlain"; Schroeder: "Lettre taxée provenant d'une boîte mobile de courrier d'entreprise"; Gallenga: "Le Bureau Française de Rome après la Restauration Pontificale 14 Mai 1814"; Lissarague: "L'entrée d'Espagne en France par St-Jean-Pied-de-Port"; Prugnon: "Grille à l'emplacement du TP"; Hecq: "Elections et plébiscites 1848, 1871"; Blanc: "Repression des abus sur les franchises, l'étiquette avis #63"; Hosteau: "Cachet commémorative de Jean d'Arc à Clipperton 1934 et Tristan 1953"; Foster: "Occupation de Rome 1849-70, 2nd expédition, 28 Oct. 1867-25 Oct. 1870"; Hurtré: "Les entiers postaux français perforés".

Bulletin de l'Association COLFRA

#40, 4th Trim. 1987: Pannetier cont.; Messenger: "Cachet de Chantaboun"; Desrousseaux cont.; Ressort: "Cameroun griffe PP 1950-60"; Quesnel "Memel"

cont.; Favrel et Mathieu: "Madagascar, les oblitérations (cont.)"

Indo-China Philatelist

- #83, May-June 1987: Klewitz: "Vietnam some offbeat issues (10th installment); Stern: "Brief but helpful glossary of postal terms in VN"; Blake: "Label from Cambodia"; Stern: "Some notes on the mailing system of the Peoples Army of VN in Cambodia"; Kahane: "Overprinted Stanley Gibbons #475--Laos"
- #84, July-Aug. 1987: Klewitz cont.; Stern: "The Hanoi postal system--a preliminary anatomy"; Bentley: "Overprinted Madagascar stationery for the Tonkin Expeditionary Corps"
- #86, Nov.-Dec. 1987: Klewitz cont.; Kahane: "V M issue update"; Stern: "postal system reform in V.N. 1987"

Postscript

- #172, Oct./Nov. 1987: Spenser: "Hamburg" (P.O.s) Coles: "French Post office as a debt collector"; Wood: "Transatlantic mails"

Relais

- #18, June 1987: Fouche: "Les dames les maitresses de poste"; Belhabib: "Mon. de Pomponne Ministre d'état, superintendant générale des postes et relais de France"; Storch et Francon: "Le poinçons méconnus de Musée de la Poste" (cont.); Ruhlé: "Affranchissement mixte de Saint Pierre et Miquelon"; Garcin: "En marge de réseau Havas"; Nougaret: "Poste Auto Rurale"; Cappart: "Déboursé et Rébuts"
- #19, Sept. 1987: "Bureaux Ambulants 1930/45"; Eve: "Révolution de 1948"; "Mirabeau ou l'inviolabilité de correspondance 25 July 1789"; conts. of Storch et Francon and Nougaret.
- #20, Dec. 1987: "La carte postale et la Poste"; Charbon: "Quand le Marquis de Chabannes inventait le 'Vélocifères'"; Trassaert: "Trésors du Musée de la Poste--le Coq de Décaris"; Alexandre: "Quand la Poste refusait d'être payée en assignats"; Cappart: "Service par entreprises"; "Les Alliés à Paris 1814-1815"; Cappart: "Le transport d'une lettre en 1849; Vaguemestre en Indochine 1954"; "Destitution d'un Maître de Poste"

Philatelic Literature Revue

- 4th Qtr 1987: Birch: "Philatelic Translation Index" (many French pubs. included)

La Depeche de Tahiti

- 13 Oct. 1987: Beslu: "Nouveau timbres-objets et armes anciens"
- 19 Nov. 1987: Beslu: "Une Sacrée Piece (mail of prisoners of war interned in Tahiti 1916).

Japanese Philately

- Vol. 43, #1, Feb. 1988: Spaulding: "The first postal union rates between Japan and France"

Cahiers d'Histoire des PTT

- #1, 1985: Coulaud: "Clivages et solidarités à l'entree D'une Administration--les enseignements de l'étude de la Résistance aux PTT"; Bajeik: "L'Hotel Choiseul-Praslin--bon souvenirs pour les visiteurs de notre ancien Musée Postal"; Bordellon: "Histoire Postale de Rueil-Malmaison"; Nougaret: "Quelques histoires de la Poste non-illustrées parues avant 1900"

La Malle Poste--Bulletin des Amis du Musée de la Poste de Pays Loire

- #1: "Installation de poste à lettres à Nantes 1636";
- #2. "Carnet de l'ingénieur Chappé";
- #3. "La poste dans la Poche de St. Nazaire de 1944-45"

Diligence d'Alsace

- #32, 1985: F.X.: "Heitz de Kembs, Maître de Poste"; "Mesaventure d'un télégraphiste de Wittenheim en l'An 8"; "Localités de l'Alsace-Lorraine temporaires annexes 1870-71 ayant possédé des cachets postaux Allemandes"; "Les Bureaux de Poste sous la Tourmenté 'Ferrette' en 1939-45"; "Aspects de la Poste aux Armées"; "L'Elsasser et le facteur en 1883"; "Reestablishment du service postale en Alsace 1944-45"
- #35, 1986: Kayserberg: "Poste diligence et télégraphique"; "Poste militaire et civile en Alsace libéré 1914-18"; "Le Mongolfier 18ème ballon du Siècle"

Bulletin de l'Association Philatelique l'Océan Indien

- #4, 1985: "Catalogue permanente des marques postales de la Réunion."

Amicale Philatelique France-Israel

- #2, 1985: "La poste Française de Jerusalem"

Phil.-E.A.-Bull. Soc. d'Etudes Philatéliques et Postales de la Poste en Algérie

- #10, 1985: Mullenheim: "La lettre recommandée"; Bosc: "Oblitérations de Dept. Oasis 1960-62"
- #11, 1986: Alexandre: "Bureau d'Alger créés de 1904 à 1914"; Perrin: "Les essais privés, précurseurs des timbres d'Algérie"; Renaud: "La Mission Wauthier".
- #(?), March 1987: Barat: "Entiers postaux de France utilisés en Algérie"; Perrin: "Les timbres poste d'Algérie"; "Transport exceptionnelle par avion du 15 Mai 1930 Alger-Tunis"; Mullenheim: "La Lettre recommandée"; "Surcharges locales EA"; "Oblitérations ville et Dept. d'Oran".

Postillon

- #167, Nov. 1985: Hirsmoller: "Ein seltenes Kontrollstempel Strasburg"; Heminger: "Masayer postgeschichte 1792-1814"; Leclerc: "Die 3 Fr Kathedrale von Rheims"; Boblique: "Die dauererien Petain"
- #169, July 1986: Drewitz: "Französische Zeitungsstempel"
- #170, Dec. 1986: Seitz: "Automatenmarken Frankreich"; Silberman: "Das Postwesen in Frankreich"; Marsdan: "Die Deutsch-französische Krieg 1870-71"; Von Scharpen: "Die französischen 'A'-marke"; Koch: "Internationalen Antwortscheine aus dem von Frankreich besetzten Teilgebiete des Elsass"; Liechte: "Ballons montés-zu welchen Ballon gehört mein Beleg"
- #172, July 1987: Spalink: "Die Okkupations marken von 1870-71"; Drewitz: "Briefmarken-Not Geld"
- #173, Dec. 1987: Von Scharpen: "Kaum bekannte 'repiquages' Zudrucke auf Gänzsachen der Französischen Kolonien und Auslands-postämpter"; Blaucas: "Briefmarken Not Geld"; Kleinman: "Automatenmarken Frankreich"; Spalink: "Der Deutsch-Französische Krieg: Dichtung und Wahrheit"; Von Scharpen: "Postunion Monaco-Frankreich"

References (PTT)

- #19, 1987: Aipaire: "Quand le timbre change de visage"; Bourdin: "La Poste aux Armées"

Messages (PTT)

- #335, April 1984: "Microordinateur (for PO agents)"; "Postexpress"
- #338, July-Aug. 1984: Chevalier: "Pari sur l'avenir de la Poste"
- #339, Sept. 1984: "La reorganisation des transports postaux"
- #340, Oct. 1984: "Vol de Nuit (for Postadex Internationale)"
- #342, Dec-Jan. 1984-5: "Le Prêt à postier" (experim station in Isère);
- Nov. 1985: "Imprimerie des timbres-poste a Perigueux-renom dans le monde"; "Postexpress"

- March 1986: "Development de la Poste"; "Chronopost"; "Guichet special associations"; "Conarneau--Bureau de la concertation"
- April 1986: "Gerard Longuet--nouveau Secrétaire d'Etat pour PTT"; "Nouveau ambulants Paris à Toulouse"; "Service de traduction des addresses; "Un facteur en campagne"
- #371, 1987: "La poste et la publicite directe"

Marianne

- #62/63, Aug. 1984: Van d. Vlist: "Hetoonaan en het gebruik van het Type Sage" (cont.); Schretlen: "Zegels en enveloppen met perforaties"; Vermeer: "Een verrassende Outdepping (Eagles cover from Senegal)"; Van d. Vlist: "Het herkennen van Vervalsingen #37 (F.M. stamps)"
- #61, Jan. 1984: Spoelman: "Louvois onterken van oorlog, geweld en de Post"; Kroesen: "Proefstempels 1828-29"; Van d. Vlist: "Type Sage (cont.)"; Diepstraten: "De Psrijsse Kantoren in een Nieuwe jasje"; Spoelman: "Die route-stempels in gebruik bij het hoofdpstkantoren Parisjs"
- #66, May 1985: DeVries: "De Franse Anteken-Strookies"; Van Rijn: "Britse Visie op Franse Post Anno 1839"; "Jets over de oude Franse Posttarieven"; Kroesen: "Brieven met Franse Zegels met Duitse Veldpost W.O. II Aftempeligen"
- #67, Sept. 1985: DeVries: "Enkele Kauttekeningen bij het post monopolie"; Spoelman: "De route-stempel in gebruik bij het hoofdpstkantoor te Parisjs"; Brocx: (Vaille): "De oudste geschiedenis van het postwesen"
- #68, Dec. 1985: DeVries: "Het Marianne-zegel van Gandon"; Spoelman: "De postgeschiedenes van Dole (Jura)"; Lamberts: "De snelheid von Tante pos"; Vermeer: "Voorlopen in de Franse Kolonie"; Gabriels: "Oorlogspost"
- #70, Sept. 1986: "Reijkschroeff: "De Semeus"; Kroesen: "Particuliere postdienst in Paris Tijdens de Commune"
- #71, Nov. 1986: Reijkschroeff cont.
- #72, Jan. 1987: Reijkschroeff cont.
- #73, April 1987: Brocx: "De oplagen van de eerste emissie Frankreichs 1849"; Reijkschroeff: "De Semeuse" (cont.)
- #74, Aug. 1987: Reijkschroeff, and Brocx, conts.

Bulletin Trimestrielle Amicale Philatelique l'Ancre/Nantes

- #33, Jan. 1984: Porcher: "Les Bureaux de Distribution en Loire-Inferieur"; Vincent: "Bicentenaire de l'Air et de l'Espace"; Renaudin: "Une belle Fausse Direction"
- #34, April 1984: Porcher cont.; Peigne: "Un cachet d'essai non-sigale (Paris à Nantes 2)"; Vincent: "Un nouveau Bureau de Poste à Saint Nazaire"
- #36, Oct. 1984: "Nineven: "La poste pneumatique à Paris"; Peigne: "Inauguration de la Gare de Vannes"; Vincent: "Inauguration de l'aérogare de Chatrau-Bougon"; Vincent: "Bordeaux '84 Congrès Nationale"; Vincent: "71 Tour de France cycliste, 8ème étape le Mans à Nantes"; Vincent: "Entier postale ou imprime de service?"
- #37, Jan. 1985: Renaudin: "Le calendrier revolutionnaire"; Papillon: "Bureau Temporaire de Loire Inferieur et Loire Atlantique"; Glemarec: "Entier postale ou imprime de service?"; Brigardis: "LEchange-Express"
- #40, Oct. 1985: Peigne: "Obliterations de Courrier-Convoyeurs"; Barraud: "Origine rurale" (covers recent); "L.S.A. simplifié"
- #41, Jan. 1986: Peigne cont.; Favreau: "Histoire de taxation"
- #45, 1st Trim, 1987: "Emissions de timbres-poste sans valeur faciale"; Vincent: "Mermoz"; Glenmarec: "Les timbres en carnets de 10"; Vincent: "Postelec en Bretagne"; Favreau: "Sécurité Sociale--suppression de la Dispense d'affranchissement"
- #46, 2nd Trim, 1987: Devenyns: "Les Cérés aux Colonies"; Lagarde: "Un chopin-La Salpêtrière"

La Philatelie Francaise

- #362-363, Aug.-Sept. 1984: Poret: "L'Alsace-Lorraine pendant la Guerre de 1914-18";

- Laplace: "Les barrages et les centrales hydro-électrique"; Belle: "Les deux types de feuilles du 15c taxe Type I au Type II"; Dreyfus: "La France préhistorique"
- #364, Oct. 1984: Poret cont.: Perrin: "Les deux molettes plates ou la filiation de Sabines"; Dreyfus cont.; Bousquet: "Recommandée à l'aide de machine affranchir"; Delwaulle: "Les redresseurs Pitney Bowes"; LeGac: "Les sites et monuments de France"
- #365, Nov. 1984: Poret, Bousquet cont.; Tonnadre: "L'ambulant Bordeaux à Cette"; Le Bland: "Carnets 25c bleu Semeuse camée"; Morel d'Arleux: "Variétés curieuses des préoblitéres PP 1920 et 1921"
- #366, Dec. 1984: Poret cont.; Bousquet: "Emissions de la Libération"; Tixier: "Enveloppes de cartes réponses dites enveloppes et cartes"; Durst et DuCommon: "Histoire des empreintes de machines à affranchir"; Joany: "Materiel de Fabrication du 5Fr Empire conserve au Musée Postale"; Fromageat: "Notes sur le 1c Napoleon lauré dentelée"; Robineau: "La presse TD6 et les barres phospho"
- #370-371: "Le 20c Napoleon lauré dentelée"; 20c non-lauré Type II retouches"; Les 20c semeuses camées"; "Les timbres en Type Muller/Piel"; "Liberte, vars."; "Chiffre Tex carrees"; "Les GAPA et les MOG"
- #372-373: "Les Bureaux Francaises a l'etranger"; "Les GAPA"
- #374-375: "Liberté vars." (cont. through #378); "Enterprise prive à Colmar 19ème Siècle"
- #376, Oct. 1985: Heynen: "Les barrages et les centrales hydro-electriques"; Poret: "Le 50c Cent. Algérie"; Mantz et Cayotte: "Liberté nouvelles variétés"; Tristant: "Les échanges postaux Franco-Brésiliens 1850-60 de paquebots à vapeur français et les services précurseurs de 1854 à 1857"; Harnould: "Les sites et monuments de France"
- #377, Nov. 1985: Harnould cont.; Poret cont.; Storch et Francon: "Entiers postaux de France et de Monaco--découverts récentes"; Ressort: "Gabon, designations mnémotechnique de cachets dateurs"; Joany: "Les tarifs avertes de 1877"
- #378, Dec. 1985: Harnould, Poret cont.; Storch et Francon: "Entiers rares aux types Semeuse--découverts récentes"; Blanc: "Les poinçons taxe au type gerbe de Gandon-Cortot"; Janton cont.; Mathieu: "Les Bureaux Français à l'Etranger"
- #379, Jan. 1986: "Liberté vars."; Poret: "Timbres fiscaux de France émis des origines à 1893; Belle, Harnould conts.; "Identification et classement des empreintes de machines à affranchir";
- #380, Feb. 1986: "Timbres de distributeurs MOG"; "Premier états du 5c Cérès 1872"; "20c noir sur chamois ou fauve"; "Liberté vars."; Spitzer: "La poste en Guyane"; Pausier: "Les timbres de UNESCO"; cont. of Poret, Harnould
- #381, March 1986: "Liberté vars."; conts. of Poret, Harnould, Belle
- #382, April 1986: Bertin: "Les Français sur les timbres étrangers"; Poret: "Principales oblitérations utilisées lors de l'internements de militaires français en Suisse pendant la 2ème Guerre mondiale"; Harnould cont.
- #383, May 1986: Poret: "Les cachets postaux de l'occupation allemande en Moselle 1940-44"; Barthélémy: "Classification des oblitérations manuelles modernes"; Storch et Francon: "Pieces inconnues des musées postaux"
- #384-385, June-July 1986: Trassaert: "Les changements de Tarif des envois en nombre"; Glemarec: "Collectionneurs, transformez votre courrier ordinaire en pieces philatéliques"; cont. Poret, Harnould
- #386-387, Aug.-Sept. 1986: Poret: "Les cachets à pont allemande utilisées à Strasbourg entre 1900-1919"; "Liberté nouvelles vars."
- #388, Oct. 1986: Bergez: "Chronique de TAAF"; LeGac: "Page du Groupement ultra"
- #389, Nov. 1986: Poret: "Le Camp de sécurité de La Broque"; DeLizeray: "Les 10c semeuses grasses Types 1A et 1B"; Nolet: "L'Europe des six échaf audée par Danéel Gonzague" conts. of Harnould, LeGac, Liberté vars. violet de France"; DeLizeray: "Les millesimes des preos"; Poret: "Les cachets postaux de fause direction"

- #390, Dec. 1986: Cadenat: "Les flammes d'oblitération à Pau"; Glemarec: "Timbres provisoires et tarifs postaux"
- #391, Jan. 1987: Nolet: "Le Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny émissions de 1952-54"; Poret: "Quelques marques postale annexes d'Alsace et de Moselle justifiant la difficulté ou l'impossibilité de distribution du courrier"; Bernadas: "La poste restante et les machines à affranchir"
- #392, Feb. 1987: Bergez: "Chronique du TAAF"; cont. Belle, Harnould
- #393, March 1987: Poret: "Les cachets postaux de fausse direction"; "Catalogue Marianne étude de l'année 1985"; "Liberté-nouvelle vars."
- #394, April 1987: Poret: "Les cachets fausse direction du Dep't. du Nord"; Proust: "Taxe sur Recommandés du XXème siècle"; Danan: "Les timbres de permis de chasse"; "Catalogue Marianne Supplement"; Cadenat: "Correspondances administratives avec port en manuscrit"
- #396-397, June-July 1987: "Liberté vars"; Bertin cont.; Poret cont.; Bergez cont.
- #398-399, Aug. Sept. 1987: "Liberté vars"; Bergez cont.

Timbroscopie

- #44, Feb. 1988: Bartoli et al: "Investir dans les timbres"; Jamet: "Tunisia-paradoxes des émissions de bienfaisance"; Melot: "Les Types Petain" (I); Jamet: "Timbres monnaie-conséquences d'une pénurie des pièces métalliques après 1914"; Melot: "1970-la fin des années noires"; Les neufs sans gomme-hybrides sans statut ou mal-aimés, qui méritent mieux?"



THE LITERATURE ON THE MARITIME POST WITH THE COLONIES UNDER THE OLD REGIME (TO 1792)

Until recently the only literature on the maritime posts with the colonies before the Revolution was mainly devoted to describing some of the so-called "entry marks" of the French ports seen on letters from the colonies; scattered through miscellaneous catalogs (Maury) and articles but only treated systematically and more or less completely in Salles' great work "La Poste Maritime," Tome I (1961). Lately (1981) J. Bergier has also cataloged these markings in a quite different manner than Salles, including a few new discoveries, and giving some discussion of the postal-history background. However, the operation of the maritime posts, the official laws and regulations on them, the rates charged on the mail upon delivery in France, were given limited attention (Vaillé), except for the Paquebots Royaux services of 1763-4, 1783-89 (Dubus, 1967).

The postal history of the pre-Revolution colonial maritime services was addressed in thorough fashion for the first time in a long serial article by Henri Tristant in *Le Monde des Philatélistes* 1979-83, unfortunately not reprinted in brochure form. For specialists in colonial postal history and serious collectors of the early letters to France, the Tristant work is a very important reference. He analyzes all the laws and regulations (quoting liberally from them) and their effects on the mail and the markings, the basis for all the rates, and the relations to the various entry marks. This is done for each regulatory regime and period, and with regard to the mail from each colony. Many covers are illustrated. An important point he makes is that the significance and rarity of a given entry mark can be very different according to the area or place of origin of the letter. He emphasizes also that attention must be given to the postage-due markings in order to differentiate the rates for the various maritime services from those of the internal French posts, private and royal. The strength of his work lies in the thorough exploitation of the archives. He does not attempt to catalog the markings, which is adequately done in other works.

J. Bergier, an assiduous collector and student of the early colonial maritime letters to France, published a book in Dec. 1981 which is especially important for collectors of such material, as he classifies and catalogs the markings in various ways, with much detail about their uses. His book is attractively arranged, replete with illustrations of covers, old documents and prints, maps, and tables summarizing data on the shipping, ports, rates,

etc. His catalog section indicates the relative scarcity of the entry marks according to period of use, origin of letters, colors, etc. His data has a postal-history interest and he has a brief discussion of the postal-history backgrounds, though not to the extent of Tristant. Bergier more recently published articles which cover the same subject more briefly and in a narrative form. (His works include the entire "pre-philatelic" period up to 1849).

Maurice Jamet's excellent book "150 Ans d'Histoire Postale des Anciens Colonies Francaise" (1980) is mainly devoted to the postal markings of the colonies themselves, but has a brief summary of the maritime services (pp. 19-39) covering early mail-carrying between colonies and France to 1766, the Loliot service, the Royal Paquebots, the 19th Century packets subventioned by the Government, the mail under the Franco-British Postal Conventions and use of French stamps 1850-53 in several colonies; the postal rates are quoted in some detail but only a few entry marks are illustrated. For the general colonies collector this is a most convenient and authoritative overview.

References:

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- H. Tristant: "La Poste Maritime Franco-Coloniale sous l'Ancien Régime," *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, Nov. 1979 - June 1983.
- J. Bergier: "Marques d'Entrées Maritimes du XVIII et du XIXème Siècle." Nantes, 1981, L'Amicale Philatélique l'Ancre. 137 pp. (review in FCP #188, p. 88)
- J. Bergier: "La Poste Maritime," Feuilles Marcophiles, #241 and 243, 1985.
- J. Bergier: "La Poste Maritime, Période Pre-philatélique", Documents Philatéliques, #s 106-107, 1985.
- L. Dubus: "Les Trois Première Règles de Paquebot-Poste sous Louis XVI," *Révue de l'Académie de Philatélie*, July-Oct. 1967.
- Marc W. Martin: "The French Transatlantic Packet Service 1783-1788," in: Ter Braake: "The Posted Letter in Colonial and Revolutionary America 1629-1790." Amer. Phil. Soc., 1975.
- M. Jamet: "150 Ans d'Histoire Postale des Anciens Colonies Francaises 1700-1860." Paris, the author, June 1980, 291 pp. (review in FCP #181).

REVIEW

ZINC BALL MAIL -1871

"Boules de Moulins" (Balls from Moulins), by Robert Boussac (Hubert Cappart, ed.), 40 pp., ill., 8¼"x12", softbound, supplement to No. 253 of *Les Feuilles Marcophiles* (1988), FrF 80 & postage, from Lucien Bridelance, 19 avenue du Châtelet, Lésigny, F-77330 Ozoir-la-Ferrière, France.

This memorial issue for the late Robert Boussac contains the essence of his writings on attempts to send mail via hollow zinc balls into besieged Paris during the 1870/71 war. After two prefaces, the composite story starts with an account of Delort's "invention," the patent of which was rediscovered a century later by P. G. Harmant. Some other documents, found in Boussac's original articles, have been omitted.

There follows a description of the successful trials, within Paris, of the "agents," as the zinc balls were first called in official code language, carriers of 600-700 letters each, soldered shut with rounded caps at both ends. A contract for their use was signed by the government and promoters Robert, Delort and Vonoven on 6 December.

Robert and Delort contacted post-office people at Tours a couple of days later, having been flown out of Paris on the balloon "Le Denis Papin." After needless red tape a new contract was forced upon them on Christmas eve 1870, so that operations did not start until early in January. They were officially halted some three weeks later, after 55 balls had been tossed into the Seine.

Not one arrived at besieged Paris. The first was found in March 1871, the latest (thus far) in 1982, still in good shape.

The major portion of the issue is devoted to unusual frankings, strange routings (even from Saxony to a German PW at Paris), and letters from better-known boules with official arrival markings. Not all Boussac's original illustrations are here, unfortunately, each being interesting for a different reason.

Although not the complete story of the *Boules de Moulins*, this is a useful compendium and a fitting memorial to this scholar.

- Ernst M. Cohn

***** F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL *****

President's Message

I am pleased to announce that at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors it was decided to maintain the dues at their present level for another year. There have been substantial expenditure increases as a result of having to find a new printer for the Philatelist, and of the changes in postal rates. However, the Society has accumulated a sufficient surplus during the past several years to cover any deficit anticipated for this year. Other societies have been raising their dues, and we believe ours are now lower than most, but we will raise ours only when it is essential to cover expenses, not to perpetuate a budget surplus.

As reported elsewhere in this issue, we had an excellent attendance at the regional meeting held at ROMPEX, as well as an excellent array of French area exhibits to view.

At the recent Annual Meeting the current officers were re-elected. There have been occasional complaints that there should be limits on the time that officers can serve, to open up opportunities for "new blood." The way our Society is organized, it is necessary that most of the officers live in the New York City area. We are constantly looking for "new blood" at our monthly meetings at the Collectors Club, and would be quite pleased if we could find some.

With my best wishes for a pleasant summer,

-Dick Stevens

Meeting of 5 April

Member Gene Fricks presented his study of Postal Tax Issues of the World in more than ten frames of display. Mostly used examples on cover were shown, with a few stamps, proofs and varieties. Since so little is known about these issues, Gene noted that it was a fruitful area for philatelic research. The stamps and their use were supported by law, and created to provide money for specific charities such as workers, orphans, construction, P.O. construction, hospitals, cancer, hurricane relief, and war and war relief, and, as opposed to semi-postals, their use and the tax paid was mandatory.

Austria introduced the concept with its newspaper stamps of 1867. Use has been basically by Central and South American, Middle Eastern, and Eastern European countries, plus Portuguese and British Colonies and the USSR. Yugoslavia currently uses them, and Turkey, with 340 issues, has been the most prolific producer.

Lebanon highlighted the French-related area with a showing of the overprints produced to support the war against Israel in the 1940's, and Gene has documented Nov. 15, 1945 as the earliest use. Other examples shown included Spain's war tax issues of the 1870's in support of the Cuban war, Britain's and Portugal Colonial WWI usages, Greece's example of postal tax stationery, Rumania issues for veteran relief and aviation, and the USSR's export issues. An interesting field, where little is known and even less is published.

-Ed Grabowski

Annual Meeting of 5 May

The Annual meeting was held this night and all of our current officers were re-elected. Elected to the Board as the Class of 1991 were Marc Martin and John Lievsay.

Tonight's speaker was Harlan F. Stone and his topic was Swiss-French Treaty Mail, 1695-1850. Harlan reviewed all six periods of the cross border service: 1695-1798 - pre Napoleonic; 1798-1803 - Swiss Republic; 1803-1818 - French treaty with Swiss cantons,

non-prepayment of mail; 1818-1828 - prepayment to French border required; 1828-1845 - a non-prepayment period; 1845-1850 - cantonal treaties between France and the Swiss federal postal system. An in-depth collection presented in eleven frames illustrated the periods. A good review of the topic has been presented by Alexandre in the Documents Philateliques, nos. 97-100 (1983-1984).

Emphasis was placed on the treaty requirements, rates, routes and markings, and Harlan developed much new material. This is far too complex a topic to do justice to in a short note; let's hope that Harlan begins to bring some of this material to press soon.

A typical cover posted to Paris from Glarus on the 14th of February 1844 illustrates some of the interest and complexity of the topic. The letter had handstamps of 'LZ' and '12K' which corresponded to a letter of Zurich posted at a rate of 12 kreutzer. It also bore a manuscript '6' mark indicating a rate of 6K from Glarus to Zurich. Included was a manuscript '10' indicating a weight of 10 grams which was equivalent to 1 and 1/2 rates at the time. The letter bore a Belfort transit indicating border crossing at Huningue. A final manuscript '18' was present indicating the amount due which corresponded to seven décimes Huningue to Paris plus five décimes (12K) Swiss postage all multiplied by 1.5 due to the weight of the letter.

A most interesting topic illustrated with many beautiful and rare covers.

-Ed Grabowski

NEW MEMBERS

- 2703 Perkins, David, 903 Chestnut, Pekin, IL 61554-2838 (General collector all issues. French Morocco.)
- 2704 Rikon, Michael (R), 133 Avondale Road, Ridgewood, N.J. 07450 (General France: all issues - mint - used.)
- 2705 Iglesias, Fernando (R), 60 Montross Ave., Rutherford, N.J. 07070 (General France: on cover - used abroad - postal history in general. Offices Abroad. French post offices in Cuba. Caribbean French Lines connecting with Cuban mails.)
- 2706 Goodson, Catherine, 13 Charter St., Boston, MA 02113 (General collector all issues. Modern France: mint - semi-postals.)
- 2707 Goldsmith, Michael, c/o Argyll Etkin Ltd., 48 Conduit St., New Bond St., London W1R 9FB, England (Dealer.)
- 2708 Gilgis, John R., P. O. Box G, Fayville, MA 01745-0907 (European postal history revolving around German Old States.)
- 2709 Monjo, Georges, 910 Northmount Drive, N.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2L 0A9 (General France: mint - used - on cover. Postal history in general. Classics 1849-1876: used - on cover - dues - Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: mint - on cover - semi-postals - air mails - booklets - coils - miniature sheets - dues - precancels. Exchange.)
- 2710 Chlanda, Henry, P. O. Box 11047, Albany, NY 12211 (Covers of individual colonies: Pre-World War II airmail covers.)
- 2711 Newton, Barry, P. O. Box 5152, Akron, OH 44313 (Full time Dealer - cancels and postal history.)
- 2712 Hoyt, Ronald H., P. O. Box 1050, Bend, OR 97709 (Liberation issues - stamps and covers of New Caledonia 1940-1945.)
- 2713 Palazzo, Donald V., P. O. Box 456, Foxboro, MA 02035 (All topics - essays - rejected designs- Deluxe Proofs - Imperforates - Artist's Proofs and Color trial Andorre, Monaco, Saar, all Colonies and Territories. Dealer: full time - new issues - approval.)
- 2714 Xitco, Mark J., 23645 Via Corsa, Valencia, CA 91355 (Stamps and covers of F.S.A.T. only.)
- 2715 Schreiber, Michael F., Box 613, Troy, OH 45373 (Maritime posts - stationery - Colonies and Territories - cancels and postal history - Philatelic literature.)
- 2716 Warner, Clarence R., 3516 Lawndale Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76133 (General collector - all issues.)
- 2717 Lalancette, Gaston, 9394 Olivier-Maurault, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2M 2H5 (General France - all issues - mint - used - on cover. Andorre, Monaco, Saar, Europa & United Nations. Colonies. General issues: mint - used - on cover. All Colonies and Territories - Omnibus issues - Philatelic literature - high interest in T.A.A.F.

- 2718 Perley, David W., 140 Commerford Road, Concord, MA 01742 (Occupation issues by France - Offices Abroad. Colonies General issues: mint - used - on cover. All Colonies and Territories. Stamps and Covers of: TAAF St. Pierre.)
- 2719 Jordan, Richard B., 470 East Herndon Ave., Suite 100, Fresno, CA 93710 (General Collector: France 19th century - 20th century to 1940 - used. Colonies General issues: used to 1940.)
- 2720 Trieschman, Don C. 2417 Palm Ave., P. O. Box 3076 (Modern France: on cover - first day covers. Andorre, Monaco, T.A.A.F. - collects Ceres Cachets. Would like to correspond with other First Day Cover collectors.)
- 2721 Mader, Paul K., 66 Saranac Ave., Lake Placid, NY 12946 (General collector: all issues.)
- 2722 McDonald, Susan M., 2030 Glen Mont Drive, N.W., Canton, OH 44708 (Maritime posts.)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 1229 Brun, Jean Francois (Change address on file to address as shown), 85, Galerie Beaujolais, Palais Royal - 75001 Paris, France (Dealer. Already in directory.)
- 2201 Morck, David, 7921 Springer St., Downey, CA 90242 (Specialized France: Military and Maritime Posts - used abroad. Franchise Militaire - Colonies general issues: used - on cover - cancels and postal history of Colonies and Territories.)
- 2623 Greenfield, Joseph, 14 Hudson Bay Terrace, Marlboro, NJ 07746 (Already in Philatelist.)
- 1317 Rappaport, B. Howard (R), 54 Abington Ave. E., Newark, NJ 07104 (Already in Philatelist.)
- 2094 Ierardi, R. M. (R), 9 Pike St., East Patchogue, NY 11772 (Already in Philatelist.)
- 2599 Bousquet, Pierre (F), 12 rue des Frères Vallon, Le Montaignet1, Encagnane, France (Already in Philatelist.)
- 1793 Rickman, Dr. Leonard (R), 5945 Shore Parkway, Apt. 6-I, Brooklyn, NY 11236 (General collector - all issues - Colonies: General issues - mint - all Colonies and Territories.)
- 1458 Van Every, K. E., P. O. Box 3096, San Diego, CA 92103 (General France: used - on cover. Regular issues - all categories. Modern France - all categories. French Community: all categories. Dealer: part time.)
- 770 Nadata, Henry, 4022 Kuiken Terrace, Fairlawn, NJ 07410 (Already in Philatelist.)
- 2152 Hines, Terence, Box 258, Thornwood, NY 10594-0258 (Already in Philatelist.)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 2571 Farber, Martin R. (R), c/o Trinity Paper, 555 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10017 (Last name spelling should be Farber.)
- 1493 Gordon, Lee, 6 St. Paul Centre, Suite 2206, Baltimore, MD 21202.
- 1278 Foucart, Jean Pierre (R), 525 Main St., P. O. Box 115, Hunter, NY 12442.
- 2537 de Sanchez, Cheryl D. Doxsee (not Dorsee), 433 Main St., Boone, IA 50036.
- 1081 Peyrieux, Jean, 11 Place Raspail, 69007 Lyon, France.
- 2027 Johnson, Robert Ian, 65 Manor Park, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HW, England U.K.
- 1612 Hellebrekers, Boudewyn, P. O. Box 779, NL-1180
AT AMSTELVEEN, NETHERLANDS.
- 2240 Kuehn, Mark A., 5341 18th Road, Escanaba, MI 49829.
- 955 Mendelsohn, Bertram M., 1, McKenzie Close, Buckingham MK 18 1BQ, England.
- 1439 Hoberg, John L., 638 North Bay View - Apt. 319, Wilmington, CA 90744.
- 2254 Tyler, Jerry, 725 La Mesa Drive, Salinas, CA 93901.
- 2413 McConnell, E. Joseph, P. O. Box 683, Monroe, NY 10950.
- 1771 Carleton, John C., 9904 Clayton Road, S-100, Ladue, MO 63124.
- 1136 Balch, Steven A., M.D., 13274 Jacarte Court, San Diego, CA 92130.
- 2194 Greenbaum, Leon M., 6 Cross Lane, Peekskill, NY 10566.
- 2593 Straussberg, Stephen L., 1048 Alta Road, Holly Hill, FL 32017.
- 1797 Millet, Alain, B P 155-20, 75863, Paris Cedex 20, France.

DECEASED

1707 Arthur J. Brown, London
 960 Alfred Kahn, New York

MEMBERS' APPEALS

- OFFER: Dispersing a VF-XF French collection of cancelled stamps 1849-1949; also French Philatelic Literature. List and photos upon request, or want lists welcomed. -- Marcel Lotwin, Apartado Postal 11-456, 06100 Mexico 11, F.F. (Mb. #1182)
- OFFER: Selling collection of St. Pierre-Miquelon essays, proofs, imperfs, and postal stationery. Send want list or request full listing. --Terence Hines, Box 258, Thornwood, N.Y. 10594-0258 (Mb, #2152)

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