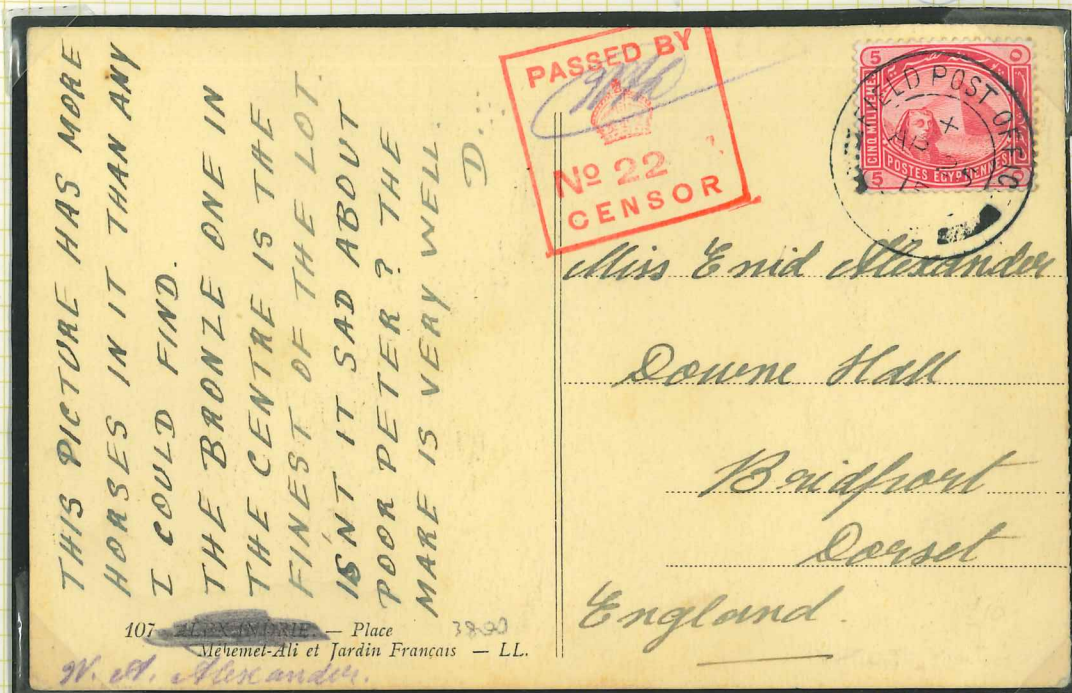


British Forces in Egypt

Censorship



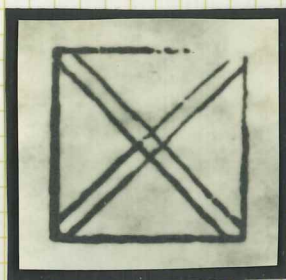
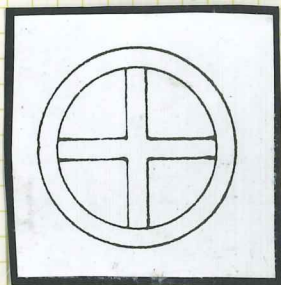
Despite the signature of the sender at bottom left, the card, to Bridport, was censored, and the origin of the card, Alexandria, was deleted both front and back

British Forces in Egypt

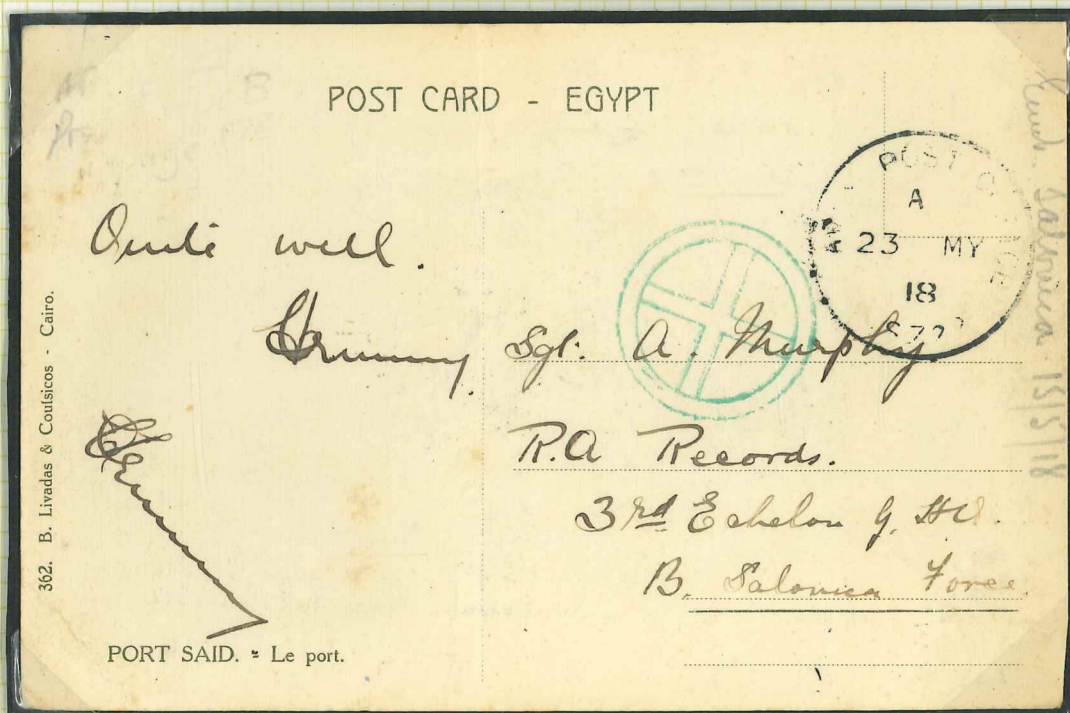
Dumb Marks

DM10 and (from Firebrace p314) DM16 (below)

DM10 "found on incoming and outgoing military mail and mail from ships; covers show Port Said or SZ22"



DM16 usually struck across adhesives. Egyptian Post at Bulletin dated 27 Jul 1919 stated that the handstamp had been issued to the civil censor at Cairo.



Monochrome postcard 362 by Livadas & Coutisicos sent from APO SZ22 (Proud type B) on 23 MY 1918 to British Forces at Salonica, dumb mark DM10 of Firebrace seemingly used only at APO SZ22 Port Said

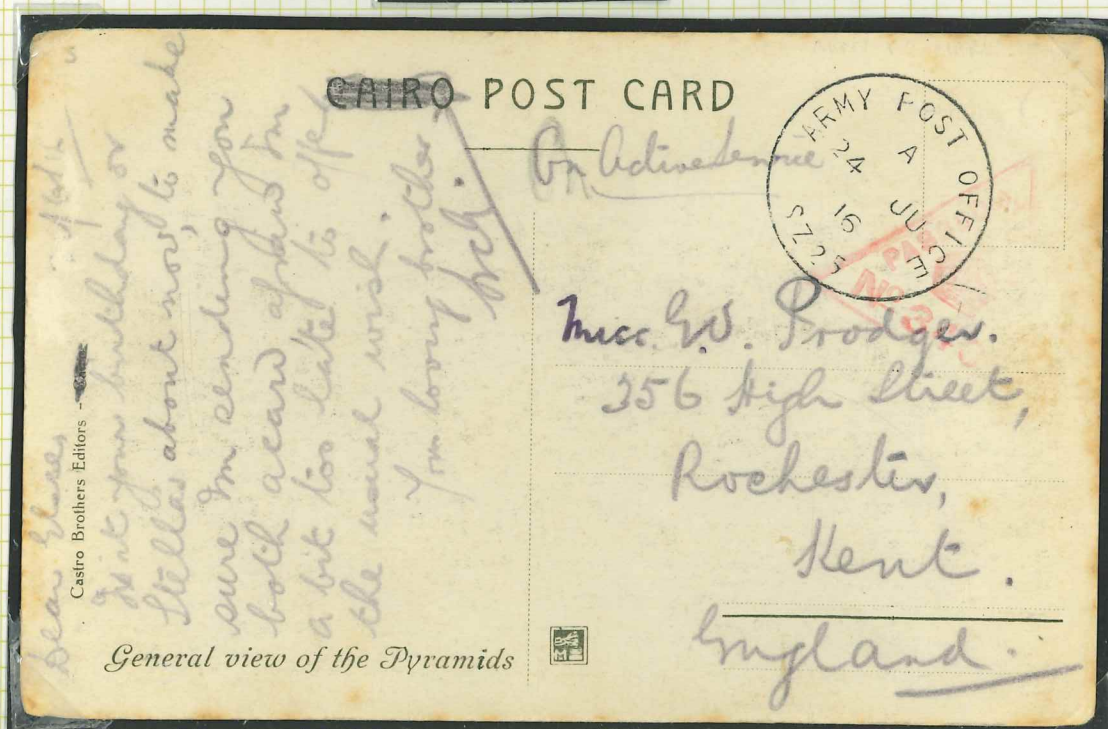
British Forces in Egypt

Proud
Type A1

Army Post Office
SZ 25

ERD 11 JUL 16
LRD 4 JAN 17

Proud illustrates three skeleton type handstamps of which this is Type A1. Dated to between 11 JUL 16 and 4 JAN 17 SZ are close to 25 the others being wide apart. Probable location is Shallufa in the southern section of Suez Canal Defences. Note how the censor has attempted to delete the word 'CAIRO' despite the fact that the card depicts the pyramids!



Postcard sent On Active Service to Kent soon after the date-stamp arrived at Shallufa in June 1916.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office SZ22

Proud type A. (Sk) II with gap between SZ and 22.
Known period of use June to December
1917 only.



On active service postcard from Port Said Harbour office to Tasmania with EEF type censor mark of the chamfered oblong struck in turquoise (Kennedy and Crabb ECM2) and a civil censor struck in blue.

British Forces in Egypt

Proud
type B

Field Post Office SZ218
located at Savoy Hotel in
Cairo.

ERD 3MR17



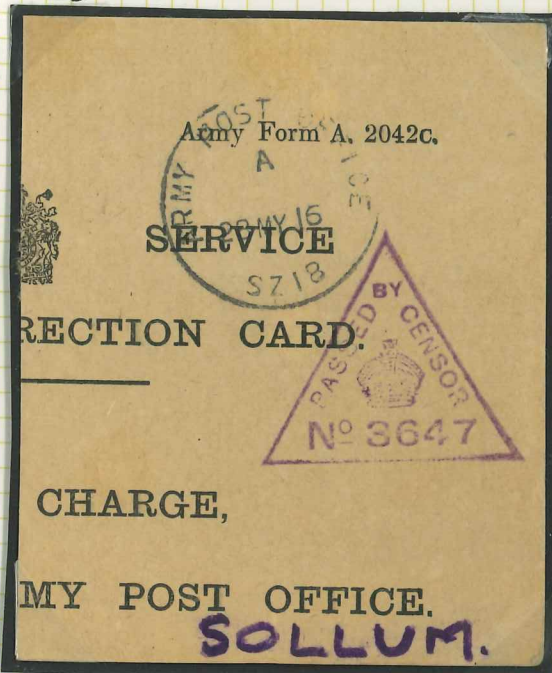
On active service Y.M.C.A. envelope sent from Cairo on 3 MR 17, the earliest recorded to the Metropole Hotel at Alexandria with two censors, one Indian and one from the chamfered BASE CENSOR E.E.F.

British Forces in Egypt

Proud
type A.

Army Post Office SZ 18

Dabaa transit from back



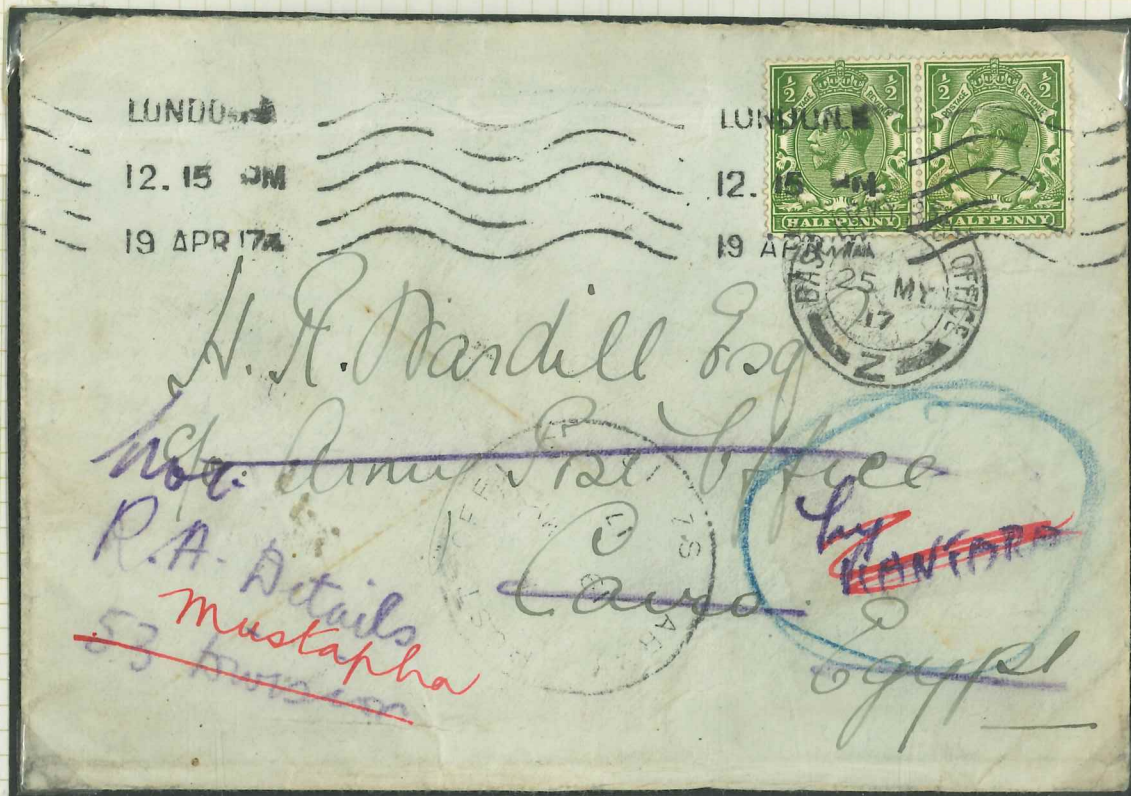
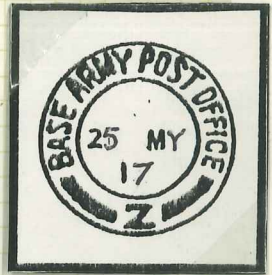
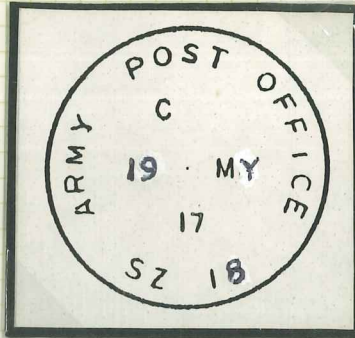
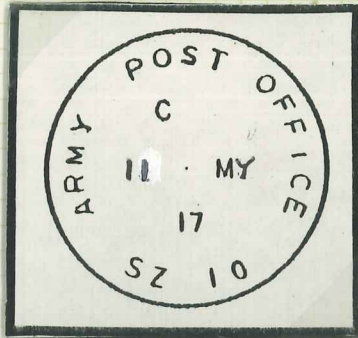
Left: part of a service card
from 1st Westminster Dragoon-
oons at Dabaa to Sollum.

Dumb
mark
DM 4
(Firebrand)
Alex
May 17
to Nov
1919



censored by 2761, this cover to a bank at Alexandria
was posted at Dabaa, part of Western Frontier Force.

British Forces in Egypt



Wardill correspondence

London	despatch	2:15pm	19 APR 17
Cairo	transit	9 am	11 V 17*
Cairo	Army Post Office SZ10 Proud H		11 MY 17*
	Army Post Office SZ18		19 MY 17
Alexandria	Base Army Post Office Z		25 MY 17

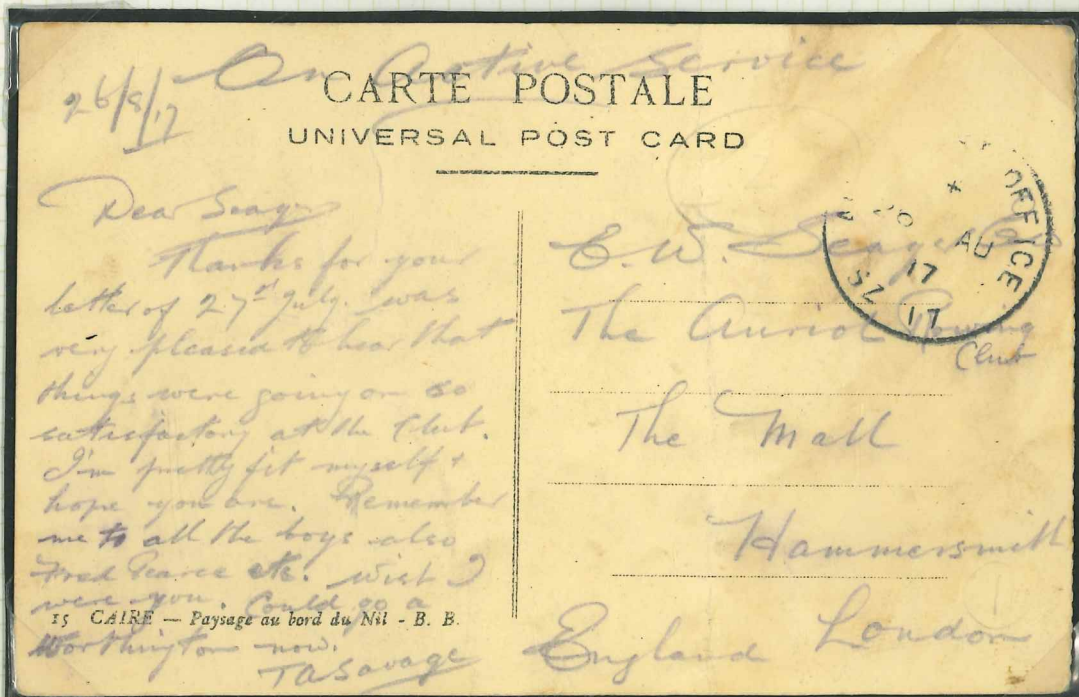
Much travelled cover to Mustapha, Alexandria with APO SZ18 location unknown probably Sinai or Kantara.

* on reverse

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office SZ 17

This date-stamp was based at Kantara on the Suez Canal from 1st November 1916 until 9th March 1918 having been in Upper Egypt from May until August 1916. It was replaced early in April by BAPO.K

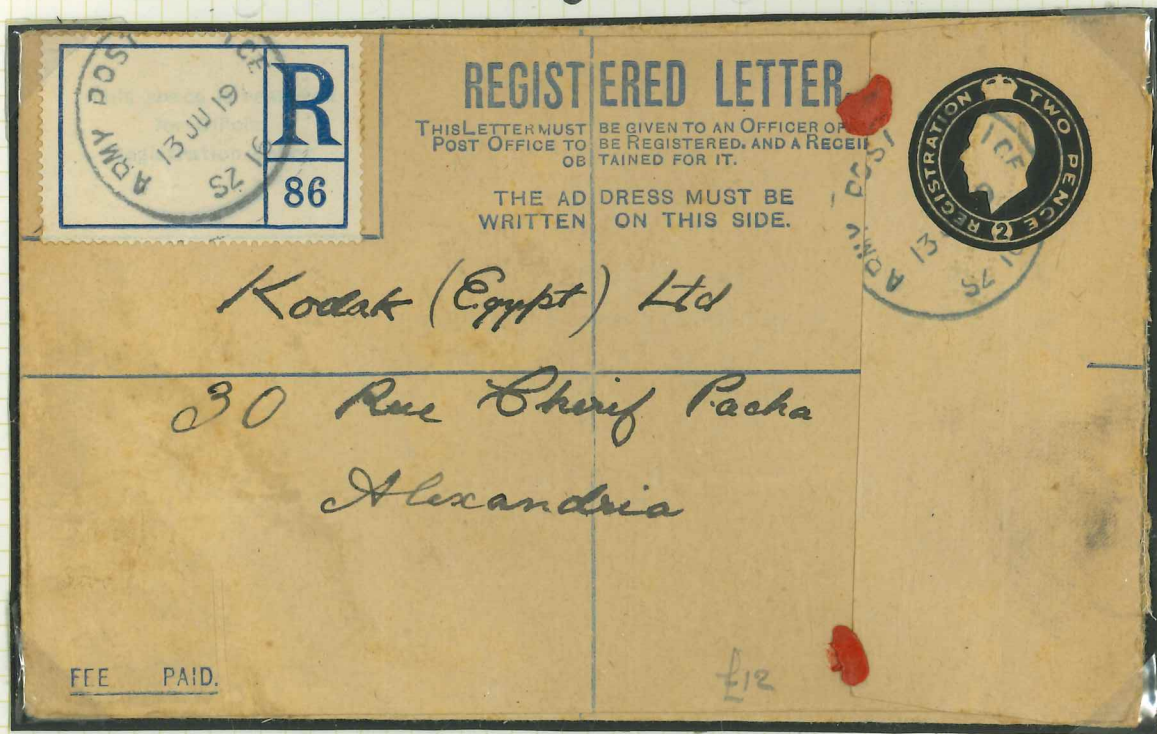


Monochrome postcard of Nile landscape near Cairo, posted On Active Service from Kantara 26 AU 17 to Hammersmith, London; signature precludes the censor at base.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office SZ 16

opened in Egypt, probably at Assiut, by Apr. 1916 and in G.H.Q. line of communication by 26 July 1917, by July 1918 moved to Sinai then to Haifa, Palestine line of communication by Jan. 1919. In May 1919 used by Headquarters Northforce, closed Apr. 1920.



Registered letter - fee 2d - from a member of Northforce formed at Mount Carmel, Haifa to command 4 and 5 Cavalry Divisions and two Indian Divisions under Lt. Gen. G de S. Barrow.

British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office 5215

Proud
Type E

ERD 15 MA 18
LRD 22 JA 20



Monochrome O.A.S. postcard Serie 597 of a 'native street' posted at F.P.O. 5215 at Abbassia, Cairo 30c 18 to a fellow Sapper in Ramle, Palestine; red censor 4252.

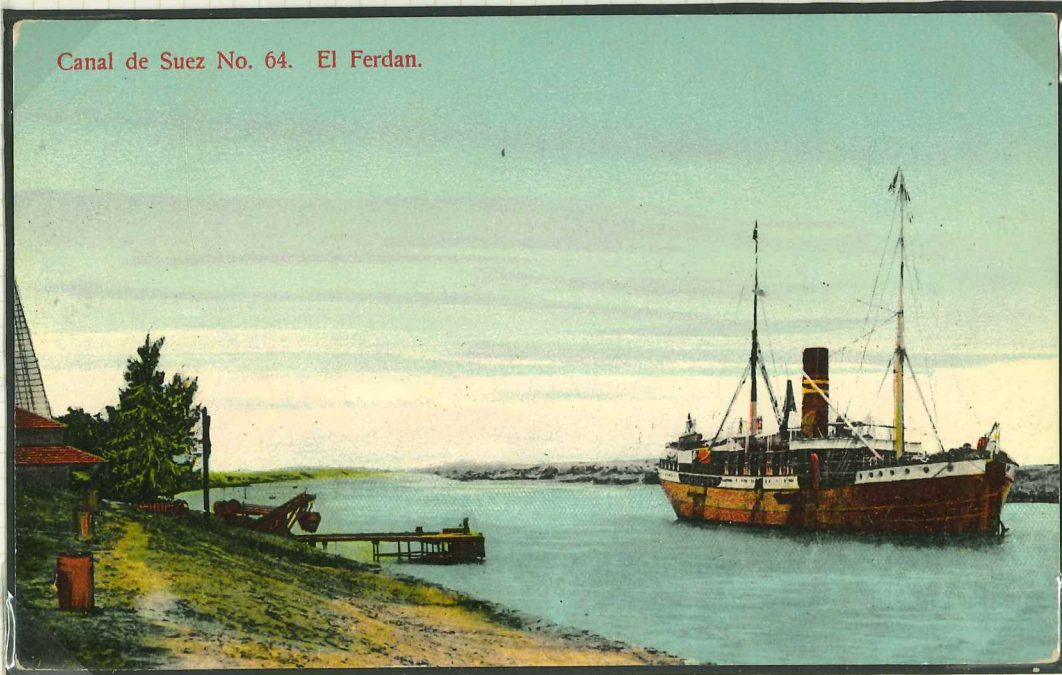
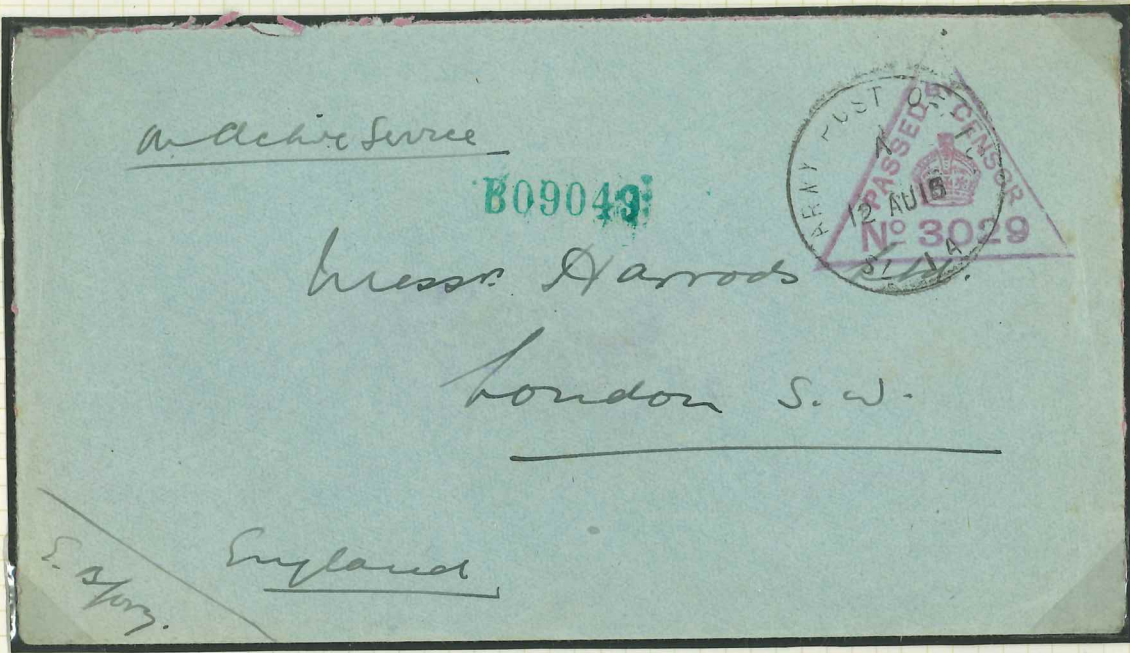
British Forces in Egypt

Opened at el-Ferdan
on the Suez Canal
by February 1916
probably closed
by February 1917



Re-opened at Deir
el-Balah Palestine
in May 1917 in L. of C.
by 26 Sep 1917 and
closed by June 1919

APO S.Z 14



Letter AU 16 from el-Ferdan and unused postcard depicting

British Forces in Egypt

AP0 5Z12

Proud type A

ERD 26 MR 16
LRD 4 NO 16



Monochrome postcard L.C. 372 of Kantara village in the central Canal Defences posted at AP0 5Z12 to Woodford Green, Essex 24 JUL 16, red censor 23612.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office SZ12

Proud
type B



ERD 18 FE 17
LRD 8 NO 17

Army Post Office SZ12 opened by March 1916 in the No. 2 Section Suez Canal Defences at Ballah and transferred to Aboukir at the time of this letter.



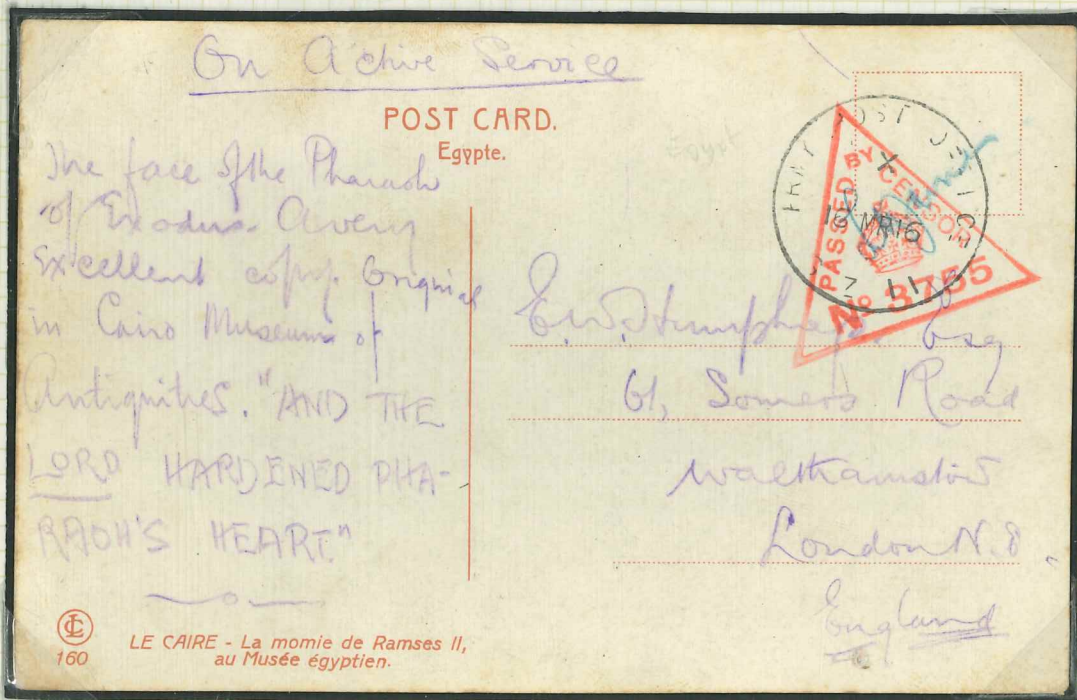
BAPO Z and APO SZ12 transits

Wardill correspondence; cover from London addressed Northern Canal Section Ammunition Dumps, re-addressed GRA Details Mustapha, again re-addressed to Aboukir and yet again to Ammunition Column 262 Brigade at el Arish

British Forces in Egypt

APO SZ 11

This date-stamp (Proud A. (Sk) was located at Mena Camp near the Pyramids at Giza during the early part of 1916, ERD 4-JA-16, LRD 26-NA-16; it transferred to Mustapha Pasha camp at Alexandria where it is recorded in use from 9-OC-16 until the end of September 1919.

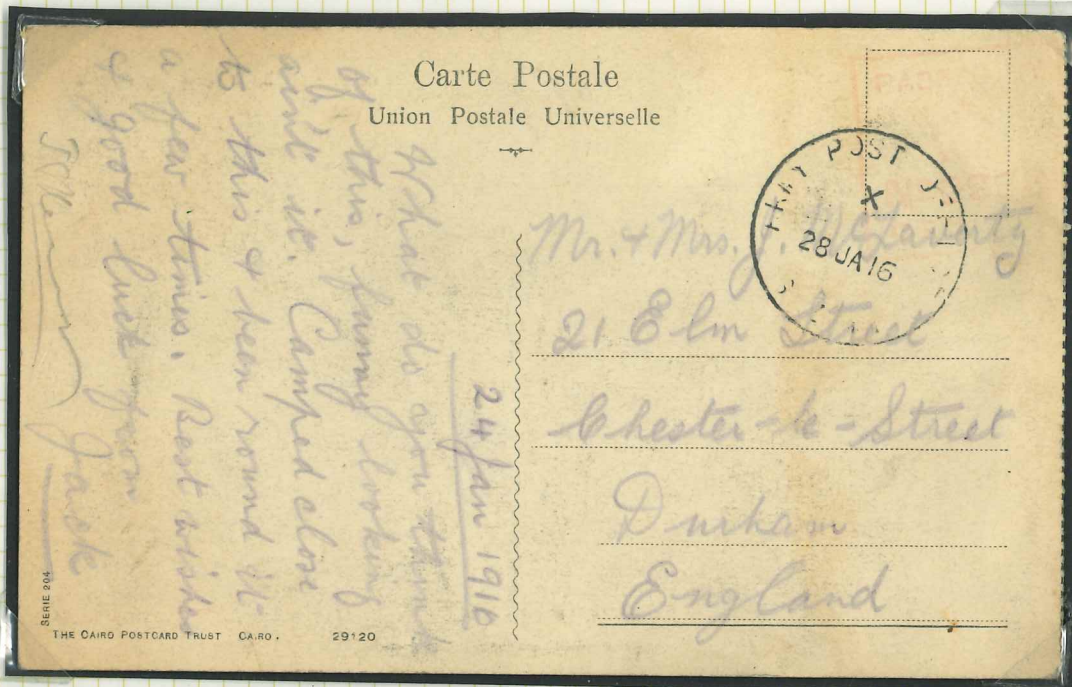


Coloured postcard, of the head of the mummy of the Pharaoh Rameses II, sent from Mena Camp, Giza, Cairo cancelled APO SZ 11 in March 1916 with the triangular censor Crown 3755 to Walthamstow.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office SZ 11 28 JA 16

"What do you think of this, funny looking ain't it."



Monochrome postcard from Mena Camp next to the Pyramids (and Sphinx) to Chester-le-Street.

British Forces in Egypt

Three more SZ10 cards from Cairo

Three more SZ10 postcards: top 2 bottom have SZ separated from 10 while the middle one, sent to Yawnt on, has the gap closed; it is also censored. Firebrace censor type CM3 numbered 8037.

O. A. S.
POST-CARD

EGYPT.
12:12:18

Dear Mr & Mrs Wivell

Just a Card to wish you a very Happy Xmas & a Prosperous New Year hope you are each well also little Annie glad to say we are A.I. & still having lovely weather here. Kind regards & best wishes Yn very truly
A. W. H.

Mr W. Wivell
Boham
Black Torrington
Mr R. Righampton
Devonshire
ENGLAND

POST OFFICE
CAIRO
EGYPT

Series 507
THE CAIRO POSTCARD TRUST - CAIRO

8037

CARTE POSTALE
UNIVERSAL POST CARD

B.B.

On Active Service
Master A. White

12th Oct 1918

47 EGYPT - Patrouille

Bottom card, of Step Pyramid, has Firebrace censor type CM1 number unclear.

POST CARD

Printed in Britain

The Address only to be Written Here

The Cairo Postcard Trust, Cairo

Dear Mamma

Just a P.C. to let you know I am at present on the days leave at Cairo I am having a jolly good time and will let you have news of my camp later on. Give my love to Grandpa & Grandpa and I hope you are all quiet and happy.

12th Oct 1918

Mr W. Wivell
Boham
Black Torrington
Devonshire
England

EGYPT
12:12:18

8037

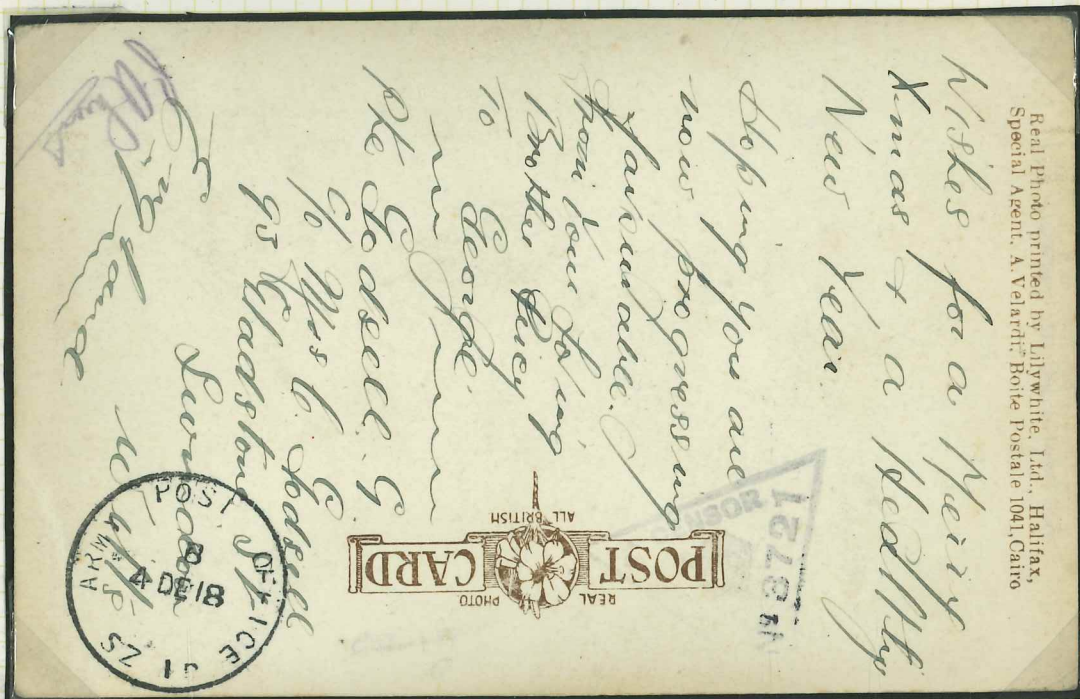
This is a Real Photograph

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office SZ10



Proud type L in use 31-3-18 to 29-4-19 at Cairo



British made real photo postcard of various tourist sites, censored and countersigned, posted at the Advanced Base Post Office to which the datestamp was allocated in April 1918 transferred from the General Headquarters line of Communication

This is one of fifteen skeleton datestamps of SZ10 listed by Proud in addition to two parcel handstamps

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office S.Z.10

Stationary post offices were set up on the various lines of communication for post; some were static and some moved with lines of hostilities.



'On Active Service' postcard from Cairo to the U.K. with octagonal censor type CM7 No. 1340 - they run between 701 and 1419 and were used between October 1917 and January 1919 - and skeleton date stamp of A.P.O. S.Z.10, always at Cairo, dated 9th December 18.

- (i) note 'E' has moved - Proud M11
- (ii) note 'O' has moved - Proud C.(SK)11



رسالة من السيد الخليل

~~O. H. H. S.~~

Mrs de Halpert
25 Ashley Place
London S.W.

Base Censor EEF

رسالة من السيد الخليل

~~O. H. H. S.~~



4 Nov 1898
2.11.8

Mrs de Halpert
25 Ashley Place
London S.W.

Fraser & Neave

LS-

BRITISH FORCES IN EGYPT

~ 1914 ~ 1918.

ALEXANDRIA ~ BASE 'Z'

TRAINING WING
ROYAL FLYING CORPS
ABOUKIR.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

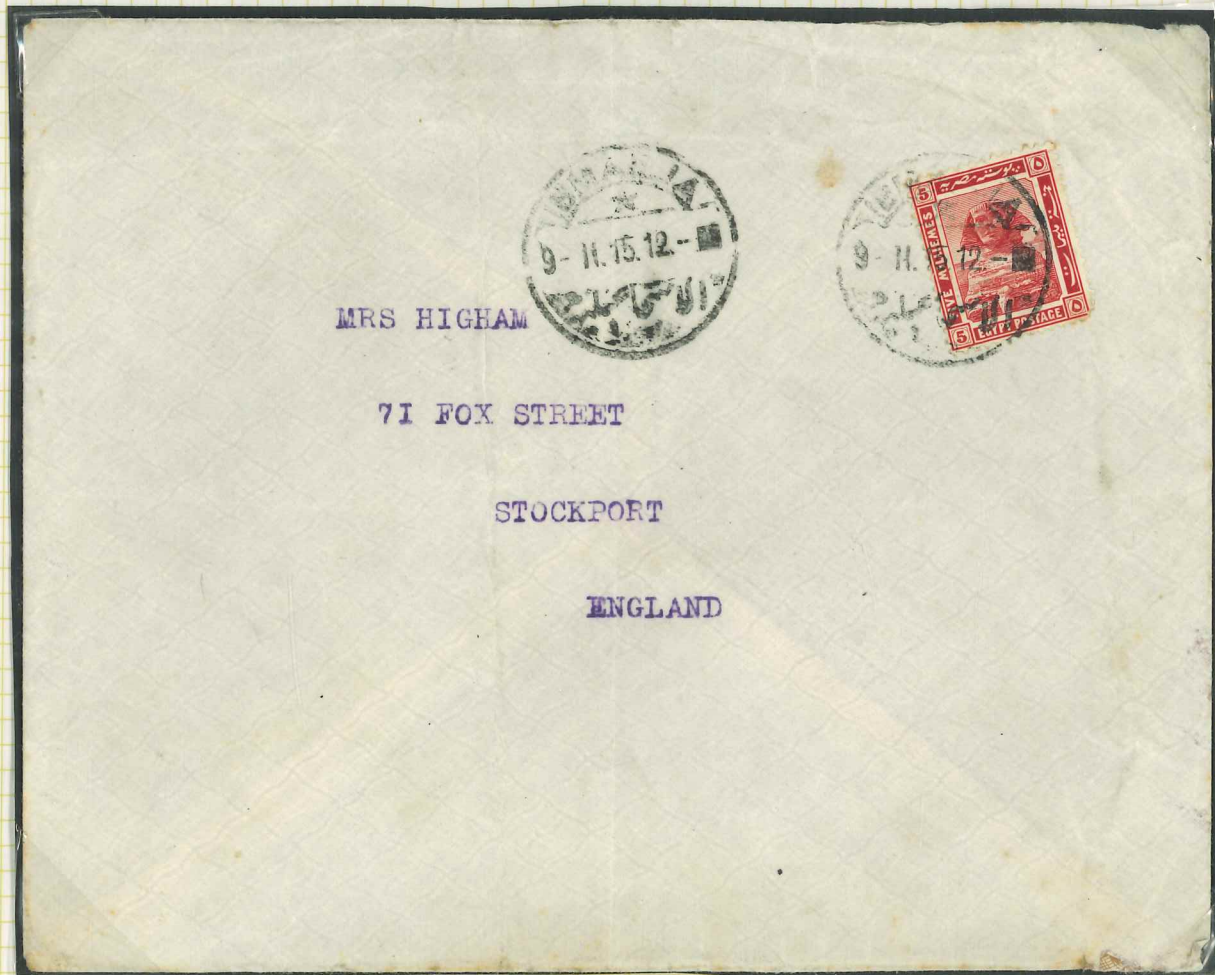
The Managers,
Anglo-Egyptian Bank Ltd.
Alexandria

POST OFFICE
X
8 DE 17
R.F.C.

TRAINING WING, R.F.C.

British Forces in Egypt

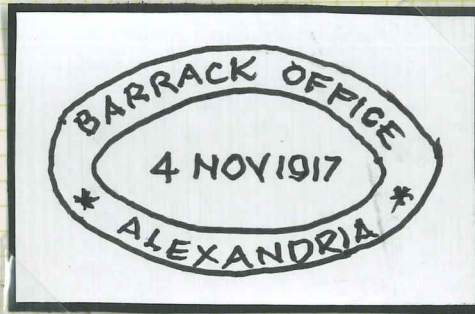
Military Wireless
Unrecorded handstamp



1915 military cover - see handstamp from re-areeposted Ismailia using civilian post to Stockport 1915.

British Forces in Egypt

Barrack Office Alexandria



First Fuad 20 milliemes cancelled at Alexandria



Official 'On His Majesty's Service' envelope sent from Barrack Office, Alexandria, via the civilian post at Attarine, the British Army Headquarters, with Alexandria V transit au verso, to Anglo-Egyptian Bank.

British Forces in Egypt

Abbassia Barracks



Despite its name this date stamp is a civilian
post office controlled and run by the Egyptian
Postal Administration

British Forces in Egypt

British Barracks Abbassia



Firebrace type Ab.6



*Aerial view of barracks - manuscript from reverse:
"Taken on June 8 1921 Abbassia Cairo Egypt."*



British Forces in Egypt

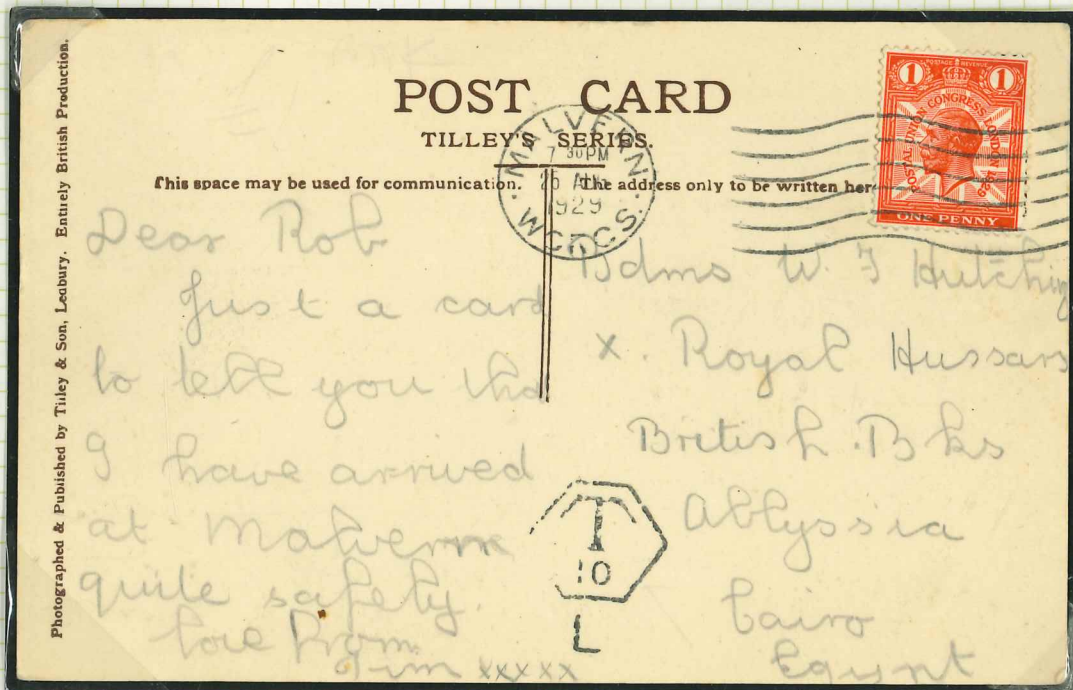
use of civilian service
British Barracks Abbassia

ERD: 20 SE 21



LRD: 16 OC 22

Firebrace Ab.A



Postcard (of Worcestershire Beacon) underfranked $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d resulting in the 10 centimes hexagonal tax mark. The card is addressed to British Barracks Abbassia.

British Forces in Egypt

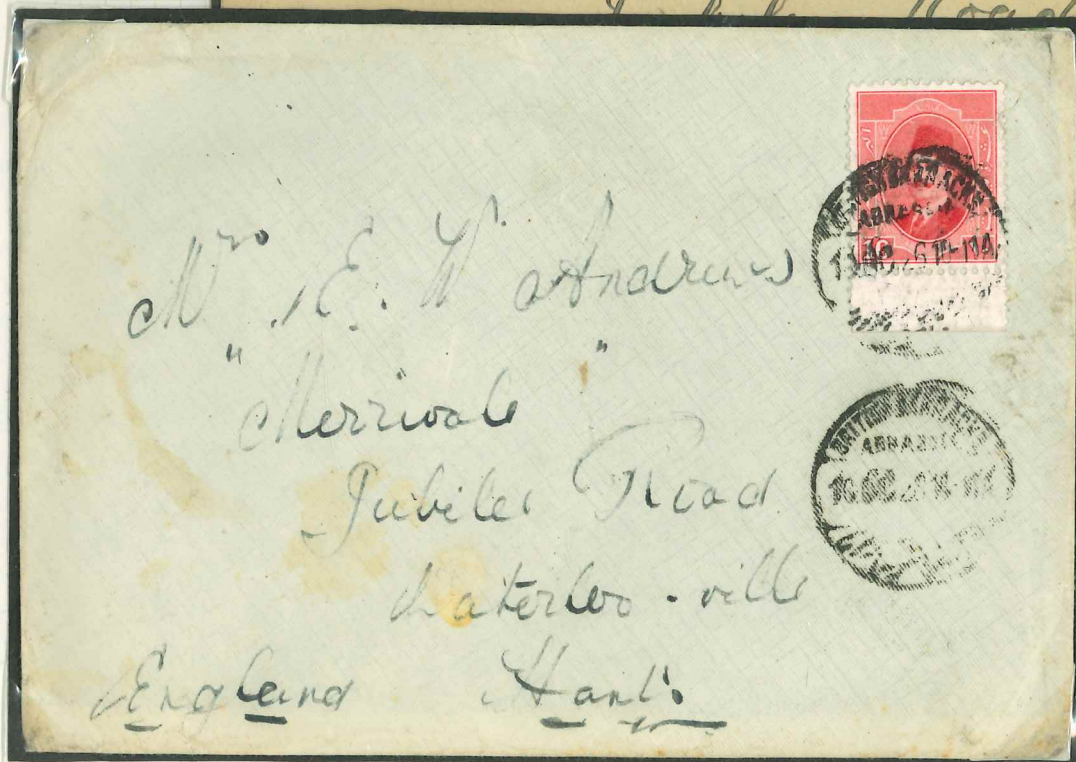
ERD 11SE22



LRD 26 OC 28

Diameter 28mm

space between bars 8mm



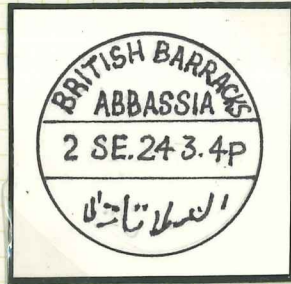
Firebrace
type Ab.6

"Empire"
letter
rate of
10 milis

Two civilian letters posted at the civilian post office.

British Forces in Egypt

British Barracks Abbassia



Firebrace type Ab.5



Diameter 30mm

Space between bars 7mm



Ten millime 'Empire' letter rate from Firebrace type Ab.5

British Forces in Egypt

Official Mail

Reversion to use of civilian service

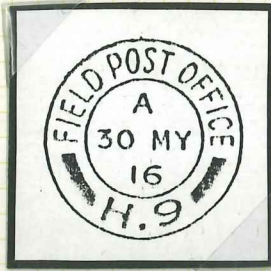
Sent from R.A.F. STORES DEPOT (EGYPT) evidenced by the mauve handstamp which is undated but includes LEDGERS. Return by military to the use of the Egyptian civilian post office.



Front of an official cover posted at the Alexandria civil post office, where it was registered, to England. Registration fee 10 mills with the 5 mills 'Empire' letter rate.

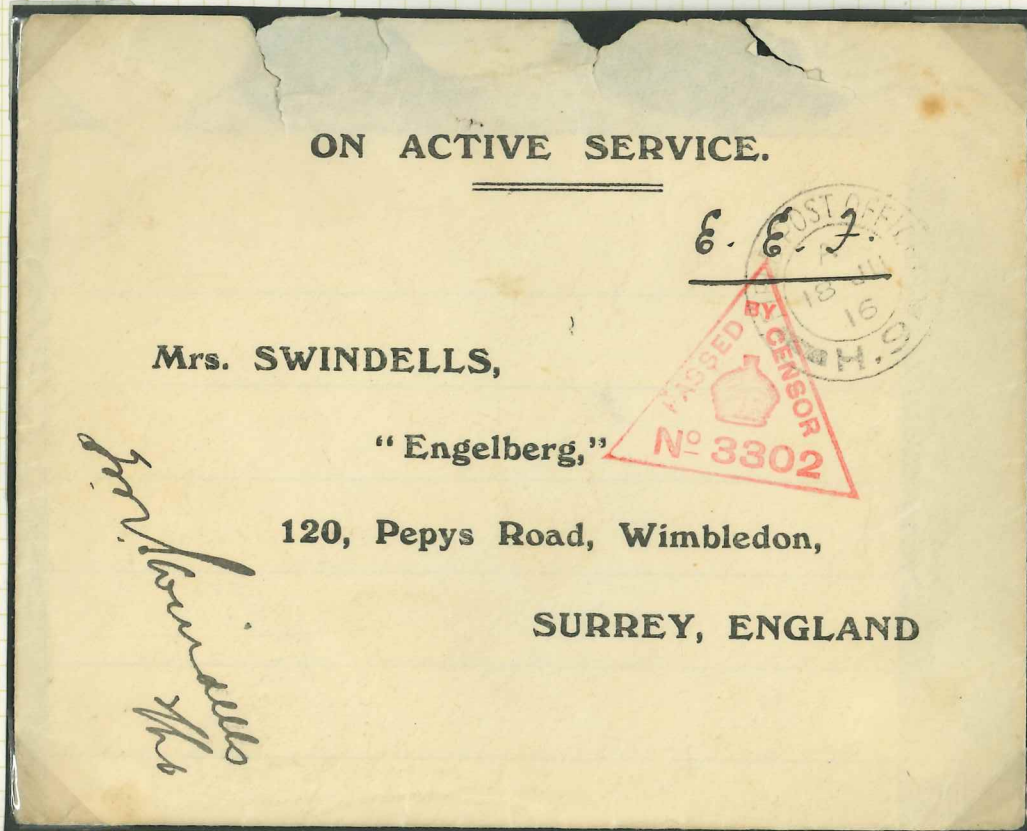
British Forces in Egypt

ERD: 3 MY 16



LRD: 18 JUL 16
(below)

Headquarters No. 1. Section Suez Canal Defences.
On 29th April 1916 54 Division took over No. 1 Section
when the IX Corps H.A. sailed for France. Troops were
8 Mounted Brigade, 42 Division, 3 Dismounted Brigade
and two Indian Brigades. Eastern Force was formed
18 Oct. 1916; replaced 20 Dec. by North and South Sections.



Pre-printed O.A.S. envelope from a member of 54
Division dated 18 JUL 16 to England

British Forces in Egypt

World War 1 advertising poster to recruit the nurses required overseas in theatres of war including Egypt.



BritishRedCross



BritishRedCross

World War One: This is a reproduction of a recruitment poster for British Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachment (V.A.D.) volunteers. These volunteers performed a wide variety of duties that included nursing war wounded in field hospitals across Europe.

Recycle your old mobile phones and cartridges to raise funds for British Red Cross. Visit www.redcross.org.uk/recycle or ring 0800 7877 7565 to find out how.

Image © Joyce Dennys
British Red Cross Society, incorporated by Royal Charter 1908, is a charity registered in England and Wales (220949) and Scotland (SC037738).

V1

FRANCE
ITALY
MALTA
GIBRALTAR
SALONICA

EGYPT
MESOPOTAMIA
HOLLAND
SWITZERLAND
RUSSIA

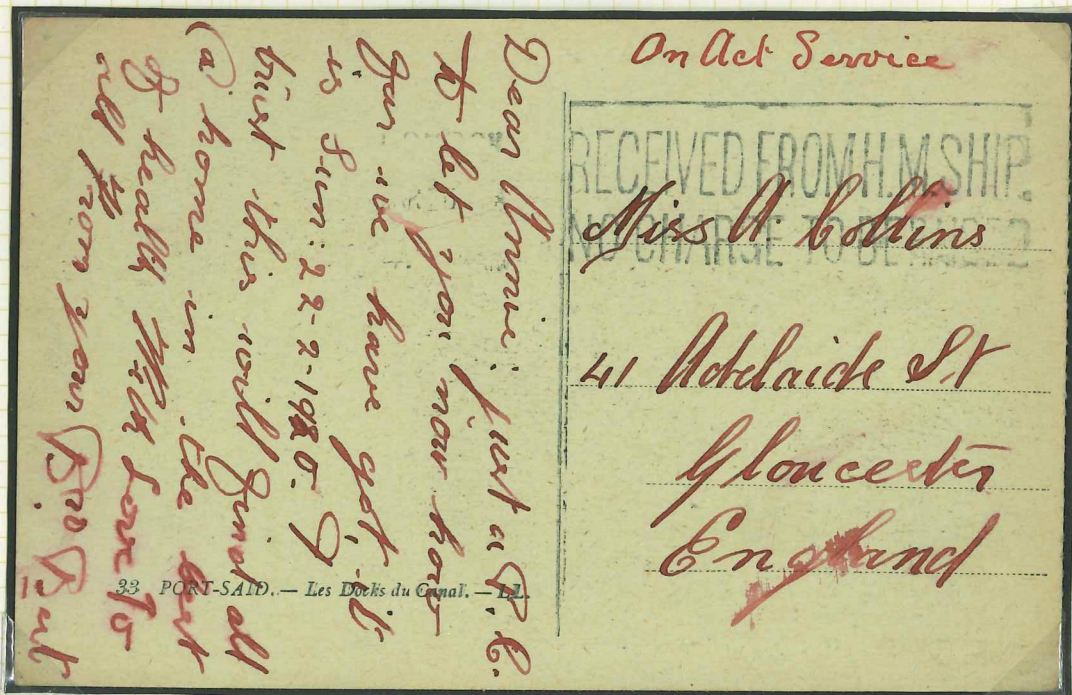
V.A.D.
NURSING MEMBERS, COOKS, KITCHEN-MAIDS,
CLERKS, HOUSE-MAIDS, WARD-MAIDS,
LAUNDRESSES, MOTOR-DRIVERS, ETC.
ARE URGENTLY NEEDED
APPLICATION TO BE MADE TO

Voluntary Aid Detachment

Sea Post

Royal Naval Mail

Received from H.M. Ship: no charge to be raised
1920



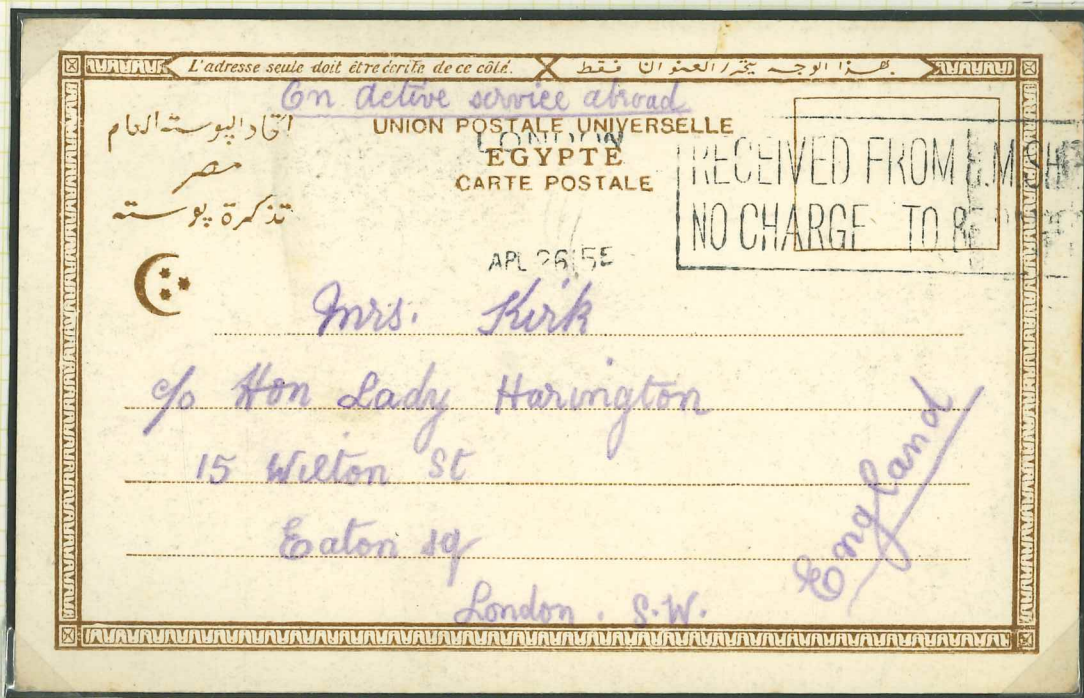
Louis Levy postcard no. 33 of Port Said canal docks, sent 22nd February to Gloucester. The London date stamp is unclear - could be 3rd March - the cachet has larger letters than the previous; it is not recorded in Groves' article

Sea Post

Royal Naval Mail

RECEIVED FROM H.M.SHIP.
NO CHARGE TO BE RAISED

Sailors on active service continued to pay postage on their letters during World War I, when franking was unavailable or insufficient cachets as above were applied. Always associated with the London postmark, the date could have been weeks later than posting leaving sailors open to question on returning home; hence these cachets introduced.



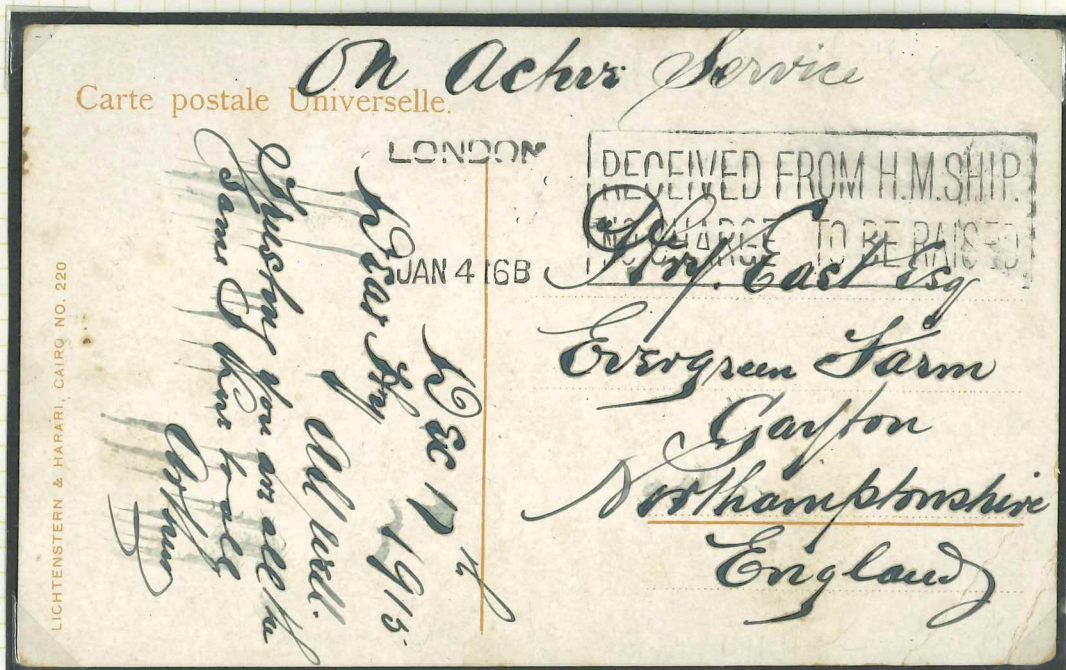
Postcard of a chicken seller and his wife in Cairo posted on board, bagged and received in London 26th April 1915 where cachet and date stamp applied.

Sea Post

Royal Naval Mail

RECEIVED FROM H.M.SHIP.
NO CHARGE TO BE RAISED

Ordinary mail from H.M. ships abroad was sent in bags marked 'Mail for England' with the name of the ship and position at the time of despatch, the latter omitted in time of war. Sometimes the bags were transferred to homeward bound ships in mid-ocean. Mail landed at Plymouth, London or Southampton so naval mail went via these ports.



Postcard of the customs quay at Alexandria posted on board, bagged and received in London 4th January 1916 where cachet and date stamp struck.

British Forces in Egypt

British Barracks Cairo

Egypt, as a member of the U.P.U., maintained the right to carry all mail within its frontiers and the postal charges on overseas and internal mail were prepaid by Egyptian postage stamps. The offices using these datestamps were civilian post offices situated in or near British Military garrisons.



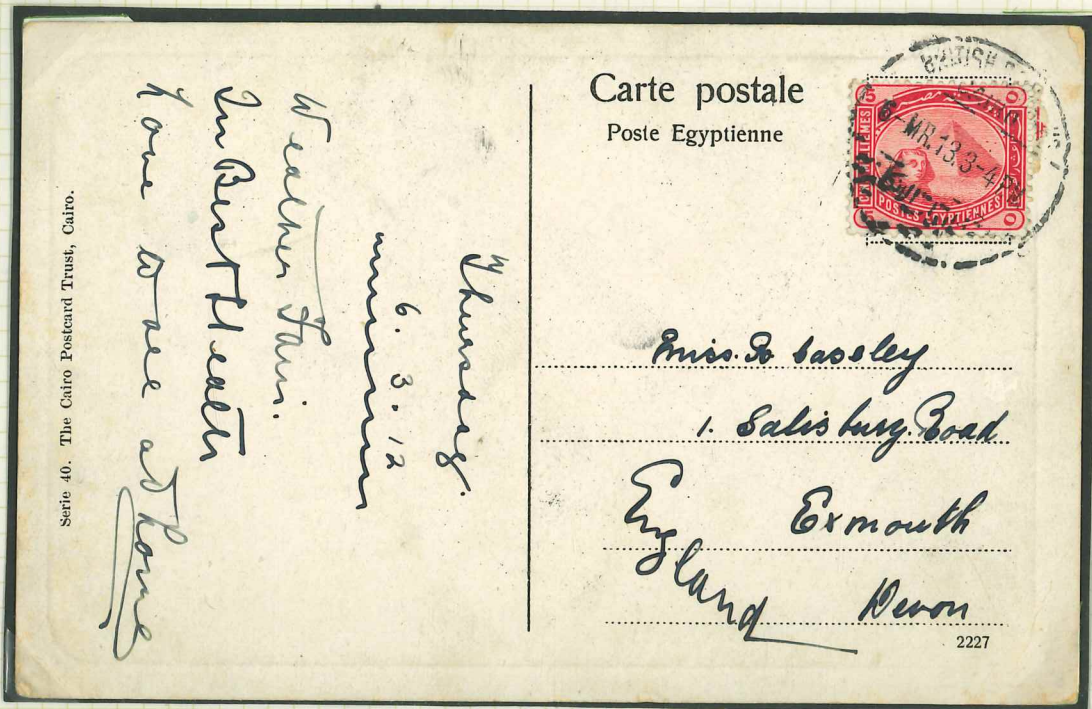
ERD NO12

LRD 27 FE 15



Firebrace

type C4



Manuscript date a year early: no apparent military connection proves civilian status of datestamps.

British Forces in Egypt

use of civilian service
Four mills 'Empire' postcard rate



1907 postcard Port Said (bridge and star) to military addressee at Quetta and 1914 card from East Lancs. R.P.A. Ammunition column at Heliopolis to Manchester.

NB. Firebrace earliest for Heliopolis 3 Oct 14

British Forces in Egypt

Use of civilian service

ERD: 28 MR 15



LRD: 16 MR 16

Firebrace C.7
British Barracks Cairo

C7 and C8 are very similar; but C7 measures 24.5 mm and the letters 'C' and 'O' in the word Cairo rounded.

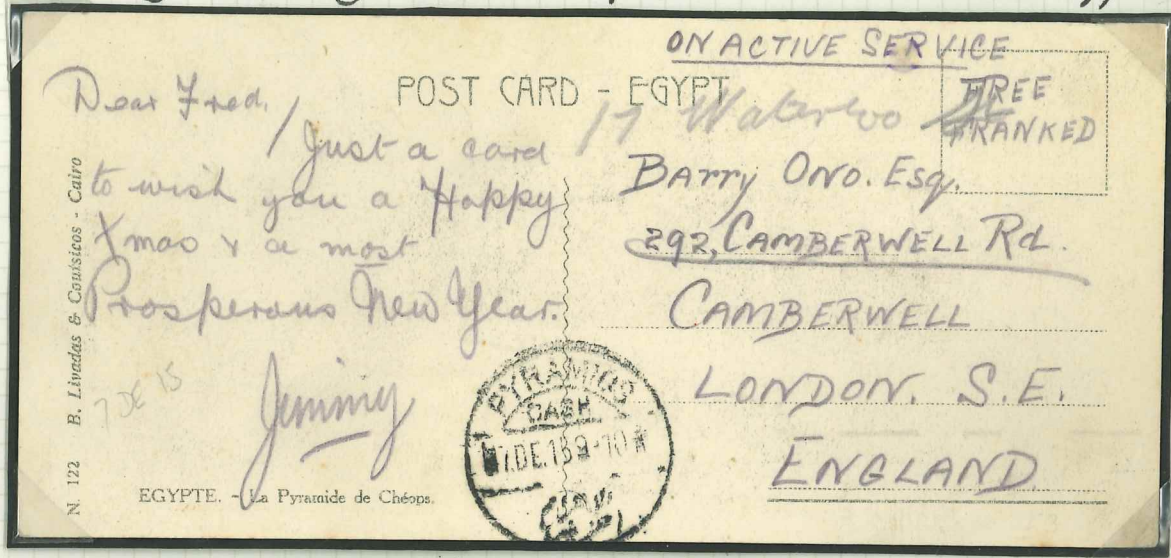


On active service 'Oilette' postcard of a fair at Cairo cancelled 'British Barracks Cairo Firebrace C.7' struck in blue with Cairo M transit in black, to Bournemouth.

British Forces in Egypt

use of civilian service

On Active Service postcard with manuscript "freefranked" dated 17 DE 15 indicating use of Egyptian services at least during the early hostilities; posted in a civilian office

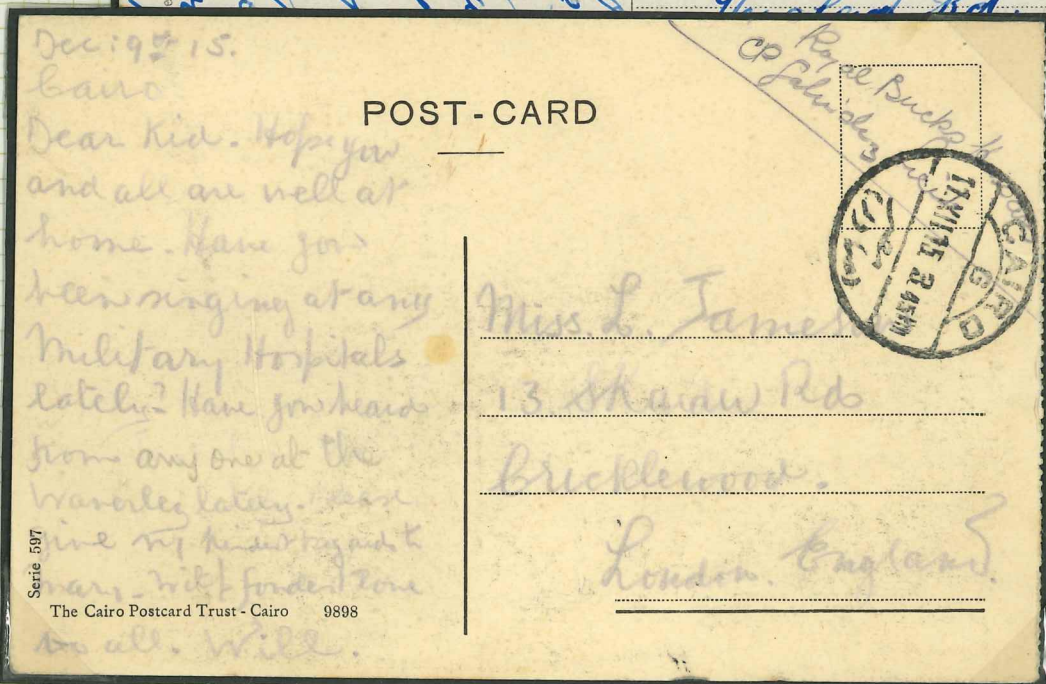
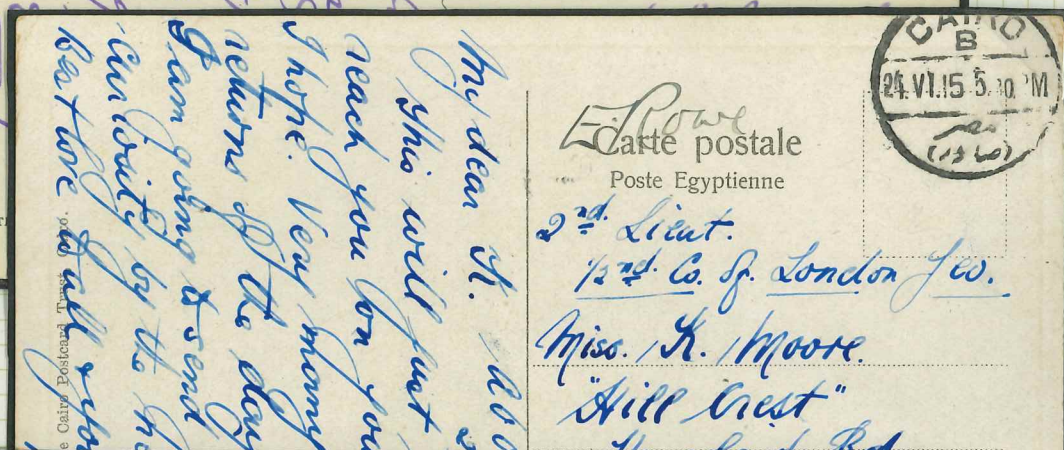
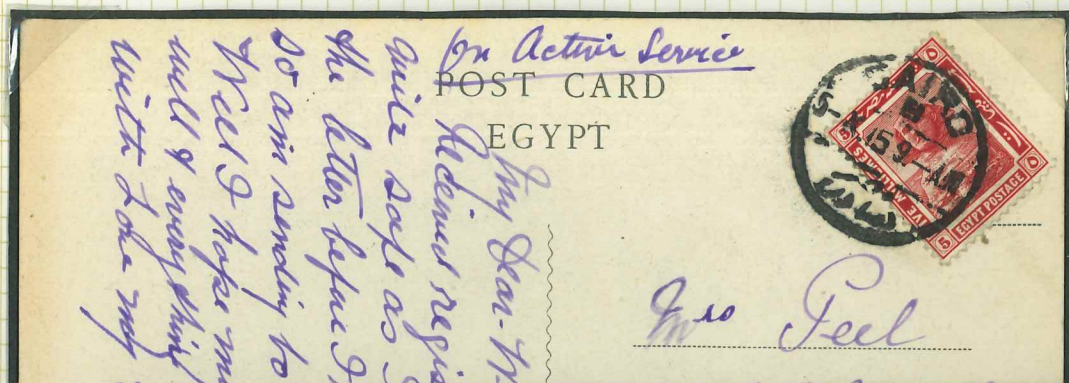


outside Mena House Hotel just below the Giza pyramids



Postcard sent in an envelope depicting British troops.

British Forces in Egypt



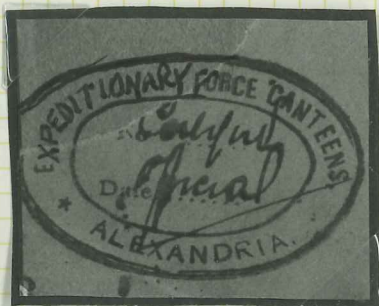
Three 'On Active Service' postcards from Abbassia illustrating the postal arrangement of feeding military mail into the civil system.

British Forces in Egypt

Canteens & Clubs CCMS

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE CANTEENS
ALEXANDRIA BAPOZ

ERD 7 JUL 17



LRD 15 JUL 17
(below)

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

BASE A.P.O.Z.
M.E.F.
No. 920



Maspero Street

P.O. Box 1064

Cairo



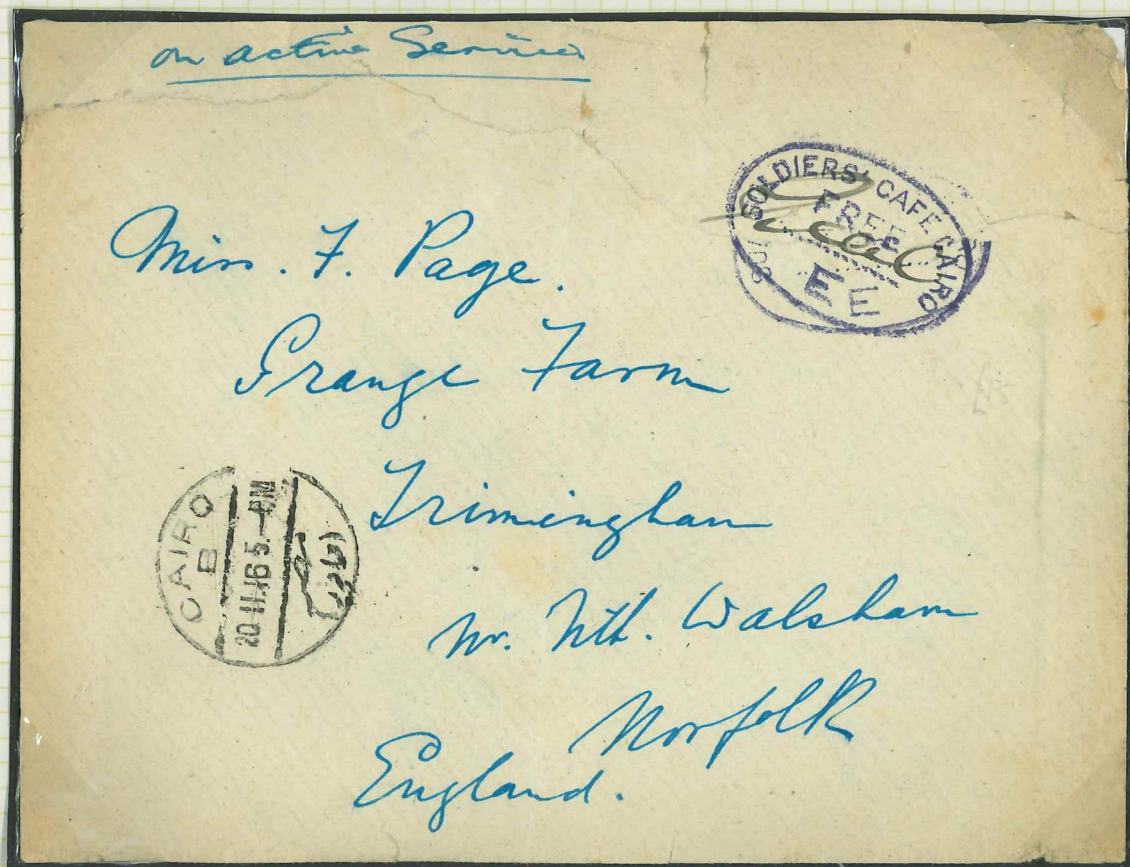
Registered official cover, probably an order for tobacco, sent from Base Army Post Office Z at Alexandria to Cairo on 15 JUL 17. Listed but not illustrated by Firebrace, this casket, with manuscript 'Certified official' in black extends Firebrace's dates by three days; Cairo RA1 and Army Post Office SZ10 dated 16 JUL 17 both on reverse.

British Forces in Egypt

Canteens & Clubs

Soldiers Cafe, Cairo
FREE E

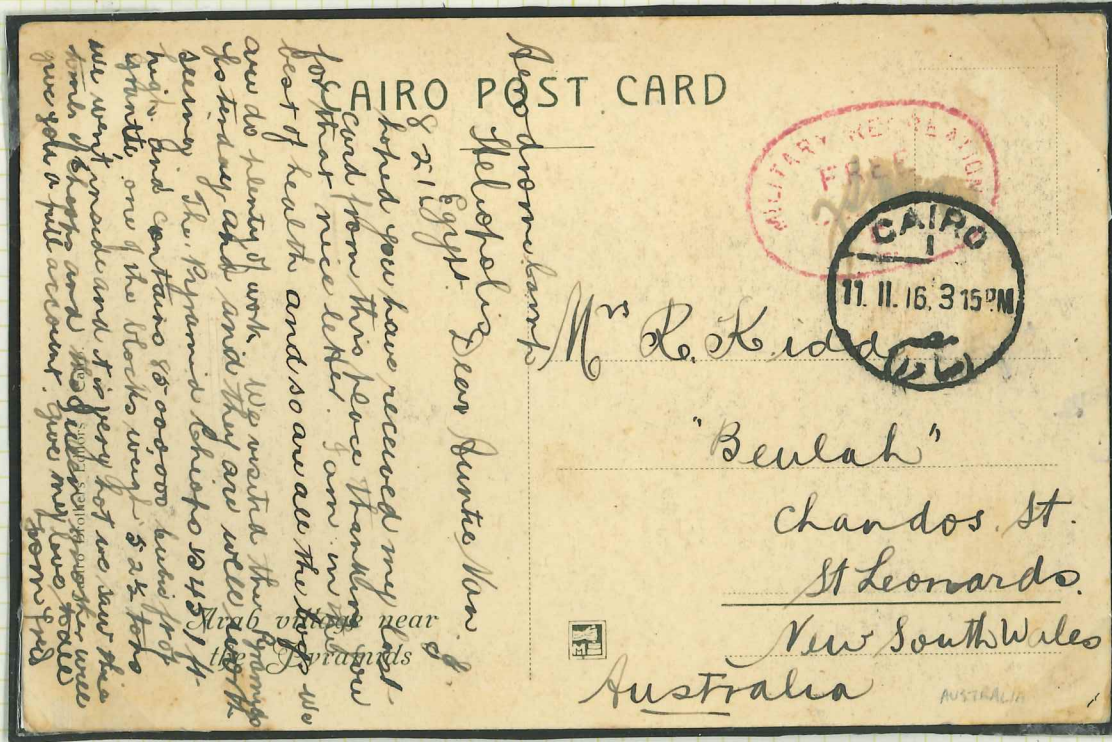
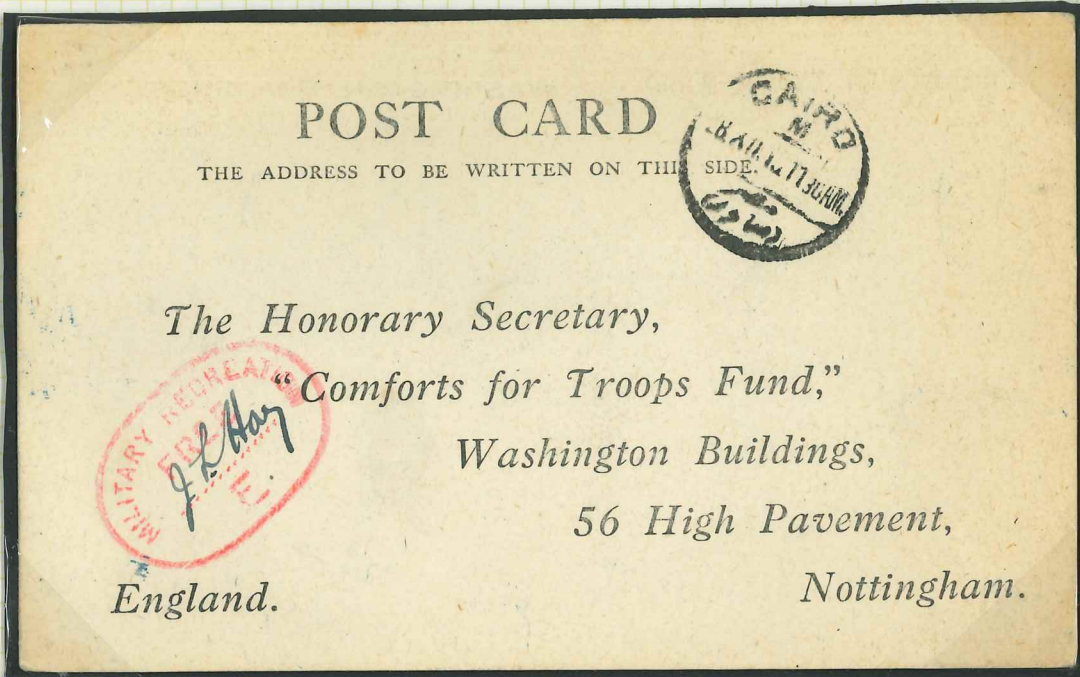
Noted by Firebrace in use only from 6th Janth to 18th March 1916; it was opened by Sir John Maxwell, but its actual address is not known. The cover below extends Firebrace's dates by 2 days - it is still short-lived.



Unfranked On Active Service cover sent from the Soldiers Cafe, Cairo to North Walsham, Norfolk.

British Forces in Egypt

Canteens and Clubs
Military Recreation Free



Two postcards to Nottingham and New South Wales respectively with FREE cachet signed by J. L. Hay.

British Forces in Egypt

Canteens and Clubs

ERD 9 NO 15



LRD 21 MR 16

O.A.S. Postcard to UK cancelled Civilian Cairo & franked Military Recreation Free E and signed by Mr J.L. Hay at Esbekiah Gardens Cairo that opened 17th August 1915.



From J.L. Hay who landed with the New Zealand Fourth Reinforcement on 25th May 1915:

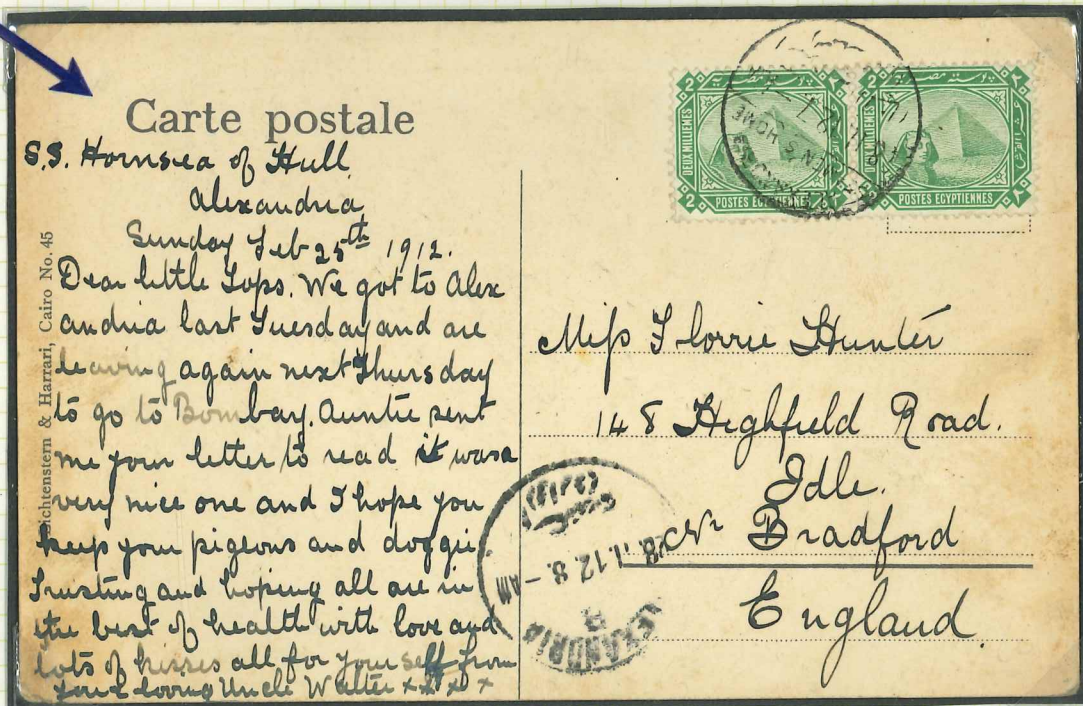
"Because of a military censorship the usual civil postage services could not be used, but by arrangement with the military authorities permission was granted for letters to be posted at the Esbekiah Gardens Club and handled by the Cairo Civil postal officials. Each letter was required to be franked with the official Club stamp with my signature superimposed."

Sea Post

Alexandria
Seamen's Home type II



Four milliemes 'empire' postcard rate of early 1912 stamps cancelled ESC type II of Seamen's Home.



Disembarked at Alexandria and presumably staying at the Seamen's Home in the harbour the writer seems to have changed ships en route for Bombay. Manuscript S.S. Hornsea of Hull would indicate the ship on which he was conveyed to Alexandria.

Proprietary Posts

Seamen's Home, Alexandria

Type II



Manuscript indicates S.S. Egyptian Prince; writer as passenger staying at Seamen's Home, Alexandria, en route for Beirut then in Ottoman Syria - became Lebanon's capital of French colony after W.W. 1.



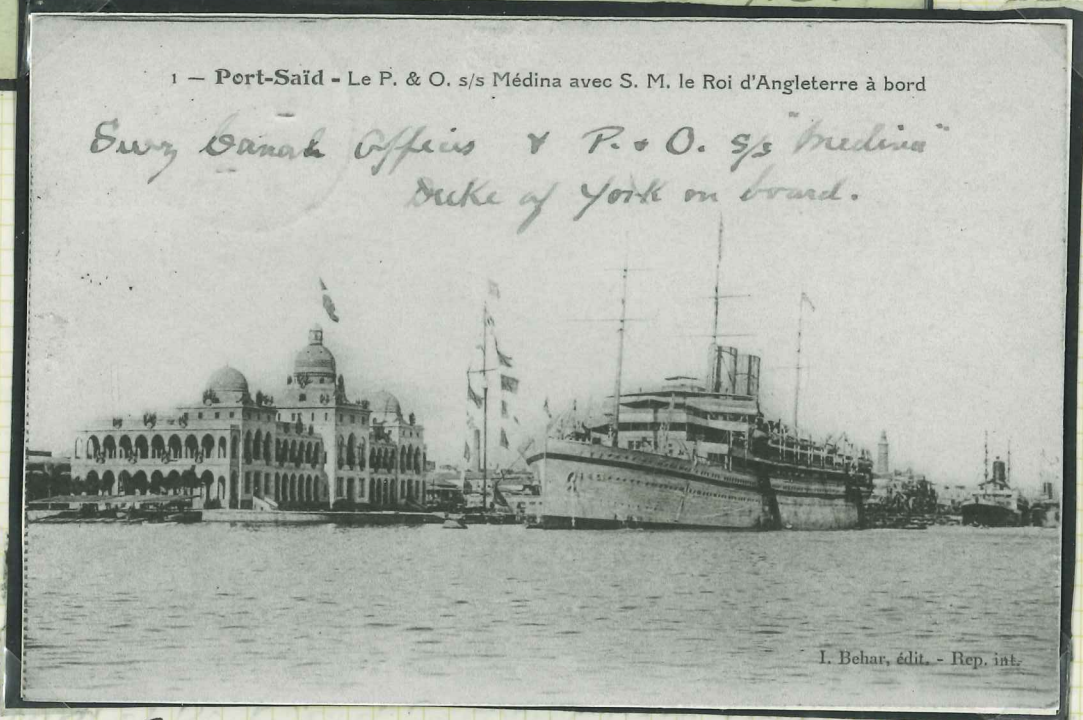
Four millièmes postcard rate posted at the Seamen's Home cancelled type II dated 14th August 1912 with Alexandria G-transit on same day to Macclesfield.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office Port Said

ERD 25-MR-17

LRD April 1920
(below)



Postcard of Port Said harbour with P. & O. s/s Medina with Duke of York on board and Suez Canal offices, franked 2x2 millimes cancelled A.P.O. Port Said some three months after Howard's latest date, 17th April 1920.

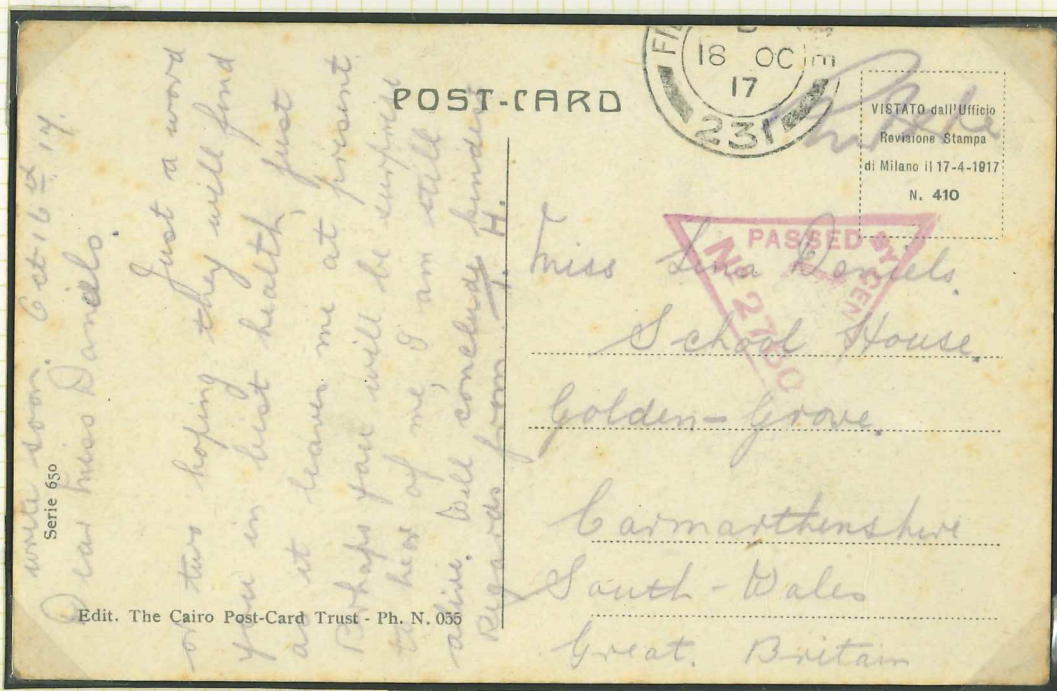
Firebrace p67

British Forces in Egypt Datestamps of 74 Division



Double-ring datestamp of 231 Brigade sent 6 MR 17; only one recorded by Firebrace date above

Below used at Khan Yunus

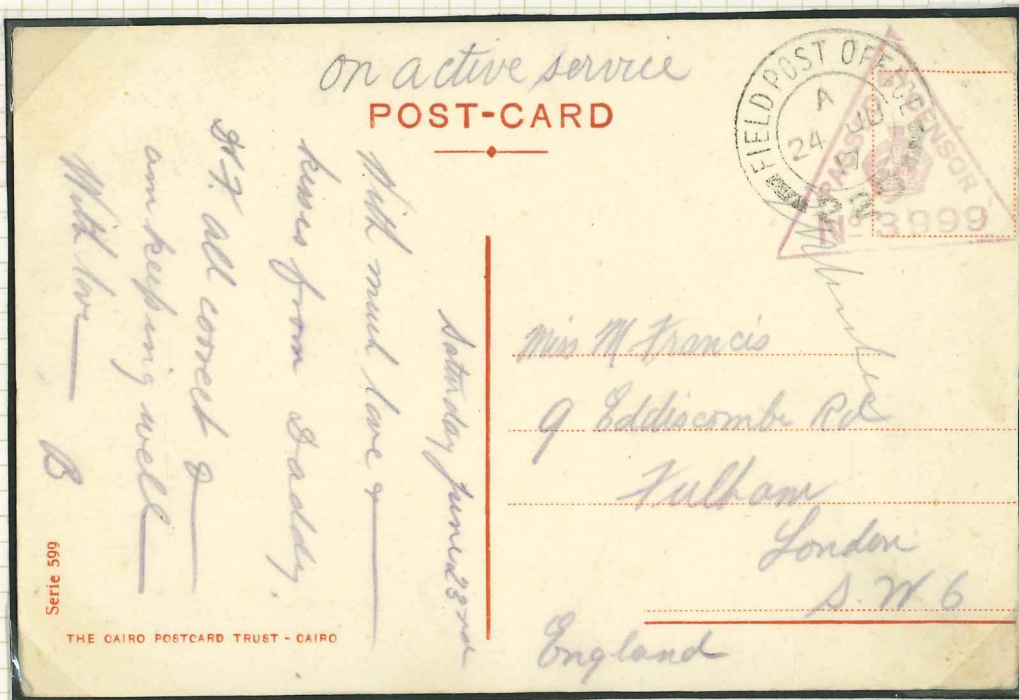


The 74th (Yeomanry) Division formed infantry battalions in February and March 1917, consisting of 229, 230 and 231 Brigades each being issued both a skeleton and a double-ring datestamp initially allocated 14 JA 17 to Western Frontier Force on 1 AP 17 joined the division at Khan Yunus in Gaza.

British Forces in Egypt

FIELD POST OFFICE 229 Datestamps of 74 Division

Originally the 2nd Dismounted Brigade, 229th Brigade was formed in March 1916 from the Highland Mounted Brigade and the 2nd South West Mounted Brigade whose datestamps were used concurrently until October 1916. Located in the Western Frontier Force, then in the Canal Zone by January 1917 the unit moved to Rafah in Palestine in March 1917, to Gaza April to November 1917, to Jerusalem until April 1918, back to Kantara in Egypt from 20th to 28th April 1918 and to the Western Front in May 1918.



On active service postcard, of Suez station, sent from FPO 229 on 24th June 1917 at that time located in the Gaza area en route to Jerusalem.

British Forces in Egypt

FIELD POST OFFICE 163

Date-stamps of 54 D'n.

By mid-August 1915 until early December, this date-stamp was located at Surda in the Dardanelles campaign. The Division left via Mudros for Egypt arriving at Alexandria on 18 DE 15. By 6th January 1916 it was located at Mena Camp near Cairo from where it transferred to N^o 1 Section Suez Canal defences.



'On Active Service' cover, hence no franking sent to Cambridge 22 JY 16 probably from the Dardanelles campaign but it pre-dates Proud's dates.

Finebrace
p. 60

British Forces in Egypt

Datestamps of 54 Division

LRD: 13MR16



LRD: 31JA19

54 East Anglian Division consisted of 161 Essex Brigade, 162 East Midland Brigade and 163 Norfolk and Suffolk Brigade; it was formed 4 AU 14 as a Territorial Division. 18 DE 15 arrived Egypt from Gallipoli, concentrated at Sidi Bishr and joined Force in Egypt at Mena Camp.



At the time this letter was received from London 161 Brigade, having moved in Eastern Force to Romani 17JA17, joined Invasion of Palestine at the First Battle of Gaza on 25 MR17.

British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office 160

Allocated to the 53rd (Welsh) Division and having landed at Suvla in Turkey on 9th August of 1915, this date stamp moved to Egypt when the division evacuated to Alexandria on 20th December 1915 and remained in Egypt throughout 1916. The division moved into Palestine through 1917 and 1918 returning to Alexandria from Nov. 1918 to June 1919, transferred to 75 Division May of 1919



On active service postcard to England from FPO 160 dated September 1917 when the 53rd Division was located near Gaza.

Fulbrace p58

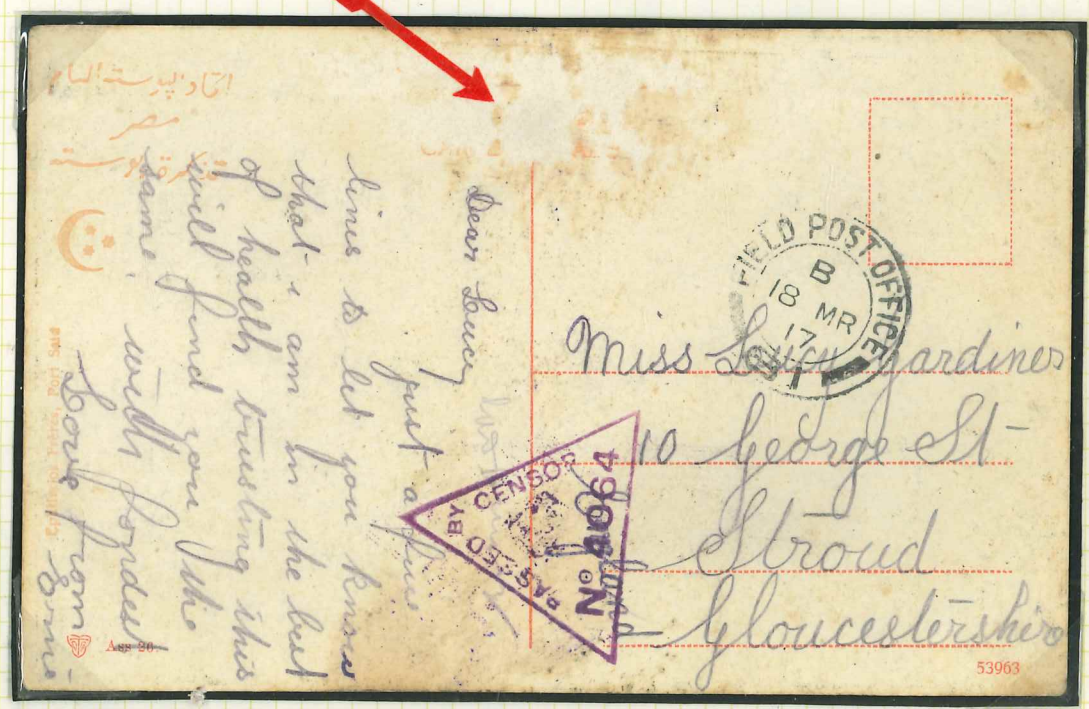
British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office 81

Though listed by Proud as Greece from 7-12-15 to 27-7-18, these cards from Egypt fit the gap between 20-9-16 + 1-9-17.



Evidence of censor erasing locations on card heading below.



Firebrace: 2 Glos. Regiment part of 27 Division 81 Brigade transferred to 82 Brigade 3 NO 16, absorbed by FPO T.27 in March 1919

British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office F2

Type B (of 2) illustrated by Proud and recorded
in use at Abbassia 19 NO. 16 until 24 AP 18 - it was
transferred thereafter to A.P.O. SZ15.



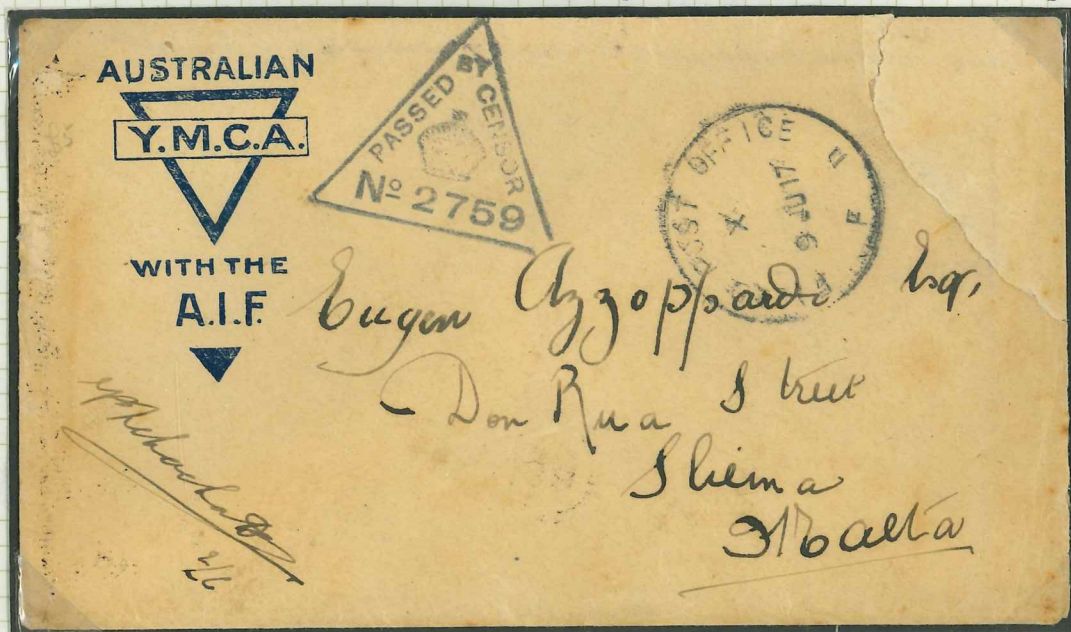
Censored crown triangle No 3458 in red, this
was sent from Cairo to Reigate on 22 SP 17.

British Forces in Egypt



E.E.F Headquarters F.P.O. F1 Eastern Force H.Q.

Formed at Ismailia 18th October 1916 when G.H.Q. moved back to Cairo to control troops on the Suez Canal and Desert Column in Sinai. Lt. Gen. Sir C.M. Dobell appointed to command from Western Frontier Force. Moved to el-Arish Feb. 1917 and to Dair el-Balah 28th March 1917 then in the invasion of Palestine. By 2nd May 1917 Northern Section Suez Canal Defences. Eastern Force ceased when Corps formations est. 12 Aug 17.



Australian YMCA stationery used from H.Q. Eastern Force to Sliema, Malta.

British Forces in Egypt

General Headquarters Datestamps to 1920

ERD: 2 JY 18



LRD: 16 MY 19

GM 2 type 2



Postcard (of River Jordan) posted on Active Service one day after the earliest yet recorded

In 1917 General Headquarters Middle East Forces was split into two Echelons. GM became GM2 - 2nd Echelon, while GM1 opened in Kelab near Khan Yunis in Gaza, then in Palestine, on 12 AU 17. The former designation GM re-appeared 27 MY 19.

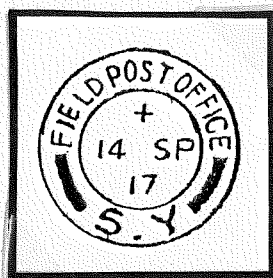
British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office GM

Located at the Cairo Citadel built by Salah-ed-Din (Saladin) this is the General Headquarters of the Middle East Forces during the first World War.



British Forces in Egypt



No. 3 Section Suez Canal Defences
Datestamp of 5 Mounted Brigade made up at
this June 1916 date of Warwickshire, Gloucestershire
and Worcestershire Yeomanry

A.P.W. 3978. *EGYPT WESTERN FRONTIER FORCE* [Crown Copyright Reserved.]

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

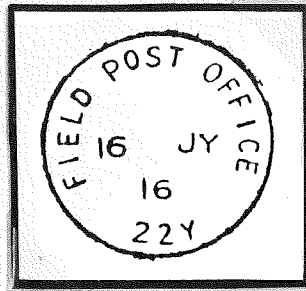
NOTE.—
Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The Contents are liable to examination at the Base.
The following Certificate must be signed by the writer :
I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature (Name only) }
H. H. Reynolds

Address—
Mrs H. H. Reynolds
Holt Heath
Holt
Mr Worcester
England

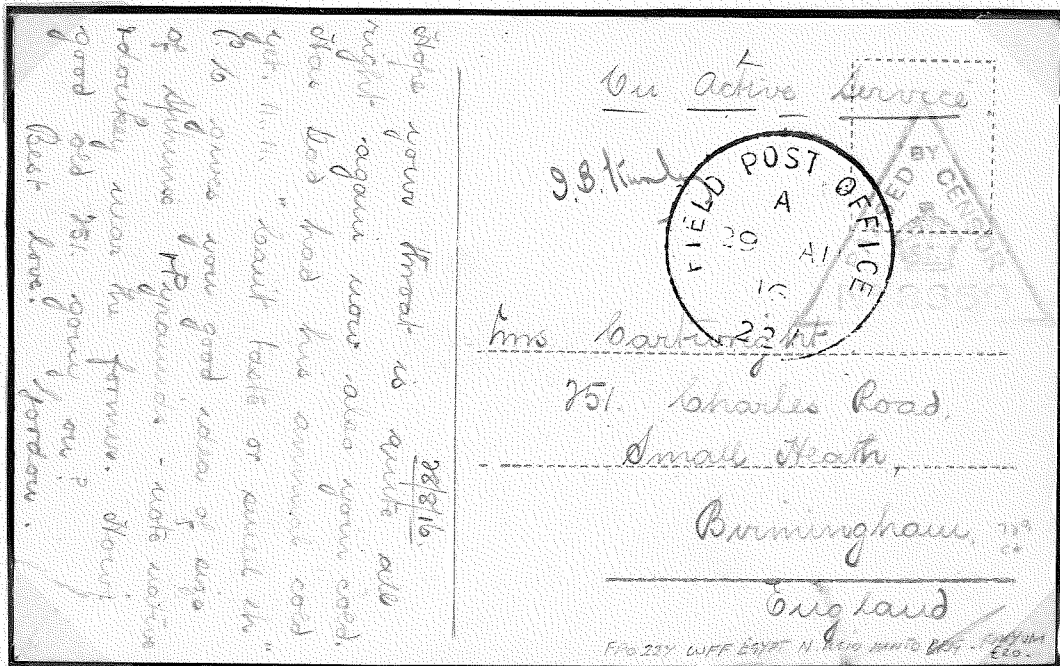
Early 'honour' envelope sent by a member of the Worcestershire Yeomanry between the Affair at Katna and the Battle of Romani in Defence of Egypt.

British Forces in Egypt



Western Frontier Force

Datestamp of the 22nd Mounted Brigade made up at the time of this card of Lincolnshire Yeomanry, East Riding of Yorkshire Yeomanry and Staffordshire Yeomanry who joined from North Midland Mounted Bde



On active service postcard of Sphinx and Pyramids from member of North Midlands Mounted Brigade in the north western section of the Western Frontier Force. 22 DE 16 transferred to the Eastern Force.

ERD 26 JUL 16 LRD 20 SE 17

British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office N.M.Y.

The North Midland Mounted Brigade arrived in Egypt in November 1915 serving in the Southern area of the Western Frontier Force. It was re-named 22nd Mounted Brigade in the spring of 1916. In February 1917 it joined the Australian and New Zealand Mounted Division and transferred to Yeomanry (1st) Mounted Division formed in July 1917. In April 1918 the Brigade was "Indianised" and in July became 12th Cavalry Brigade in the 4th Cavalry Division.



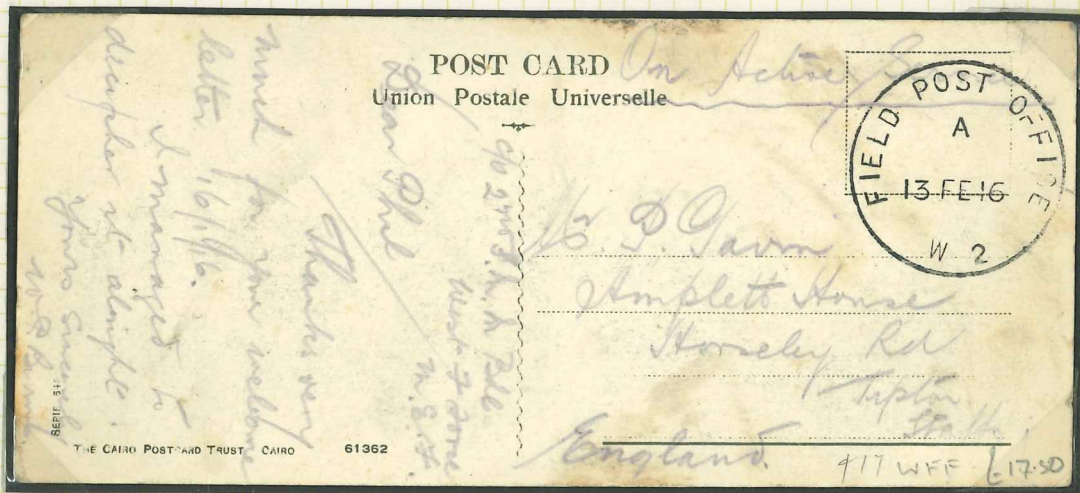
In use between November 1915 and July 1916, Field Post Office N.M.Y. franking an 'On active service' postcard from the Western Desert area in 1916.

British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office W2



*Western Frontier Force
Datestamp of the Yeomanry Brigade used between
November 1915 and February 1916
ERD 10 DE 15 LRD 17 FE 16*

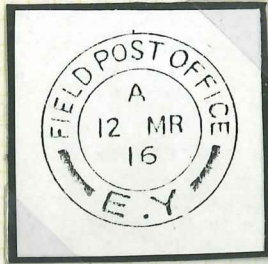


*On active service postcard of Heliopolis sent by
a member of the 2nd South Midland Mounted Brigade
part of the Western Frontier Force from Jan to Dec. 1916.
More of a divisional than a corps command it drew its
troops from any available and had its own allocation
of specially prepared datestamps as well as those of
incoming units.*

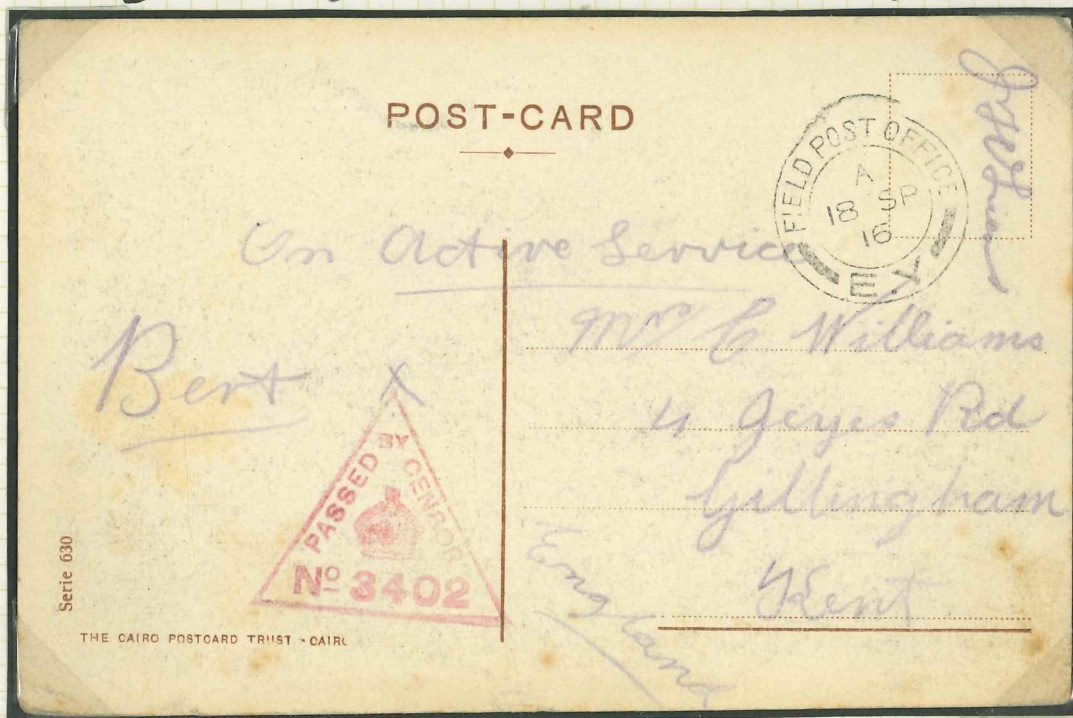
British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office E.Y.

3rd Dismounted Brigade



Originally attached to the 54th Division at Suvla near Dardanelles in Turkey as the 1st Eastern Mounted Brigade and the South Eastern Mounted Brigade, on 22nd February 1916 the 3rd Dismounted Brigade was formed at el-Kubri north of Suez.



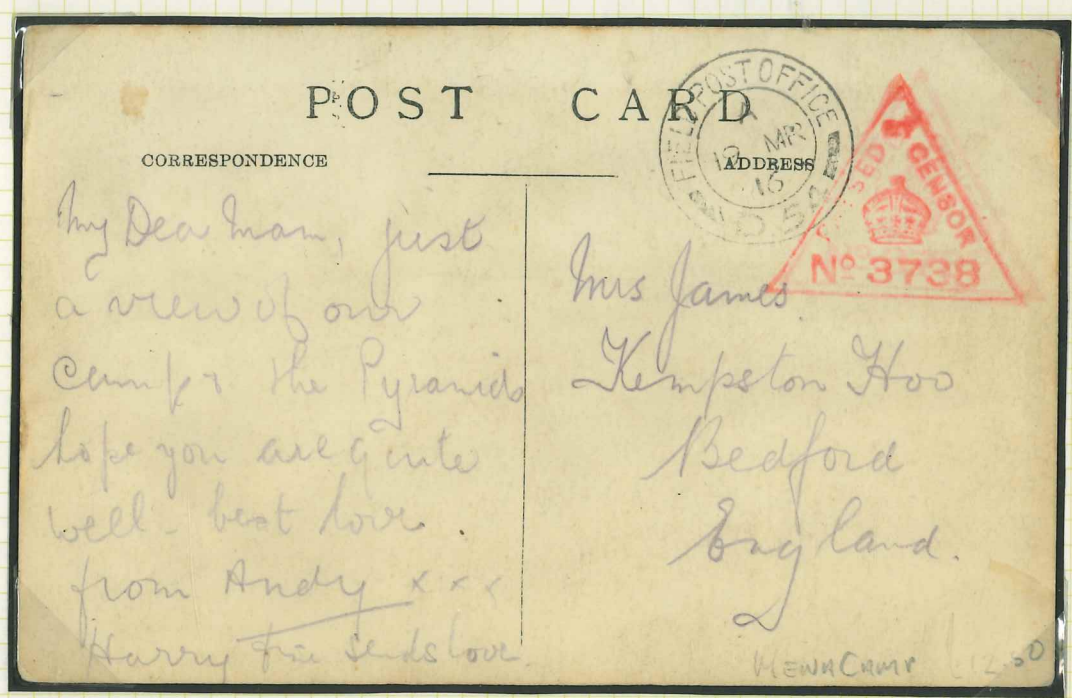
At the time of this OAS card the date stamp was attached to the 3rd Dismounted Brigade as part of the Western Frontier Force in the Sollum/el-Dabia area. On 14/1/17 it was re-designated 230 Brigade. A new date stamp.

British Forces in Egypt

Field Post Office D54



The Divisional Headquarters of the 54th (East Anglian) Division had FPO D54 at Surla in Turkey from 10 AU 15 to 8 DE 15 and left for Egypt via Mudros in Greece.



F.P.O. D.54 was located at Mena Camp 24 DE 15 to 1 AP 16 then transferred to Suez until January 1917, through Palestine to Beint to 28 NO 18 returning to Kantara from 7 DE 18 to 30 SE 19.

Real photo picture postcard of Mena Camp at Giza where the East Anglian Division was based at the date of the card.

British Forces in Egypt

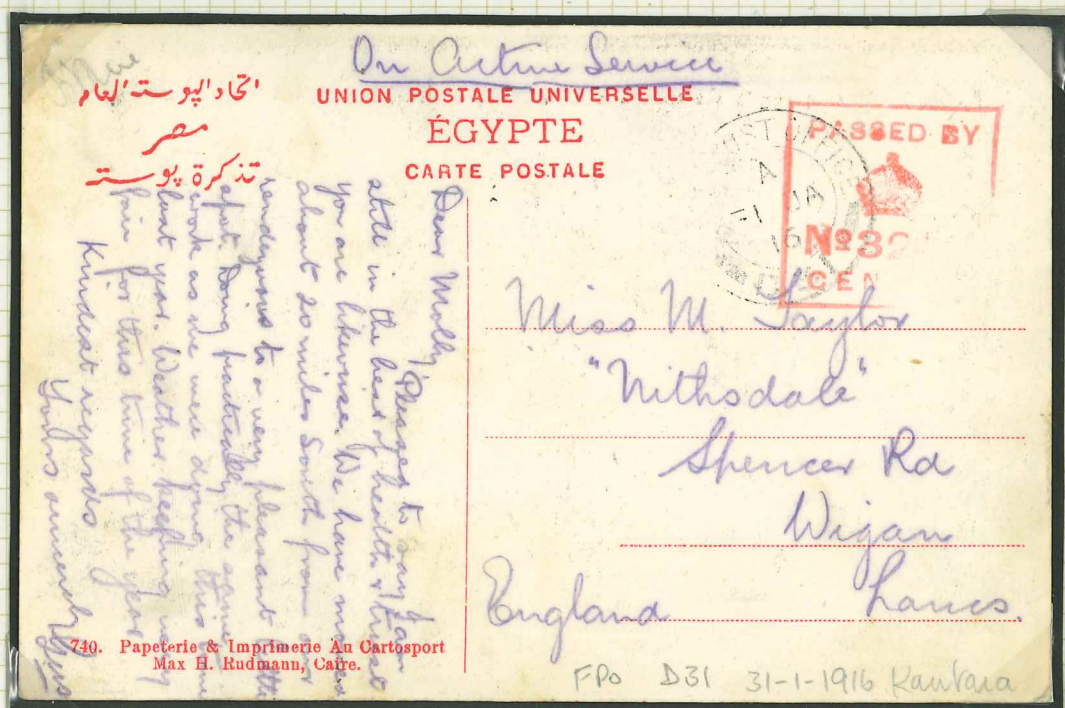
Divisional Headquarters Datestamps

ERD: 11 JA 16



LRD: 23 FE 16

A fourth New Army Division, made up of 92, 93 and 94 Brigades started to arrive in Egypt around the Christmas of 1915 landing at Port Said. It was deployed in No.1 Northern Section, Suez Canal Defences XV Corps. Embarked for France on 1st March 1916



Used in Egypt for only six weeks F.P.O. D31 was located at Kantara at the time of this card, to England dated 31 JA 16; censor CM2.

Freerace p31
p295

Sea Post

Damaged by immersion in water

Army Post Office SZ14 had moved to Deir el Balah, Palestine where this Active Service cover was posted. This extends Proud's dates by almost three months, the Allies having captured it on 6th March 1917.

DAMAGED BY IMMERSION
IN WATER

ACTIVE SERVICE

31 MAY 1918

[Several letters may be forwarded in this Cover, but these must be from the same writer. The Cover should be addressed in case to the Base Censor.]

Address:— Mr Beale
254 Ealing Court Road
Ealing
London

Signature }
Name only }

ARMY POST OFFICE
SZ 14
PALESTINE

DAMAGED BY IMMERSION
IN WATER

Carried by M.V. Kingstonian (6564 tons) owned by the Leyland line, the ship was torpedoed 65 miles west of Sardinia on 11th April 1918 and towed to Capotorte, torpedoed again on 29th April, she sank during salvage operations; mail rescued and received London 31 MAY 1918.

Shipwreck Mail

The Wreck of SS "KINGSTONIAN" 11th and 29th April 1918

Book by John Gibson; S.S. Kingstonian, a 6,564 ton passenger/cargo steamer left Alexandria for Marseille with soldiers of the Royal Irish Regiment. When the ship was off the small island of San Pietro, Sardinia, she was struck by a torpedo fired by German submarine UB68. To prevent the ship sinking, the captain beached her in Carloforte Bay, Sardinia. There, having salvage work carried out by the crew of HMS Dalkeith,



she was torpedoed again, this time by the German submarine U.B. 48. The torpedo struck the Kingstonian near the engine room causing an explosion which sank the small salvage ship and completely wrecked the Kingstonian.

by

John Gibson

In April 1919 SS 'Kingstonian', a 6,564 ton passenger/cargo steamer left Alexandria for Marseille with soldiers of the Royal Irish Regiment. When the ship was off the small island of San Pietro, Sardinia on 11th April she was struck by a torpedo fired by German submarine UB 68. The torpedo struck the hull near the bow and to prevent the ship sinking, the captain beached her in Carloforte Bay, Sardinia.

The 'Kingstonian' (figure 1) was then having salvage work carried out by the crew of 'Dalkeith', when on the 29th April she was torpedoed again, this time by German submarine UB 48. The torpedo struck the 'Kingstonian' near the engine room, causing an explosion which sank the small salvage ship and completely wrecked the 'Kingstonian'.

The Pictorial De La Rues

Five millimes



Stamp washed off cover rescued from the wreck of the Leyland Line M.V. Kingstonian torpedoed 65 miles west of Sardinia and towed to Carloforte. Torpedoed again on 29th April 1918 and sunk during salvage operations.



Postal stationery envelope of French bank Cairo branch censored and sent to Milan; posted at Cairo 21st March 1918 and salvaged from torpedoed ship - the NAUFRAGIO cachet confirming rescue is not commonly found.

496 UXBRIDGE ROAD
PINNER
MIDDLESEX.
HA5 4SL

1-4-66

Dear John

Here is the cover
we were discussing this
morning. As I said, Jeltus wants
\$50 for it, let me have the
sterling equivalent, or return
it.

Sincerely

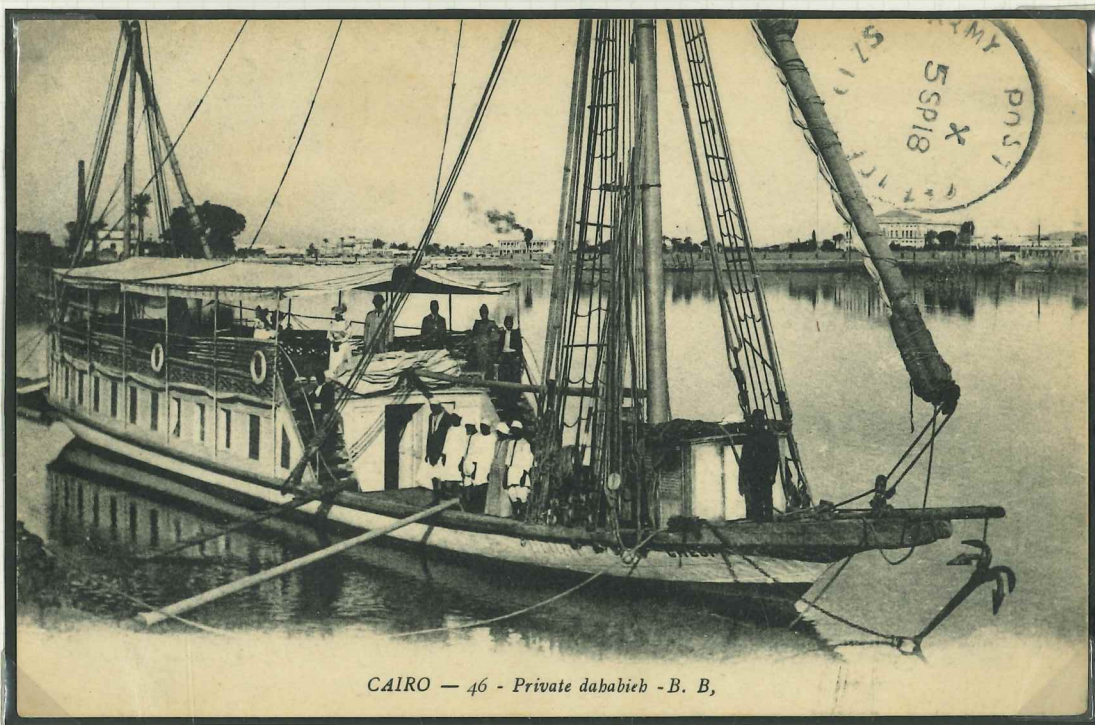
John

*British Forces in Egypt
Army Post Office SZ10*

*Proud
type M1*



*ERD 22 JY 18
LRD 6 SP 18*

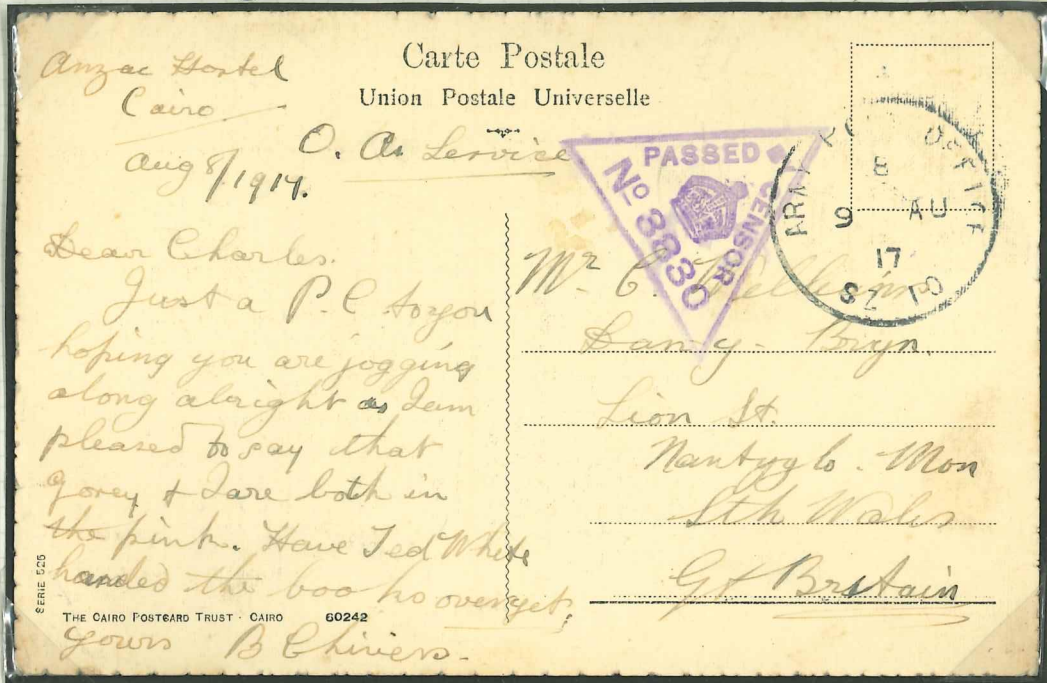


CAIRO — 46 - Private dababieh - B. B.

*On active service postcard sent in an envelope
but cancelled Army Post Office SZ10 Proud type
M1 during the period at Advanced Base Post Office
prior to June 1919 when transferred to the
force in Egypt.*

*British Forces in Egypt
Army Post Office S. 210*

*Opened Cairo February 1916 and in June 1917;
in CHTQ line of Communication when this card sent.*



*Round
type
F*



*5 mills civilian postcard of Anzac hostel from
where the top card sent.*

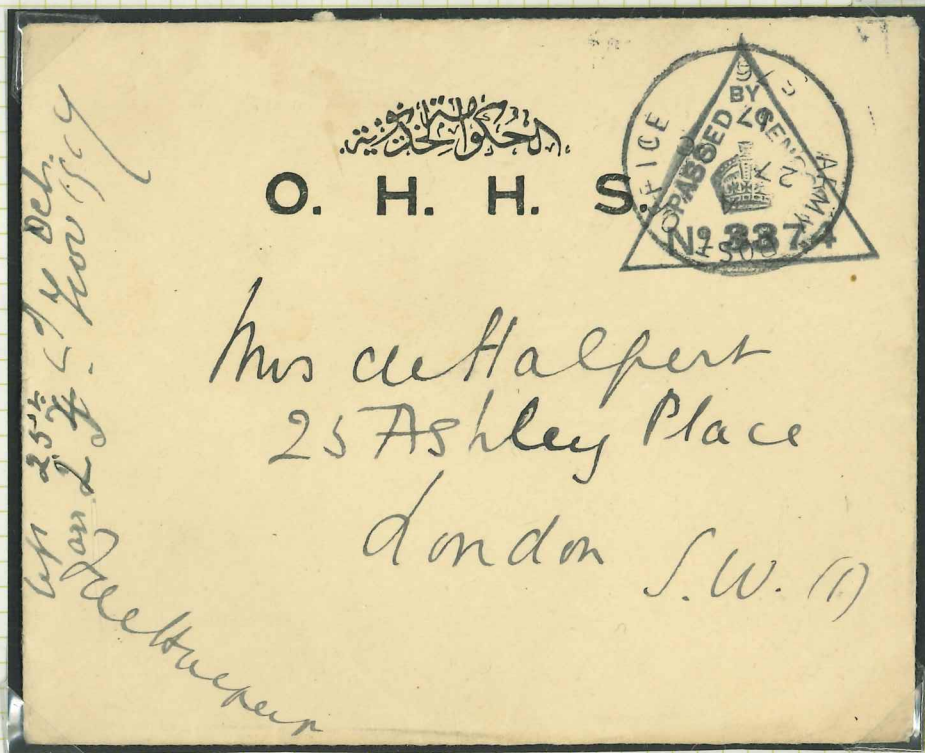
British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office SZ6

Sep 1915 relieved F.P.O. T10 at Portiana, Lemnos and closed
in Feb 1916 moving to Ferdan, Egypt, then Sollum, W.F.F.



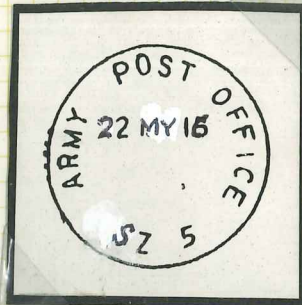
At the time of the cover below the date-stamp was held
by General Headquarters Line of Communication P.O.



Dated 27 Oct 17, this cover is inscribed O.H.H.S., On His Highnesses Service, and is an Egyptian official cover, but sent 'On Active Service' to London and unfranked as such. Triangular censor 3374 struck in black.

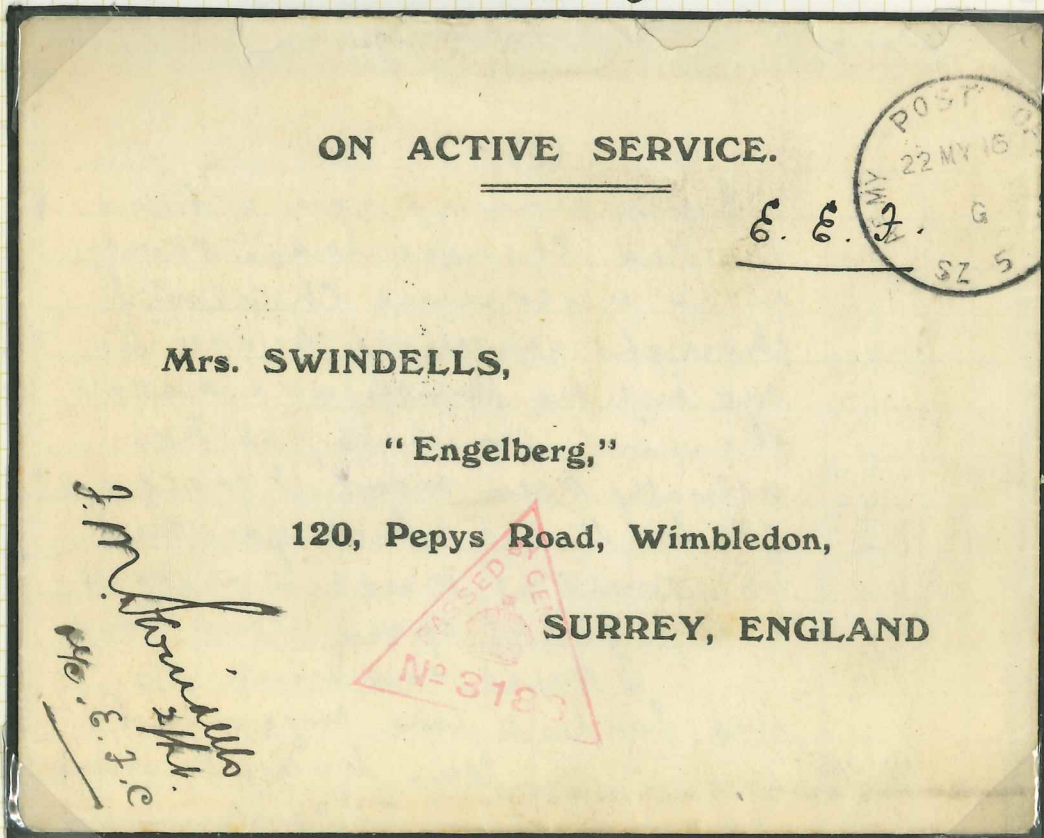
British Forces in Egypt
Army Post Office SZ5

ERD: 12 FE 16



LRD: 10 OC 18

Opened on Gallipoli at Anzac Beach Landing Office and closed there on 16th December 1915. Re-opened at Suez in No. 1 Section Suez Canal Defences in February 1916. By 26th June 1917 in Palestine Lines of Communication, then



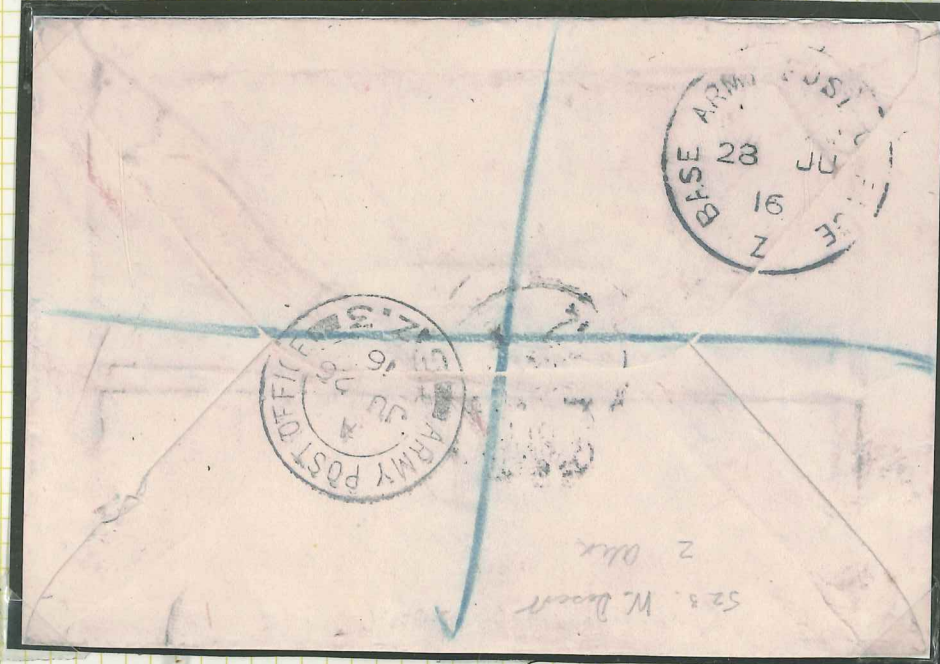
moved to Aleppo, Syria in October 1918; closed by July 1919. Used on pre-printed OAS cover to England during its period at Suez.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office 823

R1 Registration etiquette

Registered, censored cover posted from APO 823 at
Sollum on the Libyan border, Western Frontier Force.



Skeleton
BAPO 2
of Alex
Transit

APO
823

Transit, top right, at Alexandria on cover to London

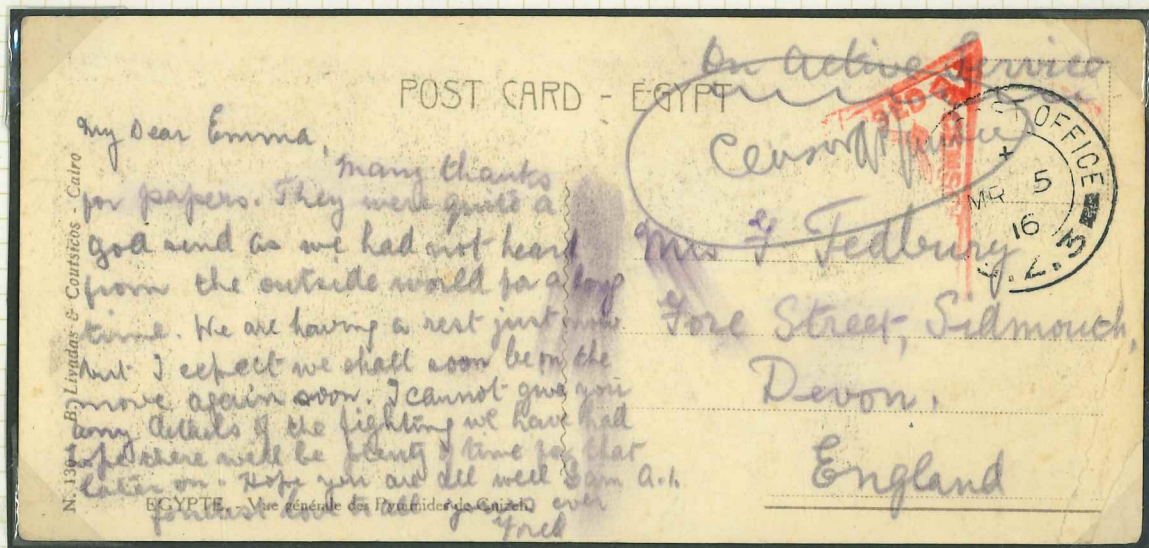
British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office S.Z.3.

A.P.O. S.Z.3 had recently returned from Imbros in Turkey and was in a 'rest period' - see text of postcard - before transferring to Sollum in the Western Desert, at the time of this card 5th March.



The double ring type used 7th July 1915 to 18th August 1918.



'On Active Service' postcard to Devon dated 5th March 1916 with censor type CM3 struck in red and signed in a manuscript oval. The date stamp A.P.O.S.Z.3 returned from Turkey on 7th February 1916 and was in transit.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office S.Z.2



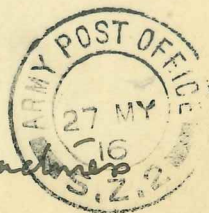
Cds. used in Egypt 28 April 16 to 28 Oct 17

On His Majesty's Service.

Mem Maspero Friess

Cigarette Manufacturer

Cairo



J.F. Dineen

*official envelope from Zagazig to Cairo dated 27 MY 16
same day arrival on reverse*

*Army Post Office SZ2 had recently returned to
Egypt from Mudros and Lemnos in Greece on the
Dardanelles campaign; at the time of this letter
it was based at Zagazig in the Eastern Delta.*

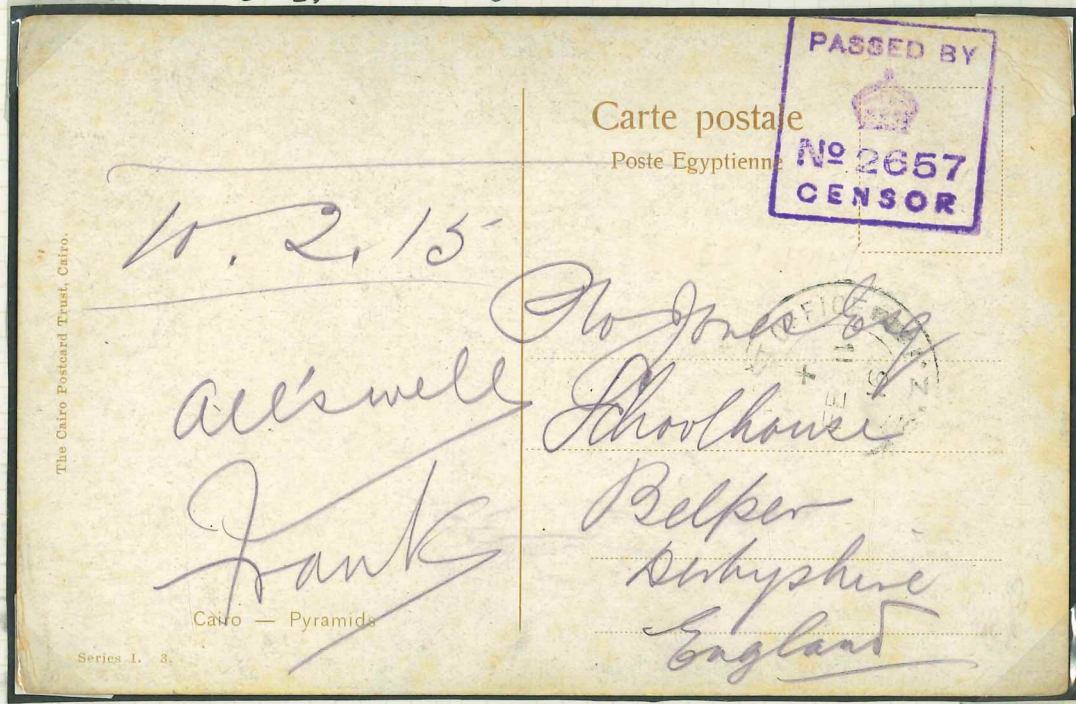
British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office S.Z.1.

A.P.O. S.Z.1 had recently returned to Egypt from the Dardanelles campaign and, at the time of this card, February 1916, was operating in the Canal Defences, Southern.



The Double ring type in use from 31st May 1915 to 28th August 1916

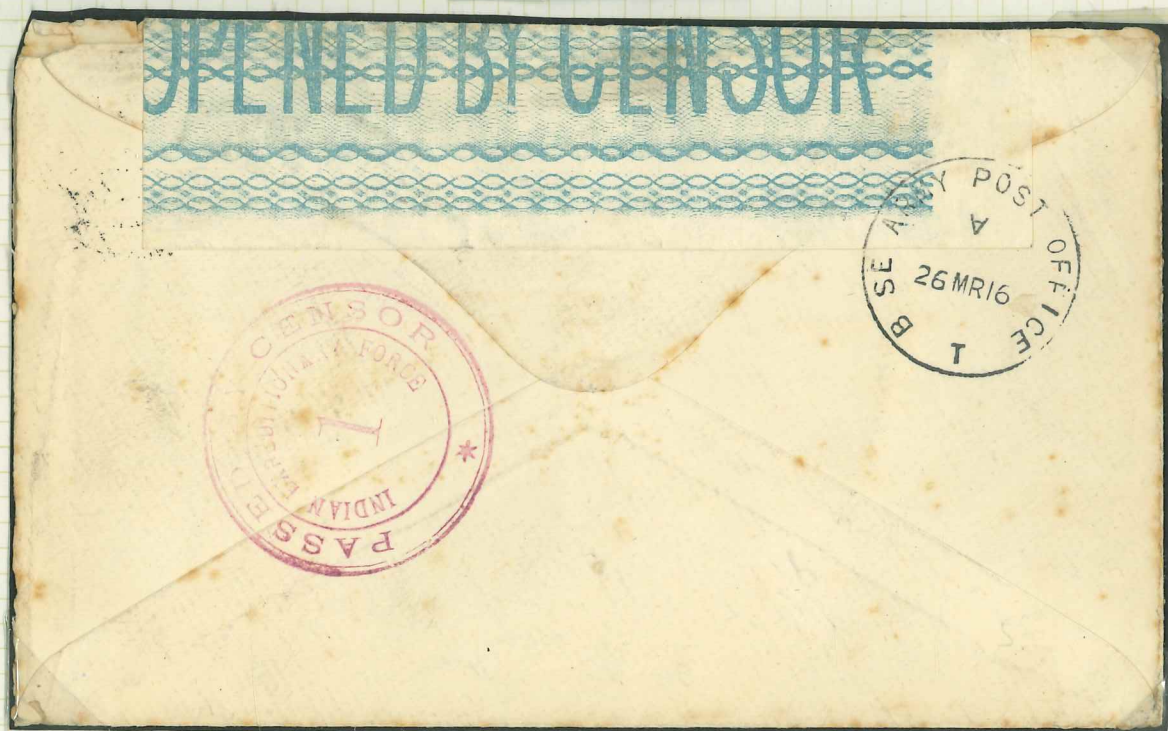


'On Active Service' postcard from the south Suez area to the U.K. with type CM2 crown in square censor No. 2657 in reddish violet, no signature. These numbers range from 2280 2218? to 3257 and from April 1915 to May 1916.

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office T.

Opened at Port Said early in 1916 and remained open at least until February 1920.



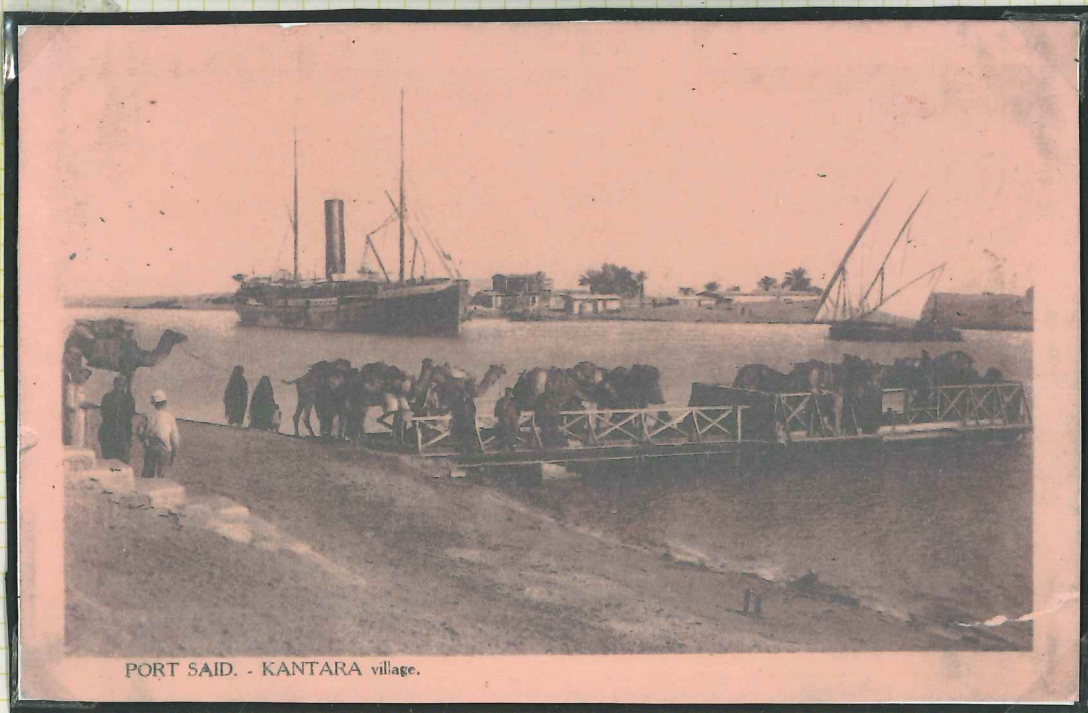
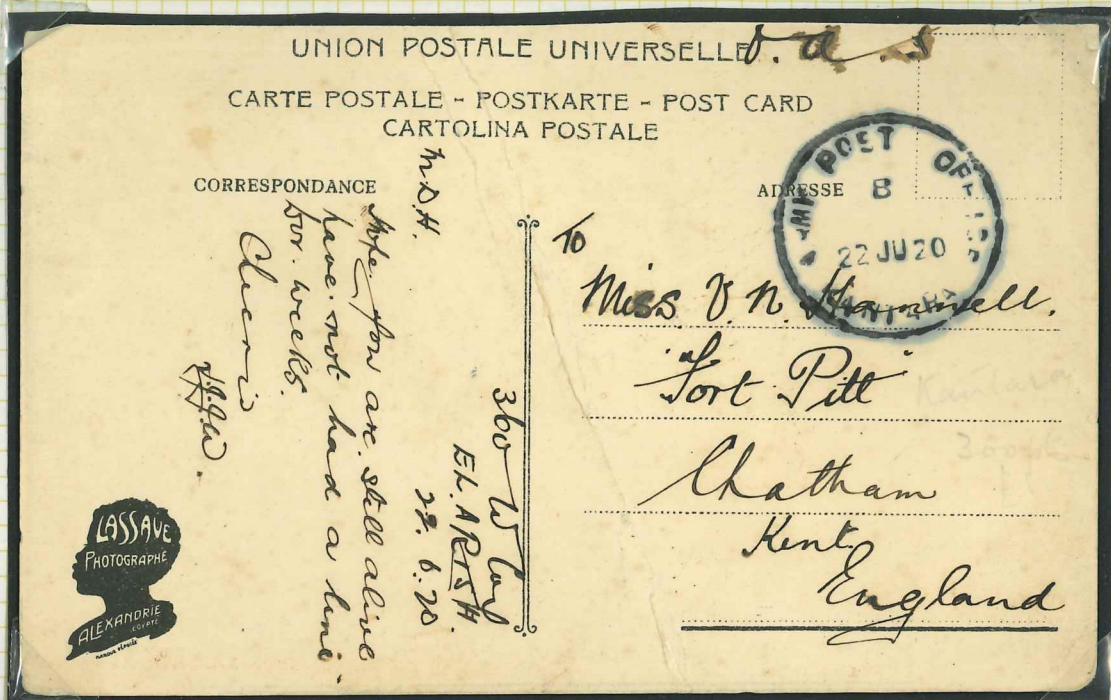
Letter from Suez to U.K. cancelled late use of star and bridge dated 20th March 1916 with censor stamp CM2 number 2218 and Indian Expeditionary Force censor No. 1 and censor's re-sealing tape. On the reverse dated 26th March is BAPO T transit. Even used early the date stamp has a missing A and inverted A code.

British Forces in Egypt

Army Post Office Kantara B

ERD 1AP20

LRD 22 JU 20

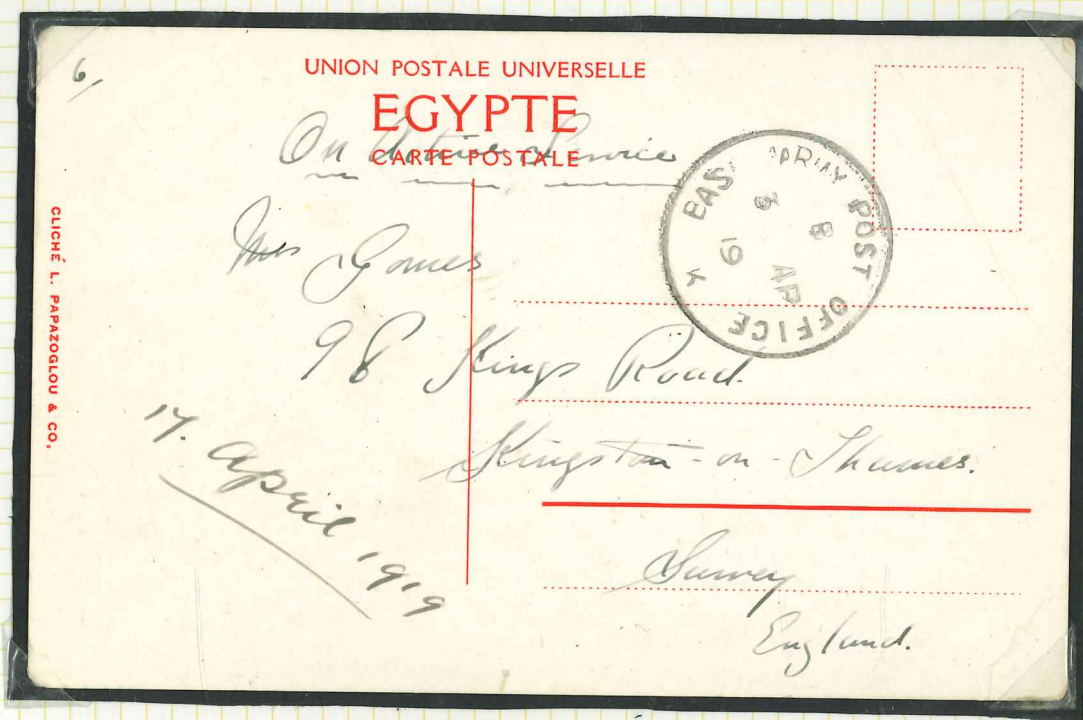


The first and smaller of two date stamps, formerly (Base) Army Post Office K, this extends Firebrace's dates by two weeks; sent from el Arish in the Sinai.

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office K.
Index B Proud sk.D, type four
3rd April 1919

Based at Kantara, a crossing on the Suez Canal,
from April 1918 until July 1920 (Proud p100) from
5217 Army Post Office in April 1919 and was re-
designated Army Post Office Kantara, one of
four types.



Egyptian U.P.U. postcard by Papazoglou & Co. of
the Fort Napoleon at Alexandria, sent in 1919
to Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey - On Active Service.

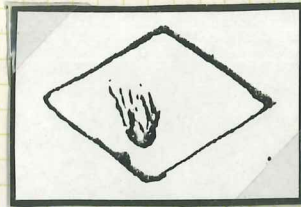
British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office K

ERD. 16 FE 18
LRD. 27 FE 20



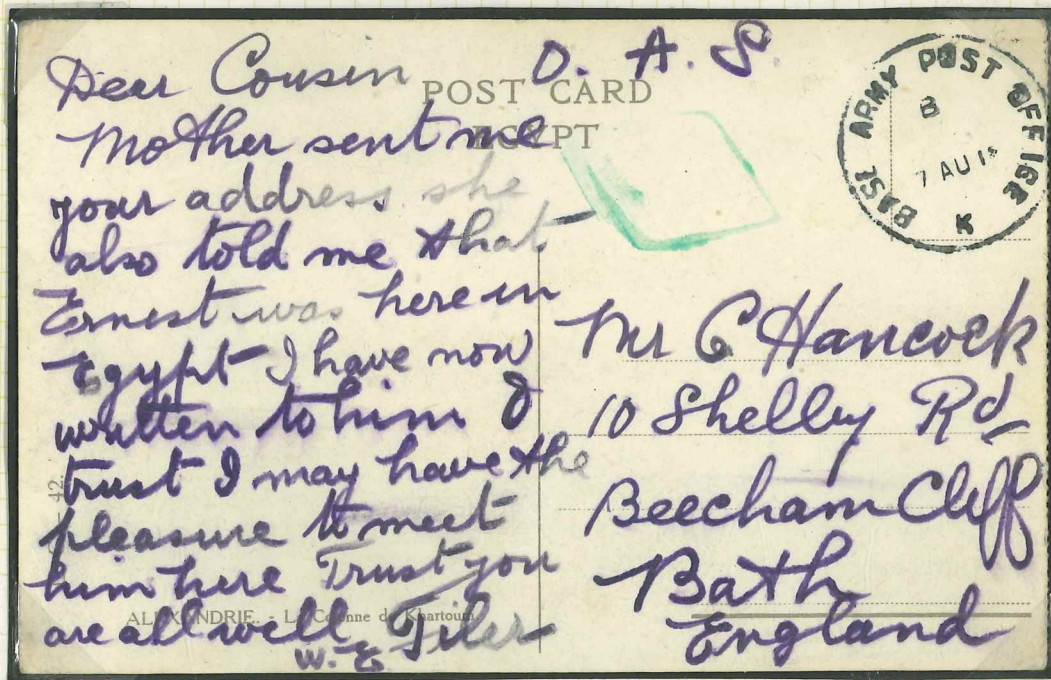
Kantara I



Dumb DM14

ERD: 16 MR 18
LRD: 27 SE 18

Opened as BAPO. K at Kantara by Feb. 1918 and in March took over APO S.217; became APO. K Oct. 1919 and, on



1st April 1920 became Army Post Office Kantara.

The first of two datestamps used on OAS postcard to Bath also bearing in green the lozenge shaped dumb marking DM14, whose purpose is unknown possibly an inspector's or routing mark and one of sixteen different. Probably applied at Alexandria.

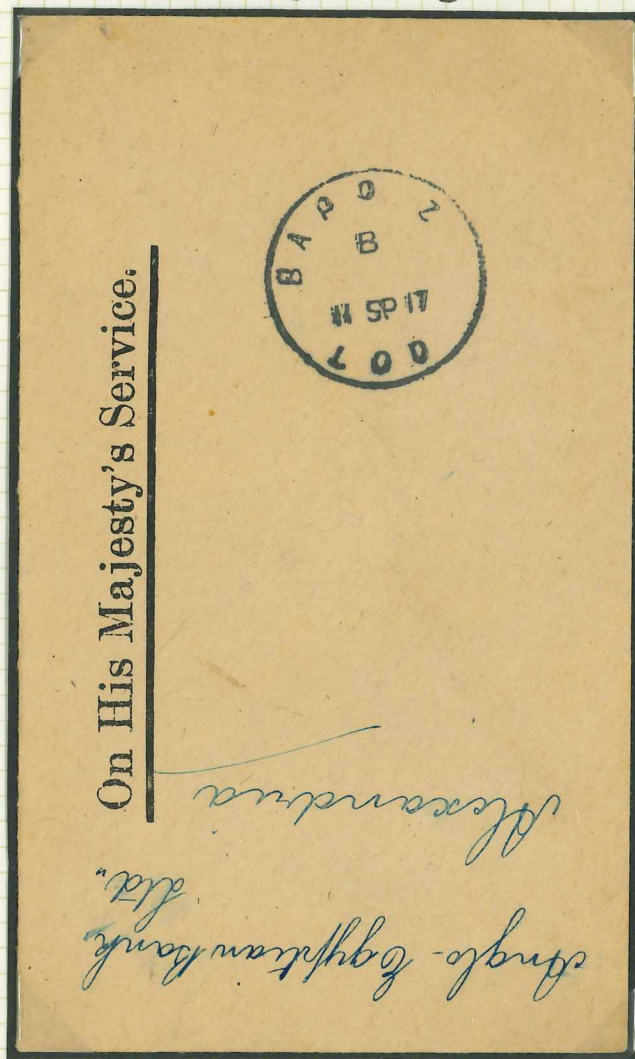
British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z.

L. O. D.

Local Official Delivery

Thought to have been in use from 31st August 1916 to 11th October 1917; the service may have used BAPO. Y date stamp with LOCAL OFFICIAL handstamp from 25th January 1916.



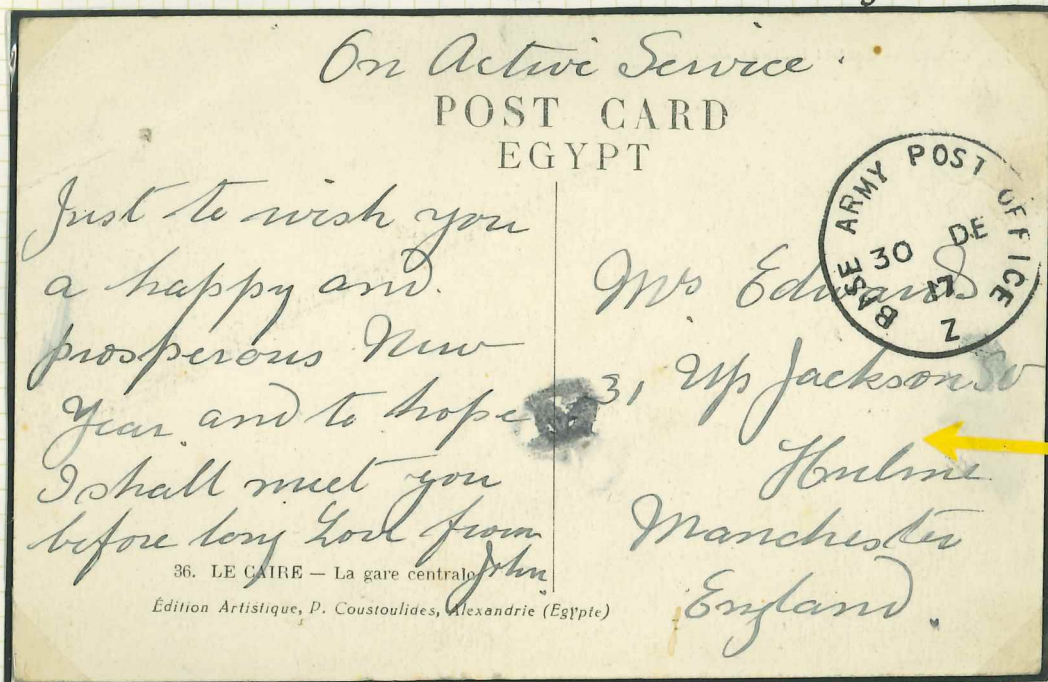
Official envelope from BAPO Z dated 11 SP 17

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z.

Skeleton

Droud type G, the skeleton datestamp was in use between 9th July 1916 and 16th April 1918.



Censor's star



Y.M.C.A. envelope

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z.

Type 6.

Earliest recorded date is 30JA 18
and latest is 17DE 19; type CM3 censor
number 3147 struck in cerise and signed.



British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z

Type 5

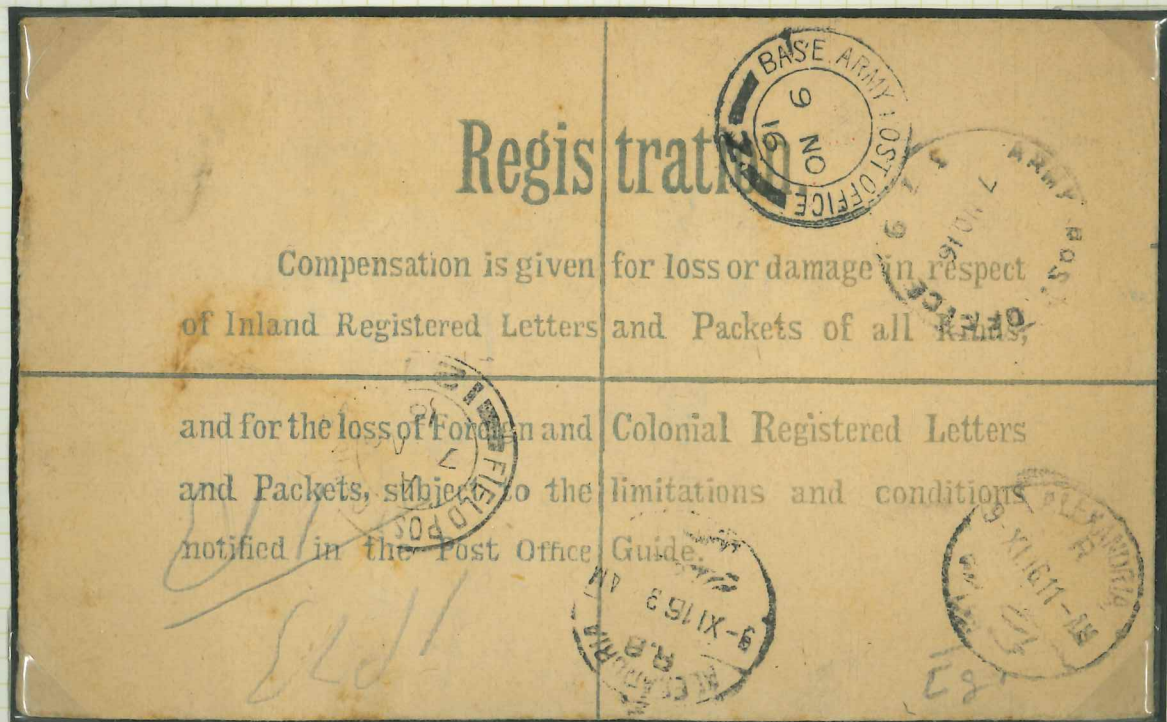
Only known as a receipt or transit
mark on registered mail

ERD 2 NO 16



LRD 15 MY 18

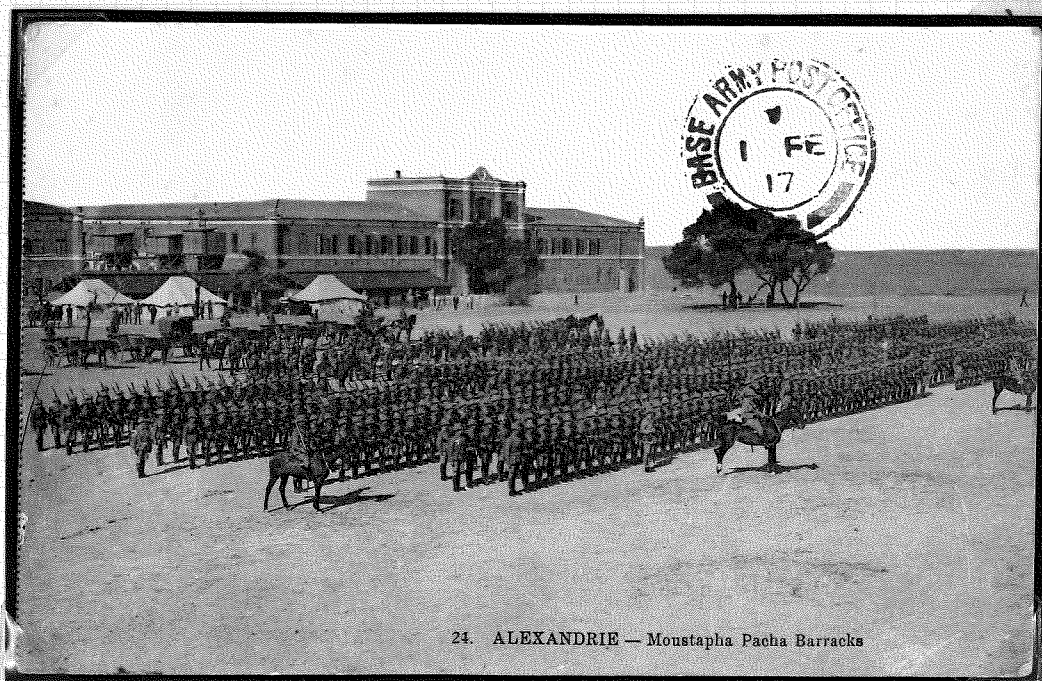
Type 5, always without code-letter, denotes transit



Registered letter from FPO 127 (Proud Type A) then
located at the southern section of the Suez Canal defences
to Alexandria with censor CM 20 number 3361, and the
backstamps include APO SZ9 and BAPO Z Type 5.

British Forces in Egypt Base Army Post Office Z

Type 4 date stamp used on postcard sent 'en ville'
to Mustapha Barracks also in Alexandria.



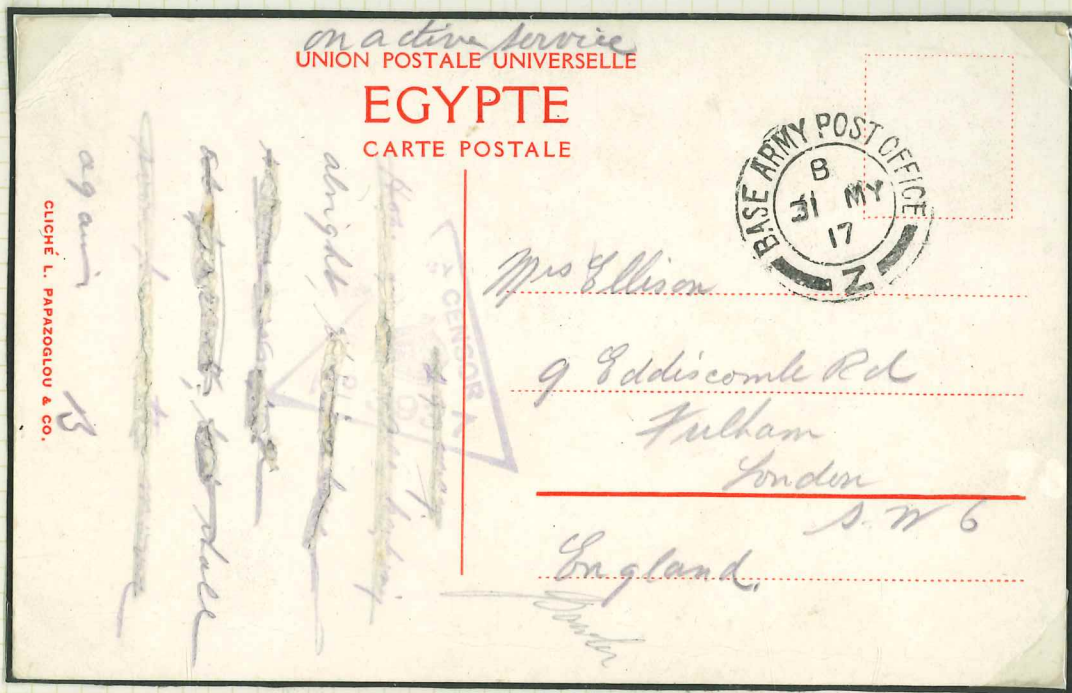
British troops on parade at Mustapha c. 1916.

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z

Type 4

Earliest recorded date is 29 FE 16 and latest is 18 DE 18; censor type CM3 struck in violet is no. 3937. Censor has scored through the message leaving 'alright again'.

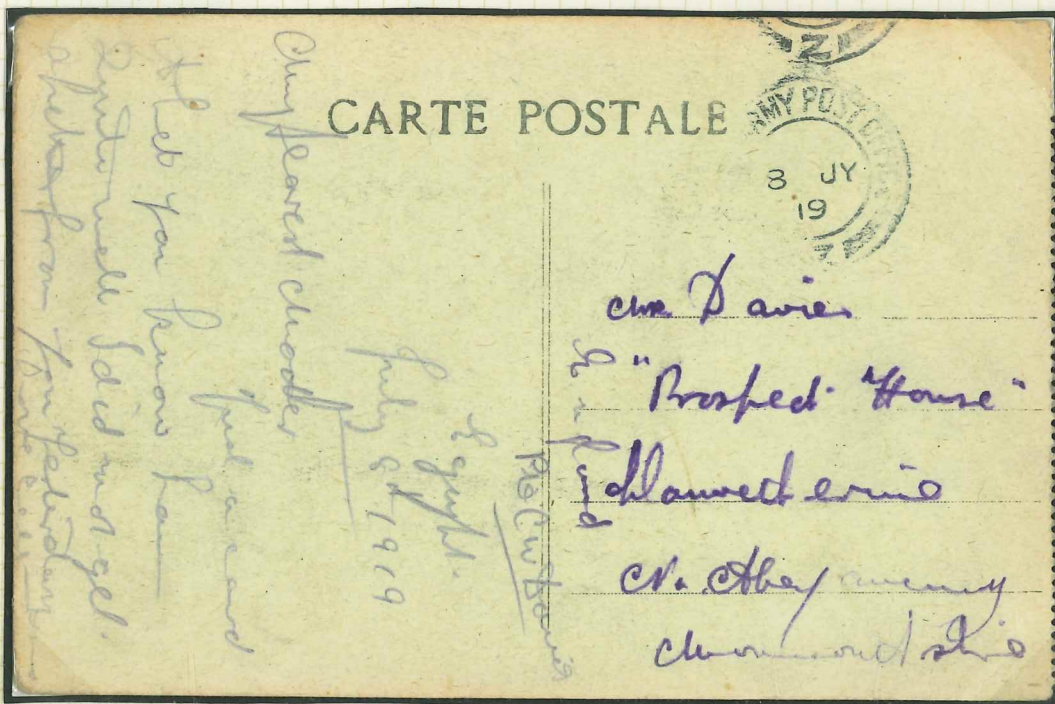


British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z.

Type 3(ii)

This is the same double ring date stamp as used between October 1915 and August 1918 but is thought to have been called out of reserve to operate at the Alexandria end of the R.A.F. flights.



Earliest recorded is 20 MR 19 and the above dated 8 JY 19 is the latest recorded. Postcard of transporter bridge at the Old Port at Marseille.

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z

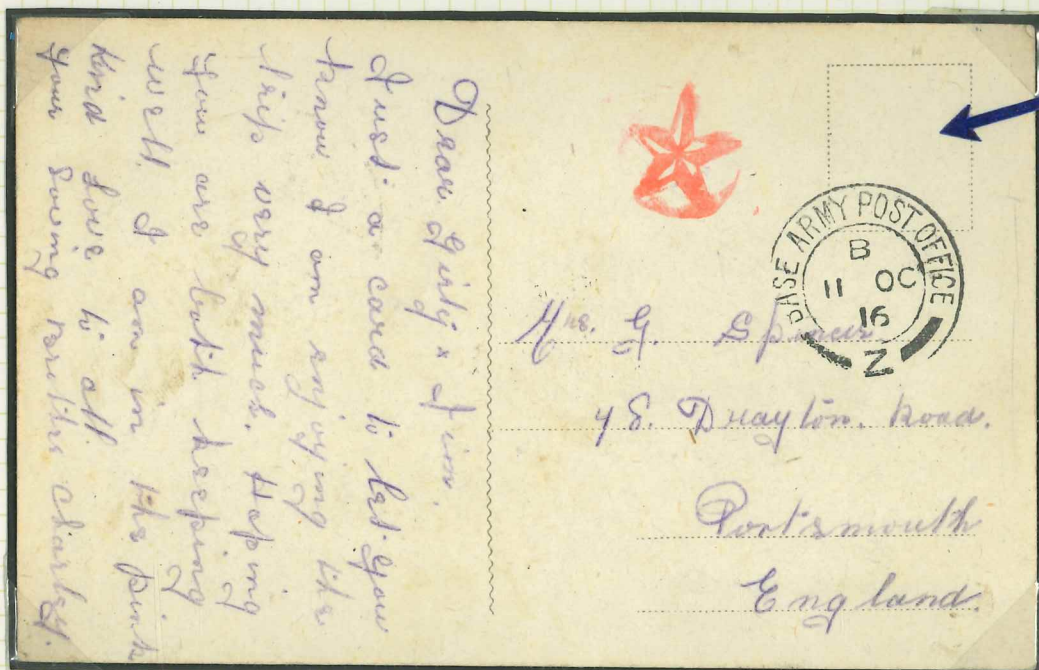
Type 3

ERD 8 FE 16



LRD 14 AU 18

Firebrace dumb marking DM7 known also in violet black and blue, earliest 19 MY 16 latest 21 JU 19 all



at Alexandria on military mail through civil post.

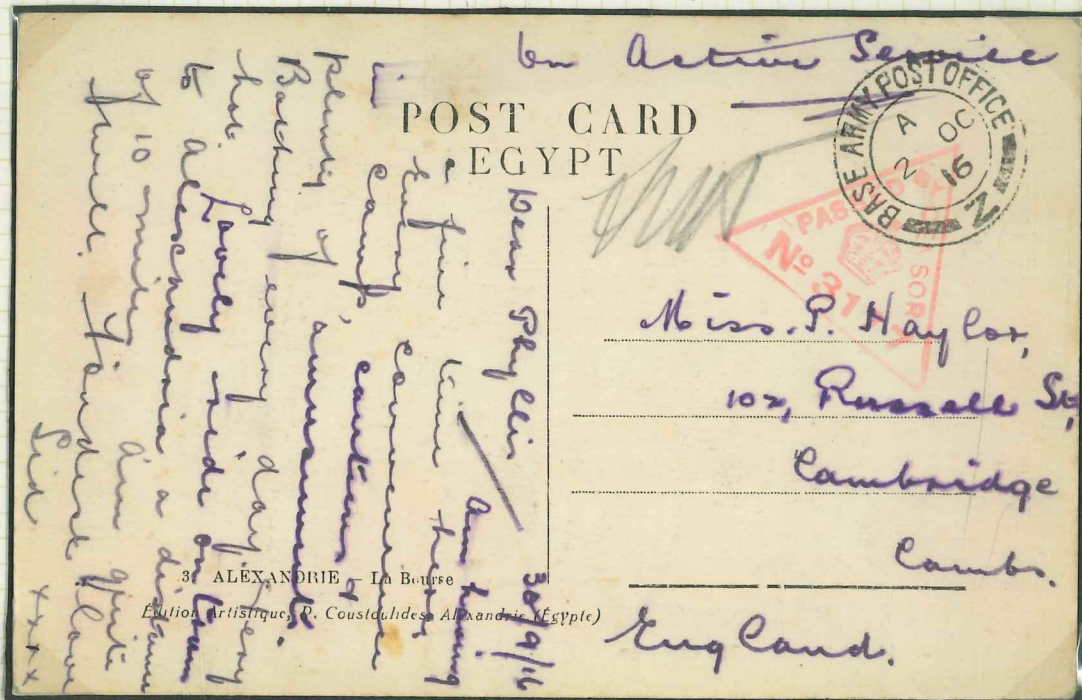
On active service postcard, of St. John's Cathedral at Valetta, Malta, with the description scored out by the censor; censor mark in red and Type 3 strike of BAPO Z during its first period of use.

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z

Type 2

Earliest recorded date is 21 SP 15 and latest is 30 JY 17; censor type CM3 has numbers from 393 to 4501 which were used in Egypt and Palestine between mid November 1915 and January 1919.

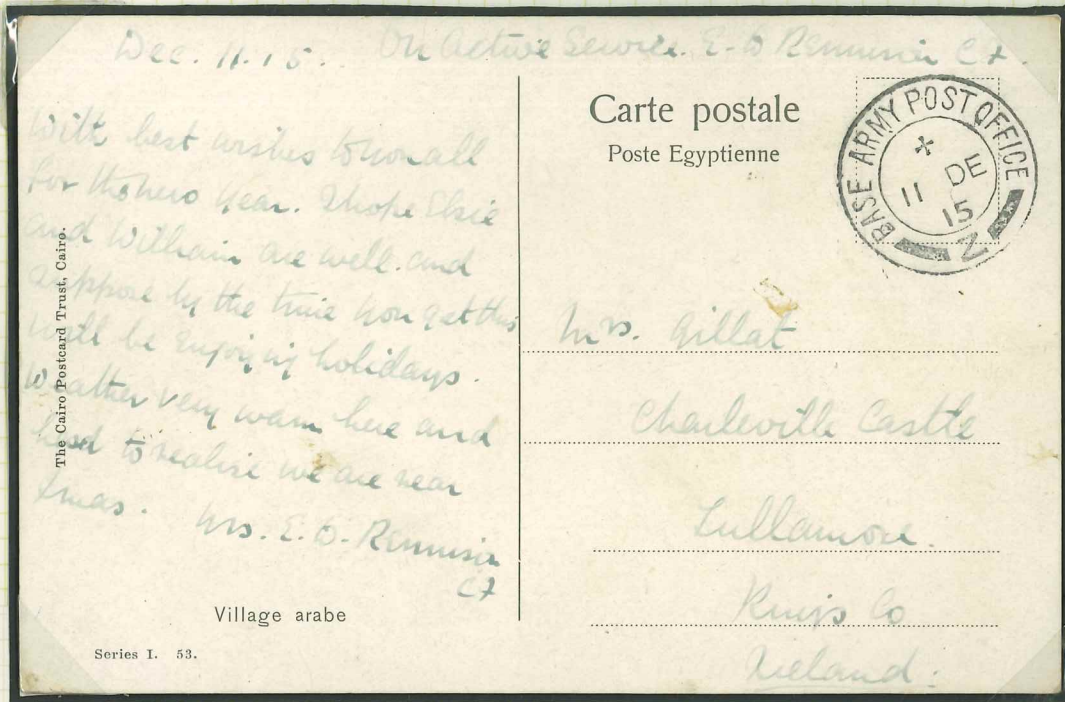


Type 2



CM 316

British Forces in Egypt



Type 1 on postcard (Arab village) to Ireland



Unused postcard showing H. Q. British garrison

British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z



Type 1

Earliest recorded date is 10AP15 (on piece, and possibly contrived) or 14AP15 on cover; latest 22AUI6.

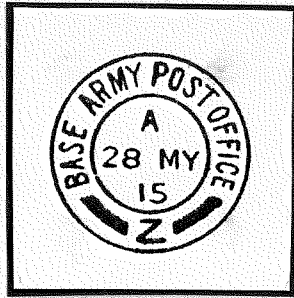


On active service, no stamp, card of the English Barracks with early use of BAPOZ Type 1 showing the transit cds. of Attarine.



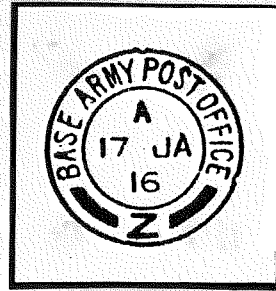
British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Z



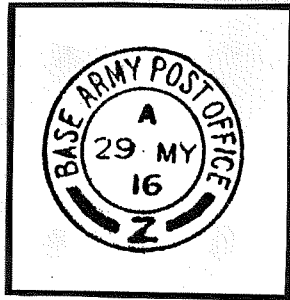
Type 1

Circles 5.25 mm apart
 Top of Z is $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm, bottom $3\frac{3}{4}$ mm
 Left bar is 8 mm, right $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm
 Upper lobe of B is smaller



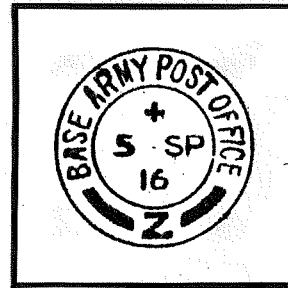
Type 2

Circles 5 mm apart
 Top of Z is $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm, bottom 4 mm
 Both bars are 8 mm
 Narrowest M is only $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm.



Type 3

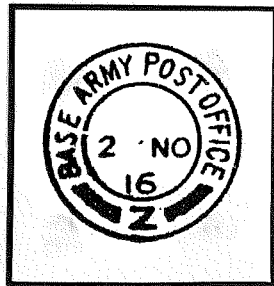
Circles 5 mm apart
 Strokes of Z as in Type 1.
 Left bar is 9 mm, right 8 mm.
 Bars are narrower than others



Type 4

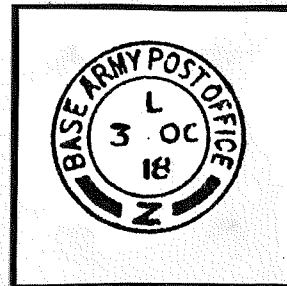
Circles 5 mm apart
 Top of Z is 3 mm, bottom 4 mm.
 Left bar is $8\frac{1}{4}$ mm, right is 8 mm.
 Upper lobe of B is smaller

Type 5



Circles 5 mm apart
 Top of Z is $3\frac{1}{4}$ mm, bottom $3\frac{3}{4}$ mm.
 Bars shortest $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm and thickest

Type 6



Circles only $4\frac{3}{4}$ mm apart
 Height of Z is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
 Right leg of R points to M.

British Forces in Egypt

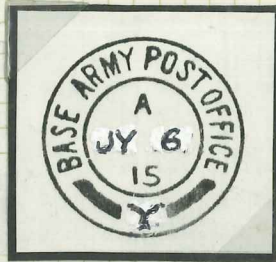
Base Army Post Office Z

In March 1915 the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force was assembled; two parties of postal personnel sailed with the Force with random designations Y and Z. Y landed at Dardanelles and Z became the Base Post Office at Alexandria. It opened on 5th April in the Bourse in Sharia Cherif Pacha adjoining Place Mohammed Ali and close to the Egyptian civil post office (the building on the right of picture).

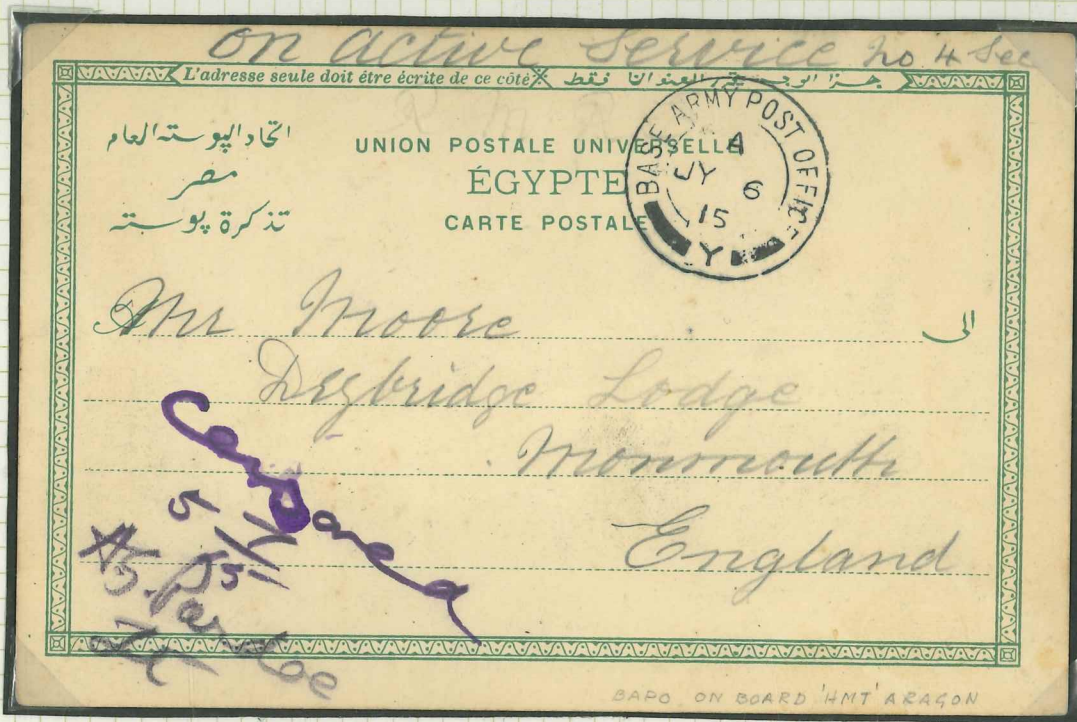


British Forces in Egypt

Base Army Post Office Y



On board H.M.T. Aragon



The Mediterranean Expeditionary Force was formed in London on 11 MR 15 with the object of capturing the Gallipoli Peninsula, general Sir Ian Hamilton was appointed to command. 10 APR 15 H.M. Transport Arcadian arrived at Mudros and set up BAPO Y on board with Lieut. F.H. Kempe in charge. The office transferred on 26 MY 1915 to H.M.T. Aragon from where this card emanated.

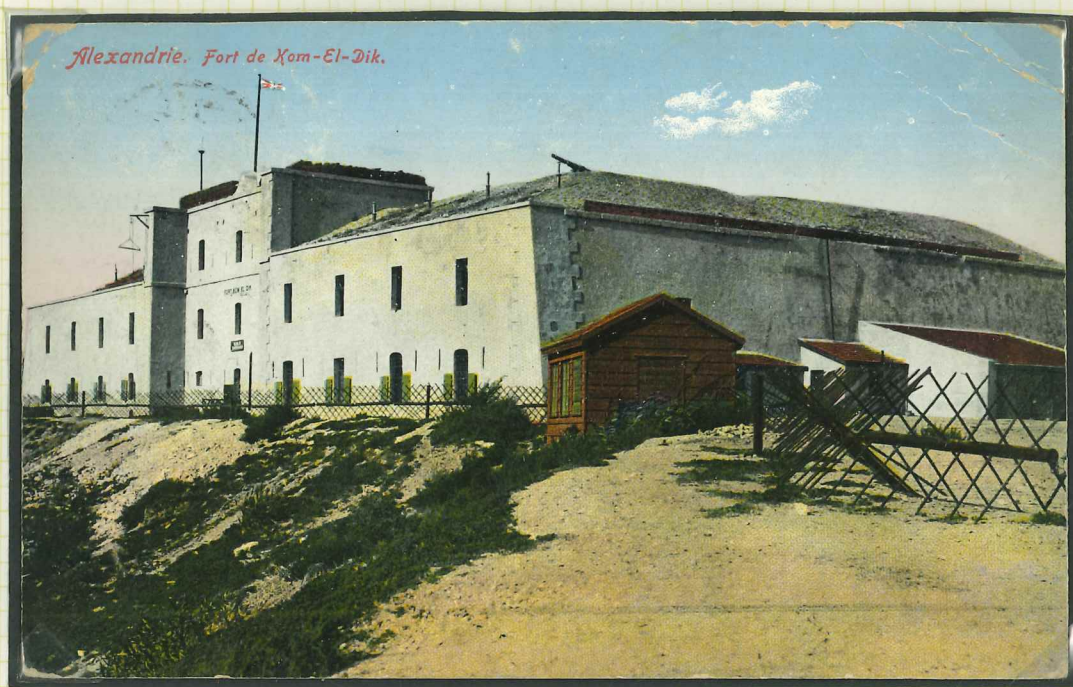
British Forces in Egypt

*British Barracks at
Sidi Gaber during World War One.
Cliché: L. Papazoglu & Co.*



*Unused polychrome postcard of the British
Barracks at Sidi Gaber, a suburb of Alexandria*

British Forces in Egypt



*Kom el-Dik, a British barracks near Sidi Gaber, Alexandria.
* means "Hill of Rubble"*



*Maison Hollandaise, otherwise known as the Navy House
probable location of BAPO T and APO 6Z 22 from early
1916 both post offices used by the British Army*

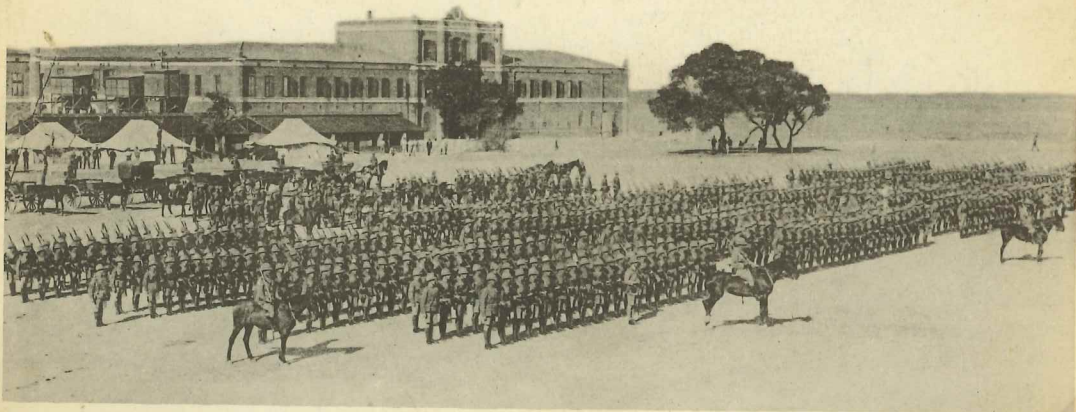
British Forces in Egypt

20. ALEXANDRIE — Ras-El-Tin Barracks



At the outbreak of war, the Force in Egypt was commanded by Major-General The Hon. Julian Byng, numbered 5000 men, and were located at Cairo and, in Alexandria at Ras el-Tin Barracks

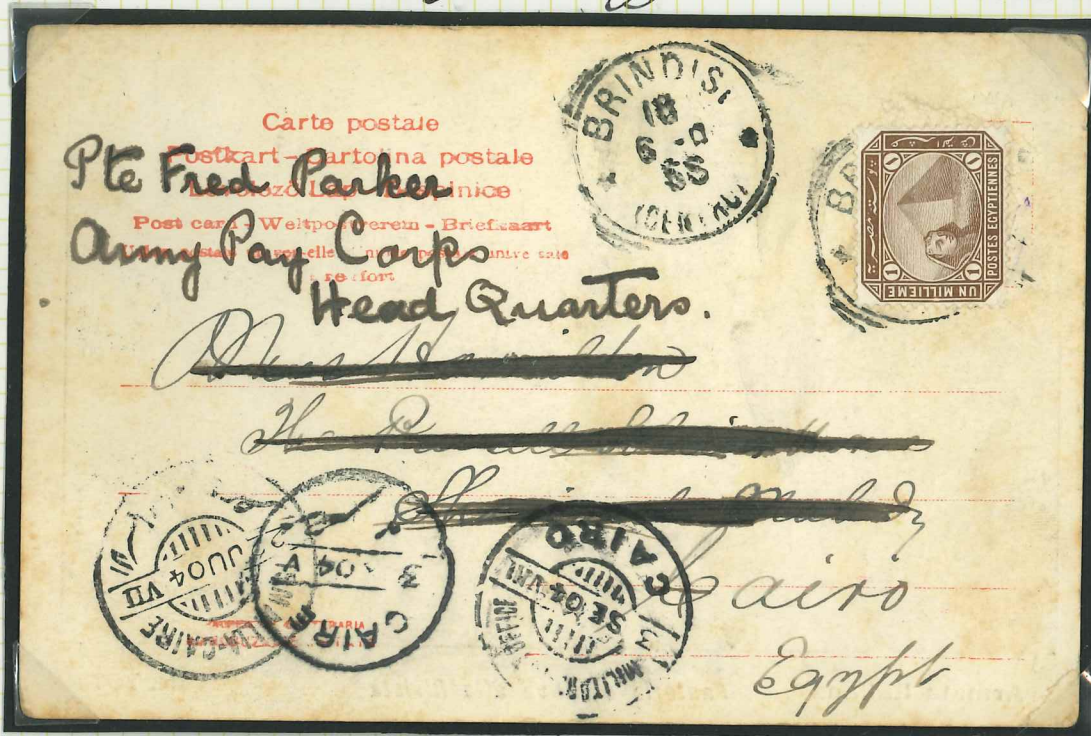
24. ALEXANDRIE — Moustapha Pacha Barracks



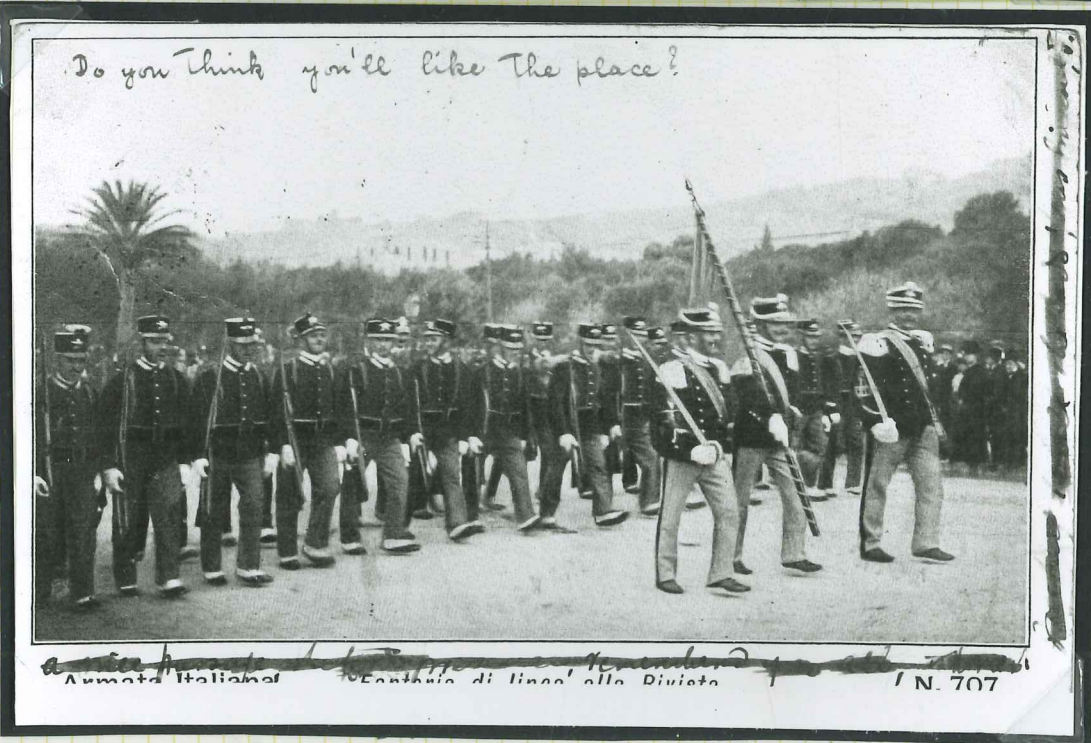
and Mustapha Pacha Barracks

British Forces in Egypt

Incoming postcard from Brindisi, Italy, to Army Pay Corps, Cairo in 1904; re-addressed via Ismailia-Caire T.P.O. to Military Post Office, Cairo in same style



Fairbrace
C?
35209



Incoming postcard depicting Italian military.

British Forces in Egypt

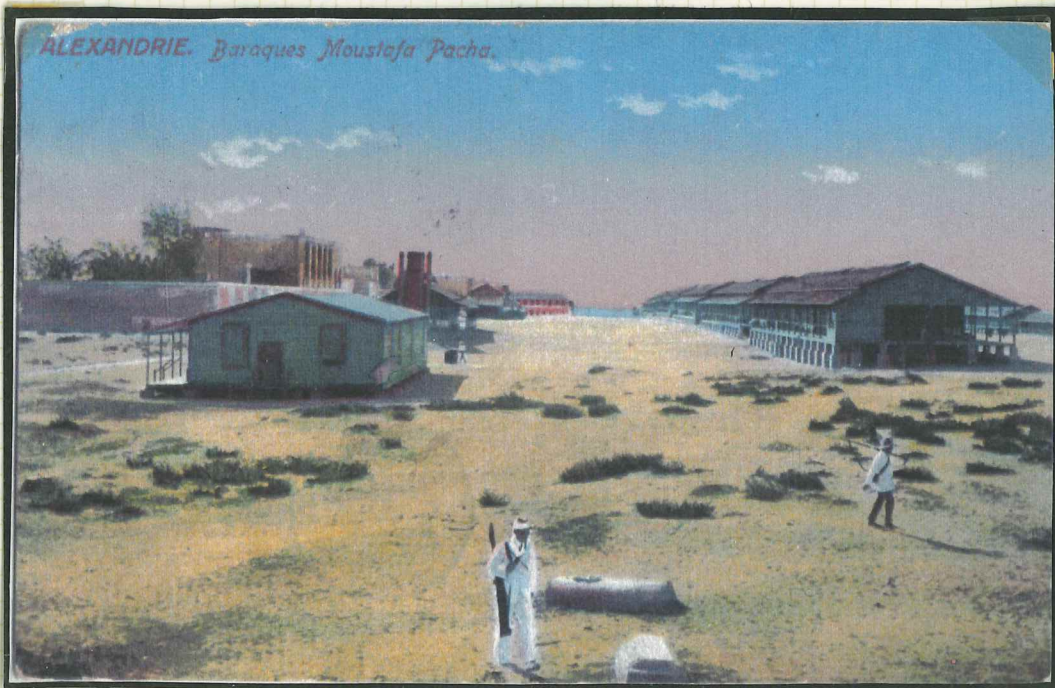
Military P.O. Cairo



Short-lived
datestamp
in use from
70C13 to
20 MY 14.



Re-directed postcard from Sidi Gaber to Abbassia, Cairo



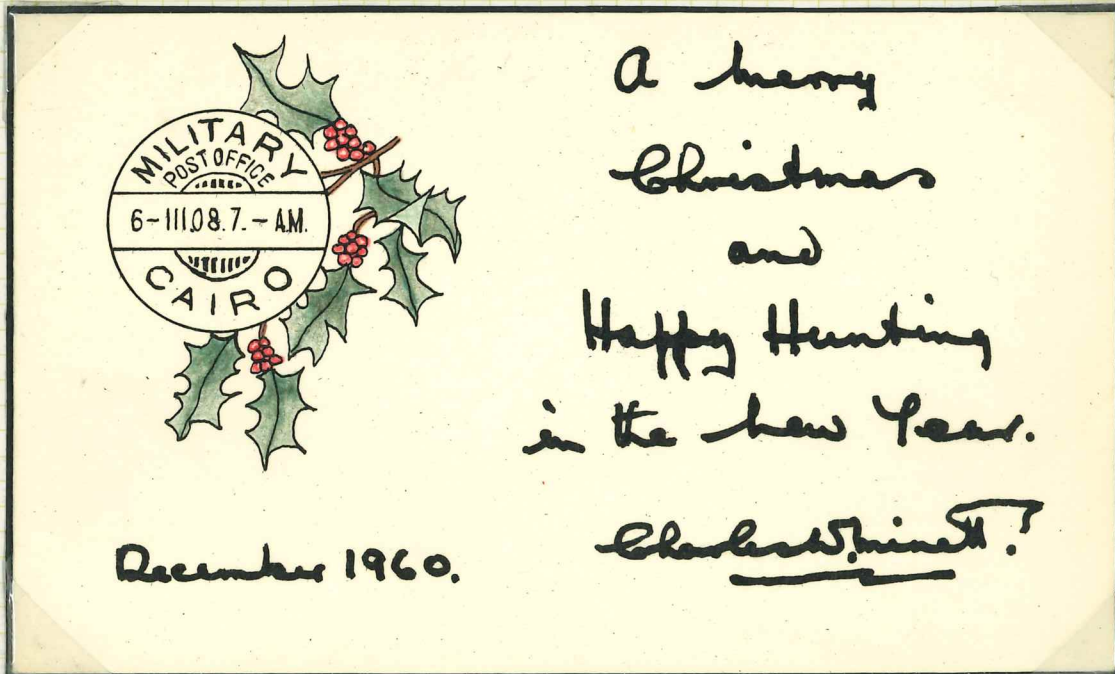
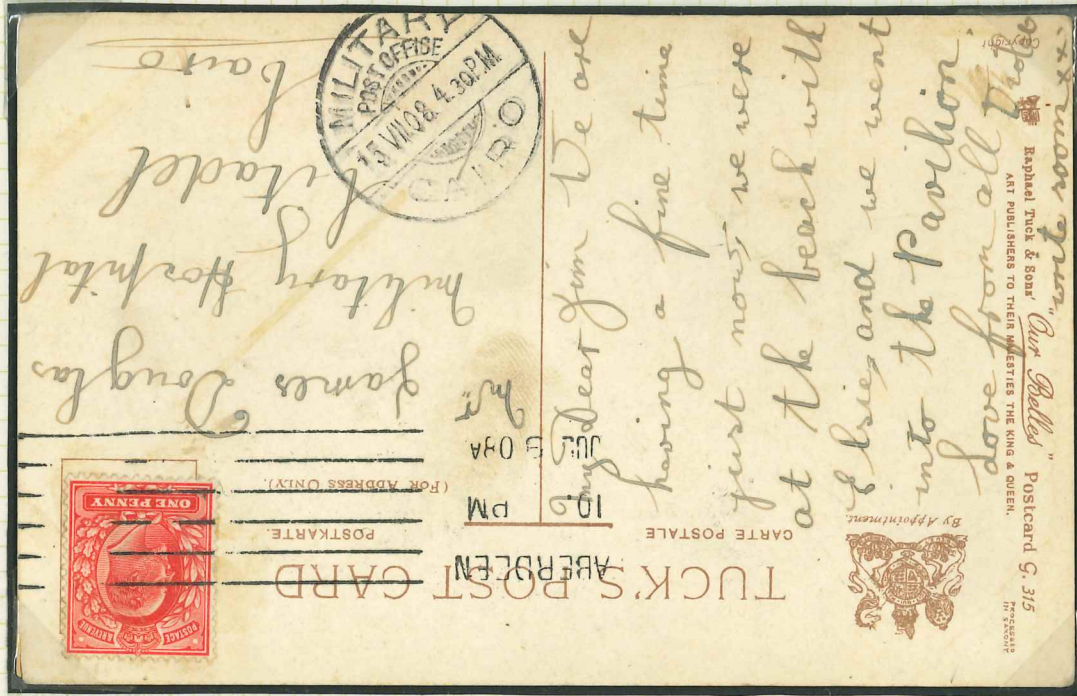
Scan of above card showing Mustapha Pasha at Sidi Gaber.

British Forces in Egypt

Filigrane C Military Post Office Cairo

Type I ciii

Receipt on postcard addressed Military Hospital, Citadel
 Earliest 11 VIII 07 latest 19 XII 12 month indice in Roman



Reproduced on 1960 Christmas card from C. W. Minett FRPSL

*British Forces in Egypt
Military Post Office Cairo Type Ic ii*



October 1903 postcard from Scotland to Army Ordnance Corps at the Citadel Cairo. MPO Cairo type Ic ii, receipt; month indice in letters

British Forces in Egypt

The Army of Occupation
Military Post Office

Earliest:
17-MY-95



Latest:
14-JY-99

Type I c i

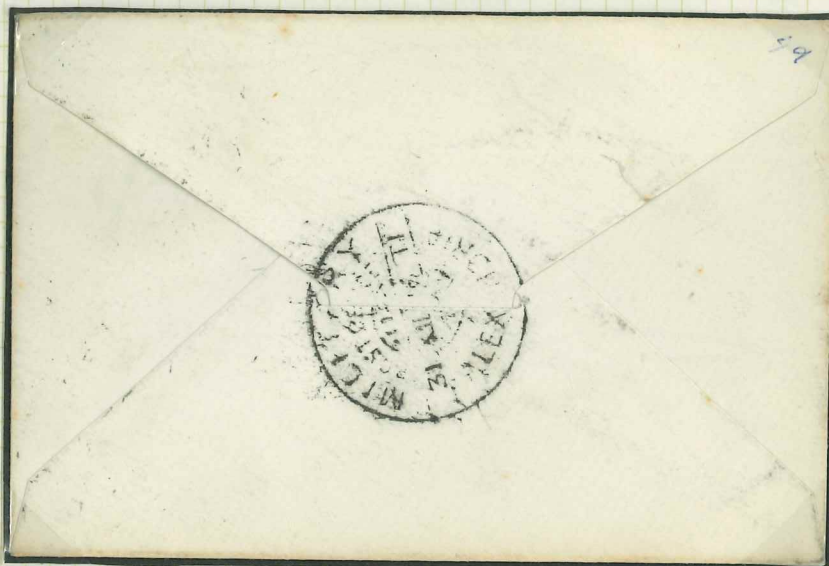
Military Post Office handstamps were issued to units at Cairo and Alexandria. These handstamps were mostly used on incoming and re-directed mail, occasionally on outgoing mail.



Type I c i of Cairo used as a receipt at
Abbassiyeh on postal stationery card from U.K.
Month indice in Roman

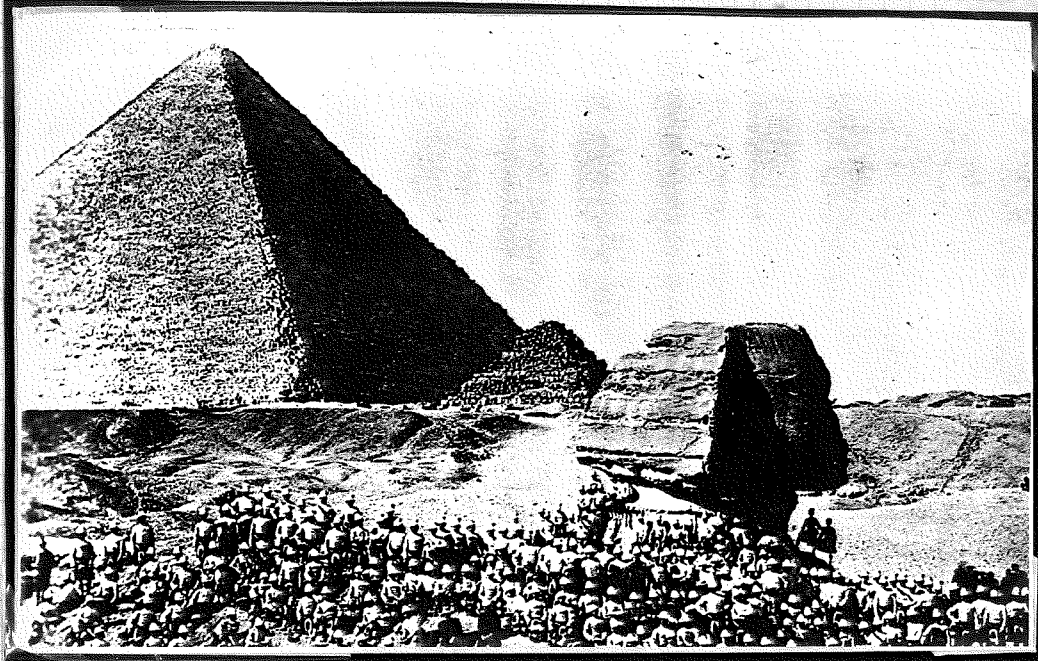
Military Post Office

The army which had remained after 1882
was officially known as the
Force in Egypt.



A postal stationery cover posted 31-XII-96
to "Cap. J. Brooks Hon. Secretary S. P. C. A.
Alexandria" bearing the same day
receipt mark 'Military Post Office
Alexandria'. The post offices using
these datestamps (Cairo had them too)
were civil post offices near the British
military garrisons. Mainly used for
incoming or redirected mail. This is
the earliest recorded.

*British Forces in Egypt
The Army of Occupation*



*Scottish troops at ease around the Sphinx at Giza
after the Battle of Omdurman 1898*

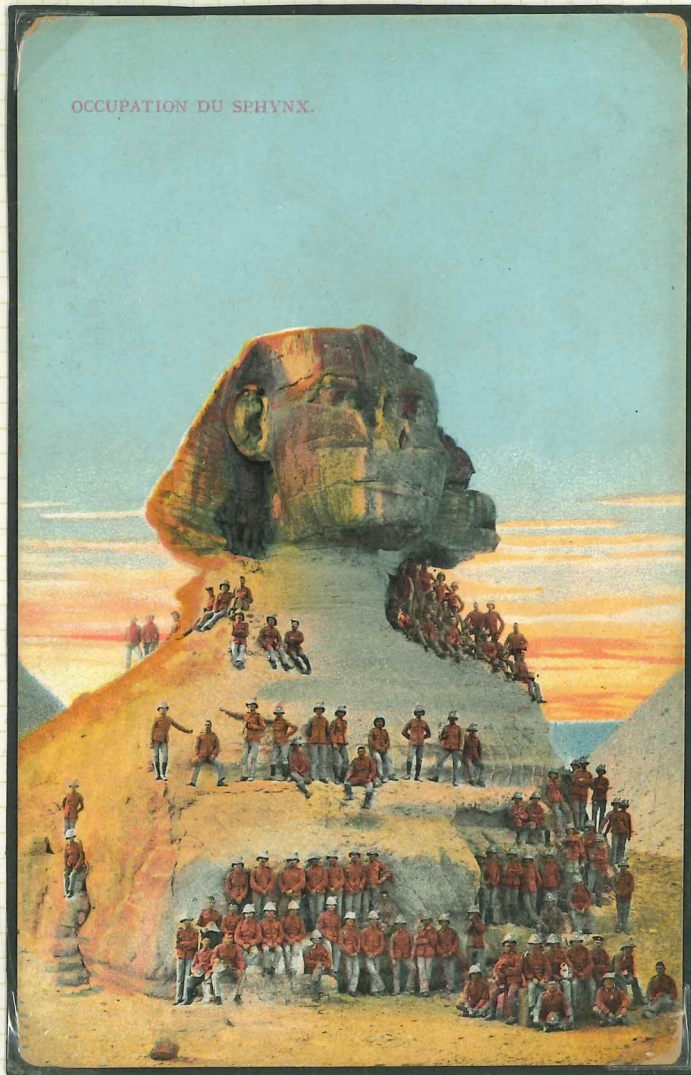


*Unused postcard showing Suakin gate named
after the Sirdar Col. H. H. Kitchener*

British Forces in Egypt

The Army of Occupation

The official name for this force was the Force in Egypt but the name Army of Occupation was often used; it remained in Egypt until disbanded early in World War I.

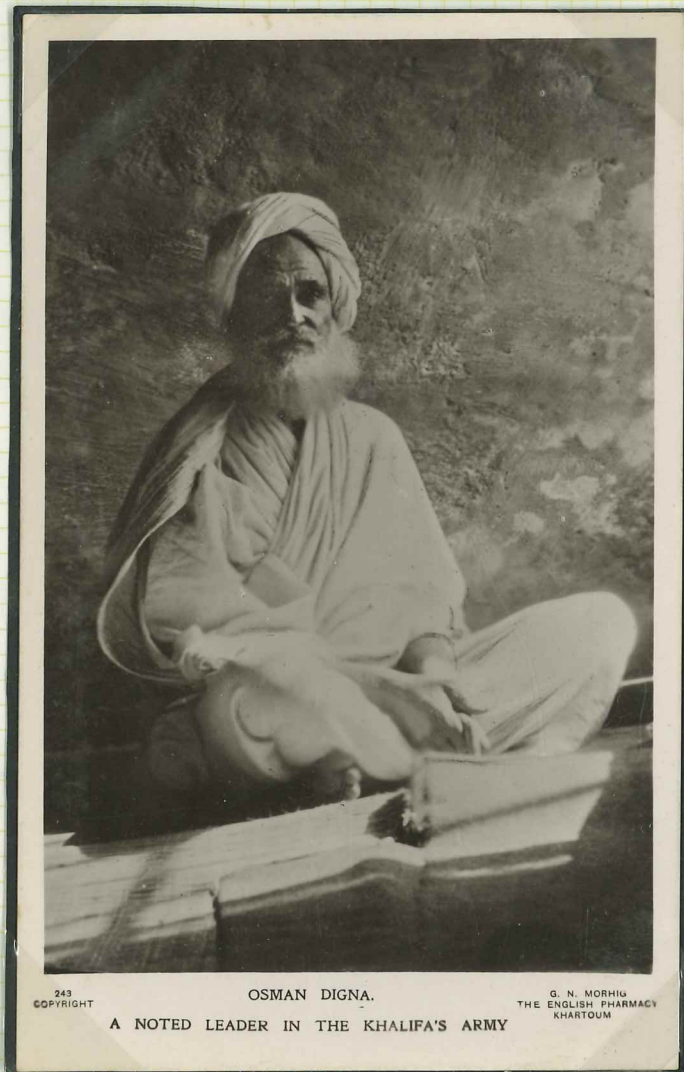


Unused picture postcard; one of a series of various 'British' and 'Empire' forces shown resting at Giza after the Sudan campaign.

British Forces in Egypt

The Army of Occupation Osman Digna

Born about 1840, Osman Digna, an erstwhile slave trader of mixed Turkish and Hadendowa ancestry, had been the best known leader in the Khalifa's army. Captured on 18th January 1900 and put in prison, Digna was allowed to go on the Hajj to Mecca in his 80's in 1924 - he died in 1926.



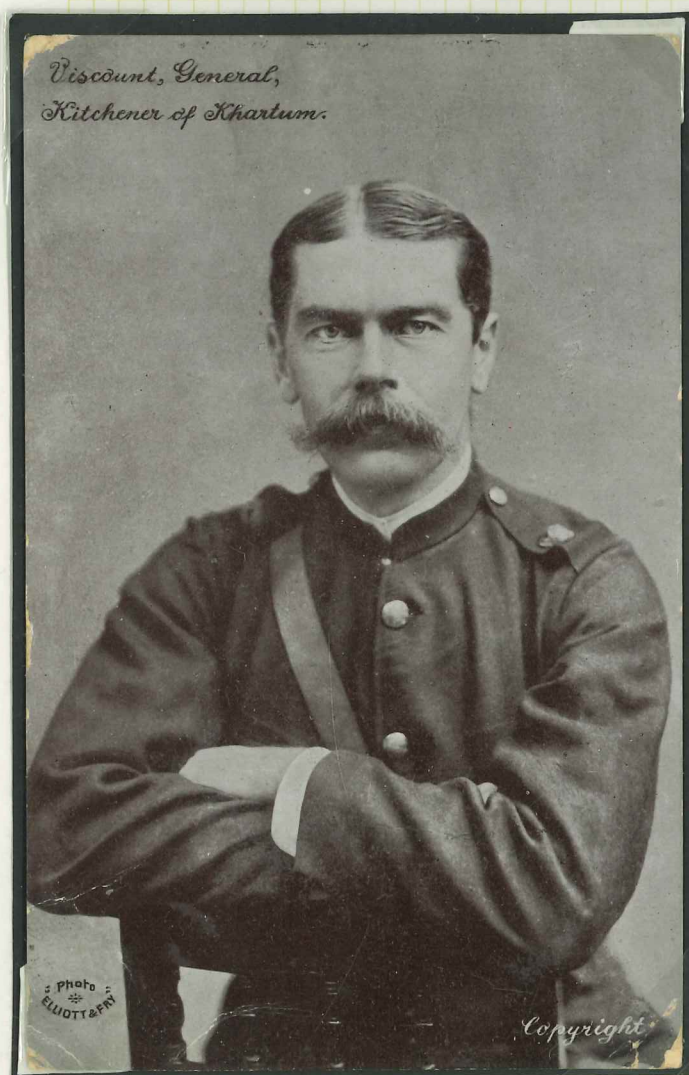
Monochrome 'real photo' postcard published by
The English Pharmacy Khartoum, prop. G. N. Morhig.

British Forces in Egypt

The Army of Occupation

Kitchener of Khartoum

In 1892 Kitchener became Sirdar of the Egyptian Army and in 1899 Governor General of the Sudan. After a period as C. in C. in India, in 1911 he was appointed British Agent and Consul General in Egypt. At the start of World War I he was Secretary of State for War in 1914 but he was killed in the loss of H. M. S. Hampshire, 1916.



Monochrome postcard published by Elliott & Fry.
and Sepia card © J. Russell Sons, of London.

Re-addressed to Suakin 1905

Postcard to Alexandria

Suakin is located on the Red Sea coast to the south of Port Sudan (Sheikh Barghut) in Sudan.



Port Said (transit)
20 XI 05 TV

Alexandrie x3
(arrival) 20 XI 05



Suakin
26 X 05

Suez (transit)
21 XI 05 TIII

One penny (2x halfpenny) rate Edward VII postcard from Woodgreen, North London to Alexandria on 13 NO 1905, arrived 20 XI 05 and re-addressed to Suakin in Sudan; transits type VIII Port Said and Suez.

British Forces in Egypt

Military mail Cairo to India



Cover to a serving officer in India from Kasr el-Nil Barracks, Cairo dated 6th July 1885 - see below.

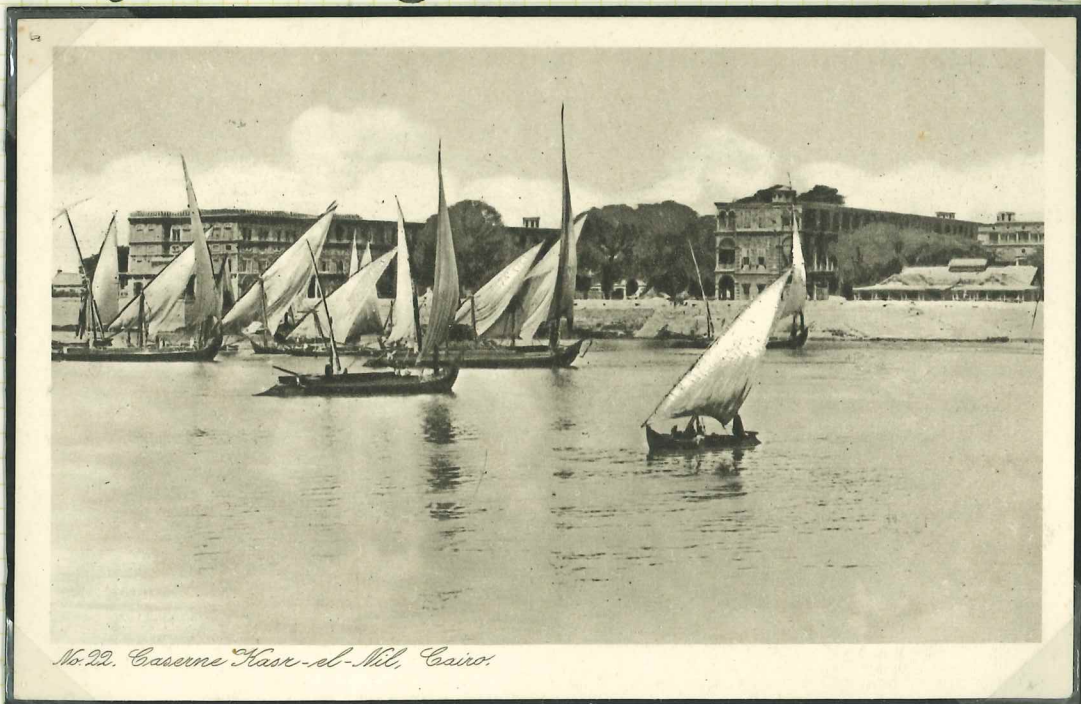


Cover to sender of the above letter prior to Suakin Campaign.

*British Forces in Egypt
Departure*



*Letter from Kasr el-Nil Barracks, Cairo dated
15 SE 84 from a serving officer to his mother in Wales.*

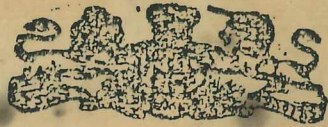


No. 22. Caserne Kasr-el-Nil, Cairo.

Kasr el-Nil barracks, now site of Nile Hilton

British Forces in Egypt - Suakin

No.



SUAKIN.

Postal Arrangements for British Forces.

FOR the convenience of Her Majesty's Forces serving at Suakin, the Postmaster-General has established an Army Post Office, which will undertake all duties connected with the receipt and despatch of Mails, the sale of Postage Stamps, and the issue and payment of Money Orders and Postal Orders.

Mails for the Forces in Egypt will be made up in London three times a week, viz.:—

On Tuesday Mornings.
On Wednesday Mornings.
On Friday Evenings.

The rates of postage will be as follows:—

Letters	2½d. per ½ oz.
Post Cards	1d. each.
Newspapers	} ½d. each not exceeding 2oz. in weight, and ¼d. for every additional 2 oz.
Printed Papers and Books	

Letters however, addressed to or sent by Non-commissioned officers, Soldiers and Seamen in Her Majesty's Service will be privileged to pass for a postage of one penny each, provided they do not exceed half an ounce in weight. To enjoy this privilege the senders must, in all cases, comply with the regulations specially applicable to such letters, — as detailed in the Post Office Guide.

Postal orders will be issued at the same rates of commission as Inland Postal Orders.

By Command of the Postmaster General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE

17 March, 1885

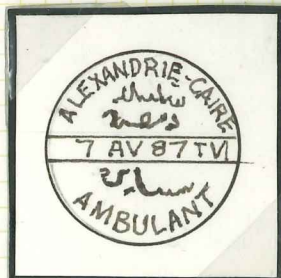
Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by W.F. Griffith & Sons, Limited, Finsbury Sq. Old Bailey London E.C.

'Mock-up' to show 'Postal Arrangements' poster for Suakin.

British Forces in Egypt

The Suakin Campaign

Crested and seal Royal Cypher envelope from the
Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, George Duke
of Cambridge, cousin of Queen Victoria, to the British
H.Q. Cairo just after the completion of the Suakin
campaign; addressee is by now a full general.

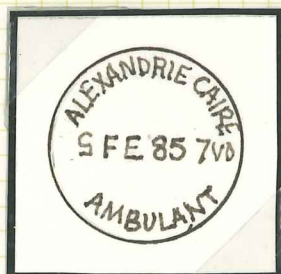


Alexandria-Cairo TPO receipt on reverse

British Forces in Egypt

The Suakin Campaign

Crested Royal Cypher envelope from a cousin of Queen Victoria, George Duke of Cambridge to the British H.Q. Cairo during the Suakin campaign to Sudan in 1885; addressee is Lt. General Sir Frederick Stephenson KCB.



Alexandria-Cairo TPO receipt with inverted date indice.

British Forces in Egypt

The Suakin Campaign



Single and double officers' postage rate to England.



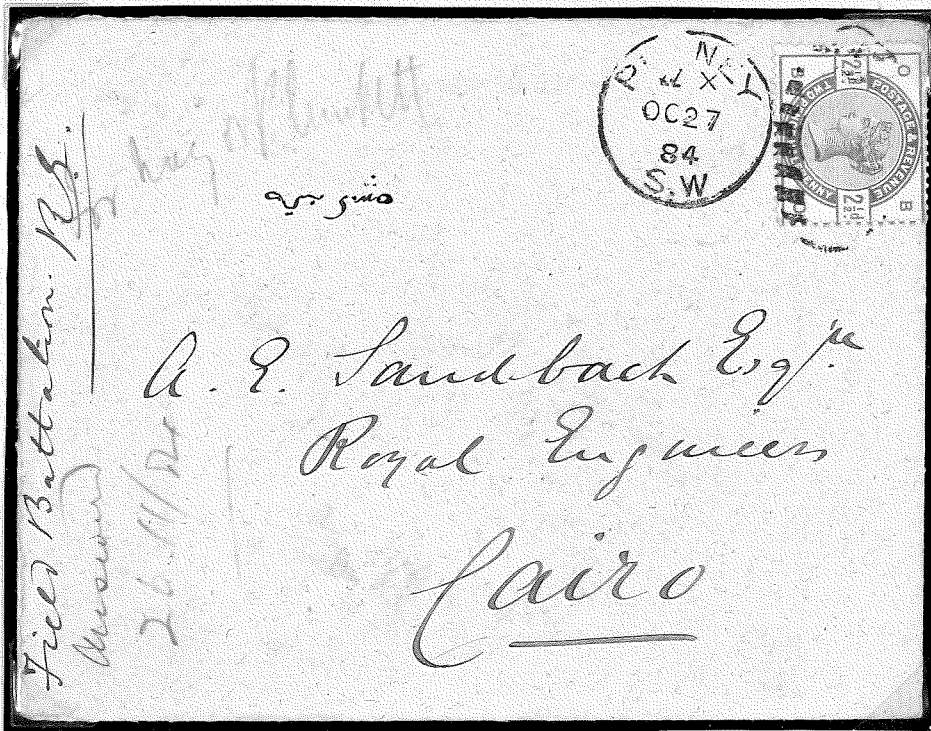
Whitehall statue of Duke of Cambridge.

British Forces in Egypt

1885 The Suakin Campaign



Great Britain 2¹/₂d lilac issued 1884 cancelled on the Suakin campaign BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE and dated 15th April 1885; officers paid the full 2¹/₂d rate i.e. not discounted but non-commissioned paid only 1d.



Sandbach correspondence

Two pence halfpenny standard rated cover from Putney (duplex) dated 27th October 1884 to a member of Royal Engineers, Cairo. "Answered 26/11/84" ms, only proof of receipt.

British Forces in Egypt

1885 The Suakin Campaign

Sauakin

See below



A postal notice "EGYPT/Postal Arrangements for British Forces," dated 12th August, specifies that letters are to be charged at 2½ per half-ounce, post cards 1 and newspapers, prints and books 2 per 2oz.



However, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and seamen were allowed a concessionary rate of 1^d for letters not exceeding a half-ounce

One penny, seamen's rate postal stationary card sent from H.M.S. Camysfort at Ismailia and dated 15th April 1885; the stamp is cancelled BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE EGYPT, the same wording in the hand-stamp of the Tel el-Kebir campaign.

Fig. 1 Postal markings prepared for Egypt.



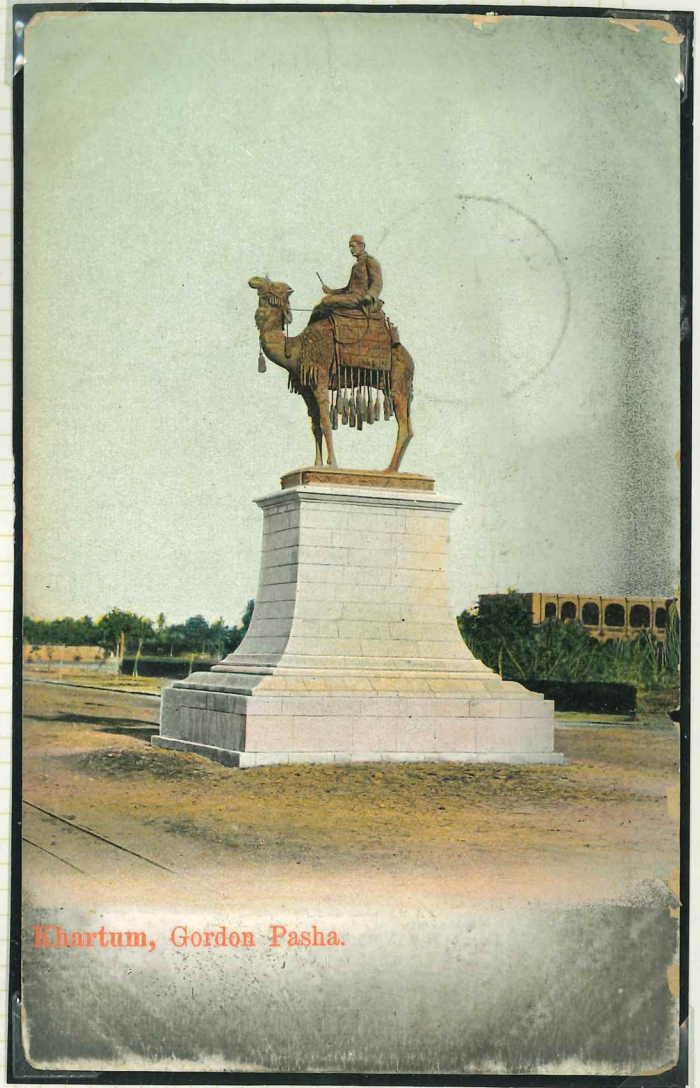
A postal notice³, "EGYPT / Postal Arrangements for British / Forces", dated August 18th, specifies that letters were to be charged 2½d. per half ounce, postcards 1d., and newspapers, prints, and books ½d. per 2oz. However, non-commissioned officers, soldiers, and seamen were allowed a concessionary rate of 1d. for letters not exceeding a half ounce. British stamps were available for sale when needed; most of the examples of use of the same stamps are on the then current 2½d. blue of 1880, loose or on cover. Covers showing the concessionary rate are much scarcer. The ½d. green and 1d. lilac of 1881 were also regularly used. The Gibbons catalog also lists the ½d. rose-red of 1870 and the 1d. Venetian red of 1880, without prices, and the 2½d. rose-lilac of 1876 has been reported with the British 2½d. date-stamp, but there is some doubt that they were regularly sold in Egypt. Letters sent without stamps were charged to the recipient at the single rate rather than the normal double rate (Fig. 2). It is not mentioned in the postal notice, but registered letters were also accepted; the fee was 2½d. and there was no special handstamp.



Fig. 2 A cover sent unfranked and charged at the single rate.

British Forces in Egypt

Charles George Gordon as Governor-General of Sudan



Khartoum, Gordon Pasha.

Cancellation of Wadi Halfa; Egyptian garrison



1885 to



1896



Incoming Postcard

Constantinople to Cairo

The Summer Palace Hotel



The penny lilac issued 1881, posted British Post Office 1901.

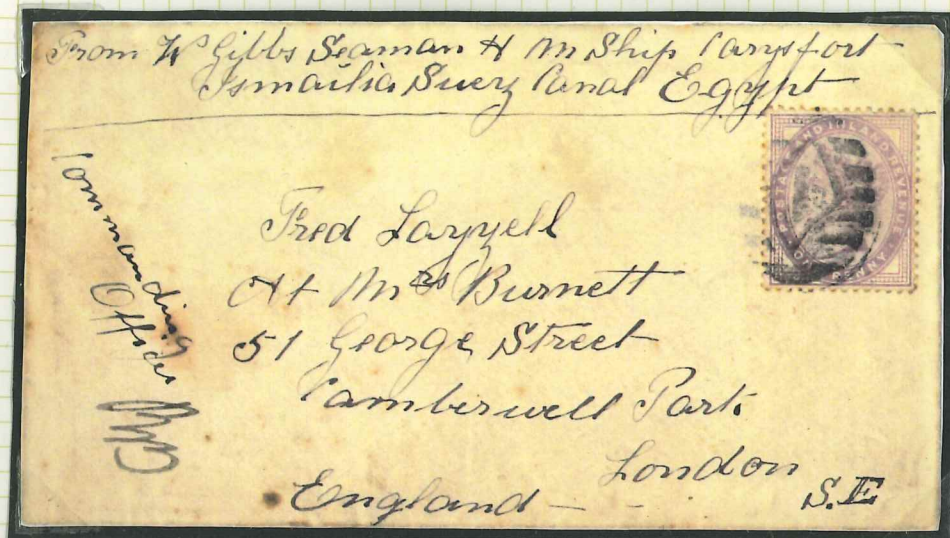


Picture postcard franked 1^d lilac of G.B. cancelled British Post Office Constantinople and on arrival at Cairo in 1901.

British Forces in Egypt

Tel el-Kebir Campaign

One penny seaman's concession rate to England from H.M.S. Canisfort which took part in the seizure of the Suez Canal on arrival at Ismailia as a member of the flying squadron.



Letter from W. Gibbs seaman countersigned by his commanding officer who would have had to pay the 2nd rate for officers.

Letter to Mrs. Anna Marion Jessie Eckford Somers-Cocks, mother of Herbert Haldane Somers-Cocks, possibly written by ?. McPherson.¹

This letter is quite illegible and the following is just a stab at trying to transcribe it.

Ismailia 31st Aug

Dearest Anna.

Sent a line today that Herbert started this way to join but ... It was out all day yesterday but saw him for an hour last night. He had ... a in Abbey day — with Duncan. He was looking very well and was in excellent spirits. I hope ... in a few days If I can be ... of course try hardoff on the Battalion in want of officers. Mrs. Greely ... band which Sir General is sendingand hear if the ... from 5 AM 'till 10 PM.

McPherson

Ismailia 31st Aug

Dearest Anna.

Sent a line
 today that Herbert
 started this way
 to join but
 it was out all day
 yesterday but saw
 him for an hour
 last night. He had
 spent a "Abbey
 day" - with Duncan.

¹ A search through *Hart's Annual Army List 1885* suggests that the writer may have been Lieutenant Duncan Haldane Macpherson of the 2nd Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders.

RICHARD S. WILSON
53 Middle Patent Road
Bedford Village, New York 10506
Tel: 914.234.7456

APS Life Member # 9360-43173

British Forces in Egypt

British Army Post Office, Egypt



photo:



Cancelled during Tel el-Kebir campaign
8th September 1882



Cancelled during the Suakin campaign, this postal stationery card of twenty paras is dated 22nd April 1885, addressed to Kirkwall, Orkney.

* Photo from Argyll-Etkin sale 33 on 28-2-2014

British Forces in Egypt

Arrangements for post office withdrawal

No. 1



EGYPT

Money Order Arrangements consequent on the withdrawal of the Army Post Office

THE Army Post Office having been withdrawn from Egypt, Money Orders issued in favour of Officers, Soldiers, and Seamen, serving in the Army of occupation, or in the Fleet, will henceforward be payable through the Egyptian Post Office, and will therefore be subject to the rate of Commission ordinarily charged for Orders payable in Egypt, viz. :—

	s.	d.
For sums not exceeding £2 - - - - -	0	9
" " above £2, and not exceeding £5 - - -	1	6
" " " £5 " " £7 - - -	2	3
" " " £7 " " £10 - - -	3	0

The issue of Postal Orders for transmission to Officers, Soldiers, and Seamen, serving in Egypt, is necessarily discontinued, as no arrangements exist for cashing them at the Egyptian Post Office.

By Command of the Postmaster General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE
October, 1882.

Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by W. P. GARRISON & SON, Princean Square, Old Bailey, London, E.C.

Reproduction of P.O. poster announcement

British Forces in Egypt

Postal arrangements and postage rates



EGYPT.

Postal Arrangements for British Forces.

FOR the convenience of Her Majesty's Forces serving in Egypt, the Postmaster-General has established an Army Post Office, which will undertake all duties connected with the receipt and despatch of Mails, the sale of Postage Stamps, and the issue and payment of Money Orders and Postal Orders.

Mails for the Forces in Egypt will be made up in London three times a week, viz. :—

On Monday Evenings.
On Wednesday Mornings.
On Friday Evenings.

The rates of Postage will be as follows:—

Letters - - - - -	2½d. per ½ oz.
Post Cards - - - - -	1d. each.
Newspapers - - - - -	½d. each not exceeding 2 oz. in weight, and ½d. for every additional 2 oz.
Printed Papers and Books - - - - -	

But, in exception to the above rate on letters, those addressed to or sent by Non-commissioned Officers, Soldiers, and Seamen in Her Majesty's Service, will be privileged to pass for a postage of one penny each, provided the letters do not exceed half an ounce in weight. To enjoy this privilege the senders must, in all cases, comply with the regulations specially applicable to such letters,—as detailed in the Post Office Guide.

Money Orders and Postal Orders will be issued at the same rates of commission as Inland Money Orders and Postal Orders.

GENERAL POST OFFICE
11 August, 1882.

By Command of the Postmaster General.

Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by W. P. GARRITT & SON, FRIJESON SQUARE, OLD BAILY, LONDON, E.C.

Reproduction of P.O. poster announcement

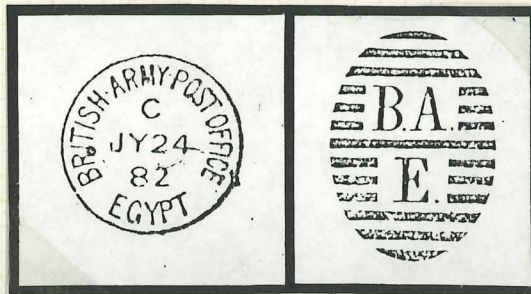
British Forces in Egypt

The Tel-el-Kebir Campaign Autumn 1882

The revolt of the Egyptian Army led by Colonel Arabi forced Britain to intervene in support of the Egyptian Government and to ensure the security of the Suez Canal. The British Expeditionary Force landed at Ismailia on the Canal, defeated Arabi at Tel-el-Kebir on 13th September 1882 and occupied Cairo.



The British Army Post Office functioned 28-8-82 to 5-10-82



الثورة العرابية (١٨٨١/٨٢)
واقعة قصر النيل ١/٢/١٨٨١
مظاهرة عابدين ٩/٩/١٨٨١



ARABI REVOLUTION 1881-82

Kasr El- Nil Revolution 1/2/1881

Abdine Palace Demonstration 9/9/1881



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

ختم اول يوم

British Forces in Egypt

'The first occasion a Forces' Postal Unit was to leave Britain with a full complement of postal officers and a full kit to establish proper military post offices and distribution arrangements, at the commencement of a war.'

The corps sailed for Egypt in The British Prince from Portsmouth on 26th August 1882 with the killer type hand-stamp 'BA/E' and a series of dated hand-stamps.



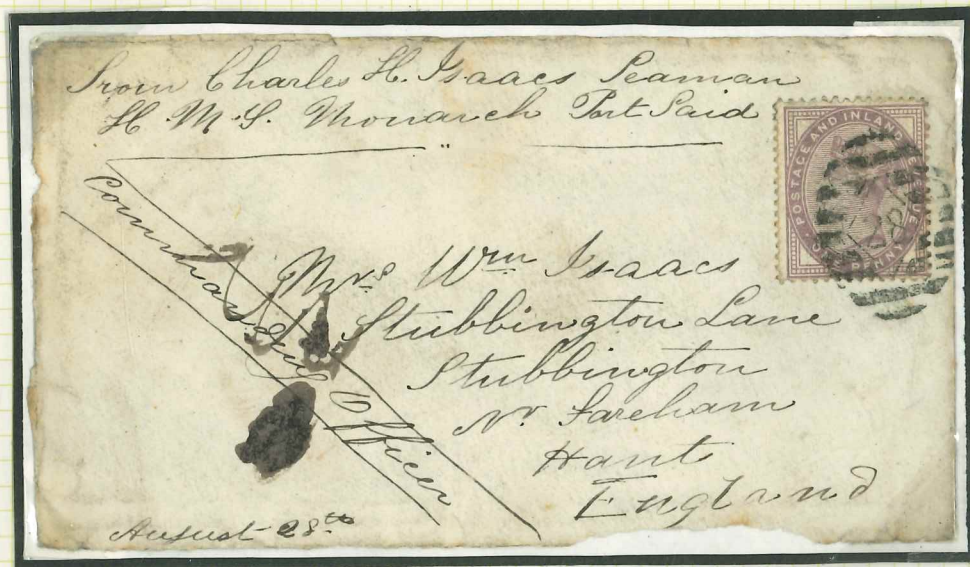
Card based on a contemporary print in *The Graphic*.

The Post Office was closed on 31st October and the P.O. Corps returned home.

British Forces in Egypt

The Bombardment of Alexandria

Colonel Ahmed Arabi Bey (1839 to 1911) had been promoted through the ranks despite his origins as the fellah son of a small village sheikh, as Said Pasha wanted more army officers from the fellahin. Said's successor Tewfik appointed him to Colonel of a guard regiment in Cairo. War minister Osman Rifki Pasha, an anti-fellah Turk, ambushed the petitioning Arabi at Kasr el-Nil Barracks but Arabi turned the tables forcing Tewfik to dismiss Rifki. Arabi became Under Secretary for War, controlled the Army and was seen as disloyal to the Khedive. Britain was asked to intervene and the fleet led by Admiral Frederick Seymour gave its ultimatum. No response from Arabi led to the bombardment.



Letter front with 1d rate for a seaman aboard H.M.S. Monarch at Port Said six weeks after she took part in the bombardment on 11th July 1882.

British Forces in Egypt

The Bombardment of Alexandria

11th July 1882

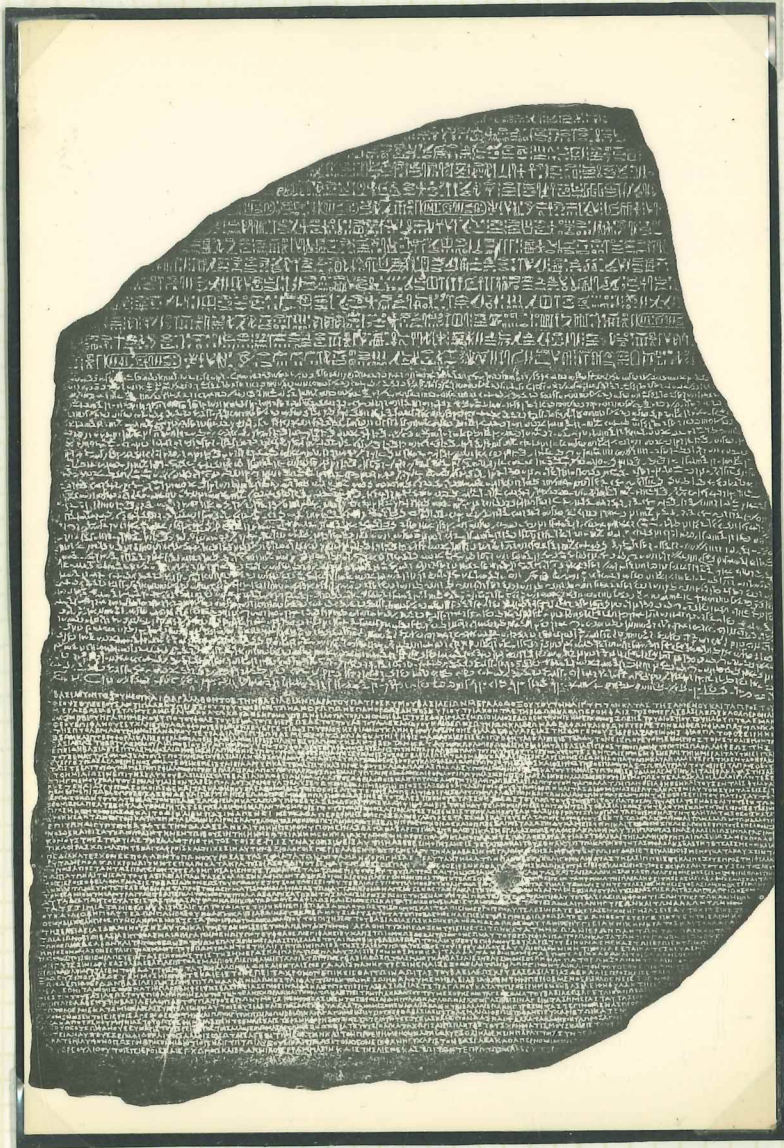
Admiral Seymour, in charge of an English Fleet consisting of 8 ironclads and 5 gunboats, led the fleet in the ten-hour bombardment. British troops occupied the town of Alexandria on the 14th July.



Trade postcard advert for Price's Toilet Soaps.

The Rosetta Stone

An inscription in three languages, hieroglyphs and demotic (Egyptian), and, at the foot, Greek.



Unused postcard of the stone that dates from the Ptolemaic period (after 320 BC), found near Rosetta by a Monsieur Boussart, one of Napoleon's savants in 1799. The stone enabled the translation of hieroglyphs.

British Forces in Egypt

The Battle of Alexandria, 21st March 1801

The order rang out, "Rear rank, about face!" so the Gloucesters faced the French infantry at the front and the French cavalry at the rear; they succeeded in beating back the enemy both ways. To mark this feat they were awarded the back badge, the Sphinx, on the backs of their caps.



A card presented free with "The Rover," a painting of the event from a drawing by Walter Paget.

British Forces in Egypt

THE ANZACS

Major General W.R. Birdwood was appointed to form an Army Corps from the Australian and New Zealand troops recently arrived in Egypt; the initials of the corps known as Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) became world famous. The corps headquarters were the south corridor of Shepherd's Hotel, Cairo. Mail home was posted in camp endorsed OAS where it would be censored and sent to Brigade FPO.

The Anzac Memorial Fort Said

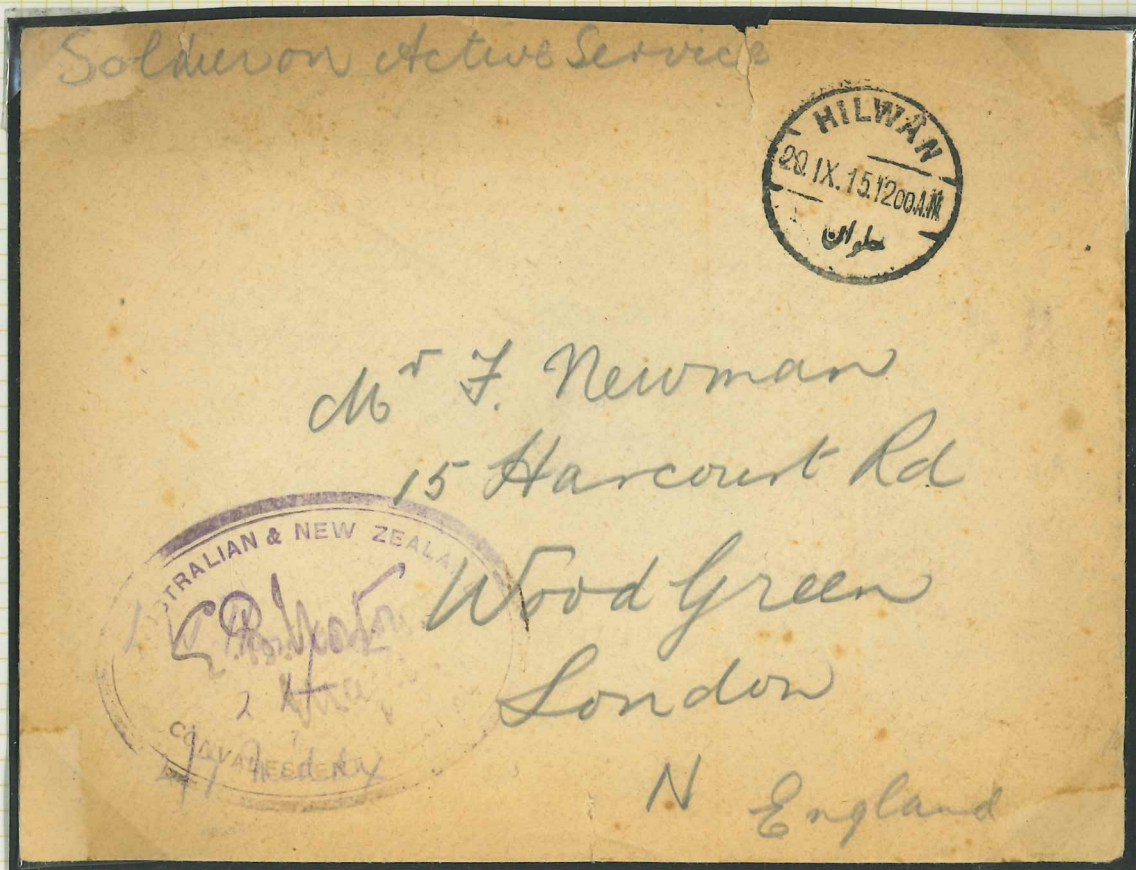


Convalescent Hospitals

Australian & New Zealand Convalescent
Hospital, based at Helwan.



Short-lived cachet in use between 8 AU 15 and 26 DE 15.



Unfranked Active Service cover posted at the Helwan
civil post office, to Wood Green, N. London 20 Nov. 1915.

British Forces in Egypt

First Australian General Hospital

Sailed for Egypt 4 DE 14 in the 'Kyarra' landing at Alexandria 16 JA 15, established at Palace Hotel, Heliopolis with 1000 beds by May. Tents at Aerodrome Camp, took over Luna Park as No. 1 Convalescent Home. Received 469 wounded



from Gallipoli & took over Al-Hayat Hotel, Helwan for 1000 convalescents and Grand Hotel for 500 more. It sailed for France on H. S. Salta.

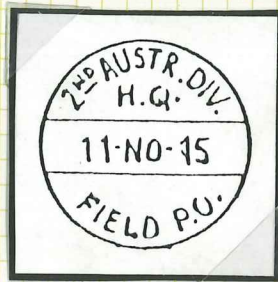


Cover sent free from the Hospital on 1st June 1915 to Peckham in south east London; note cash not signed.

British Forces in Egypt

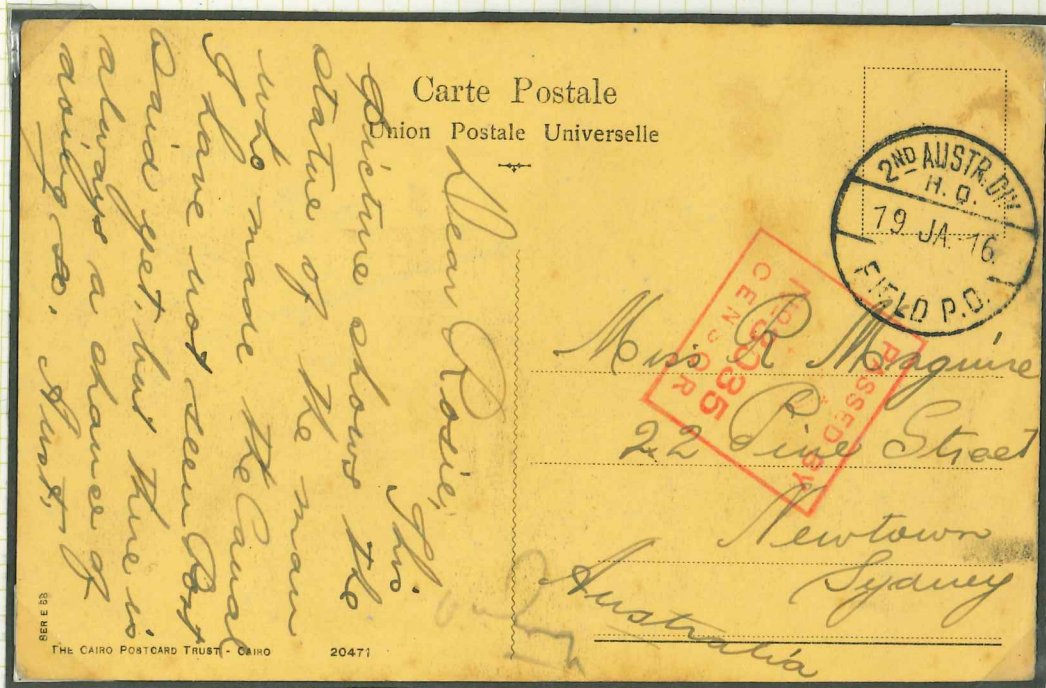
Australian Forces

ERD 1 MR 16



LRD 18 AP 16

Made up of 5 Brigade with four battalions from New South Wales, 6 Brigade with four battalions of Victoria, and 7 Brigade with two from Queensland and one each from South and Western Australia, 2 Division formed in Egypt 26 July 1915 thence to Gallipoli until Dec then to



Tel el-Kebir. Sailed for France on 13th March 1916

On active service postcard, of De Lesseps' statue, sent following the divisions' return from Gallipoli; censor is British War Office CMZ.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

ERD: 8 DE 14



LRD: 11 JA 15

This office opened at Mena on 5th December 1914 date stamps being brought from Australia; transferred to Lemnos Apr. 1915 then Gallipoli to Dec. 1915 and back to Egypt Jan to Mar. 1916.



5 millimes 'Empire' letter rate on an official cover dated 8 JA 15

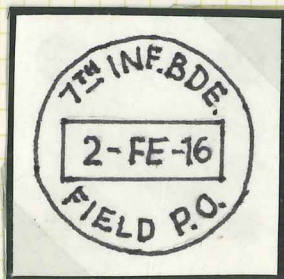
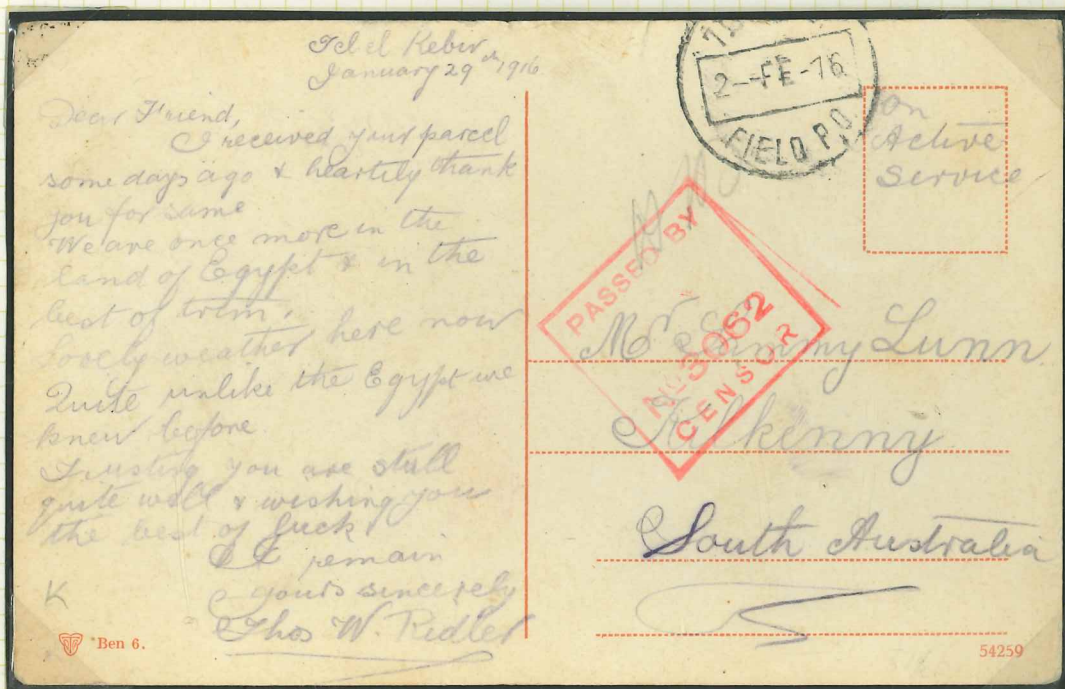
British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

Arrived in Egypt in July and early August 1915, the 7th Australian Infantry Brigade, were made up of the 25th and 26th Battalions from Queensland, the 27th Battalion from South Australia and the 28th Battalion from Western Australia.

The field post office opened at Abbassia, Cairo, in August 1915, left on the 28th for Gallipoli, and then returned to Egypt in December 1915.

Based at Tel-el-Kebir in January 1916 at the time of this card, the Brigade then moved to Ferry Post.

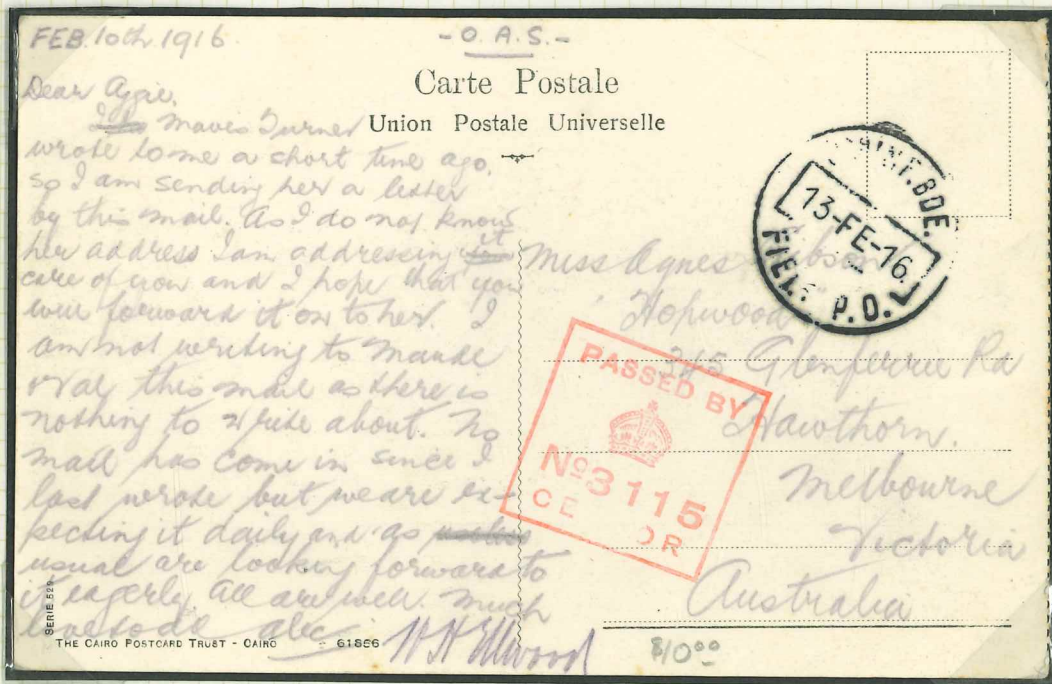


cc. Beni Suef Post Office

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

Arrived in Egypt in June 1915, the 6th Australian Infantry Brigade made up of the 21st to the 24th Battalions of Victoria were stationed at Aerodrome Camp, Heliopolis. The field post office opened at the end of June, left for Gallipoli on 22nd August 1915 and arrived back in Egypt in late December 1915. Based at Tel-el-Kebir in January 1916, at the time of this card, and moved to Ferry Post near Lake Timsah near the Suez Canal.



British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

2nd Aust. Inf. Bde Field P.O.

Crown Military postal stationery

A.F.W. 3078.

[Crown Copyright Reserved.]

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

NOTE.—

Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The Contents are liable to examination at the Base.

The following Certificate must be signed by the writer :

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature }
(Name only) }

A. H. Cramond

B Com. 5th Batt Egypt
9 2 1916

Address

*Mrs Cramond
"Arlie"
28 ~~Col~~ Street
South Preston
Melbourne
Victoria
Australia*



On Active Service envelope A.F.W. 3078 pre-printed for use of troops, issued one per month, sent from Serapeum* to Victoria, the sender's signature precludes censorship.

* a construction site on the Suez Canal

British Forces in Egypt

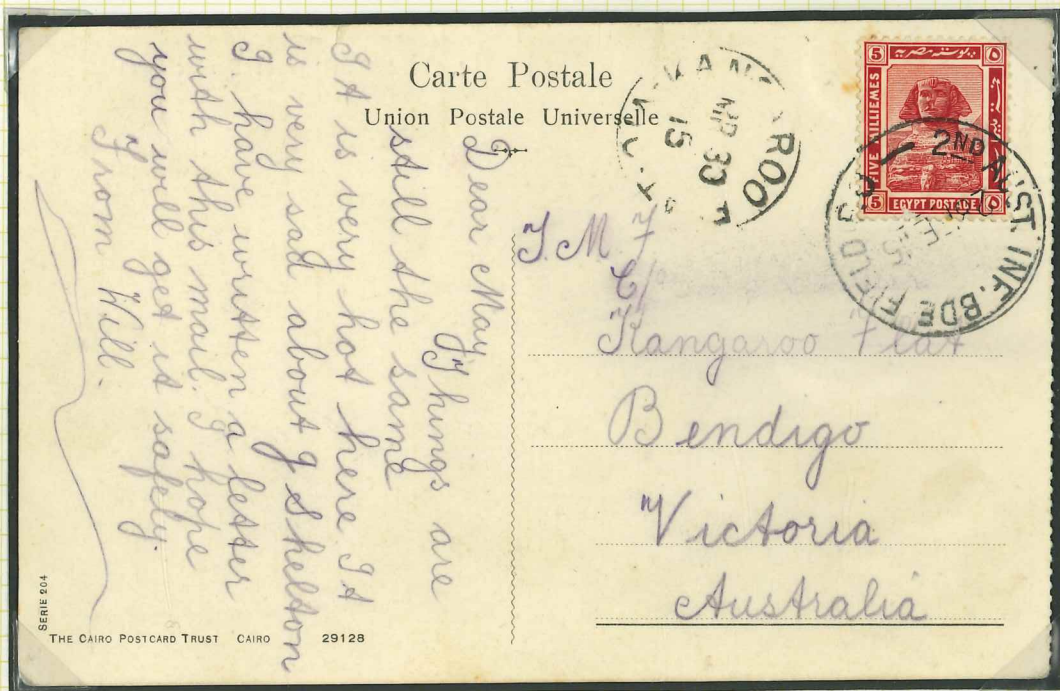
Australian Forces

ERD 20DE14



LRD AP 15

2 Brigade were located at Mena near Cairo from December 1914 to April 1915 prior to the Gallipoli campaign. Returned to Egypt December 1915 until 21 Mar 1916 when the Brigade began to sail for France



5 milliemes increased 'Empire' rate for a postcard, of Boulac Bridge, to Australia with receipt of the very unusual Kangaroo Flat, thirty days in transit.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

ERD 18 DE 14



LRD 14 MR 15

DS II

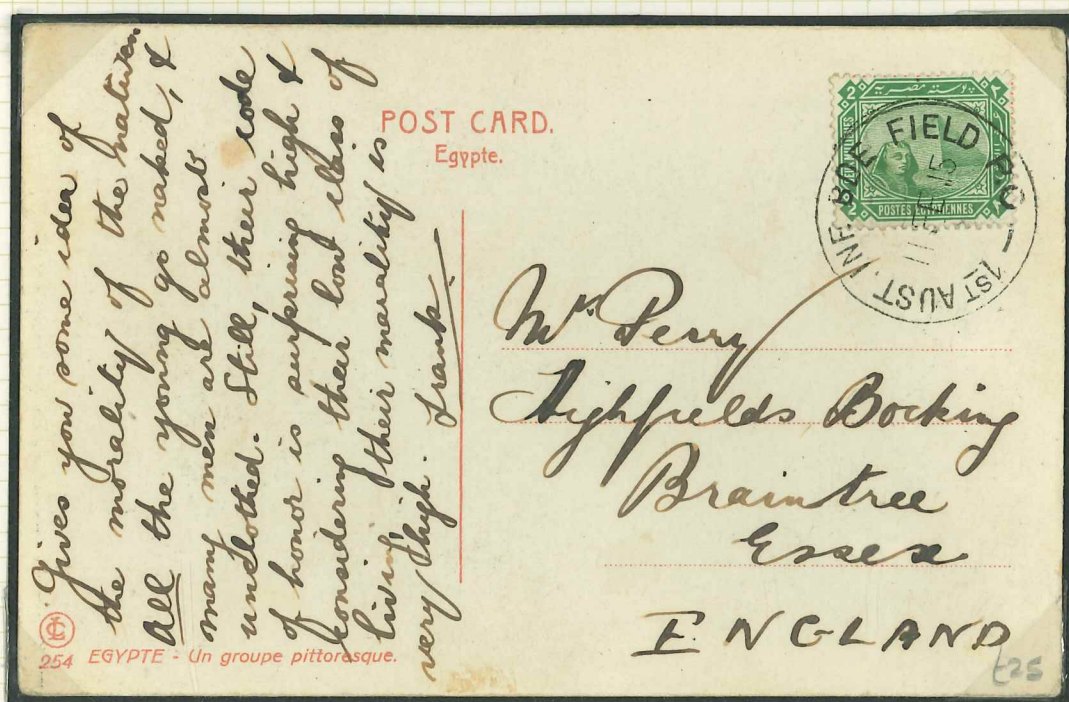


*Unused real photograph postcard of Mena Camp
on reverse: "This is where we were camped on Feb
1916 Cairo Egypt"*

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

Based at Mena Camp under tentage the 1st Australian Infantry Brigade arrived in Egypt 2nd December 1914; the post office was opened three days later. The Brigade left early in April 1915 for Gallipoli, returned to Egypt in December 1915 to Tel-el-Kebir and Serapeum. They left for Europe on 21st March 1916.



A picture postcard to England dated 11 FE 15 during the Mena Camp period struck with one of the five handstamps made in Australia and accompanied the first Australian contingent.

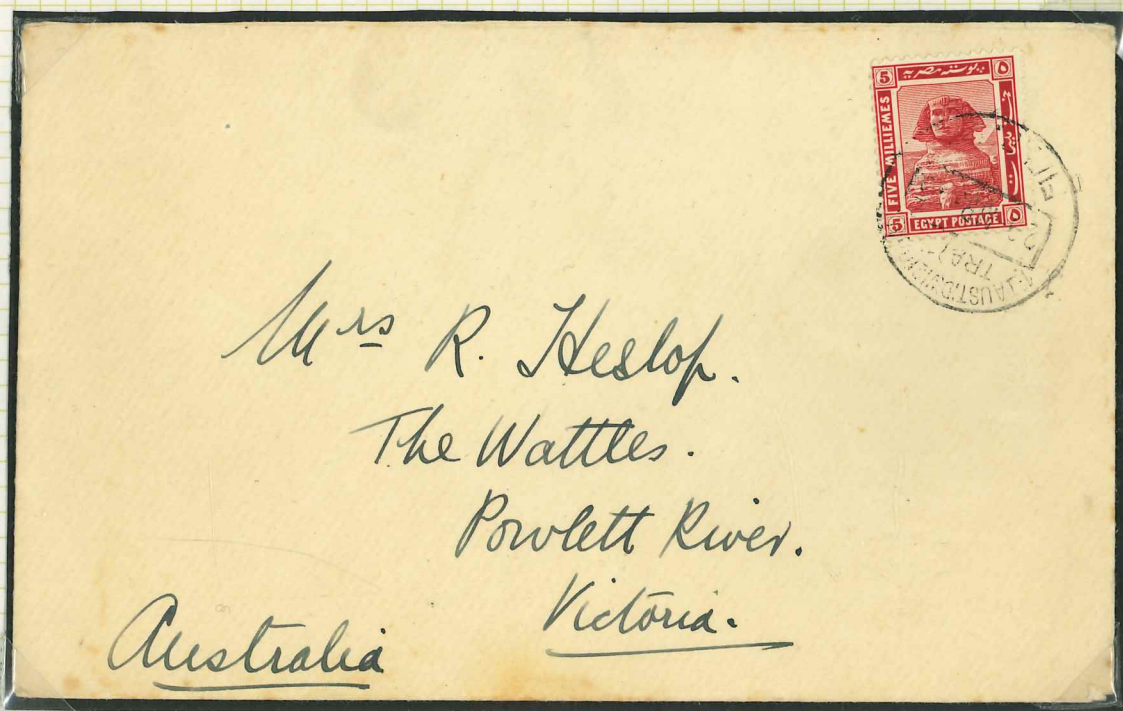
1ST AUST. INF. BDE. FIELD P.O.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

1st Australian Divisional
Train Field Post Office

This date stamp arrived in Egypt at Maadi near
Cairo on 2nd December 1914 where it remained un-



til 4th April 1915 when it left for the Dardanelles
Campaign; sent 29th March 1915 this cover addressed
to Powlett River, Victoria franked 5 millimes D.L.R.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

Field Service Post Card - military postal stationery

NOTHING is to be written on this side except the date and signature of the sender. Sentences not required may be erased. If anything else is added the post card will be destroyed.

~~I am quite well.~~

~~I have been admitted into hospital
{ sick } and am going on well.
{ wounded } and hope to be discharged soon.~~

~~I am being sent down to the base.~~

I have received your { letter dated Feb 26 }
{ telegram }
{ parcel }

Letter follows at first opportunity.

~~I have received no letter from you
{ lately.
{ for a long time.~~

Signature } "Frank"
only.

A. F. A. 2042
114/Gen. No./5248

FIELD SERVICE

POST CARD

ALL-INTER-BASE
28-MR-15

The address
only to be writ-
ten on this side.
If anything else
is added, the
post card will be
destroyed.

Mr & Mrs Percy Perry
57, Lodge Lane
Beeston Hill
England Leeds

Card sent from Sheppard's Hotel to Leeds 28-MR-15.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

3rd Light Horse Field Post Office
part of the Australian & New Zealand
Mounted Division

Official Active Service 'honour' envelope issued to the troops at the rate of one per month; the provision for a signature at bottom left precludes censorship of mail.

A.F.W. 3079.

ACTIVE [Crown Copyright Reserved.] **SERVICE**

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

NOTE:—

Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base.

The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:—

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature }
Name only } 101 Stevens

[Several letters may be forwarded in this cover, but these must be left to the same writer. The cover should be addressed in such case to the Base.]

POST OFFICE

Address:— 101 Stevens
Colleen Park
101 Stevens

Active Service envelope posted 21st November 1916

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces
2nd AUST LH BDE FIELD P.O.



On Active Service censored card to England 4 JUL 1916

On His Majesty's Service.

*Harper Jones
Cairo*

A.I.F. Canteens
Australian Imperial Force.



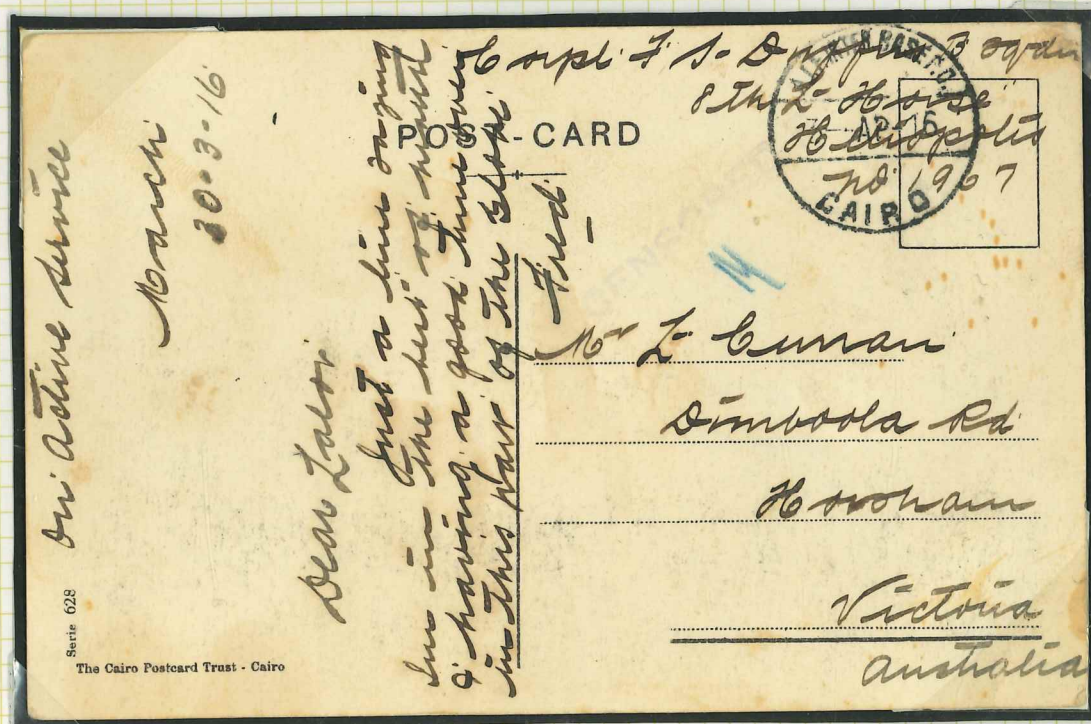
Official cover of AIF Canteens sent within Cairo 1918.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

Australian Imperial Forces (AIF)
Interbase Post Office - date stamp DS 3/2

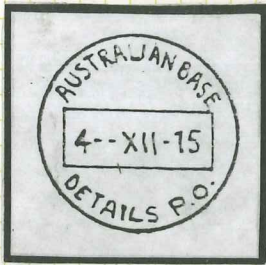
The card was sent by Cpl. Fred S. Duff based at B Squadron of the 8th Light Horse Brigade located at Heliopolis - now the site of Cairo International Airport; however the O.A.S. card was cancelled in downtown Cairo at Shepherds Hotel on 3rd April 1916, to Victoria, Australia.



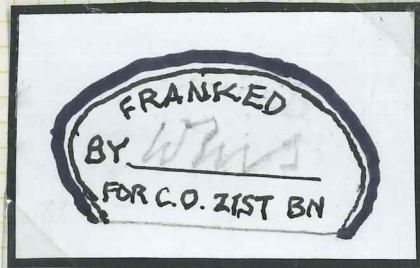
Monochrome postcard, of Bab el Khadid Square
Cairo, cancelled DS 3/2 at the Australian Interbase
P.O. in the south corridor of Shepherds Hotel.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

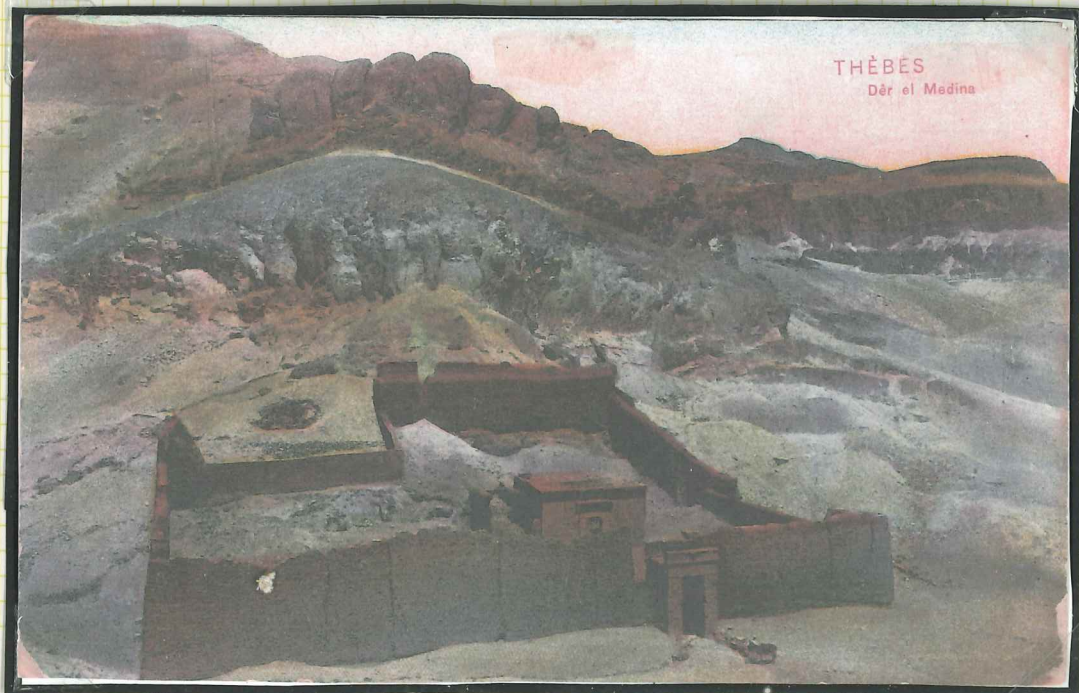
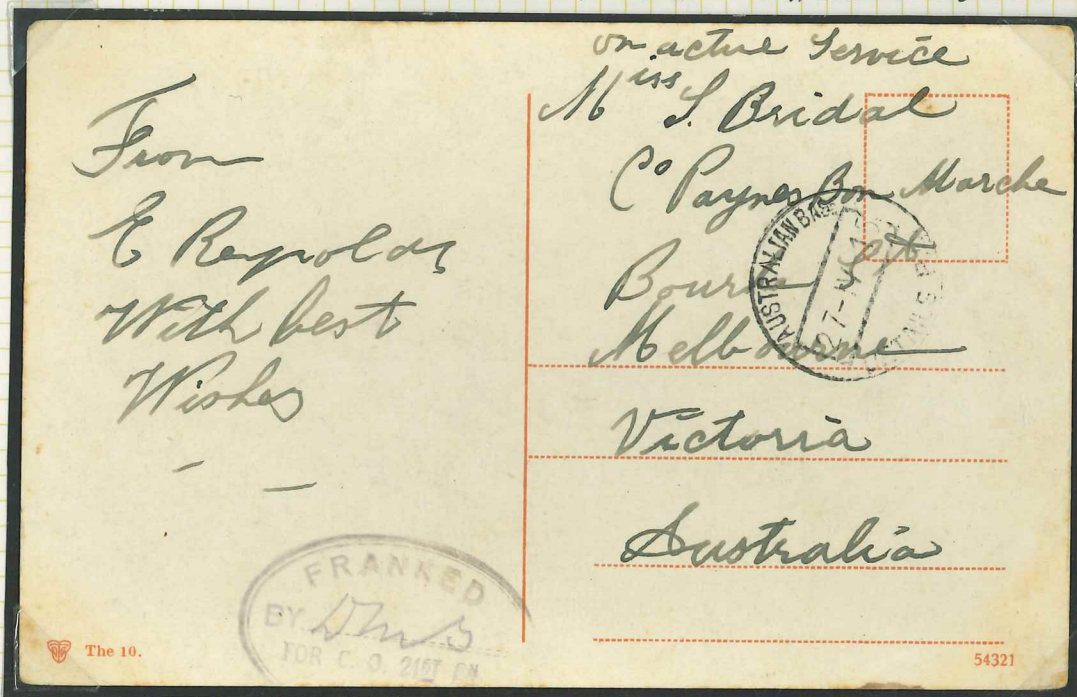


O.A.S. postcard from
Zeitoun with the
unrecorded cachet
FRANKED BY (sig.) FOR
C.O. 21ST BN in 1915



DS5

to Melbourne, Vieta. Unrecorded cachet



Deir el-Medineh, an 18th and 19th Dynasty village

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

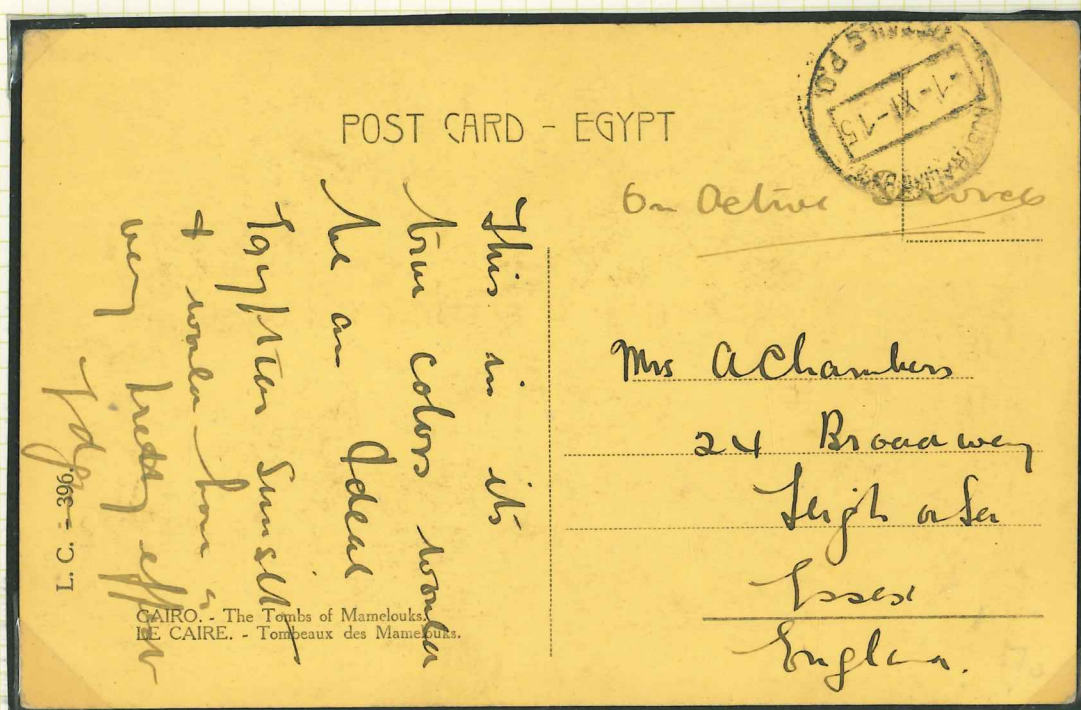
ERD 2 MR 15



LRD 29 NO 16

D85

On 1 FE 15 the Australian Intermediate Base Depot was established in Cairo by Col. V. G. M. Selheim. It had seven sections of which Section 6 Base Details Re-inforcements was located at Zeitoun



On active service postcard, of Tombs of the Mamelouks, posted to England through the Australian Base P.O.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

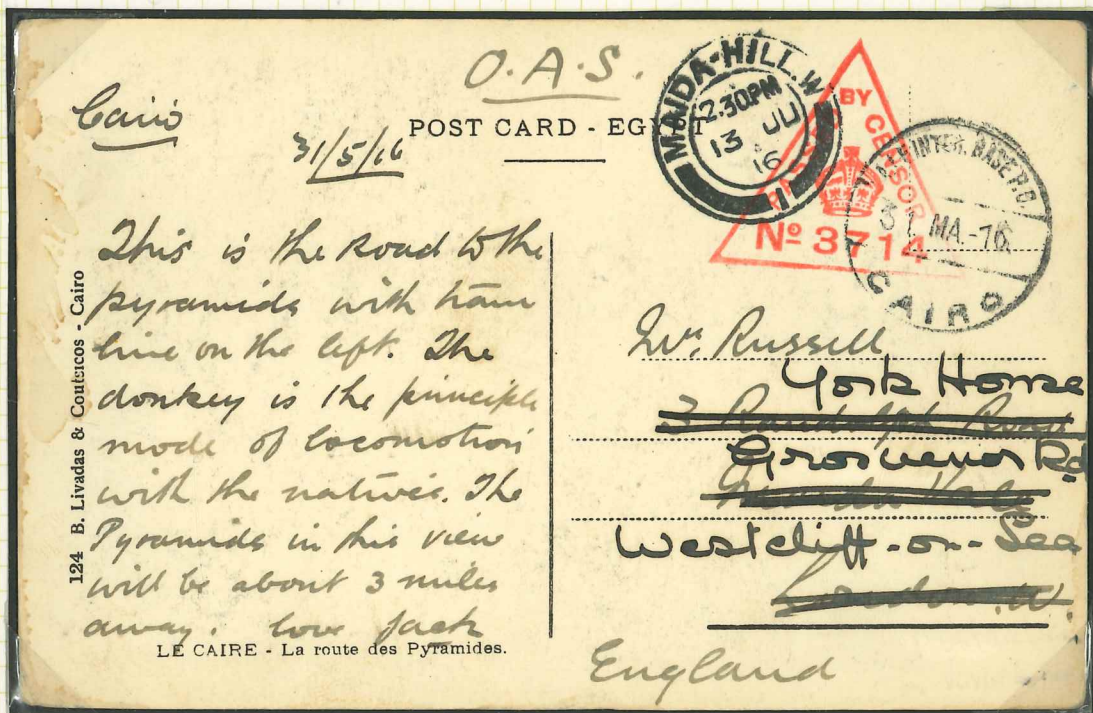
ERD 4 AU 15



LRD 10 JY 16

DS 3/4

"In the case of the Corps it (mail) went to the Inter Base P.O. for postmarking thence to the Australian Base Post Office at Alexandria for shipment on a returning transport."



Every type DS 3/4 date stamp measures 18 mm wide, Cairo that is, one of four with same wording, probably allocated to Section Three; Finance, but used indiscriminately with the others in a corridor at Sheppard's Hotel.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces



Sect. 5 Medical

Sections 1 to 3 handstamps

Sect. 4 Ordnance

Of the seven sections of the Australian Imperial Forces Intermediate Base P.O. set up at Cairo it is thought that:-

Section 1 - Headquarters from 21 JUL 15 to 2 MAR 16

Section 2 - Records from 22 JUL 15 to 20 MAY 16

Section 3 - Finance from 4 AUG 15 to 10 JY 16

used types DS 3/2 and DS 3/4 indiscriminately between them in the south corridor of Sheppard's Hotel at Esbekineh.

Section 5 - Medical at Heliopolis;

Section 6 - Reinforcements at Zeitoun, others unknown.



Unused postcard of Sheppard's Hotel during World War I.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

Australian Imp. Forces Base
Post Office



Envelope endorsed 'On Active Service' and also signed bottom left to preclude base censorship to Melbourne from Base Post Office sent 5-SE-15.

British Forces in Egypt

Australian Forces

AIF Base Post Office at
Ras el-Tin, Alex.



Used by British personnel on postal duty at the Australian Base Post Office before the arrival of a unit to operate it. Censored mail was free, registered mail was pre-paid with British stamps, as these were the only ones available at any Army Post Office at that time.



Polychrome postcard of the Ras el-Tin area of Alexandria at the time of use of the adhesives.

Indian Forces Memorial

Located at Port Tewfik - Suez



Two real photo-postcards depicting Indian memorial

Field Post Office No. 70

Type 2 A stationary office located at Suez

on Active Service



Miss A Bennett
A Palmenia Avenue

Moré

Brighton
England

Leuchtraden

Dear A. Y. Bennett

safety gear on front tonight of a column no time to write will give you some news later

Yours sincerely
Hospital
Egyptian Suez

POST OFFICE SUEZ D. EGYPT
20 MAR 17
P.C. NE
41 OC 17
5c EGYPT POSTAGE

Pte A Betty Welch
No 13455 R A L C
5th Indian Gen
Hospital
Egyptian Suez

L. C. - 370.
PORT SAID. - Entrée du canal et Bureaux de la Compagnie.

Censored letter 20 MAR 17 to Brighton sent on active service and L.C. 370 monochrome card 31 OC 78 cent from Pt. Said to 5th Indian General Hospital at Suez F.P.O. No. 70.

Stationary Offices

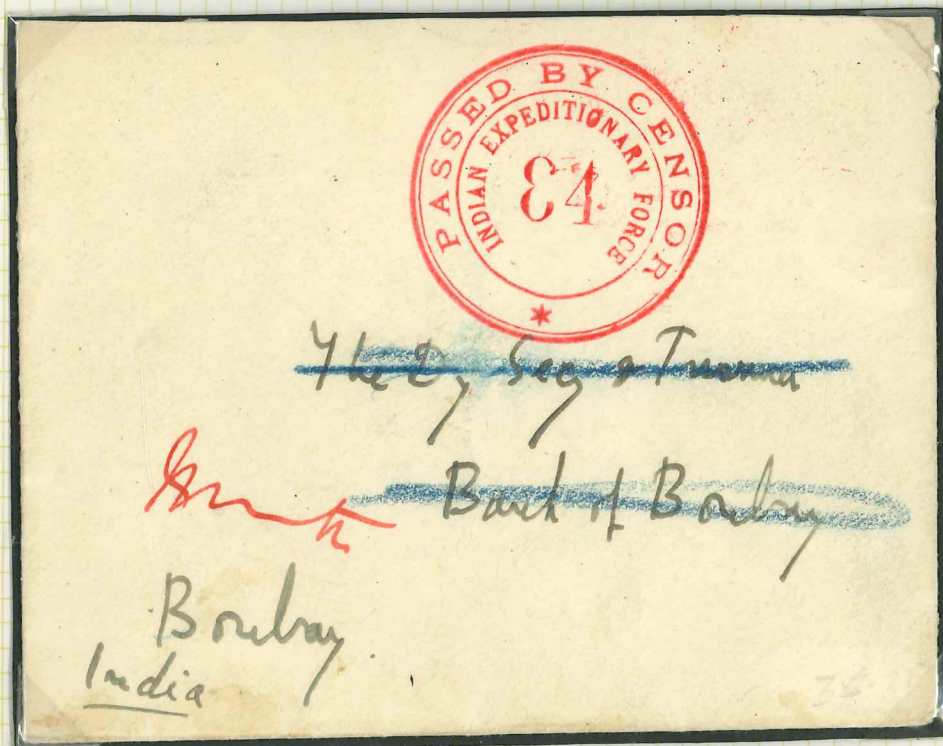
Field Post Office 35
at Alexandria Jan. 1915 to Apr. 1917



date stamp from
reverse of cover



on piece 3 MAY 15



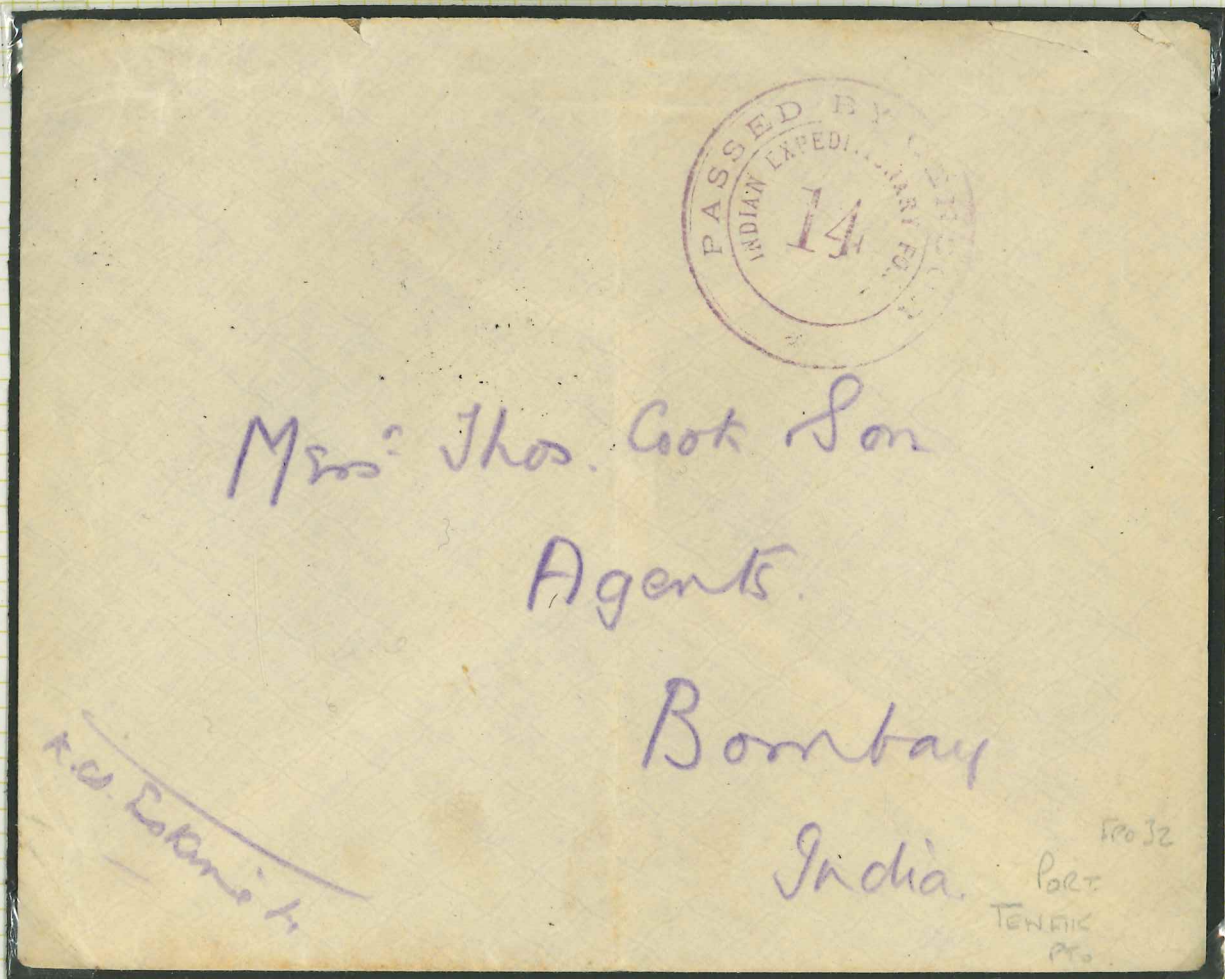
Unfranked active service cover censored I.E.F. 84
from Alexandria to Bombay sent on 1st May 1915.

Field Post Office 32

Allocated to 30th Brigade
At Port Tewfik from 23 NO 14 until 3 MR 15
Left in March 1915 for Iraq arriving at Basra 6th April.



date stamp on verso

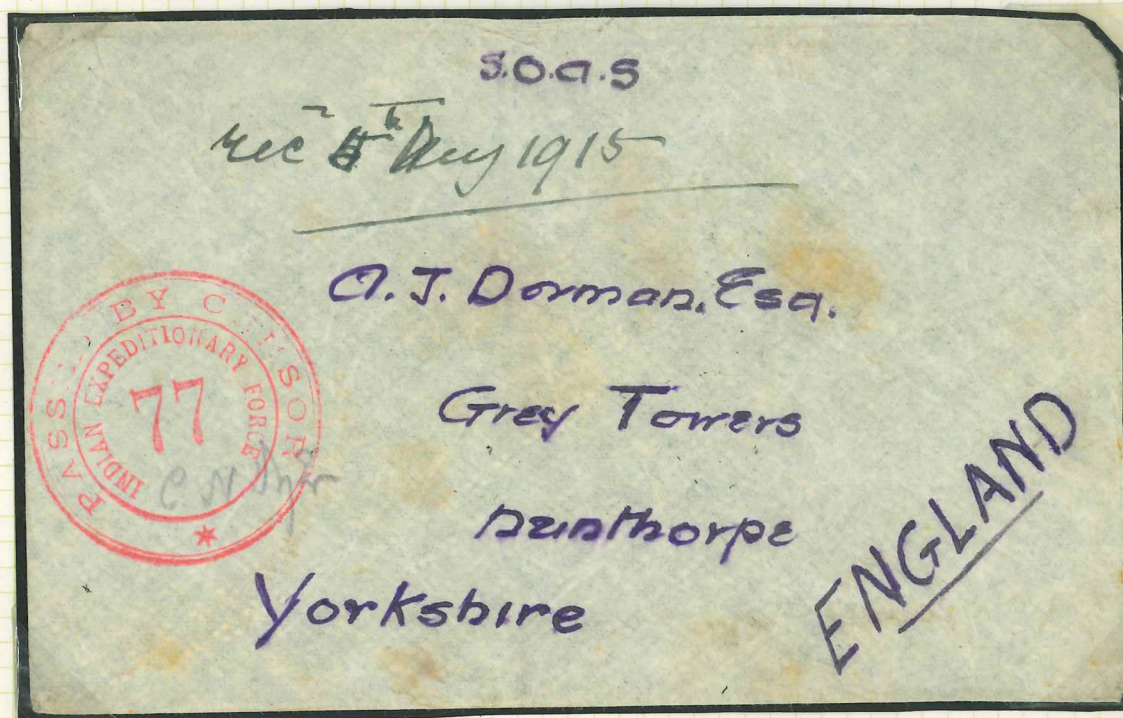


CENSORED PASSED BY CENSOR of Indian Expeditionary Force, cover Port Tewfik to Thomas Cook at Bombay.

Field Post Office 31

31st Brigade at Moascar area

Originally allocated to 31 Brigade of Force F, following break-up of Brigade in Feb. 1916 re-allocated to Stationary P.O. at Kantara



Cover posted on active service at H.Q. 31 Brigade then being held in reserve at Moascar in the Suez Canal Defences following Turkish attack. A number of British officers were serving with the Brigade. Cover bears Indian censor type IEF1 (CM12) No. 77

Field Post Office 31

Datestamp of 31st Brigade

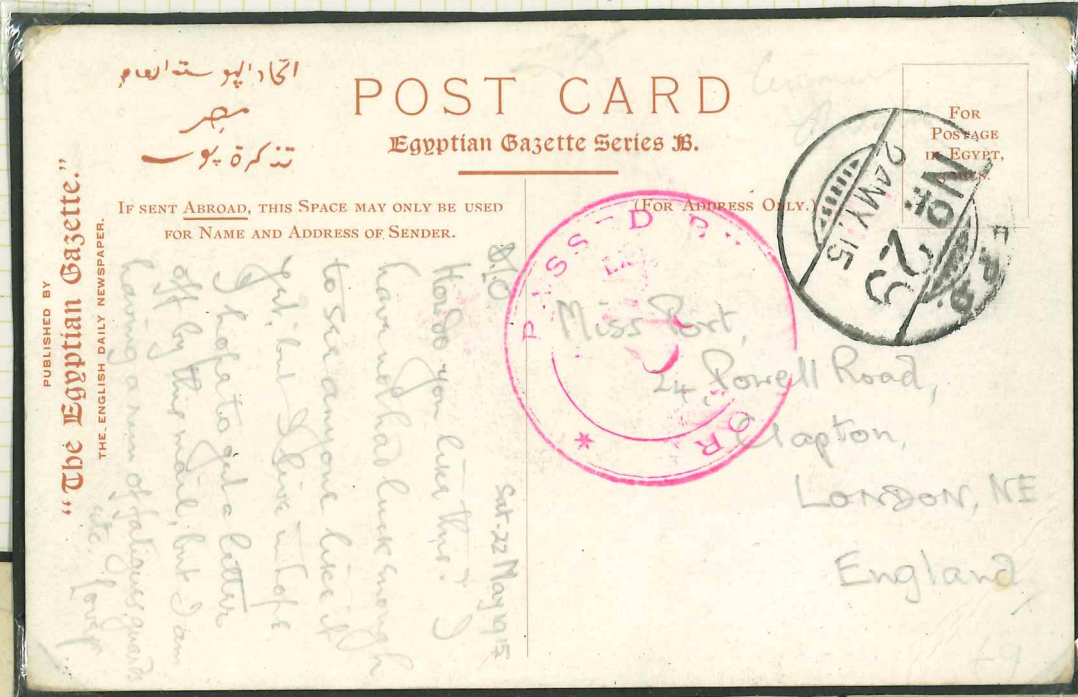
located at Moascar Area, some two thirds of the way down the Suez Canal from Port Said, this datestamp is recorded in use there from 1. FE.15 until 3 JA.16.



Cover franked one anna I.E.F. overprints and sent from Moascar to Scotland by a British officer attached to 31st Brigade, Indian Forces censor 52.

Field Post Office 29

Allocated to 28th Brigade
located first at Toussoum on Canal to south of Ismailia,
in use there 3 N014 to BDL15 before leaving then for Aden.



Top: censored postcard to London LMY
 left: cover to Hyderabad.



Polychrome card 'unwaited' to London and cover to Hyderabad, Deccan 14 FE 15.

Censor au verso.

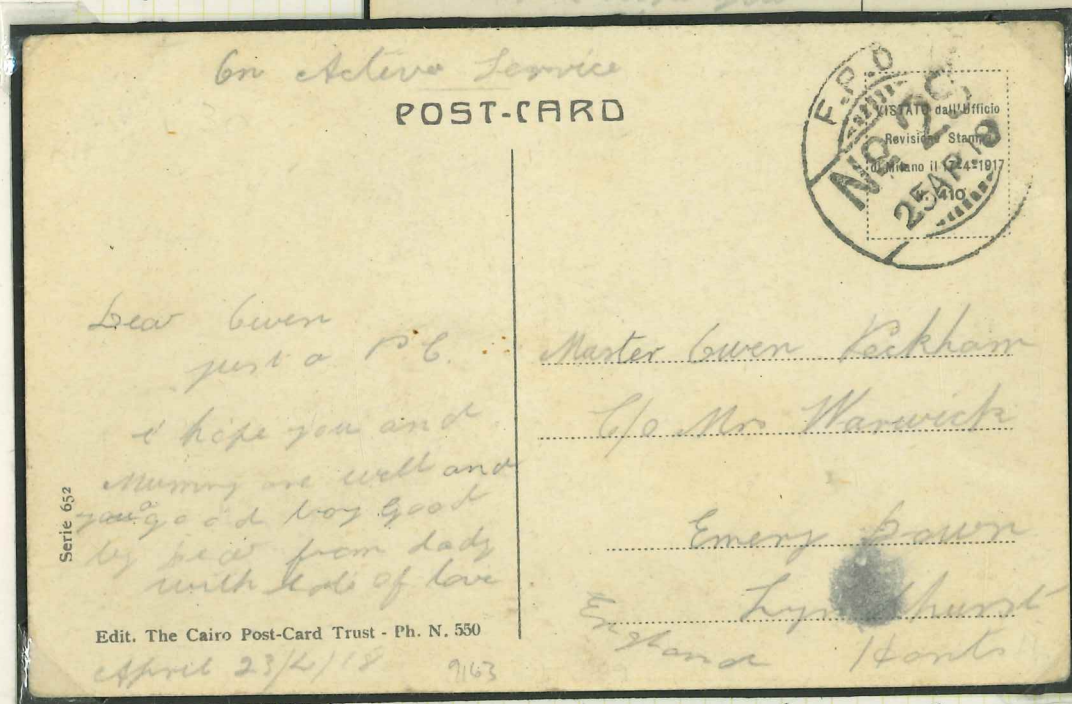
Field Post Office 29

*Ismailia - Tenz Post
Possibly Gaza area*

Originally the date stamp of 28 Brigade but re-allocated to a Stationary Office at Suez when the Brigade sailed for Aden in July 1915



*Suez station,
train arriving
from Port
Tenzik, below.*



*Gwen Rickham
Mr Warwick
Emergy Bawn
England*

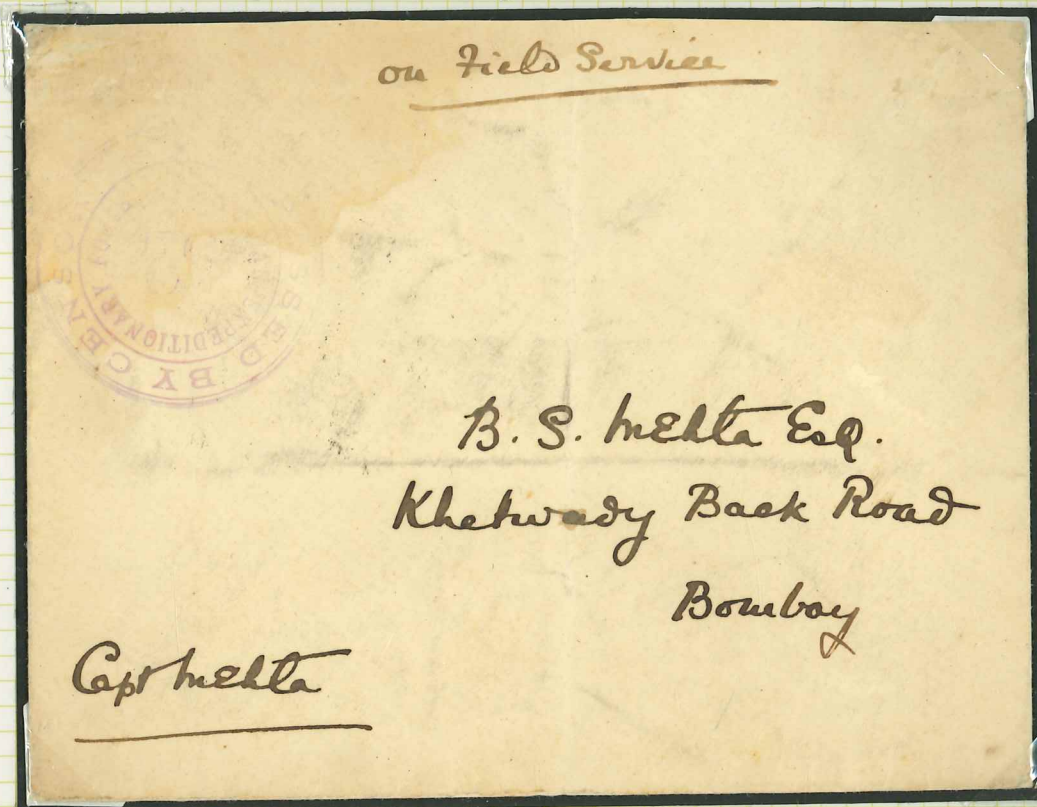
*On active service postcards, Ismail Street Heliopolis,
posted at the Indian Stationary Post Office, Suez.
Also bears strike of worn dumb DM13.*

Field Post Office 28

At Cairo S.O. from 90C15 to 4FE16 (Sams)



F.P.O. No. 28 date-stamp from the reverse dated on the day the 20th Brigade departed from Cairo for the defence of the Suez Canal by building rail-line to el-Arish (MR 17).



Unfranked, but 'on Field Service' cover dated 4FE16 sent from Cairo Stationary Office, where censored, to Bombay. Has weak strike of PASSED BY CENSOR of Indian Expeditionary Force 3 struck top left in margin.

Field Post Office 20

At Kantara 10 DE.18 until 11 FE.19

Arriving in Egypt from France around April 1918, British 75th Brigade had numbers of Indian men including officers. This Indian F.P.O. worked very closely in association with British F.P.O. 232.



W299-M1880, 917. G. & Co., Grange Mills, S.W. **ACTIVE** **SERVICE** [Crown Copyright Rese. ved.]

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

NOTE:—

Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base.

The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:—

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature
A. Naoriman

[Several letters may be forwarded in this Cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The Cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor.]

Address:—
*The Secretary Manager
Bank of Bombay
Fort
Bombay
India*

Pre-printed Active Service 'Honour' cover, hence no stamp, sent during last two days at Kantara from F.P.O. No. 20 before British 75th Brigade moved south along the Suez Canal to Ismailia. On the reverse is Bombay G.P.O. DELY WINDOW dated 24 FEB 19 - 15 days transit.

Field Post Office 18

At Heliopolis in 1922

Front and back of Army Form C.398 sent from Heliopolis on 12th May 1922 to Wellington, India.

Army Form C. 398.

TO: *W. 081*

DESPATCH

RECEIPT.

Sender's No. _____ Date _____ hour _____ m.

Date _____ hour _____ m. Signature:—

URGENT or ORDINARY.

CERTIFIED OFFICIAL
COMMAND PAYMASTER
EGYPT.

O. H. M. S.

Commandant
British Army School of Education
certified official
Hard St. Wellington
INDIA

POSTAGE FREE
E. E. F.

710
HELIOPOLIS EGYPT 1922

NO. 18
12 MAY 22

Official O.H.M.S. cover, Army Form C.398, sent postage free with handstamp, top, and manuscript 'proof'.

French Consular Post Office

French Port Said stamps cancelled at Indian F.P.O. 35



Postmaster; M. André Navarre



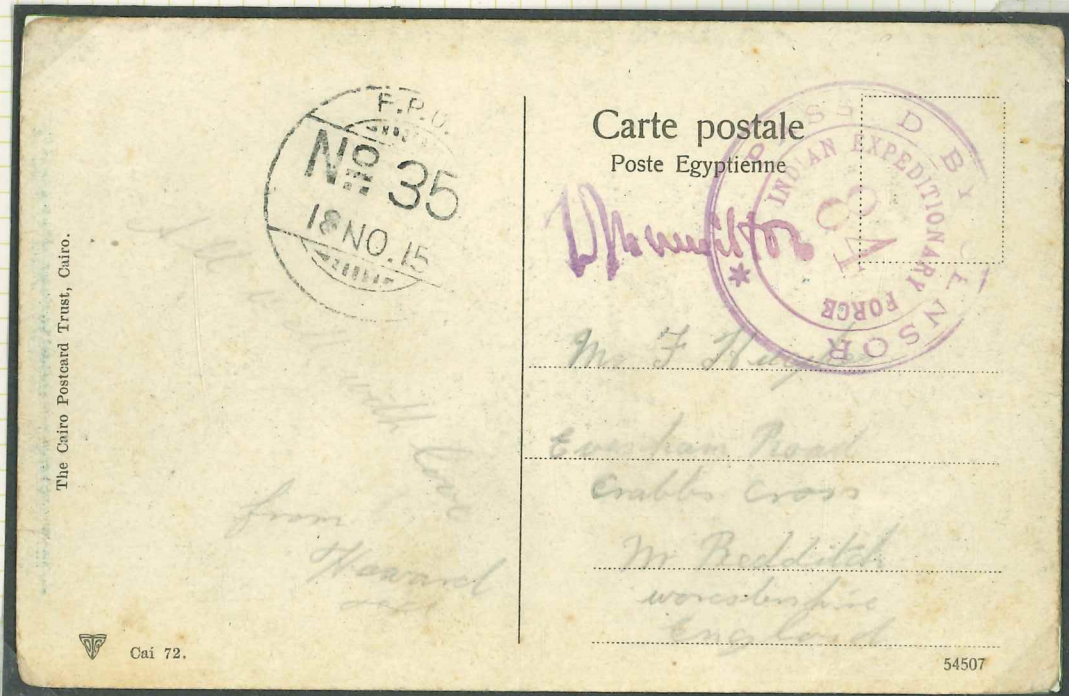
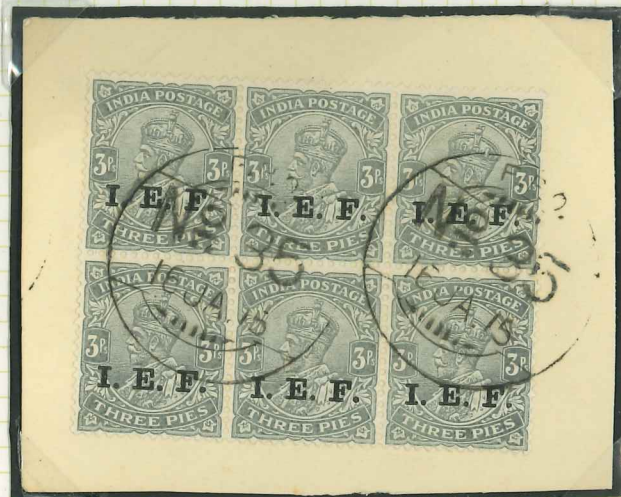
Unused polychrome postcard showing the French Post Office by Isaac Béhar made locally; the office was situated at 15 Boulevard Eugénie in Port Said. Like Alexandria, the office closed 3rd March 1931.

Stationery Offices

Field Post Office 35
at Indian Headquarters, Alexandria



Cachet of Indian Expeditionary Force E (see block of four).



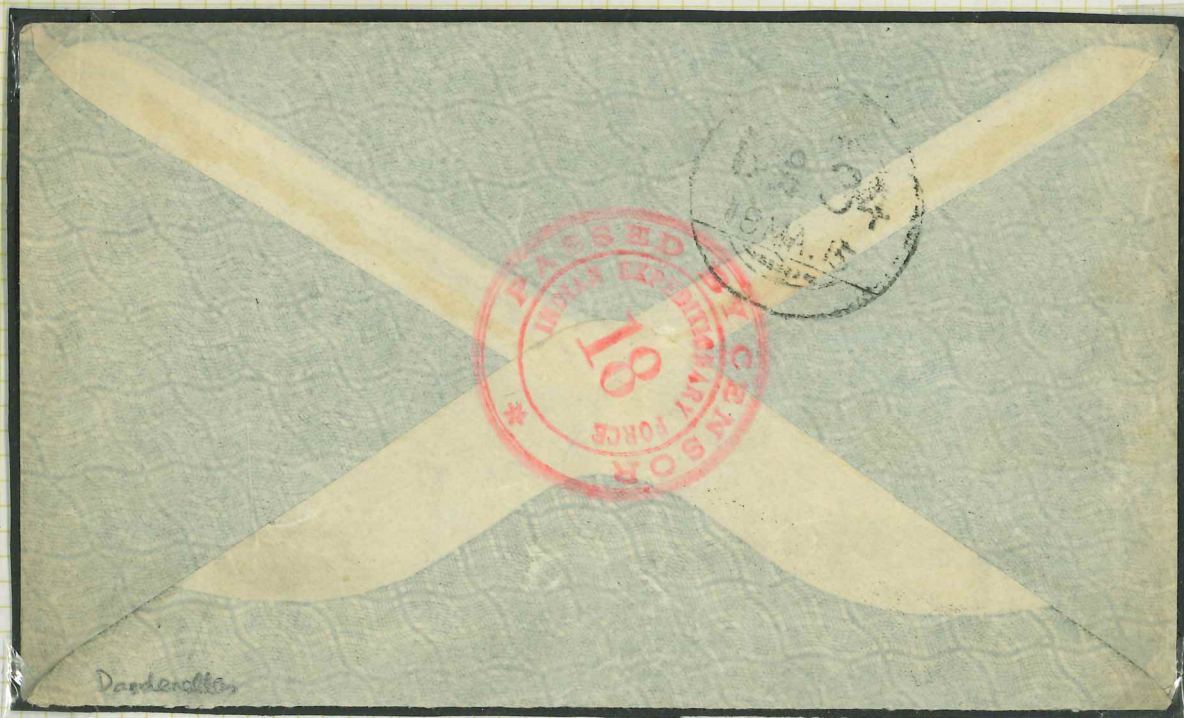
Polychrome postcard (Cai 72 no. 54507) of Sphinx and Pyramids, Alexandria to Redditch, Worcestershire.

Field Post Office 34

Allotted to 29th Infantry Brigade
Dardanelles Campaign

Based at Kantara until April
1915, thence to the Dardanelles
campaign sailing from Port
Said on 21 AP 15.

At the time of the cover below
the Brigade were located at the
Cape Helles Western Beach, start
of Dardanelles Campaign.



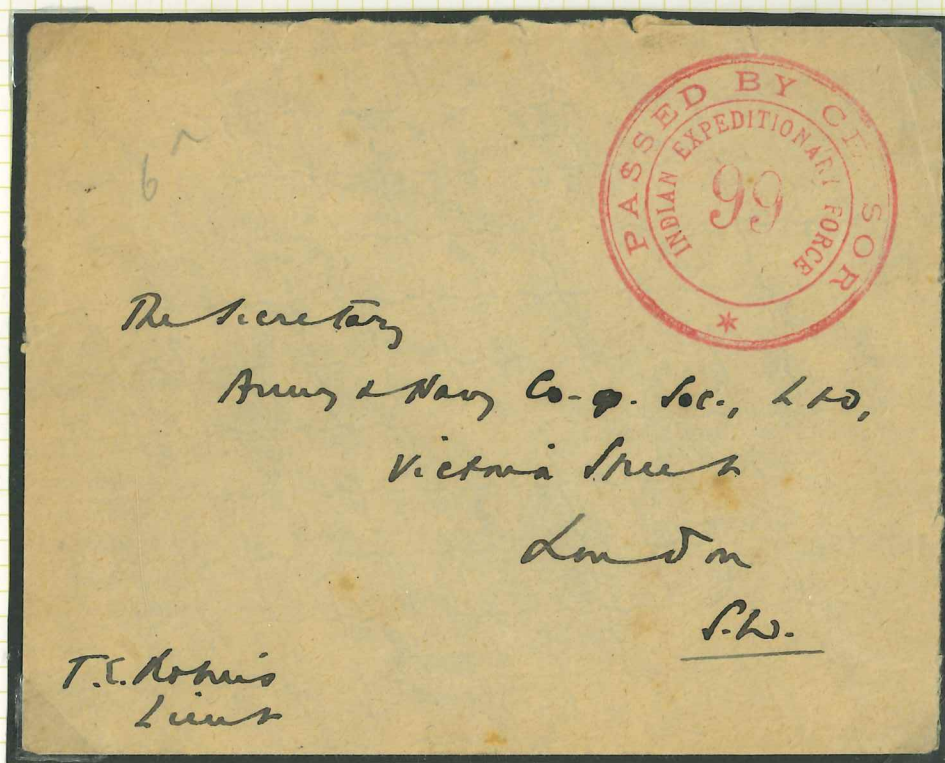
On active service, so unfranked, censored cover with
PASSED BY CENSOR 14 in cerise and FPO 34 date stamp
18 MA 15 when the Brigade was at Dardanelles, Turkey.

Field Post Office 311

Originally Headquarters of 10th Division at
Suez to serve the hospitals
known used between 30 Jul 15 to 7 Oct 18



date stamp from reverse of cover

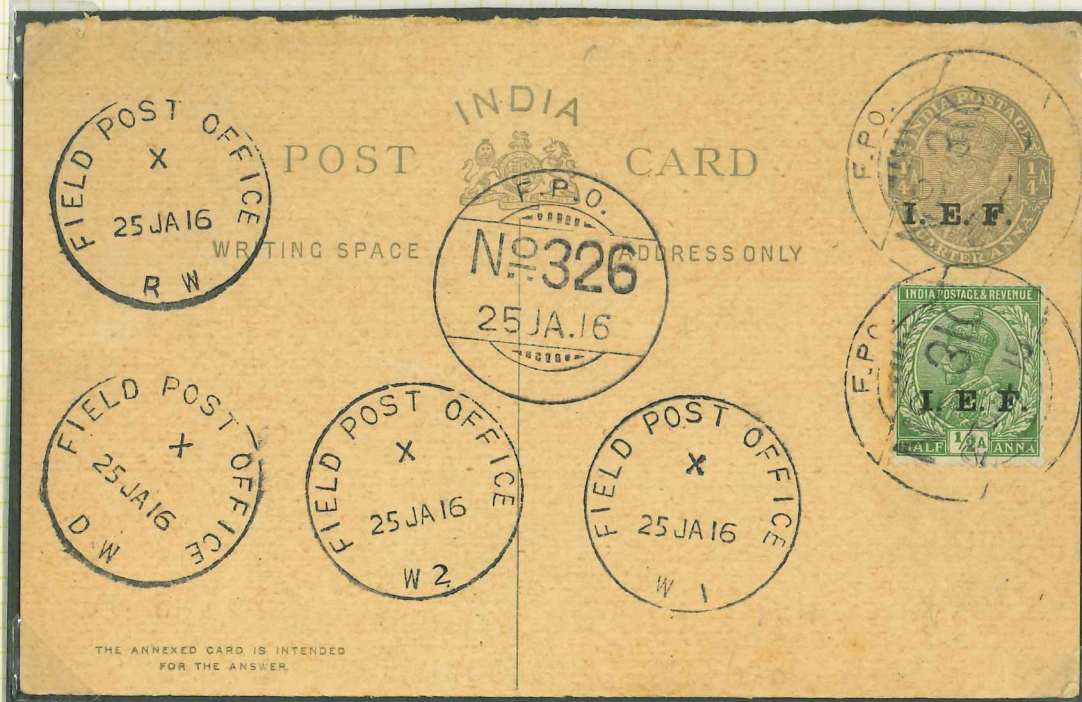


Censored Indian Expeditionary Force 99 cover sent
unfranked from Suez to London 26th July 1915.

Field Post Office 310

Headquarters 11 Division at Ismailia
on Postal Stationery

Clearly originally cancelled F.P.O. 310 on overprinted
1/4 anna Indian postal stationery card dated 27 DEC 15,
then used to collect five interesting date-stamps all
dated 25 JA 16 including F.P.O. 326 of Indian Forces.



25 JA 16 is the date of all date-stamps collected:

Indian F.P.O. 326 - Western Frontier Force at Mersa Matruih
British F.P.O. RW - Western Desert Force at Daba'a.
British F.P.O. DW - Western Frontier Force at Mersa Matruih.
British F.P.O. W2 - Western Desert Mobile Column.
British F.P.O. W1 - Western Desert Force at Mersa Matruih,
where the first British troops landed 24 NO 15.

where the first British troops landed 24 NO 15

Field Post Office 310

Headquarters 11 Division at Ismailia
on Postal Stationery



E.R.D. 1 12 14
L.R.D. 20.6.19



One anna rate to England made up of 1/2 anna Postal Stationery with 2 x 3 pice additional stamps sent 27 DE. 1915.



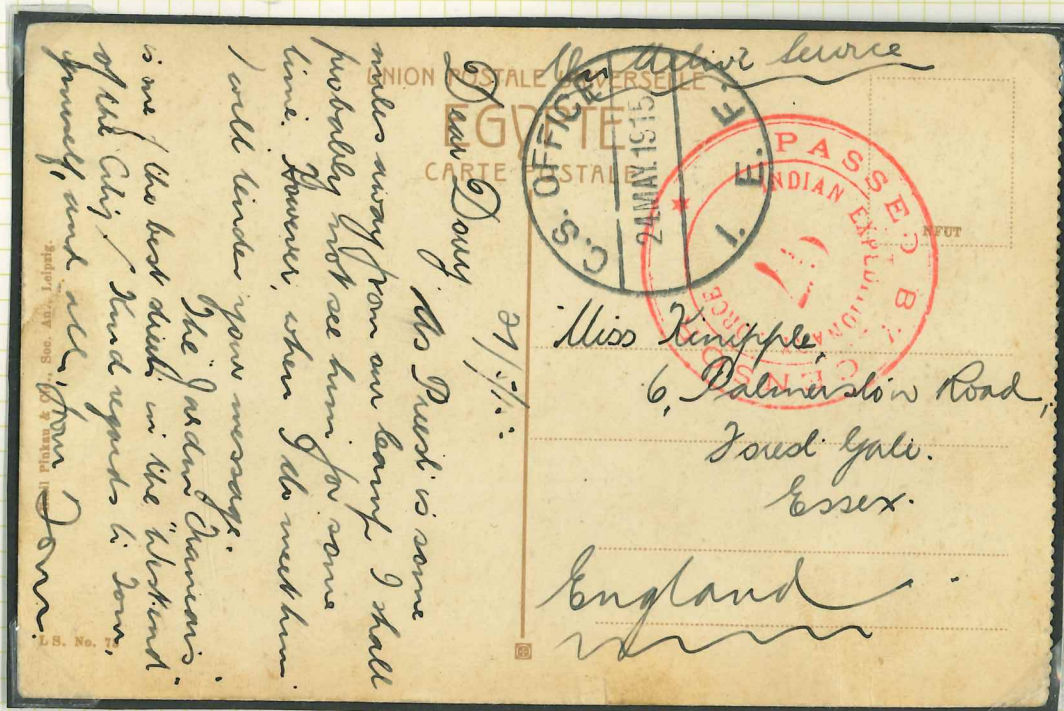
One anna foreign postcard rate to Oakland, U.S.A. -
the writer thanks addressee for a parcel of cigarettes.

Chief Sorting Office

At Port Tewfik between April 1915 and April 1916



Earliest recorded



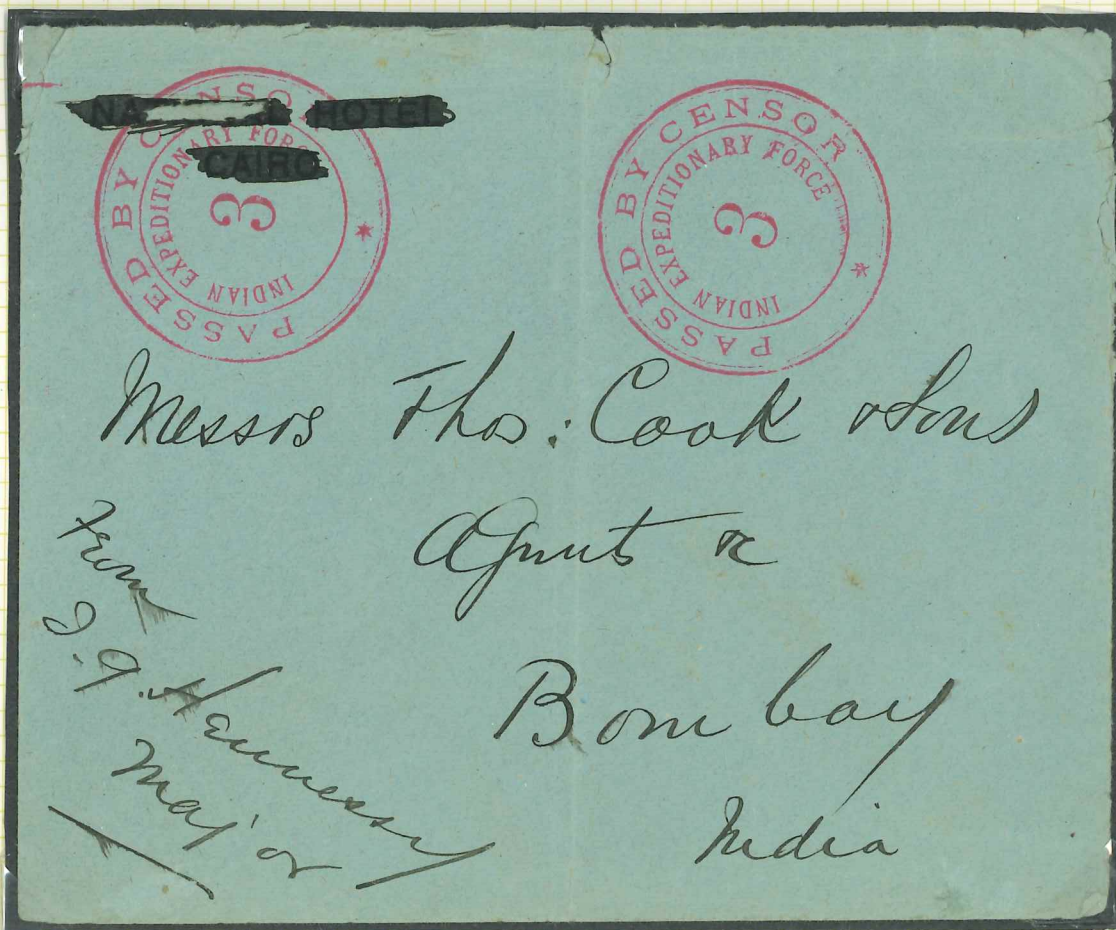
Early use of C.S. OFFICE and Indian censor I.E.F.97
 in red on polychrome postcard of French Gardens,
 Alexandria sent on Active Service to Forest Gate.

Field Post Office 313

Sorting Office at Ismailia
from 26 NO14 to 8 FE21



Indian post offices also handled British and Anzac mail.



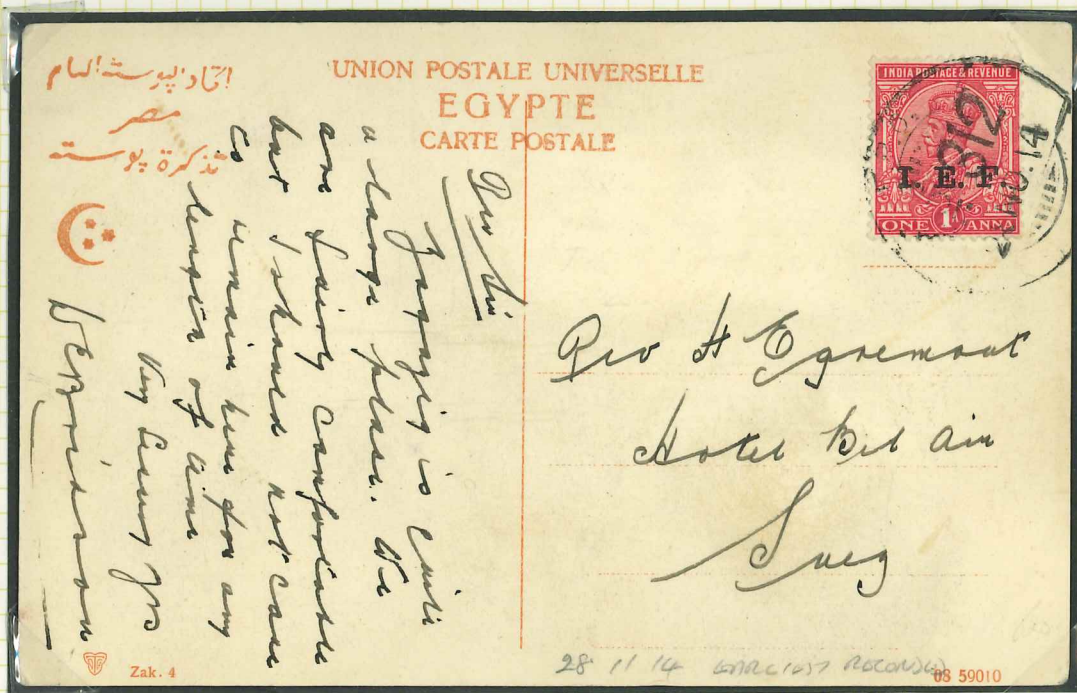
Censored I.E.F. 3, a stationery envelope of the National Hotel at Cairo, sent by a British Major to Thomas Cook & Sons, Agents at Bombay back in India.

Field Post Office 312

Sorting Office at Zagazig from
28 NO 14 to 7 AP 17
later transferred to E.E.F.



Earliest recorded date
from card below



Monochrome postcard of Sharia Abbas (after the Khedive Abbas Hilmi) in Zagazig, sent internally to a hotel in Suez; earliest recorded date for FPO No. 312.

Field Post Office 30

Allocated to 22nd Brigade located at Serapoum
on
Postal stationery and Field Service Card



ERD 3 JA 15
in Egypt to
30 DE (9) 15



Half anna postal stationery cover, censored, sent to Bombay.



Field Service Post Card completed on the reverse and sent by British officer attached to Indian 22 Brigade.

Field Service Stationery

Army Form A 2402

O. H. M. S.

FIELD SERVICE POST CARD

Army Form A2042.

Nothing is to be written on this except the date and signature of the sender.

Sentences not required may be erased.

If anything else is added the post card will be destroyed.

I am quite well.

I have been admitted into hospital.

Sick } and am going on well and hope to be
Wounded } discharged soon.

I am being sent down to the base.

I have received your { letter.
 { telegram.
 { parcel.

Letter follows at first opportunity.

I have received no { lately.
letter from you. { for a long time.

Date

Signature.

G. S. & Sons, Calcutta.

George V stands
of India by De
La Rue & Co. over-
printed for the
Indian forces.

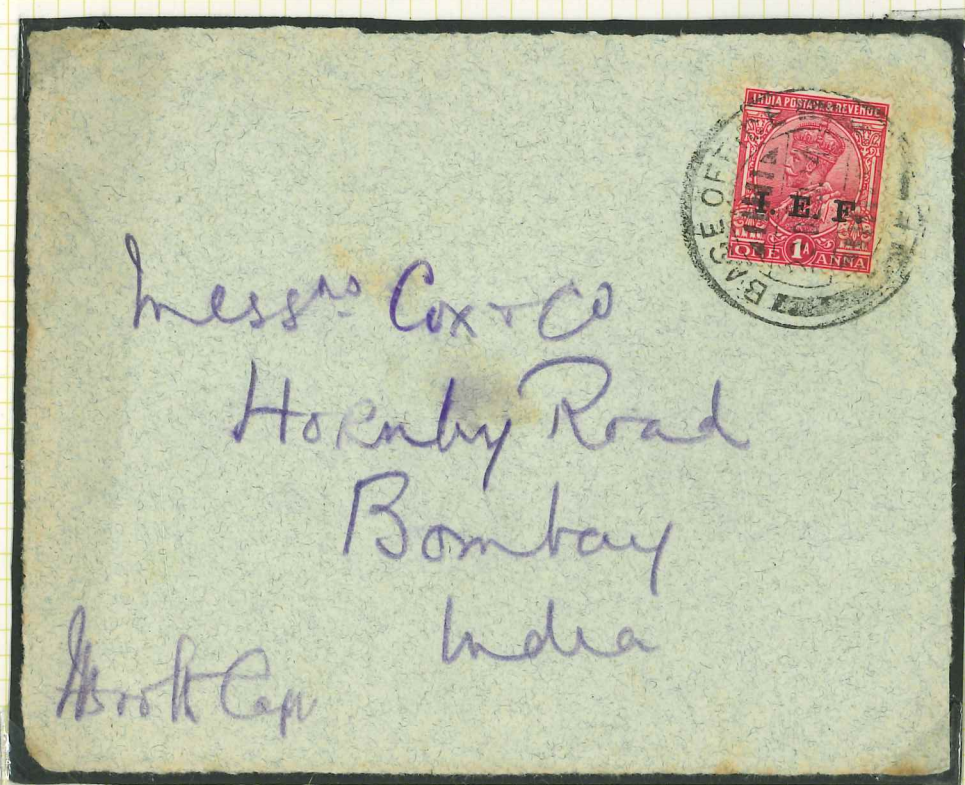


This Field Service Post Card was produced in India for the use of Indian troops stationed in Egypt.

Base Office G.

At Port Said 6.12.14 to 23.9.20

Proud typed D3 in use between 26.12.14 and 24 MAY 1915
one of six different types of date stamp used Port Said;
this grouping was amalgamated with Force F on 7.4.15.



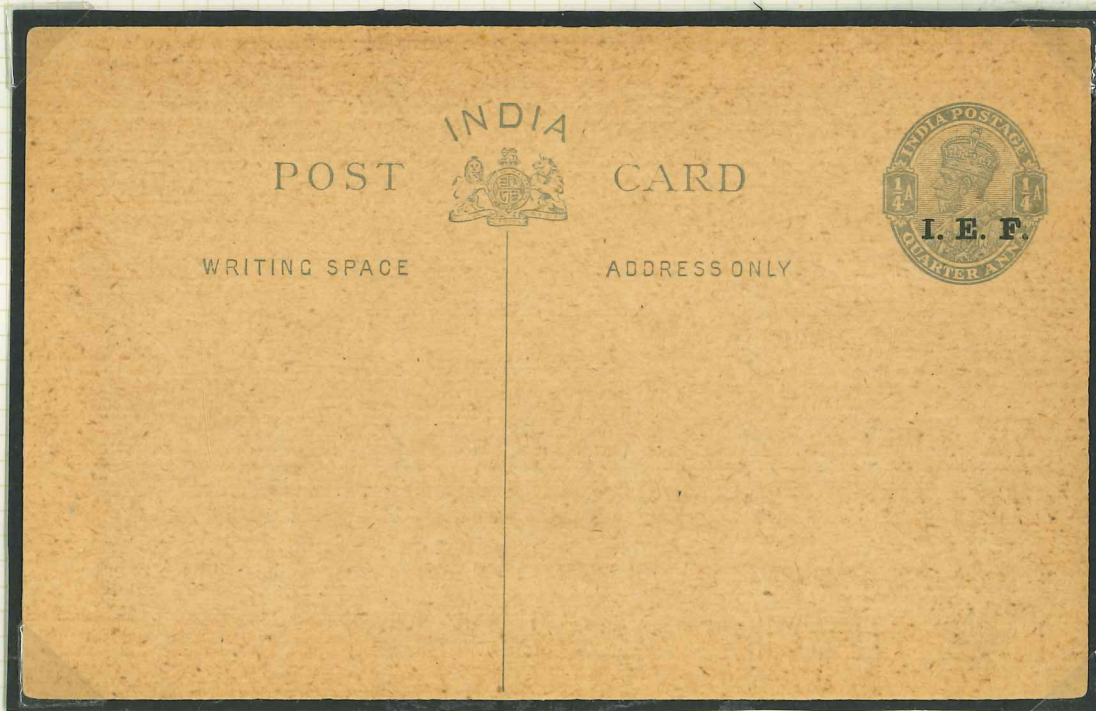
Front only of cover franked one anna sent 23 DEC 14
from Port Said to Bombay; censor signed bottom left.

Indian Expeditionary Force

Postal Stationery card



Khudadad Khan V.C. a Muslim Indian soldier prepared to die for Gr. Britain.



As the De La Rue George V stamps were over-printed I.E.F., so were postal stationery cards and covers.

Indian Expeditionary Force

*George V stamps of India typographed by De La Rue
Overprinted I.E.F. 1914 - 1922*



Postal stationery, also overprinted was in use too.

Indian Expeditionary Force

George V stamps of India typographed by De La Rue
Overprinted I.E.F. 1914-1922

I.E.F. forces E and F were sent to Egypt and the
Middle East including Aden.



à cheval



à cheval

All values exist with no stop after E variety but many
have been forged.

French Military Post

Tresor et Postes

194



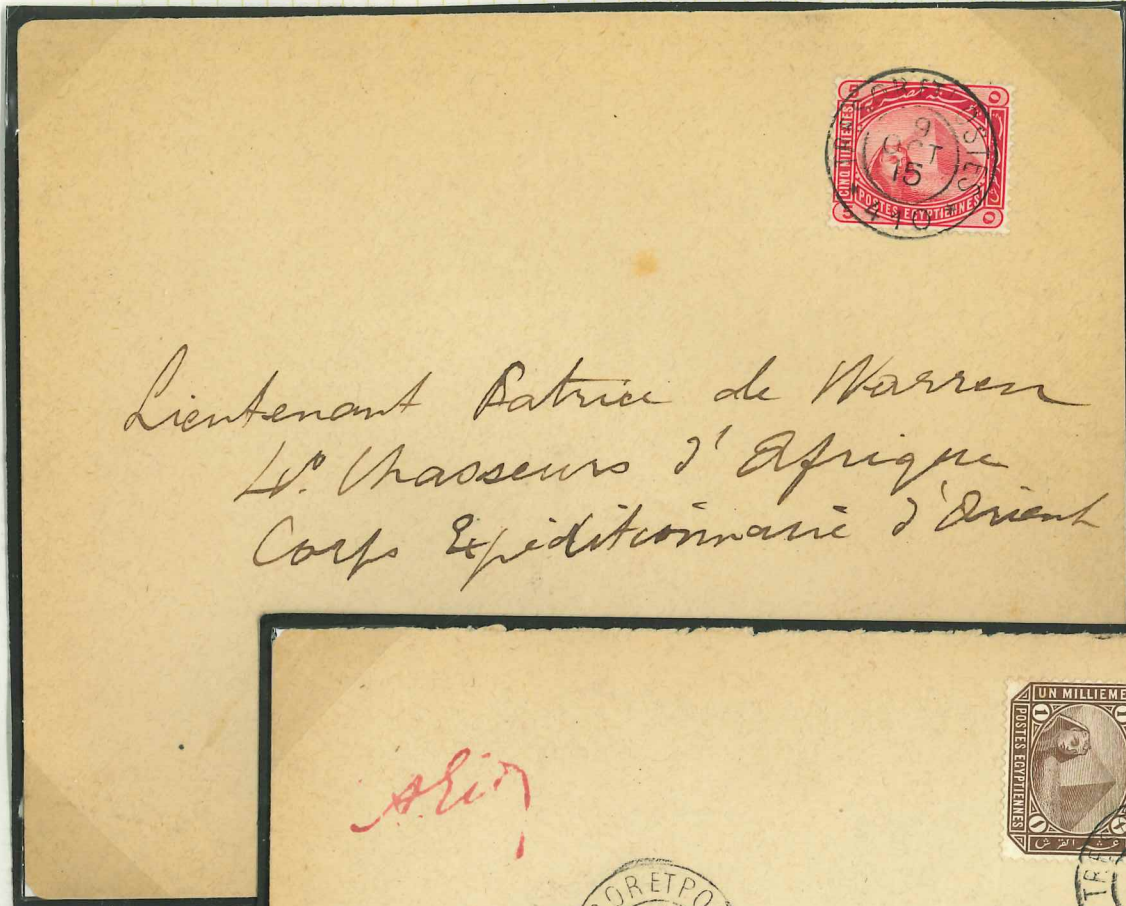
Polychrome postcard of Zizinia Theatre - one of the earliest cinemas in Egypt - sent by a soldier of the 175th Regiment, 1st Batterie de Marche who served with the French Expedition d'Orient.



Card sent unfranked - active service concession - by French forces with military date stamp Tresor et Postes 194 dated 23rd April 1915 to Oyonnax, Ain, France.

French Forces

Two five millièmes covers posted at Alexandria addressed within the city Trésor et Postes 410 by French military.



9 OCT 15



18 OCT 15



2 NOV 15



French Military Post

corr. d'Armées Port Said

"French soldiers were granted special postal privileges when campaigning abroad; mail travelled free in time of war or expeditions." * Otherwise postage had to be



* Greek part!!

paid - this cancellation justified the reduced rate but it did not apply to postcards.

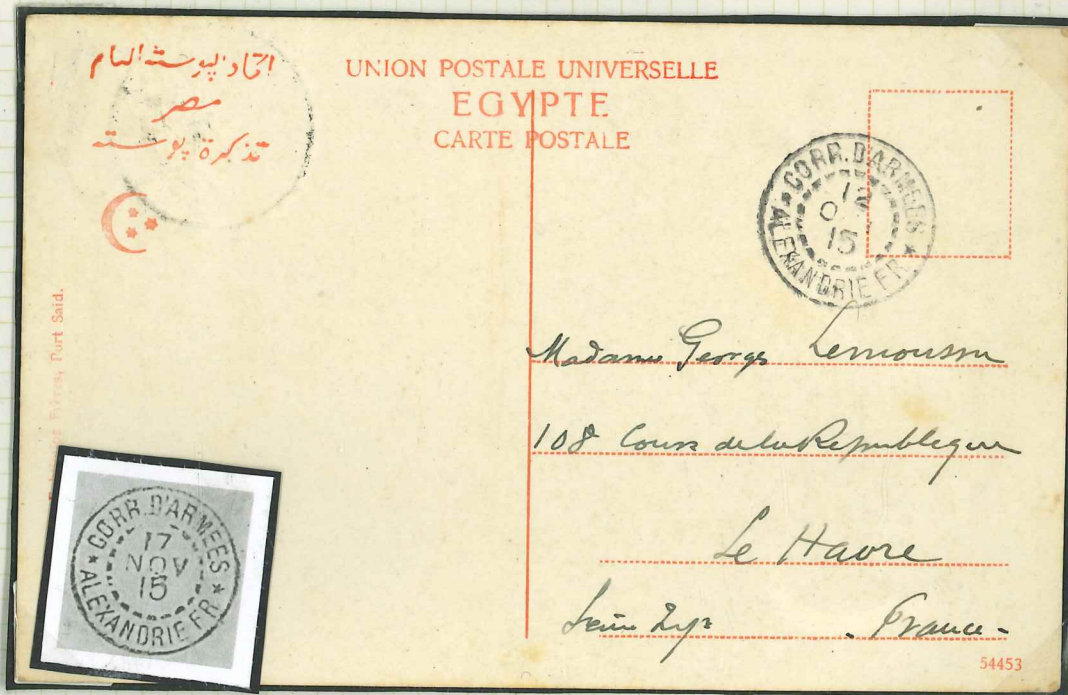


Monochrome postcard N° 36 by J.S. Antippa & Co. of Port Said canal entrance franked 5 centimes rate in 1907 to England; Frank Joseph shipchandler's cachet. The cancellation by French P.O. Port Said by favour?

French Military Post

corr. d'Armées - Alexandrie

1915 postcard to Le Havre with French military circular date stamp. The card passed through the Egyptian civil postal system



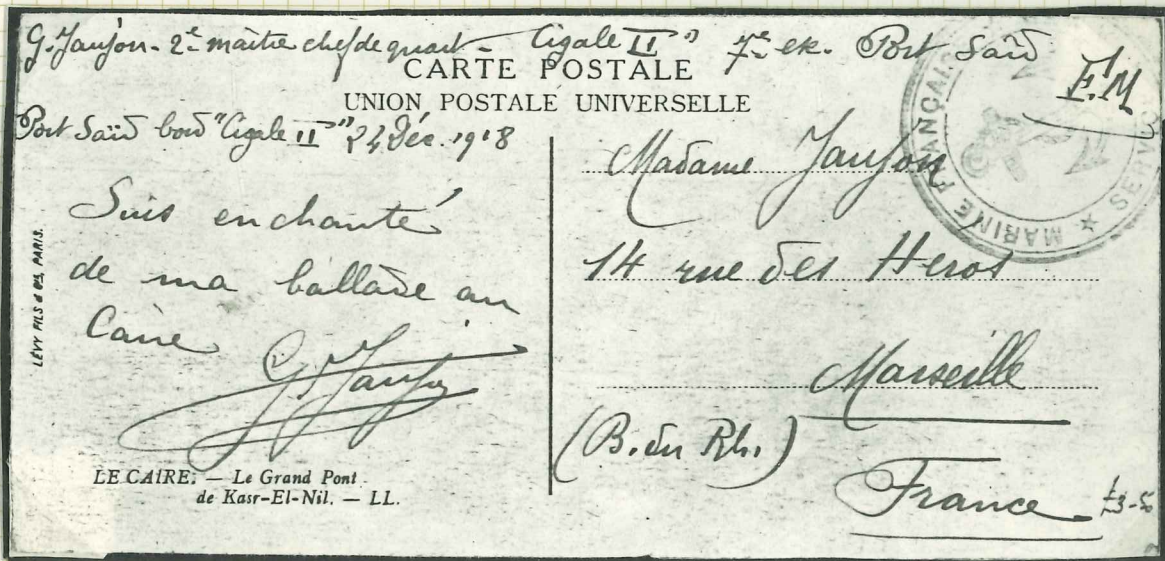
Posted at Bacos on the Alexandria-Ramlah tram line and franked 4 millièmes de La Que au verso, the card also has French military date-stamp to France.

Sea Post

Marine Française Service
à La Mer



Front and back of a card posted by the second
in charge master chef on board "Cigale II" at Port Said on
Christmas eve 1918; the handstamp "Marine
Française Service à La Mer" is that of French
military marine and it is the military equiv-
alent of 'Paquebot'.



Sea Post

Marine Française Service
à la Mer



Serifed type II

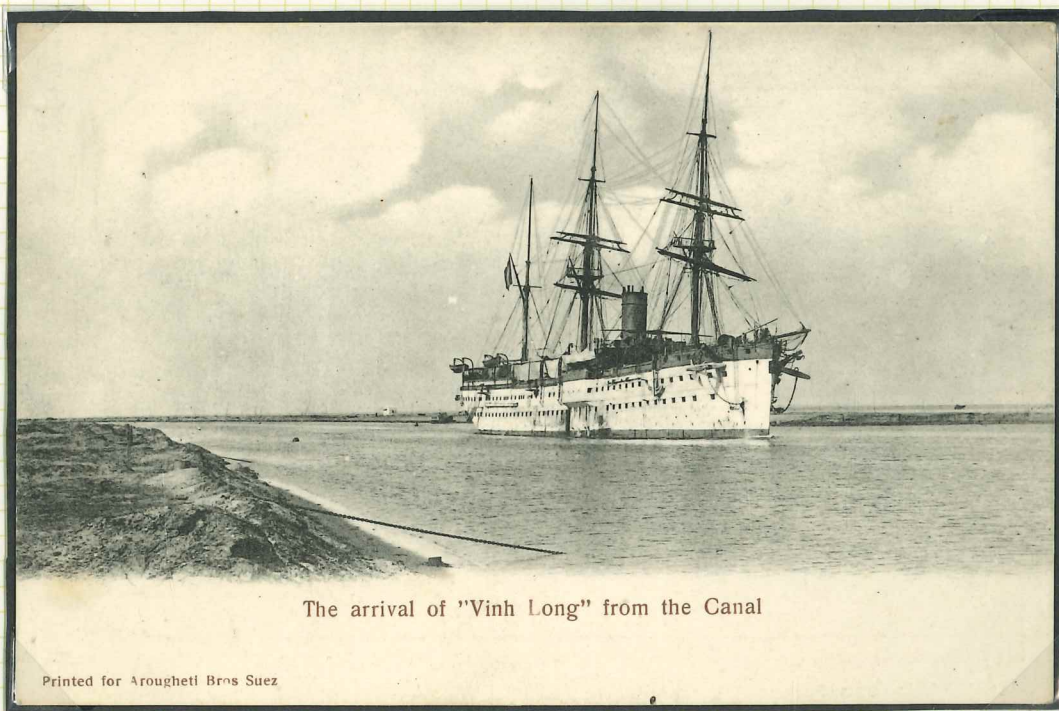


Picture postcard, of Suez station with the train
approaching, posted at Alexandria by a member
of the French marine to France; Bussières 20-3-15.

Sea Post

Marine Française Service
à la Mer

Transport VINH LONG



Unused postcard depicting the French military transport Vinh Long; drawing of cachet used on board during 1915 as seen on card on previous sheet

French Military Post

Return to sender



Posted Bacos 24 XI 1915 Transit Alex 25 No 15*
France: LE DESTINATAIRE N'A PU ÊTRE ATTEINT
Alexandria RETURN TO SENDER 17 III 16 in ellipse
* (au verso)



Military mail from the French Expedition at Alex during World War I, to France, but the addressee was not found, so the item was returned to Alexandria.

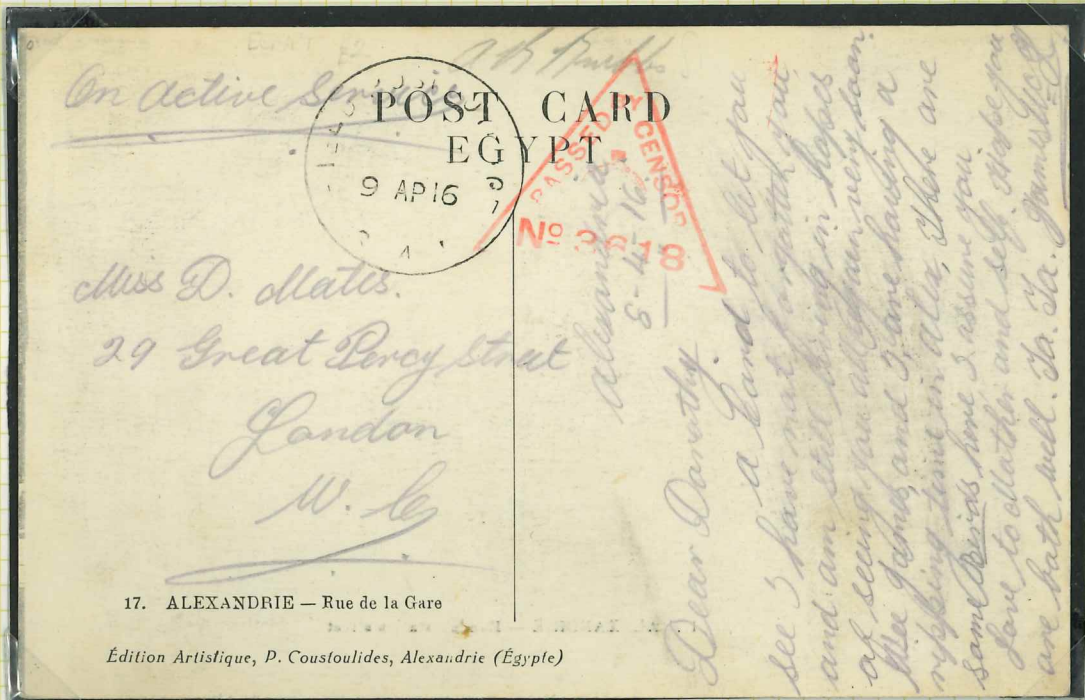
South African Forces

Field Post Office SA1

Censored by No 3618 and posted by a British officer attached to South Africans to London W.C.



The postcard of Ramleh Station Street, Alex. was posted at South African Field Post Office S.A.1.

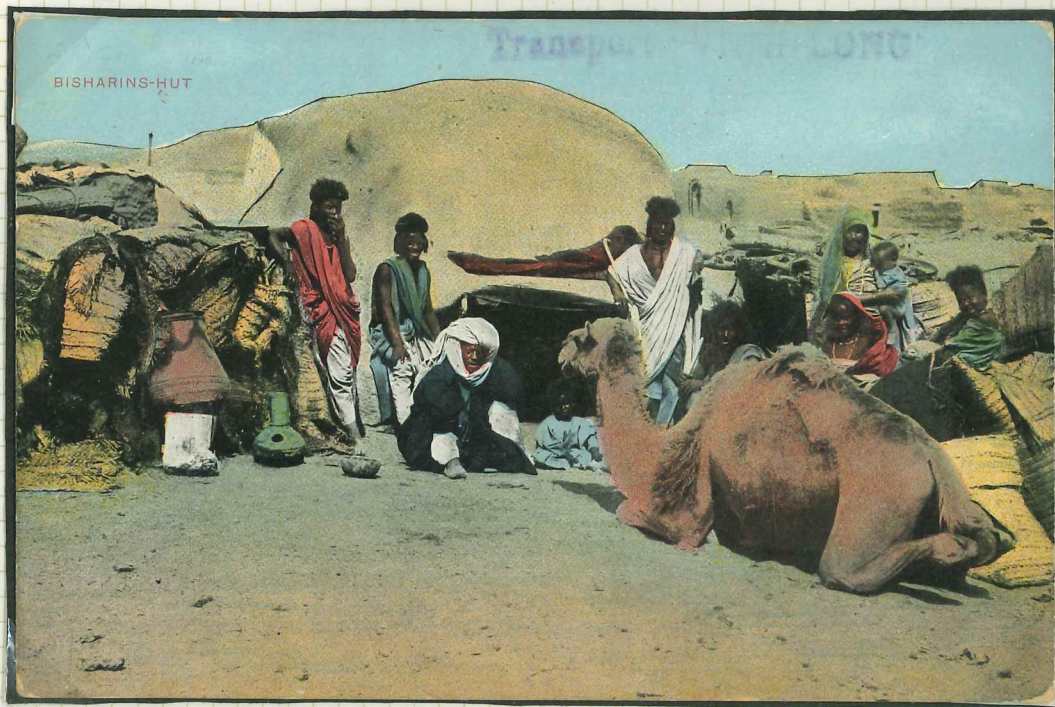


Sea Post

Marine Francaise Service
à La Mer



Sans serifed type 1



A postcard from Alexandria to Toulon
carried by the French military marine
evidenced by the handstamp on reverse
which see above; the cachet 'Transport
VINH LONG' would have been applied on board.

British Forces in Egypt

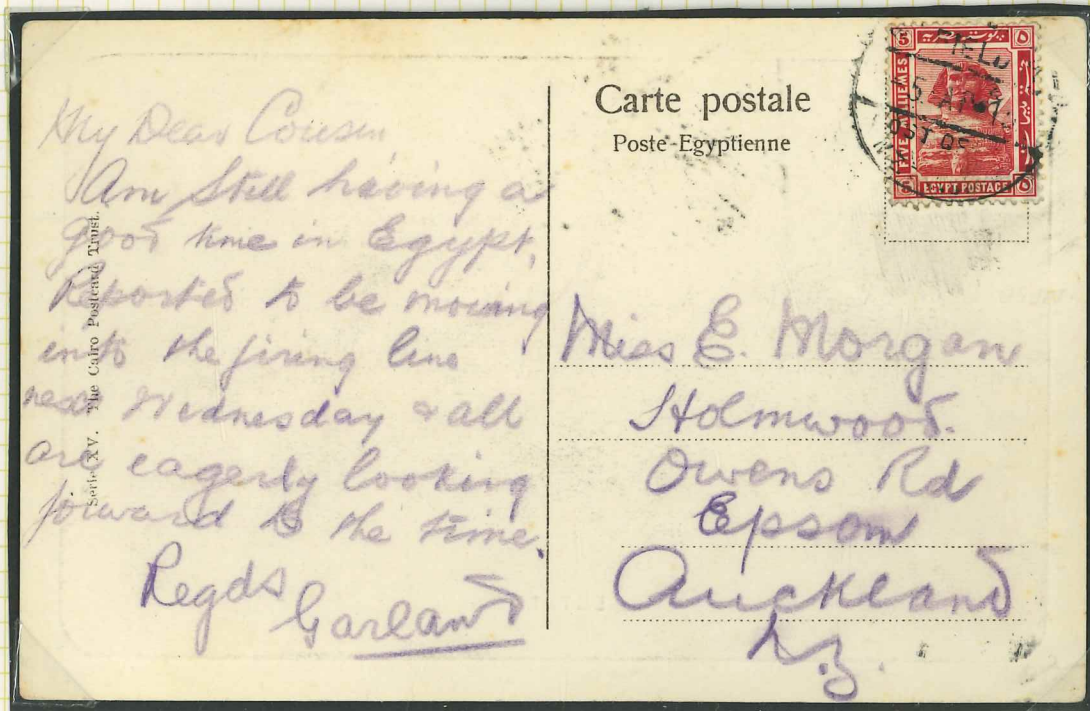
New Zealand Forces

Mounted Brigade Field Post Office N.Z. Division

Startup D2



This date-stamp, D2 in Startup & Proud, comes in several guises at different times and places; at the date of the postcard below it seems to have been at Ferry Post on the Suez Canal for about five weeks.



Monochrome postcard of unknown origin posted from Ferry Post to Auckland on 5th April 1916, two weeks later they went to Romani in Sinai.

British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces

Infantry Brigade Field Post Office
N.Z. Division

Field Service Post Card issued to troops for them
to advise by leaving or deleting the statements.

FIELD SERVICE

POST CARD

The address
only to be writ-
ten on this side.
If anything else
is added, the
post card will be
destroyed.

miss M. J. Broady
National Bank of New Zealand
Greymouth
New Zealand

INFANTRY BRIGADE
FIELD
13-00-16
POST OFFICE
N.Z. DIVISION

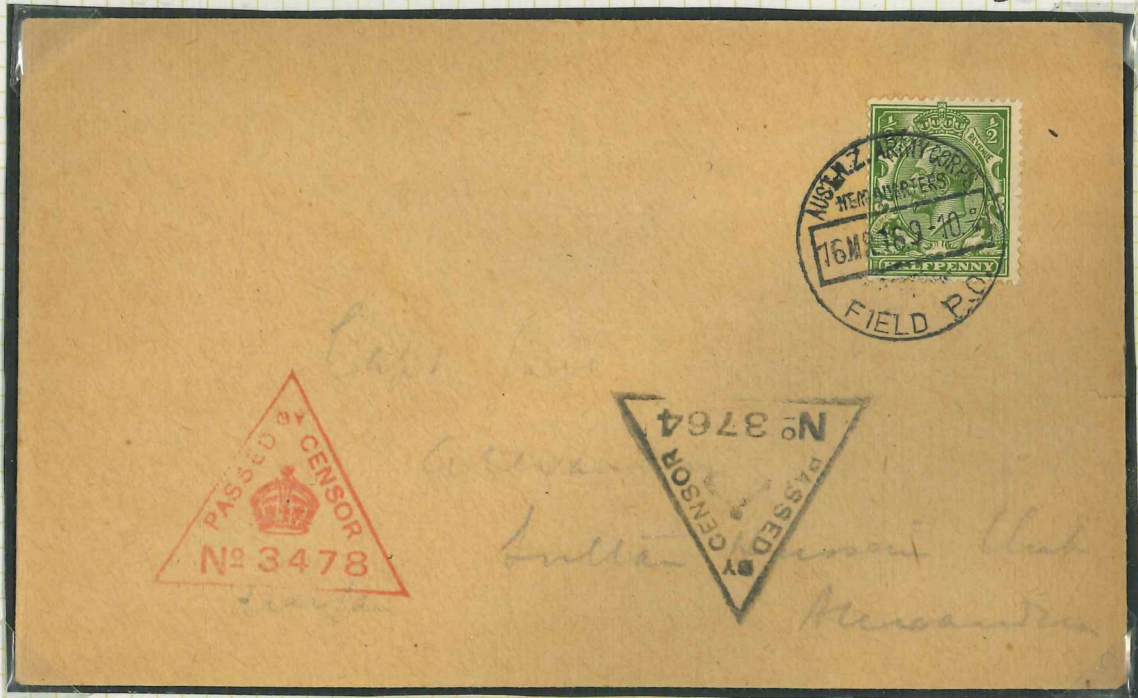
Posted 13-00-16 from part of the ANZAC Brigade
to Greymouth on South Island to the sender's bank
advising that a reply letter will follow shortly.

British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces

Aust. N.Z. Army Corps. Headquarters
Field P.O.

The Corps was set up as the 1st ANZAC Corps in January 1915 at Shepherd's Hotel, Cairo, became 1st Aust. Corps in 1918; left Egypt for Marseille 30-3-16 on H.M.T. Pennsylvania.



Doubly censored (triangle crown 3478 red and 3764 purple)
sent from 1st ANZAC Corps at Ismailia having returned
from the Dardanelles campaign to Alexandria 16/3/16.

British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces
Head Quarters Field Post Office N.Z. Division

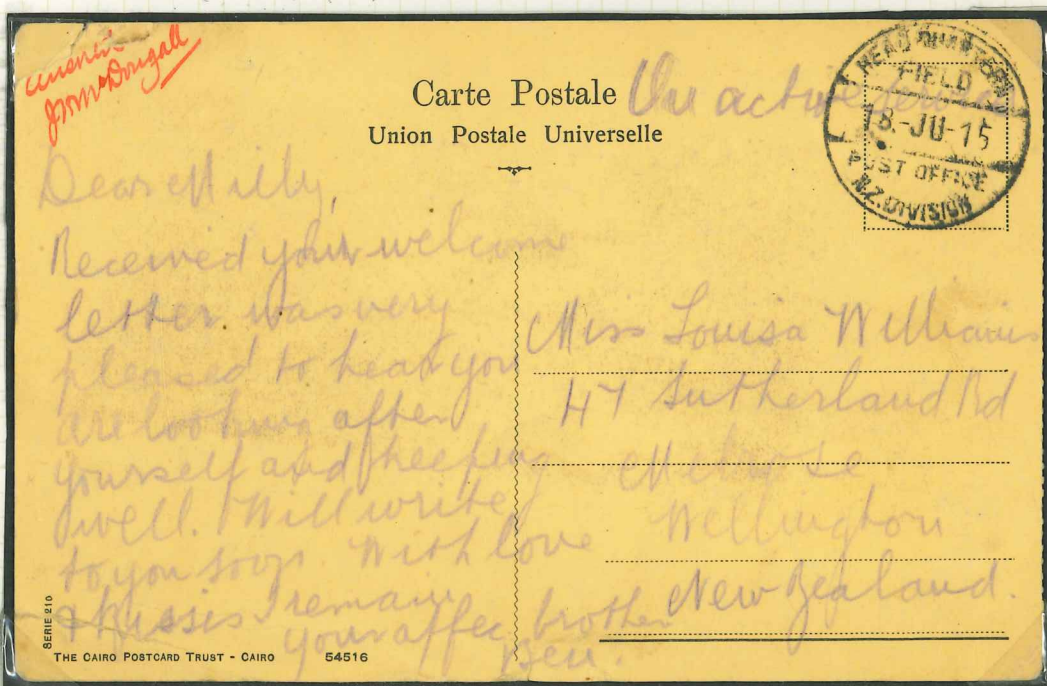


ERD:
25 JA 15 →



LRD
4 SE 15

Having arrived at Alexandria with the Main Body the New Zealand Division joined a march through Cairo on the 23rd December 1914; based at Zeitun prior to Gallipoli trip

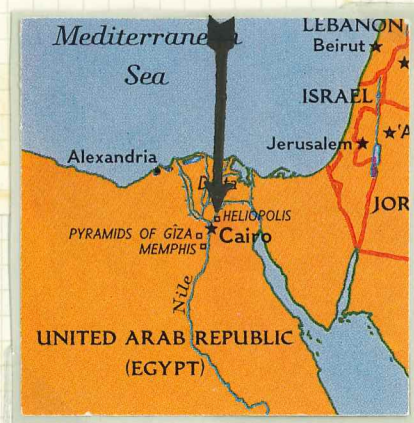


Headquarters located Egypt Dec 1914 to Sep 1915, Mudros (Greece) and Gallipoli (Turkey), back to Egypt Dec '15 to Feb '16.

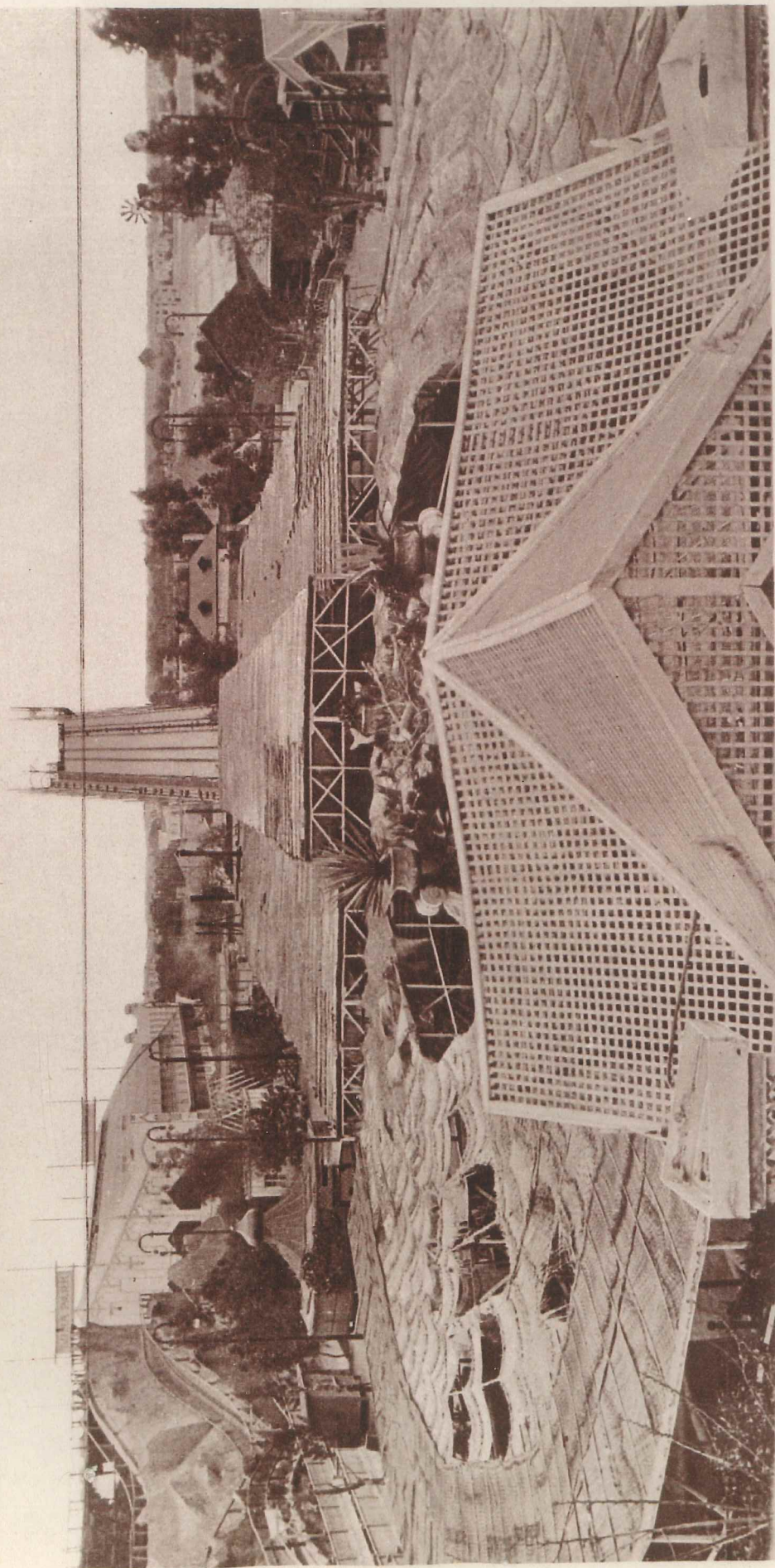
pc Mosque of Sidi Gaber

British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces



Unused poly picture postcard of the march through
Cairo of the New Zealand troops passing Camel St.
the Division was based at Zeitoun from December
1914 to September 1915.

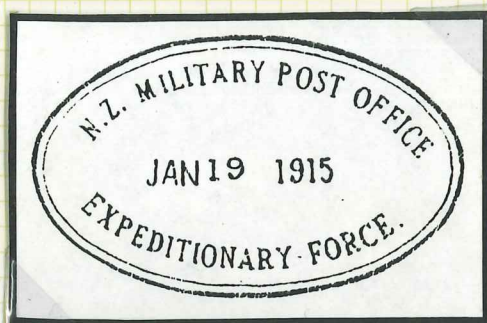


CAIRO'S "EARL'S COURT" AS A HOSPITAL: WHERE INVALIDED AND WOUNDED "ANZACS" ARE BEING NURSED BACK TO HEALTH.
Just as the open-air pleasure centres in London have been commandeered by the authorities for purposes in connection with the war, the authorities in Egypt have entered into possession of the celebrated "Earl's Court" entertainment centre at Cairo. The enclosure, with its various halls and annexes, has been turned into a vast hospital area for convalescent "Anzacs." The illustration shows the unwonted

spectacle that the place presents. In the middle of the background the slope of the water-chute rears itself. The central lake has been emptied and floored and roofed over with grass matting, and serves as general mess quarters. To the left is seen the Luna Park switchback railway, now "out of bounds." The authorities, in fitting up the place for its present tenants, left little additional to be desired.—[Photo. Topical.]

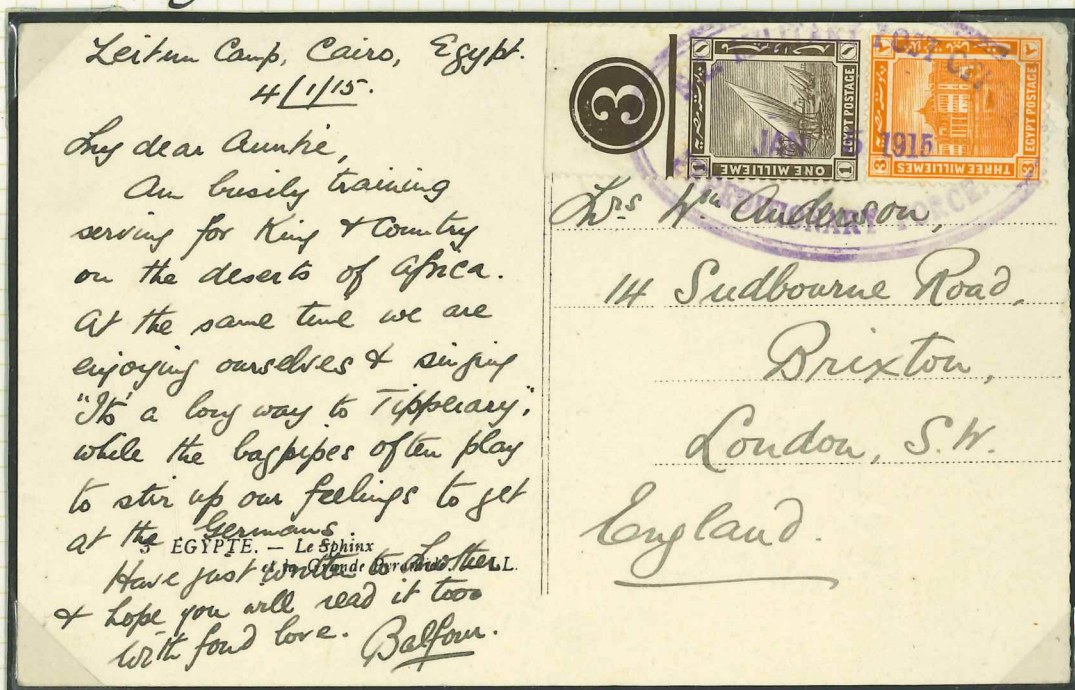
British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces



NZ 14

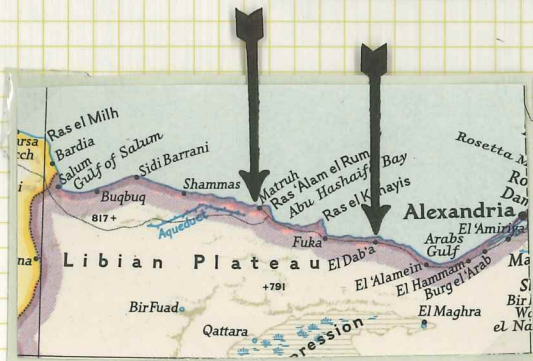
Carried on one of the two Auckland troopships *Star of India* and *Waimana*, probably the former, the oval date stamp provided free franking for mail posted on board. They arrived Alexandria 3rd December 1914.



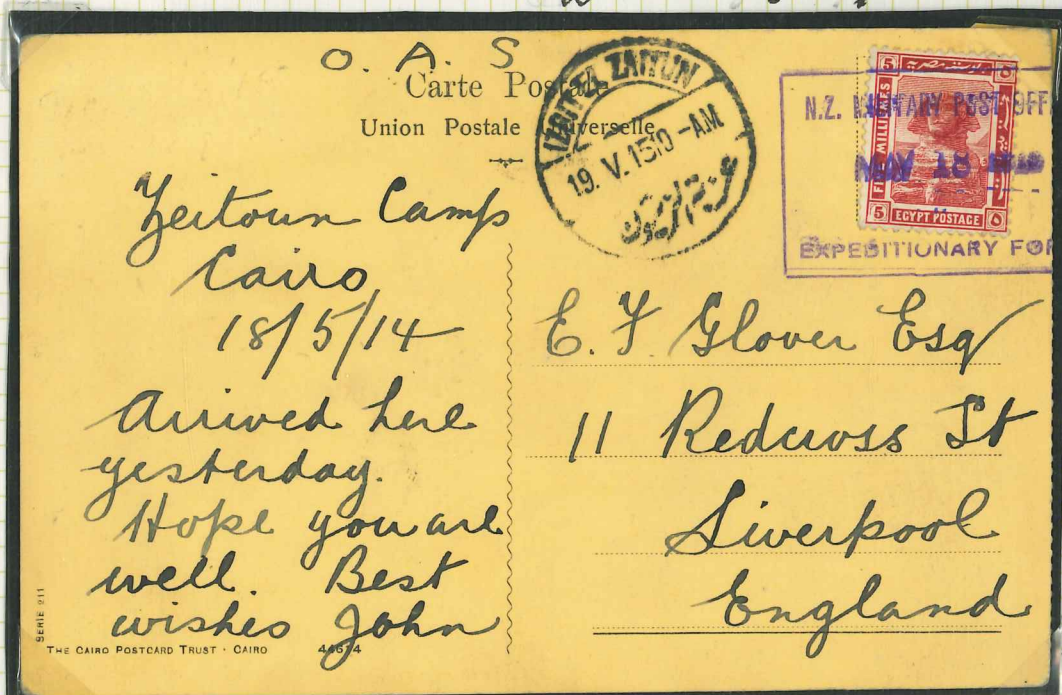
Oval date stamp ex-troopship used by ANZAC Infantry Brigade until metal CDs issued mid-Jan. 1915
four mills U.P.U. postcard rate applicable once soldiers had disembarked either to the United Kingdom or to the mother country.

British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces
1st New Zealand Expeditionary Force, Rifle Brigade.



Divisional Post Office Troopship 3.



The force called at el-Daba on 3 Dec 1914 and established a Field Post Office at Mersa Matruh; based at Izbet el-Yeitoun before leaving to the Dardanelles.

British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces

Arrived at Alexandria on 3rd December 1914, then moved by train to Zeitoun Camp, Cairo where the N.Z. Base Details M.P.O. opened next day. Rubber datestamp



N.Z.13



Dear Mother,

Zeitoun
Cairo
Dec 8th

If this is active service I am quite content with it. We work from daylight till dark but we are free after that till 10 P.M. I have twice been in to Cairo, a distance of about 5 miles and what I have seen has opened my eyes quite a lot. The houses here are all Arab houses and look very smart. I should like to take a couple back with me. We hear that tomorrow the British flag is to be hoisted in Egypt which case there may be some excitement for us. A Turk was arrested on the railway station at which we were working yesterday. I am sorry I missed the Christmas mail but I was on fatigue in town all day & could not post my letters.

London
England

Wm Cook
of J. A. Cook
112 Hatton Garden

Gordon St
Bloomsbury
W.C.1

London
England

Postale
Poste Egyptienne
2.50 PM
8 MR
15
1914

N.Z. MILITARY POST OFFICE
DEC 16 1914
EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

NZ 10/13

N.Z.13 was used during the voyage on the troopship and throughout the war at N.Z. Base Details M.P.O.

British Forces in Egypt

New Zealand Forces

S.S. Paparoa 1899 to 1926

The ship, 6563 gross tons, had two triple *ex-parsia* engines, and was built by Denny W. & Bros. Ltd., of Dumbarton in 1899. She was owned by the New Zealand Shipping Co. and is likely to have been one of the transports carrying New Zealand troops into Egypt at the start of World War I late in 1914. Following an on board fire, S.S. Paparoa was scuttled by H.M.S. Birmingham on 17th March 1926.



An unused real photo postcard of S.S. Paparoa in the Kingsway Real Photo Series by W. H. Smith

British Forces in Egypt

AERIAL POST
E. E. F.

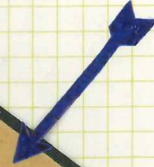
E.B.C. Type III

This stamp superseded the previous two types and was in use from the 17th March to 3rd May in 1919. Twenty two have been recorded.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.
AERIAL POST
E. E. F.



Addressee



Ob.
1009 MT Coy
Egypt

An official letter posted at SZ (Alexandria) on the last day of use. It was addressed to 1009 MT Company at Kantara - single circle date stamp of Army Post Office K on reverse, same day.

B

British Forces in Egypt

AERIAL POST
EEF

E.S.C. Type I

*Hastily made hand-
stamp in two lines,
unframed, and
in use during
fifteen days
only from
20 March
until
3rd
Apr.
1919*

ROYAL AIR FORCE
SERVICES
ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

*An
offic-
-ial
letter po-
sted at Z
(Alexandria)
on the last
day of use, to
44th Indian Gen.
Hospital at Suez
Thirty-six covers
have been recorded.*

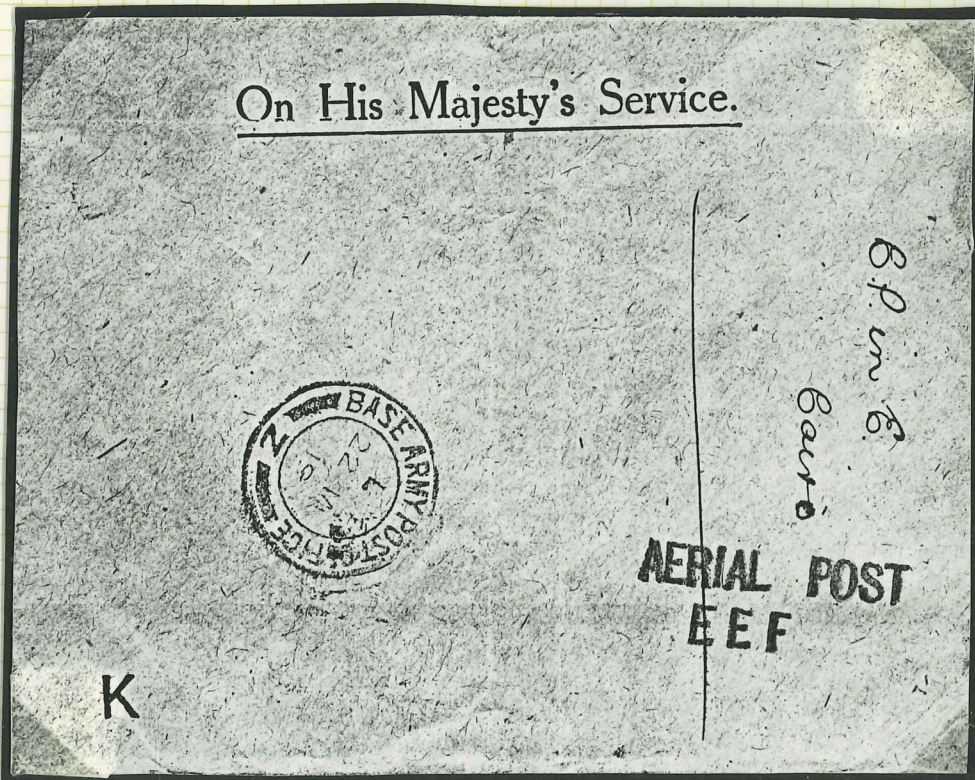


44th INDIAN GEN. HOSPITAL
E.E.F.

Egypt's Pre-War Airmail Covers

RAF Emergency Air Service 1919

The service was improvised for official mails of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force during the riots and general strike which cut conventional communications. The first mail was flown on 17th March from Alexandria to Cairo.

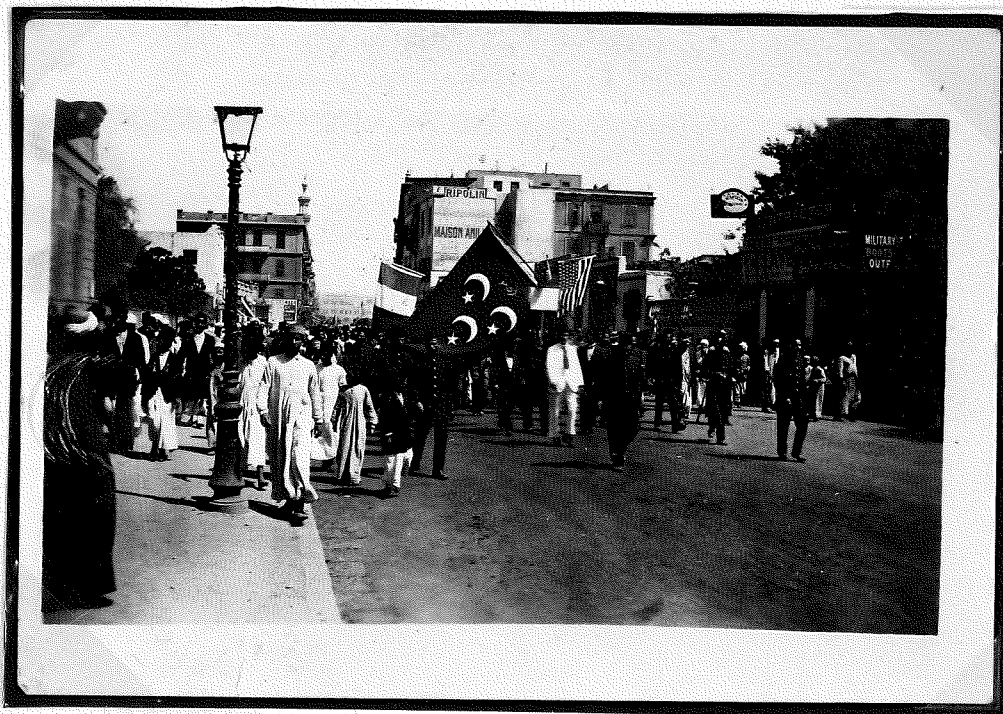


This cover has the 'provisional' unframed type 1 cachet in black; it was recorded used from 20th March to the 3rd April 1919 and BAPO Z indicates that it was sent from Alexandria.

British Forces in Egypt

Egypt's demand for independence

As leader of the Wafd party, Saad Zaghloul was the main voice demanding independence from British "protection" following World War I. Despite agreeing to a delegation led by Mustafa Nahas and Hafiz Afifi of the National Party, the British military authorities managed to prevent Zaghloul, or any other Egyptian delegation, from attending London or the Peace Conference in Paris. General Watson, then GOC British Forces, called Zaghloul to headquarters and threatened martial law. Following a further Wafd protest by cable direct to Prime Minister David Lloyd George, Zaghloul was arrested on 8th March and exiled to Malta.



"The immediate result of these strong measures was a series of demonstrations in Cairo, Alexandria and other towns, massive strikes by transport workers, judges and lawyers, attacks on British military personnel."*

* P.J. Valikiotis p. 266

British Forces in Egypt

Emergency Air Mail Service

After the war Egypt expected formal independence but negotiations with Saad Zaghloul, 'leader' and patriot, were abruptly curtailed; a general strike with demonstrations and riots resulted.

Accordingly, special arrangements were made when an emergency air mail service was instigated for official and some bank mail. Beginning on the 17th March, 1919, it served Alexandria, Cairo, Ismailia, Kantara, Port Said and Suez, with connections to Palestine.



Cairo: protest demonstration during March 1919

Three postmarks reading AERIAL POST EEF were used, a fourth being recently discovered bearing the latest recorded date 8th May 1919. Others have dates from 17th March to 3rd April. Only about 120 covers have been recorded.

Prisoner of War Mailing

Sent by Franz Modt No 264
(from the reverse)



Passed by Censor No 13, a cover sent by a German prisoner of war to a bank within city of Alexandria

British Forces in Egypt

*Canteens & Clubs
Soldiers & Sailors Institute Alexandria*



located at 5 Rue General Earle, near Alexandria G. P.O.

King George's Soldiers Home, Cairo

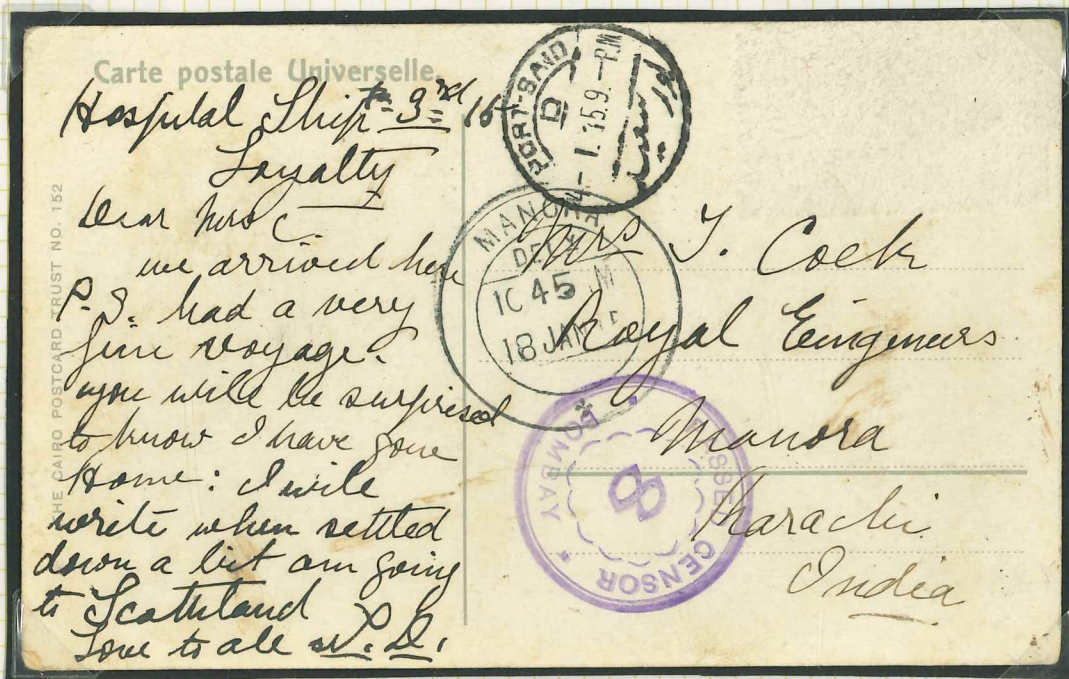


Unused real photo postcard, actual location not known.

Hospital Ships

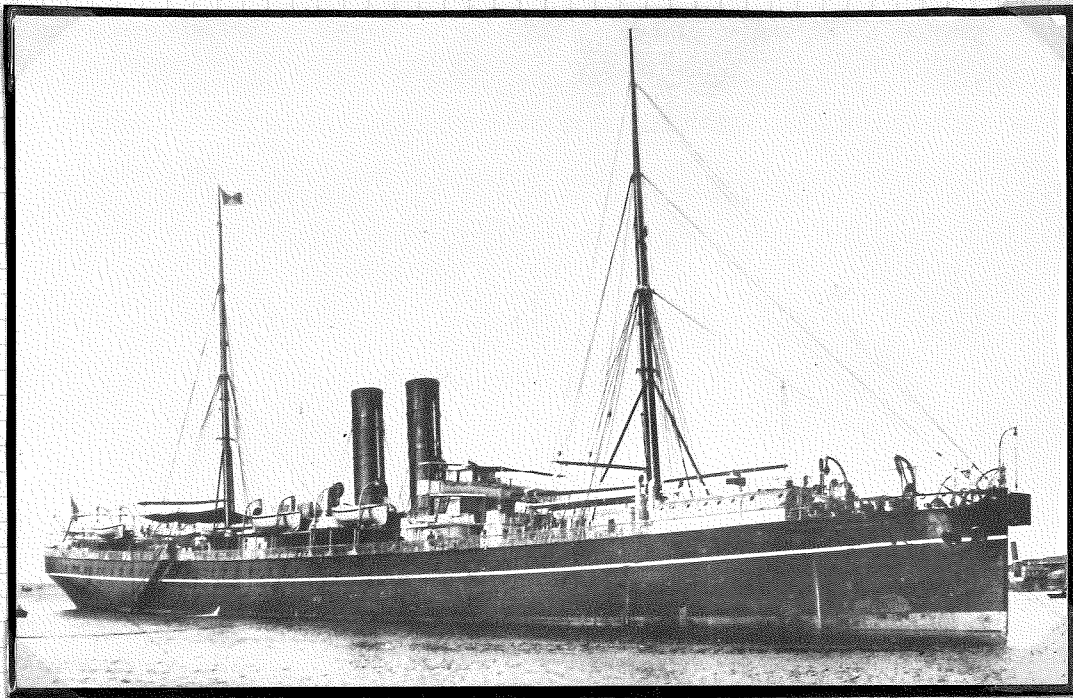
Manuscript: "Hospital Ship Loyalty"

At the start of World War I this ship was the "Empress of India"; she was bought on 2nd October by the Maharajah of Gwalior and fitted out as a hospital ship for Indian troops. Sailed on 24th December from Karachi to London and from 3rd January 1915 served in the Mediterranean between India, England and Egypt. She carried casualties from the Gallipoli campaign to Alexandria from July 1915 and from 7th August 1915 to February 1918 served on the Suez to Bombay run.

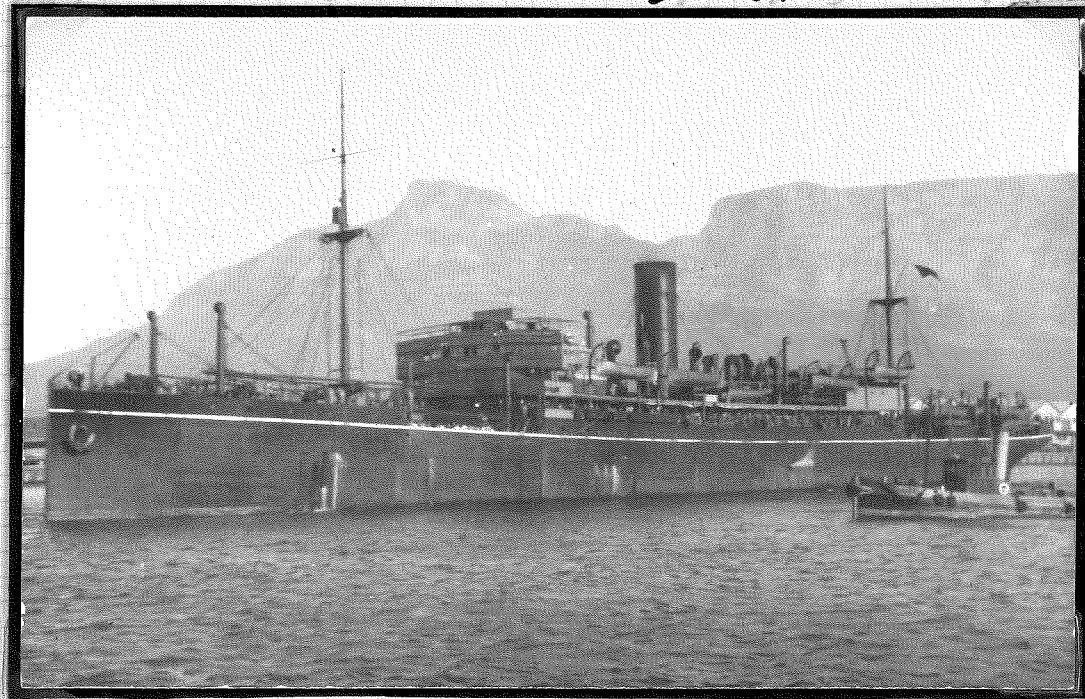


Polychrome postcard of Quai Waghorn at Suez posted from Port Said 4-1-15 sent from Hospital Ship Loyalty and censored on arrival at Bombay.

Hospital Ships

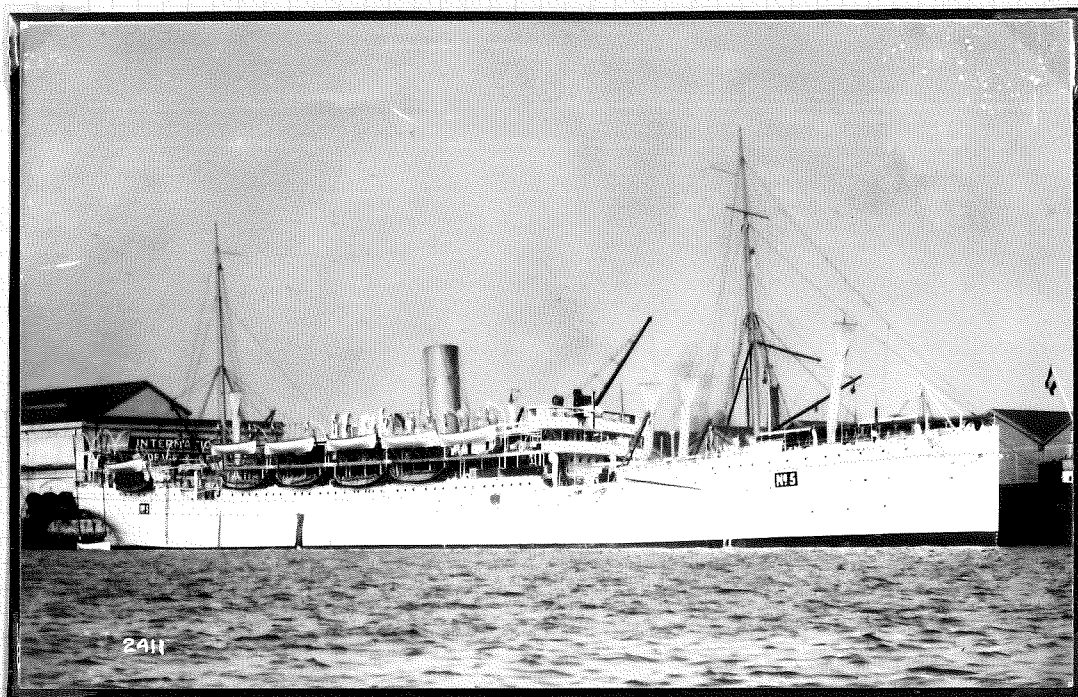


*The Ballarat was a requisitioned troop transport specifically for Anzac troops during World War I
The Berrima, built in Australia in 1913, was also an Anzac requisitioned troopship from 1914-1918*



Hospital Ships

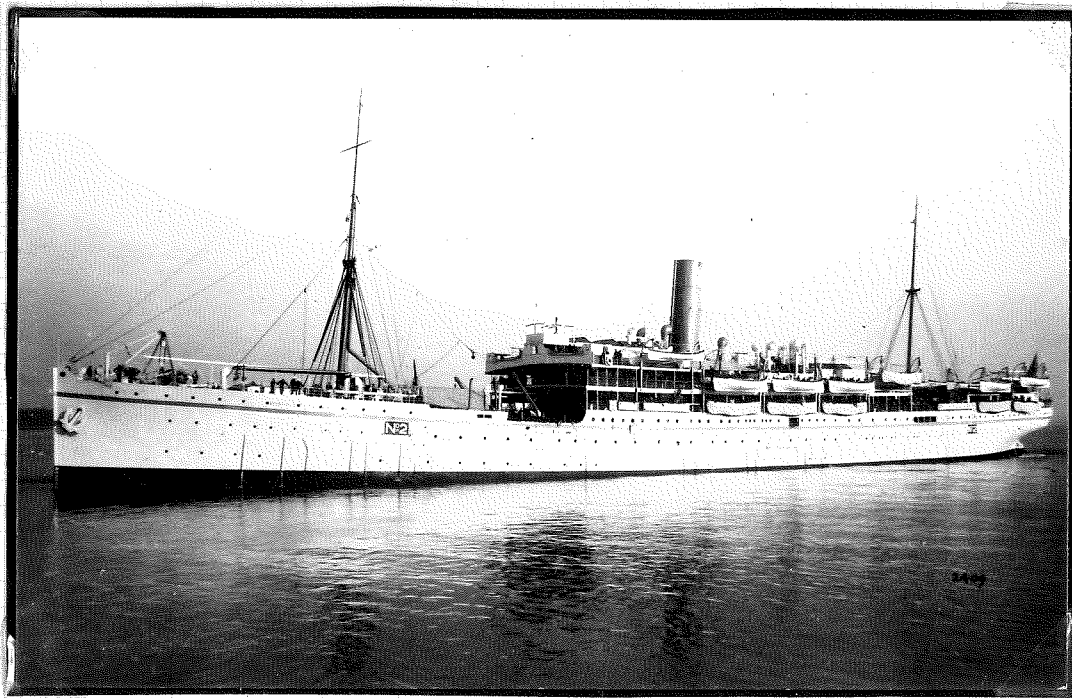
No. 5



The Somali was responsible for clearing Anzac and Royal Naval Division casualties during 1915.

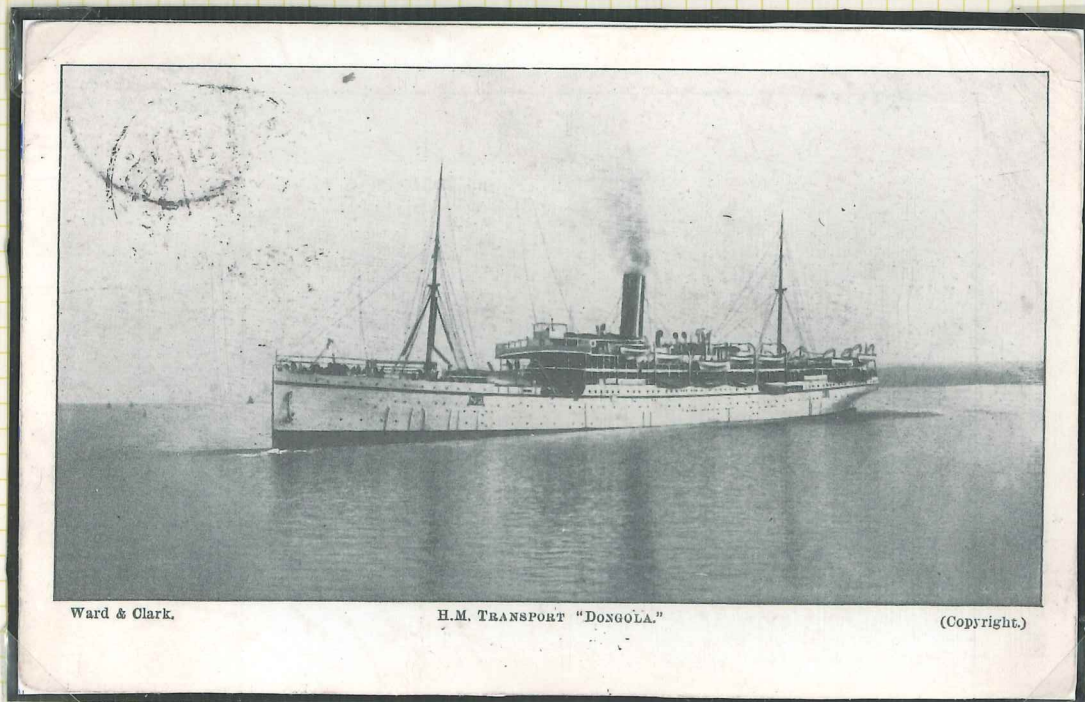
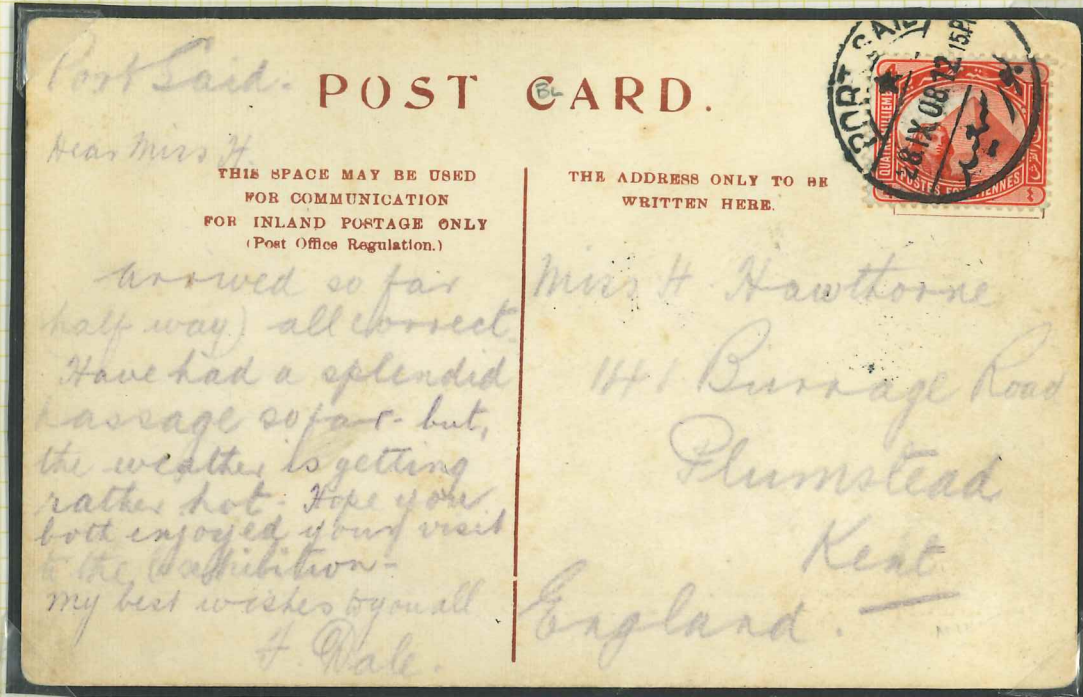
The Dongola was a temporary Anzac hospital ship in 1915; fitted for 400 serious + 1500 light casualties

No. 2



Hospital Ships

H.M.T. Dongola, launched 14 SE 05, was a P. & O. passenger liner 8038 tonnes, 470 feet long carried 250 passengers of which 150 were first class. Makashife hospital in 1915 at



the Dardanelles; assisted at Yokohama earthquake in 1923 and Capt. R.H. Griffith decorated by Japanese government, having helped with the Indian famine in 1911.

British Forces in Egypt

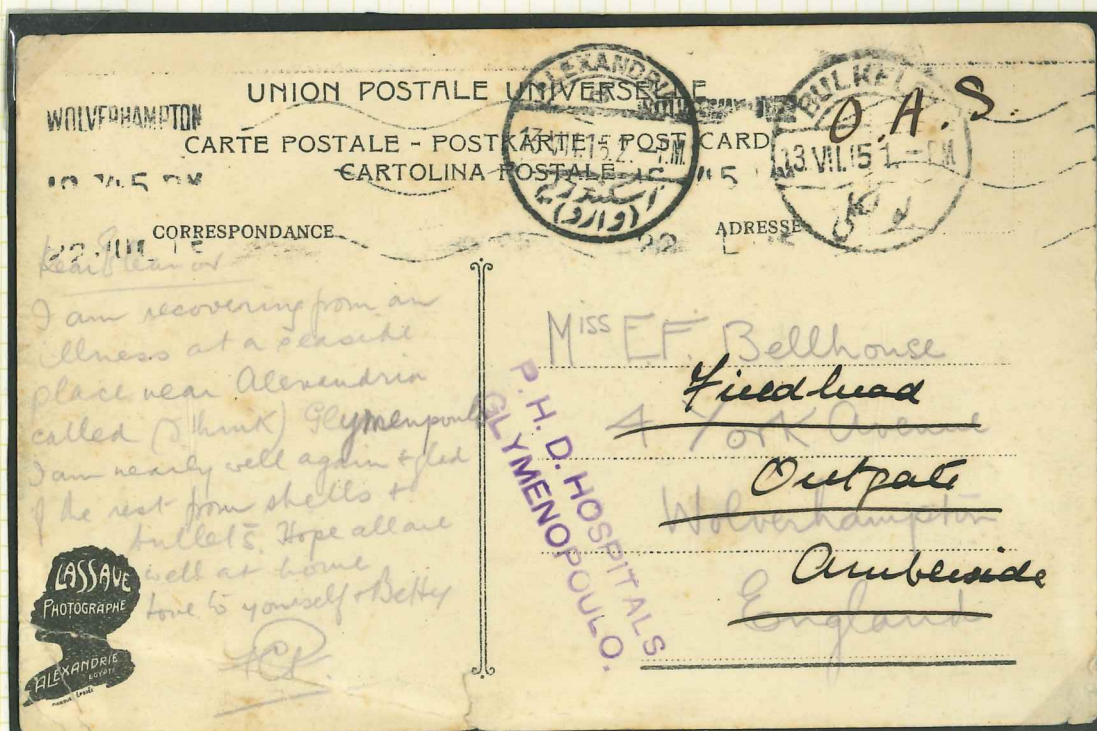
Named hospitals used by the military



PHD Hospitals Glymenopoulo

One of sixteen named hospitals taken over by the military as military hospitals

Firebrace: "In use from October 1915" - but!



OAS postcard 'Embarking at luxur quay' posted from PHD Hospitals (they had another at Giza) Glymenopoulo, Alexandria 13 JUL 15.

British Forces in Egypt

Hospitals and Convalescent Homes

Convalescent Depot, Luxor

LUXOR CONVALESCENT DEPOT

opened in November 1915 in the Winter Palace Hotel and later included the Karnak, Luxor, Savoy and Grand Hotels to provide beds for 1000 officers and 2500 other ranks. Some of the nurses were Australian. The cachet was struck in blue or green from 24 NO 15 to 8 FE 16, two and a half months only. Early use below.



Polychrome postcard of Seti 1st temple at Thebes No 54339 sent unfranked 'On Active Service' from Luxor Convalescent Depot to London 26 NO 15.

British Forces in Egypt

Government Hospitals Red Cross Convalescent Hospital Montazah



The diary of events concerning the hospital:

- Aug. 1915 Opened in the Palace at Montazah, 12 miles from Alexandria. Run at first by the British and Australian Red Cross and later by the British Red Cross and Order of St. John.
- Dec. 1917 Became No. 7 Convalescent Hospital
- Jun. 1918 Handed over to military authorities having looked after 73,000 patients and 12,500 dental patients
- Oct. 1918 Accommodation established at 2000 beds
- Jan. 1920 Still in being.

*20. 1900
p. 324*

*British Forces in Egypt
Government Hospitals
(if numbered)*



*Arrived at Alexandria 9 JUL 15, took charge of Diakonissen
German Hospital; opened at Orma el Waska School 14 AUG 15 and*



was disbanded 6 MAY 19 and returned to its former owners.

British Forces in Egypt

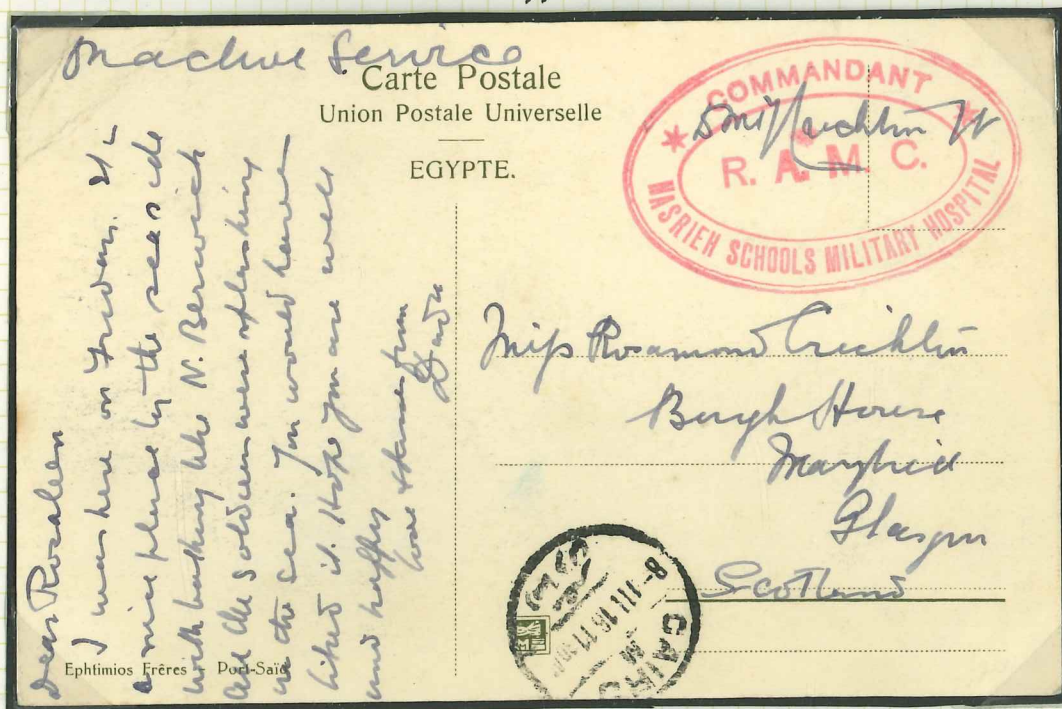
Named Hospital Cachets

ERD: 30 SE 15



LRD: 31 MR 16

One of the five principal named hospitals and convalescent homes listed by Firebrace, in July 1915 the Nasrieh Schools were taken over during the school holidays. 12 DE 18 became 88 General Hospital 30 AP 19 became Nasrieh Officers Convalescent Home



OAS postcard of Port Said Mosque posted in central Cairo, location of the hospital, on 8 III 16 and 'franked' Commandant Nasrieh Schools Military Hospital. Countersigned by the officer himself.

see Firebrace p 324
cachet
details p 320

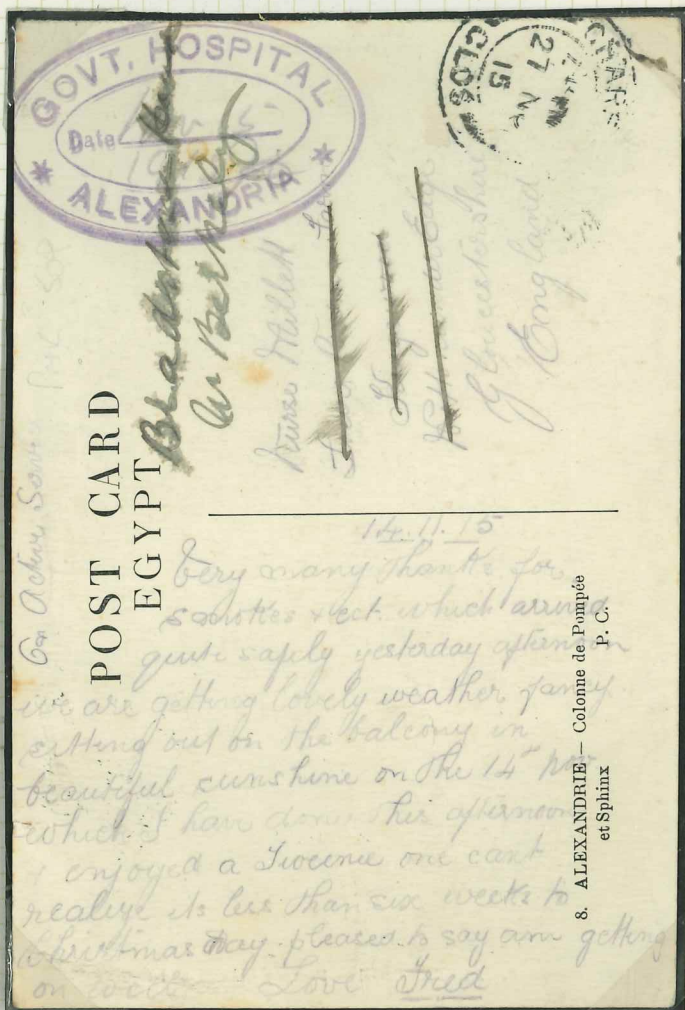
British Forces in Egypt

Government Hospitals

Some were (i)
named - as is
this one -
others were
numbered (ii)

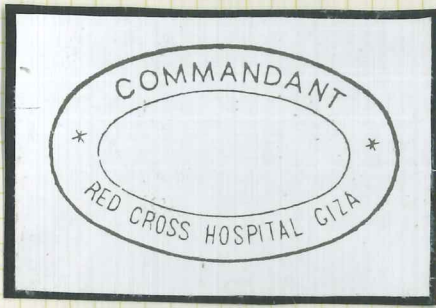


ERD: 1 AV 15
LRD: 1 MY 16
always in violet



Postcard of Pompey's Pillar sent 15th November 1915 from a Military Hospital at Alexandria with dated special cachet.

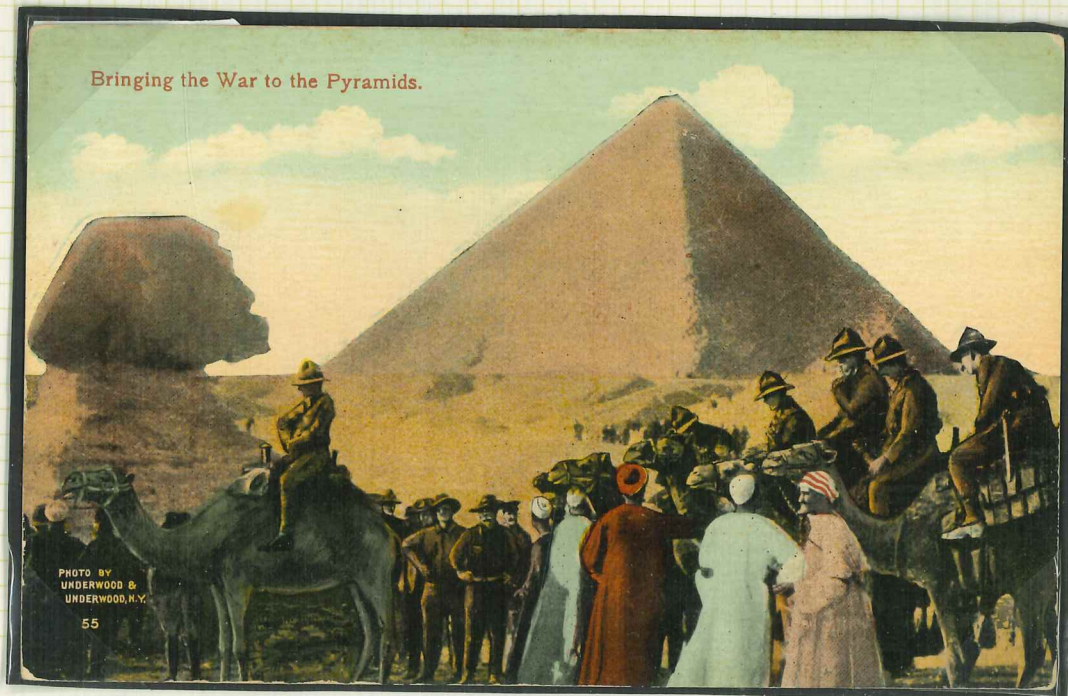
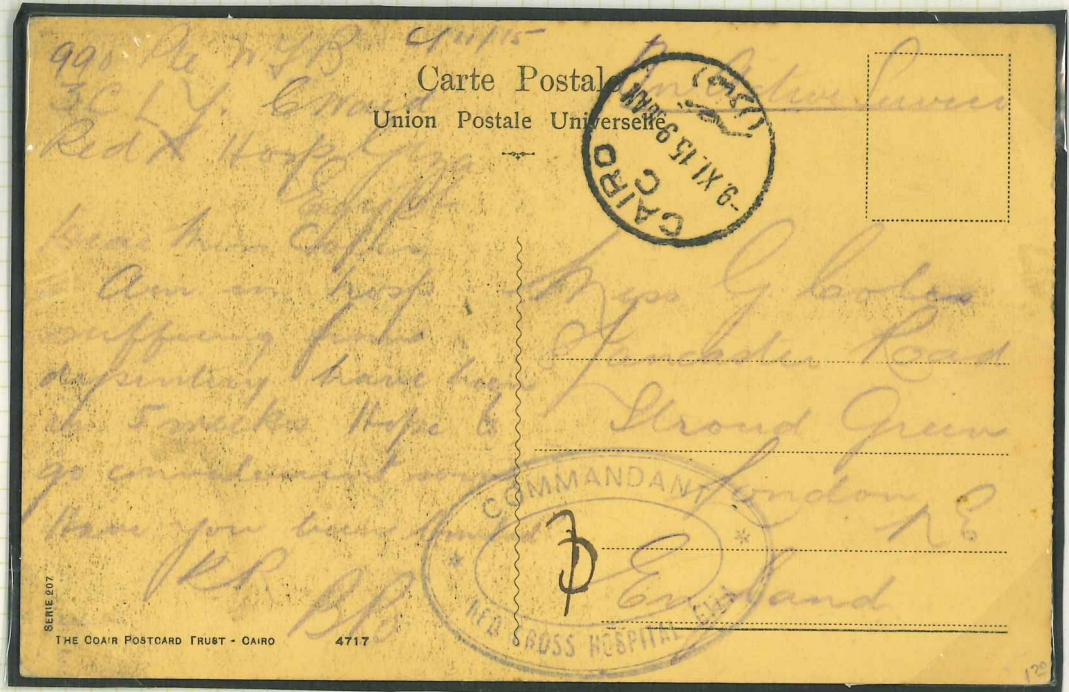
British Forces in Egypt



Government Hospitals with Oval caskets include this; opened in Saidieh School building with 200 beds on 25th May 1915 and closed 8th July 1918; it was the only entire -ly British Red Cross Hospital in

Egypt. The casket, as above, is known in blue and or violet as on the card.

Below: a British produced postcard



Bringing the War to the Pyramids.

PHOTO BY UNDERWOOD & UNDERWOOD, N.Y.

55

British Forces in Egypt

Travelling Post Offices

LAK ran between Kantara in Egypt and Ludd in Palestine, KAL northbound and LAK southbound two periods of use are recorded; April to November 1917 and then June 1918 to June 1920



LAK TPO
DAY MAIL



PAL TPO

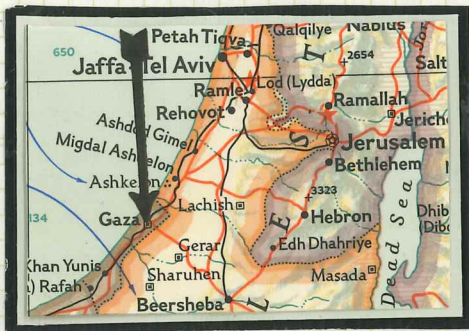
PAL ran from Ludd in Palestine to the railhead at Jerusalem running northbound 26 MAY 17 to 14 AUG 19

British Forces in Egypt

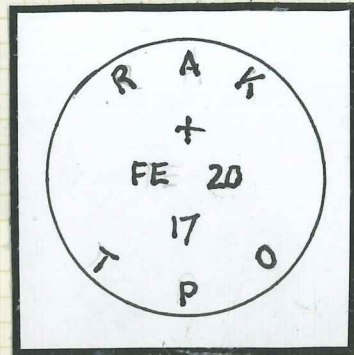
ERD 10 JA 17

Travelling Post Offices

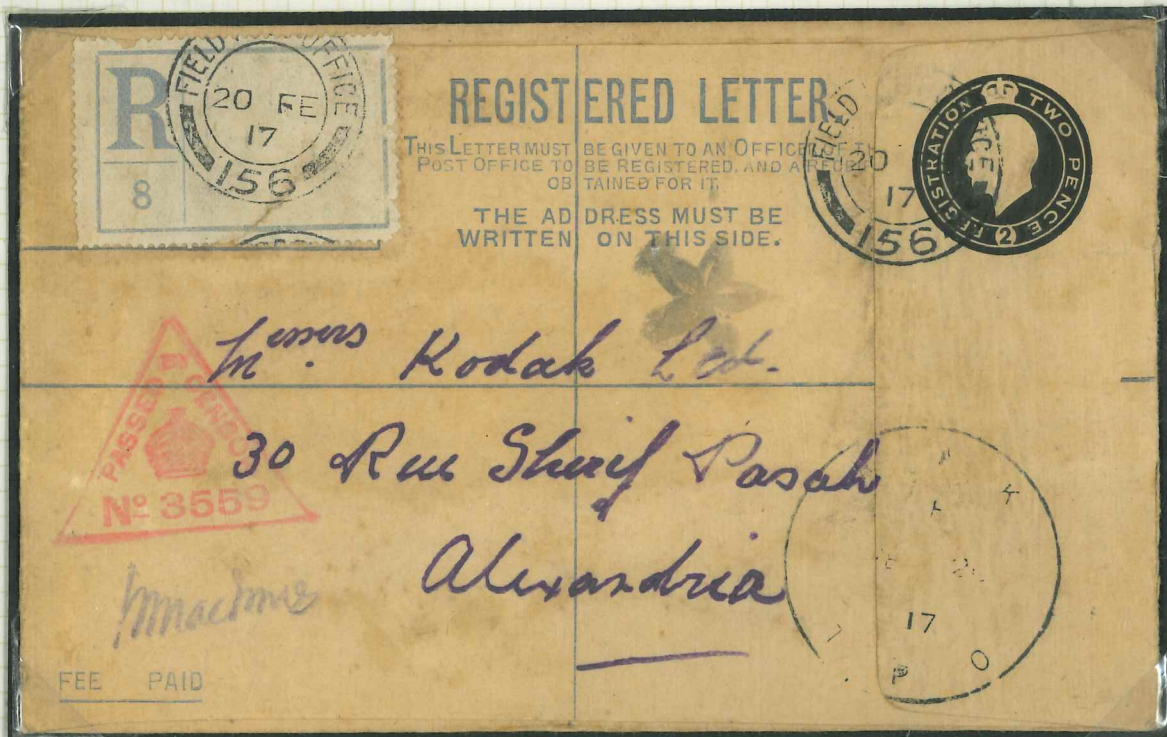
LRD 15 JY 17



Kantara
to
Railhead



RAK: "Phase 1. As the Railway was constructed (starting 10-3-16) across the Sinai Desert the Railhead moved with it reaching el-Arish in January 1917 the TPO being inaugurated just before this." Proud p.306.



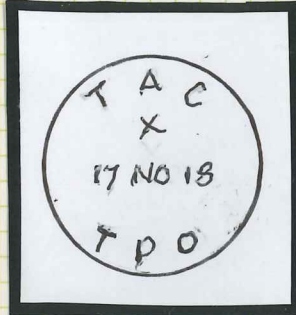
Registered postal stationery cover from FPO 156 in the Gaza area Feb. to Nov. 1917 to Alexandria also struck with RAK TPO on the train between Railhead + Kantara.

British Forces in Egypt

Travelling Post Offices

ERD 28MY16

LRD 14JUL19



TAC T.P.O. X

<p>A.F.W. 3078. W286/P885/4/16. M. & S., LTD.</p> <p>ACTIVE</p>	<p>© Crown Copyright Reserved.</p> <p>SERVICE</p>
<p>This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.</p> <p>NOTE:—</p> <p>Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base.</p> <p>The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:—</p> <p>I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.</p> <p>Signature } <i>P. R. Knoll</i> Name only }</p>	<p>Several letters may be forwarded in this Cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The Cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor.]</p> <p><i>17 NO 18</i></p> <p><i>A. A. Whiteley</i> Address:—</p> <p><i>The Knoll.</i></p> <p><i>Leatherhead</i></p> <p><i>Surrey</i> <i>England</i></p>

Form A.F.W. 3078 from M & S Ltd., an Active Service envelope sorted 17 NO 1918 on the Port Said to Cairo military T.P.O. to Leatherhead, Surrey; no censor mark.

British Forces in Egypt

Travelling Post Offices

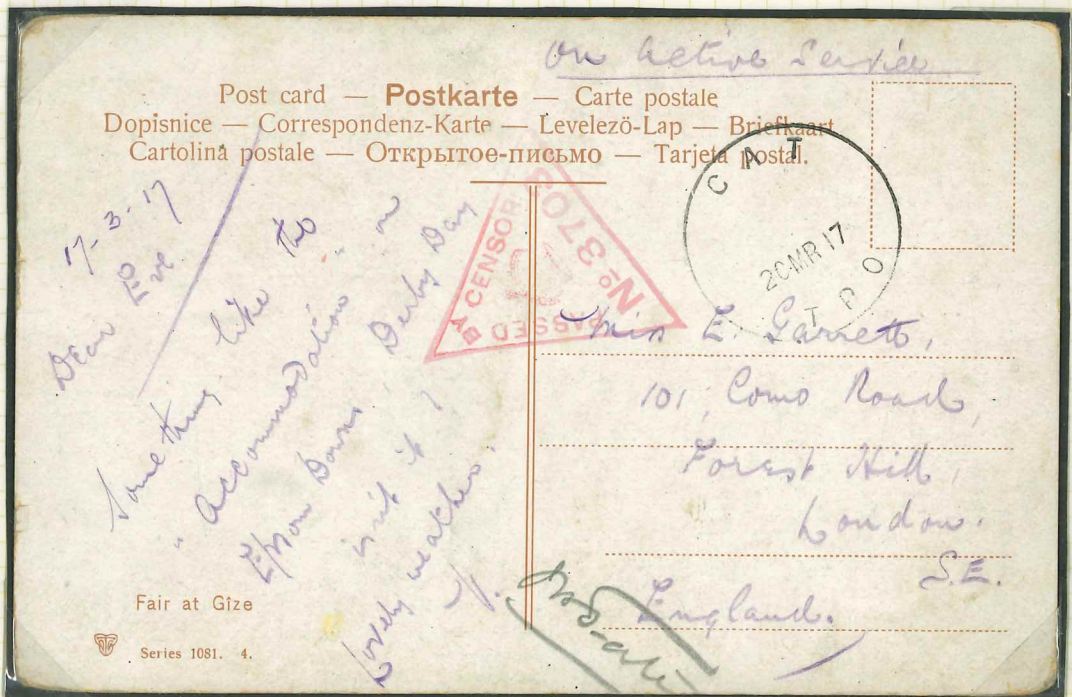
ERD: 27 MY16



LRD: 210C17

CAT TPO

The second TPO system was in the same format as the three-letter reversible style used by the EEF. Lines between Cairo and Port Said were covered.

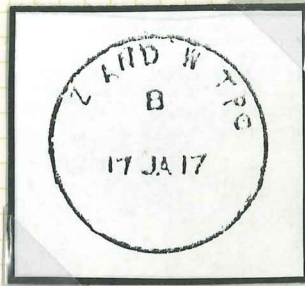


On Active Service postcard cancelled on the Cairo to Port Said Military travelling post office.

British Forces in Egypt

Travelling Post Offices

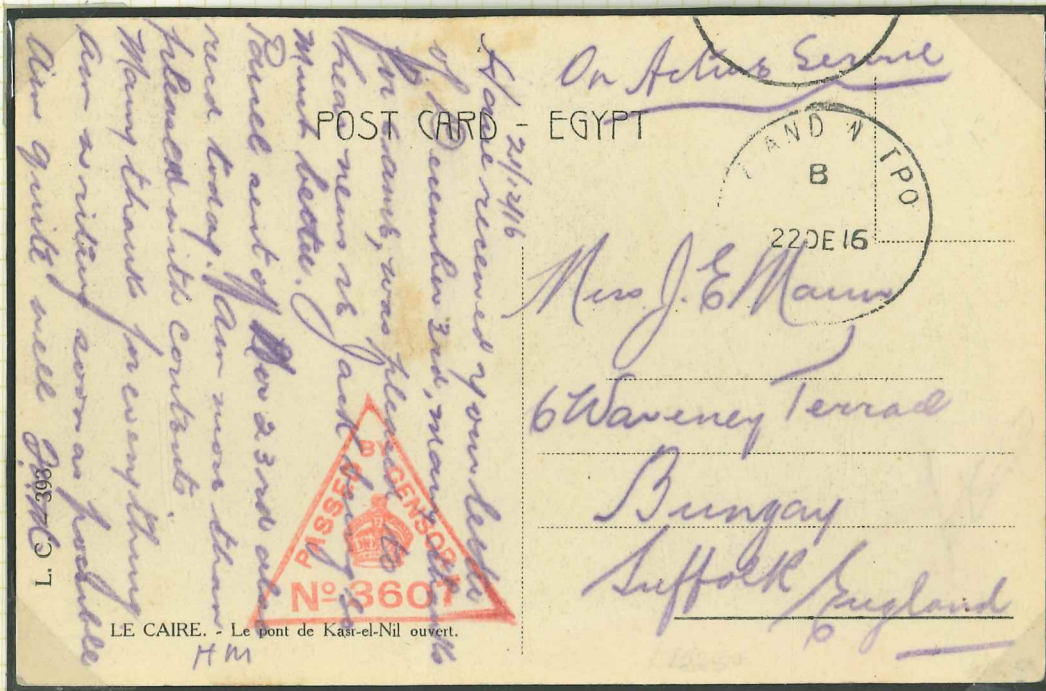
ERD: 13 DE 15



LRD: 27 FE 17

Z AND W TPO

The first TPO system was required to support and maintain supplies for the Western Frontier Force. It functioned on the Egyptian State Railways line between Alexandria and el-Daba'a



Only six had been recorded by Sacher in the London Philatelist Vol. 79; accordingly rare. On Active Service postcard, Kasr el-Nil Bridge open, censored CM3 and Z and W TPO cancel.

British Forces in Egypt

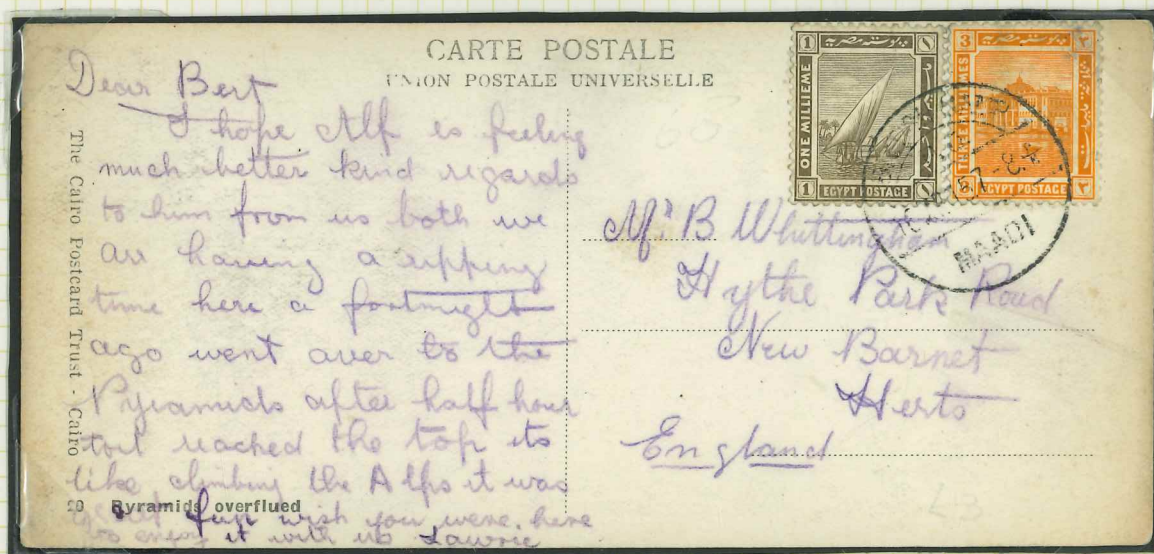
Use of civilian service



Firebrace type M.1.



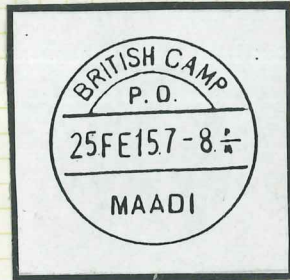
New earliest date JA15



Postcard of flooded Giza posted from British Camp at Maadi on 16 NR15 to New Barnet, Hertfordshire

British Forces in Egypt

Use of civilian service

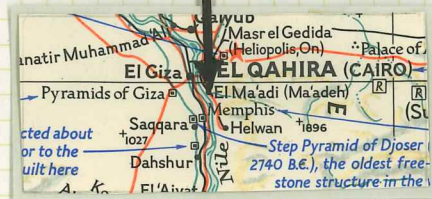


Earliest date

Firebrace type M.1

Location

Recorded dates run from 25 FE 15 until 28 MR 16 but above is 14 FE while below is 18 FE, both 1915.



Postcard of Aswan to Australia from the civilian post office at Ma'adi, "an extensive training camp in the desert about five miles south-east of Cairo" (Firebrace); used largely by Australians.

British Forces in Egypt

use of civilian service



Firebrace H3



Firebrace H1

First day of use of the Military Camp Aerodrome Heliopolis mark on overprinted postal stationery envelope H&G. no.12 with receipt mark of British Camp P.O. Heliopolis. These two marks are extremely elusive and in combination especially rare.



H1

civilian transit



receipt

Letter from the aerodrome camp at Heliopolis via the civilian post to the British Camp P.O., arrived same day.

British Forces in Egypt

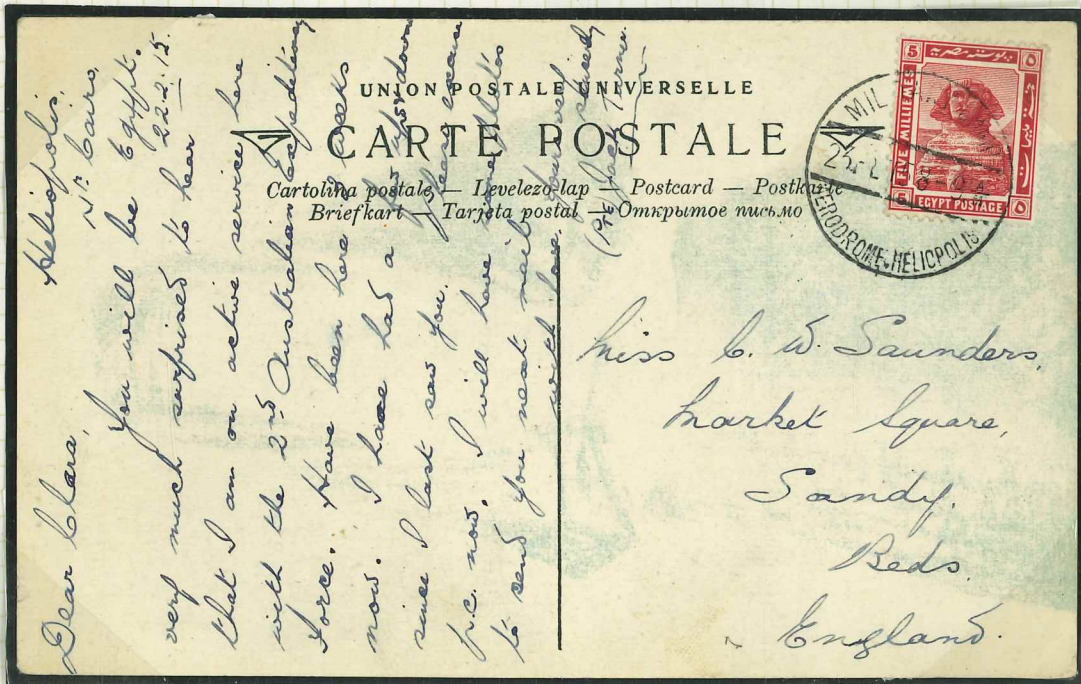
use of civilian service
Military Camp Aerodrome Heliopolis



Firebrace H3



One of two Heliopolis Camp date stamps, dated between 13 FE 15 and 26 NO 15 this Aerodrome one is also known struck in blue and green.



1915 postcard (of a Turkish woman) with 5 mills 'Empire' rate to England sent by a British officer with the 2nd Australian Expeditionary Force dated 23 FE 1915.

British Forces in Egypt

British Camp P.O. Heliopolis

Firebrace H2



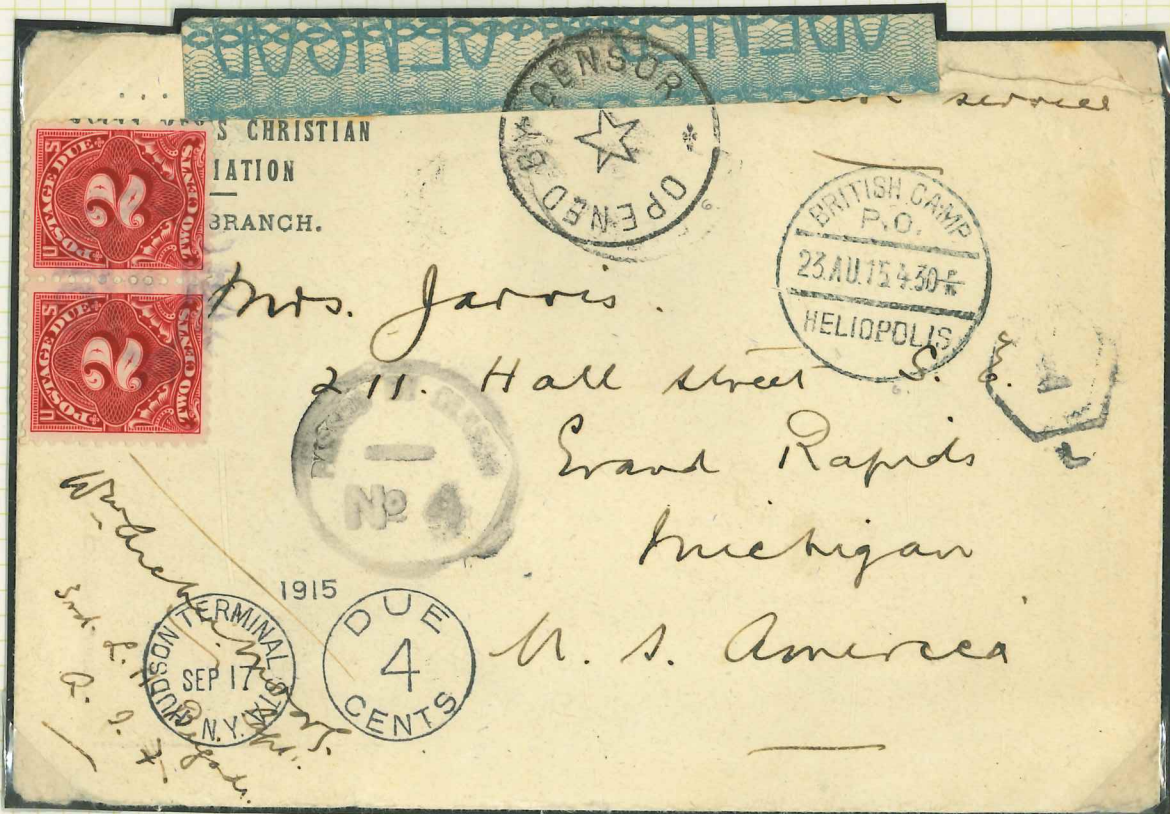
Type VII

The Time given in both hours and minutes

Earliest 7 AP 15 Latest 23 NO 15

Censorship

Opened by censor ~~2~~, censor tape, Passed by Censor No. 4



Unfranked soldier's letter to the United States with four cents postage dues applied; duplex handstamp bottom left gives details; hexag. tax.

British Forces in Egypt

Use of civilian service



British Barracks Cairo (Cash)

Type C viii

ERD 26JA15



LRD 27MY15

Firebrace type C5



The Worcestershire Regiment at Cairo 8 JU 1914

British Forces in Egypt

Use of civilian service

ERD: 7JA16

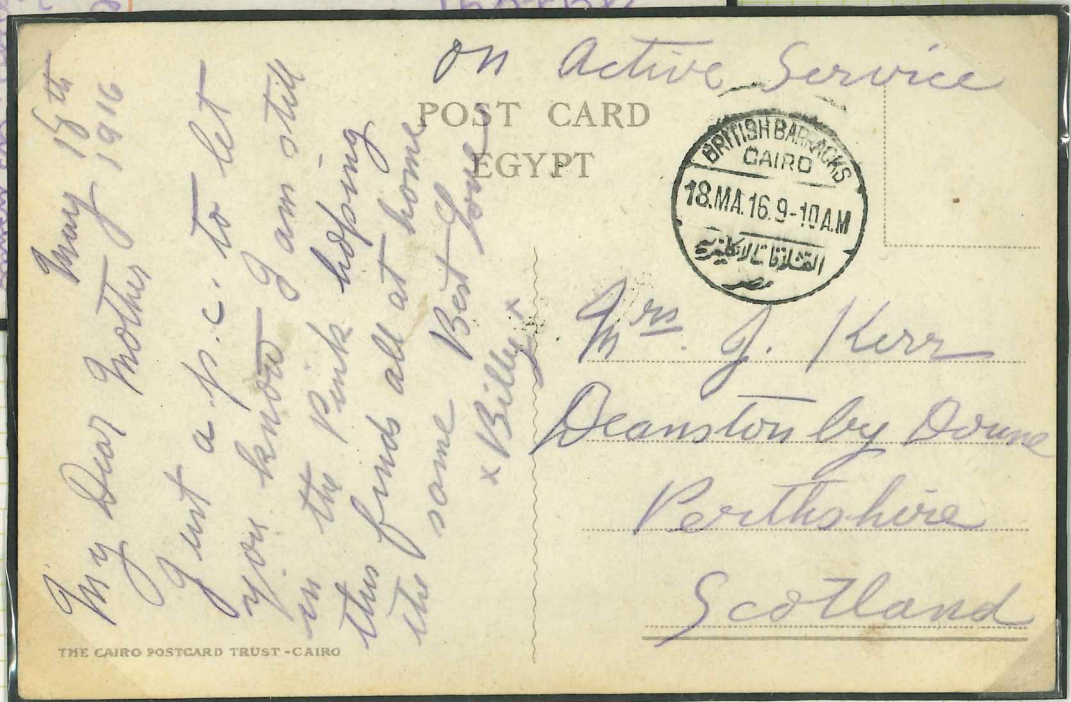


LRD: 12SE16

Firebrace C.8
British Barracks Cairo



C8 measures
25.5 m.m.
and letters
'C' and 'O'm
Cairo are
squares



Two postcards to England cancelled Firebrace C.8; top is paid only 'imprime' rate, bottom is 'On Active Service'.

British Forces in Egypt

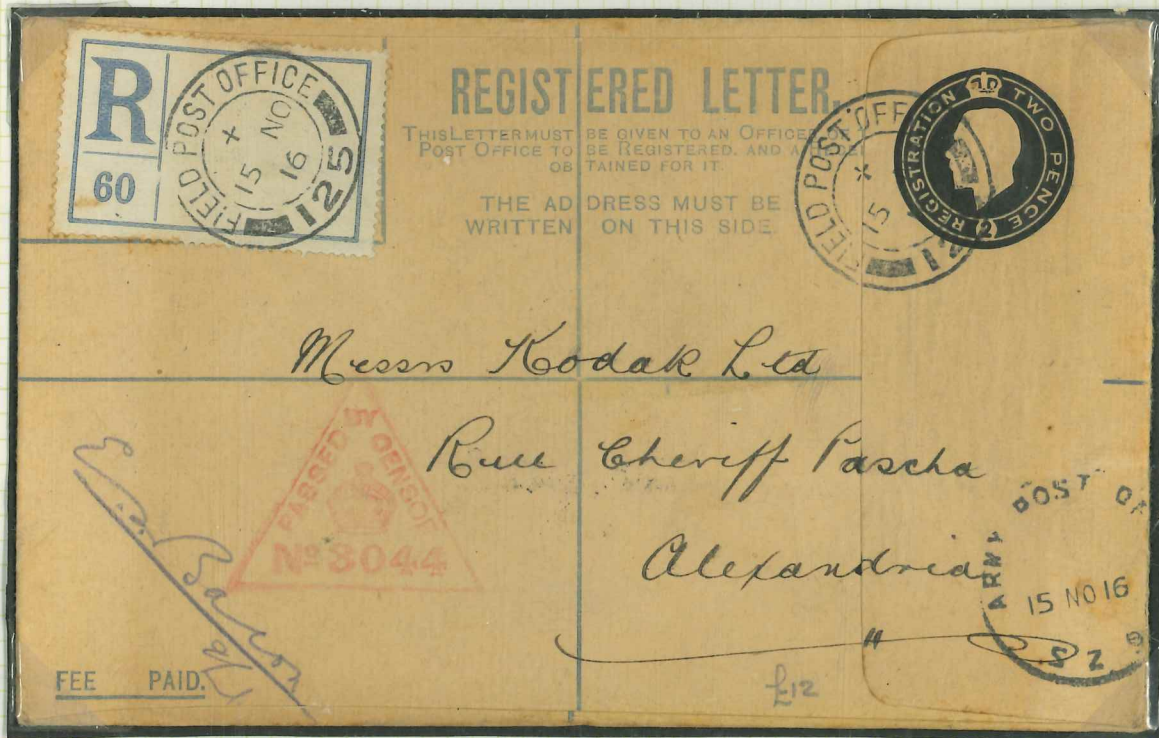
Datestamps of the Territorial Divisions

ERD Jan. '16



LRD Feb '17

125 (Lancashire Fusiliers) Brigade arrived Alexandria 25 SE 14 where some remained, some went to Cairo and others to Khartoum; detachments sent to strengthen Suez Canal Defences. At Gallipoli May to December 1915; became 42 Division with 125, 126 and 127 Brigades on Suez Canal.



At the time of the above registered letter 125 Brigade was based at No. 3 Section Suez Canal Defences and following the Battle of Romani. The letter also bears the transit mark of APO 529 then at Kantara prior to Feb. 1917 when it moved to el-Arish.

Freebrace p 54

British Forces in Egypt

Army Form W 3078

These special envelopes were introduced in March 1915 and each man was allowed one per week. They bore a certificate which had to be signed by the sender and were not subject to unit censorship. There are several types listed by Daynes* - they precede the buff envelopes printed in green ink, Type HE 2b.

* *Wartime Postal Stationery*, Ed. John Daynes. FPHS 1986.

A.F.W. 8078 [Crown Copyright Reserved.]

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

NOTE.—
Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The Contents are liable to examination at the Base.
The following Certificate must be signed by the writer :
I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature (Name only) }
Robert J. Walker

Address—
*Mrs. G. L. Lloyd
7 Llantrissant
Cathays
Cardiff
S. Wales*

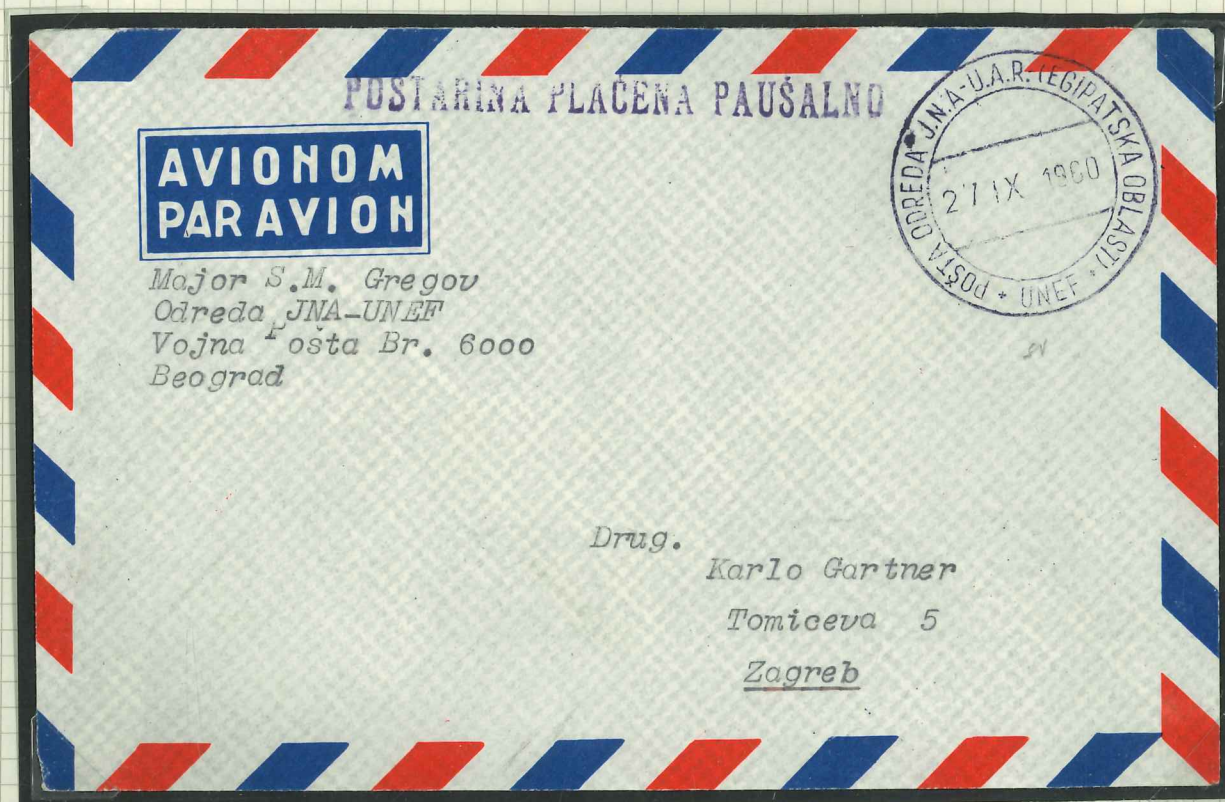
BASE ARMY POST OFFICE Z ALEXANDRIA

Sent from Base Army Post Office Z at Alexandria on 3 DE 15 Daynes type HE 2b On Active Service envelope addressed to wife or mother in Cathays, Cardiff.

United Nations Forces

Posta Odreda J.N.A. U.A.R. (Egipatska Oblast) U.N.E.F.

Jugoslaviani Forces

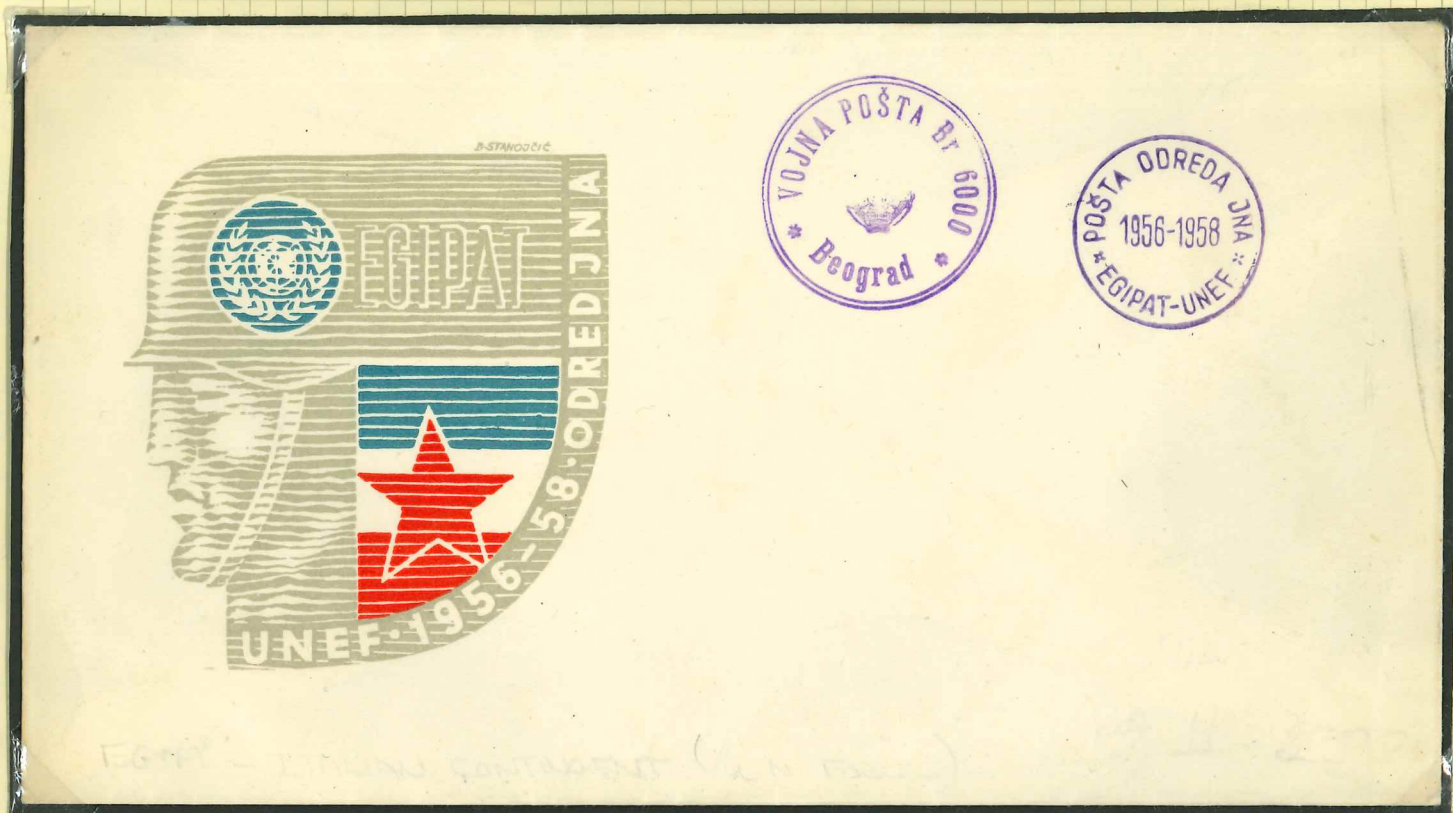


Pre-printed airmail cover to Zagreb (later capital of Croatia) sent in 1960 from a major Gregov of the Yugoslavian forces in Egypt representing United Nations.

United Nations Forces

Jugoslavian Forces

Designated for 2 years; witness unused but special cover.



United Nations Forces were still in place four years later witness this cover to Belgrade dated 17th May in 1962.

United Nations Forces

Swedish Battalion

United Nations Forces, comprising Norwegian, Danish and Jugoslavian Forces, took control late in 1956, but Swedish and Columbian Forces were also required.



December 1956 saw Swedish Battalion in Egypt; 40 ore franking philatelic cover to Sheffield, G.B.



January 1957 cover, also franked 40 ore, also philatelic to Westcliff-on-Sea; special cancellations.

W307B

ACTIVE

BY AIR MAIL.

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

NOTE :-

Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base.

The following Certificate must be signed by the writer :-

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature } L. J. Dyer
Name only }

SERVICE



[Up to three letters may be used in this Cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor.]

Address :-

Miss Joy Still,
96 STRUBENS RD,
MOWBRAY,
CAPE TOWN,
S. AFRICA

W307B

ACTIVE

BY AIR MAIL.

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

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Signature } L. J. Dyer
Name only }

SERVICE



[Up to three letters may be used in this Cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor.]

Address :-

Miss Joy Still,
"RITA VILLE",
96 STRUBENS RD,
MOWBRAY,
CAPE TOWN,
S. AFRICA

ACTIVE

BY AIR MAIL.

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

NOTE :-

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The following Certificate must be signed by the writer :-

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.

Signature } L. J. Dyer
Name only }

SERVICE

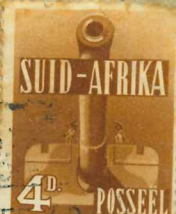


[Up to three letters may be used in this Cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor.]

Address :-

Miss Joy Still,
96 STRUBENS RD,
MOWBRAY,
CAPE TOWN,
S. AFRICA

Y AIR MAIL.



Miss Joy Still,
"RITA VILLE",

96 STRUBENS RD.,
MOWBRAY,

CAPE TOWN,

S. AFRICA.

PAID BY GENSOR
No. 291 U.P.
ON OUR DEUR GENSOR

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

By AIR MAIL.



Stop

Miss Joy Still,

96 STRUBENS RD.,

MOWBRAY,

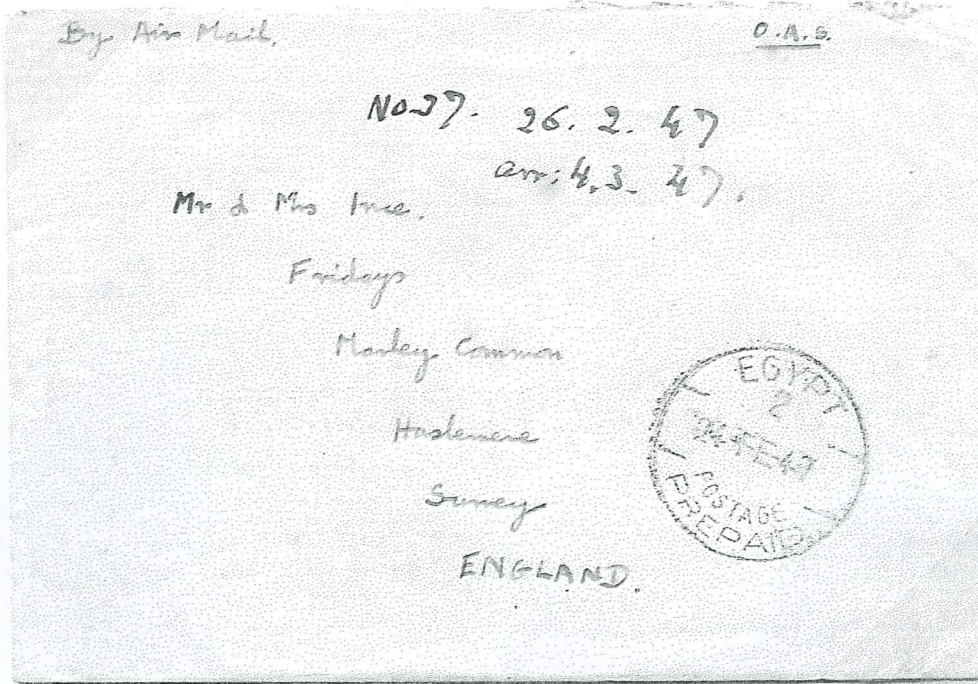
CAPE TOWN,

S. AFRICA.

PAID BY GENSOR
No. 291 U.P.
ON OUR DEUR GENSOR

EGYPT POSTAGE PREPAID

E.P.P. 2 Posted 24-FE-47



A.F. W5074

ACTIVE

SER

By AIR MAIL

This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.

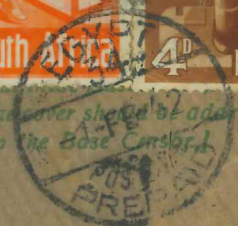
NOTE :-

Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base.

The following Certificate must be signed by the writer :-

I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing

© Crown Copyright Reserved



Address :-

Miss Joy Still,

96 STRUBERS RD,

MON BATH,

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES: EGYPT

O.A.S 'Honour' envelope tied EPP 34 to Capetown
franked wartime adhesives. £6.00