



POSTAL HISTORY OF THE GRECO-ITALIAN WAR 1940-'41

The Italian invasion of Greece began on **28.10.40**. At the time, Greek military units were organized according to the pre-war (1939) document "**Organization of the Armed Forces**", Campaign Plan I-B (I-Italy, B-Bulgaria), and also **Mobilization Plan 1939β** dated 5.12.1939. The latter provided detailed specifics regarding the composition and deployment of:

- The General Staff
- Two military administrative departments - **T.Σ.Δ.Μ.** (Western Macedonia Army Section) and **T.Σ.Κ.** (Kavala Army Section) and very shortly thereafter **T.Σ.Α.Μ.** (Eastern Macedonia Army Section)
- Five Army Corps **Σ.Σ.** (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th)
- Fifteen Divisions (14 infantry **Μ.Π.**, 1 cavalry **Μ.Ι.**)
- Four Infantry Brigades

Greece had already prepared for the possibility of war – both materially and psychologically. Having seen Italian forces moving close to the border, Greece had put into effect two call ups for military services – an "**official**" one in October 1939, and a "**covert**" one in August 1940.

The Greco-Italian War created glorious pages on the battlefields, so it rightfully earned the designation of the "epic." Within a few weeks, Greece had already gained the upper hand, and the myth of Axis invincibility was evident for all to see. Italian forces were pushed back across the border, into Albania. The situation got so bad the Italians had to call on the German Army to bail them out. However, this was not without consequences - namely the delay of German preparations for the invasion of the Soviet Union.

The period of the Greco-Italian War ends around late April 1941, shortly after the German attack on Greece (April 6, 1941). Subsequently, Greece will enter the dark period of German occupation.

Although the duration was relatively short, the Greco-Italian War nonetheless provides an interesting collection of postal items.

To cope with the large volume of mail (9,643,000 letters censored in February '41), the army created:

- **Five Central Military Post Offices (ΚΣΤ)**, in key locations
- **Postal sectors (ΤΤ)** for individual units with a code number for large units - which was not related in any way to the unit's secret code, name or location.

Military mail was censored throughout the war as well as during the call up period. At first, this was done mostly for larger units. From **within Greece to the army**, censorship was performed by the ΚΣΤs who were responsible for the military mail. Later, a ΓΕΣ (Hellenic Army General Staff) directive, dated 11.11.1940, this control was ultimately assigned the **Civil Correspondence Offices** upon dispatch. Censorship of **outgoing mail** from the army (after the ΚΣΤs) was carried out by the post offices of the units, (the corresponding ΤΤ).

Military units usually employed postcards, either private or official military service ones.

In the case of **civil correspondence**, censorship was initially the job of the local authorities (usually the Gendarmerie/Police). Later, this function was assigned to the censorship offices of the Greek Post Offices, and to post offices in occupied Albania. At some point, these also took over the military mail (as noted earlier). A variety of official censorship markings were used, with or without the location, as well as resealing adhesive tape.

At the beginning of the war, mail to and from the army (up to 20 gr) was postage free.

The exhibit refers to the organization of the postal service of this period and its preparation (offices, cancellations, markings on mail, especially censors).

A prominent place in the exhibit is occupied by items of correspondence of prisoners of war.

The locations of the units' operations during the specified period, shown in parentheses, are based on the research of the presenter

Bibliography:

- J PERIVOLIOTIS: THE MILITARY POSTAL HISTORY FROM 1924 TO APRIL '41. Magazine "Philately" Issue 240-245/1945
- U. BELLAS: LA GUERRE D' ALBANIE ET SON HISTOIRE POSTALE, Publ. Philatelic Society of Athens 1978
- G.E.S./D.I.S.: THE PREPARATION FOR WAR OF THE GREEK ARMY 1923-40. Athens 1959
- G.E.S./D.I.S.: A SYNOPSIS OF THE HISTORY OF THE GRECO-ITALIAN & GRECO-GERMAN WARS 1940-41(1959)
- K. FOTIOU: THE EPIC 1940-41, THROUGH PHILATELIC AND OTHERS DOCs, VOURNAS Publ. Athens 2008
- S. BOSOVITCH: VARIOUS ARTICLES ON PRISONERS OF WAR

EXHIBIT FRAME 1: PREPARATORY MEASURES - BORDER SECTORS, CALL UP '39

EXHIBIT FRAME 2-3: CALL UP '40, CENTRAL MILITARY POST OFFICES (ΚΣΤ), POSTAL SECTORS (ΤΤ),

EXHIBIT FRAME 4: GARRISON HEADQUARTERS, HOSPITALS, NAVAL POST OFFICES, BRITISH FORCES

EXHIBIT FRAME 5-6: AIR FORCE UNITS, ANNEXED TERRITORIES: NORTH EPIRUS, "SPOILS OF WAR" - ALBANIAN CAMPAIGN, PRISONER-OF-WAR CAMPS, HUMOROUS CARDS, FAKE COVERS, MILITARY IDS, ITALIAN PROPAGANDA, FRAGMENTS OF CHECKS, TELEGRAM CENSORSHIP

EXHIBIT FRAME 7-8: VALUES FOUND DURING CENSORSHIP, LETTER'S CENSORSHIP, CIVIL POST CENSORSHIP.

PREPARATION FOR COVERING - FRONTIER UNITS

From 1924 onwards, Greece deployed and maintained units to guard its 1200 km. long northern frontier, which ran from the mouth of the river Evros to the Adriatic Sea, a titanic work for its time. Their composition varied - the most important of these being the so-called "**FRONTIER SECTORS**" and "**FRONTIER SUB-SECTORS**". The postal cancellations employed by them also varied. Regulations with regards to the postal services provided to these units, can be found in circular no. 4 dated 9/1/24.

Frontier Sectors were usually designated by a Latin number, whereas sub-sections were indicated by location. There were twelve in all (with VI and VIIα being the most important). With the outbreak of the war, they were either dissolved or absorbed, and a few who remained were given their own TTs. Details can be found in the following table:

FRONTIER SECTORS			
VI Frontier Sector	NEO PETRITSI SERRÈS	X Frontier Sector	ARIDEA
VII Frontier Sector	DRAMA	XI Frontier Sector	KILKIS
VIIα Frontier Sector	KATO VRONTOU DRAMA	XII Frontier Sector	KOMOTINI
VIII Frontier Sector	IOANNINA	XIV Frontier Sector	XANTHI
IX Frontier Sector	FLORINA	EVROS Frontier Sector	DIDIMOTICHON
IXα Frontier Sector	KASTORIA	SOUFLI Frontier Sector	SOUFLI

Each frontier sector had its own unique postal handstamp, and this made any mail which bore it, eligible for a reduced postal fee (circular 213823/11.9.1928 of the Ministry of Transport). As described in article 1 of the decree of 4.4.1933, this fee was 10 cents per 20 grams of weight for ordinary letters and postcards. **Once the war got under way**, the frontier sections were either renamed, or were incorporated into the campaign units and their mail was then free of charge.

(50%)



Cover from THESSALONIKI, canc. "ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ * 17 ΙΙ 925" to 21 Infantry Regiment SIDIROKASTRON. Hand stamped "II ΑΝΕΞΑΡΤΗΤΟ ΤΑΓΜΑ ΠΡΟΚΑΛΥΨΕΩΣ - Τ.Τ. 305", (II Independent Covering Battalion_PS305), arrival pmk "ΣΙΔΗΡΟΚΑΣΤΡΟΝ (ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑΣ) * 18 ΙΙ 925". The postal rate for 1925 was 1 Dr.

With the restoration of peace from 1923 onwards, permanent border garrisons were established. Such guarding units were the "COVERING BATTALIONS".

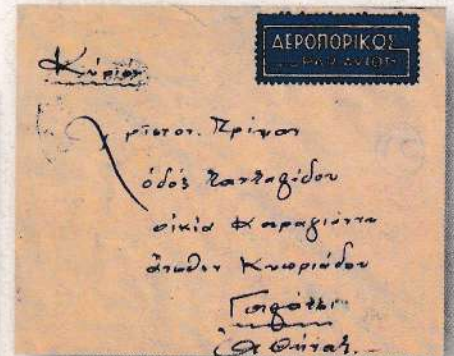
(in front 70%)



Cover from SIDIROKASTRON to LAMIA, canc. "ΣΙΔΗΡΟΚΑΣΤΡΟΝ (ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑΣ) * 24 ΙΟΥΝ 1926", arrival pmk "ΛΑΜΙΑ ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΟΝ * 26 ΙΟΥΝ 1926" Cachet "VIII ΤΑΓΜΑ ΠΡΟΚΑΛΥΨΕΩΣ - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ", (VIII Covering Battalion- Hellenic Republic)

The postal rate at that time was 1 Drachma

Note: From 1924 to 1941, on the one hand, the Military Service made changes to the covering units, and on the other hand, the country's political system changed from a Monarchy to a Republic in 1924 and back to a Monarchy in 1935.



Airmail cover from IOANNINA to ATHENS, canc. "ΙΩΑΝΝΙΝΑ (ΑΦΙΕΙΣ) * 3 VI 39" and arrival pmk "ΑΘΗΝΑ (ΛΕΒΙΔΟΥ 8) * 4 VI 39". Hand stamped "ΤΑΓΜΑ ΠΡΟΚΑΛΥΨΕΩΣ - XX ?... ΑΛΛΗΛΟΓΡΑΦΙΑΝ" (Covering Battalion-XX ?... Correspondence)

Reduced Postal rate 10Lepta (as it was defined after April 4, 1933)

The reduced-rate letter was not exempt from additional fees such as the airmail fee

(60%)

*Ταχυτάχυρον
εις Κωνσταντινίαν Αποστολή
Επιμ. Γραφ. Β. Π. Π. Π.
Πύρρα Κορυφ. Αθηνών
εις Αθήνας*



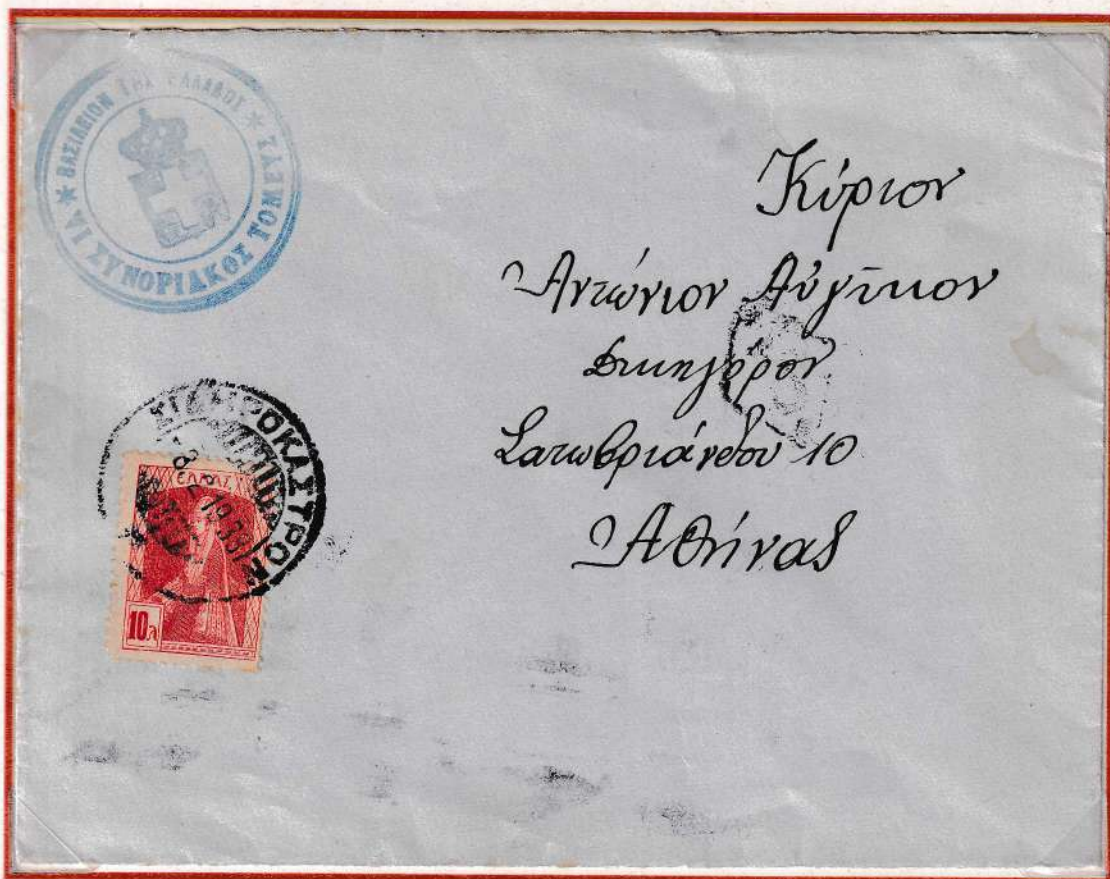
Small cover canc. "ΣΙΔΗΡΟΚΑΣΤΡΟ * 1 1 1930"
Hand stamped "VI A ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ", (VI A Frontier Sector - Hellenic Republic) to Infantry's School in Athens.

By the Government Gazette (FEK) of January 9, 1924, the fee for border units is set at 20 lepta/15 grams of weight



Small cover canc. "ΣΙΔΗΡΟΚΑΣΤΡΟ * 10 12 1937" to PATRAS, hand stamped "ΕΠΟΠΤΕΙΑ VI ΤΟΜΕΩΣ - Δ. Φ. Θ." (Supervision of VI Sector - Thessaloniki Fortress Command T.F.C.)

At the end of 1935, in order to implement the fortifications under study, of the **Thessaloniki Fortress Command T. F. C. (Δ.Φ.Θ.)** was established to oversee the works as provided by the then Army Organization



Cover canc.
"ΣΙΔΗΡΟΚΑΣΤΡΟΝ * 8.2.1938" from VI Frontier Sector, cachet "VI ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ - ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ", (VI Frontier Sector - Kingdom of Greece), with a central crest

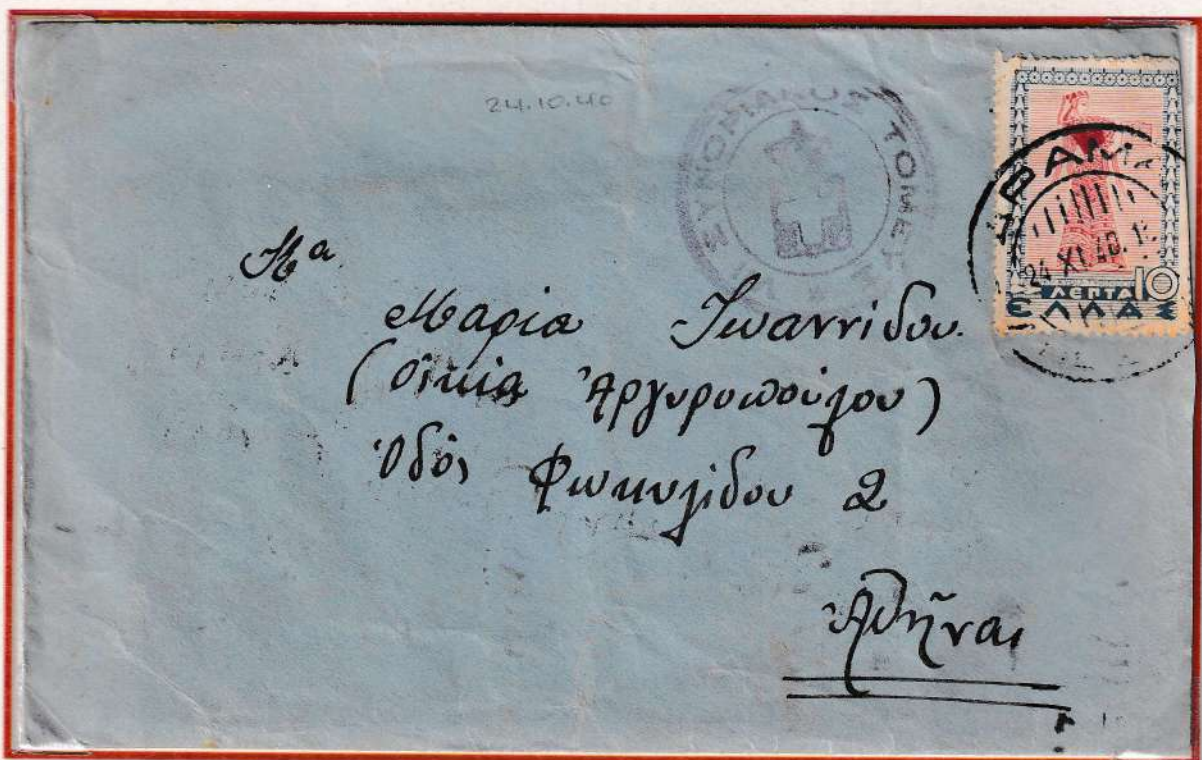
Reduced Postal rate
10L



Cover canc. "NEON ΠΕΤΡΙΤΣΙΟΝ * 11 IV 1940" from VI FRONTIER SECTOR.

Cachet: "VI ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ - ΙΔΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΑΛΛΗΛΟΓΡΑΦΙΑ", (VI Frontier Sector-Private-Correspondence).

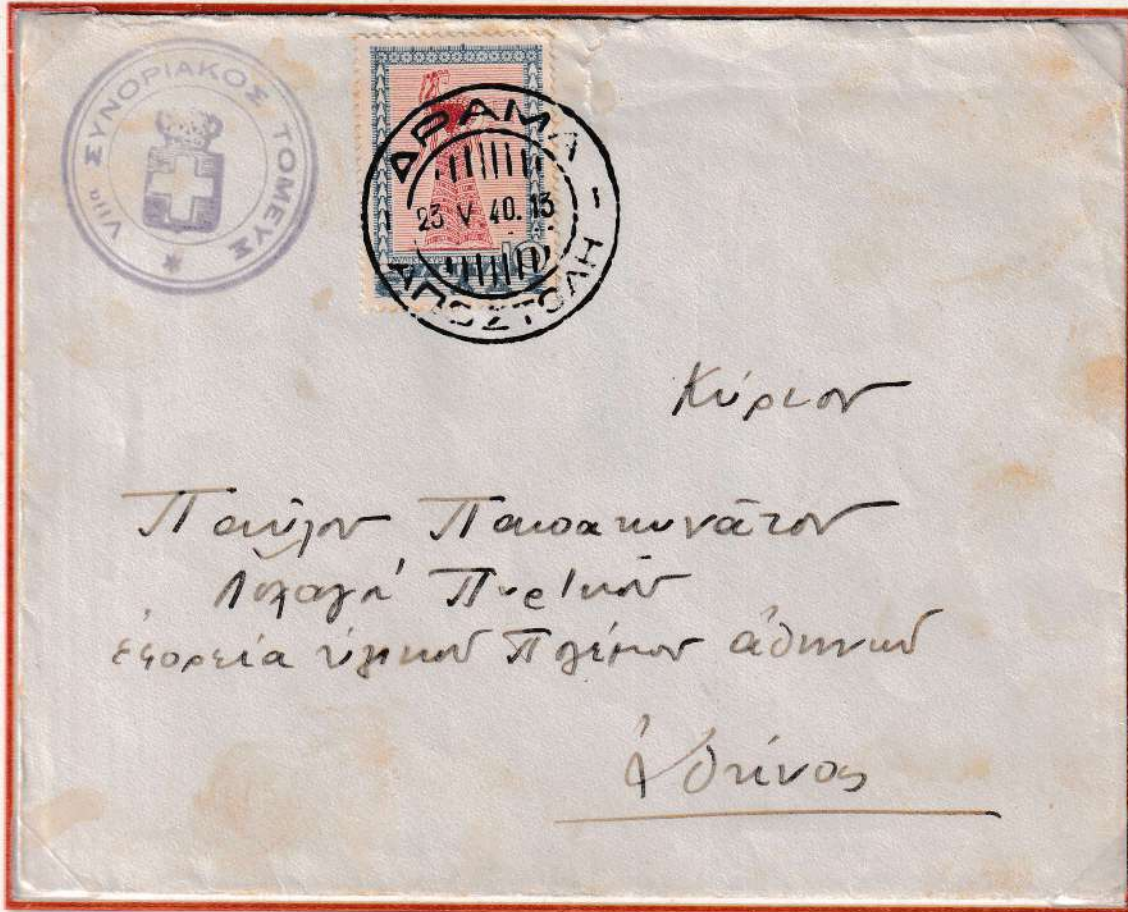
Reduced postal rate 10L



Cover from VII Frontier Sector, hand stamped "VII ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ" (VII Frontier Sector) with central crest, canc. "ΔΡΑΜΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 24 XI 40" to ATHENS, arrival pmk "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΑΦΙΞΙΣ * 25 XI 40".

Reduced Postal rate 10L

The war has already begun...



Cover from KATO VRONTOU canc. "ΔΡΑΜΑ * 23 V 40", hand stamped "VIIα ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ" (VIIa Frontier Sector)

From February 24, 1941, its precise designation was "Eastern Subsector of the KARANTAG Formation" (DIS)

Reduced Postal rate 10L



Small cover canc. "ΝΕΥΡΟΚΟΠΙΟΝ * 22 ? 1936", hand stamped "Iος ΛΟΧΟΣ VIII ΣΥΝΟΡ. ΤΟΜΕΩΣ" (1st Company of VIII Frontier Sector) with a central crest

Reduced Postal rate 10L

(back 90%)



Cover canc. ΔΟΛΙΑΝΑ * 18 ΔΕΚ 1931", cachet "Iο ΤΑΓΜΑ VIII ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ - ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ" (1st Battalion of VIII Frontier Sector - Hellenic Republic) Reduced Postal rate 10L





Cover with railway pmk
 "ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ - ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ
 ΚΙΝΗΤΟΝ Β' * 11 10 1935",
 hand stamped "ΙΧ ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ
 ΤΟΜΕΥΣ" (IX Frontier Sector)
 with a central crest, to ATHENS

Reduced Postal rate 10L



Cover canc. "ΚΑΣΤΟΡΙΑ * 3 VI 1935" to PIRAEUS, hand stamped "ΙΧ α ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ
 ΤΟΜΕΥΣ" (IX a Frontier Sector) with a central crest

Reduced Postal rate 10L

Cover canc. "ΑΡΔΕΑ *
28 VII 40" to
THESSALONIKI, cachet
"Χ ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ
ΤΟΜΕΥΣ -
ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ
ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ"
(X Frontier Sector -
Kingdom of Greece),
with a central crest

Reduced Postal
rate 10L



Cover to the same
recipient, canc.
"ΦΟΥΣΤΑΝΗ *
24 X 40" to
THESSALONIKH, from
the **same Frontier
Sector** (with different
type of handstamp)

Reduced Postal
rate 10L

R²

Ανδριάντα Κεραυράδων
Αθηνών 50² 2/3

(50%)

Θεσσαλονίκη



Cover canc.
"ΚΙΛΚΙΣ* 22 VI
36", hand
stamped
"XI ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ
ΤΟΜΕΥΣ -
ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ
ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ",
(XI Frontier
Sector-Kingdom
of Greece), to
THESSALONIKI

Reduced Postal
rate 10L



Cover canc. "ΚΟΜΟΤΗΝΗ *
18.VII.1933", hand stamped
"XII ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ -
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ",
(XII Frontier Sector - Hellenic
Republic), to ATHENS

Reduced Postal rate 10L

(back 80%)



Cover canc. "ΕΑΝΘΗ*
13 ΟΚΤ 1938" to ATHENS, cachet
"ΧΙΥ ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ -
2^{ος} ΛΟΧΟΣ"
(XIV Frontier Sector - 2nd
Company)

Reduced Postal rate 10L



Cover canc. "ΑΕΙΟΥΠΟΛΙΣ * 19
NOE 35" from the 2nd Company
of POLIKASTRON, hand stamped
"ΦΡΟΥΡΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ
ΠΟΛΥΚΑΣΤΡΟΥ", (Garrison
headquarter of Polikastron),
to Ioannina

Reduced Postal rate 10L



Cover canc. "ΔΙΔΥΜΟΤΕΙΧΟΝ * 30 VI 37", hand stamped "ΣΥΝΟΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΕΒΡΟΥ" (EVROS Frontier Sector), to ATHENS

Reduced Postal rate 10L



Cover fragment canc. "ΔΙΜΟΙΡΙΑ ΠΑΡΑΒΡΥΣΟΥ" (Paravriso's Platoon), nowadays Plaisio Thesprotias, with a central crest, to CORFOU on 26 VI 1939

Reduced Postal rate 10L

SUB-SECTORS (SMALLER FORMATIONS)



Cover canc.
 "ΑΞΙΟΥΠΟΛΙΣ *
 20 MAI 36", cachet
 "ΥΠΟΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΑΞΙΟΥ -
 ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ
 ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ" (Sub-sector
 of AXIOS - Kingdom of
 Greece)

Reduced Postal rate 10L

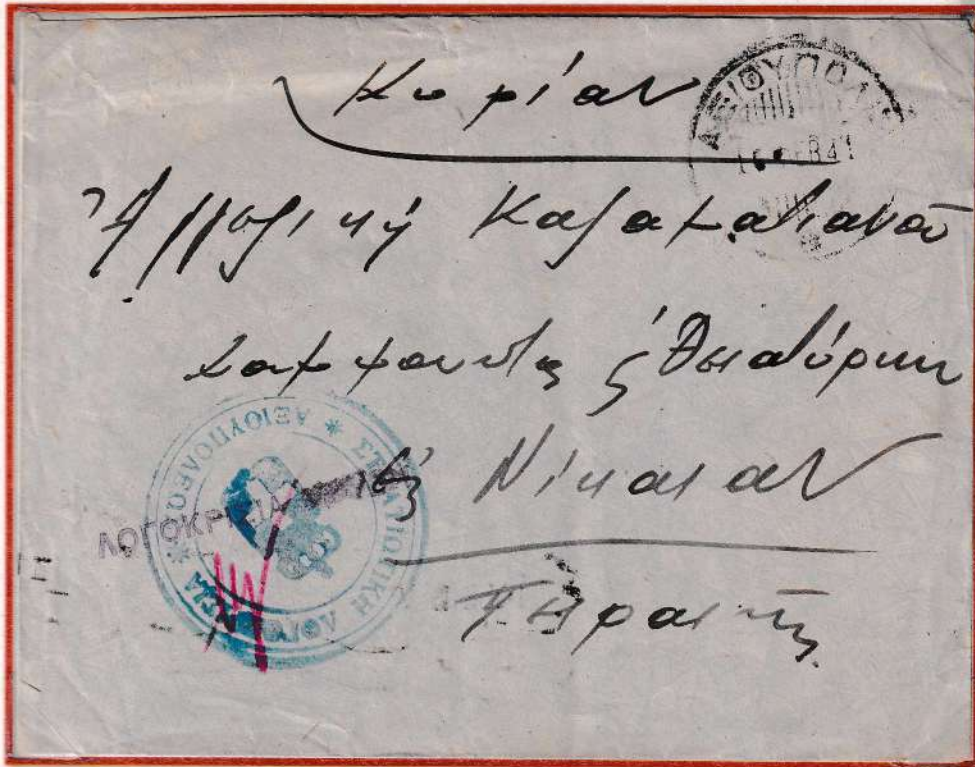


Cover from **PARANESTI DRAMAS**
 to PIRAEUS, hand stamped
 "ΥΠΟΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΠΑΡΑΝΕΣΤΙΟΥ"
 (PARANESTI Sub-sector) with a
 central crest, via THESSALONIKI,
 canc. with railway pmk
 "ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥΠΟΛΙΣ-
 ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ * 2? X 3?"

Reduced Postal rate 10L

The Thessaloniki Fortress Command T.F.C. (ΔΦΘ) organized 5 Departments of Works: A', B', C', D', and E'. The 1939b mobilization plan, with the ministerial decision on October 13, 1939, provided for the unit in question to be based in Thessaloniki.

(back 50%)



Cover from "Γ' Δ/ση Έργων Φρουρίου" (C' Department of Works of TFC), canc. "ΑΞΙΟΥΠΟΛΙΣ * 16 ΦΕΒ 41", via THESSALONIKI, arrival pmk on 18 II 41 (back), cachet "ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ * ΑΞΙΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ" (Axioupolis Military Censorship) and unframed linear handstamp marked "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (CENSORSHIP) and censor's signature



Same sender and recipient on an official military PS card, routed via civilian post of FLORINA, canc. "ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ * 5 II 41" and 3-circle cachet texted "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΦΛΩΡΙΝΗΣ" (FLORINA CENSORSHIP), with a central crest and sensor's number "Λ5"

The official postcards of the Military Service were issued with 6 different images (on top right) and 15 different patriotic slogans by I. Metaxas (in the bottom).

WITH THE START OF THE WAR ...

The VI Frontier Sector, headquartered in NEO PETRITSI, SERRES, received the Postal Sector "693" with the onset of the war. Furthermore, the rhomboidal censor mark due to a mistake with the cliché, has the "9" reversed. Subsequently, the TT693 was assigned to the XVIII Division upon its formation (December 24, 1940).



Military PS card from TT693 (PS693) to ATHENS pmk "TAX TOMEYS 693 * 10 I 41". Censored at the unit with the rhomboidal "TA 693", with the digit 9 reversed

The VIIa Frontier Sector, headquartered in KATO BRONTOU DRAMA, was served by Postal Sector "624" of the C' (3rd) REGULATORY CENTER at the start of the war. However, for better service, Postal Sector 624A was soon established as a branch of TT624.

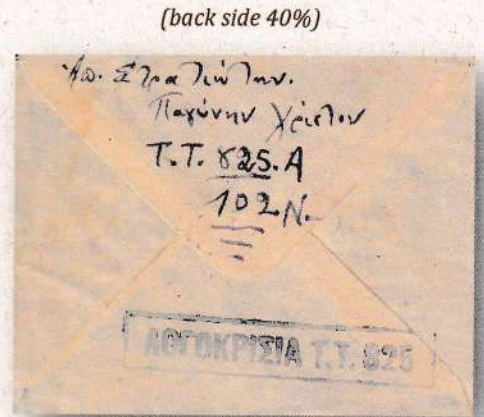
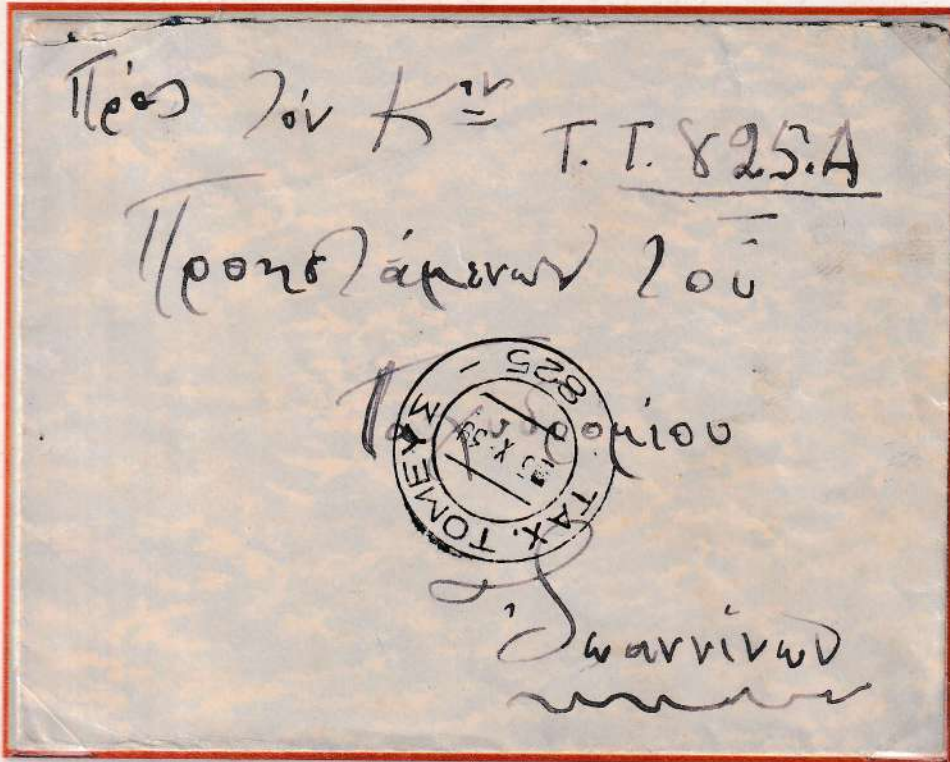


Military PS card from TT624A (73ο ΣΠ - III Πυροβολαρχία- PS 624A, 73ο Infantry Regiment-3rd Artillery Battery) to ATHENS canc. "TAX TOMEYS 624A * 28 II 41". Censored at departure with the rhomboidal "TA 624" Also, the VIIa Frontier Sector, together with the 73rd Infantry Battalion (ΣΠ) and the 19th Infantry Regiment, formed the VII Infantry Brigade until February 24, 1941. After that date, this unit complex was renamed "KARANTAG COMPLEX."

OFFICIAL PRE-CONSCRIPTION of 1939

The occupation of Albania (April 1939) by Italy prompted Greece to initiate an official **pre-conscription** on (Sept./Oct '39). This involved **2 Infantry Divisions** (IOANNINA, KOZANI), **1 Infantry Brigade** (FLORINA), and elements of the **CORFU MILITARY GARRISON**. Four Postal Sectors (PS) were created for mail to/from these military units (825, 912, 712 & 850 respectively), but these were later allocated to other units. These post offices and their associated censorship offices were abolished on 15.10.39 by the order of 12.10.1939 of the GES (Hellenic Army General Staff).

At that time only the specific units were postage free



Cover from **TT825** (PS825), pmk. "TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 825 * 3 X 39", to IOANNINA. Censored at departure with box cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ Τ.Τ.825" (CENSORSHIP P.S.825)



Private cover from ΚΑΣΤΟΡΙΑ on 21/9 1939 to ATHENS. Censored in ΚΑΣΤΟΡΙΑ with box cachet "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED), censor's number #2. Resealing tape marked "ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ" (CENSORSHIP Dept.)

Due to the conscription, censorship was in effect



... the first messages about the coming war ...

**OUR PROTECTED
CRUISER ELLI...**

which was recklessly
torpedoed on August 15,
1940, in the port of Tinos
who was there for the
festive celebrations of the
Virgin Mary.

Unposted privately
issued letter card



ΔΕΝ ΛΗΣΜΟΝΟΥΜΕΝ

ΤΗΝ ΕΛΛΗΝ

ΘΑ ΕΚΔΙΚΗΘΟΥΜΕΝ

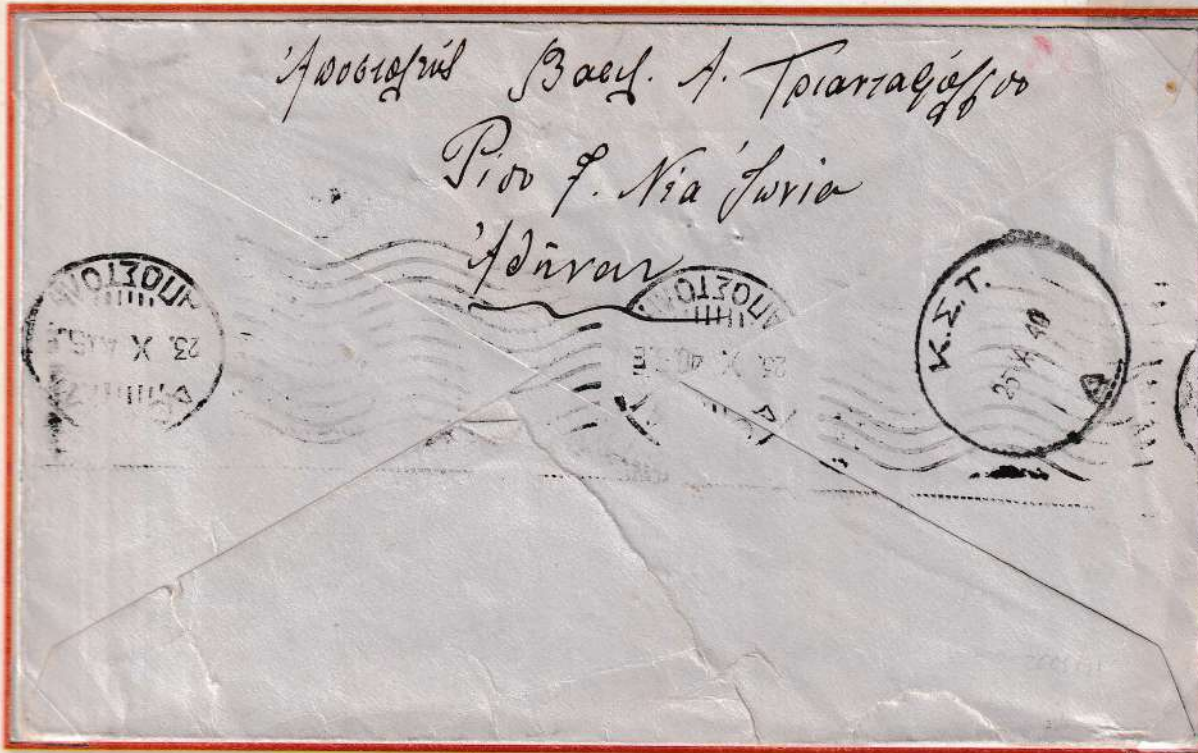
Greek proclamation of
unknown date.
"REMEMBER
THE ELLI
WE WILL AVENGE"

COVERT CONSCRIPTION of 1940

The alarming increase of Italian troops on the Greek-Albanian border, as well as the sinking of our protected cruiser **ELLI**, forced Greece into a **covert conscription** in August 1940. There were individual call-ups of reserve officers supposedly for further training and individual call-ups of unarmed soldiers. It was then that the **Military Postal Service**, the Central Military Postal (**ΚΣΤ**) offices, and the autonomous censorship offices (**ΤΑ**) of the Postal Sectors (**ΤΤ**) were created.

We will see several items in the next section of ΚΣΤ's

(in front)



Handwritten notes on a small slip of paper:
 ΚΣΤ
 Βασιλ. Α. Τριανταφύλλου
 819 Συρραφ. ΤΤ
 ΤΤ 900

Free postage cover
 canc. "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ
 ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ *
 23 X 40" to ΤΤ900,
 (PS900/E' ARMY
 CORPS) via D'
 Central Military Post
 Office "ΚΣΤ Δ * 25 X
 40" which operated
 in ATHENS



(back)

Military PS card from "ΤΤ712, Τάγμα προκαλύψεως Φιλιατών" (PS712, FILIATES Covering Battalion of VIII Frontier Sector)-, pmk. "TAX. TOMEYΣ 712 * ? X 40", to MESSOLONGHI. Censored at departure with a rhomboidal "ΤΑ 712" and from "C" Central Military Post Office "Κ.Σ.Τ. Γ * 4 X 40". Arrival pmk in MESSOLONGHI, "ΜΕΣΣΟΛΟΓΓΙΟΝ 7 ΟΚΤ 40"

CENTRAL MILITARY POST OFFICES - (Κ Σ Τ)

ΚΣΤ Α (Α)	LARISSA
ΚΣΤ Β (Β)	IOANNINA
ΚΣΤ Γ (Γ)	THESSALONIKI
ΚΣΤ Δ (Δ)	ATHENS
ΚΣΤ Ε (Ε)	ALEXANDROUPOLI

In August of 1940, the Greek military took note of Italian forces massing at the border. This was the catalyst for an unannounced call up of Greek troops. The associated logistics of such a mobilization needed to take into account the soldiers' mail. A directive was therefore issued (on August 24, 1940), authorizing the establishment of the "Military Postal Service" of the Campaign with a number of **Central Military Post Offices (ΚΣΤ)** in key for the war locations (see adjacent table).

Each of these also included a censorship office, and they employed a type of handstamp that produced a characteristic rhomboidal censor mark, bearing the initials **ΤΑ** (T: Τομέας/Department), - **Α**: Λογοκρισίας/Censorship) and in the middle, a letter indicating the corresponding **ΚΣΤ** (A, B, C, D, E). These censorship offices were maintained until shortly after a directive of 11.11.1940 according to which the censorship of mail **to the army** was then taken over by the censorship of the sending civilian post offices.

Reminder: **ΤΤ** : Postal Sector (**PS**)

Cover from Athens to **ΤΤ724 (PS724-XIII Division under the 5th Army Corps-Ε'ΣΣ)** by way of **ΚΣΤ Δ * 23 X 40** (before the declaration of war, i.e. during the August 1940 covert conscription) and of **ΚΣΤ Ε * 24 X 40**, for transmission to **ΤΤ724 (PS724)**. Censor marks at both ΚΣΤs, "**ΤΑ Δ**" and "**ΤΑ Ε**"; secured with printed tape marked "**ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ**" (CENSORED) by ΚΣΤ Ε censorship. The crossed-out text on the front view of the file was made by the censorship service.

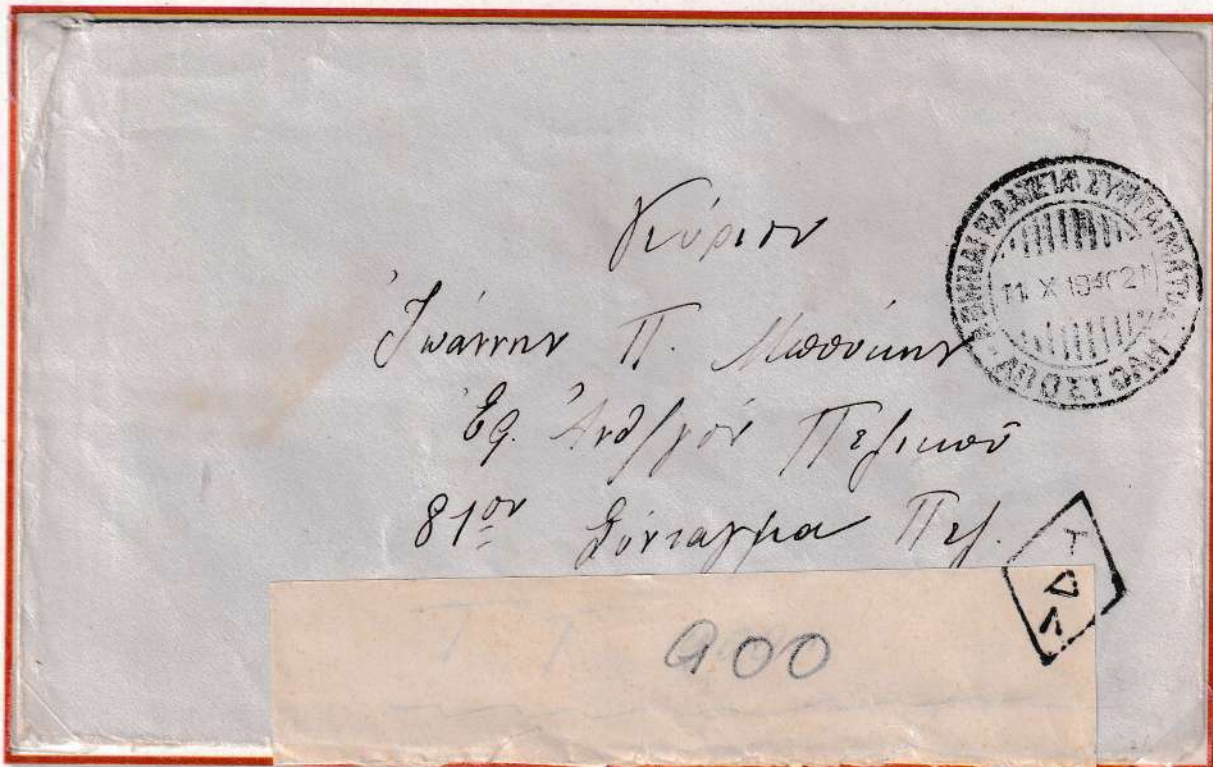
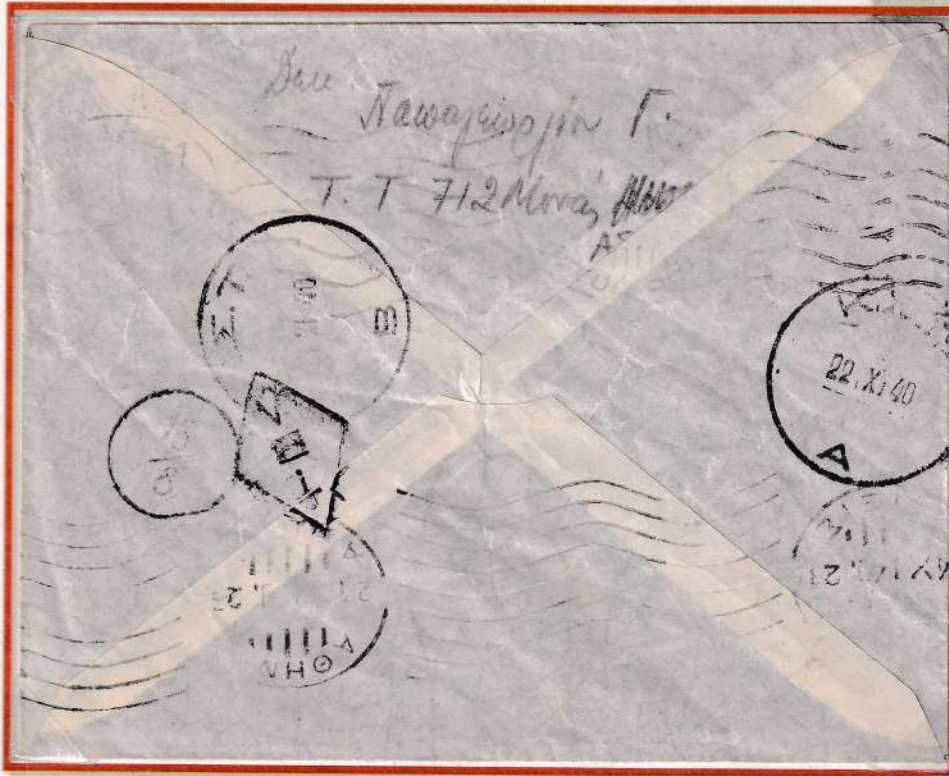


(back side 50%)

Cover from TT712 (PS712-VIII ΜΕΡΑΡΧΙΑ in IOANNINA) to Athens.
 Pmk. TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 712 * 13 XI 40, (KLIMATIA village/IOANNINA).
 Passed firstly from ΚΕΤ Β * ? XI 40 and then from ΚΕΤ Α * 22 XI 40.
 Censored upon departure with rhomboidal "ΤΛ Β".
 Arrival pmk of civilian post in Athens with single-circle pmk
 ΑΘΗΝΑ * 24 XI 40 and twin-circle pmk ΑΘΗΝΑ ΛΕΒΙΔΟΥ 8 * 25 XI 40

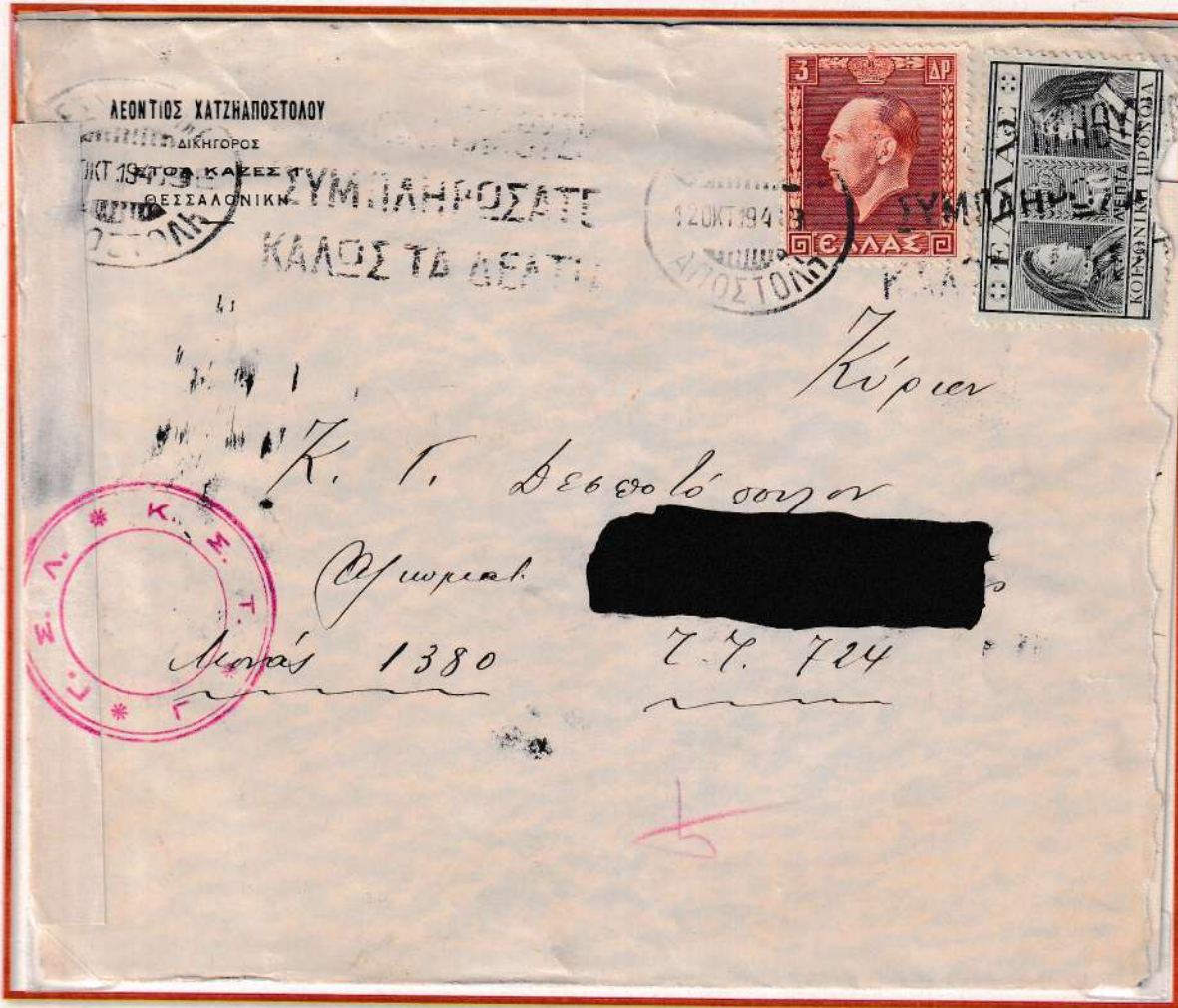


(onback side 50%)



Cover pmk ΑΘΗΝΑ * 11 X 40 (covert conscription) to TT900 (PS900-E' Army corps-ALEXANROUPOLIS).
 The cover was initially submitted to the civilian post and forwarded to ΚΕΤ Δ (backstamped 21 X 40). Censored
 with "ΤΛ Δ" and secured with tape ribbon

Cover from THESSALONIKI to TT724 (PS724-XIII Infantry Division), via ΚΕΤ Γ * 13 10 40 (back), before the declaration of war. Hand stamped with red 3-circle pmk "Κ.Σ.Τ. Γ * Γ.Σ.Λ." (General Military Censorship of "C" ΚΕΤ) and secured with printed tape "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSURED). We are just after the covert conscription.



The deletion with black ink on the front of the cover was done by the censorship

(back side)



Illustrated postcard posted from Athens on 27.1.41 (back), to a military physician of the S1 Evacuation Hospital of TT652 (PS652-2nd Regulatory Center). Because the recipient had been discharged (handwritten note 'discharged', it bears a 3-line linear handstamp "ΕΠΙΣΤΡΕΦΕΤΑΙ / ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΑ / ΚΕΤ Δ" (RETURNED TO / SENDER / ΚΕΤ D).

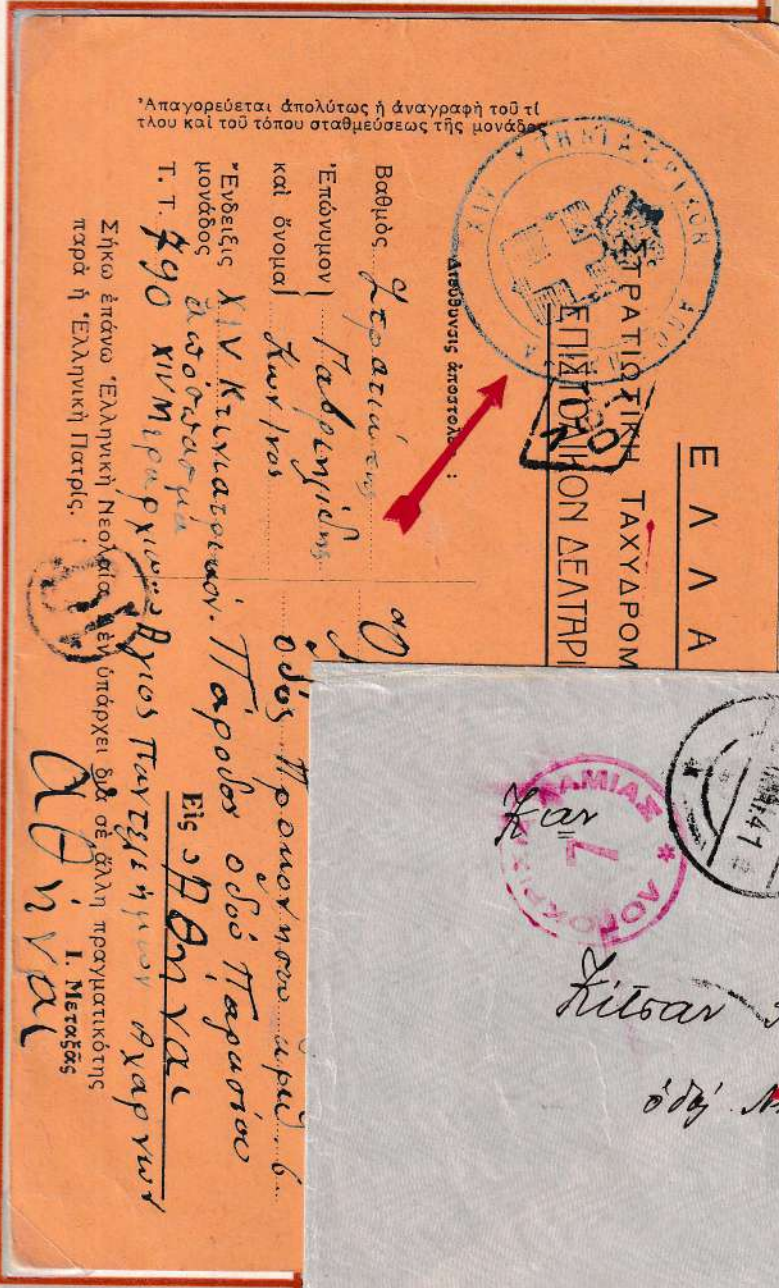
MILITARY UNIT CANCELLATIONS

There are two categories of military mail: That of the **campaign army**, which was circulated through the ΚΕΤs (mentioned above); and that of the **conscription army**, for all intents and purposes - the army within national borders. In order for soldiers in the 2nd category to send their mail free of charge, they used an official handstamp of their specific unit (which was prohibited in the case of the former). Thus, there exist items bearing the designations of the units themselves.

Some samples are shown below:

"ΕΜΠΕΔΟΝ ΠΕΖΙΚΟΥ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ"
(Infantry Training Camp of ELEFTHEROUPOLIS)

"XIV ΚΤΗΝΙΑΤΡΙΚΟΝ ΑΠΟΣΠΑΣΜΑ"
(XIV Veterinary Detachment)



"4ος ΛΟΧΟΣ ΚΑΤΑΣΚΕΥΩΝ II ΤΑΓΜΑΤΟΣ ΣΙΔΗΡΟΔΡΟΜΩΝ"
(4th Construction Company, 2nd Railway Battalion)

POSTAL SECTORS



The postal cancellations used were based around three primary types (shown above). The **postal sectors** should not be confused with the secret unit number, with which there was no connection. All major units, the General Staff, Commander-in-Chief, Military Commands, Armies, Army Corps, and Divisions had their own **Postal Sector**. It was essentially their post office.

A distinguishing feature of the Military Postal Service was the introduction of **Postal Sectors (TT)**. These were established by a directive dated 24.8.1940, which also made provisions for the creation of Central Military Post Offices (**ΚΣΤ**). Four Postal Sectors had been created in August of 1939, in conjunction with the official mobilization.

Each large military unit had its own **Postal Sector (TT)** code number that was assigned to it for the duration of the war. It was imperative that this, and not the location, be used for military correspondence. The total number of **TT** was 45, 42 + 3 supplementary ones as an annex, with the letter A as a suffix.

Each **Postal Sector (TT)** had its own censorship office (for mail **leaving** the military unit) with an identical vertical rhomboidal handstamp: "ΤΛ-Τομέας Λογοκρισίας" (**Censorship Department**) and the number of the **Postal Sector** in the middle.



The locations of the units' operations during the specified period, shown in parentheses, are based on the research of the exhibitor

1. GENERAL HEADQUARTERS (TT 461)

Military PS card from **TT461** to Athens, pmk **TAX TOMEYS 461 * 20 XII 40** Censored at the Headquarters with rhomboidal **ΤΛ 461** The headquarters of the Commander in-Chief was in Athens, at the Hotel Grande Bretagne



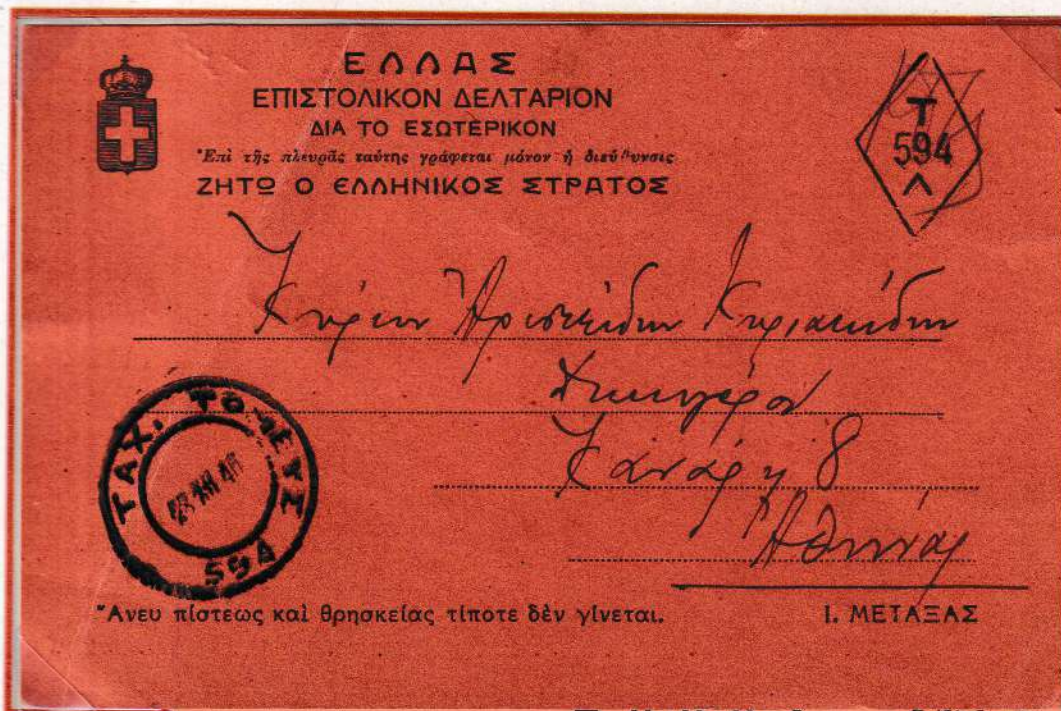
Advanced Detachment of General Headquarters (**TT197**) Patriotic postcard from **PS197** to Athens, pmk **TAX TOMEYS 197 * 20 III 41**. Censored at the Detachment with **ΤΛ 197**



2. MILITARY COMMANDS OF THE THEATER COMMANDER

MILITARY COMMANDS with their corresponding Postal Sectors (PS)			
594	B' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND	590	A' REGULATORY CENTER
327	C' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND	652	B' REGULATORY CENTER
605	D' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND	624	C' REGULATORY CENTER
980	E' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND	312	CORFU MILITARY GARRISON
752	IPIROS BASE		

The MILITARY COMMANDS OF THE THEATER COMMANDER included typically staff units of their area, such as Hospitals, Recruitment Offices, Garrisons, Headquarters, Clubs, Transportation services, Military Post Offices, etc



B' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND

Postcard from **TT594 (PS594)** to Athens. Pmk **TAX TOMΕΥΣ * 594 28 XII 40** (operated in LARISSA).

Censored at departure with rhomboidal **TA 594**



C' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND. Military postal card of the Thessaloniki Ladies' Association "Soldier's Sweater Association" from **TT327 (PS327)** to XANTHI. Pmk **TAX TOMΕΥΣ 327 * 7141**. Censored at departure with a rhomboidal **TA 327**



D' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND Cover from TT605 (PS605) to Athens, pmk TAX TOMEYΣ 605 * 10 XII 40. Censored at departure with the rhomboidal ΤΑ 605, and later by another censor as well, with box cachet marked ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ (CENSORED) and censor's number #1

Double military censorship



E' HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND. Letter card from TT980 (PS980) to TINOS (PIRGOS village). Pmk. TAX TOMEYΣ 980 * 30 III 41 (operated in VERIA). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal ΤΑ 980



A' REGULATORY CENTER. Cover from TT590 (PS590) to GITHION/RACHI village, pmk. TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 590 * 16 XI 40. Censored at departure with the rhomboidal ΤΑ 590



B' REGULATORY CENTER. Letter card from TT652 (PS652/Roadworks Service of the General Headquarters) to PAROS, pmk. TAX ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 652 * 29 III 41. Censored at departure with the rhomboidal ΤΑ 652

(within the letter card)

ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ

Δελφίνης

Δυστήν Κομοναύην
Χωρίον Βρεζαγκια Μυσηγηνών

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΥΣ

Πόλη
Τροχιαίοι Βασιλ
Σ 9 Μ Β Α 2ος Πόλοι

TT 652

Θυσίες, δουλεία, αγώνας για την Ελλάδα μ' ένα μοναδικό σκοπό: ΤΗ ΝΙΚΗ και γι' αυτήν τὰ πάντα.

Ι. ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ

Τὴν ἀποστολὴν ταύτην ἀποπέμπω εἰς τὴν Ἀθήναις ἵνα ἀφ' ἧς ἀποδεδειγμένον ἦν ἡ ἐξουσία τοῦ Μπαρμπα...

Ὅτι ἐγὼ καὶ ἀποπέμπω εἰς τὴν Ἀθήναις...

ὁμογενεῖς οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ δόξα...

ὅσα τὰ περὶ τὴν ποταμὸν...

45 εκατομμύρια μὲν ἔστιν ὁ...

ὅσον τὸν ἐν Ἰστανίῳ...

Letter card from a soldier of TT652 to Mytilene, with a very interesting text ...

... we go forth with our homeland in our hearts, for on the twenty-eighth of October, the murderers sent us an ultimatum asking that we agree to become their slaves. Little do they realize that Greeks will always be free - we have our history, and we remember well that better an hour of liberty than forty years of slavery and prison. Greece will show the dishonorable murderers who sunk a ship of our Greek navy (ELLI), that we remember her, that we never forget what it means to be Greek - even if there are 45 million against our 8. The 8 million will drive them back, and throw them into the sea...

ὁ δὲ φθάνει ὁ ἀπὸ τῆς Ἰστανίας...

ὅσα τὰ περὶ τὴν ποταμὸν...

45 εκατομμύρια μὲν ἔστιν ὁ...

ὅσον τὸν ἐν Ἰστανίῳ...

(back side)

... the dishonorable Mussolini who separated us will pay dearly for it ...

ΕΛΛΑΣ

ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ

ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΑ ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΕΥΣΙΑ

ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΕΥΣΙΑ

Διεύθυνσις ἀποστολέως: ὁς τὴν Δεσποινίδα

Βαθμὸς *Δεσποινίς*

Ἐπώνυμοι *Κουζοπουλοῦ*

καὶ ὄνομα *Παναγιώτης*

Ἐνδείξις *Δ' Τάγμα Μηχανισμῶν*

μονάδος *3ος λόχος*

Τ. Τ. *652α*

Ἐδδοφίαν Σαγονικίου

Poste Restante (Κεντρικόν)

Εἰς Ἀθήνας

Οἱ φύλακες τοῦ ἔθνους γρηγοροῦν καὶ χιλιάδες ἀνθρώπων εἰς τὰς πόλεις καὶ τὰ χωρία σαλπίζουσιν σαλπίσματα πίστεως καὶ αἰσιοδοξίας.

Ι. Μεταξᾶς

(back)

TT. 652 * 309941

B' REGULATORY CENTER / SERVICE FROM THE PS (TT) Branch. Military PS card from TT652a (PS652a) to Athens Poste Restante via civilian post. Censored at departure with ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ (CENSORED). Bears stamps cancelled with ΑΘΗΝΑ * ΠΑΡΑΜΟΝΗ (STAY) 14 ΦΕΒ 41, due to the cover being held at the post office

The 2nd REGULATORY CENTER used 2 types of censorship handstamps,

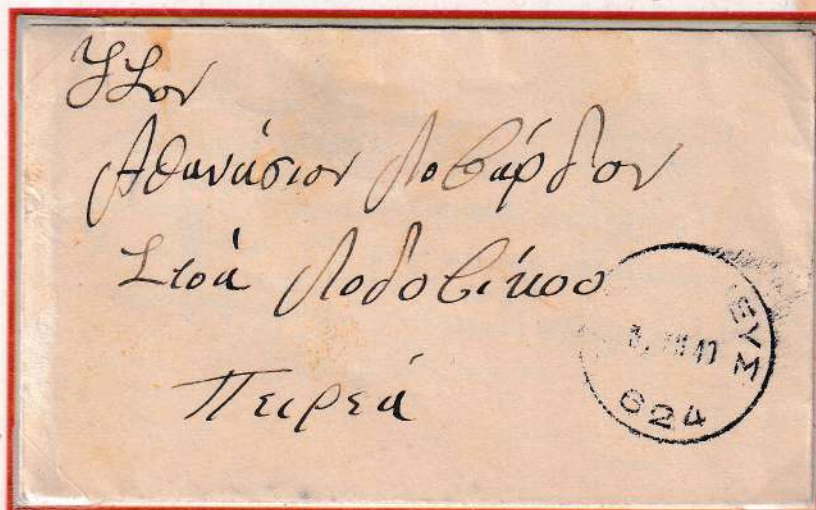
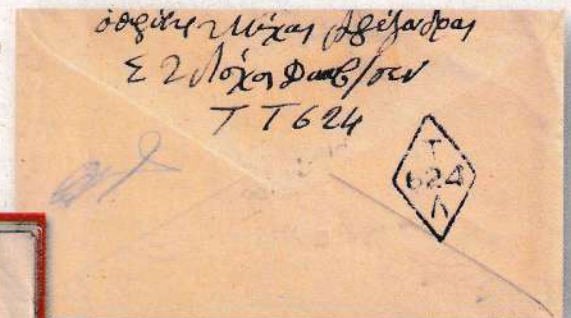
- the classic rhomboidal (TA652) and
- the two concentric circles (with a central crest), bearing the initials P. K. B. (Regulatory Center B) * Σ. Λ. (Military Censorship)



(in front)

Carte postale, spoil of war (Albanian traditional dress) from TT652 (PS652 / Unit S12 / Light Vehicle Squadron), to KALAMATA. It lacks the TT postmark. Was written on 1.12.40. Arrival pmk, ΚΑΛΑΜΑΙ ΠΑΡΑΛΙΑ * 7 ΧΙΙ 40. Censored at departure with twin-circle handstamp bearing the initials PKB * ΣΛ (B' Regulatory Center * Military Censorship) and handwritten note "ελογοκρίθη" (censored)

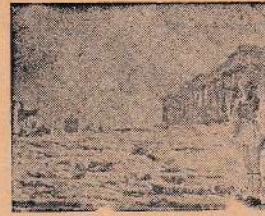
(back side 70%)



C' REGULATORY CENTER. Small cover from TT624/Σ2 Λόχος Διαβιβάσεων (PS624/S2 Signal Platoon) to PIRAEUS. Canc. TAX TOMEYΣ 624 * 3 ΧΙΙ 40. Censored at departure with the rhomboidal TA 624

ΕΛΛΑΣ

ΠΡΑΓΜΑΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ
ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΤΕΛΕΣ



Απαγορεύεται απόλυτως ή αναγραφη του τόπου σταθμεύσεως της μονάδος

Διευθυνσις αποστολέως :

Βαθμός *Χιωματιστής*
Επώνυμον *Καυδρινιώτης*
και όνομα *Φάνης*
Ενδειξις μονάδος *73 (Σωτηρίας)*
Τ. Τ. *624*

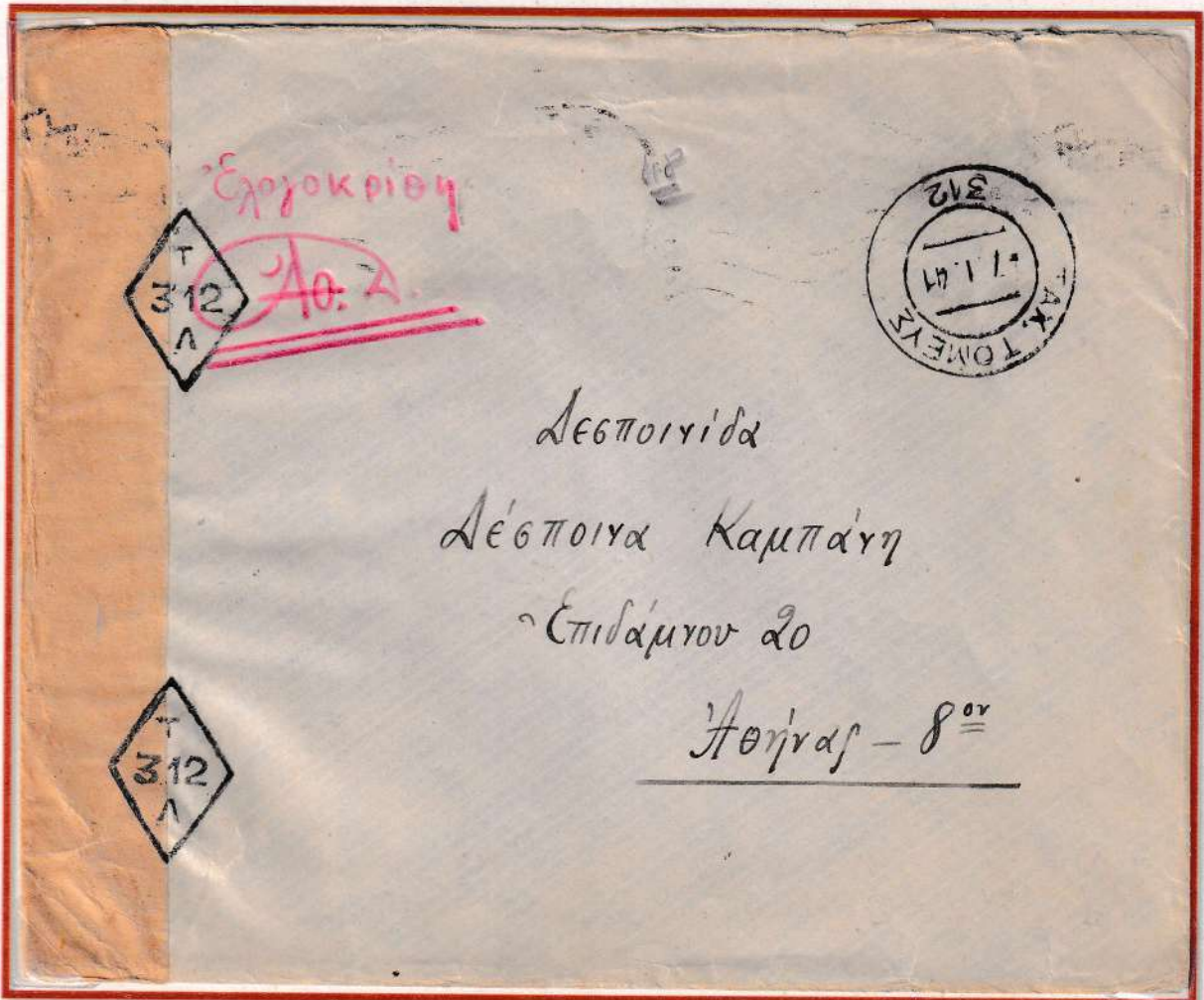
Προς τον *Νευρωματιστή*
Καυδρινιώτη Νικολάου
2^{ου} Στρατ. Νοσοκομείου

Εις *Αθήνας*

Τò σύνθημά σου, Νεολαία της Ελλάδος, είναι : ΠΙΣΤΙΣ—ΑΓΩΝ—ΝΙΚΗ.

Ι. ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ

C' REGULATORY CENTER / SERVICE FROM THE PS Branch. Military PS card from TT624A /73^ο ΣΠ, XIV ΜΠ, (branch of PS624/23rd Infantry Regiment /XIV Infantry Division) to the 2nd Athens Military Hospital, pmk. TAXI TOMEYΣ 624A * 16 III 41, (operated in ANO VRONTOU). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal ΤΛ 624



CORFU MILITARY GARRISON. Cover from TT312 /10^ο ΣΠ (PS312/10th Infantry Division) to Athens, pmk. TAXI TOMEYΣ 312 * 7 I 41. Censored at departure with the rhomboidal ΤΛ 312

Ημερομηνία Έγγραφης
 10^{ος} Τμήμα Τηλεγράφων
 Τ.Τ. 312 / 1941
 ΛΟΧΟΣ
E1

Τόπιον
 Αριστοτέλην Αρμενί
 Κωνσταντίνου
 Σωζαντίου 8.
 Αθήνα 8^{ος}

TAX. TOMEYS
 10 IV. 41
 312

(back side 50%)

Likewise, cover from **TT 312 (PS312)** with the rhomboidal censor mark **TA 312** and on the back was stamped with censor's number **#E1**

Κυπρίαν
 Νιζβαν Νιζβού
 Μωιζαρίου -
 Δεγγαδουίαν

ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑ
 ΤΑ 752



(back side)

This unit did not use a rhomboidal cachet for its censorship, but a 3-circle one with a central crest, marked **MILITARY CENSORSHIP PS752**, accompanied by a rectangular cachet with the indication **CENSORED**

EPIRUS BASE. (operated in PREVEZA). Cover from **TT 752/1^{ος} Λόχος Διτρούων (PS752/1st Motorcycle Platoon)** to THESSALONIKI, pmk. **TAX TOMEYS 752 * 13 III 41**. Censored at departure with twin-circle handstamp (with a central crest **ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑ ΤΤ752 (MILITARY CENSORSHIP PS752)**), on the back side, instead of **TA** censor mark. It also bears a linear cachet marked **ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑ (CENSORED)**. The rhomboidal handstamp **TA 752** has not been encountered.

3. ARMIES

ΤΣΔΜ (West Macedonia Army Sector)	Established August 1939; headquarters in KOZANI and a new post office, TT960
ΤΣΚΜ (Central Macedonia Army Sector)	Established 6.3.41 from the XII division. Headquarters in KOZANI
ΤΣΔΜ (Eastern Macedonia Army Sector)	Established 4.11.40 from Army Sector Kavala and headquartered in SERRES and from 8.2.41 onwards, with the incorporation of the 4th Army Corp, THESSALONIKI
ΤΣΗ (Epirus Army Sector)	Established 14.2.41 with headquarters IOANNINA

Note: Of the above armies, only the **ΤΣΔΜ** appears to have had its own **TT - Postal Sector**. The remaining army sectors would most likely have their mail processed by the **TTs** of the units included in them.

Ε Λ Λ Α Σ

ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ

ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΘΕΝΑΣ

ΤΑ

960

3 II 41

Απαγορεύεται απολύτως ή αναγραφή του τόπου σταθμεύσεως της μονάδος

Διευθυντής αποστολέας

Βαθμός Εφταμηνίας

Επώνυμον Μισογένης

και ὄνομα Γεωργίου

Ενδειξις μονάδος 3^ο Τάγμα Οδοποιών

Τ. Τ. 960

Προς τὸν Εφταμηνίας

Γεωργίου Γαβαλά

Ὁδὸς Σταδίου ἀριθ. 70

Εἰς Ἀθήνας

Παιδιά μου, Ἐμπρός!

Ριχθῆτε με λύσσα, με φανατισμό, με τρέλλα στὸν ἀγῶνα.

Ὁ καθένας καὶ ἡ κάθε μία στὴ θέσι του μέχρις ἐσχάτων.

Ι! ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ

ΤΣΔΜ (West Macedonia Army Sector) Military PS card from **TT960 /3^ο Τάγμα Οδοποιών (PS960/3rd ROAD CONSTRUCTION BATTALION)** to Athens, pmk. **TAX TOMEYS 960 * 3 II 41** (operated in Korçë). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal **ΤΑ 960** and with elastic box handstamp texted **ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ/CENSORED**

The elastic handstamp "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (passed censorship) is found only when it comes from a unit under the direct supervision of the ΤΣΔΜ.

4. ARMY CORPS

825	A' ARMY CORPS	ATHENS
152	B' ARMY CORPS	LARISSA
212	C' ARMY CORPS	THESSALONIKI
526	D' ARMY CORPS	KAVALA
900	E' ARMY CORPS	ALEXANDROUPOLI

Five Army Corps had been created with a previous set of mobilization plans. That is, prior to the one with which Greece entered the war (plan1939b). They underwent various changes as regards the specific units of which they were composed but remained stable in number until the end

Ε Λ Λ Α Σ

ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ

ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΤΕΛΕΣ

Διεύθυνσις αποστολέως:

Βαθμός Θ/μύς

*Επώνυμον Πάρμαλος

καί ὄνομα Αἰθέρης

*Ενδειξις μονάδος 1

T. T. 825

Πρὸς τὴν Κεῖται

Τίλμα Χριστοδουλοπού

Τηροφρονιστὴν Ελαφίαν

Μαδρίτ'

Εἰς Αθήνας

Ἐέλπομεν τὴν Ἑλλάδα μεγάλην καὶ ἰσχυράν, ἣ ὅποια θὰ εἶναι μέσα εἰς τὴν κοινωνίαν τῶν λαῶν πολιτισμένη. Ἑλλάδα δια τὴν ὅποیان θὰ εἴσθε ὄλοι ὑπερήφανοι. **Ι. Μεταξάς**

*Απαγορεύεται ἀπολύτως ἡ ἀναγραφή τοῦ τίτλου καὶ τοῦ τόπου ἀπεμψέως τῆς μονάδος

A' ARMY CORPS
Military PS card from **TT825 (PS825)** to Athens, pmk **TAX TOMEYΣ 825 * 22 XI 40** (VOTONOSI/6km West of METSOVO). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal **TA 825**.

The rhomboidal 23, refers to the Athen's postman

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΑ

ΑΤΕΛΕΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ

Γεννητὸν Παριζιάνη

*Επώνυμον καὶ ὄνομα Παριζιάνη

Βαθμός Αξιωματικός

*Ενδειξις μονάδος 5 B

T. T. 825

Διεύθυνσις αποστολέως:

Διεύθυνσις 20

Τόπος Αθήνας

Διὰ τοῦ παρόντος πληροφοροῦσιν οἱ οἰκεῖοι τοῦ Στρατιωτικοῦ περὶ τῆς ὑγείας των καὶ ζητοῦν παρ' αὐτῶν πληροφορίας δι' οἰκογενειακὰς ἐπισημοὺς εἰς γλώσσαν σαφῆ Ἑλληνικὴν ἢ ἐν ἑλλεῶν διαφοροῦμένων ἢ συνθηματικῶν.

ΑΣΠΙΩΤΗ-ΕΛΛΑΣ

Likewise, a military postal card from Athens to **TT825 (PS825)**, with arrival pmk **TAX TOMEYΣ 825 * 20 I 40**; 41 by mistake, (DERVITSANI/6 km N/E of Gjirokastër). Censored at departure with twin-circle cachet **ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ 164** (ATHENS CENSORSHIP, censor's number #164)



B' ARMY CORPS. Letter card from **ΤΤ152/Β' Κτηνιατρικό Απόσπασμα (PS152/2nd Veterinary Detachment)** to **FARSALA/THESSALY**. Pmk. **TAX TOMEYΣ 152 * 3 IV 41** (PANTELOGIA/5 km S/E of PREMETI). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal **ΤΑ 152**.



C' ARMY CORPS. Postcard of "HELLENIC MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION" from **ΤΤ212/Τάγμα Χιονοδρόμων (PS212/ Ski Battalion)** to **PIRAEUS**, pmk **TAX TOMEYΣ 212 * 30 III 41** (Κορçë). Censored at departure with **ΤΑ 212**. The #12 inside the circle cachet refers to the **PIRAEUS** postman



Αριθ. 241

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΟΡΕΙΒΑΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ

ΧΑΡ. ΤΡΙΚΟΥΠΗ 4—ΤΗΛ. 29-111

ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΔΙΑΝΟΜΗΣ ΜΑΛΛΙΟΥ «ΦΑΝΕΛΛΑΣ ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΟΥ»

ΠΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑ Α΄

ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΓΑΡΓΑΡΕΤΤΑΣ

Μαλλι Δράμια 55

Ἡ *Ζώνη Τεβζον*

ὁδός..... ἀριθ.....

παρέλαβε τὰ ἀνωτέρω δράμια μαλλιού διὰ πλεκτὰ γῶν πολεμιστῶν μας

Ἀθῆναι τῆ 5 2 1941

Ο ΠΑΡΑΛΑΒΩΝ

Ο ΠΑΡΑΔΟΥΣ

Κατάνου

Ζαφειρόπουλος

... for gloves

The "HELLENIC MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION" had a wool distribution service for women volunteers to knit gloves, hats, socks, etc. for the needs of the soldiers



Αριθ. 27

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΟΡΕΙΒΑΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ

ΧΑΡ. ΤΡΙΚΟΥΠΗ 4—ΤΗΛ. 29-111

ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΔΙΑΝΟΜΗΣ ΜΑΛΛΙΟΥ «ΦΑΝΕΛΛΑΣ ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΟΥ»

ΠΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑ Α΄

ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΓΑΡΓΑΡΕΤΤΑΣ

Μαλλι Δράμια 95

(in front)

... for socks

ΠΑΡΕΛΗΦΘΗΣΑΝ :

Κατάνου 1 ζεύγ Δράμια 60

»

»

Ἐπόλοιπον » 32

Φύρα » 3

Σύνολον δράμια 95

Ἀθῆναι 4 1 1941

Ο Παραλαβών

Ζαφειρόπουλος



D' ARMY CORPS. Military postal card from TT526 (PS526). Pmk TAX TOMEYS 526 * 23 II 41. On February 8, 1941, the Corps was dissolved and its incorporation into the T.S.A.M. (THESSALONIKI). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal TA 526



(inside the letter)

12/XII/40

E' ARMY CORPS/of ALBANIA. Cover from TT900/ΣΥΓΚΡΟΤΗΜΑ "Κ"/Μονάδα 1139: Διοίκηση. (PS900/GROUP "K"/Unit 1139: COMMAND), to Athens. Pmk TAX TOMEYS 900 * 12 XII 40 (POPTSISTI/10km N/W of MOSCOPOLIS). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal TA 900. Secured with resealing tape ribbon marked ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ (CENSORED)

The E' ARMY CORPS until 15.12.40, it was called ΣΥΓΚΡΟΤΗΜΑ "Κ" (GROUP 'K')

5. DIVISION UNITS

DIVISIONS (with the allocated numbers of their postal sectors and the initial Command Posts at the outbreak of the war)			
395	I INFANTRY DIVISION - LARISSA	901	XII INFANTRY DIVISION - KOMOTINI
850	II INFANTRY DIVISION - ΑΘΗΝΑ	724	XIII INFANTRY DIVISION - ALEXANDROUPOLIS
912	III INFANTRY DIVISION - PATRAS	790	XIV INFANTRY DIVISION - XANTHI
161	IV INFANTRY DIVISION - NAFPLION	518	XV INFANTRY DIVISION - FLORINA
866	V INFANTRY DIVISION - CHANIA	490	XVI INFANTRY DIVISION - LAMIA
415	VI INFANTRY DIVISION - SERRES	251	XVII INFANTRY DIVISION - THESSALONIKI
732	VII INFANTRY DIVISION - DRAMA	693	XVIII INFANTRY DIVISION - VIRONIA/SERRES
712	VIII INFANTRY DIVISION - IOANNINA	927	XIX MECHANIZED INFANTRY DIVISION-ATHENS
520	IX INFANTRY DIVISION - KASTORIA	145	XX INFANTRY DIVISION - SCOPIA/FLORINA
345	X INFANTRY DIVISION - VERIA	294	GROUP OF INFANTRY DIVISIONS / TSAM - SIDIROKASTRO
235	XI ΜΕΡΑΡΧΙΑ ΠΕΖΙΚΟΥY -THESSALONIKI	972	CAVALRY DIVISION - THESSALONIKI

To the initially 14 Divisions of the 1939 Mobilization Plan, **the additional Divisions were added:**

- **XV** (on **4.11.40** was developed into a Division from the partially mobilized IV Brigade),
- **XVI** (on **28.10.40** from the expansion of a corresponding Brigade),
- **XVII** (was formed in **early November**),
- **XVIII** (was formed on **11.12.40**). Received the Postal Sector TT693, initially given to the VI Border Sector
- **XIX** (was formed on **24.1.41**),
- **XX** (was formed on **2.2.41**).

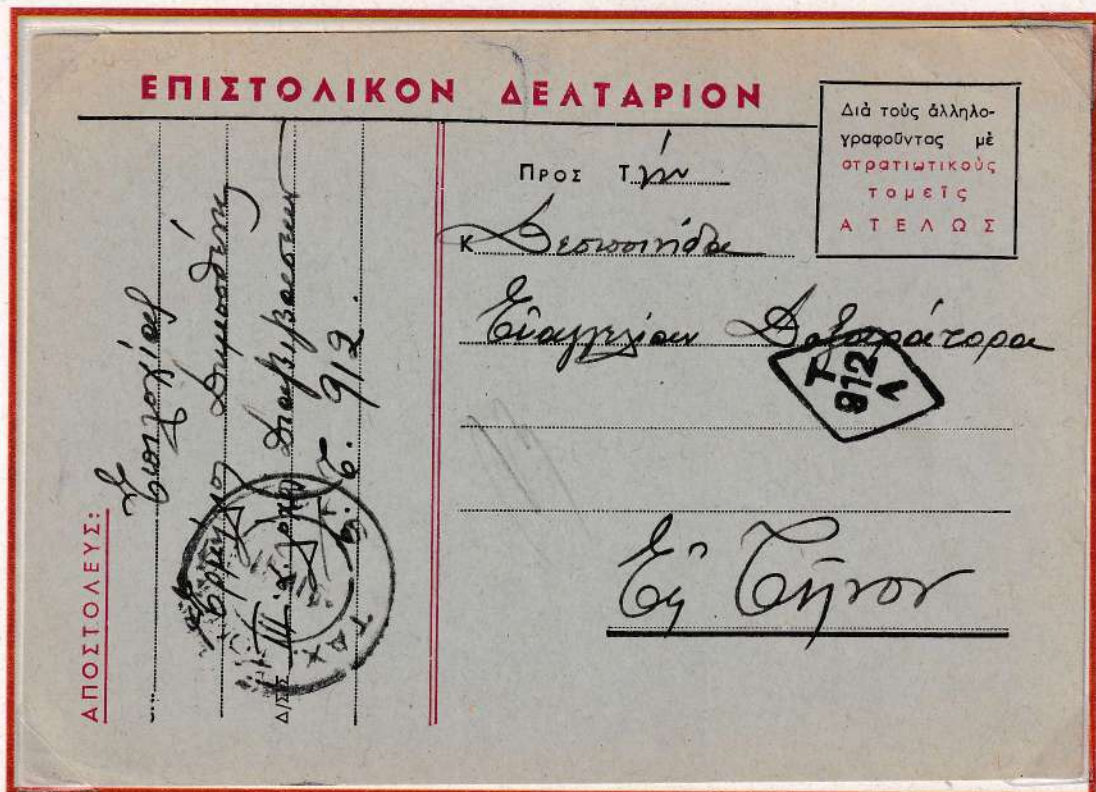
The **CAVALRY DIVISION** was directly formed from the **VI & XVII Divisions**



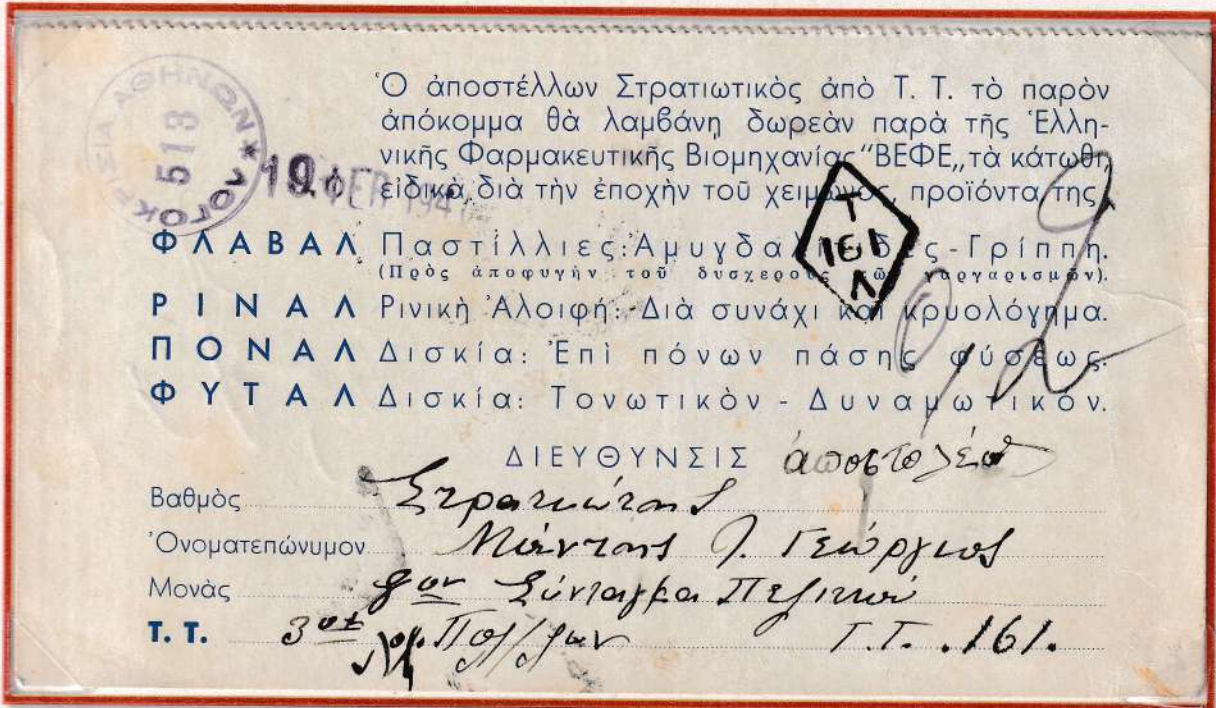
**I INFANTRY
DIVISION/16th
INFANTRY BRIGADE**
Letter card from TT395
(PS395) to Athens,
pmk TAX TOMEYΣ
395 * 9 IV 41
(mountain range
TREMPEŠINA/
ALBANIA). Censored at
departure with TA 395



II INFANTRY DIVISION. Military PS card from **TT850 (PS850)** to Athens. Pmk **TAX TOMEYS 850 * 26 II 41 (BIG LAMPOVA/ALBANIA)**. Censored at departure with **TA 850**. Bears in addition a framed cachet texted **"ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ"** (CENSORED) with censor's signature



III INFANTRY DIVISION. Postcard from **TT912 /Λόχο Διαβιβάσεων (PS912/Signal Platoon)**, to **TINOS**. Pmk **TAX TOMEYS 912 * 9 IV 41 (KOURDESI/East of CHIMARAS)**. Censored at departure with **TA 912**



(back)

IV INFANTRY DIVISION. Response of a postcard from TT161/8ο ΣΠ (PS161/8th Infantry regiment) to Athens, pmk TAX TOMEYS 161 * 2 III 41 (LIMPOCHOVO/12km east of Gjirokastrë). Firstly, censored upon departure with single-circle cachet ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ * 513 (ATHENS CENSORSHIP, censor #513), handstamp 19 ΦΕΒ 1941 and subsequently upon his return from the unit (sending of a reply) with censor mark ΤΑ 161



V INFANTRY DIVISION. Military PS card from TT866 (PS866) to ATHENS, pmk TAX TOMEYS 866 * 18 III 41 (mountain range TREBESINA/ALBANIA). Censored at departure with linear handstamp marked ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ (CENSORED) and censor's signature

ριγού και εσύ και γοι (και
 εαί δαί βάρω γυα μου εδωκα
 εαί γω εαί εδω γυα σου πορ
 σου γρη γορα εε κασυγ εδ
 μας γρη γρη εαί εδω εδω εδ
 εγγο εδ σου εδω εδω εδω εδ
 εδω εδω εδω εδω εδω εδω

10-1-41 Ζαωη δέμου
Μωακωά

(on back side)

... dear daddy I will do my best to knit the scarf as fast as I can ...



ΝΙΚΗ ΤΑΙ
 εαί ριζομε εσύ εδω εδω εδω
ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ
 13-1 ΔΙΑ ΤΟ ΕΣΩΤΕΡΙΚΟΝ
 Ζαωη δέμου
 Ζωάννη Βαρβαρίου
 Μαί 870
 68 415

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΥΣ :
 Ζωάννη Βαρβαρίου
 11 Καμύτσα Αθηνών

VI INFANTRY DIVISION
 Illustrated postcard from Athens to **TT415 (PS415)**. Upon arrival pmk **TAX TOMEYS 415 * 16.1.41 (SIDIROKASTRO)**. Censored at departure with twin-circle cachet **ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ 131 (ATHENS CENSORCHIP, censor's number #131)**

On the front of the postcard ... **VICTORS, we will throw the Italians into the sea...**

ΕΛΛΑΣ
 ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ
 ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΤΕΛΕΣ

Διεύθυνσι αποστολέως :
 Βαθμός Σεργίου
 Έπώνυμον Ματθαιόπουλος
 και όνομα Παναγιώτης
 Ένδειξις μονάδος Ταχυδρομείον
 Τ. Τ. 415

Προς τον Φαρμακοντεμ Βιοηγ. "Βερε"
Μεταξοφρου - Ζουβου, 22
Μεγαρον Κοφινού
 Είς Αθηνάς

Το σύνθημά σου, Νεολαία της Ελλάδος, είναι : ΠΙΣΤΙΣ—ΑΓΩΝ—ΝΙΚΗ.
 Ι. ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ

Likewise, a military PS card from **TT415 (PS415)** to Athens, pmk **TAX TOMEYS 415 * 18 III 41 (PAKOMITI/ 9 km N/W of PREMETI)**. Censored at departure with **TA 415** from censor #4 (in a box) with his signature

Υπόδειγμα Σ. Σ.

Γράφετε καθαρά την διεύθυνσιν τῶν ἐπιστολῶν σας πρὸς στρατιωτικούς, οἱ ὅποιοι ἐξυληρετοῦνται ἀπὸ ταχ. τομέα.

Μὴ θέτετε χρήματα ἐντὸς τῶν ἐπιστολῶν σας διότι τοῦτο ἀπαγορεύεται. Ἐχετε εἰς τὴν διάθεσίν σας πρὸς τοῦτο τὰς ταχυδρομικὰς ἐπιταγὰς. Αὐτὰς νὰ χρησιμοποιῆτε ἀπολύτως.

Μὴ γράφετε εἰς τὰς ἐπιστολάς σας εἰδήσεις ἢ πληροφορίας στρατιωτικῆς φύσεως. Τὸ περιεχόμενον αὐτῶν δεόν νὰ εἶναι αὐστηρῶς ἰδιωτικῆς φύσεως.



VII INFANTRY DIVISION. Cover from TT732/25ο ΣΠ-Λόχος Ὀλμων (PS732/25th Infantry Regiment-Mortar Company) to Athens. Pmk. TAX TOMEYS 732 * 16 II 41 (TOULOUMPAR/DRAMA). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal TA 732

Inside the letter, the above censorship note was found, placed by the military censorship with instructions for the senders of the letters



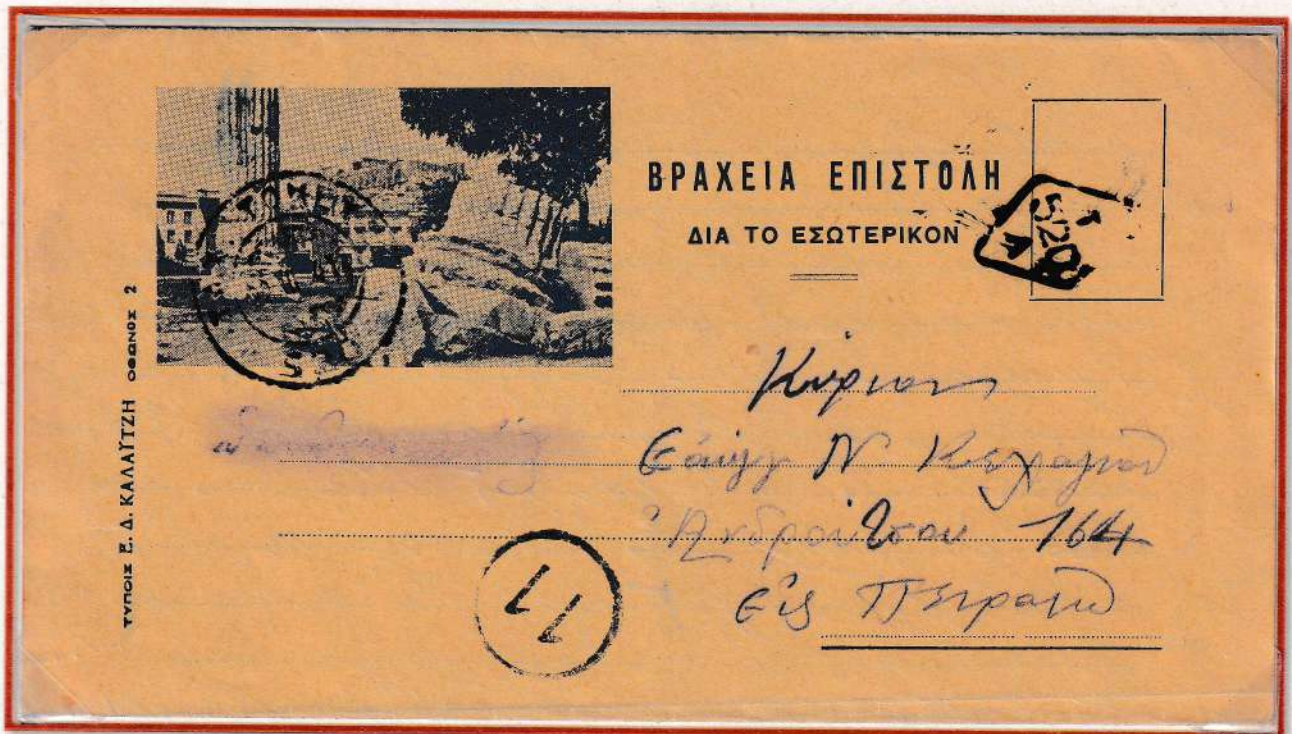
Likewise, postcard from **TT732/22ο Τάγμα (PS32/22nd Battalion)** to **TINOS (TRIANTAROS village)**, pmk **TAX TOMEYΣ 732 * 29 III 41 (DRAMA)**. Censored at departure with **ΤΑ 732**

Unusual depiction (... of Western-style mentality...) for a Greek-Italian war postcard!!!



VIII INFANTRY DIVISION. Military PS card from **TT712/Τάγμα Κονίτσης (PS712/KONITSA Battalion)** to **KRESTENA-ILIA** region, pmk **TAX TOMEYΣ 712 * 1 IV 41 (KARDIKI/ALBANIA)**. Censored at departure with **ΤΑ 712**

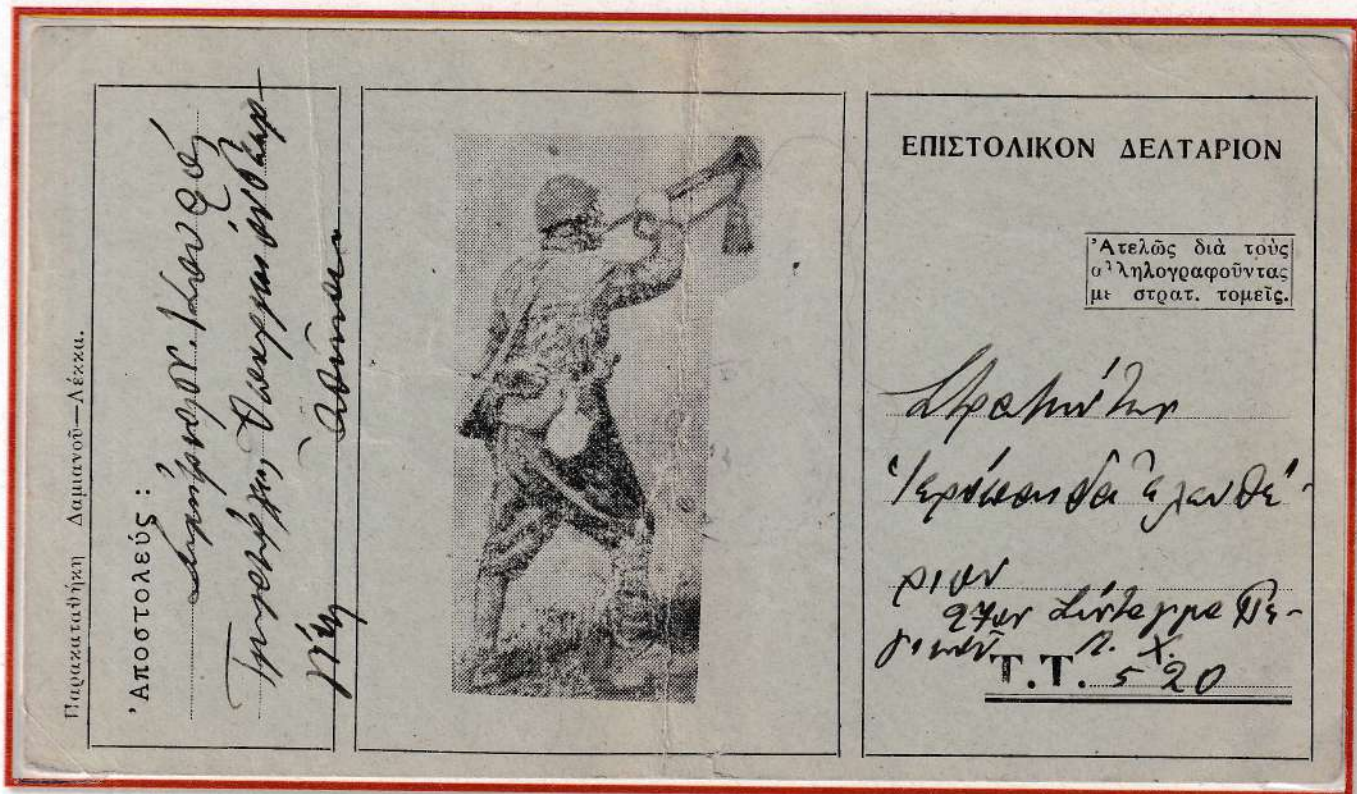
Interesting variation of a circular postmark with the date between lines



IX INFANTRY DIVISION. Letter card from TT520/32° ΣΠ (PS520/32nd Infantry Regiment) to PIRAEUS, pmk TAX ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 520 * 22 ΙΙΙ 41 (OSNATI/POGRADEC-ALBANIA). Censored at departure with TA 520

... people are preparing to face tomorrow's enemy with a determination born from the war, and with the knowledge that the only remaining choice is death or victory...

... people are preparing to face tomorrow's enemy with a determination born from the war, and with the knowledge that the only remaining choice is death or victory...



(back)

Likewise, patriotic postcard from Athens to TT520/27° ΣΠ-Λόχος Χιονοδρόμων (PS520/27th Infantry Regiment-Mountain Ski Company), on 10 3.41 on the back of the postcard, (PRENISTA/ARTA). Censored with faint single-circle handstamp of Athens civil censorship. Recipient Hieropaïd (Holy) Eleftherios



XIII INFANTRY DIVISION. Postcard from TT724/XIII Απόσπασμα Επιμελητείας (PS724/XIII Logistics Excerpt) to SAMOS. Pmk TAX. TOMEYS 724 * 12 III 41 (GRAMPOVITSA, village in the region of Korçë). Censored at departure with the TA 724



XIV INFANTRY DIVISION. Letter card from TT790/Διοίκησης Μηχανικού (PS790/ Engineering Command) to PIRAEUS. Pmk TAX. TOMEYS 790 * 25 III 41 (SIDIROKASTRO/SERRES). Censored at departure with the TA 790



XV INFANTRY DIVISION. Military PS card from TT518/28^ο Σύνταγμα (PS518/28th Infantry Regiment) to Athens. Pmk TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 518 * 18 II 41 (Spii Bekiaries/Albania). Censored at departure with ΤΑ 518 Variation of the circular stamp with an inverted date band



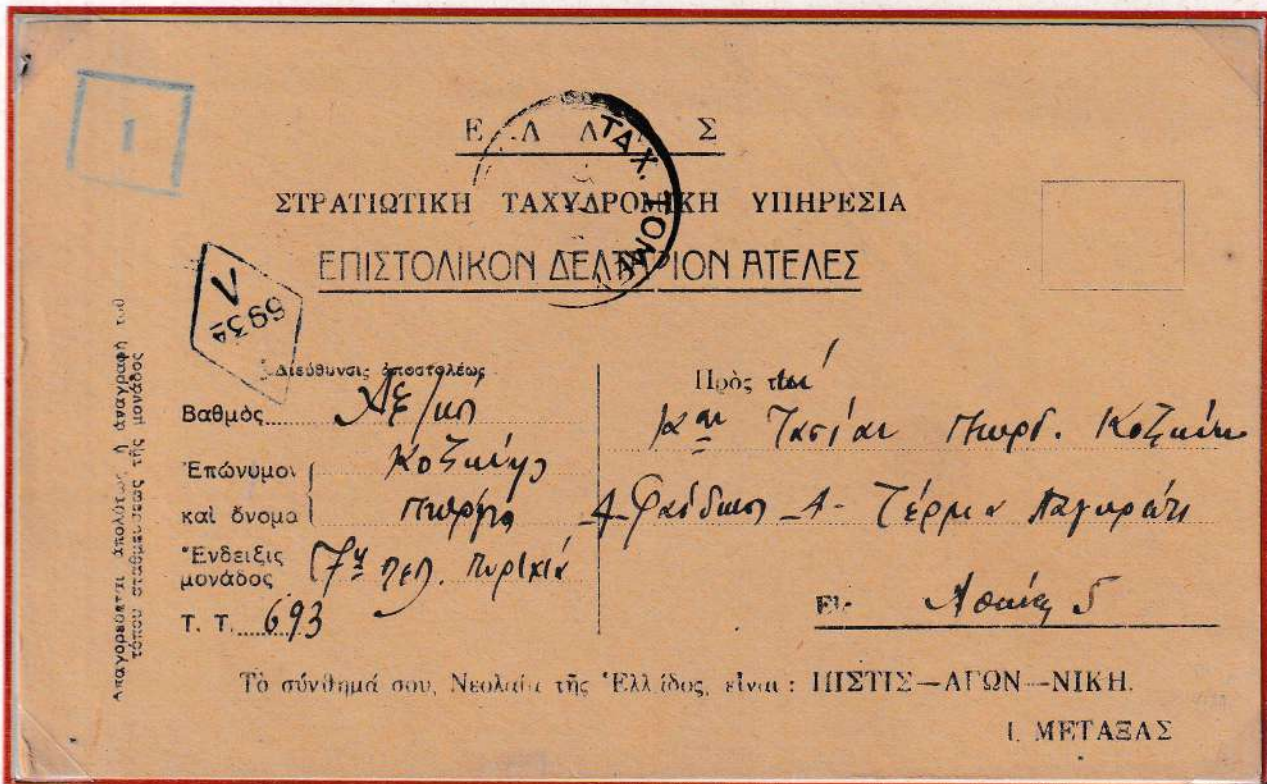
(back)

Στ. 2.2. 4903/17 Ιανουαρίου 1941

XVI INFANTRY DIVISION. Military PS card from TT490/XVI Κτηνιατρικόν Απόσπασμα (PS490/XVI Veterinary Detachment) to Athens. Pmk TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 490 * ??? (17.1.41 on the back), (SCOPIA/6 km south of FLORINA). Censored at departure with ΤΑ490. The single-circle cachet with #14 refers to the postman



XVII INFANTRY DIVISION. Military PS card from **TT251/XVII Ομάς Αναγνωρίσεως (PS251/XVII Reconnaissance Unit)** (The incorrect designation on the unit's official handstamp with the royal crest, occasionally found corrected by hand), to **LARISSA**. Pmk. **TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 251 * 5 I 41 (ZEMBLAK/10 km N/W. of Korçë)**. Censored at departure with **ΤΛ 251** and additionally from the sender, Officer **VARIKOPOULOS Th.**, with a handwritten censorship note stating "**Censored by the Commander**" and signature, (see prisoners of war below)



XVIII INFANTRY DIVISION / SERVICE FROM THE TT (PS) Branch. Military PS card from **TT693/7η ΠΕΔΙΝΗ ΠΥΡΟΒΟΛΑΡΧΙΑ (PS693/7th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTERY)**, to **Athens**. Pmk **TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 693 * 3 III 41** (Defensive positions along the Struma). Censored at departure with **ΤΛ 693^A**, censor #1 (on the box)



XIX MECHANIZED INFANTRY DIVISION. Cover from TT927/192^o Σύνταγμα (PS927/192nd Infantry Regiment) to Athens, pmk. TAX. TOMEYS 927 * 17 III 41 (KATERINI/KITROS village). Censored at departure with the ΤΛ 927 and censor's signature. The #40 inside circle refers to the Athen's postman



XX INFANTRY DIVISION. Letter card from TT145/35^o Σύνταγμα (PS145/35th Infantry Regiment) to Athens. Pmk TAX. TOMEYS 145 * 28 III 41 (Arnisca/EDESSA). Censored at departure with the ΤΛ 145

ΕΛΛΑΣ

ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ
ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΤΕΛΕΣ



(back)

Απαγορεύεται απολύτως ή άναγραφή του τίτλου και του τόπου σταθμεύσεως της μονάδος

Διεύθυνσις αποστολέως:

Πρός τον

Βαθμός *Σεραφείμ*
Επώνυμον *Ασπασίου*
καί ὄνομα *Σταυρίου*
Ενδειξις μονάδος *2^ο Ρεζ.*
Τ. Τ. *294*

Σεραφείμ Ασπασίου
Επιπέδιον Παναγιώ
από εως
Είς *Αθήναι*

Η Νεότης του Έθνους με γοργόν το βήμα βαδίζει το δρόμο της Έθνικής Αναγεννήσεως.
I. Μεταξάς

GROUP OF INFANTRY DIVISIONS / TSAM. Military PS card from TT294/1st Λόχος (PS294/1st COMPANY) to THESSALONIKI, backstamped with faint postmark TAX. TOMEYΣ on 10.11.40 (written on the back from the sender). Censored at departure with the TA 294

ΕΛΛΑΣ

ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ
ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΤΕΛΕΣ



Απαγορεύεται απολύτως ή άναγραφή του τόπου σταθμεύσεως της μονάδος

Διεύθυνσις αποστολέως:

Πρός τον

Βαθμός *Αξιωματ.*
Επώνυμον *Κεραχιώργη*
καί ὄνομα *Γεωργίου*
Ενδειξις μονάδος *3^ο Σύνταγμα*
Τ. Τ. *972*

Αξιωματ.
Τ. Τ. Μπακωδρον
Τριβλιών
Είς *Αθήνας*
το βράδυ με 20
Μαρτίου
1 ΜΕΤΑΣΑΣ
τη ώρα 10-30

Παιδιά μου, Έμπρός!

Ριχθήτε με λύσσα, με φανατισμό, με τρέλλα στον αγώνα
Ο καθένας και η κάθε μία στη θέση του μέχρις εσχάτων

CAVALRY DIVISION. Military PS card from TT972/ 3^o Σύνταγμα Ιππικού (PS972/3rd CAVALRY Regiment) to Athens. Pmk TAX. TOMEYΣ 972 * 16 III 41 (ZEMBLAK/10 km N/W of Korçë). Censored at departure with the TA 972

GARRISON HEADQUARTERS

Mobilization plan 1939b, along with the ministerial decision of 13.10.1939, provided for **twelve secure locations with assigned GARRISON HEADQUARTERS**. Additional ones were created during the war.



Cover from **TT152B** (Branch of **PS152**, which, however, did not have its own postal office). Cachet "**ΦΡΟΥΡΑΡΧΕΙΟ ΓΡΕΒΕΝΩΝ**" (GREVENA GARISSON) dated on **24 XI 40** (handstamp) and pmk "**TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ 152 * 27 XI 40**" (in front side). Handwritten indication "**ελογοκρίθη**" (censored) with censor's signature



Military PS card from the **2nd Horse Riding Center of ARGOS ORESTIKON (in KASTORIA)**, to Athens via civilian post, pmk. "**ΑΡΓΟΣ ΟΡΕΣΤΙΚΟΥ * 26 III 41**". Bears official cachet, with a central crest marked "**ΦΡΟΥΡΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ ΑΡΓΟΥΣ ΟΡΕΣΤΙΚΟΥ**" (ARGOS ORESTIKON GARISSON) and linear handstamp "**ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ**" (CENSORED) with censor's signature.

The mobile units for the requisition of animals, conducted requisitions in an effort to supply the campaigning army with cattle for equestrian units and transport.



2nd day of war
(29.10.40)



Cover with enclosed letter from Athens to a student of the Syros Reserve Officers School "ΣΕΑΣ", canc. "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 29 X 40", 2nd DAY OF WAR. Arrival pmk "ΣΥΡΟΣ ΑΦΙΕΙΣ 2 ΧΙ 40" (on the back). Censored with a 3-circle cachet marked "ΦΡΟΥΡΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ ΣΥΡΟΥ" (GARRISON HEADQUARTER OF SYROS).

... the boys, Kosmas, Marinus, and Yannis, were running joyfully to Thessaloniki to enlist to the army...

within the letter: ... the boys, Kosmas, Marinus, and Yannis, were running joyfully to Thessaloniki to enlist to the army...



Military PS card from Corinth Training Center to a politician in Naxos, pmk. "ΚΟΡΙΝΘΟΣ * 13 ΜΑΡ 41", Censored with a 3-circle "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΚΟΡΙΝΘΟΥ" (KORINTH CENSORSHIP). Bears official cachet marked "ΦΡΟΥΡΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ ΚΟΡΙΝΘΟΥ" (KORINTH GARRISON HEADQUARTER)

BRITISH TROOPS IN GREECE

They first landed at Souda on 31 October 1940 and on mainland Greece in January and March of 1941 (named "W FORCE"). Their mail was commonly routed through **BAPO 4 (BASE ARMY POST OFFICE 4)** in Cairo. According to E. B. Proud, two of the **F. P. O.s (Field Post Offices)** given to the British forces, were **#192** and **#193**

F.P.O. 193



GREECE

Athens

18.11.40 - (10.4.41)

F.P.O. 192



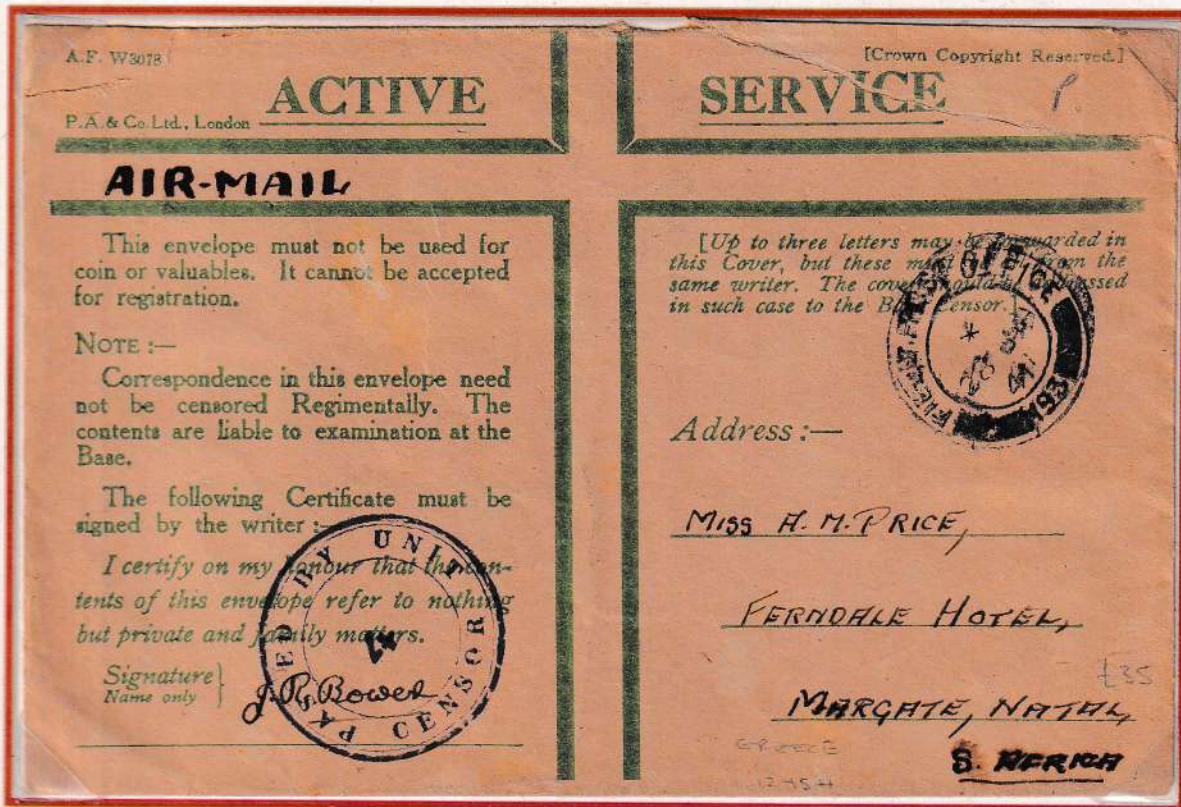
GREECE - CRETE

Suda Bay

(20.11.40) - (3.2.41)

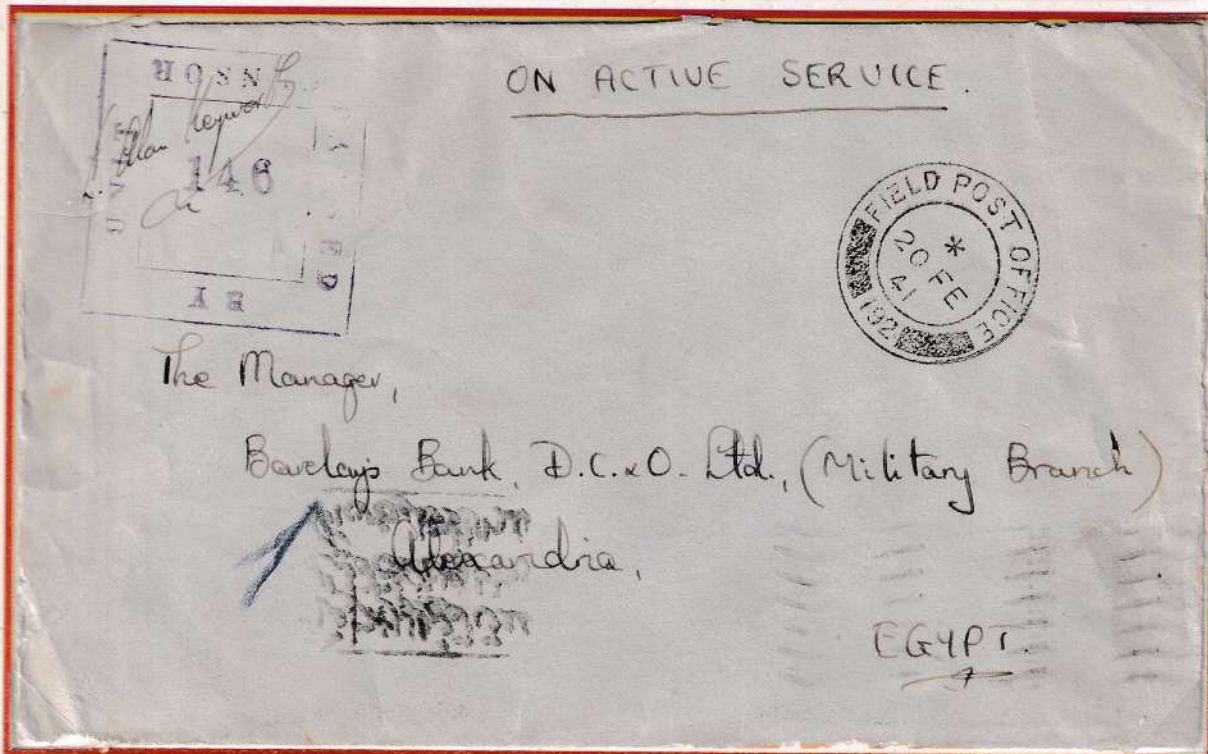
"HISTORY OF BRITISH
ARMY POSTAL
SERVICE VOL III"

by E. B. PROUD



Military postage-free cover from Greece, pmk. "FIELD POST OFFICE 193 * 28 JAN 41", to S. AFRICA.

Censored in KAIRO by a unit of **BAPO 4** (BASE ARMY POST OFFICE), hand stamped with 3-ring light blue handstamp marked "PASSED BY UNIT CENSOR" in outer belt and a '4' in the center



Cover from a British soldier in Greece, pmk. "FIELD POST OFFICE 192 * 20 FE 41," to EGYPT

Censored upon arrival and hand stamped with a double frame violet handstamp marked "PASSED BY UNIT CENSOR" in outer belt and a '146' in the center

HOSPITALS

The mobilization plan also provided for the maintenance of the 27 existing military hospitals in cities and towns of Greece. Over the course of the war, an additional 50 hospitals and 46 operating theaters were put into use, with a total capacity of 30,000 beds. Postal items originating from these, usually included the hospital name as part of the cancellation.



Postcard from **4ο ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ** (4th ATHENS MILITARY HOSPITAL - was the IPOKRATION hospital), on **14 I 41** to PIRAEUS. Bears a red 3-circle cachet "HELLENIC RED CROSS - PATIENT AND WOUNDED SOLDIER ENTERTAINMENT Dept" *The contribution of the Greek Red Cross was not limited to supporting the medical service but also extended to the entertainment of the hospitalized patients*



Postcard from ATHENS to FIELD HOSPITAL of the HELLENIC RED CROSS in AGRINIO which was under the EPIRUS BASE, on **2.2.41** (back). Censored upon departure with twin-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ * ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΪΘΗ 148" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP/CENSORED, sensor's number #148)

The Greek Red Cross had for the medical needs of the Army 2 field surgical units, 1 Evacuation Hospital, its hospital in Athens, and its unit in Thessaloniki

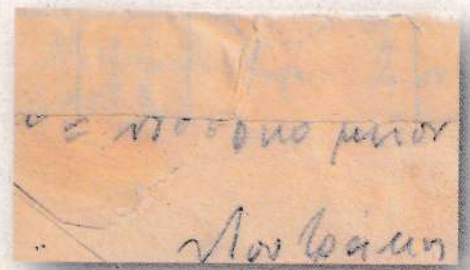


Cover from the 1^ο ΣΤΡ. ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΛΑΡΙΣΣΑΣ (1st HOSPITAL-LARISSA) to Athens (faint date) It was under the "2nd Higher Military Command" Censored in LARISSA with the 3-circle misspelled handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΪΑ ΛΑΡΙΣΣΗΣ" (H instead of I) and sensor's number #9 The 45 refers to Athen's postman

Letter card from Athens to ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΤΗΝΟΥ (TINOS MILITARY HOSPITAL) on 4.4.41 Censored upon departure with single-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ" (ATHENS CENSORCHIP) and censor's number #318



(back) part of the cover 100%



Cover from 6^ο ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΛΟΥΤΡΑΚΙΟΥ (6th MILITARY HOSPITAL-LOUTRAKI), pmk "ΛΟΥΤΡΑΚΙΟΝ * 28 ΔΕΚ 40".

Censored in LOUTRAKI with red linear handstamp texted "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" CENSORED



Postcard from the **15^ο ΣΤΡΑΤΩΤΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ** (15th MILITARY HOSPITAL OF ATHENS) (cachet with a central crest) to TINOS on **15.4.41** (back). Censored upon departure with 3-circle cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ * ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ 24" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP/CENSORED, sensor's number #24)



Military PS card from **ΣΤΡΑΤΩΤΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΔΡΑΜΑΣ** (DRAMA MILITARY HOSPITAL) via civilian post, pmk "ΔΡΑΜΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 22 III 41", to Athens. Censored upon departure with twin-circle handstamp texted "ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ ΔΡΑΜΑΣ" (DRAMA CENSORSHIP Dept)

This hospital was under the command of the "4th Higher Military Command"

Γαλατσίν

Ε. 143

Μανώλης Τερεζακίδης

Σ1 Νοσοκομείων Διακομιδής



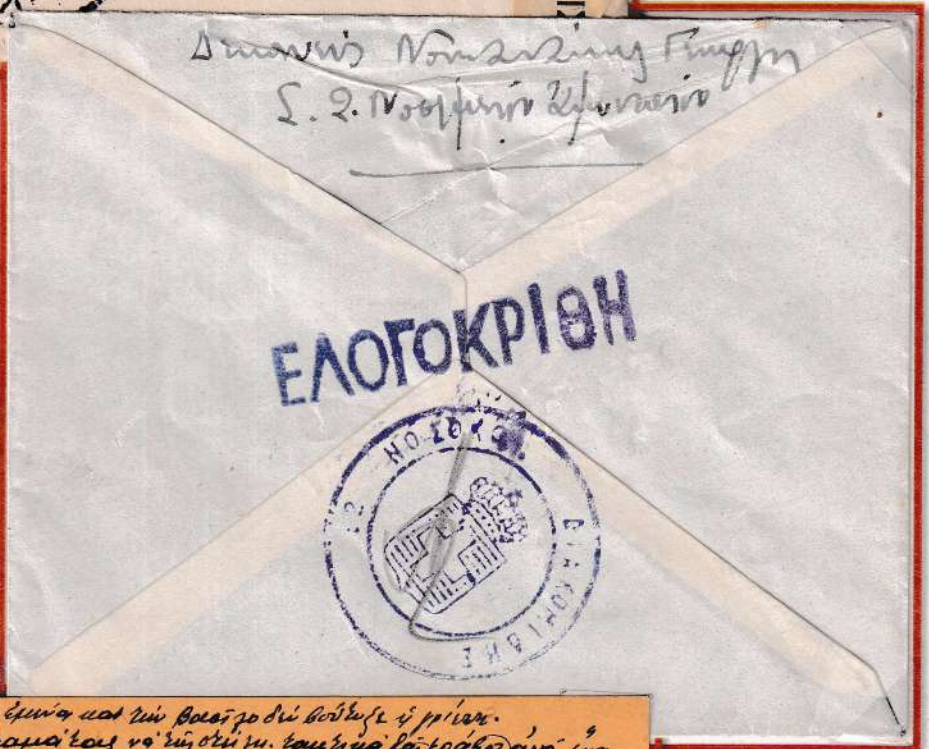
T.T. 652.

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑ

Cover from Athens to TT652 (PS 652/2nd Regulatory Center), for Σ1 ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΔΙΑΚΟΜΙΔΗΣ (S1 Evacuation Hospital), in FLORINA. Pmk "ΑΘΗΝΑ * 20 ΙΙ 41". Censored in Athens from censor "Ε 143" and secured with resealing tape marked "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑ" (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP)

Cover from Σ2 ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΔΙΑΚΟΜΙΔΗΣ (S2 Evacuation Hospital), to Athens. Bears the official cachet of the hospital. Hand stamped with linear "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑ" (CENSORED), and censor's signature

The "S2 Evacuation Hospital" operated from 15.12.40 to 9.3.41 in AMYNTAION and later was



Διευθυντής Νοσοκομείου Γλυφάδας
Σ. 2. Νοσοκομείων Διακομιδής

ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑ



Σώρα κλεισμένη έχει ιδίως παρα ευσχέτη κινήσας και τών βασιζομένων καθένας ημίαντα.
Μα' τού, μόνος και δια σφραγισμένη διακομιδής να' τών στίμ. ταυτίζωμα δια σφραγισμένο' ένα
λα' φιλότερα Μυτιλήνα Βαλάνο Κυρία κος.

ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΤΕΛΕΣ

ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΙΣ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΩΣ

Κυρία κος

Φωβέ κος

Καζέ κος

Περγα κος

2077941

Βαθμός Αξιωματικού

Επώνυμον Μαντάβαζου

Όνομα Δραμοτζωύ Δηωδωύ κ. 3 Νοσοκομ

Ενδειξίς Μονάδος κίων Διακομιδής



Illustrated postcard from PIRAEUS to TT 197 (PS197/ (Advanced Detachment of the General Headquarters) to the Σ3 ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΔΙΑΚΟΜΙΔΗΣ (S3 Evacuation Hospital at IOANNINA), on 20.3.41

Censored in PIRAEUS with box seal "66-E" (censor's number)

T.T. 194.



(back)

This hospital was subordinate to the 3rd HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND

Cover of a soldier at **KAMENA VOURLA MILITARY HOSPITAL** to ATHENS, pmk. "ΑΤΑΛΑΝΤΗ * 17 ΜΑΡ 41" and 3-circle cachet with a central crest "**ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟΝ ΝΟΣΟΜΕΙΟΝ * ΚΑΜΜΕΝΑ ΒΟΥΡΛΑ**" (**KAMENA VOURLA * MILITARY HOSPITAL**). Censored with 2line linear handstamp "**ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ / ΑΤΑΛΑΝΤΗΣ**" (**ATALANTI CENSORSHIP Dept**)

(on the back of the card)

Νοσοκομειον του Κιλκισ διωο Β. κρυνοωδη
ματα. η ηνιοη μας ειναι μεγαλη ων
εφυλαμε διωο τα αγαωηματα μας αλληλιδ και
ορη ιωαηοι διωο ων νωρι αγαωητων ποσωνοι μας

... we are in the **KILKIS** hospital due to frostbite. We are deeply saddened that we have been separated from our beloved comrades, and especially from our dear lieutenant ...

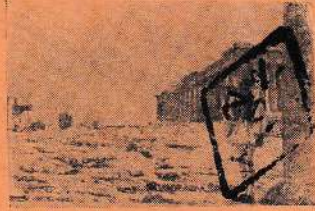


Military PS card of **KILKIS MILITARY HOSPITAL**, via civilian office pmk, "ΚΙΛΚΙΣ * 14 ΙΙ 41" to a unit of **ΤΤ724** (PS724-XIII Infantry Division). Censored upon departure with 3-circle (with a central crest) cachet "**ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ * ΚΙΛΚΙΣ 10**" (**KILKIS CENSORSHIP**, censor's number #10). Also bears the official cachet "**ΣΤΡΑΤ. ΝΟΣΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΚΙΛΚΙΣ * ΣΤΡΑΤ. ΑΛΛΗΛΟΓΡΑΦΙΑ**" (**KILKIS MILITARY HOSPITAL * MILITARY CORRESPONDENCE**).

Was subordinate to the 3rd HIGHER MILITARY COMMAND

ΕΛΛΑΣ

ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ
ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ ΑΤΕΛΕΣ



Απαγορεύεται απόλυτως ή άναγραφή του τίτλου και του τόπου σταθμεύσεως της μονάδος

Διεύθυνσις αποστολέως :

Προς τὴν ἀδελφὴν

Βαθμὸς Ἀξιωματικῆς Φιλιππῶν - Μηχανογράφου
Ἐπώνυμον Μηχανογράφου
καὶ ὄνομα Γαβριὴλ Ἀγαπίου
Ἐνδειξις μονάδος 145 Νοσοκομείου
Τ. Τ. 712 Κορυτσᾶς
Εἰς 20527

Ἡ σημάδα δὲν εἶναι ἐνὸς κομμῶτος. Ἐχει μέσα της ὀλόκληρη τὴν Πατρίδα μας.
I. Μεταξᾶς

T.T. 212

20527/9.XI.40
Αγαπίου Φιλίππου

(back)

Military PS card from **TT712** (PS712-VIII Infantry Division), to a unit nurse of **TT327** (PS327-3rd Higher Military Command) on 9 XII 40 (back) which, however, had been transferred to **“ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑΣ”** (Military Hospital of Korçë), belonged to a unit of PS212 (C’ARMY CORPS). Censored upon departure with rhomboidal **TA 712**

Temporary military hospital of Korçë was under the GENERAL STAFF

(on the back “CENSORSHIP * TRIPOLIS 5”)



ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΥΣ

Ἱερὰ Μητροπολίτις Ἱερῶν - Μητροπολίτις
Στρατιωτικὸ Νοσοκομεῖον Τρίπολις



Ἡ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΧΑΡΗ
ΔΑΦΝΕΣ ΤΟΥ ΠΟΤΟ ΜΑΣ ΣΤΗ ΝΙΚΗ

Βιβλιοχαρτοπωλείον
«ΠΑΛΛΑΔΙΟΝ» — Τρίπολις

ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ

Ἀριστίμων Κυρίων

Κ^α Κυριό. Στυριδαν

9, ἰδιὰ Μεγαύρα, 9

Αθήνας

Postcard from **ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΤΡΙΠΟΛΕΩΣ** (TRIPOLIS MILITARY HOSPITAL), via civilian post, pmk. ΤΡΙΠΟΛΙΣ * 27 II 41, to ATHENS. Censored upon departure with faint twin-circle handstamp **“ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ * ΤΡΙΠΟΛΕΩΣ 5”** (TRIPOLIS CENSORSHIP, sensor’s number #5). Bears also 3-circle (with a central crest) cachet **“ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟΝ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΤΡΙΠΟΛΕΩΣ”**.

This hospital was established on 6-2-41



Επιταγή και δαπάνη
 2^η Παραρτήμα Δραστή
 Νοσοκομείου
 Ναυπλίου

(back)

Cover from an injured person in the 2nd Branch of the Military Hospital **ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟΥ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟΥ ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟΥ** (NAUPLION MILITARY HOSPITAL) to CORINTH. Canc. ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟΝ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 21 ΙΙΙ 41. Bears the official 3-circle (with a central crest) cachet "ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΟΝ ΝΟΣΟΜΕΙΟΝ * ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟΥ". Censored upon departure with single-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ / ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟΥ" (NAUPLION / CENSORSHIP)



Πειραιώς 26/3/41

(back)

Postcard from PIRAEUS to a doctor of the 12th Medical Platoon in VOLOS on 26/3/41 (on the back). The postcard is being forwarded to the "ΠΛΩΤΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΠΟΛΙΚΟΣ" FLOATING HOSPITAL POLIKOS in Piraeus. Censored upon departure with a box handstamp of a Piraeus censor with number #114-E.

The Floating Hospital 'Polikos' originated from the requisitioned passenger ship 'Polikos', which had a capacity of 870 tons and accommodated 200 beds. On April 23, 1941, at the port of Corinth, it was attacked by a squadron of German aircraft, but it did not sink. However, it did not avoid sinking two days later, at the port of Poros, when it was again bombarded by German aircraft and was sunk

NAVAL POST OFFICES

NAVAL POSTAL SECTORS (NPS)

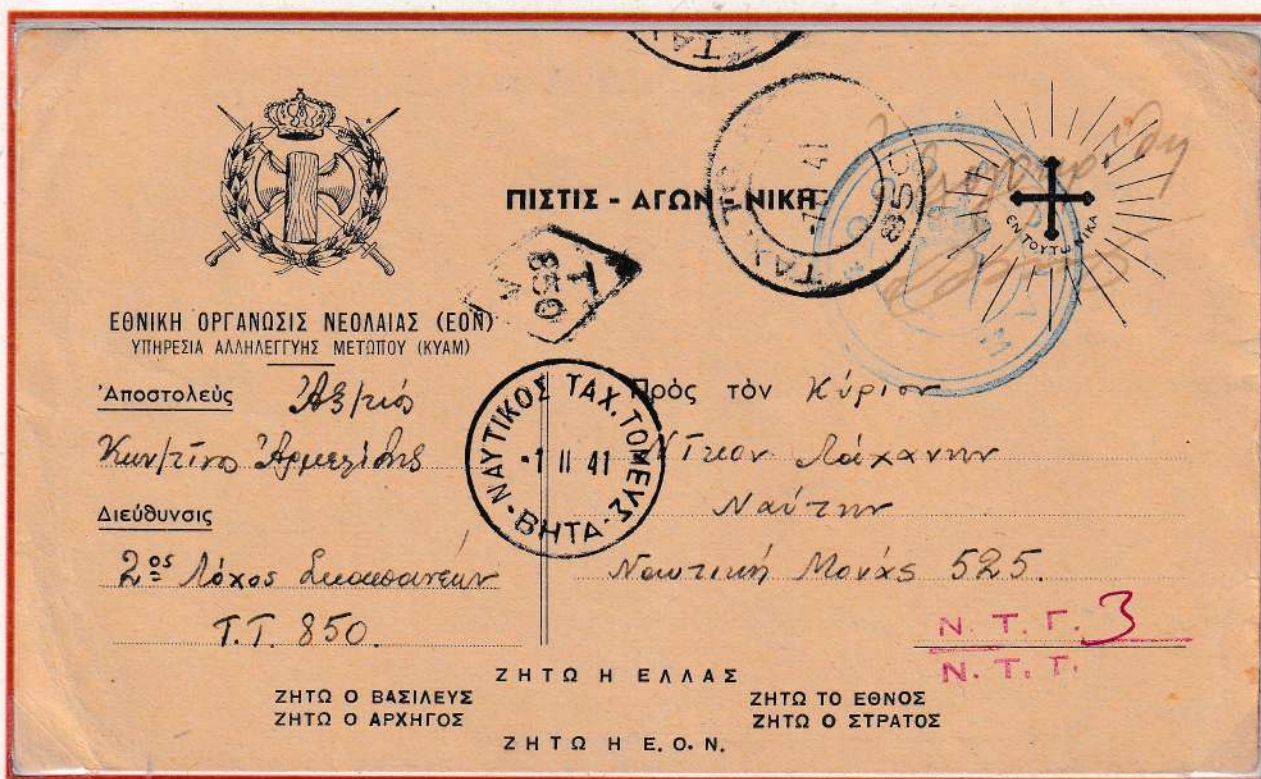
ΑΛΦΑ (ALPHA)	ATHENS
ΒΗΤΑ (BETA)	CHALKIDA
ΓΑΜΑ (GAMA)	THESSALONIKI
ΔΕΛΤΑ (DELTA)	PATRA

For the handling of mail, the **Royal Hellenic Navy** created 4 postal sectors, like those of the Army, in an equal number of cities (1 for the Ministry of Naval Affairs in Athens and 3 for major ports), that had a "letter" instead of a number. The offices were equipped with single-circle handstamps, bearing the inscription "ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ" (Naval Postal Sector) and the letter of the

office. As was the case for the army, the Navy also censored the mail of its enlisted men.

Naval units and services usually had circular but also rectangular handstamps, bearing the "ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ" (Naval Unit - NU) inscription and the unit's code number, usually for censorship control. The types of handstamps used by the units, as well as their exact locations, are not all known, **as records from this period are quite scarce and the Navy's archives have been destroyed.**

Samples of naval mail from various naval units are shown below:



EON (National Youth Organization) postcard from unit 4000 (green cancellation with coat of arms) of **TT 850** (PS850), pmk "TAX TOMΕΥΣ 850 * 7 I 41", to **Naval Unit 525** (belonged to the **armored cruiser AVEROF**).

Censored upon departure with rhomboidal **TA 850**. This mail item was handled with **Naval Postal Sector BETA**, pmk **ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΒΗΤΑ * 1 II 41**. Additionally, it bears a red 2-line handstamp used by that Naval Postal Sector for forwarding on to other naval units, in this case the component **N.T.Γ. 3 (Naval Post Office 3)** of the Naval Postal Sector - most likely **ALPHA** (not explicitly specified), which was given to the cruiser **AVEROF**.

Note: "Naval Post Offices (NPO)" were components of "Naval Postal Sectors (NPS)" and carried a distinguishing number.

20 31/xii/40

ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ Β. Ν.

ΑΤΕΛΕΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ

Απαγορεύεται απόλυτως ή αναγραφή του τίτλου και του τόπου σταθμεύσεως της Ν. Μονάδος.

Διεύθυνσις αποστολέως:

Βαθμὸς Ὑποπλοίαρχὸς Α'. Μυχαίου

Ὄνοματεπώνυμον Παναγιώτης Α.

Μωραΐτης

ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ * 173

* Τίθεται ὁ χαρακτηριστικὸς ἀριθμὸς τῆς Ν. Μονάδος.



ΕΥΔΡΟΜΟΝ ΕΛΛΗ - 15|8|1940

Πρὸς

Γεωργία Λαρωάκου
Χημικὸν - Μηχανικόν
οἴκη Δ. Κεζύβα

Κεζυρία
Εἰς

Official postal card of Royal Navy from **ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ 173** (Naval Unit 173, belonged to the Ministry of Marine), to **ΚΑΛΑΜΠΑΚΑ**. Handled from "**ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΤΟΜΕΑΣ - ΑΛΦΑ * 28 XII 40**" (ALPHA Naval Postal Sector)

Χανιά



Γερμανική Αεροπορία



Ν. Μ
851

Cover from **CHANIA**, pmk. "**ΧΑΝΙΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 17 II 41**", to "**ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ 851**" (NU 851- R39 Machine Gun Squad). Handled from **ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ - ΓΑΜΑ * 9 III 41** (GAMA Naval Postal Sector)



ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ 480,
(Naval Unit 480).

A letter card, a postcard and a postal card, all with the official 3-circle handstamps of naval units (with anchor-crown) and linear handstamps **CENSORED** with censor's signature

ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ 495 (NU495)



ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ Β. Ν.
ΑΤΕΛΕΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ



ΕΥΔΡΟΜΟΝ ΕΛΛΗ 15/8/1940

Διεύθυνσις αποστολέως:

Βαθμός *Πρωταρχος Β. Ν.*

Όνοματεπώνυμον *Νικουρίδης*

Πατριώτης

ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ * *286*

ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ



Προς *Κ. Ν.*

*Νικόλα-Μίχαλ Νικουρίδην
Ματάρη 5*

Είς *Αθήνας*

* Τίθεται ό χαρακτηριστικός αριθμός της Ν. Μονάδος.

ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ 286 (Naval Unit 286), belonged to the Naval Post Office 52

Απαγορεύεται απολύτως ή ανάφαση του τίτλου και του τόπου διαβιούσας της Ν. Μονάδος.



Military postal card of **Defensive Area Command D** of KAVALLA to Athens poste restante, via civilian post. Pmk. "ΚΑΒΑΛΛΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 4 IV 41". Bears 3-circle handstamp "ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΑΜΥΝΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ" (Administration of Defensive Area Command) with a central crest. Censored upon departure with a box handstamp **ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ** (CENSORED) and censor's number #1 (in a box)
 In May 1940, the country was divided into **8 Defensive Area Commands (ΔΑΠ)** (A, B, C, D, E were under the corresponding Army Corps, **H** was under the VIII Division, and **Θ & Ι** were under the Naval Defensive Area #4 in CHALKIDA & #1 in PATRAS, respectively).



Military postal card from "ΥΕΣΑΘ" (Anti-Aircraft Defense of the Rear) of KAVALLA, to Athens on 12-3-41 (back), via civilian post of KAVALLA. Censored upon departure with single-line framed handstamp marked "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED) and censor's number #1 (in a box)
 The Anti-Aircraft Defense of the rear was assigned to the Navy. It thus developed an extensive system of observation posts throughout the country (a total of 595 monitoring stations), aimed at providing early warning in case of enemy aircraft. The system was called ΥΕΣΑΘ (Anti-Aircraft Defense of the Rear), and it was under the command of the ΔΑΠ commanders. Its central section was housed in an underground shelter in Lycabettus

TAXYΔΡΟΜΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ



Ναύσον

Νίνορ Λάχανον

Ναυτική Μπάδα 525



(back)

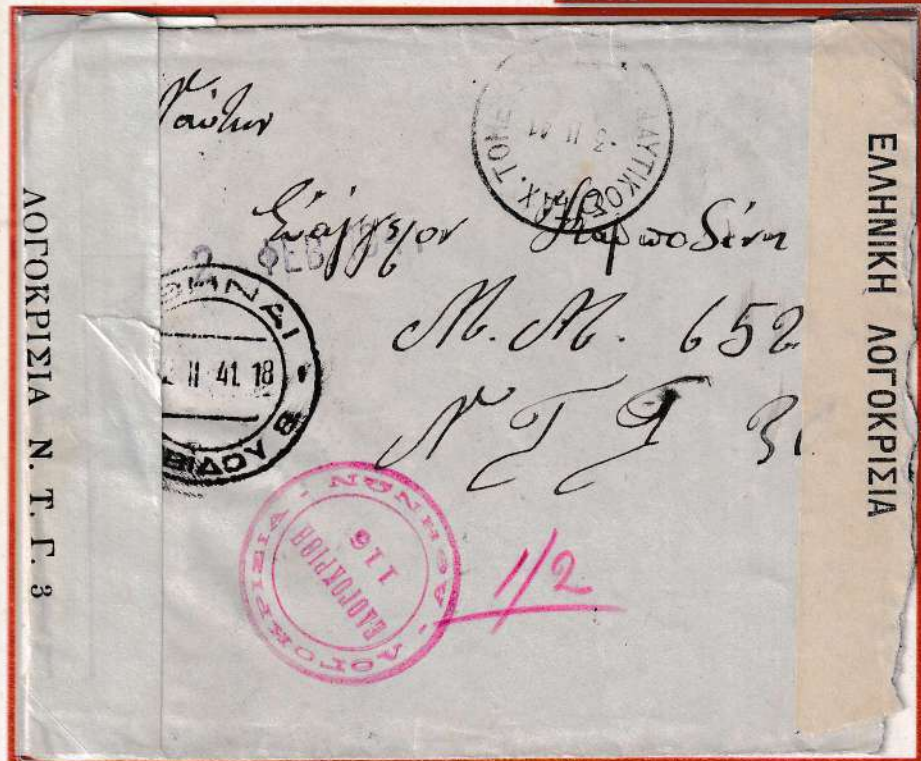
Letter card from PS212 (C ARMY CORPS), pmk TAX. TOMEYS 212 *25 1 41 to NAVAL UNIT 525. Censored upon departure with TA 212 and on arrival with pmk "ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ TAX. TOMEYS ΔΕΛΤΑ" (DELTA NAVAL POSTAL SECTOR)

ΑΠΟΤΟΛΕΥΣ...
Παραναύτιον Παράφωλον
Γ' Αρχος Πύλων Τ.Τ. 212.



(back)

Cover pmk. TAX. TOMEYS 850 *14 II 41 to Naval Unit 525. Censored in PS850 with red handwritten note of a Platoon leader of the PS and a rhomboidal cachet TA850. Also upon arrival with pmk ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ TAX. TOMEYS ΒΗΤΑ * 28 II 41 (BETA NAVAL POSTAL SECTOR). With the additional red 2-line handstamp was forwarded to the ALPHA NAVAL POSTAL SECTOR.



(back)

Cover from ATHENS pmk. ΑΘΗΝΑ ΛΕΒΙΔΟΥ 8 * 2 II 41, to NM652/NTT 30 (NU 652 of NPO 30). Censored upon departure with "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ" #116 (ATHENS CENSORSHIP #116) and marked resealing tape with "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP). Upon arrival, pmk ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ TAX. TOMEYS ΒΗΤΑ * 3 II 41 (BETA NPS) and censored with a 2nd resealing tape marked N.T.Γ. 3 (Naval Post Office 3)



Postcard from Naval unit of "ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΑΛΦΑ * 13 XII 40" (ALPHA NAVAL POSTAL SECTOR), to NM 213 (Naval Unit 213).

Was routed through ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΒΗΤΑ * 23 XII 40 (BETA NPS), where it was censored with boxed 2-line linear handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΝΑΥΤ. ΜΟΝ. 213" (CENSORSHIP Naval Unit 213). It also bears a 2nd box cachet "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ ΤΗΝ 23 ΔΕΚ 1940" (CENSORED on December 23, 1940)

Lottery for the National Fleet, ticket of the draw of December 2, 1940



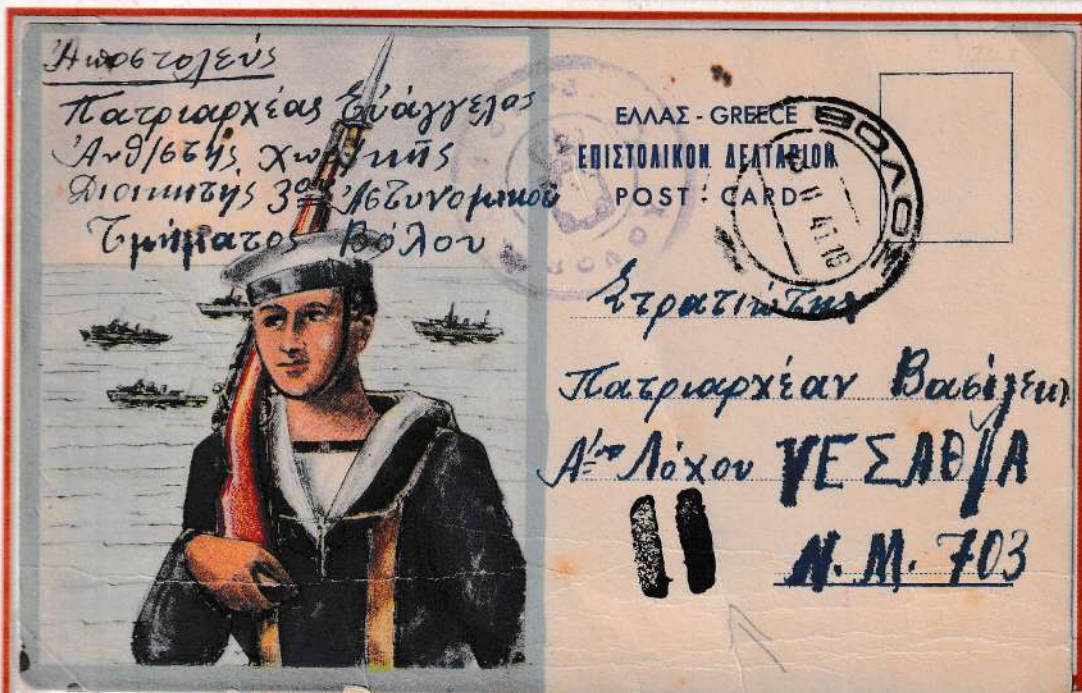
Postcard from NM 246 (NU246), pmk "ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ ΤΑΧ. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΒΗΤΑ * 28 II 41" (BETA NPS), to Athens.

Upon departure hand stamped with the official cachet "ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ *246" (NU246) and censored with a box cachet marked "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED)

The circled 35 refers to Athen's postman

Envelope from a sailor of
NM252 (NU252), addressed to
 ATHENS. Posted via **ΝΑΥΤΙΚΟΣ**
TAX. ΤΟΜΕΥΣ ΓΑΜΑ * 24 I 41
 (GAMA Naval Postal Sector)

Hand stamped upon departure
 with a red 3-circle handstamp
"ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ *252"
 (Naval Unit 252) with a central
 crest and censored with a red
 linear handstamp, marked
"ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED)



(back)

Box 28-2-1941

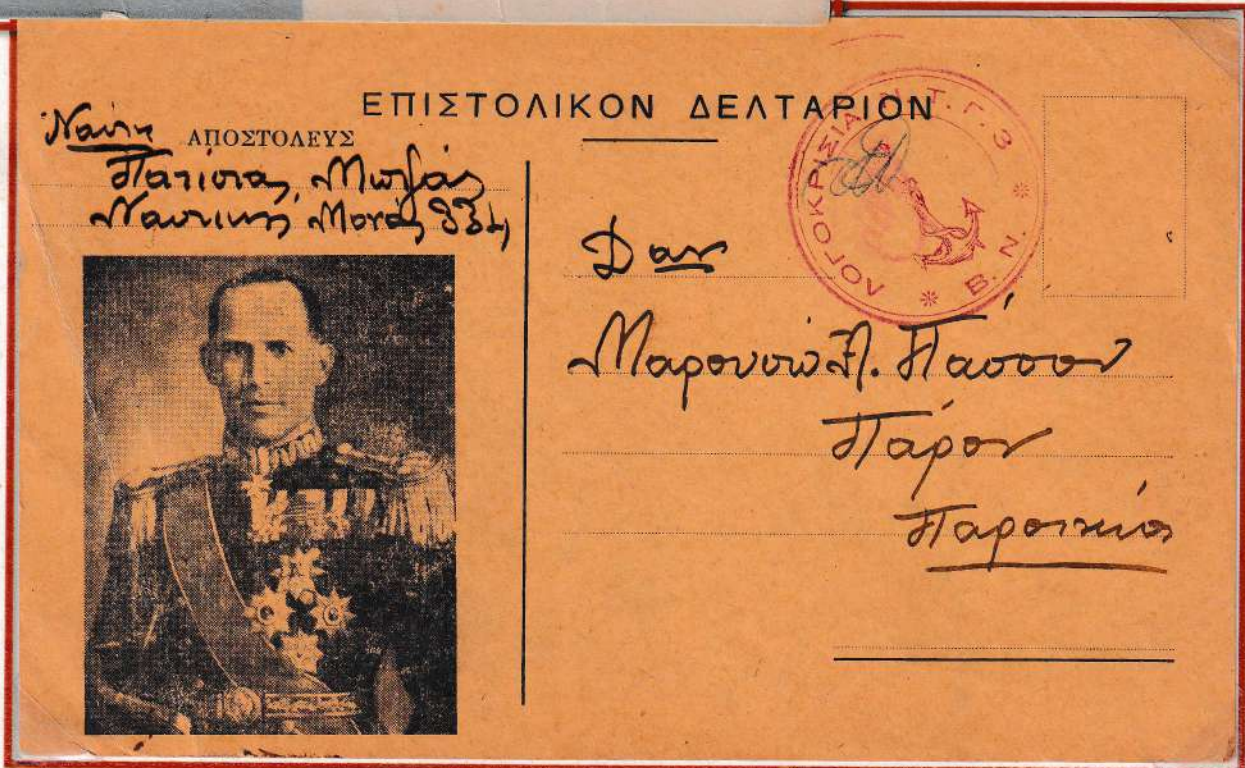
Patriotic postcard from the
 Chief of the Volos Police
 Station, pmk. **VOLOS * 28 II**
41, addressed to **NM703**
 (NU703), of the Air Defense
 Dept of **ΥΕΣΑΘ**. Censored
 upon departure with 3-
 circle cachet **CENSORSHIP**
OF VOLOS (with a central
 crest) and censor's number
#II (elastic handstamp)

(back)

22.3-41

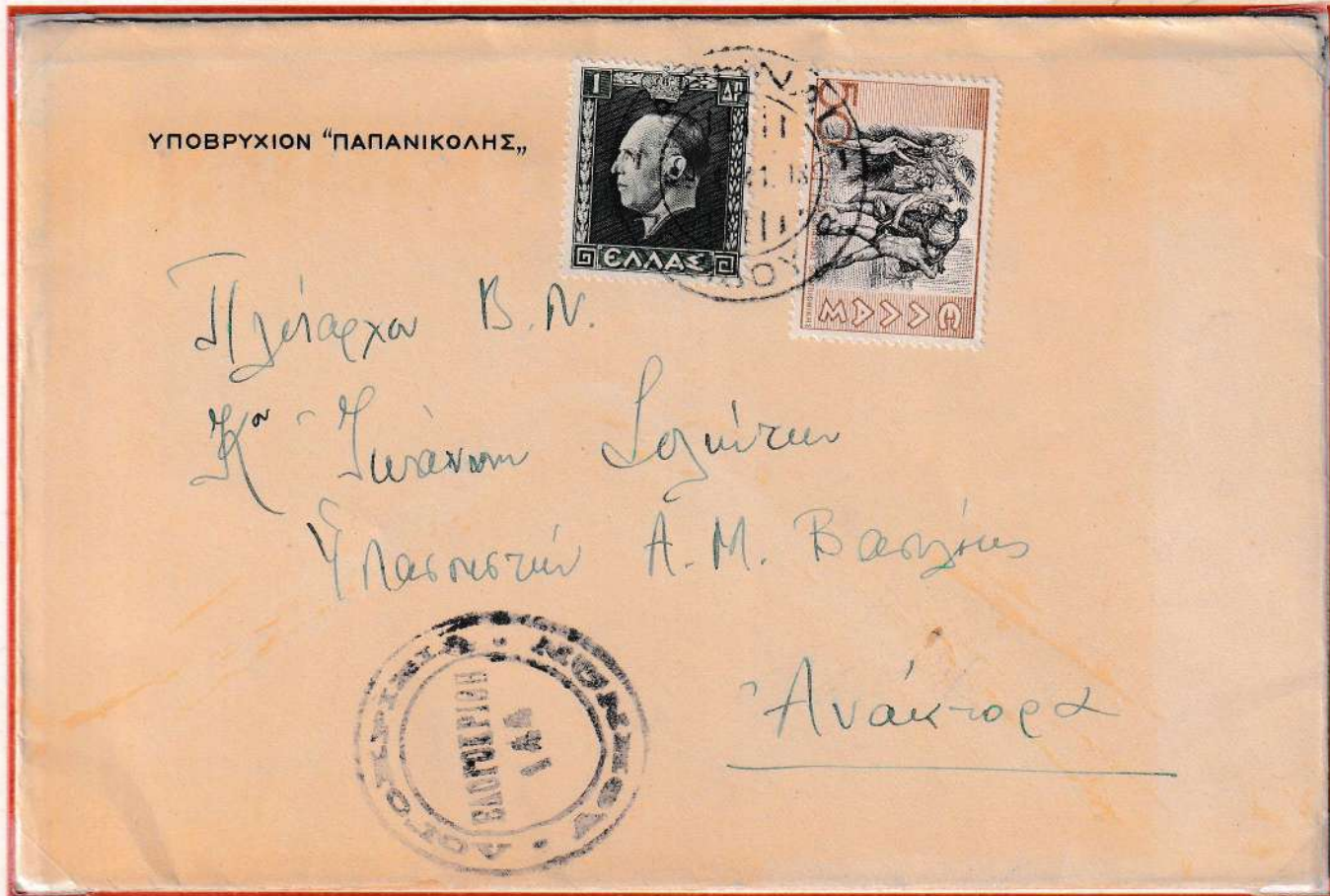
Postcard from
NM334 (NU334)
 to **PAROS**.

Censored upon
 departure, with
 the official
 3-circle cachet
"ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ
N.T.F. 3 * B.N."
 (SENSORSHIP
 NPO 3 * ROYAL
 NAVY) and
 censor signature



The signature of submarine commander Miltiadis Iatridis, found on the letter

*Ευκρινής
Μιλτιάδης*



Cover with enclosed letter from the famous Submarine PAPANIKOLIS posted from Athens, from the submarine captain, on 9 FEB 41 (cancellation) to the Aide-de-camp to the King Captain J. SOLIOTIS. **Censored!!!!** at the civilian post, cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ-ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ 144" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP-CENSORED, censor #144)

The Submarine "PAPANIKOLIS", famous for its action during the Greco-Italian War, was built along with the "KATSONIS" in France in 1927 and had the most intense and methodical naval action in the fight against the Axis

Μονά, 245-15141



(back)

Postcard from NM 245 (NU245) on 14. 4. 41 to TINOS

Upon arrival hand stamped with red "ΝΑΥΤΙΚΗ ΜΟΝΑΣ 245" (NU245) Censored with red linear handstamp "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED) with censor's signature

Πάλας, Τυπογρ. ΚΩΒΑΛΙΟΥ, ὁδὸς Βουλιάσει 3

AVIATION UNITS

Air units did not have their own post offices. They were instead, served by the post offices of other military units. The unit indication was either handwritten or hand stamped. Censorship was done by the army or the nearest civilian censorship offices.



Postcard from a Captain of **ΑΕΡΟΠΟΡΙΚΗ ΒΑΣΙΣ ΛΑΡΙΣΑΣ** (LARISSA AIR BASE), via civilian post office, pmk "ΛΑΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 29 XI 40", to KIFISSIA. Censored upon departure with a blue 3-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΛΑΡΙΣΗΣ" (LARISSA CENSORSHIP) and censor's signature. Arrival pmk "ΚΗΦΙΣΣΙΑ 2 ΔΕΚ 40"



Cover pmk "**ΑΕΡΟΔΡΟΜΙΟΝ ΣΕΔΕΣ ΘΕΣ/ΝΙΚΗΣ * 18 ΔΕΚ 41**" (SEDES AIRPORT) to LARISSA. Bears a red administrative 3-circle handstamp with a central crest "**ΑΕΡΟΠΟΡΙΚΗ ΒΑΣΙΣ ΣΕΔΕΣ**" (SEDES AIR BASE). On censorship the cover secured with printed tape, marked "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (Hellenic censorship)

The Sedes Airport is a military airport in Themi THESSALONIKI. The airport began operations during the Balkan Wars, and its postal office on December 25, 1933

TRANSFER OF GREEK PILOTS IN HABBANIYA (IRAQ)

During the Greco-Italian War, 20 Greek pilots were transferred to a British Royal Air Force School (January 1941) in Habbaniya, (Iraq) for training in advance war tactics. Two months later, a second group of 16 pilots followed.

When Greece was occupied by the Germans in April 1941, the Greek pilots were transferred in Palestine, where they established the first **Hellenic Fighter Squadron**, which went on to achieve remarkable success.

F/O of the Greek R.A.F.
Caridis Evangelos
No 4 SFTS
Habbaniya
IRAQ

15-2-41

(letter's copy)

Μητέρα μου
επίσης
είπες
καποὶ βιβλίο
ὀρθογραφίας
αγαπῶ

Ε70

Καρίδης

Ἐλάω ἐν ἀδελφοφιλῶν ἡμεῶν Ἐγγυητῶν, Ἰνδία καὶ
ἄλλων βυρσοπρωτῶν μέσῳ Βαγδάτης ἀπὸ τῶν ἀποστολῶν
πολλῶν ἡμερῶν πρὶν ἡ ἀδελφὴ τοῦ πατέρα. Μὰς μὲν αὐτὸ
ἡ ἀδελφὴ ἀπὸ τῆς ἡμετέρας ἀδελφῆς. Ἐν ἀπὸ αὐτῆς εἶπε
ὅτι οὐκ εἶχε εἰς τὴν Ἐγγυητῶν ἡμεῶν ἡμετέρον. Ἐλάω

Letter from a Greek pilot on 15.2.41, of the **Special Flying Training School-SFTS (F/O of the Greek R.A.F. No. 4 SFTS, Habbaniya, Iraq)**. Addressed to his mother in Greek, even though the delivery of letters in Greek was very slow due to censorship in Cairo. He mentions that he also sent another letter to a relative in English in order for it to arrive faster, but it never did (apparently kept by British Censorship service).

For this reason, the censor in Athens (**E 70**) with handwritten note says "No other letter was found besides the present one".

ANNEXATION OF NORTHERN EPIRUS

The Greek counterattack into southern Albania captured **KORYTSA** on November 22, **DELVINO** on December 3, **AGIOI SARANTA** on December 6, and **ARGYROKASTRO** on December 8. In the territories of Northern Epirus, Greek post offices operated and postal correspondence in those areas made use of Greek stamps overprinted "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ" (HELLENIC ADMINISTRATION).

(in front 30%)



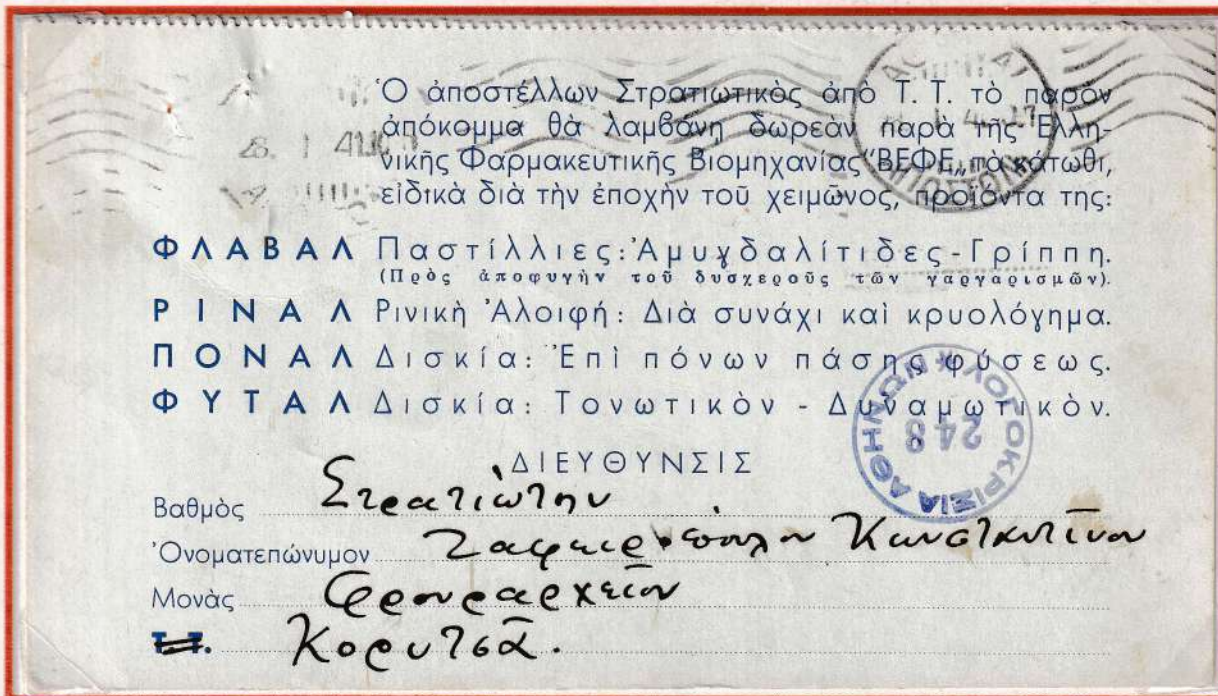
POLITICAL POST OFFICE OF KORÇË

1st Day of Operation

Cover to **TT 461** (PS 461 GENERAL HEADQUARTERS) via **THESSALONIKI**.

Canc. "**ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑ * 25 XII 40**", and censor's marking "**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑΣ**" (Hellenic Censorship of Korçë) and censor's signature. Arrival pmk **ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ * 25 XII 40**

The stamps have not yet been overprinted



POST OFFICE OF MILITARY KORÇË.

Reply postcard to the originally sent one. Pmk "**ΑΘΗΝΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ ***

28 I 41" to **ΦΡΟΥΡΑΡΧΕΙΟ ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑΣ**

(Garrison of Korçë). Also pmk

"**ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑ * 4 II 41**" (back) and

"**ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ 248**"

(Athens Censorship, censor's number #248)

(in front 50%)

Χίπριν

Συχαριτών Νομικών

Αντιπροσφύλακον

Κορυτσάς

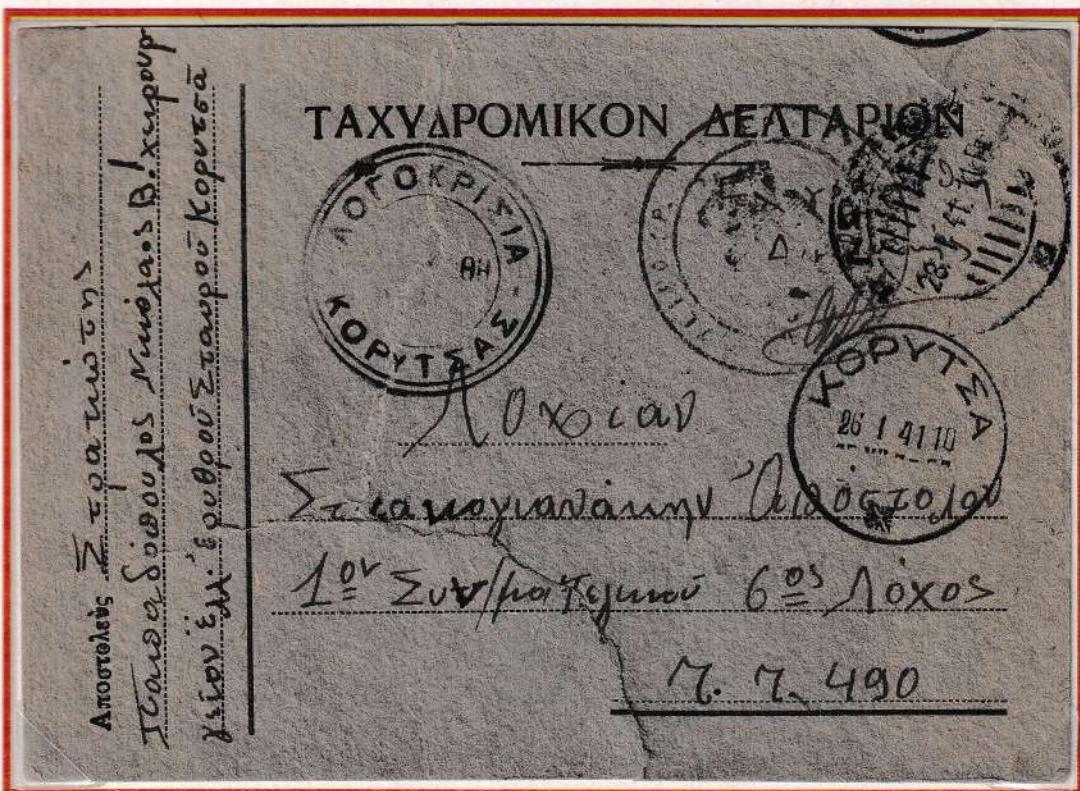
Κορυτσάς

Σόφια



CIVILIAN POST OFFICE OF KORÇË

Cover to ATHENS, addressed to "the secretary to the President of the Government" Canc. "ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑ * 9 I 41". Twin-circle censor's marking "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑΣ - ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ 1" (KORÇË CENSORSHIP-CENSORED 1). Arrival pmk "ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟΝ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΩΝ * 17 I 41" (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)



MILITARY POST OFFICE OF KORÇË

Cover from Β' ΧΕΙΡΟΥΡΓΕΙΟΝ Ε.Ε.Σ. ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑΣ" (2nd Sickward of the Hellenic Red Cross) to PS490. Pmk "ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑ * 26 I 41", twin-circle censor's marking "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΚΟΡΥΤΣΑΣ ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ ?" (KORÇË CENSORSHIP-CENSORED ?). Arrival pmk "ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ * 17 I 41"



CIVILIAN POST OFFICE OF ARGYROKASTRON. Postcard from ARGYROKASTRON to ATHENS. Canc. "ΑΡΓΥΡΟΚΑΣΤΡΟ * 14 ΙΙ 41" and 3-circle censor's marking "Δ)ΣΙΣ ΧΩΡ)ΚΗΣ ΑΡΓΥΡΟΚΑΣΤΡΟΥ * ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ" (Gendarmerie of Gjirokastër - Censorship Dept).

The total value of the postage exceeds the required amount, but as the sender states on the reverse, he is sending them (along with other stamps on the reverse side) for the collection of his recipient friend!

Even in wartime, philately survives...!



CIVILIAN POST OFFICE OF AGIOI SARANTA. Cover from AGIOI SARANTA to FALIRO, canc. "ΑΓΙΟΙ ΣΑΡΑΝΤΑ * 16 ΙΙΙ 41". Censored upon departure with boxed violet censor's marking "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ * ΑΓ. ΣΑΡΑΝΤΑ" (CENSORSHIP of AGIOI SARANTA). Stamps are overprinted with "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ" (HELLENIC ADMINISTRATION). Arrival pmk "ΠΑΛΑΙΟΝ ΦΑΛΗΡΟΝ * 20 ΙΙΙ 41"



(in front 60%)



CIVILIAN POST OFFICE OF DELVINON. Cover from DELVINON to ATHENS, pmk "ΔΕΛΒΙΝΟΝ * 14 ΙΙ 41"
 On the back, linear handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΔΕΛΒΙΝΟΥ" (DELVINON CENSORSHIP) with censor's signature.
 The postage, overprinted with **HELLENIC ADMINISTRATION**, exceed the required amount; it was evidently placed for patriotic or philatelic reasons. Most probably philatelic correspondence
First day of operation of the DELVINON postal office.

Many officers and soldiers acquired the overprinted stamps as a memento of the "victorious campaign"

SPOILS OF WAR

The occupation of the territories of Northern Epirus yielded, among other spoils, Italian military postcards that were used by the Greek army with the Italian text deleted (or not) and replaced with "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΣΤΡΑΤΟΣ" (Hellenic Army).

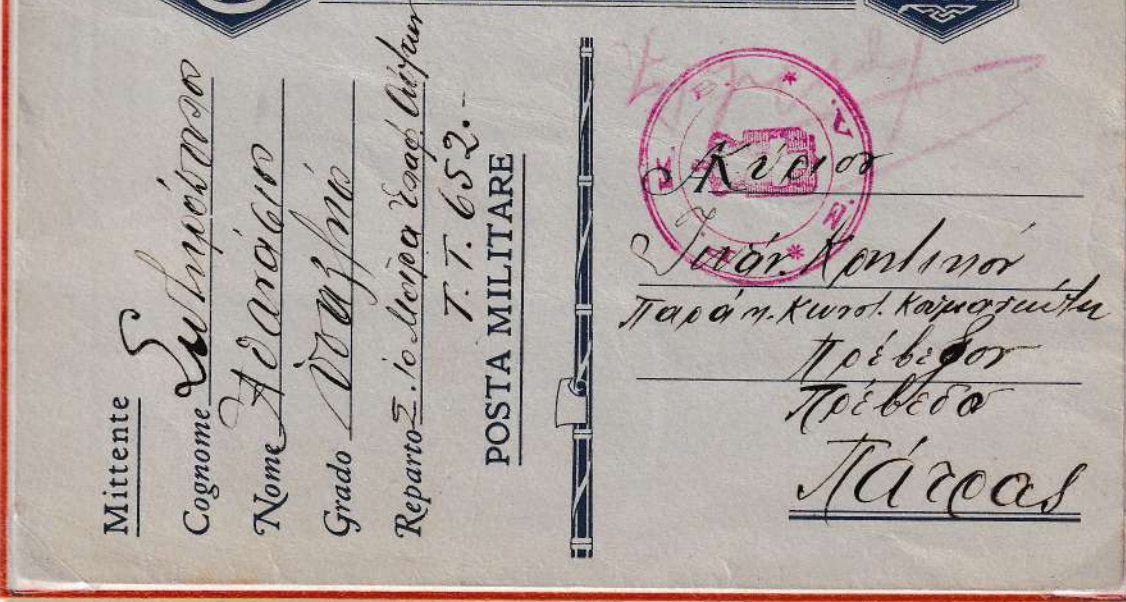
From TT152 * 23 XII 40



From TT490 * 31 III 41



From TT212 * 1 III 41



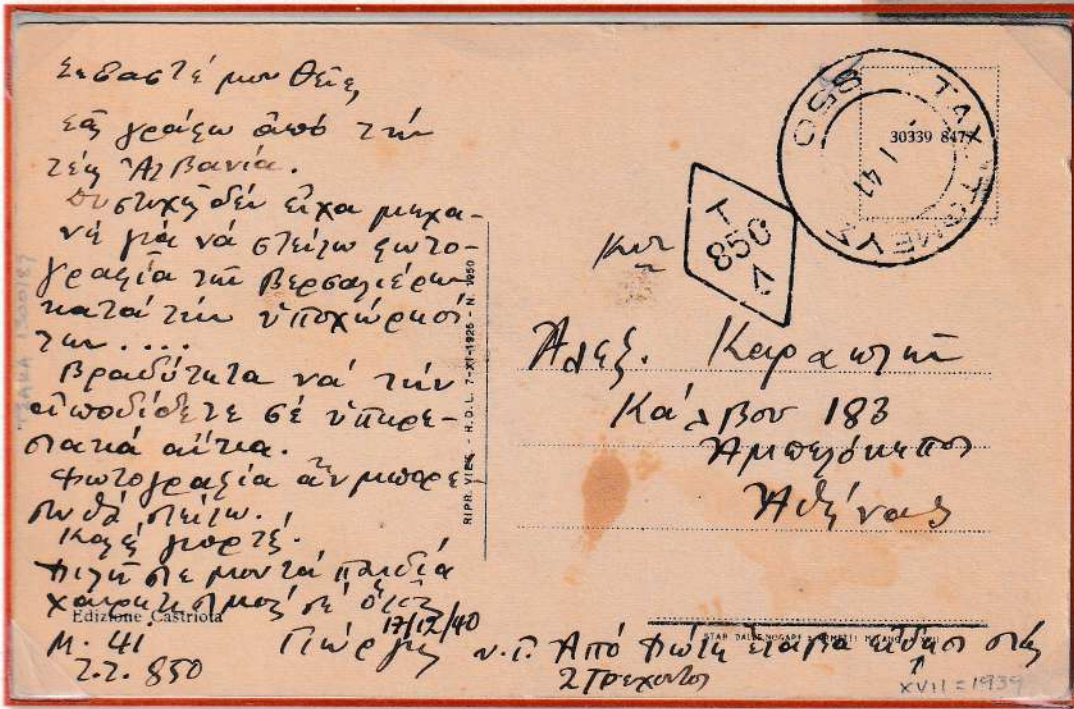
From TT652 on 17.12.40 with 3-circle cachet "PKB * ΣΛ" (REGULATORY CENTER B * MILITARY CENSORSHIP) & handwritten "Ελογοκρίθη" (Censored) with censor's signature

Italian Bersaglieri (elite infantry unit with high mobility, founded in 1836)

(50%)



Bersaglieri in Albania

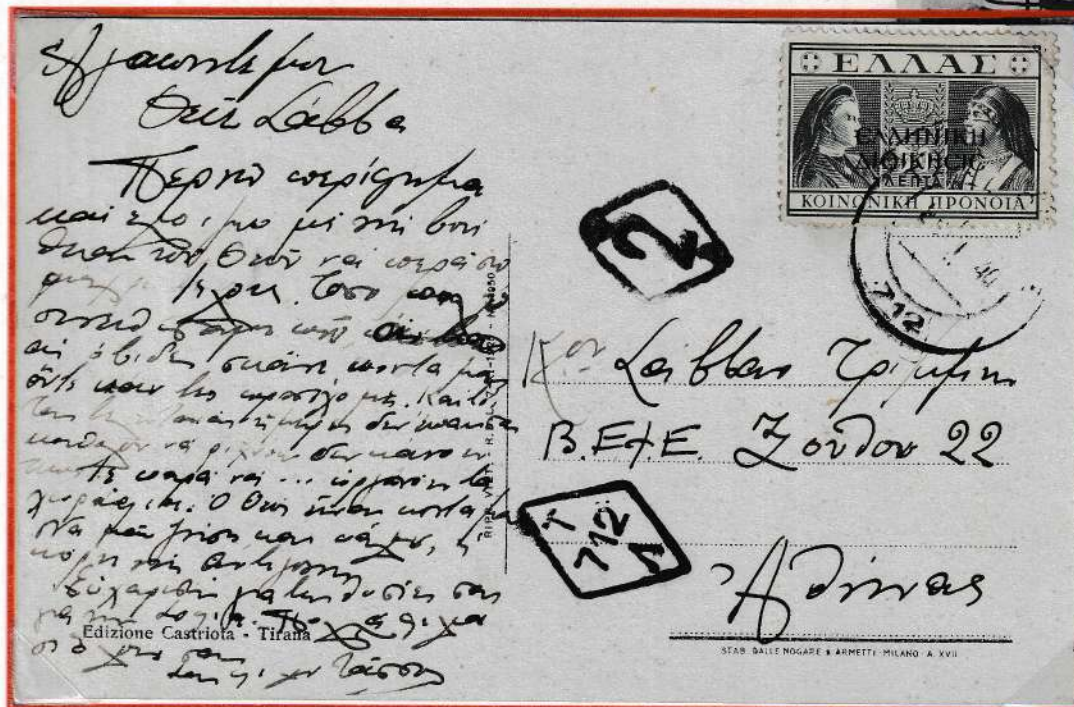


Picture postcard (**Italian Bersaglieri in Albania**) from **TT850** (PS850_II INFANTRY DIVISION) to ATHENS, pmk **TAX TOMEYS 850 * ? I 41** (defensive positions at Hill 1285, S/W of Kleisoura) Censored at departure with rhomboidal "TA 850"

(50%)



Costumi albanesi

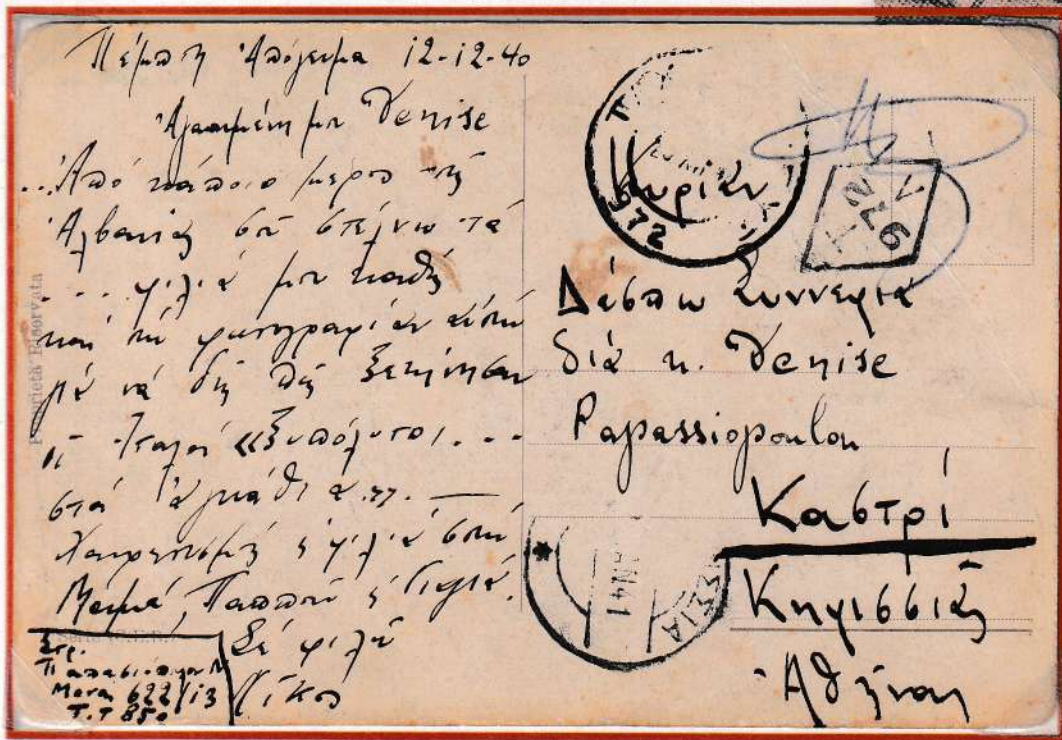


Picture postcard (Albanian costumes) from **TT712** (PS712-VIII Infantry Division) to ATHENS, pmk "TAX TOMEYS 712 * ? XII 40" (in ARGIROCHORI village, 20km N/E of Gjirokastër) Censored at departure with rhomboidal "TA 712"

It bears an unnecessary charity tax stamp of 50 lepta, marked with **GREEK ADMINISTRATION** (just to emphasize the annexation of Epirus)

Italian Alpini (the oldest active mountain warfare unit in the world, founded in 1872, for operations in rugged and mountainous terrain)

(55%)

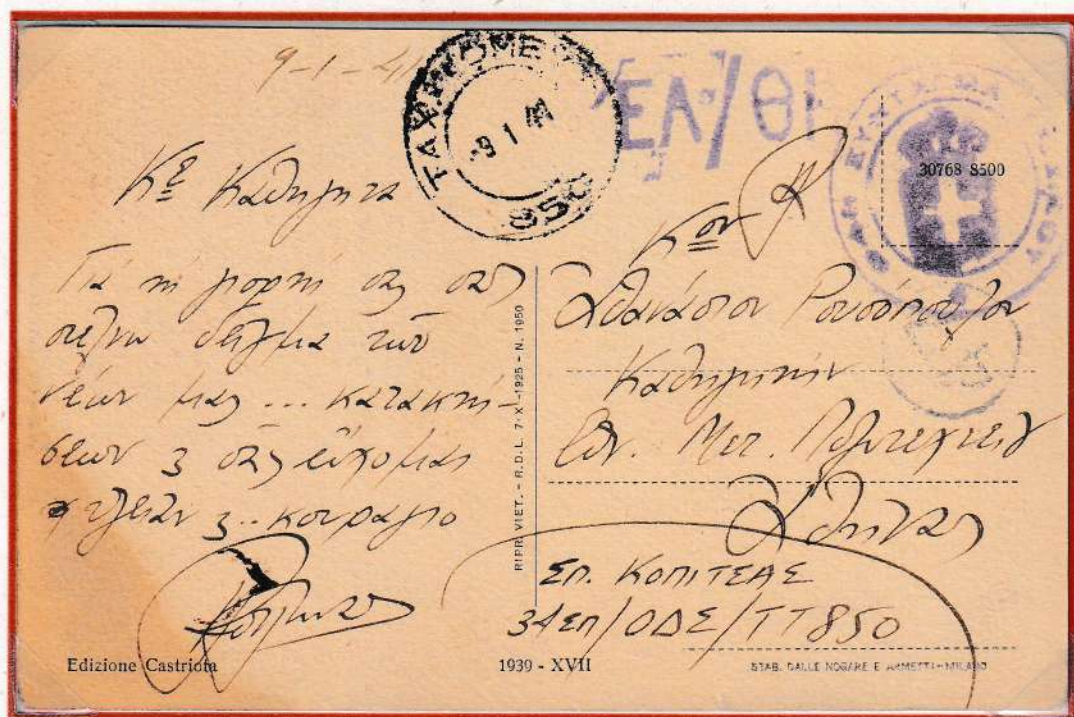


Picture postcard (**Italian Alpini in Albania**) from **TT972** (PS972- CAVALRY Division) to KIFISIA, pmk. "TAX TOMEYS 972 * 20 XII 41" (TRAPEZISTA village-Albania). Censored at departure with the rhomboidal "TA972" and censor's signature



(50%)

Picture postcard (Albanian costume) from **TT850-34° ΣΠ** (PS 850- II Infantry Division/34th Infantry Regiment) to ATHENS, pmk "TAX TOMEYS 850 * 9 I 41" (S/W of Kleisoura-Albania). Censored at departure with "ΕΛ/ΘΗ" (CENSORED). Additionally, it bears the official handstamp of the Regiment.



PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS

At the start of the war, each side detained people deemed to be a security risks - i.e. - likely to engage in espionage activities on behalf of the enemy. They were interred in specially designated areas set aside for that purpose. Soldiers captured on the battlefield were put in concentration camps. Additionally, the Italian side rounded up any enemy soldiers that it could locate, (and even after the end of the war).

Prisoners' mail was usually delayed by several weeks. From Greece to Italy, this was in the order of two to three months.

Correspondence to and from prisoners of war, concerning Greece, was postage-free.

1. GREEK CITIZENS OF ITALIAN ORIGIN, RESIDING IN GREECE

With the start of the war, Greece placed Greek citizens of Italian origin (called political prisoners), in specially designated areas. This was initially done in Athens (in provisional collection camp), but later in Patras as well. This practice continued until April 1941.

For the correspondence of internees in this category, the **Greek Red Cross**, following an order on December 5, 1940, from the **Ministry of Security**, issued special-colored postcards in a greenish-blue color (postcards for political prisoners of enemy countries).

The image shows an official postal card from the Hellenic Red Cross. At the top center is a red cross symbol. To its right is the number 'E33'. Below the cross are the words 'ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΡΥΘΡΟΣ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ' and 'CROIX ROUGE HELLENIQUE'. A circular stamp in the center contains the text 'ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ' around a central crest. To the right of the stamp is the text 'ΑΤΕΛΕΣ FRANCO DE PORT.'. On the left, there are fields for 'ΕΛΛΑΣ Περιοχή: 3' and 'GRÈCE Zone:'. Below this is a box for 'ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΥΣ - EXPÉDITEUR' with the handwritten name 'Αβραάμ Μουζιλιάν'. To the right of the box are fields for 'Όνοματεπώνυμο: Μ', 'Όδος: Rue: 1αλφρ', 'Πόλις: Ville: Αχαρνά 32', 'Έπαρχ.: Province: Αθήνας', and 'Χώρα: Pays: (Ελλάς)'. At the bottom left, it says 'ΕΛΛΑΣ - GRÈCE' and '14/1/41'.

Official postal card of **Hellenic Red Cross** from a Greek of Italian origin, confined in the camp **No 3 (ΠΑΤΡΑ)** (PATRAS), posted on **14.1.41** to Athens. Censored in Athens with single-circle handstamp "**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ**" with a central crest and "**E 33**" (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP, censor's number #E33)

2. ITALIAN SOLDIERS CAPTIVE IN GREECE

About 22,000 Italian soldiers were captured on the Albanian front. They were initially interred in Attica and the Peloponnese, and later, on the island of Crete. The camps they were assigned to were designated 1, 2, 3, 4 for soldiers and A, B, C, D, E for officers. The Italian prisoners remained in these camps until the capitulation of Greece in April 1941, when they were released by the Germans.

(back side 70%)

Αποστολέας: *e. brig liere e l'una*
 Expéditeur: *Bettoli e Enselmo*
 Ονοματεπώνυμο: *Bettoli e Enselmo*
 Nom et prénom:
 Αριθμός Αιχμαλώτου: *816*
 No du prisonnier:
 Κέντρο Αιχμαλώτων: *A*
 Camp de prisonniers:
 Ελλάδα (ΓΡΕΚΕ) *Grecia*

+

ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΩΝ
POSTE DE PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

ΚΕΝΤΡΟΝ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΩΝ
C. DE PRISONNIERS

E. 116
6.2.1941

Κ Μ *e. Il Signor Bettoli Giovanni*

Διεύθυνσις: Destination: *Italia*

Όδός: Rue: *Piazza*

Χώρα: Pays: *Fagnigola Azzano Udine*

(Έπαρχία κ.λ.) (Province etc.):

ATEΛΕΣ
FRANC DE PORT.

CENSURA ELLENICA
NEL VOSTRO INTERESSE E PER EVITARE RITARDI / SIETE BREVI E CHIARI

Official letter card of **Prisoner Postal Service of the Hellenic Red Cross**. Posted on **22.1.41** (date reference inside the letter), from Italian gunner (artigliere alpino), prisoner of war camp in Greece A (**ΤΡΙΠΟΛΙΣ**) (TRIPOLIS), to **FAGNIGOLA AZZANO** of the province of Udine. Bears single circle seal **ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ** (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP), sensor's number #**E116**, dated on 6.2.41 (handwritten).

It also bears a three-line handstamp with the note of Greek Censorship "**CENSURA ELLENICA / NEL VOSTRO INTERESSE E PER EVITARE RITARDI / SIETE BREVI E CHIARI**"



1)

ΚΕΝΤΡΟΝ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΩΝ - CAMP DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
CONSULHA ELLENICA
NEL VOSTRO INTERESSE E PER EVITARE INTERRUPTE
SATE BREVI E CHIARI
Date: 30-1-1941
Time: 11
Censura numero 92
Censura numero 92



2)

ΚΕΝΤΡΟΝ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΩΝ - CAMP DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
CONSULHA ELLENICA
NEL VOSTRO INTERESSE E PER EVITARE INTERRUPTE
SATE BREVI E CHIARI
Date: 9.2.1941
Time: 11
Censura numero 27
Censura numero 27

Official postal card of **Prisoner Postal Service of the Hellenic Red Cross**, from Prisoner of War Camps in Greece, which were subsequently routed through the Italian Red Cross (in front, 4-line linear cachet; 3-line the second one, texted **CROCE ROSSA ITALIANA / UFFICIO PRIGIONIERI - RICERCHE / E SERVIZI CONNESSI / Via Puglia, 6 ROMA**).

Were censored in Greece with single-circle handstamp **ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ** (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP), censor numbers #E92, dated on 10.2.41 (handstamp in front) and #E27, dated on 9.2.1941 (date reference on the back of the postcard).

On the back, they bear the three-line handstamp with the note of the **Greek censorship**.

1. from prisoner of war **camp B (ΚΑΛΑΜΑΤΑ)**(KALAMATA) posted on 30.1.41 (back), to **DELICETO** of the province of **FOGGIA**. On arrival it was postmarked with a twin-circle railway cachet **ROMA FERROVIA * 15.3.41**
2. from prisoner of war **camp C (ΠΑΤΡΑ)** (PATRAS) posted on 9.2.41 (back) to **CELIE MESSAPICA** of the province of **PRINDISI**. On arrival it was postmarked with a twin-circle pmk **CELIE MESSAPICA PRINDISI * 23.4.41**

3)

+

ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΩΝ
POSTE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
ΕΛΛΑΣ - GRECE

ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ - CARTE POSTALE

ΑΤΕΛΕΣ - FRANC DE PORT
ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΥΣ - EXPEDITEUR

Όνοματεπώνυμο: *J. Ten*
Nom et Prénom: *Vicchi Giò Vanni*

Αρ. Αιχμαλώτου: *1:*
No du Prisonnier: *Camp 1*

Κέντρον Αιχμαλώτων: *1:*
Camp de Prisonniers: *Camp 1*

Όνομα: *Francesco Vicchi*
Nom: *Francesco*

Όδος: Rue: *Via Garibaldi 9*
Rue: *Francesca*

Χώρα: Pays: *Ιταλία*
Pays: *Italia*

Επαρχία: Province: *Ραβέννα*
Province: *Italia*

COMMISSIONE PROV. DI CENSURA ROMA * 1
UFFICIO PRISONNIERI
SERVIZIO CENSURA
Via Postale, 6 - ROMA

4)

+

ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΩΝ
POSTE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
ΕΛΛΑΣ - GRECE

ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ - CARTE POSTALE

ΑΤΕΛΕΣ - FRANC DE PORT
ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΥΣ - EXPEDITEUR

Όνοματεπώνυμο: *Lasa Leone*
Nom et Prénom: *Lasa Leone*

Αρ. Αιχμαλώτου: *5932*
No du prisonnier: *5932*

Κέντρον Αιχμαλώτων: *IV*
Camp de Prisonniers: *di Guerra*

Διεύθυνσις: *Lentini*
Destination: *Lentini*

Όδος: Rue: *Via Roma 9*
Rue: *Via Roma 9*

Χώρα: Pays: *Lithi*
Pays: *Lithi*

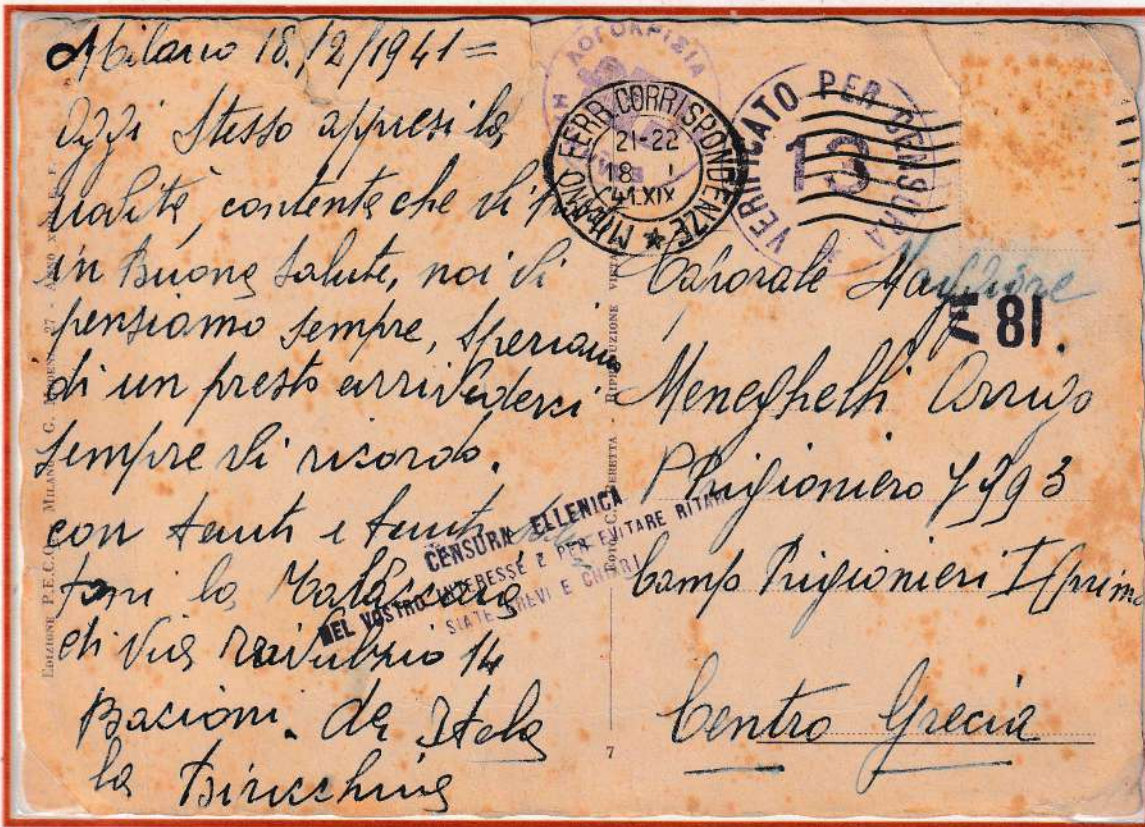
Επαρχία: Province: *Belluno*
Province: *Belluno*

ROMA * 1
ROMA FERROVIA * 5 II 41

Similarly postal cards of **Prisoner Postal Service of the Hellenic Red Cross** from prisoner of war camps in Greece, which were subsequently routed through the **Italian Red Cross** (the first bears the 3-line linear handstamp of the Italian Red Cross).

Were censored in Greece with single circle seal **ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ** (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP), censor numbers #E92, (on 17 Feb 41 with handstamp) and #E105, (on 14.1.41- handwritten note)

3. from prisoner of war Camp No 1 (**ΚΟΡΙΝΘΟΣ**) (CORINTH) posted on 9.2.41 (on the back) to RAVENNA. Censored additionally in Rome, pmk **COMMISSIONE PROV. DI CENSURA ROMA * 1**. No arrival postmark
4. from prisoner of war Camp No IV-4 (**ΧΑΛΚΙΔΑ**) (CHALKIS) posted on 7.1.41 (on the back) to BELLINO (PIEMONTE). On arrival was postmarked with a twin-circle railway pmk **ROMA FERROVIA * 5 II 41**



(in front 30%)

Illustrated postcard, sent from **Milan** on **18 February 1941** (with a Milan railway postmark) to an Italian Major (Caporale Maggiore) held in **"I" concentration camp**. The postcard was censored upon departure in Italy (circular handstamp **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA #13**). It also censored upon arrival in Greece, with a single-circle handstamp **"ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ"** (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP), with a central crest and with **"E 81"**, censor's number #E81. It also includes the usual note from Greek censorship in Italian. **The postage stamp is missing.**

The prisoner camp I in Chania was established for the internment of Italian prisoners



(on the back)

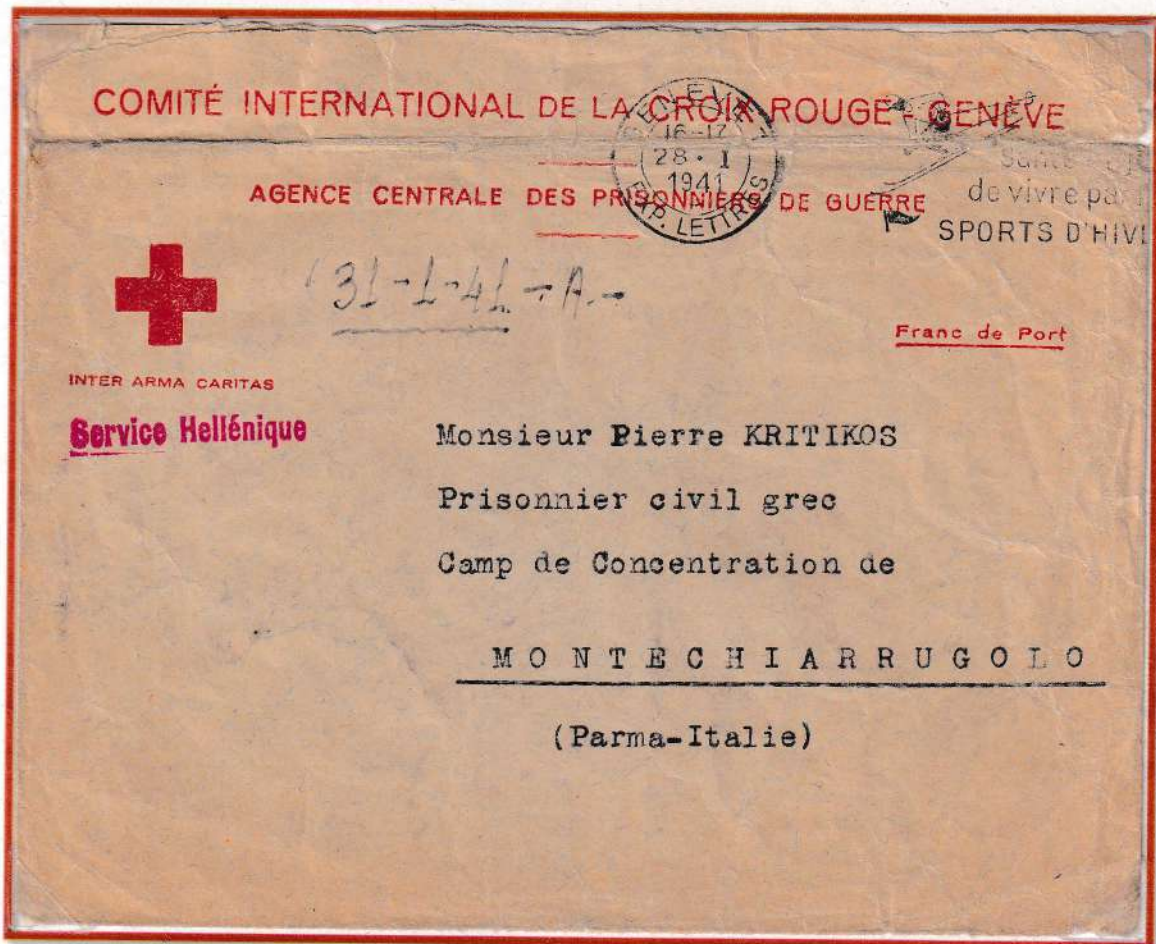
9-3-41

Postcard sent on **9 March 1941** (on the back) by a Greek Lieutenant serving at the **"I" Prisoner of War Center** in Chania, Crete, to Athens. It bears the official 3-circle handstamp in blue of the camp **"I. ΚΕΝΤΡΟΝ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΩΝ"** with a central crest (indicating exemption from postage fees). It was handled through civilian mail and was censored with the single-circle handstamp **"ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΧΑΝΙΩΝ"** (CHANIA CENSORSHIP) and censor's number **#4**.

3. GREEK CITIZENS INTERNEES IN ITALY

Greek citizens who happened to be in Italy at the beginning of the war (about 450 people, mainly students and sailors), were arrested and locked up in special facilities; they were released in September 1943, after the armistice between the Italians and the Germans.

Their correspondence, obligatory written in Italian was examined by the camp censors and was forwarded postage free.



Official cover of the **International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva**, sent from Greece via the **Hellenic Red Cross (Service Hellenique)**, to GENEVA, for a Greek citizen (P. Kritikos) imprisoned in the **MONTECHIARRUGOLO** Camp in Parma, Italy. Arrival in Geneva with pmk GENEVE 7/EXP LETTRES * 28 1 41.

The cover was mailed from Geneva to Italy postage-free

(Note: **Franc de port**)

Petros Kritikos, was a crew member of a Greek merchant ship that was in an Italian port on the day the war broke out. The entire crew was detained

4. GREEK SOLDIERS CAPTIVE IN ITALY

There are scant records of Greek military prisoners of the Greco - Italian front, since the actual number was relatively small. Additionally, some were released by the German occupying forces, after the armistice of Italy

(front side 70%)



Cover from **Greek Prisoner of War** in Italy, at the Prisoner of War Camp **Fonte d'Amore** in **Sulmona** of the Abruzzo region, towards **Basel, Switzerland**. Routed through the **Italian Red Cross** (via Croce Rossa, handwritten in front). Censored on 3 Feb 41 (in front handstamp) with 2 twin-circle handstamps texted **UFFICIO PROVINCIALE CENSURA POSTALE #48**, with the Italian national emblem of the period (on the back) and with printed resealing tape texted "**Verificato per Censura**" from the Italian postal censorship office. Censor's number **#50** (in front inside the single-circle handstamp).

Some **Greco-Italian war Officers** were later arrested as a precaution, in order not to engage in resistance activities. Along with **teachers** and **priests**, they made up the three groups targeted for detention by the Italians. At first, they were placed in camps in Greece. Later, they were transported (via steamboat) to camps in Italy.

their objects are on display, since they are Greco-Italian war officers

One of these was a Major **T. VARIKOPOULOS** (was previously seen as the officer sender of a postal card from the **XVII Division**). He was arrested at his home in Larissa in November of 1942, placed in the camp there and eventually transferred to a concentration camp in Italy (initially **No 55** and then **No 17**).

POSTE ITALIANE
CARTOLINA POSTALE
 PER PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA

ESENTE DA TASSE POSTALI

Mittente (Sender's) (Отправитель)
 5411

Cognome (Surname) (Фамилия) *Varicopulos*

Nome (Name) (Имя) *Theodoro*

Grado (Rank) (Чин) *Maggiore*

Campo p. g. (P. of W. Camp.) (Латерь в. п.) *17. P.M. 3200*

ITALIA

UFFICIO CENSURA POSTA ESTERA I

PER CENSURA

39

196

Signora *Messandra Varicopulu*

Via Lassou, 32
 Larissa
 Grecia

Italian postal card for prisoners of war (CARTOLINA POSTAL PER PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA) of VARIKOPOULOS, sent on 1.8.43 from Camp No. 17 (**REZZANELLO in PIACENZA, Lombardy/ITALY**), served by **Posta Militare 3200** (based in **BOLOGNA**), to his wife in **LARISSA-Greece**.

Censored by the Foreign Mail Office in Rome with twin-circle handstamp **UFFICIO CENSURA POSTA ESTERA I** (the II was in Milan) and box linear handstamp **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA**. "It also bears the fractional markings 196/I (of the censorship service in Rome) and 39/I (of censor #39 of the Rome censorship office).

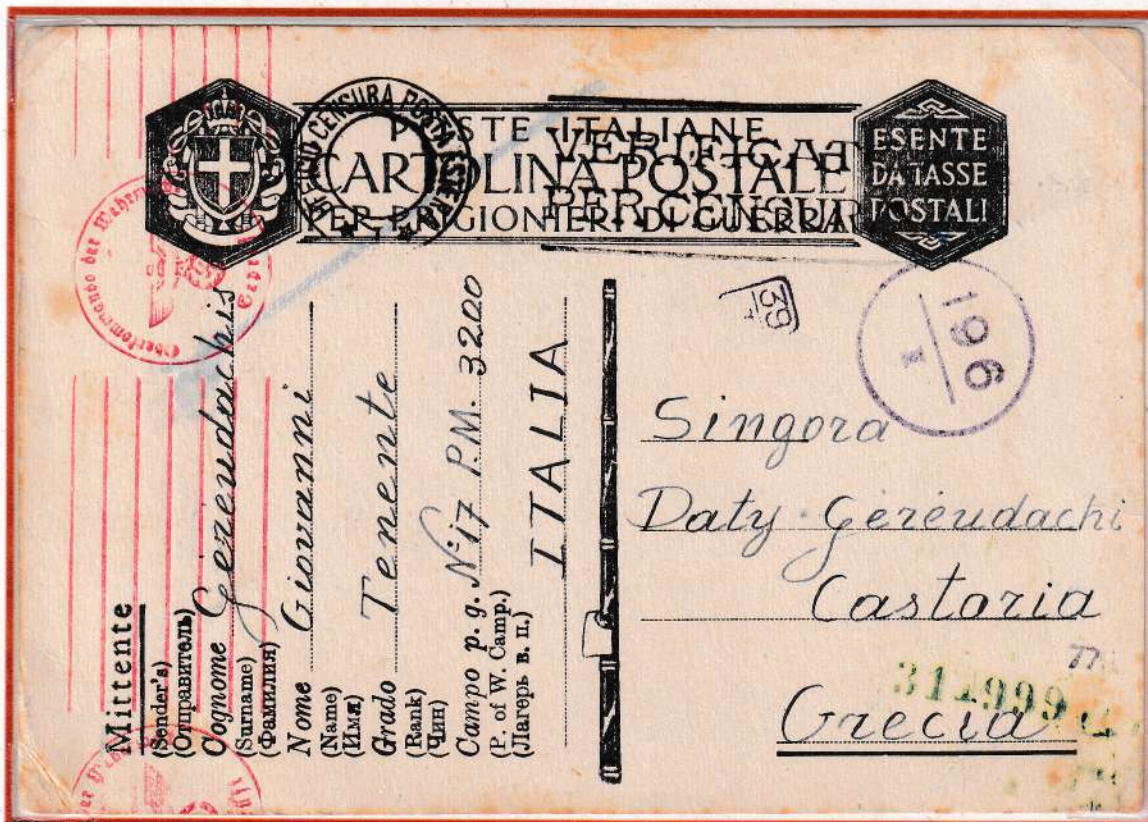
The card found its way into German hands, after the September 1943 armistice when German forces took control of Rome and Northern Italy. It was then transferred to **Munich** for inspection of military mail by the authorized service "d", cancellation "Ad" and censor number #5411, before being forwarded to Greece. **At the same time on the back of the card, the text was examined with a chemical blue liquid brush, 1cm wide, to highlight any encrypted message.**

Major T. VARIKOPOULOS escaped to Switzerland after Italy agreed to the armistice (8.9.43) and opened its camps. He studied at the University of Geneva at least until May 45 and then returned to his home (J. Vayakis).



Italian postal card from the rescued Artillery Lieutenant **Pavlos Bouas**, of the ship (**CITA DI GENONA**) that was torpedoed on January 21, 1943, while transporting prisoners of war from Greece to Italy (80 were rescued, 71 drowned, including **Colonel K. DAVAKIS**), sent on November 18, 1943, to his wife in Athens.

It was sent from Prisoner of War Camp No. #38, which was established in May 1943 for Greek detainees (near the city **POPPI**, province of **AREZZO** southeast of **FLORENCE**)
Stamp is missing



Italian prisoner of war card of officer **J. GEREODAKIS** (with cancellations/markings similars to **VARIKOPOULOS** card), sent from POW camp **No. 17**, to his wife as well, in **KASTORIA** on 16.7.43 (back). The difference being that during the German advance, it was sent to **VIENNA** (service "g" responsible for the control of mail from/to the Balkans) where it was stamped with **Oberkommando der Wehrmacht/Gepuft** (7 continuous red lines as described in the book: **DEUTSCHE DIENSTSTELLEN G -25**, page Nr. 132 by Riemer).

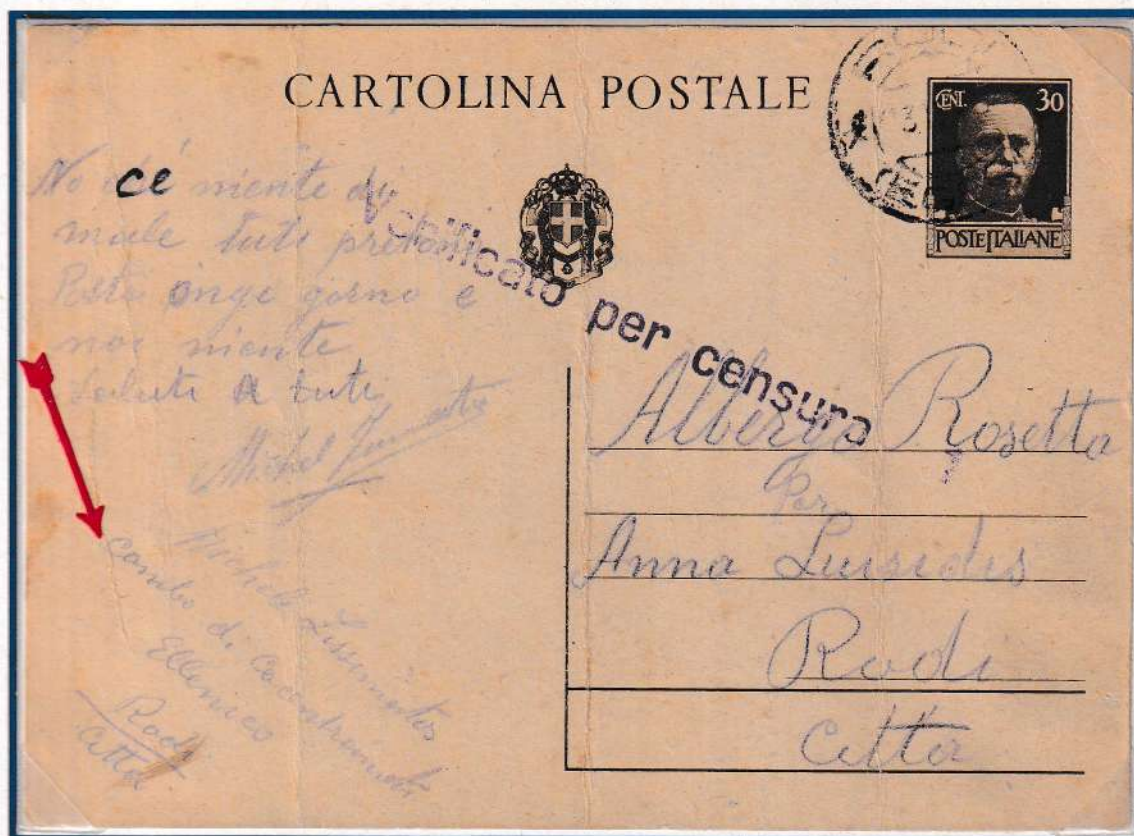
Second Lieutenant J. GEREODAKIS was taken prisoner during hostilities in **ALBANIA**, imprisoned in two camps in Italy (No.17 and No.55) and two in Germany (**OFLAG X and VIII**). He was released and returned to Greece after May 1945 (S. Bosovitch).

5. DODECANESE RESIDENTS OF GREEK ORIGIN, DETAINEES IN RHODES

People living on the Dodecanese islands who were of Greek origin and/or possessed Greek citizenship prior to the Italian occupation or later came to settle in the Dodecanese from Greece, with the outbreak of the war, or perhaps even the day before, (numbering around 300 people) were arrested and placed in temporary Camps on Rhodes (firstly in tents at a camp on the moat of Rhodes-town Castle and later to the stables of the little horses for the Italian officers children).

For their correspondence with relatives, they used official Italian postal stationery cards along with a pre-printed 30c Italian stamp (inland rate). **The Italian language was used. (relatively rare items).**

The prisoners were eventually released after the capitulation of Greece on April 27, 1941.



Italian postal card from Greek prisoner (**Michel Zissimatos**) in RHODES From the "Campo di concentramento Ellenico", sent in town (citta) on 23.11.40. Censored with linear handstamp "Verificato per censura".

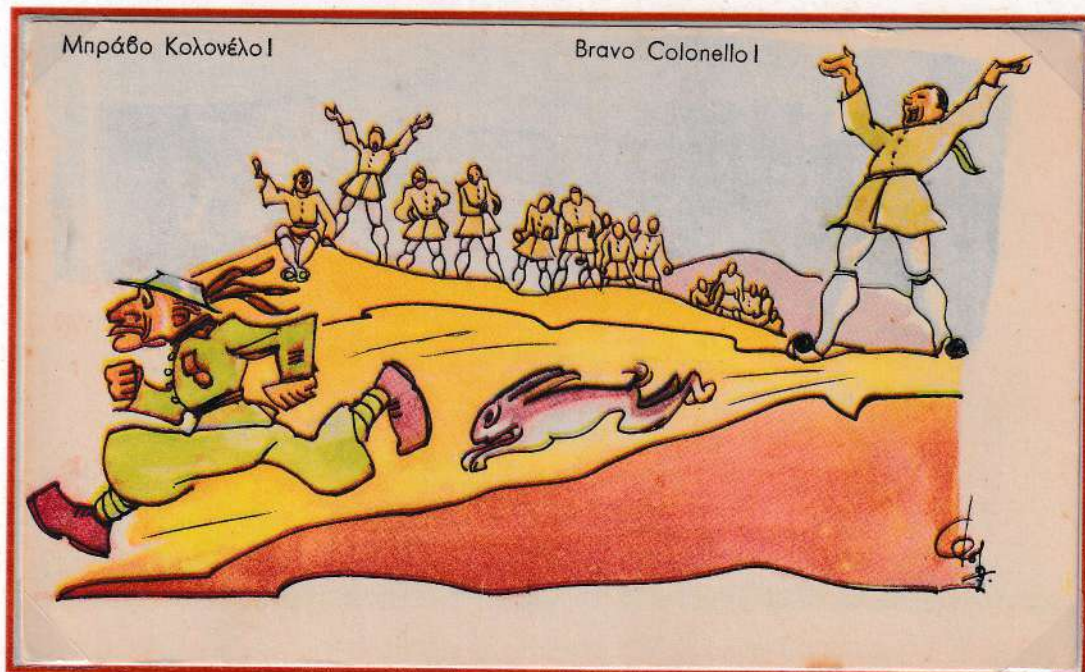
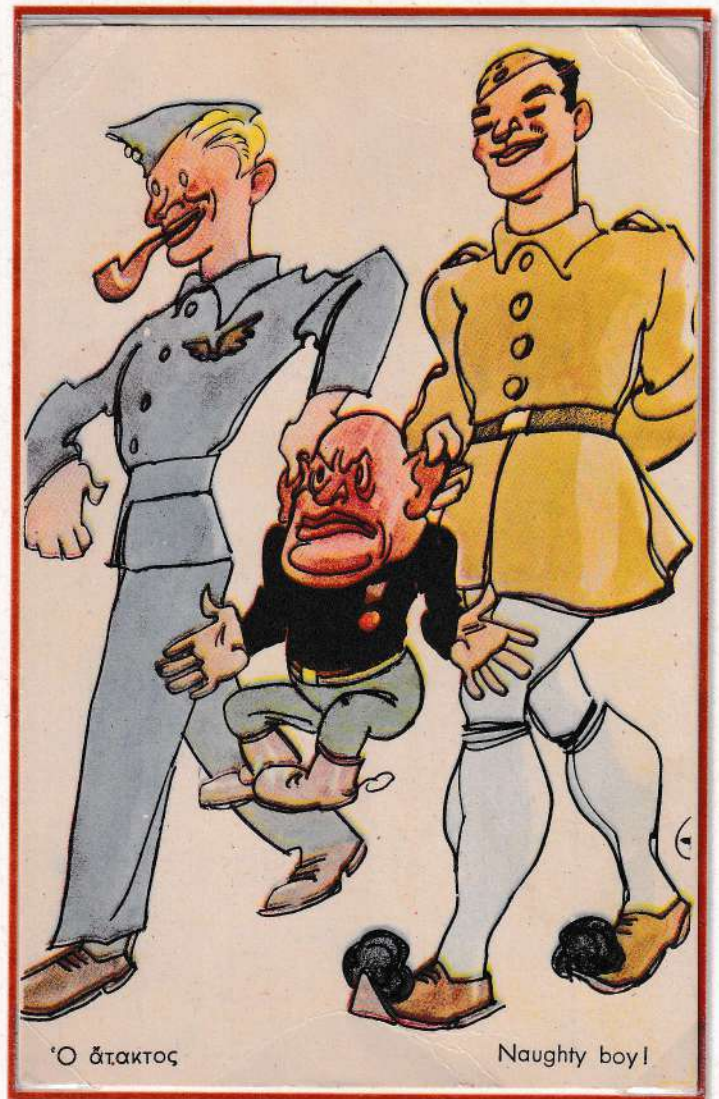
He was released in January 1941, along with other elderly individuals, after protests about the conditions of detention

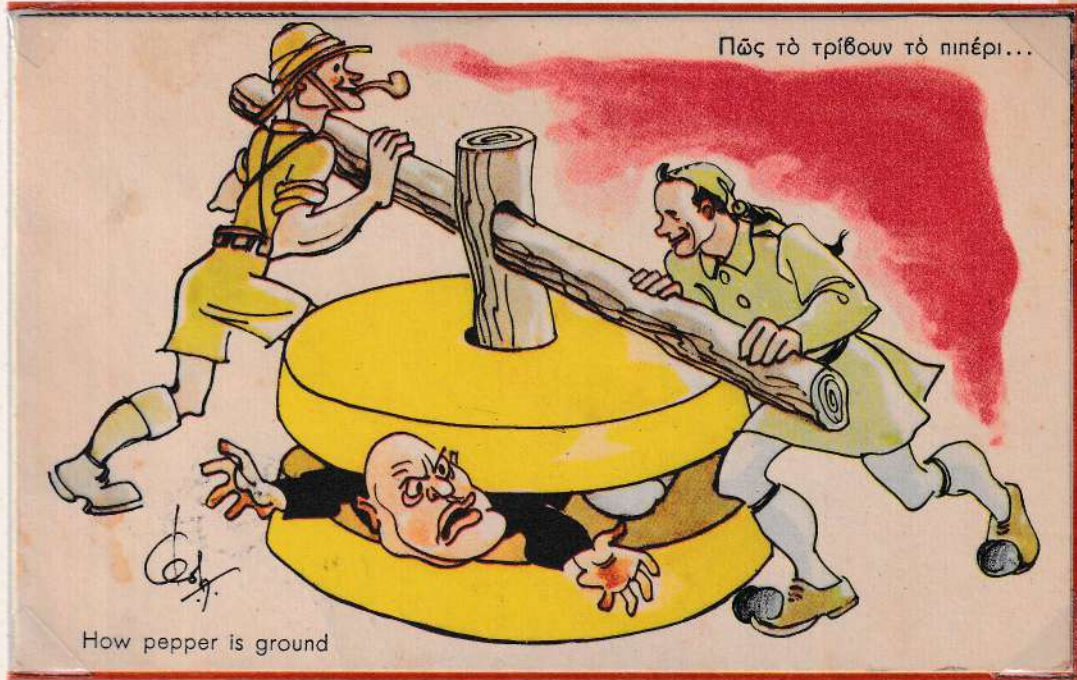


Italian postal card to the Greek prisoner, our well-known philatelist (**Gerasimos Zissimatos** (son of the above), at "Campo internati Greci" in the city of Rhodes (citta), on 27.11.40. Censored with linear handstamp "Verificato per censura 6" (#6 is sensor's number).

He was released in April 1941 after the surrender of Greece

CARDS WITH ANTI-ITALIAN HUMOROUS ILLUSTRATIONS





How pepper is ground

Handwritten Greek text and a red circular censor stamp are visible in the top right corner of the postcard.

(back 50%)

Picture postcard from Kalavrita to Athens, pmk. "ΚΑΛΑΒΡΥΤΑ * 20 ΦΕΒ 41" with a 3-circle cachet "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΚΑΛΑΒΡΥΤΩΝ" with a central crest and linear handstamp "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED) with signature



(back side 40%)

Picture postcard from Athens to TT652 (PS652 - 2nd Regulatory Center) on 10.1.41 (FLORINA). Censored with single-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ & Ε 41" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP), sensor E141



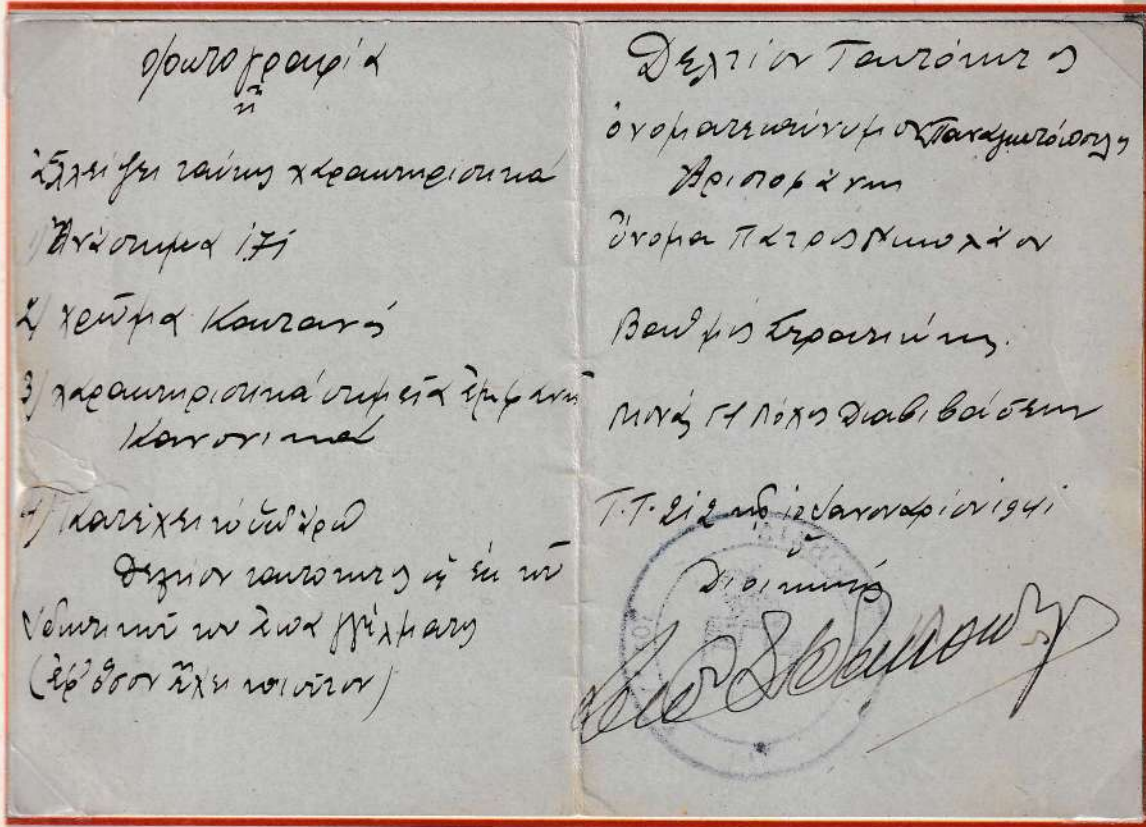
The collision of Tanks.



The.. «Order of the Garter».

MILITARY IDENTIFICATION CARDS-(IDs)

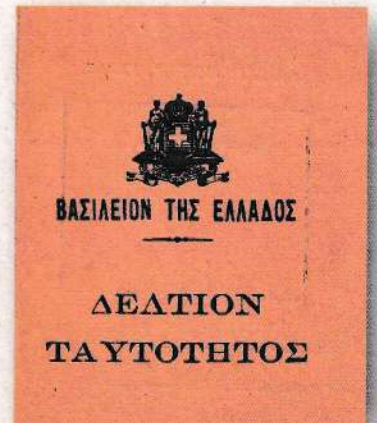
(50%)



Italian military card **taken as war spoil**, used as a Hellenic military ID card with the details of a Greek soldier, in unit **TT212** (PS 212/ 3rd ARMY CORPS) Bears the unit's official twin-circle cachet "**ΛΟΧΟΣ ΔΙΑΒΙΒΑΣΕΩΝ**" (SIGNAL COMPANY), with a central crest. Dated "**TT212 τη 10 Ιανουαρίου 1941**" (PS212 January 10, 1941), signed probably from Colonel Dimitrios Dimakopoulos, Director of Logistics

The above highlights the immense shortage of paper that existed at that time...

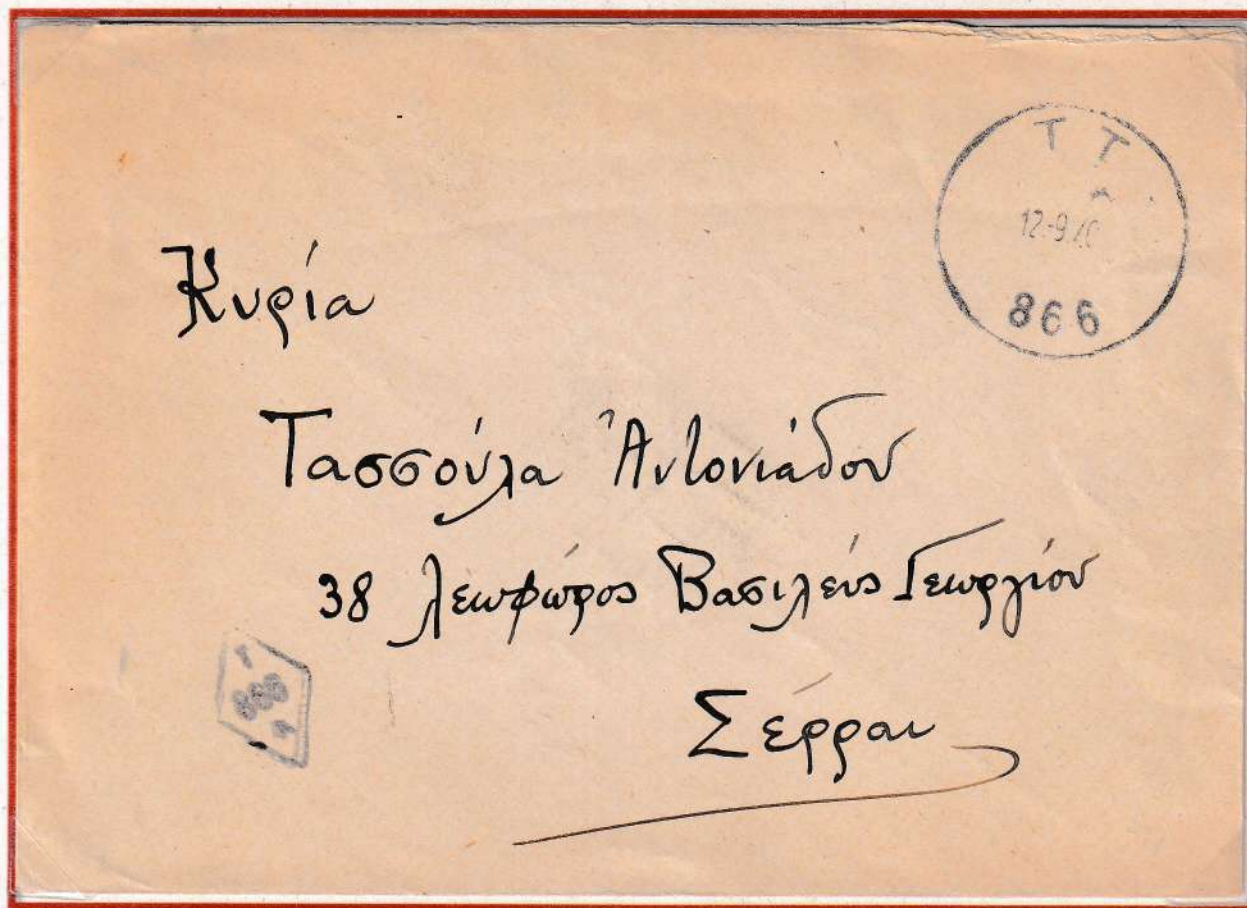
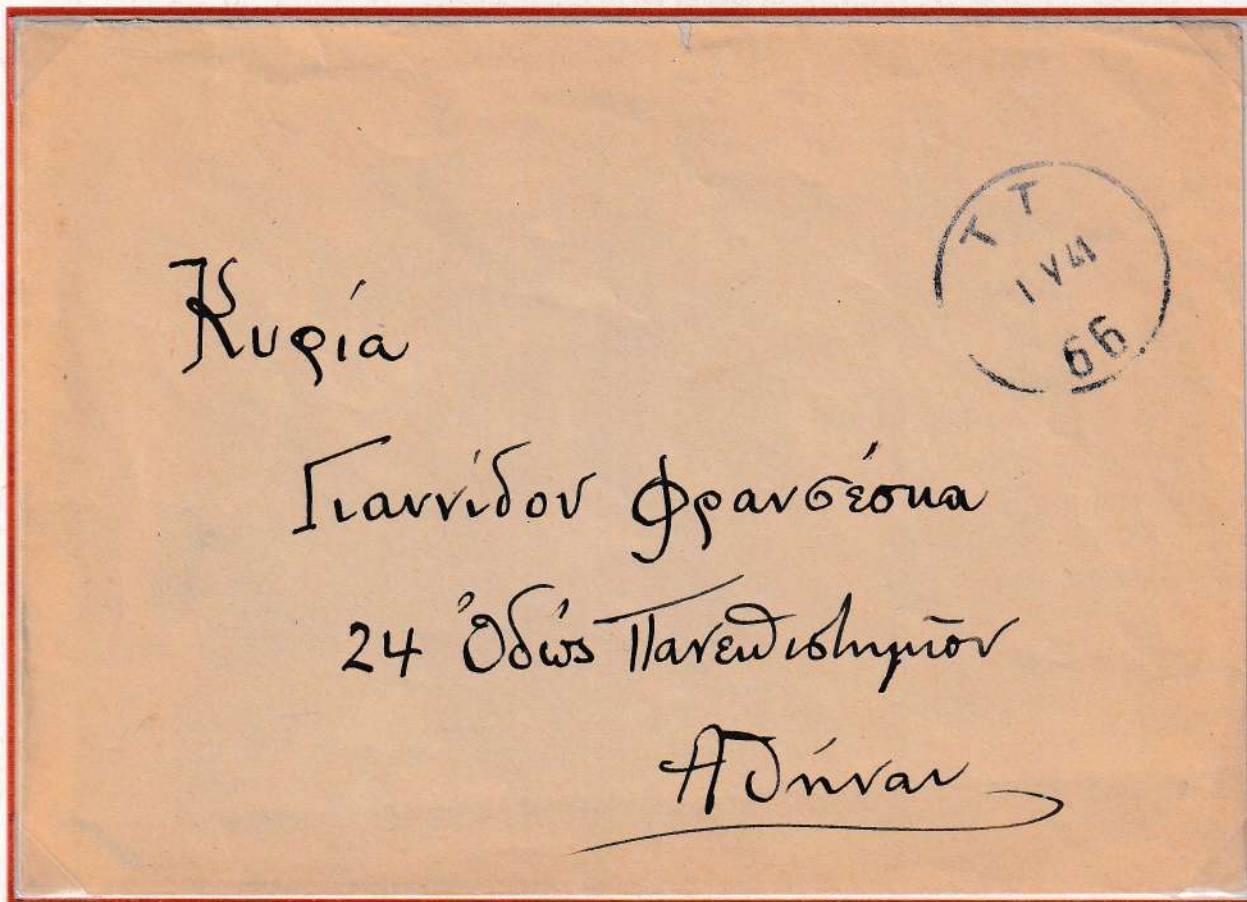
(in front 70%)



Military identity card from a unit of the **XIII ΜΠ**, (XIII Infantry Division), with holder's details & hand stamped with the unit's official 3-circle handstamp "**ΜΟΝΑΣ * 1390**" (UNIT 1390), with a central crest

"In 724 on 29.3.1941"

ATTENTION COUNTERFIT !!!



Forged covers that appear to have been mailed from TT66 (a **non-existent Postal Sector**) and from TT866, to Athens. The type of postmarks that appears on the covers are non-existent. **Note the incorrect Greek spelling designed to lend an aura of authenticity and innocence, to the forged item....**

*According to available information, such forgeries are of Italian provenance, and were created after the war
Even this period would not escape the forgers...*

ITALIAN PROPAGANDA AERIAL LEAFLETS

The leaflets in question were dropped by the Italians from airplanes during their attacks in March 1941

"Greek soldiers!

*See where your
prowess has gotten
you"*



*"Ελληνες στρατιώται!
Υπὲρ τίνος, διὰ ποῖον
σκοπὸν πολεμάτε;*



*"Greek soldiers!
What are you fighting
for?"*

“Έλληνες,

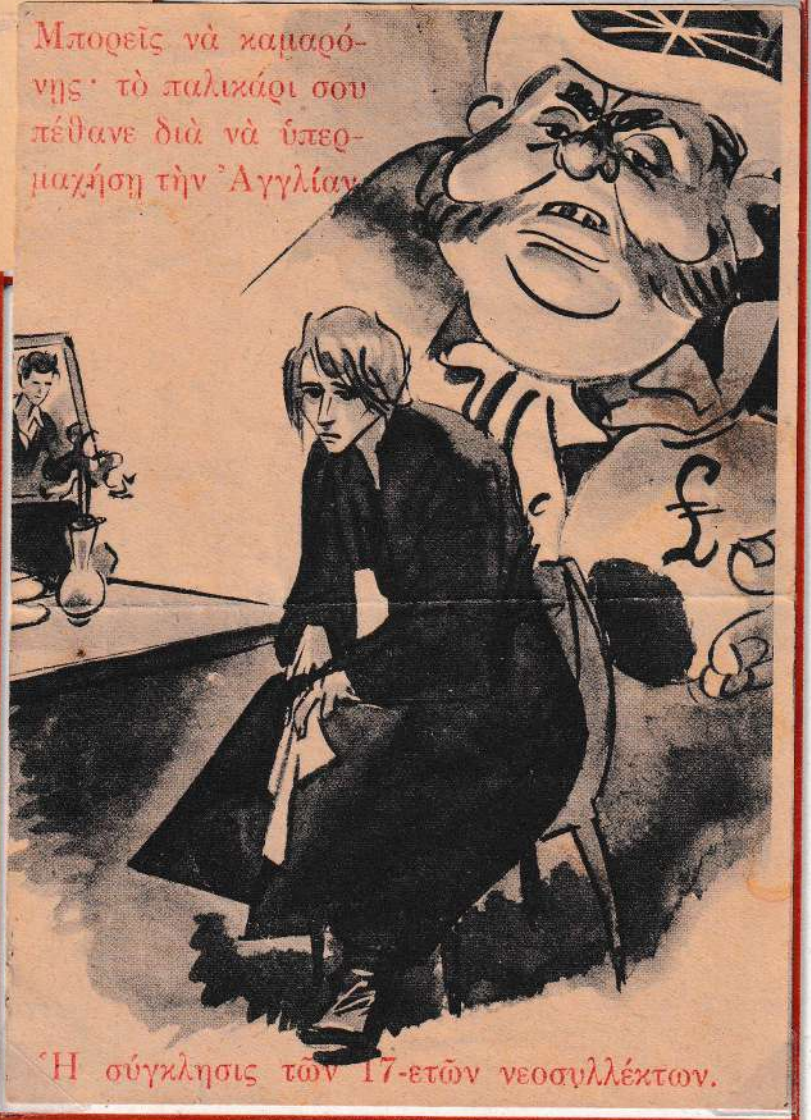
Ἐάν εἰσθε περίλυποι διὰ τὴν τύχην
τῶν παιδίων σας, ἐγκαρδιόνησθε·
τὰ παιδία τὰ ἀγγλικά εἶναι ἐν ἀσφαλείᾳ
ἐν τῇ Ἀμερικῇ.



“Greeks,

*If you are concerned about the
fate of your children, you can
take comfort knowing that
those of the British are well-
protected by America”*

Μπορεῖς νὰ καμαρό-
νης· τὸ παλικᾶρι σου
πέθανε διὰ νὰ ὑπερ-
μαχήσῃ τὴν Ἀγγλίαν.



*“You can be proud of your
lad;
He died defending
England”*

Ἡ σύγκλησις τῶν 17-ετῶν νεοσυλλέκτων.

RECEIPTS OF MILITARY POSTAL ORDERS

From TT251 (XVII Μ.Π.) - PS251 (XVII Infantry Division),
to THESSALONIKI on 24.II.41

From ATHENS to TT520 (IX Μ.Π.) - PS520
(IX Infantry Division) on 8 FEB 41

Ταχ. Τρομέως 251

ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΙΣ ΕΚΔΟΣΕΩΣ ΣΤΡΑΤ. ΤΑΧ. ΕΠΙΤΑΓΗΣ

Αριθ. 3713

Κατετέθη έπιταγή εκ δρ. 1500 λ.

(*Ολογράφως)

Αποστολεύς Δασμαράς Γεώργιος

Παραλήπτης Ελευθέριος Κωνσταντίνου

Γραφείον προορισμού Δεσφίνης

Εν τῇ 24 1941

Ο Προστ. τοῦ Ταχ. Τρομέως



ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΙΣ ΕΚΔΟΣΕΩΣ ΕΠΙΤΑΓΗΣ ΕΣΩΤΕΡΙΚΟΥ

Αριθ. 45568 Κατηγορία 4

Κατετέθη έπιταγή εκ δρ. 2500 λ.


Αποστολεύς Κωνσταντίνος Κωνσταντίνου

Παραλήπτης Εμ. Κωνσταντίνου

Γραφείον προορισμού ΤΤ 520


Εν τῇ 8 1941

Ο Προστ. τοῦ Ταχ. Αθηνών



—Σήμερον εκείνος πού θά παρουσιασθῇ εἰς τήν Διοίκησιν διὰ νά ζητήσῃ τὸ δίκαιόν του, θά εἶναι βέβαιος ὅτι θά ἀκουσθῇ οἰσοδήποτε καί ἂν εἶναι, πλούσιος ἢ πτωχός, μέγας ἢ μικρός.

I. ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ



Ὅλη ἡ Ἑλλάς πρέπει νά μεταβληθῇ εἰς ἓνα τεράστιον ἀγροτικόν στρατόπεδον.

I. ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ

Ἀποτείνομαι πρὸς ὅλους τοὺς Ἕλληνας, ἀπὸ τοῦ πρώτου μέχρι τοῦ τελευταίου, ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀστοῦ μέχρι τοῦ ἀγρότου καί τοῦ ἐργάτου, καί σᾶς καλῶ ὅλους νά ἐργασθῆτε μετ' ὅλην τὴν δύναμίν σας διὰ τὸ μέγα ἔργον τῆς ἐθνικῆς μας ἀναγεννήσεως

I. ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ

On their reverse side, these receipts, both during the war and later, with various propaganda slogans of I. METAXA

CONTROL of CIVILIAN POSTAL CORRESPONDENCE

1. TELEGRAM CENSORSHIP

CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED.

ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΕΙΟΝ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΗΜΑ

501

Date } 13 1 41
Ημερομηνία }

2215

Time handed } 2220
Govt Office }

• (Ἡ κάτωθι πρώτη γραμμή δὲν ἀφορᾷ τὸν ἀποδέκτην. Ἡ δευτέρα γραμμή περιλαμβάνει κατὰ σειράν : τὸν αὐξοῦντα ἀριθμὸν τοῦ τηλεγραφήματος, τὸ Γραφεῖον προελεύσεως, ἀριθμὸν λέξεων, ἡμερομηνίαν, ὥραν καταθέσεως καὶ παρατηρήσεις).

TAECART2

23 ISTANBUL 23 13 1800

B.S. 759

14. JAN 1941



Via Rai

Telegram from Istanbul to the Athens branch of the Salonica Bank, dated 13 January 1941 (written on telegram). Arrival in Athens, pmk "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΕΙΟΝ * 14 I 07:30" (ATHENS TELEGRAPHIC OFFICE). Censored upon arrival with a violet single-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP) with censor's signature inside.

190

ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΗΜΑ

Υπόδ.

 'Ελήφθη ἐκ τῆς Ν. ΜΟΝΟΡΗΣ 28 NOV 40	'Εκ ΧΙΟΥ 'Αρ. 193 Λεξ. 16 ἡμερ. 28 ὥρ. 1625	'Ενδείξεις: ΖΗΝΟΒΙΑΝ ΚΥΡΛΑΚΙΤΗΝ ΡΑΛΛΗ 111 ΠΕΙΡΑΙΑ	Μεταβιβ. εἰς τῆς ὥρ. 'Ο Μεταβιβάζων
	ΠΑΝΑΓΙΩΤΗΣ ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝ ΕΣΩΦΩΝ ΕΡΩΤΑ ΕΛΑΒΑΤΕ ΧΡΗΜΑΤΑ ΤΗΛΕ ΑΜΕΣΟΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΗΣΗ ΒΙΡΓΙΝΙΑ ΔΑΜΑΛΑ		




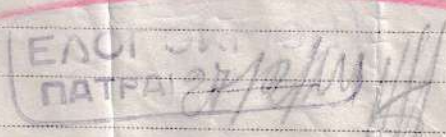
*Mr U. BELLAS

Telegram from **CHIOS** on **28 XI 40** to **PIRAEUS**. Telegrams were first processed through the Athens Telegraph Office. There was censored with single-circle red handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ * ΑΘΗΝΩΝ" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP). Arrival in Piraeus, hand stamped "ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ - ΤΗΛ. κ ΤΗΛΕΦ. ΚΕΝΤΡΟΝ * 29 XI 40" (PIRAEUS - Central Telegraph and Telephone Center) and with 2-line linear handstamp "ΕΛΗΦΘΗ ΕΞ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ" (RECEIVED from ATHENS) with the arrival hour also

ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΗΜΑ

Υπόδ. ΣΤ.

 'Ελήφθη ἐκ τῆς Λαρίσης Σ. Χαλκιά	'Εκ 54 ΛΑΡΙΣΗΣ 4526-9-26-930 ἡμερ. ὥρ.	'Ενδείξεις: ΣΠ ΟΙΚΟΓΕΝΕΙΑΝ ΣΤΑΜΑΤΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΜΟΥ ΠΑΤΡΑΣ =	Μεταβιβ. εἰς τῆς ὥρ. 'Ο Μεταβιβάζων
	ΘΕΡΜΟΤΑΤΑ ΣΥΛΛΥΠΗΤΗΡΙΑ = ΣΠ ΑΓΓΕΛΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ :		



Telegram from **LARISSA** on **26 II 41** to **PATRAS**. Upon arrival, pmk "ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΕΙΟΝ ΠΑΤΡΩΝ * 27 IV" (Patras Telegraph Office 27 IV (IV instead of II) where was censored with violet 2-line linear handstamp "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ ΠΑΤΡΑΙ 27/2/41" (CENSORED PATRAS 27.2.41)

ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΗΜΑ



43 = ΑΝΑΚΤΟΡΩΝ: 19 10 6 11

5

ΠΡΟΣ: ΣΑΠ ΠΛΟΙΑΡΧΟΝ ΝΙΚΟΤΣΑΡΑΝ ΣΥΡΟΝ

ΑΡ. ΑΦ. _____ ΕΙΣ _____

ΠΑΡ. ΕΙΣ ΣΥΡΟΝ ΤΗ _____ ΟΡ. _____

*Ελήφθη εκ τῆς τῆς 2/11 *Ωρ. 2/11 Μεταβ εἰς τῆς *Ωρ.

*Ο Λαβών *Ο Μεταβ.

ΛΙΑΝ ΣΥΓΚΕΚΙΝΗΜΕΝΟΣ ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ ΘΕΡΙΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΝΑΥΑΡΧΟΣ

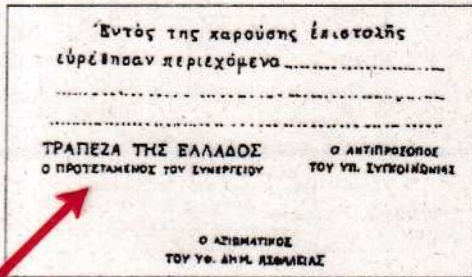
ΙΩΑΝΝΙΔΗΣ :



Telegram from the **PALACE TELEGRAPH OFFICE** (of the Vice Admiral IOANNIDIS) on January 7, 1941 to **SYROS**. Censored in SYROS with red 3-circle handstamp "**ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΣΥΡΟΥ / ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ 10**" (SYROS CENSORSHIP / CENSORED, sensor's number #10).

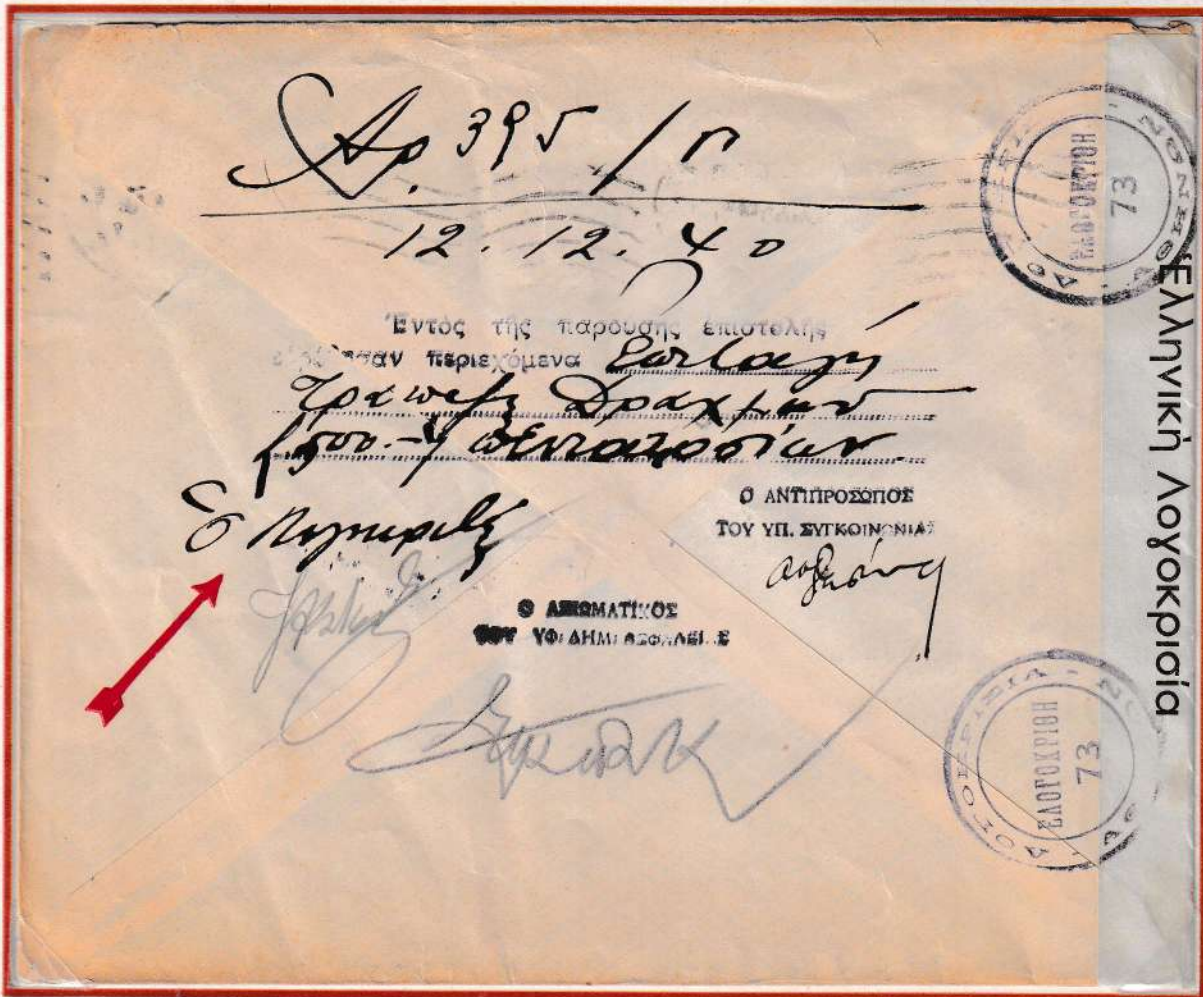
Vice Admiral Pericles Ioannidis, during the National Schism, sided with the King. Due to his political beliefs, he was imprisoned until 1920. After the fall of Venizelos, he participated in the Asia Minor Campaign. In 1922, he retired from active service, but in 1935, he was reinstated and, in the same year, retired from the Hellenic Navy while receiving the title of Vice Admiral. He married Princess Maria of Greece and Denmark, daughter of George I. After the war, in 1947, he received the Dodecanese as a representative of Greece from the Allies and was appointed military governor of the Dodecanese.

2. FINDING VALUE ITEMS DURING CENSORSHIP



(front side 50%)

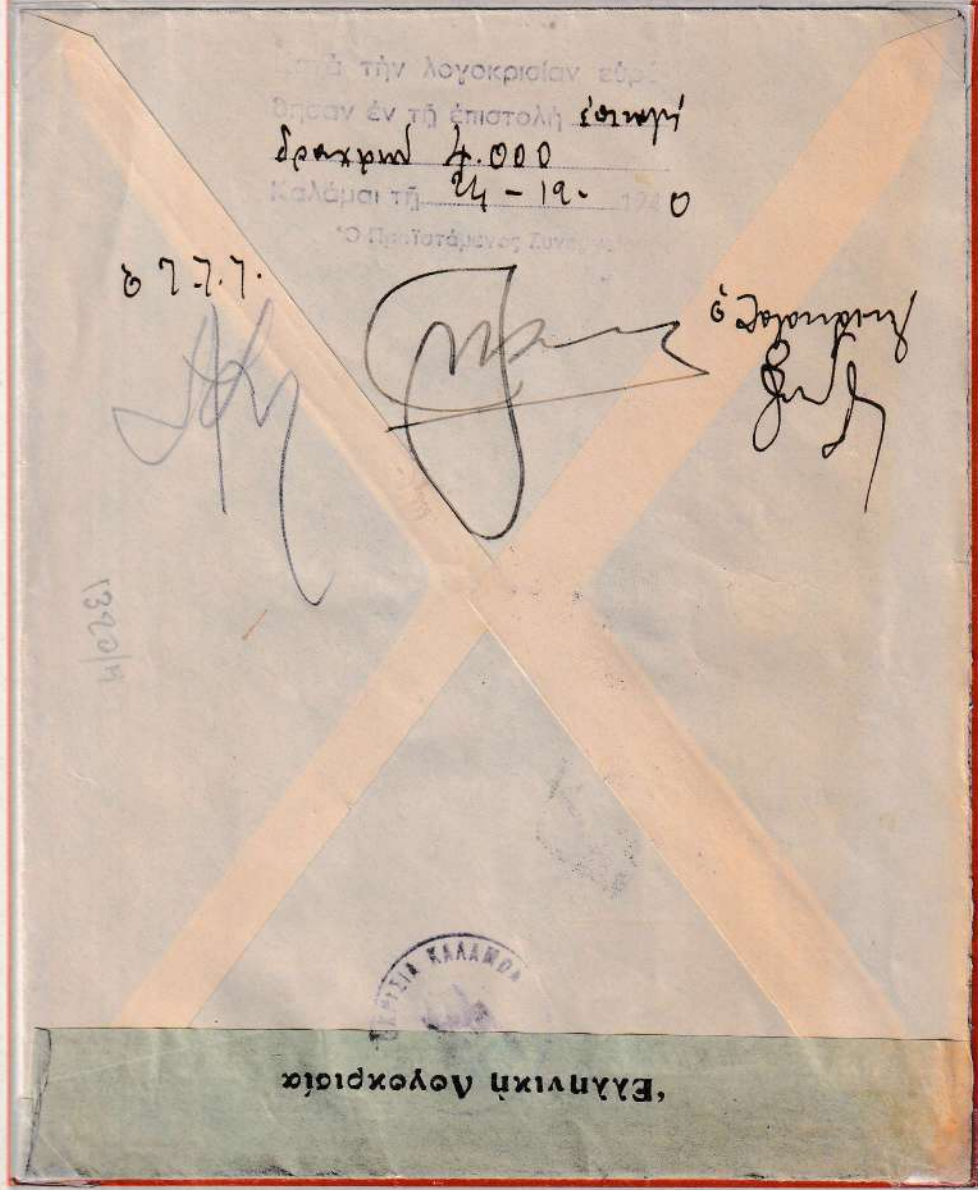
Initial handstamp type



Commercial intown cover, arrival pmk "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΑΦΙΞΙΣ * 11 XII 40". Opened for censorship control (single-circle cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ 322" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP, censor's number #322) - in front -, a **National Bank cheque for 500 dr was found inside**. This result was handwritten in pencil on the front of the envelope as well as on the back, replacing part of the specialized handstamp for exchange control used until then, with a handwritten note, and signed by "The Censor" (see below).

Afterward, it was forwarded to another censorship committee, maybe specialized in values items, tied with two violet twin-circle handstamps "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ * ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ 73" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP * CENSORED, sensor's number #73), on "Ελληνική Λογοκρισία" (Hellenic Censorship) marked resealing tape. The #32 inside the circle refers to the Athen's postman.

Note: This handstamp was used by the BANK OF GREECE during foreign exchange control from 1936 to 1941, which was modified/'scratched out' the inscription BANK OF GREECE/THE HEAD OF THE TEAM, to write manually on the envelope 'The Censor', as it pertains to a censorship inspection.



(40%)

Commercial cover from KALAMATA to ATHENS, canc. "ΚΑΛΑΜΑΙ * 24 ΔΕΚ 40" with resealing adhesive tape marked "Ελληνική Λογοκρισία" (Hellenic Censorship) and single-circle handstamp with a central crest "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΚΑΛΑΜΩΝ" (KALAMAI CENSORCHIP). The #27 refers to the Athen's postman

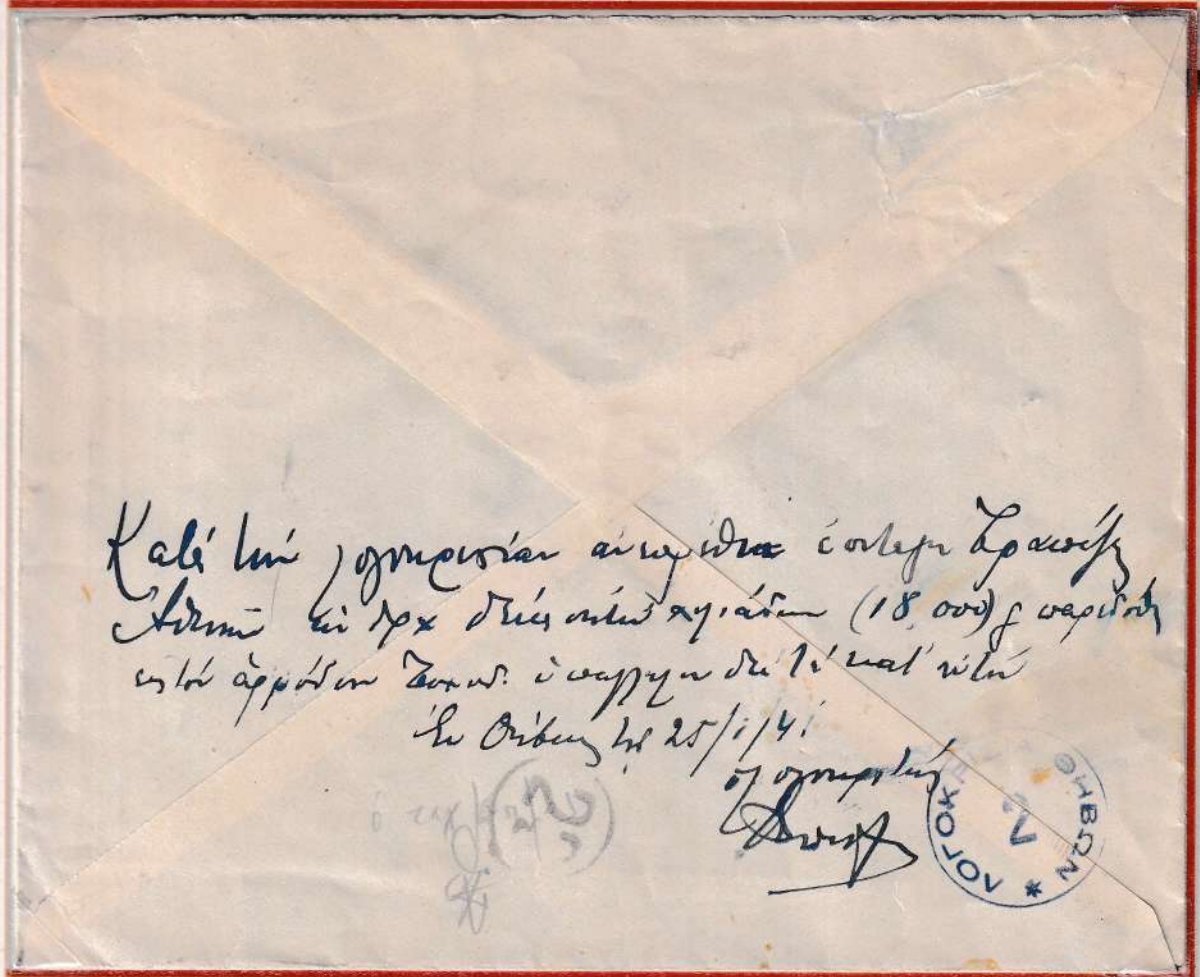
Cachet : During censorship, a check was found... etc. Signed by the parties involved with a **special** censorship/exchange handstamp



(30%)

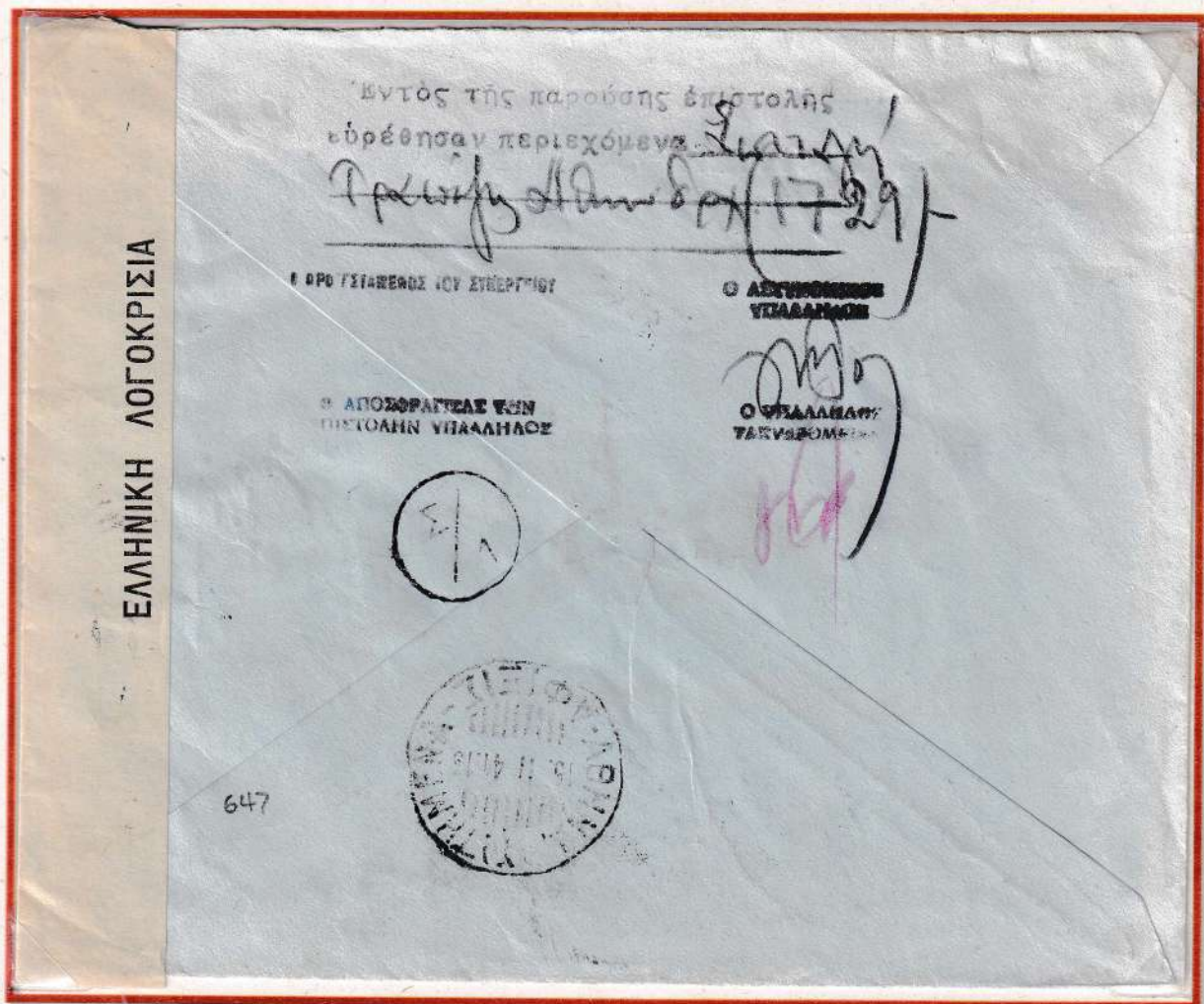
Commercial cover from THIVAI to ATHENS, canc. "ΘΗΒΑΙ * 25 ΙΑΝ 41", and single-circle cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΘΗΒΩΝ 2" (THIVAI CENSORCHIP, censor's number #2)

There is a **handwritten** note about finding a check of Bank of Athens for a substantial amount (**apparently, they didn't have yet a handstamp in this office**) and handed over to the Postal Officer in charge (reverse). The rhomboidal #22 refers to the Athen's





(front 50%)



Registered cover from **Volos Branch of the Bank of Athens**, to ATHENS. Canc. "**ΒΟΛΟΣ * 11 II 41**" added with black printed framed oblong registry label "**Σ / 1584**". Forwarded to VOLOS Censorship Service, tied with small cachet "**ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ - ΒΟΛΟΥ**" (VOLOS CENSORSHIP) in outer belt around crest centrally on "**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ**" (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP) printed resealing tape. Backstamped confirmation signed by the Police and Post Office officials on the examined cover that a **check of the Bank of Athens for 1729 Drachmas** was found contained [apparently, the found item was re-enclosed within the cover].

For this case of finding a check during censorship control, the existed cachet during currency control from 1936 until the start of the war was used

A SIMULTANEOUS CONTROL OF CENSORSHIP & CURRENCY EXCHANGE CONTROL (although the currency control had ceased with the onset of the war)

(back 40%)



Registered letter from the **National Bank of Greece** (Athens) to a bank in **London**. Postmarked at the bank with a **faint red meter machine stamp** on 14 November 1940. It was then forwarded to the Athens civilian post, pmk. "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΣΥΣΤΗΜΕΝΑ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΟΥ * 15 XI 40". Censored with a violet single-circle cachet texted "ATHENS * CENSORSHIP", censor's number E.7

It is then transferred to the exchange control committee of the Bank of Greece, where the cover:

- is examined and secured with a printed tape "ΕΛΕΓΧΟΣ ΣΥΝΑΛΛΑΓΜΑΤΟΣ / CONTROLE DU CHANGE",
- hand stamped (front and back) with the round cachet of the Currency Control Committee (seated Athena),
- hand stamped also with the square handstamp "ΕΠΙΤΡΕΠΕΤΑΙ Η ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΗΣΙΣ" (PERMITTED TO BE POSTED), without a date, on the back, signed by the committee members
- additionally, a vignette of the Bank is affixed.

Forwarded finally to its destination by the Athens civilian post, pmk "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ POSTE AERIENNE * 16 XI 40", routed to its destination through Cairo (transit handstamp of the Egyptian censorship, CENSOR #77 on the front).



It is quite strange for the cover to undergo Currency Control in November, when it is known that it had already been abolished with the declaration of war, and military censorship was officially being enforced.

3. CARTOONS WITHIN THE LETTERS

They were available for free to put inside letters to boost the mood and morale of the recipients.



Cover with enclosed letter from ATHENS, pmk "ΑΘΗΝΑ (ΛΕΒΙΔΟΥ 8) * 14 XII 40", to an army officer of TT724 (PS724 -XIII Infantry Division). Censored in Athens with twin-circle cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ * ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ 116" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP * CENSORED, censor's number #116) and with resealing printed tape marked "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (HELLENIC CENSORSHIP).

Inside the letter was the above cartoon

5. CIVILIAN POST OFFICE'S CENSORSHIP

At the start of the war, public mail was **initially censored by the local public authorities** and by control offices of public correspondence that were created in all the major cities of Greece. As we mentioned above, **with the GES directive of 11.11.1940, these offices also controlled military correspondence**. Each censorship office had its own handstamps, for this reason there is a plethora of round seals (two concentric or a single circle), but also horizontal ones (the censors had their own seals usually with numbers inside a frame (circular or rectangular)).

Letters that were not posted open were opened by the censors and after their contents was verified, they were resealed with printed resealing adhesive tape bearing the inscription "GREEK CENSORSHIP" usually in a tete-beche format. Specifically, there exist numerous types of printed tapes bearing various font faces.

These censorship offices functioned until the occupation of Athens on 17.4.41 by the Germans, or earlier if the city was occupied earlier than that date.

Within the space limitations of the exhibit, a numerically small sample of verified public mail from various cities follows. Postage fees are not mentioned as they are outside the scope of the exhibit.

➤ *Attica region – Saronic Gulf – Cyclades – Euboea*

• *ATHENS*

Τὸ γράμμα τοῦ Στρατιώτου εἶναι ἱερό γιὰ μᾶς.

**Θεωροῦμε καθήκον νὰ κάνωμε ὅ,τι εἶναι δυνατόν γιὰ
νὰ Σᾶς ἐξυπηρετήσωμε.**

Βοηθήσατε μᾶς καὶ Σεῖς γράφοντες σύντομα καὶ καθαρά.

**Ἔτσι τὰ γράμματά Σας δὰ φθάνουν ταχύτερα στὸν προ-
ορισμό τους.**

Η ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

Note from the **Athens Censorship Service** placed inside the letters, with the paper color used by Athen's censorship



ATHENS/INCOMING MAIL Cover from Königsberg in GERMANY to ATHENS, canc. "KONIESBERG * 12.2.41" and arrival pmk on reverse on 3.3.41. Censored upon arrival with single-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP) from the censor #170. Bears a resealing tape texted "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP). The cover was initially censored in Germany and secured with resealing tape texted "Geoffnet/Geprüft Obbercommando der Wehrmacht" (Germany was already in war) and stamped with 4line machine postmark (reference: DEUTSCHE DIENSSTELLEN by Riemer, type G-22, pg. 131)



ATHENS/OUTCOMING MAIL Registered cover from ATHENS to N.Y. canc. "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ * 21 III 1941" via SAN FRANCISCO, pmk "SAN FRANCISCO * MAY 22 1941". Arrival in New York with "NEW YORK * MAY 28 1941". Censored upon departure with two (in front & on the back) twin-circle handstamps "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ 240", (ATHENS CENSORSHIP, censor 240), in black color and also two single-circle handstamps in lilac color.

AERIAL CORRESPONDENCE GREECE - USA VIA PACIFIC OCEAN

Due to the closed route across the Atlantic, the route via the Pacific that had been in effect since 1935 was modified. The new route was implemented by the Greek Post Offices in March 1941. It was called FAM-19, (Foreign Air Mail 19, Horseshoe Pacific route).

front 40%



Cover from **ATHENS** to **NEW YORK** on 19 III 41. Traveled via Cairo, (indication on the envelope VIA EGYPT). Censored

- in **ATHENS** (ATHENS CENSORSHIP, censor's number #444),
- in **EGYPT** (rhomboidal cachet and resealing tape) and finally
- in **INDIA** (printed tape texted PASSED BY EXAMINER), hub station of the route.

Postage fees:

- Abroad rate: 8 Dr.
 - Airmail (Pacific route) * : 64 Dr & welfare: 1 Dr.
- "Written in French", note from the sender for the convenience of the censors.

* Egypt - Singapore - Hong Kong - San Francisco (from January 21, 1941, the postage fee was 64 Dr./5g: according to P. Tiberius.)



• SALAMINA island

Picture postcard from **SALAMINA** (Saronic Gulf) to TT652 (PS652/2nd REGULATORY CENTER), pmk "ΣΑΛΑΜΙΣ * 3.III.41" Censored with 3-circle elastic handstamp. "ΥΠΟΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΣΑΛΑΜΙΝΟΣ" (SALAMINA GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION), with a central crest

Military correspondence

• **PSICHIKO area**

Cover from **PSICHIKO** (near ATHENS) to the village of ERIMANTHOS in PELOPONESE, canc. "ΨΥΧΙΚΟΝ * 8.II.41". Censored upon departure with 3-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΤΤΤ ΨΥΧΙΚΟΥ" (CENSORCHIP of the PSICHIKO post office), with a central crest and censor's signature. Secured with resealing tape textured "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (ATHENS CENSORSHIP)

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ

Κ. 9
 Ουραία Γαλακτοκομία
 Εφομιόδιο Ερκαία
 Γόρα



Ρωμηνή Ατ Χερσάειον
 Λεωφόρο Χαλαδάνου
 αριθμός 14
 βίγα Ν Μοσχού
 Γλυφάδα

• **GLYFADA (Attica)**

Cover from **GLYFADA** to TT652 (PS 652 /2nd REGULATORY CENTER). Dispatched via civilian mail, pmk "ΓΛΥΦΑΔΑ * 6 ΙΑΝ 41". Bears printed tape textured "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP), and single-circle handstamp with "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΓΛΥΦΑΔΟΣ" (GLYFADA CENSORSHIP) with a central crest. Bears also a blue color handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΓΛΥΦΑΔΑΣ * 2" (GLYFADA CENSORSHIP, censor's number #2)
 Military correspondence



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ

• **KIFISIA (Attica)**

Cover with enclosed letter from **KIFISIA** to LOUTRAKI, canc. "ΚΗΦΙΣΙΑ * 7 ΙΑΝ 41". Censored with a linear box handstamp with "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΚΗΦΙΣΙΑΣ" (KIFISIA CENSORCHIP) and censor's signature. Bears a resealing tape textured "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP)

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ

Κ. 9
 Καρίαν Πασσαλείον
 Ε. Β. Ε. Ε. Γ.
 6^{ον} = Εραβελικόν Νοσοκομείον
 Λουτρακίου



• **ELEUSIS (Attica)**



Picture postcard from **ELEUSIS** to a soldier of TT152 (PS152/B' Army Corps). Dispatched via civilian mail, pmk "ΕΛΕΥΣΙΝΑ * 7141". Censored with linear 3-line black elastic handstamp "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑΗ / Ο ΔΙΟΙΚΗΤΗΣ / ΥΠΟΔ/ΣΕΩΣ ΧΩΡ/ΚΗΣ ΕΛΕΥΣΙΝΟΣ" (CENSORED / THE COMMANDER / GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION OF ELEUSIS

Military correspondence

• **MEGARA (Attica)**



Small cover from **MEGARA** to SPARTA, canc. "ΜΕΓΑΡΑ* 12 NOE 40". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΥΠΟΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΜΕΓΑΡΙΔΟΣ" (MEGARA GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION), with a central crest and a linear handstamp "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑΗ" (CENSORED)

• **LAVRIO (Attica)**



Cover from **LAVRIO** to ATHENS, canc. with LAVRIO faint handstamp, hard to distinguish Arrival postmark on the back "ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΛΕΒΙΔΟΥ 8 * 7 IV 41". Censored with 3-circle red handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΑΙΑ ΛΑΥΡΙΟΥ" (LAVRIO CENSORSHIP) with a central crest and censor's signature

• **PIRAEUS (Attica)**

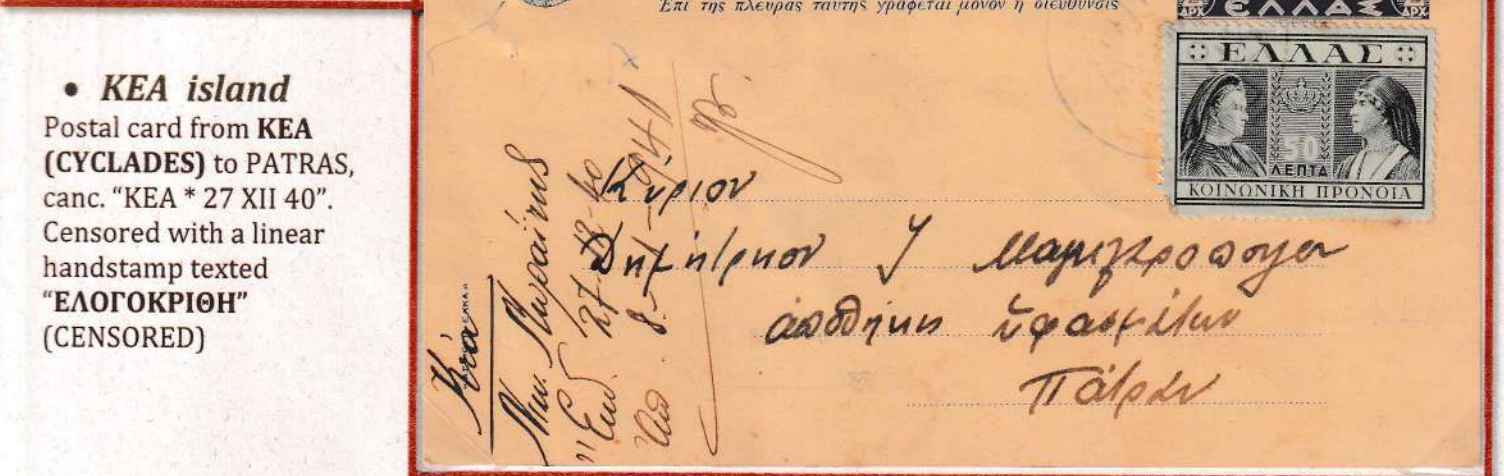


Mourning cover from **PIRAEUS** to **PSYCHIKO**, canc. "ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 9.11.40" with the bigger 3-circle cachet "ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ" (PIRAEUS CENSORSHIP Dept) with crest, & boxed censor's cachet "57- E". It bears also resealing tape texted "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED)



• **ANDROS island**

Postal card from **ANDROS (CYCLADES)** to **SYROS**, pmk "ΤΗΛ. ΓΡ. ΓΑΥΡΙΟΥ * 8 ΦΕΒ 41" (telegraph office) and 2-circle handstamp with "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΑΝΔΡΟΥ - ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ" (ANDROS GENDARMERIE STATION-KINGDOM of GREECE) with a central crest



• **KEA island**

Postal card from **KEA (CYCLADES)** to **PATRAS**, canc. "KEA * 27 XII 40". Censored with a linear handstamp texted "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED)

ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

ΑΝΩΝΥΜΟΣ ΕΤΑΙΡΙΑ

ΥΔΡΑ

ΕΜΠΟΡΙΚΗΝ ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ

Παράρτ. ΠΛΑΚΑΣ

ΑΘΗΝΑΣ



• *HYDRA island*

Cover from **HYDRA** island (**Saronic Gulf**) to **ATHENS**, canc "ΥΔΡΑ * 19 ΔΕΚ 40". Bears a faint 3-circle cachet "ΓΡΑΦΕΙΟΝ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ ΥΔΡΑΣ" (**HYDRA CENSORSHIP Office**) with a central crest (same handstamp on reverse with censor's signature)

• *SKYROS island*

Small visiting cover from **SKYROS** island (**SPORADES**) to **ATHENS**. Telegraphic canc. "ΤΗΛ ΣΚΥΡΟΥ * 28 ΔΕΚ 41". Censored with 3-circle violet handstamp "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΣΚΥΡΟΥ" (**SKYROS GENDARMERIE STATION**) with a central crest



• *SIFNOS island*

Cover from **SIFNOS** island (**CYCLADES**) to **PIRAEUS**, canc. "ΣΙΦΝΟΣ * 17 ΙΑΝ 41". Censored upon departure with single-circle cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΣΙΦΝΟΥ" (**SIFNOS CENSORSHIP**)



• **TINOS island**

Cover from TINOS island (CYCLADES) to N.Y. USA, canc. "ΤΗΝΟΣ * 28 ΝΟΕ 40". Censored with a linear box cachet "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED) and censor's signature on the blank paper resealing tape



• **NAOUSA (PAROS island)**

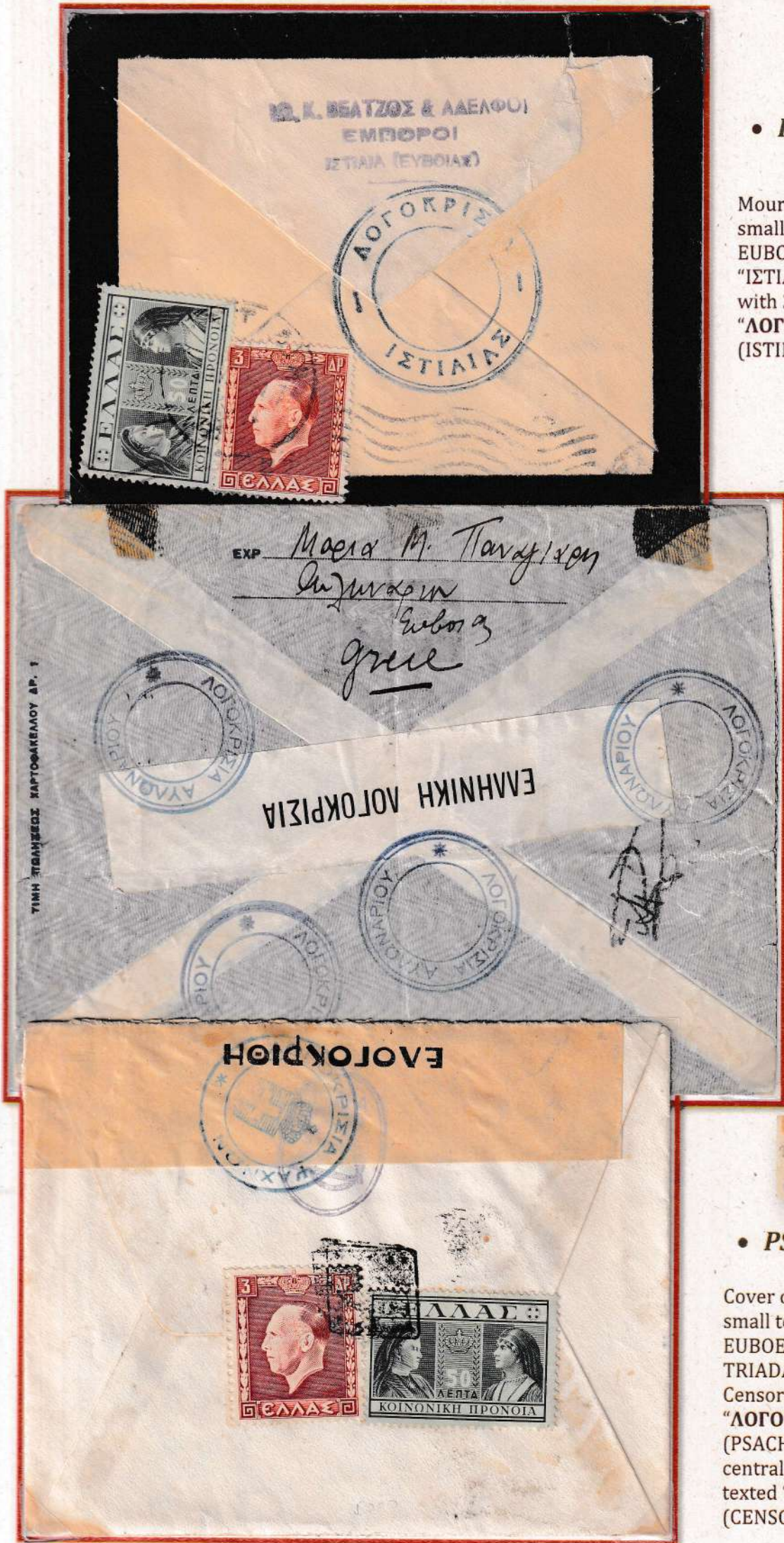
Cover from the village NAOUSA of PAROS (CYCLADES) to ATHENS, canc. "ΠΑΡΟΣ * 2 ΜΑΙ 41". Bears a 3-circle cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΠΑΡΟΥ * ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (PAROS CENSORCHIP * CENSORED) with censor's signature. Bears resealing tape texted GREEK CENSORSHIP. The fractional 12/8 refers to Athen's postman

• **NAXOS island**

Postal card from NAXOS island (CYCLADES) to ATHENS, canc. "ΝΑΞΟΣ * 30 ΙΑΝ 41". Censored with:

- 3-circle handstamp "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΝΑΞΟΥ" (NAXOS GENDARMERIE STATION) and
- boxed linear cachet "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED)





• **ISTIEA (Euboea)**

Mourning cover from the small town of **ISTIEA** in **EUBOEA** to **PIRAEUS**, canc. "ΙΣΤΙΑΙΑ * 25 Ι 41". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ - ΙΣΤΙΑΙΑΣ" (**ISTIEA CENSORSHIP**)



• **AVLONARI KYMIS (Euboea)**

Cover from the village **AVLONARI KYMIS** in **Euboea**, to **Danbury Conn. USA**, canc. "ΑΥΛΩΝΑΡΙΟΝ * ? Ι 41" Bears multiple 3-circle handstamps texted "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΑΥΛΩΝΑΡΙΟΥ" (**AVLONARI CENSORSHIP**). Apparently, the envelope was delivered open and secured with a tape texted **GREEK CENSORSHIP**, on which censorship handstamps were applied.



• **PSACHNA (Euboea)**

Cover of a **Achimandrite** of the small town of **PSACHNA** in **EUBOEA**, to the nearby village **TRIADA**. Canc. "ΨΑΧΝΑ * 30 Ι 41". Censored with 2-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ * ΨΑΧΝΩΝ" (**PSACHNA CENSORSHIP**) with a central crest. Resealing tape texted "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (**CENSORED**)

➤ **CENTRAL GREECE – EPIRUS – THESSALY**



• **LEVADIA (BOEOTIA region)**

Postal card from the town **LEVADIA** of BOEOTIA region, to PATRAS, canc. "ΛΕΒΑΔΕΙΑ * 20 ΙΑΝ 41". Censored with 2-line linear handstamp texted "ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ / ΛΕΒΑΔΕΙΑΣ" (LEVADIA CENSORSHIP Dept)

• **ITEA (FOKIDA Prefecture)**



Commercial cover from the smalltown of **ΙΤΕΑ** in FOKIDA prefecture, to ATHENS, canc. "ΙΤΕΑ* 24 Ι 41". Censored with 2-ring blue handstamp "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ" (GENDARMERIE STATION) with a central crest and censor's name beside on the resealing printed tape texted "Λογοκρισία Ιτέας" (ITEA CENSORSHIP). The circled 22 refers to Athen's postman



• **MESSOLONGHI (AETOLIA-ACARNANIA)**

Postcard from **MESSOLONGHI** of the prefecture of **AETOLIA-ACARNANIA**, to **EGION** (PELOPONESE), canc. "ΜΕΣΣΟΛΟΓΓΙΟΝ * 17 ΝΟΕ 40". Censored with 3-circle violet handstamp "ΥΠΟΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΜΕΣΣΟΛΟΓΓΙΟΥ" (MESSOLONGHI GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION) with a central crest



Different censorship handstamp of Messolonghi

Similarly, a postal card from **MESSOLONGHI** to **PATRAS**, προς Πάτρα με αποστολή "ΜΕΣΣΟΛΟΓΓΙΟΝ * 23 ΦΕΒ 41". Censored with 3-circle violet handstamp "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΜΕΣΣΟΛΟΓΓΙΟΥ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP OF MESSOLONGHI), with a central crest

• **TIRNAVOS (THESSALY)**

Commercial postcard from the prefecture of **TIRNAVOS** (THESSALY region) to **VOLOS**, canc. ΤΥΡΝΑΒΟΣ * 31 ΜΑΡ 41. Censored with a 3-circle violet handstamp "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΤΥΡΝΑΒΟΥ-ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΘ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP OF TYRNAVOS - CENSORED) with censor's signature in red



• **SKLITHRO settlement of LARISA**

Εν Αθήναις η' 2. 2. 41
 Ήγαυμένοις καὶ
 Θεοσφύλακῶν καὶ τῶν ἀρ. χωροφύλακων
 ἐν πόρειναις ἀπὸ τῆς Μετῆρας.



Illustrated postal letter from a sergeant, en route to the front, sent on 2.2.41 (from inside the letter, as it does not have a postage stamp). It was dispatched through civilian mail. Censored with 3-circle blue handstamp "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΣΚΛΗΘΡΟΥ-ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ" (SKLITHRON GENDARMERIE STATION-KINGDOM OF GREECE) with a central crest

Military correspondence



• **AMFIKLIA (PHTHIOTIS Prefecture)**

Small cover from the small town of AMFIKLIA in PHTHIOTIS prefecture to ATHENS, canc. "ΑΜΦΙΚΛΕΙΑ * 7141". Censored with twin-circle cachet "ΥΠΟΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΑΜΦΙΚΛΕΙΑΣ" (AMFIKLIA GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION) with a central crest and a handwritten examiner's "ελογοκρίθη" (censored)



• **ARTA (EPIRUS region)**

Postal card from ARTA to PATRAS, canc. "ΑΡΤΑ * 8141". Censored with 2-ring cachet "ΤΑΓΜΑ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΑΡΤΗΣ" (ARTA GENDARMERIE BATTALION) in outer belt with crest centrally and a handwritten examiner's "ελογοκρίθη" (censored) in red



➤ IONIAN ISLANDS



• KARYA (LEFKAS island)

Cover from the settlement of KARYA of LEFKAS island to ATHENS. Pmk "ΚΑΡΥΙΑ ΛΕΥΚΑΔΟΣ * 12 III 41". Censored with single-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΚΑΡΥΙΑΣ" (KARYA CENSORSHIP). Secured with resealing tape texted "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP) on both sides. The circled 35 refers to Athen's postman

• ZAKYNTHOS island

Different Censorship handstamps of ZAKYNTHOS



Cover from island of ZAKYNTHOS to ATHENS, canc. "ΖΑΚΥΝΘΟΣ * 12 MA 41". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΖΑΚΥΝΘΟΥ 2" (ZAKYNTHOS CENSORSHIP, censor's number #2) and a second 3-circle handstamp with "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP) with a central crest

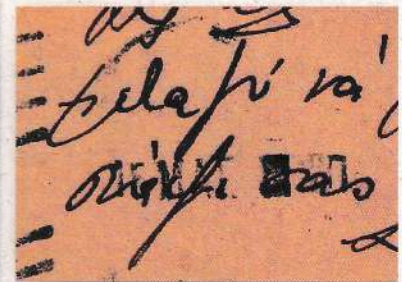


Likewise postal card from **ZAKYNTHOS** to **PATRAS**, canc. "ΖΑΚΥΝΘΟΣ * 8? I 41". Censored with 3-line linear handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ / ΖΑΚΥΝΘΟΥ / Ο ΠΡΟΙΣΤΑΜΕΝΟΣ" (CENSORSHIP/of ZAKYNTHOS/THE SUPERVISOR) with censor's signature

• **CORFOU island**

... an interesting postcard from Corfu

(back 16 MAI 41)



Postcard from **CORFOU** island to **CRETE**, canc. "ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ (ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ) * 17 ΑΠΡ 41". Censored with "ΑΣΤΥΝ. ΠΟΛ. ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑΣ - ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ 7" (CORFU POLICE CENSORSHIP, censor's number #7).

Note: The envelope never traveled to Crete. It remained in Athens, but in the meantime, Greece has surrendered to the Axis powers. It was postmarked in Athens on May 16, 1941 (with the wavy machine stamp of Athens on the back). It returns from the Germans to Corfu and was postmarked with CORFU (on arrival) on August 6, 1941, **almost 4 months later**, while the island was already under Italian occupation. It is re-censored by the Italians with the 2-line linear box handstamp texted "VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA," and censor's number (3).

• **KYTHERA island**



Postal card from **KYTHERA** island to S1 Evacuation Hospital in the Postal Sector 652 (B' Regulatory Center). Dispatched via civilian mail, pmk "ΚΥΘΗΡΑ * 26 ΜΑΡ 41". Censored with 2-circle handstamp "ΥΠΟΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ", (KYTHERA GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION) with a central crest and censor's signature. **Military correspondence**



• **KEFALONIA island**

Commercial cover from the capital **ARGOSTOLI** to HERAKLION (CRETE), canc. "ΑΡΓΟΣΤΟΛΙΟΝ * 8 ΔΕΚ 40". Open and passed by censor locally; resealed with tape printed "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP) on the back and hand stamped with 2-ring violet cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΑΡΓΟΣΤΟΛΙΟΥ" (ARGOSTOLI CENSORSHIP)

This handstamp was used:

- for the exchange control of the 1st period (1936-40),
- for censorship during the Greco-Italian War and finally
- for the censorship control by the Italians, during the Italian occupation of the island

➤ **MACEDONIA region**



• **THASOS island**

Military postal card from **THASOS** to PS526 (D' ARMY CORPS), via civilian mail, pmk "ΘΑΣΟΣ * 15 3 41". Censored with twin-ring cachet "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ 1" (GREEK CENSORSHIP, censor's no 1)

Military correspondence

• **THESSALONIKI**



Commercial cover from **THESSALONIKI** to EDESSA, canc. "ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ * 30 XI 40". Censored with twin-ring violet cachet "ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ" (MILITARY CENSORSHIP) a cachet that was used not only for military purposes but also by the civilian postal service of the city). Censor's number 116, (in a box)

• **GALATISTA**
(CHALKIDIKI
region)

Postal card from the small town of GALATISTA in CHALKIDIKI, to ATHENS, canc. "ΓΑΛΑΤΙΣΤΑ * 28 III 41". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΓΑΛΑΤΙΣΤΗΣ" (GALATISTA CENSORSHIP) with a central crest. In a box "Λ.1" (censor's number)



• **GOUMENISA**
(KILKIS region)

Postcard from the settlement GOUMENISA (prefecture of PEONIA in the KILKIS region), to a soldier of PS212 (C' ARMY CORPS). It was dispatched through civilian mail, canc. "ΓΟΥΜΕΝΙΣΣΑ ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑΣ * 17 2 41". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΥΠΟΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΠΑΙΟΝΙΑΣ" (PEONIA GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION) and linear "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΘ" (CENSORED) with censor's signature

Military correspondence



• **FLORINA**
Prefecture

Postal card from FLORINA to PIRAEUS, canc. "ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ * 5 XII 40". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΤΜΗΜΑ ΕΛΕΓΧΟΥ ΔΙΑΒΑΤΗΡΙΩΝ ΦΛΩΡΙΝΗΣ" (PASSPORT CONTROL DEPARTMENT OF FLORINA) with a central crest and censor's signature



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΑ
ΑΤΕΛΕΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ



Όνομα αποστολέως: Κατσιύνης Γεωρ.

Λιεύθυνσις: Ε.Ι.Υ.Ε.Μ.

Τόπος: Σ. Σ. Βυρώνειας

Διὰ τοῦ παρόντος πληροφοροῦσιν οἱ οἰκεῖοι τοῦς Στρατιωτικοῦς περὶ τῆς υγείας των καὶ ζητοῦσι παρ' αὐτῶν πληροφορίας δι' οἰκογενειακὰς ὑποθέσεις εἰς γλώσσαν σαφῆ Ἑλληνικὴν ἄνευ λέξεων διφοροῦμένων ἢ συνθηματικῶν.

Ἐπώνυμον καὶ ὄνομα: Κατσιύνης

Πάνου

Βαθμὸς: ὑπαφ. / μόν

Ἐνδείξις μονάδος: 1^{ος} Λόχος ΧΙ Ἐφοδίοπομπης

810 ε.

T. T. 235

ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΚΗ-ΕΛΛΑΣ

• **VIRONIA (SERRES Prefecture)**

Military postal card from the village **VIRONIA** of **SERRES** prefecture, to a soldier of PS235 (XI INFANTRY Division)

It was dispatched through civilian mail, canc. "NEON ΠΕΤΡΙΤΣΙΟΝ * 25 XII 40".

Censored with 3-circle cachet "ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ Ν. ΠΕΤΡΙΤΣΙΟΥ" (NEW PETRITSI POLICE CENSORSHIP) with a central crest

Military correspondence



(in front)

• **KOMOTINI (RODOPI pref.)**

Cover from the town of **KOMOTINI** to USA, canc. "KOMOTINH * 24 XI 40".

Censored with 3-circle cachet "ΤΜΗΜΑ ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ ΚΟΜΟΤΙΝΗΣ"

(KOMOTINI POLICE CENSORSHIP) with a central crest. Interesting printed resealing tape texted "ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ"

POLICE CENSORSHIP

• **SKYDRA (PELLA prefecture)**

Military postal card from the small town of **SKYDRA** of **PELLA** prefecture to PS624 (3rd REGULATORY CENTER). It was dispatched through civilian mail, canc. "ΝΑΟΥΣΑ ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑΣ * 23 I 41".

Censored with a red 3-circle handstamp "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP) and linear "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED) The censor was a schoolteacher (red cachet too)

Military correspondence

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΑ
ΑΤΕΛΕΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΛΤΑΡΙΟΝ



Όνομα αποστολέως: Μισαγύρας Ν.

Λιεύθυνσις: Λοχαφ. ΣΕΚ

Τόπος: Σκιδρα

Διὰ τοῦ παρόντος πληροφοροῦσιν οἱ οἰκεῖοι τοῦς Στρατιωτικοῦς περὶ τῆς υγείας των καὶ ζητοῦσι παρ' αὐτῶν πληροφορίας δι' οἰκογενειακὰς ὑποθέσεις εἰς γλώσσαν σαφῆ Ἑλληνικὴν ἄνευ λέξεων διφοροῦμένων ἢ συνθηματικῶν.

Ἐπώνυμον καὶ ὄνομα: Μισαγύρας Ν.

Βαθμὸς: Λοχαφ. ΣΕΚ

Ἐνδείξις μονάδος: 10^{ος} Λόχος Καλαματίας

III Ταγμα

T. T. 624

ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΚΗ-ΕΛΛΑΣ



• **KASTORIA Prefecture**

Mourning cover from KASTORIA to ATHENS, canc. "ΚΑΣΤΟΡΙΑ * 15 XII 41". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΚΟΝ ΤΜΗΜΑ ΚΑΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ * ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ" (KASTORIA POLICE STATION * CENSORSHIP Dept) with a central crest and a linear handstamp "Ε. 2" (censor's number)

• **DIDIMOTICHO (THRACE region)**



Commercial cover from DIDIMOTICHO in the region of THRACE, to ATHENS, canc. "ΔΙΔΥΜΟΤΕΙΧΟΝ ΔΕΜΑΤΑ * 3 I 41". Passed by censor at the local censor office. Secured with resealing tape printed "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" tied with pale blue double ring cachet texted "ΓΡΑΦΕΙΟΝ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑΣ ΔΙΔΥΜΟΤΕΙΧΟΥ" (DIDIMOTICHO OFFICE CENSORSHIP) and censor's signature

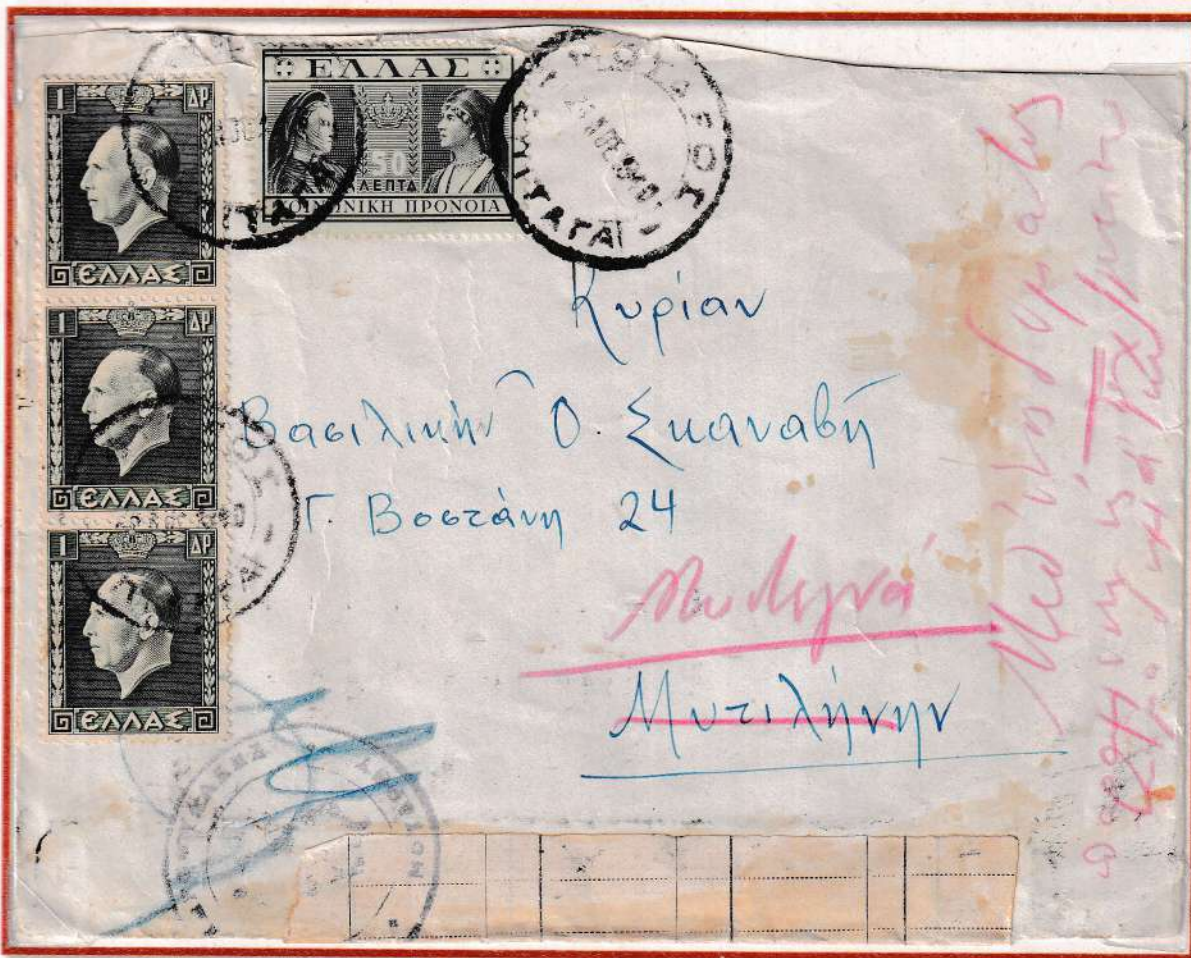


AEGEAN ISLANDS



- **PETRA**
(MYTILENE island)

Postal card from the village **PETRA** in MYTILENE (near KALLONI) to the village PLOMARI (MYTILENE), canc. "ΠΕΤΡΑ * 17 IV 41". Censored with a twin-circle handstamp "**ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΠΕΤΡΑΣ**" (PETRA GENDARMERIE COMMAND) with a central crest and also with a linear "**ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ**" (CENSORED) with censor's signature

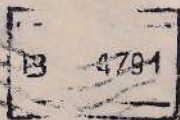


- **MOUDROS**
(LEMNOS island)

Cover from the village **MOUDROS** in LEMNOS to MYTILENE, canc. "ΜΟΥΔΡΟΣ ΕΠΙΤΑΓΑΙ * 24 ΝΟΕ 40". Bears a twin-circle "**ΕΛΕΓΧΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΜΟΥΔΡΟΥ**" (MOUDROS GENDARMERIE CONTROL) with a central crest and also censor's signature on a rough resealing tape of the cover

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΕΥΣ:

Tessina Kafalion
Vrontados Chios - Greece



9. MAR. 1919



رقعة الرقيب فتح بمعرفة الرقيب فتح بمعرفة الرقيب
CENSOR OPENED BY CENSOR OPENED BY CENSOR
المصرية المراقبة المصرية المراقبة المصرية



• **VRONTADOS (CHIOS island)**

Postal card from the small town **VRONTADOS** of **CHIOS** to **ALEXANDRIA** (transit **PIRAEUS**), pmk "ΧΙΟΣ ΑΦΙΞΙΣ * 5 II 41". Censored with a single-circle cachet "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΧΙΟΥ 9" (CHIOS CENSORSHIP, censor's number #9). Censored also upon arrival with Egyptian square handstamp (in front) and with a printed resealing tape from the Egyptian Censorship.

• **MYTILENE island**

Commercial postal card from **MYTILENE** to **PIRAEUS**, pmk "ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΟΝ ΜΥΤΙΛΗΝΗΣ * 14 XI 40". Censored with 3-circle cachet "ΤΜΗΜΑ ΓΕΝΙΚΗΣ ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ" (POLICE STATION SECURITY) with a central crest and a linear "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED)



• **SANTORINI island**

Cover from the island of **THIRA** (**SANTORINI**) to **ATHENS**, pmk "ΘΗΡΑ * 8 III 41". Censored with 3-line oval violet handstamp texted "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ * ΘΗΡΑΣ" (THIRA CENSORSHIP). Examined at THIRA town censure office; secured with printed tape texted "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ" (GREEK CENSORSHIP) on both sides

➤ PELOPONESE

• **VRACHNEIKA (ACHAIA Prefecture)**

Postcard from the settlement of **VRACHNEIKA** to **ATHENS**, canc. "ΒΡΑΧΝΕΙΚΑ * 14 ΦΕΒ 41". Censored with boxed 2-line linear handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ / ΒΡΑΧΝΕΙΚΩΝ" (VRACHNEIKA CENSORSHIP)

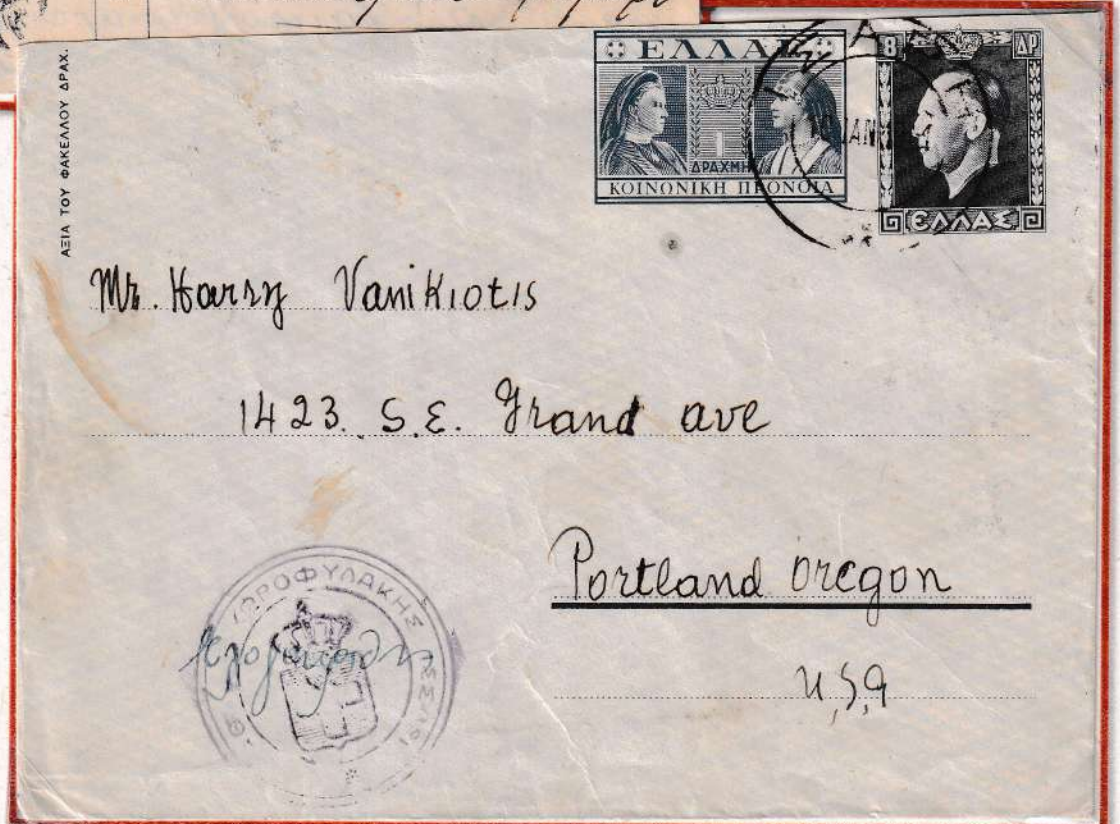


• **VELO (CORINTHOS Prefecture)**

Illustrated postcard from the smalltown of **VELO** to **FALIRON**, canc. **ΒΕΛΛΟΝ * 28 ΦΕΒ 41**. Censored with 2-circle cachet "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΒΕΛΛΟΥ" (VELO GREEK CENSORSHIP) and linear "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ" (CENSORED)

• **ISARI (ARKADIA Prefecture)**

Postal envelope from the village **ISARI** to **USA**, canc. "ΙΣΑΡΗ * 16 ΙΑΝ 1941". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΙΣΣΑΡΙ", (ISARI GENDARMERIE STATION) with a central crest and handwritten note "ελογοκρίθη" (censored)



• **PALEOCHORI
KINOURIAS
(ARCADIA Prefecture)**

Cover from the village **PALEOCHORI** to CHICAGO USA, canc. "ΤΗΛΕΓΡΑΦΕΙΟΝ ΛΕΩΝΙΔΙΟΥ * 22 ΙΙ 41" (telegraphic pmk). Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡ)ΚΗΣ ΚΥΝΟΥΡΙΑΣ" KINOURIA GENDARMERIE COMMAND) with crest. Resealing tape printed with "ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ (GREEK CENSORSHIP) and handwritten note "Ελογοκριθη" (CENSORED) with censor's signature.



• **KRESTENA
(ILIA Pref.)**

Postcard from **KRESTENA** in ILIA prefecture to PATRAS, canc. ΚΡΕΣΤΑΙΝΑ * 18 Ι 41. Faint 3-circle censorship cachet "ΥΠΟΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΣΕΛΙΝΟΥΝΤΟΣ-ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ" (SELINOUNTOS GENDARMERIE SUBDIVISION)



• **GARGALIANOI
(MESSINI Prefecture)**

Private postcard from **GARGALIANOI** to ATHENS, canc. "ΓΑΡΓΑΛΙΑΝΟΙ * 15 ΙΑΝ 41". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΓΑΡΓΑΛΙΑΝΩΝ" (GARGALIANOI CENSORSHIP) with crest



• **SKALA LAKONIAS (LAKONIA Prefecture)**



Commercial cover from the smalltown of **SKALA LAKONIAS** in LAKONIA prefecture to ATHENS, canc. "ΣΚΑΛΑ (ΛΑΚΩΝΙΑΣ) * 19 XII 40", transit SPARTI with pmk "ΣΠΑΡΤΗ ΑΦΙΞΙΣ * 19 XII 40". The envelope was submitted open and censored with 2-circle handstamp "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΣΚΑΛΑΣ" (SKALA GENDARMERIE STATION). The circled 27 refers to Athen's postman



• **NAFPLION (ARGOLIDA region)**

Private commercial postcard from NAFPLION to ATHENS canc. "ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟΝ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ * 17 XII 40". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΗΣΙΑ ΝΑΥΠΛΙΟΥ" (NAFPLION CENSORSHIP), with a central crest and a single circle handstamp with censor's number "E. 7"

➤ **CRETE island**



• **St NICOLAS (LASITHI Prefecture)**

Cover from Lieutenant Colonel, director of the RECRUITMENT OFFICE of St NICOLAS of CRETE (official circled cachet of the office), to ATHENS, Pmk "ΑΓΙΟΣ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ * 23 III 41" Censored with 2-line linear handstamp "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ / ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΛΑΣΙΘΙΟΥ" (CENSORED / LASITHI GENDARMERIE COMMAND) and censor's signature

• **ΤΥΜΠΑΚΙ (FESTOS Prefecture)**

Cover from the small town of ΤΥΜΠΑΚΙ of FESTOS Prefecture, to ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΝ. Pmk "ΤΥΜΠΑΚΙ * 7 XI 40". Censored with 3-circle handstamp "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΤΥΜΠΑΚΙΟΥ" (ΤΥΜΠΑΚΙ GENDARMERIE STATION), with a central crest and censor's signature.



• **HERAKLION**

Postal card from HERAKLION to ATHENS, pmk "ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΝ * 5 ΦΕΒ 41". Bears a single-circle handstamp "ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ ΤΑΧ. ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ" (HERAKLION CENSORSHIP of Postal Office) and a boxed cachet texted "Ελογοκρίθη 9". (Censored, censor #9)



• **KAVOUSI IERAPETRA (LASITHI Prefecture)**



Commercial cover from the village **KAVOUSI** of IERAPETRA to HERAKLION, canc. "ΚΑΒΟΥΣΙ (ΙΕΡΑΠΕΤΡΑΣ) * 15 XI 40". Forwarded to the capital St NICOLAS for censorship, is postmarked with "ΑΓΙΟΣ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ * 16 XI 40" and secured with resealing plain tape, hand stamped with violet 2-line linear cachet "ΕΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΘΗ / ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΛΑΣΗΘΙΟΥ" (CENSORED/ LASITHI GENDARMERIE COMMAND) and censor's signature.

Pmk upon arrival with "ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟ * 16 ΝΟΕ 40"

Ρούστικα 25 / 12 / 40



• **ROUSTICA (RETHIMNO prefecture)**

Postal card from the village **ROUSTICA** of RETHIMNO, to ATHENS. Send on 25/12/40 (back), indistinct dispatch cancellation. Censored with "ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ ΧΩΡΟΦΥΛΑΚΗΣ ΡΟΥΣΤΙΚΑΣ" (ROUSTICA GENDARMERIE STATION) with a central crest and censor's signature.

October 28, 1940... the 1st day of an epic ...



Letter card posted from BUDAPEST on 28 X 40 to THESSALONIKI, *first day of the war* (no arrival cancellation). Hand stamped on arrival with ΣΤΡΑΤΙΩΤΙΚΗ * ΛΟΓΟΚΡΙΣΙΑ (MILITARY * CENSORSHIP) and in a box the censor's number (illegible)

... the last of his inglorious end ... April 6, 1941



... and the beginning of a new dark page of our history, which was the German occupation ...

