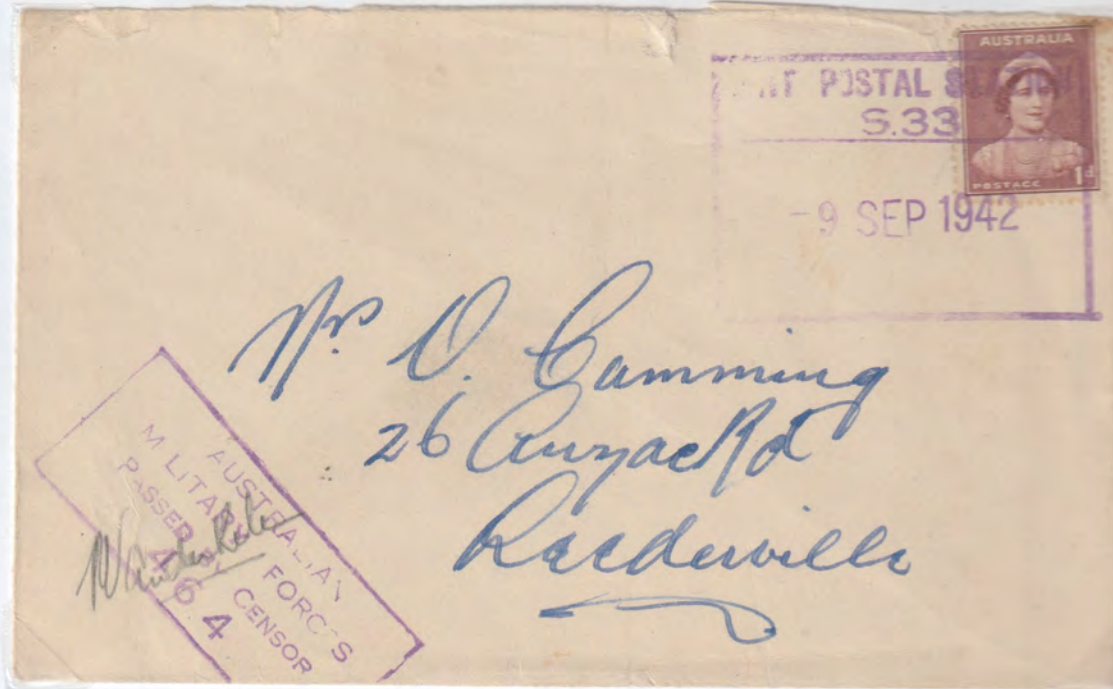


III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station S 33 [9/9/42 – 29/8/43]

These Southern Command datestamps may have come from Victoria with the 4th Division. Collas identified S33 with 10th Fld Regt which came to WA with 4th Division in April 1942 and left in August 1943 to be disbanded. Proud misallocates to Victoria.

Utakarra
10th Field Regt
AMF censor cachet
UPS S 33
9 September 1942
(ERD)



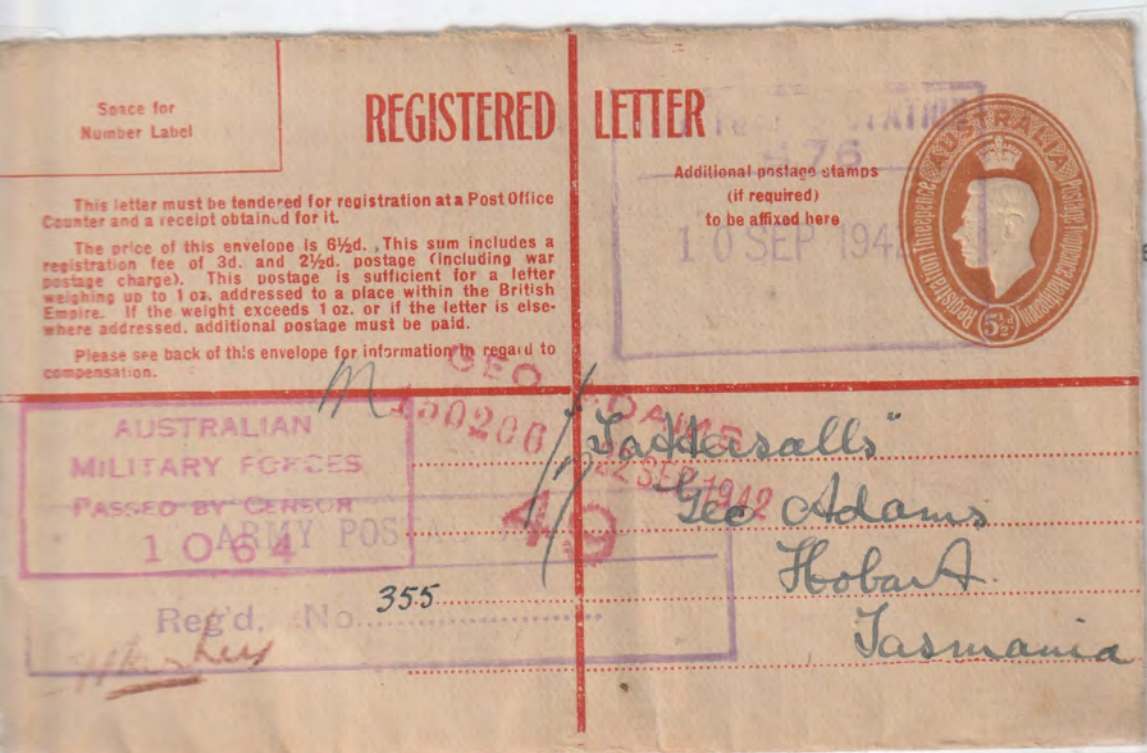
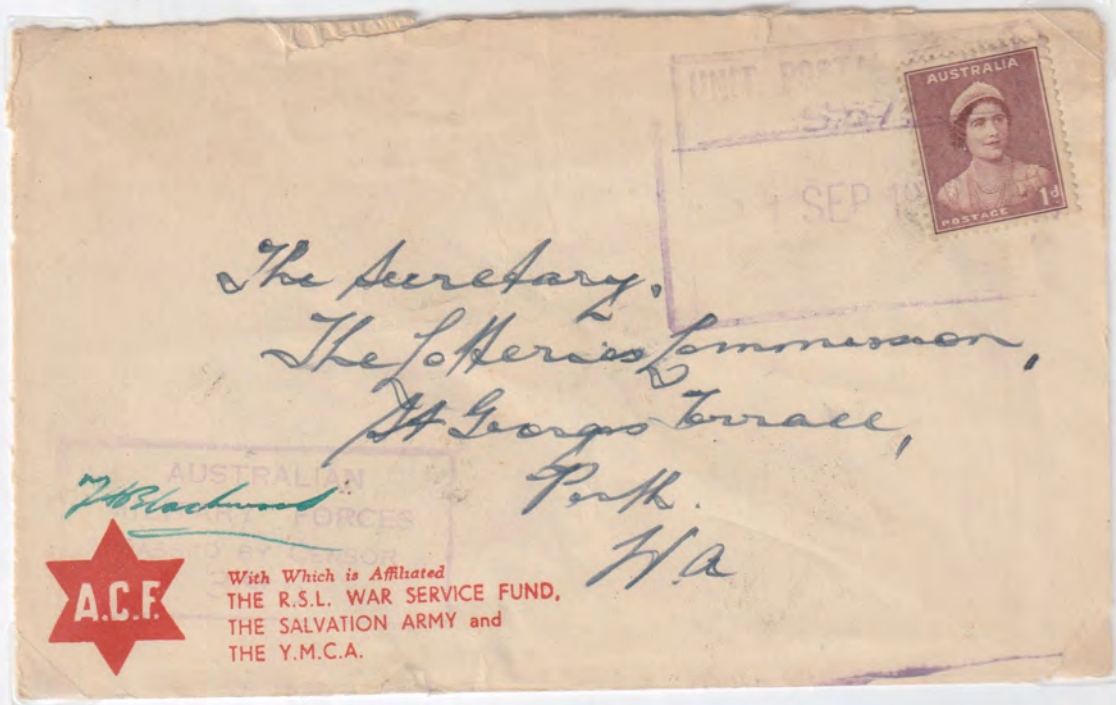
Eradu Siding
AMF censor cachet
UPS S 33
29 August 1943
(LRD)
East Fremantle
31 August

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station S 57 [11/9/42 - 16/8/43]

Collas locates S57 in WA but Proud (with extended date) locates it at Thursday Island but the address on this cover makes that allocation and date extension unlikely.

AMF censor cachet
UPS S 57
11 September 1942



ensor cachet (in red)
Registration cachet
UPS S 76
10 September 1942
Perth
12 September
Hobart
22 September

Collas and Proud allocate S76 to 5th Inf Battn in NT but that unit arrived in WA in April 1942 and departed August 1943. Other proving cover see earlier page Aust FPO 163.
Unit Postal Station S 76 [10/9/42 - 10/6/43]

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station S 77 [16/6/42 – 19/7/43]

The Mackenzie/Slaney correspondence (6th Btn 20/12/41 – 19/7/43) includes the period in WA (from 21 April 1942) with both Field Post Office 052 (from 9 May 1942) and UPS S77. Proud's allocation of S77 to NT during this period is therefore incorrect.

AMF censor cachet
Field Post Office 052
9 May 1942



AMF censor cachet
Unit Postal Station S77
28 August 1942

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station S 80 [12/8/42 - 15/8/42]

Letter headed 14th Battalion Home Forces 10 August.

"I received your welcome letter the other week and I am sorry I have not answered before this but we have just shifted into a new camp and it certainly keeps us busy. It is a much better camp than the last one and is quite a change to see a bit of water running out of a tap."

Mingenew, AMF censor cachet, Unit Postal Station S 80 12 August 1942 (ERD)



DO NOT REFER TO: The name of your ship or other ships in the convoy or its escorts; the date of sailing; ports of call or probable destination; the description of troops abroad; or any other information which, if intercepted, would be of value to the enemy.



From No. 1210040 Name PETSLEY, J. Unit 14 BATTALION HOME FORCES Date Aug 10th

"The Army that serves on every front."

Dear Miss Squire,
I received your welcome letter the other week and I am sorry I have not answered before this but we have just shifted into a new camp and it certainly keeps us busy. It is a much better camp than the last one and is quite a change to see a bit of water running out of a tap.

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station S 85 [13/7/42 – 24/9/42]

32nd Battn departed from WA in January 1943. Proud's later dates do not relate to WA.

Mingenew
AMF censor cachet
Unit Postal Station S85
2 September 1942



Bellevue
AMF censor cachet
Unit Postal Station S 87
30 November 1942
(LRD)

The above comment also applies to 38th Battn

Unit Postal Station S 87 [30/8/42 – 23/11/42]

III Army Corps: Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station S 102 [5/6/42 – 23/9/42]

A recently recorded registered cover, one of two to this Victorian address, proves that UPS 102 was used in the Geraldton area. Proud states "Not known".
AMF censor cachet, Unit Postal Station S 102 5 June 1942 (ERD)



AMF censor cachet, Unit Postal Station S. 104 4 September 1942 (ERD)

Unit Postal Station S 104 [4/9/42 – 21/1/43]

Proud's 1943 dates relate to use outside WA

Proud lists UPS 92, 93, 137, 1'38, 163, 197, 232, 546, 844, 858, 894, 899, 932, 1001, 1065, 1069, 1198, 1724, 1773, 1778, as used in WA but "Not Seen". These may be the UPS office number sometimes seen in registration cachets, not datestamps.

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station W # (WESTERN COMMAND)

Although the W prefix indicates intended use in WA, unit allocation relies largely on annotations made by Bromfield on mail received at the WA Superannuation Board and WA Government Railways. Datestamps were issued from April 1942, but from 1943 units were redeployed outside WA, so unit allocation is important to establish WA use.

Unit Postal Station W 1 [not recorded]

Unit Postal Station W 2 [17/6/42 – 27/8/43]

Northampton
25 Cavalry Regt
AMF censor cachet
7 September 1942



Chidlow
3 Aust Fld Regt
AMF censor cachet
25 January 1943
(LRD)

Unit Postal Station W 3 [10/8/42 – 21/1/43]

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station W 18 [14/4/44 ? – 24/9/44 ?]

Collas allocated W 18 to the Torres Strait in 1943 but without further details.

Proud allocated W 18 to Swanbourne 19/8/43 – 18/4/44 (not seen) and Melville 19/4/44 – 29/4/44 (not seen) but without unit specified.

In January 1944 19th Garrison Battalion moved from Geraldton to Melville and HQ Fremantle Fortress moved from Fremantle to Melville. These were the only units in Melville Camp in this period.

In April 1944 10th Garrison Battalion moved from Rottnest to Swanbourne and 5th Garrison Battalion moved from Woodman Point to Rottnest. None of these movements accord with Proud's allocation.

There is no record of any Fremantle Fixed Defences units being allocated a Unit Post Office.

Garrison battalions and HQ Fremantle Fortress would not have used an AIF censor cachet.

The Perth address may indicate a local use or a use by a WA based person in an AIF unit located in WA or elsewhere. The envelope is sealed with Unit Postal Station W18 14 April 1944 strike but that only indicates the envelope was delivered unsealed to the unit censor. It does not record time taken from posting to delivery which might have indicated whether this datestamp was used in WA or not.

AIF censor cachet, Unit Postal Station W 18 14 April 1944 (ORD) cancellation and backstamp



III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station W 25 [7/6/42]

Garden Island
AMF censor cachet
(in blue)
Unit Postal Station
W25
7 June 1943
(ORD)



AMF censor cachet
Unit Postal Station
W26
4 July 1943
(LRD)
Sydney censor label
Censor cachet

Unit Postal Station W 26 [26/5/43 - 4/7/43]

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station W 29 [not seen]

Unit Postal Station W 30 [31/12/42 - 1/3/44]

Swan Barracks, Direct Bag label, registration cachet, Unit Postal Station W 30
21 August 1943, Army FPO 0130 23 August

**BY
DIRECT BAG**

POSTAL SERVICE



2 Aust Army Corps Gp.

Phosphate House

515 Collins St.

Melbourne

AUST. ARMY POSTAL SERVICES
RECEIVED
1850

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
IF NOT DELIVERED RETURN TO

*Swan Barracks
Perth*

D. A. D. EDUCATION,
MILITARY HQRS,
W/C. L. of C. AREA.
PERTH. W.A.



AUSTRALIAN
MILITARY FORCES
PASSED BY CENSOR
1922
W. J. [unclear]

AMF censor cachet
Unit Postal Station W32
5 ? 43
(ORD)

Unit Postal Station W 32 [5 ? 43]
Unit Postal Station W 31 [not seen]

Unit Postal Station W 41 [9/11/42 - 12/4/43]

AIF censor cachet
Unit Postal Station
W41
(number inverted)
12 April 1943
(LRD)



Naval Base
116 Lt A/A Bty
Unit Postal Station
W49
5 October 1942
(ORD)

Unit Postal Station W 49 [5/10/42]
Unit Postal Station W 42 - 48 [not seen]

III Army Corps : Unit Postal Station

Unit Postal Station W (floating) [3/5/43 - 10/4/44]

W at bottom

AMF censor cachet, registration cachet UPS 844, Unit Postal Station W 21 February 1944, No. 4 Base P.O. C 22 February, Perth 23 February, Broadway 24 February



AMF censor cachet
Registration cachet
UPS 844
Unit Postal Station W
14 February 1944
No. 4 Base P.O. C
15 February
Perth
16 February
Hobart
17 February

W at left

III Army Corps : Air mail courier service

DIRECT BAG

The military maintained an air courier service (carried on RAAF planes) for urgent administrative mail between regional commands and Army HQ in Melbourne.

A.D.C. cachet and AMF censor cachet (signed), Air Mail etiquette, mss Air Courier Service, Field P.O. 0142 26 September 1942, Army P.O. 0130 29 September

Only recorded Air Courier Service cover from WA



In early 1943 a Direct Bag label was introduced for administrative mail carried by civil planes for which the Department of Civil Aviation was credited with 8/9d per lb. 18 Direct Bag covers are recorded for Australia of which 6 are from WA.

5 of 6 recorded WA covers in this collection

III Army Corps : Armour

1st ARMoured DIVISION

The first units of what was to become 1st Armoured Division moved to WA in October 1942 with other units following. Equipped with Stuart tanks, this Division located around Mullewa secured the eastern flank of the Northampton to Mullewa defence lines. These units brought with them A.I.F. P.O. 29, 30, 31, 32, 51.

AIF censor cachet, Army Postal Service registration cachet, AIF PO 30 2 February 1943, unknown initialled sealing label, Perth ?, received 18 February



15th Aust. Motor Regiment AIF arrived at Mingenew in April 1943 completing the Division's move.

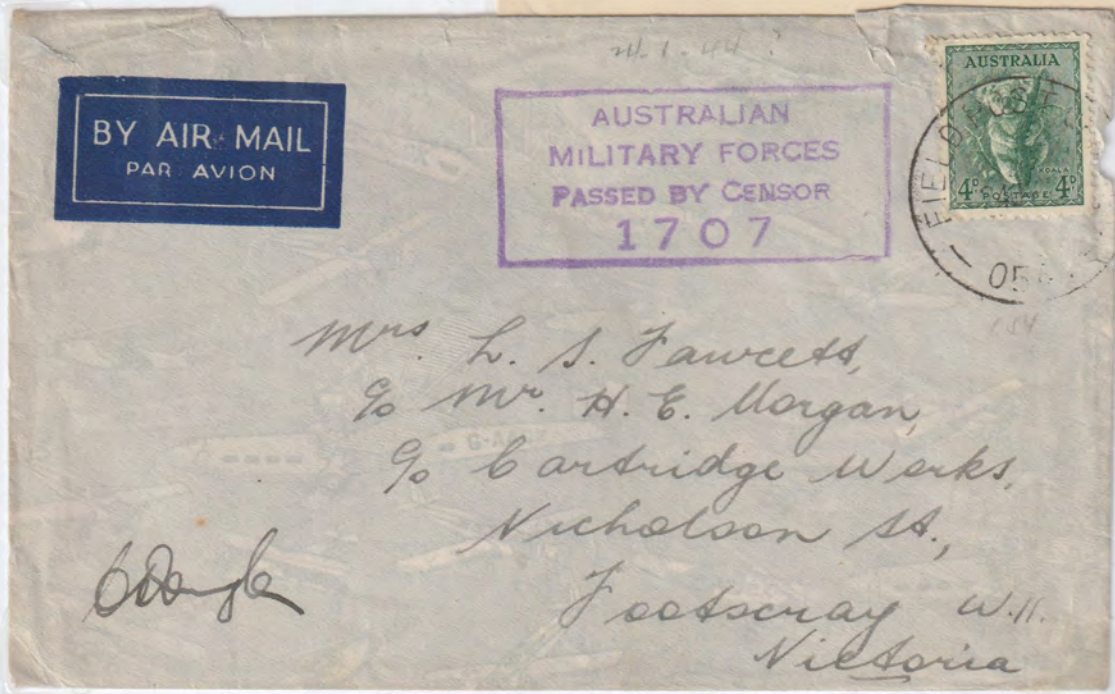
Unit Postal Station W24 ?

UNIT CENSORSHIP

Open mail lodged at a military post office was censored by an authorised officer who indicated it was passed for posting by striking the cover with a censor cachet and then sealed. Two types of censor cachet were used in WA; one brought back from the Middle East with AIF units and one used by permanent and militia units.

Australian Imperial Force

Boxed cachet
Australian Imperial
Force
Passed by Censor
HQ 1st Armd Div
A.I.F. Field P.O. 31
30 July 1942



Boxed cachet
Australian
Military Forces
Passed by Censor
Moora
Field Post Office 054
24 May 1942

AIF: Imperial (British) volunteers for Imperial campaigns. AMF: Permanent and volunteer Militia plus conscripts for the defence of Australia.

■ Army Corps : Censorship

FIELD CENSORSHIP

Between May and October 1943 Field Censors were located in WA, mainly in north-west locations.

10 covers recorded

Written 18 October 1943 Det No 4 Mob Met Flt, 140th Heavy AA Battery, Exmouth, sent unsealed to Field Censor 121, 10 bar dumb cancel (Fremantle) to Cottesloe



CIVILIAN LETTER

Field censorship of letter from Forrest River Mission to Anglican Board of Mission Wyndham 31 October 1942, field censor label and cachet (Perth or Darwin)

Only recorded example of field censorship of civilian mail