



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

International Military Correspondence



Registered Air Mail letter from the Czechoslovak Information Service in New York with violet registered postmark New York Columbus Circle, dated 4th OCT 1944 and oval New York, U.S.A. Foreign, dated 6th OCT 1943 to a Warrant Officer at the Czechoslovak Air Inspectorate in London with US Censor adhesive tape EXAMINED BY 8610



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Circular regular Czechoslovak Field Post postmark with bilingual inscription and crossed swords



Letter from Warwick & Leamington SPA dated 28th October 1942 with Czechoslovak Field Post postmark dated 31 OCT 1942 as arrival date stamp



Letter to Weymouth with Czechoslovak Field Post postmark dated 18th December 1942. Latest usage known of this postmark



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the closing of all Czechoslovak Universities by the Nazis in 1939
and the Execution Czechoslovak Student Leaders

This Anniversary was then honoured as International Students Day



Piece with cancel of this special commemorative postmark
on 1½ p and 2 p KGVI stamps, dated 17th Nov. 1942



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Circular regular Czechoslovak Field postmark with bilingual description
but with date in larger type such that *part* of the crossed swords had to be removed

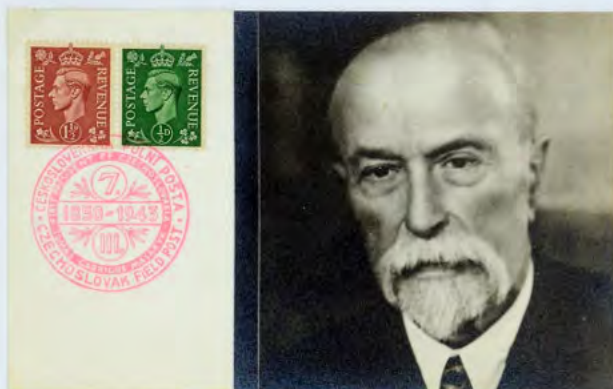


Newspaper wrapper with circular regular Czechoslovak Field postmark of above type
dated 24th FEB 1943



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the 93rd Anniversary of the Birth of President T.G. Masaryk



Picture postcard with commemorative postmark dated 7th March 1943 showing Tomas Garrigue Masaryk - The First President of Czechoslovakia
This special cancel marks his 93rd Birth Anniversary in 1850



Postcard to London with commemorative postmark dated 7th March 1943
Reverse shows blank cancel of same postmark and greetings dated February 1943



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the 93rd Anniversary of the Birth of President T.G. Masaryk



Cancel of this special commemorative postmark on a ½ p King George V stamp



Picture postcard with commemorative postmark dated 7th March 1943 showing a Czechoslovak N.C.O. with Army colours



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

4th Anniversary of German Occupation of Czechoslovakia and Establishment of Protectorate



Bicolour official postcard with violet commemorative postmark dated 15th March 1942 on two stamps King George V (1 1/2 p and 1/2 p)



Registered letter to a Private of the Czechoslovak Forces with black cancel of commemorative postmark dated 15th March 1943 with registration label (also named : etiquette) No. 49 and three-line handstamp ČS. POLNÍ POŠTA / CZECHOSLOVAK / FIELD POST OFFICE
Reverse shows blank cancel of same postmark



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

4th Anniversary of German Occupation of Czechoslovakia and Establishment of Protectorate



Local London letter with black commemorative postmark dated 15th March 1942 on a 1 p King George V stamp
The postmark shows the silhouette of Hradčany Castle and the wording "Day of Teutonic Frightfulness"
Reverse shows blank cancel of same postmark



Registered letter to the President of Czechoslovakia (War Room) in London with black cancel of commemorative postmark dated 15th March 1943 with registration label (also named : etiquette) No. 8 and three-line handstamp ČS. POLNÍ POŠTA / CZECHOSLOVAK / FIELD POST OFFICE
Reverse shows blank cancel of same postmark



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

4th Anniversary of German Occupation of Czechoslovakia and Establishment of Protectorate



Oversized letter with cancel of commemorative postmark dated 15th March 1943 to Sutton Coldfield



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

4th Anniversary of German Occupation of Czechoslovakia and Establishment of Protectorate



Picture postcard (Staff Captain Ridký) with commemorative postmark dated 15th March 1943 on a 2 p KGV stamp



Reverse shows a cinderella stamp 1 p RTD Bridge on Moscow river

Letter from Private Kovanda of the Czechoslovak Forces in Antrim, Northern Ireland with commemorative postmark, dated 15th March 1943 on 2 p and ¼ p KGV stamps to Lowestoft, Suffolk

The sender writes in manuscript the dispatch date of 23rd March 1943, but it is not quite clear when this letter was posted at this time as the only Czechoslovak RAF squadron No. 311 was located in Aldergrove, Northern Ireland from 28 April to 12 June 1943



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Circular regular Czechoslovak Field postmark with bilingual description
but with date in larger type such that **all** the crossed swords are now eliminated



Redirected letter from Egypt (most probably British Army Base Depot Cairo), dated 8th OCT 1942 with single ring censor cachet No. 379 and manuscript censor name Sullivan to a designated coy commander (det. asp) at the Czechoslovakian Army in England via P.B. No. 226 (Land Forces), with arrival date stamp of above type dated 25th MAR 1943 (transit period : 6 months !). Obviously this soldier became a pilot (= letec) so the letter was redirected to the Air Force (L.S. = Letické Sily)



Postcard from Old Wittington, dated 13th April 1943 to a soldier (vojín) at the Czechoslovak Forces with arrival date stamp of above type dated 15th APR 1943

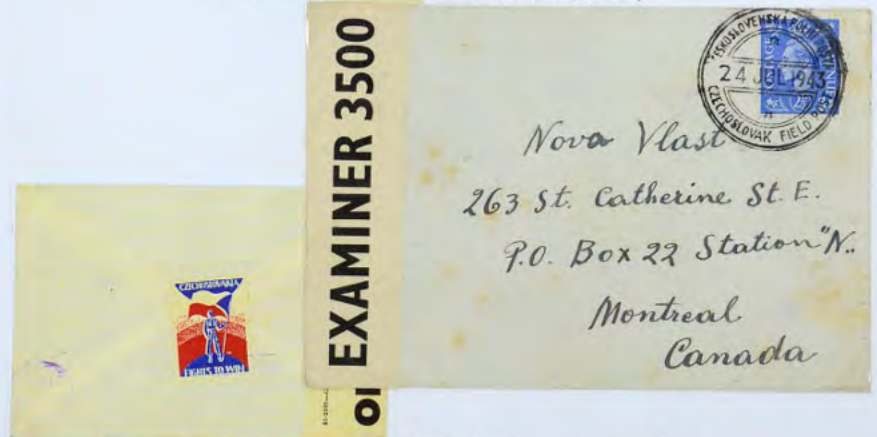


The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Circular regular Czechoslovak Field postmark with bilingual description
but with date in larger type such that **all** the crossed swords are now eliminated



Local London letter with Czechoslovak Field postmark of above type dated 16th JUL 1943 to a Czech woman in London, the envelope bears on reverse the coat of arms of the Czechoslovak Artillery



Censored letter with Czechoslovak Field postmark of above type dated 24th JUL 1943 to Montreal, Canada with arrival stamp dated 17th AUG 1943 on reverse and Czechoslovak patriotic label



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

The 1943 Czechoslovak Stamp Exhibition



From 8th to 20th November 1943 a special Philatelic Exhibition was organized by the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society in London. This souvenir sheet was issued to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Independence. The miniature sheet was sold at five shillings, with the proceeds going to the Czechoslovak Red Cross Fund. The four pictorial stamp designs were based on previously issued stamps within 1928 – 1938. The fifth design showing the portraits was a composite design built up from three earlier low value issued showing Benes, Masaryk and General Stefanik. They were inscribed in Czech currency. The sheets were printed by Waterlow & Sons, London in blue and red. A proportion of the miniature sheets were reserved for the personnel of the Czechoslovak Forces.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

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The special commemorative postmark in green was used at the Exhibition



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

The 1943 Czechoslovak Stamp Exhibition



On the occasion of the 1943 Czechoslovak Stamp Exhibition a special postmark was prepared. The design was prepared by Jindřich Křeček and showed "EXHIBITION OF CZECHOSLOVAK STAMPS IN LONDON" in English (right) and Czech (left). The inscription in circular cancellation shows incorrectly "25 years of the Czechoslovak Field Post" instead of "5 years". Although dated 8 XI 1943, the special postmark was not put into use until 12th November 1943. The postmark with cancel 11 NO 1943 is that of standard postmark C.S.S.P. in green.



A special souvenir envelope was prepared to contain the miniature sheet. This shows a reproduction of the miniature sheet in blue on an envelope to the Headquarters of the 21st Army Group but is printed on a buff manila quality envelope. The postmark with cancel 8 NO 1943 is that of standard postmark C.S.S.P. in green.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

The 1943 Czechoslovak Stamp Exhibition



Souvenir sheet cancelled with standard postmark C.S.S.P. in green dated 8 NO 1943 on a registered local London letter with three-line handstamp on the R-label and special commemorative postmark dated 8 XI 143.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

The 1943 Czechoslovak Stamp Exhibition



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The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the Proclamation of the Czechoslovak Republic 1918



This card was issued to commemorate the "SOKOL" Exhibition and Independence Day. It bears in addition to the Victory sign, views of Prague and London and the British and Czech national flags.



The special commemorative cancel dated 29 OCT 1943 appears on the reverse side of the card together with the standard postmark C.S.S.P. also dated 28 OC 43 in red



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the Proclamation of the Czechoslovak Republic 1918

SLAVNOSTNÍ ARŠÍK "SOKOLSKÉ VÝSTAVY" v LONDÝNĚ



Byl vydán pouze ve 2000 číslovaných exemplářích.
The issue of this special commemorative print is limited to 2000 numbered copies.

No. 0780



SOUVENIR of the "SOKOL" EXHIBITION Oct.-Nov. 1943.

and of the
25th. ANNIVERSARY of CZECHOSLOVAK INDEPENDENCE DAY (Oct. 28th, 1918)

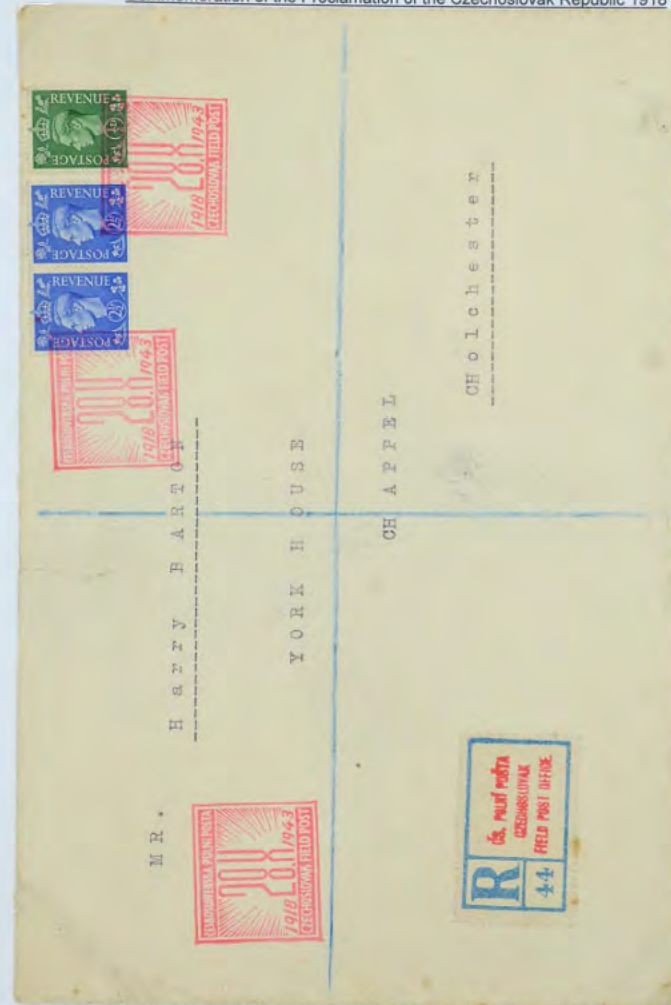
VZPOMÍNÁNÍ PAMÁTNÉHO DNE ZAHRANIČNÍM SOKOLSTVEM

No. 0780 of 2000 coloured sheets to commemorate the "SOKOL" Exhibition and Independence Day
with commemorative cancel dated 28 OCT 1943



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the Proclamation of the Czechoslovak Republic 1918



Oversized registered letter to Cholchester with black cancel of commemorative postmark
dated 28th October 1943 with registration label No. 44 and three-line handstamp
ČS. POLNÍ POŠTA / CZECHOSLOVAK / FIELD POST OFFICE

Only a few envelopes of this size survived - Reverse shows blank cancel of same postmark



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the Proclamation of the Czechoslovak Republic 1918



Blank letter with 2 ½ p King George V with commemorative postmark dated 28 OCT 1943 commemorating the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Czechoslovak Republic. The letter also shows the bilingual double circle postmark in red dated 29 OCT 1943 (Introduced on 1st September 1943)



Letter with 2 p and ½ p King George V stamps to Rotherham, Yorkshire with commemorative postmark dated 28 OCT 1943





The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

International Students Day

On 17th November 1939 the Nazis closed all the Czechoslovak Universities and the same day saw the massacre of students at the Charles' University in Prague.
In 1943 while the Headquarters of the Czechoslovak Forces were stationed in Desborough this special postmark was used by the Czechoslovak Forces



Stationery postcard to Pynton, Cheshire with 2 p KGVI with commemorative postmark dated 17 NOV 1943



Stationery envelope to Pynton, Cheshire with 2 ½ p KGVI with commemorative postmark dated 17 NOV 1943



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

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Letter to Oakland, California, USA with 2 x ½ p King George V with commemorative postmark dated 17 NOV 1943

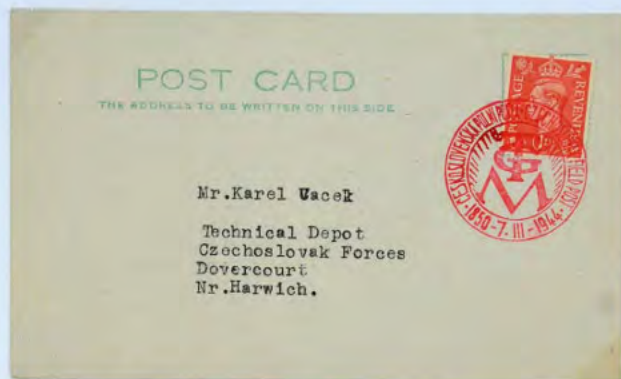


Letter with 1 p King George V stamps to Glasgow with commemorative postmark dated 17 NOV 1943



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the 94th Anniversary of the Birth of President T.G. Masaryk



Postcard with commemorative postmark dated 7th March 1944 and a 1 p KGVI stamp to Dovercourt, Nr. Harwich with reverse message in Czech language



Censored letter with commemorative postmark dated 7th March 1944 and a 2 1/2 p KGVI stamp to the Czechoslovak Legation in Ottawa, Canada

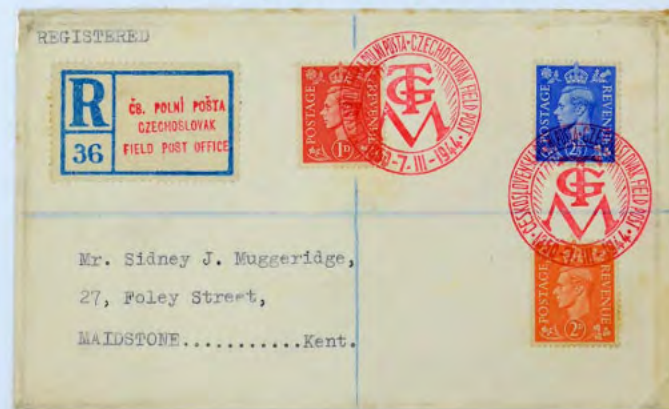


The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the 94th Anniversary of the Birth of President T.G. Masaryk



Letter with commemorative postmark dated 7th March 1944 with two 1/2 d King George stamps to Chelmsford, Essex



7th March 1944 with three King George V stamps (1 d, 2 d, 2 1/2 d) to Maidstone with three-line handstamp on the R-Label



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

25th Anniversary of the Death of General M. R. Štefánik



Bicolour official postcard with blue commemorative postmark dated 4th March 1944 on a 1/2 d King George V stamp.

Štefánik was first War Minister and was killed in an air crash on 4th May 1919. The design includes the Slovak Cross and a broken linden branch symbolic of his death.



Letter from Maidahill, dated 2nd May 1944 with two King George V stamps (1d and 1 1/2d) to a Czechoslovak soldier at the Light Ambulance Brigade with commemorative postmark dated 4th May 1944 as arrival date stamp.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

25th Anniversary of the Death of General M. R. Štefánik



Lettercard with blue commemorative postmark dated 4th March 1944 on a 2 p KGVI stamp to Leicester.

Štefánik was first War Minister and was killed in an air crash on 4th May 1919. The design includes the Slovak Cross and a broken linden branch symbolic of his death.



Stationery envelope with a 2 1/2 p KGVI imprint and commemorative postmark dated 4th May 1944 to Poynton, Cheshire.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the 60th Birthday of President-in-exile Dr. E. Beneš



Special postmark dated 28th May 1944 commemorate the 60th birthday of President E. Beneš with a 2 ½ p KGVI stamp to Kingston upon Thames, Surrey

This was the last commemorative postmark issued before the return to France



Registered letter with red British censor cachet and regular C.S.S.P. postmark dated 22nd May 1944 to Ilfracombe, Devon, reused from Ilfracombe to the Brigade Headquarters of the Czechoslovak Forces, with roller cancel dated 24 May 1944 and special commemorative postmark dated 28th May 1944 as arrival date stamp



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the 60th Birthday of President-in-exile Dr. E. Beneš

Vojáci československé armády ve Velké Británii
svému vrchnímu veliteli
prezidentu Dr. Eduardu Benešovi
k šedesátinám



Special folder to commemorate President E. Beneš' 60th birthday
with a 20 h Czechoslovak and British 2 ½ d King George V stamp
and original signature of President E. Beneš *on 28th May 1944*



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Commemoration of the 60th Birthday of President-in-exile Dr. E. Beneš

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on 28th May 1944



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Czechoslovak Forces in the Middle East
 Issued in October 1942



Sheet of six different labels with illustrations of Czechoslovak soldiers in the Middle East.

These labels were issued by the propaganda department of the Czechoslovak Military Mission in Jerusalem. 5000 copies were printed and sold for 1 piastre (Palestinian) each. The net proceeds were used to Czech and Slovak books for soldiers.

Czech Forces in the Middle East

Issued Oct 1942



These labels were issued by the propoganda department of the Czechoslovak Military Mission in Jerusalem. 5,000 copies were printed and sold for 1 pilsbire (Palestinian) each. The net proceeds of the sale of these stickers were used to buy Czech and Slovak books for soldiers.

Czech Forces

This photographic card was issued in order to invite the local population to join in the St. Wenceslas celebrations.

✓ *Rivins*
Revised -
postmarked





Lehké tanky I. čsl. obrněné brigády.



Trubač I. čsl. obrněné brigády ohlašuje příjezd pana prezidenta.



Těžké tanky I. čsl. obrněné brigády na Příkopech



Těžké dělostřelectvo I. čsl. obrněné brigády.



Profiladlové dělo I. čsl. obrněné brigády.



**CZECHOSLOVAK
FIELD POST**

IN FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN



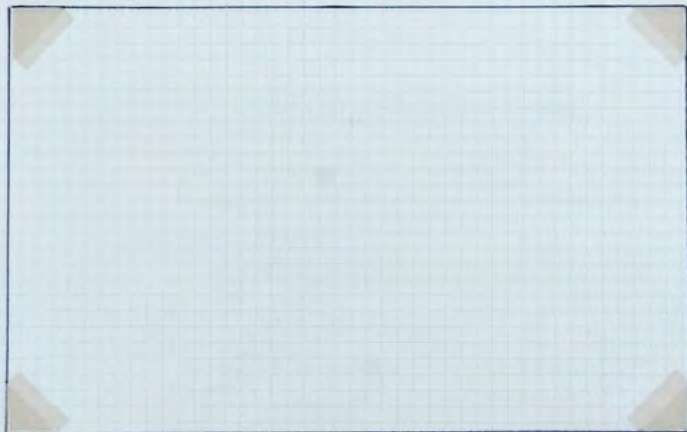
**CZECHOSLOVAK
FIELD POST**

IN FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN

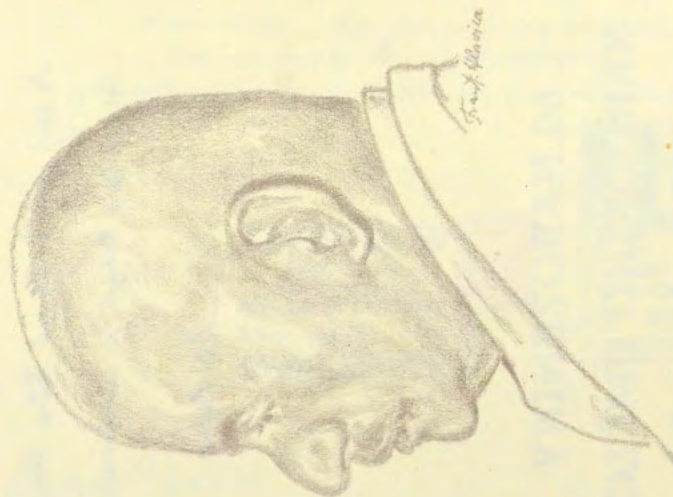


Czech Forces

On 15th September 1940, a special rubber handstamp was used to commemorate the birth in 1867, of Petr Bezruc, the Czech National poet. The dragon with pipe was Bezruc's caricatured signature. The Lysa Mountains and ironworks in the background denote Vitkovice, the poet's birthplace. Bezruc fought strongly against the Germanisation of the Czechoslovak people. He died in 1958 aged 90 years.



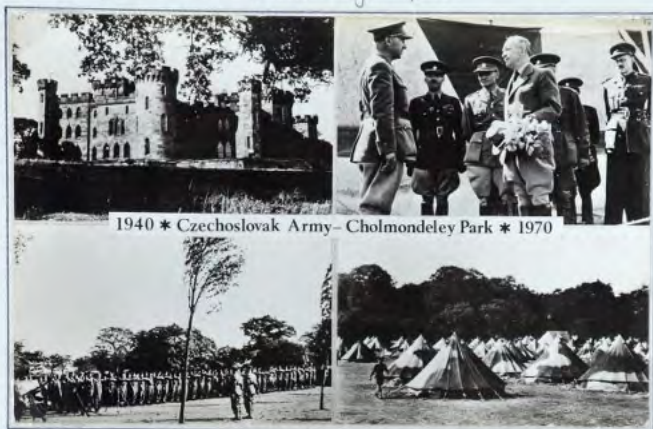
Měl jsem v jihu du vitéch,
proče k něstovnému Cechu,
je jsem byl kroz upitáimj.
Probové, jet jsem křem volěimj!
Petr Bognuě.



Petr Bognuě.

Czech Forces 1940-1940

This commemorative postcard shows Cholmondeley Castle, Pres. Eduard Benes, "on parade" and the Czech Army campsite.



1940 * Czechoslovak Army - Cholmondeley Park * 1970

To mark the 30th anniversary of the arrival of the Czech Forces, this commemorative cancel was devised for 27 June.



COLLECTORS CORNER
ARCADE ROAD
LITTLEHAMPTON
SUSSEX

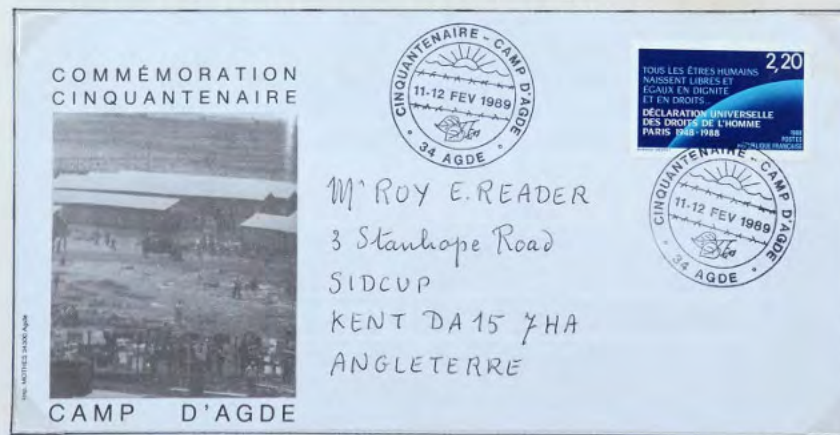
The 50th Anniversary of Agde Camp

On 11-2-89 a temporary Post Office was opened for 2 days in order to use the specially designed date stamp similar to the original of 1939.



11 - 12 Février 1989 - Cinquantenaire Camp d'Agde

Above is a photo of the tanker lorry bringing water to the Camp, from a photo taken in 1940, and below is a view of part of the Camp.

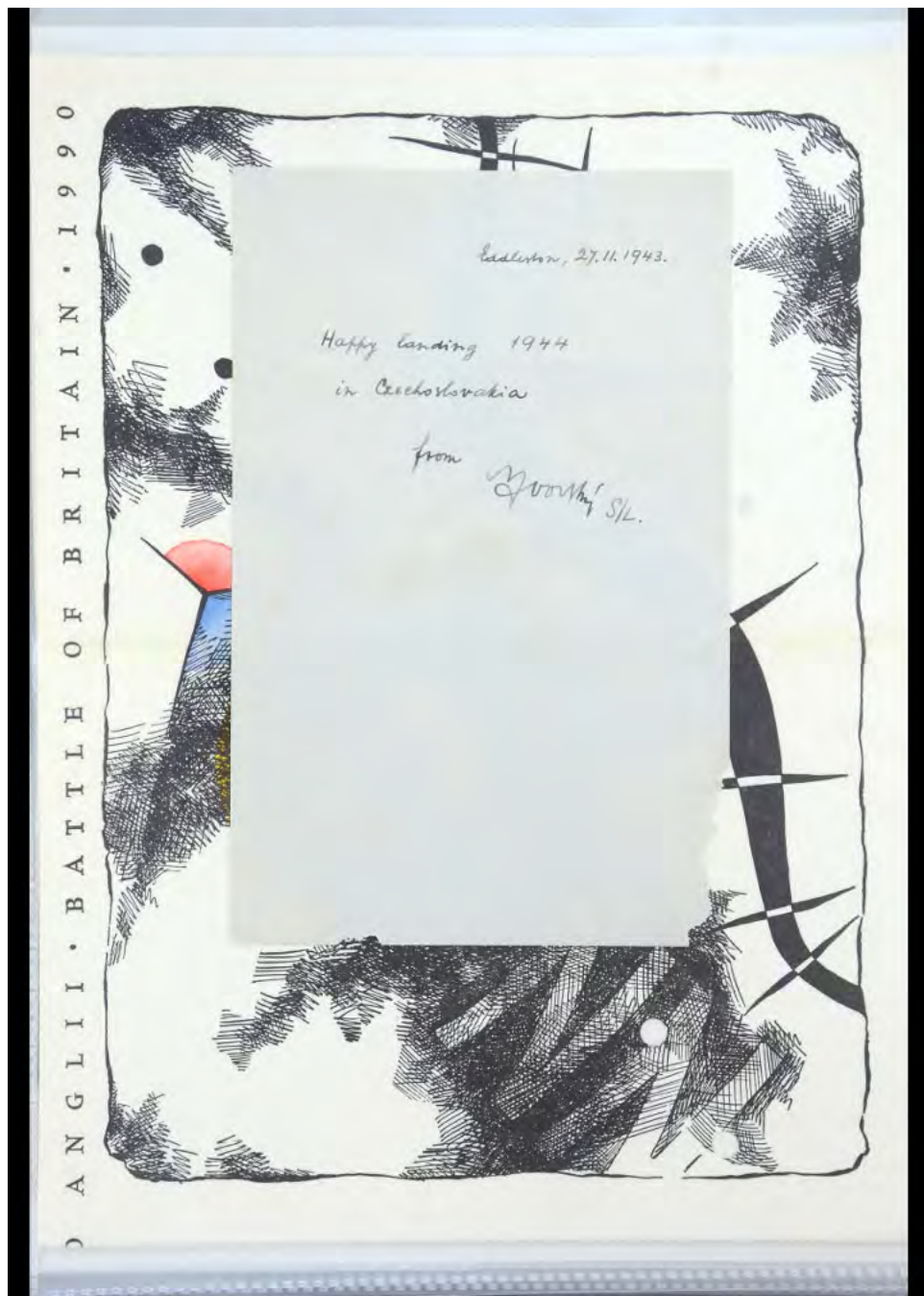


COMMÉMORATION
CINQUANTENAIRE



CAMP D'AGDE

M^r ROY E. READER
3 Stanhope Road
SIDCUP
KENT DA15 7HA
ANGLETERRE



Czech Forces

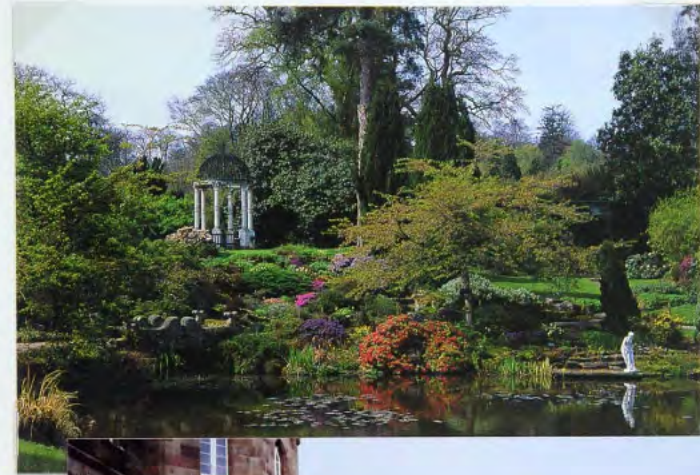
This card bearing a map of Czechoslovakia, also carries the large first commemorative cancel marking the visit to the Camp of President Benes.



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Cholmondeley Castle



On 28th September 1940, the day of the Czech National Saint, St. Wenceslaus, was commemorated by the unveiling of a simple carved monument especially sculptured by a young 19 year-old Czech soldier, Frantisek Besky. In July 1999, the memorial stone which had been restored and nicely landscaped, was unveiled by a much more mature Mr Besky, seen below. The gardens of Cholmondeley are open occasionally when the memorial may be seen.



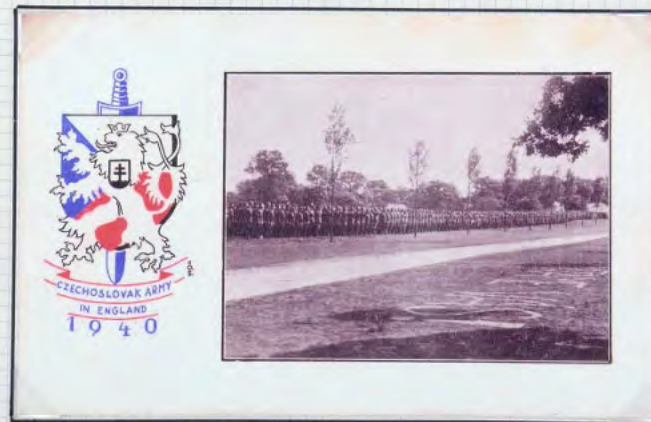
Sculptor Franta Belský with his 1940 carving.

Czech Forces

Facsimiles of the 2nd and 3rd card (P1 and P3) issued to mark the visit to Cholmondeley Camp by President Benes.



Girl presenting a bouquet to the President on the podium.



Long line of troops on parade. The letters on the grass at bottom right spell, Vitami vás = We welcome you





00

ČESKOSLOVAK ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
Administrativní služby
Voj. výpravci příslušek.

PPD D.S. 233
No 0102

Mr. Hanna Pavlovic
6. D. Benisek
Mrs. Hagar Kovach
P.O. 4111

SDÍLEJTE SVOJÍMA PRÁNU AŽ JIŽ JEDNÁ O VÁŠU FISKOPISU, ZDA
PRACUJETE V KOLIK SINI VÍŠ VÝHLEDK
NEPRACUJETE-LI, PŘEDLOŽTE LÉKÁRSKE VYUVEDENÍ ÚŘEADNÍHO LÉ-
KAŘE ZS. VOJ. SPRÁVY, JE JSTE PRUČO NESCHOPNÁ.
VŠEČKÉ ÚDAJE MUSÍ BÝTI PRAVDIVÉ, SPRÁVNOST TUDÉ ÚŘEADNĚ
OVĚŘENA.
Za správnost:

Major J. H. Novák
Náčelník čs. adm. štábu S. V.
Přík. jedn. J. H. NOVÁK, V. T.

REGISTRATION
22 MAR 45

WIMFIELD
22 MAR 45

CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POST



Letter with ~~DOUBLE RING CANCELLATION~~ 16. Jul. 1943 ^{28 OCT 4}
(Reverse flap: CZECHOSLOVAK ARTILLERY with Heraldic Figure)
to USA Censor M691 (Peter Dinnin)



Letter with SINGLE RING CANCELLATION 17. FEB. 1944
(Reverse flap: see above letter)



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.

The Czech language at the top was reduced to C.S.P.P. (= Československá Pošta) with the English equivalent below the date bridge in full CZECHOSLOVAK FIELD POST.

This metal double ring cancel was introduced in September 1943 with blue ink on first day of use on 1st SEP 1943

Three different types are known.

Similar to other regular Czechoslovak Field Post datestamps they also have been used for commemorative purposes



First day of use of above postmark type with reduced solid segments



Above postmark type with reduced solid segments in red dated 14th SEP 1943 to commemorate the death of T.G. Masaryk in 1937



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.

Above postmark type with reduced solid segment dated 2nd July 1944 to commemorate the battle of Zborov



Letter with green postmark of above type with reduced solid segments, dated 2nd July 1944 to Shelly, Swansea



Reverse shows transit roller stamp U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE 11 BPO, dated 29th AUG 1944

Originally blank envelope with green postmark of above type with reduced solid segments and 2 p KGVI stamp, dated 2nd July 1944, then directed as an Air Mail letter with additional postage of 7p + 8p KGVI stamps = 15 p for Overseas Air Mail rate with cancel LONDON, dated 21st AUG 1944 to a US Staff Sergeant with censor label No. 7700 but with obliterated address then redirected HQ 361 Infantry Regiment at US APO 91, Italy.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.
Above postmark type with smaller segment on left side dated 2nd July 1944 to commemorate the battle of Zborov



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.
In above postmark type C.S.P.P. contains a period after "S" and letter OV are close,



Letter from Wellingborough with a 2 1/2 p KGVI stamp cancelled on 22nd JUL 1944 to a Warrant Officer at the 1st Tank Regiment Headquarters and arrival Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 24th JUL 1944



Postage Free letter "On active service" with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 9th OCT 1944 and British censor cachet No. 11693 (Sappers Squadron) and censor's signature to Werrington Hall



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.
In above postmark type C.S.P.P. contains a period after "S" and letter OV are close,



Registered Stationery Envelope (reverse "Registration") with 3 p KGVI imprint and registered printed label FPO D.S. No. BC21 in violet (Brigade Czechoslovak No. 1) from a soldier of the Armoured Tank Battalion with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 24th SEP 1944 and British censor cachet No. 11695 (Anti-tank battery) and censor's signature to a company at 4th Street Strand in London



Registered Stationery Envelope (reverse "Compensation") with 3 p KGVI imprint and large registered label in manuscript FPO and red stamped BCZ1 (Brigade Czechoslovak No. 1) with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 8th March 1945 and British censor cachet No. 11694 (Transport unit) and censor's signature to Northampton



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.

In above postmark type C.S.P.P. contains a period after "S" and letter OV are close

Friday, September 7th
1944.

F-15 Lt. Col. Fred Frankel,
1st Armed Regt, 3rd Squadron
Czechoslovak Forces B.L.A.

My dear Charles,

I trust you'll excuse me for not having written before, but the rapid of the last few weeks should be a good enough excuse. I don't think it is any secret for you but now, that a few days ago we crossed over to France, where I am at the moment. Ravel is here also although it took him a couple of days more to join me. I am glad to report that we are both well and enjoying the best of health. I haven't any serious but just before I left England I was together with Henry Gierant and Willy Winterberger, who should be also over here by now. For security reasons I can't say more about the situation about my day is, to at first I left for France, but I am staying in the front line, but I have been having sea sickness and I was very little with my business there and rather nervous. I am very fond of baby with

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

PASSED BY CENSOR No. 11689

Charles Werner Esq.
330, Old Blanes Street,
Salford 7, 275 Dury New Rd.
Manchester,
England.

Wm

Entire letter, double used "On Active Service" from a soldier at the 1st Armed Regiment, 3rd Squadron, with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 9th SEP 1944 to Salford, Manchester, then redirected to another street in same location.

The letter was censored with British censor cachet No. 11689 (No. 1 Tank Battalion) and signed by censor.

Original envelope was addressed to the Czechoslovak Forces, B.L.A. from Leamington SPA Warwickshire and stamped with a 1 ½ p KGVI stamp, cancelled on 30th AUG 1944



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours. In above postmark type C.S.P.P. contains a period after "S" and letter OV are close,

letter in French

De active Service

PASSED BY CENSOR No. 11692

C.S.P.P. A 21 DEC 1944

M^r Boghemans Emile
598 Chaussée de Jette
Bruxelles
Belgique.

VOTRE LETTRES
DRES BRIEVEN

BRUXELLES
15-16
28 XII
1944

arrival slogan
Brussels 28th DEC 1944

Letter "On Active Service" with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 21 DEC 1944 and British censor cachet No. 11692 (Artillery Regiment)) and censor's signature to a Brussels, Belgium

R1149 des. Valtr Wulkan
B. P. D.,
Os. samost. obrnena brigada
PLZEN.

POLNI POSTOU.

C.S.P.P. A 7 JUL 1945

Vysoka škola obchodni,
PRAHA.

PASSED BY CENSOR No. 11696

Letter "POLNI POŠTOU" (=Field Post) from the Independent Czechoslovak Tank Brigade in Pilsen with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 7 July 1945 and British censor cachet No. 11696 (Heavy Workshop Company) and censor's signature (obliterated) to the Commercial High School in Prague – very late usage of this postmark



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.

Above postmark type with reduced solid segment with green cancel of 8th November 1943 devised for the use during the Czechoslovak Stamp Exhibition in London.



Registered letter with green postmark of above type with reduced solid segments, and 10 p KGV stamp cancelled on 8th NOV 1943 to London and registration "etiquette" No. 45



Registered stationery envelope with embossed 5 1/2 p KGV imprint and 1919 Czechoslovak 100 Korun legionary stamp with green postmark of above type with reduced solid segments to a sergeant at the HQ Home forces and redirected to the 21st Army Group Both cancelled on 8th NOV 1943 to London and registration "etiquette" No. 36 with arrival unit cachet of HQ 21 Infantry Group and FPO postmark No. 20, both dated 11th NOV 1943



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours.

Above postmark type with smaller segment on left side



Letter from London, dated 18th April 1944 to a soldier in the Armoured Artillery Battery at Czechoslovak Forces in England with above postmark as arrival cancel dated 19th April 1944



Letter from Dublin, Republic of Ireland dated 9th May 1944 to a private at No. 1 Tank Corps at P.O. Box 226 of the Czechoslovak Land Forces in England with Censor Label No. 4317 and above postmark as arrival cancel dated 16th May 1944



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours. Above postmark type with smaller segment on left side



Inside shows a wrapper addressed to Lieutenant John Frana, Public Relations Officer of CHECHO-SLOVAK FORCES IN ENGLAND with circular regular Czechoslovak postmark with all the crossed swords eliminated, dated 3rd JUN 1943

Double used wrapper with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 24th SEP 1943 to New York, U.S.A. with faint red single line cachet "Public Relations Officer – Czechoslovak Forces"



Reverse shows a set of a set of 7 different patriotic labels issued in 1940 and 1942

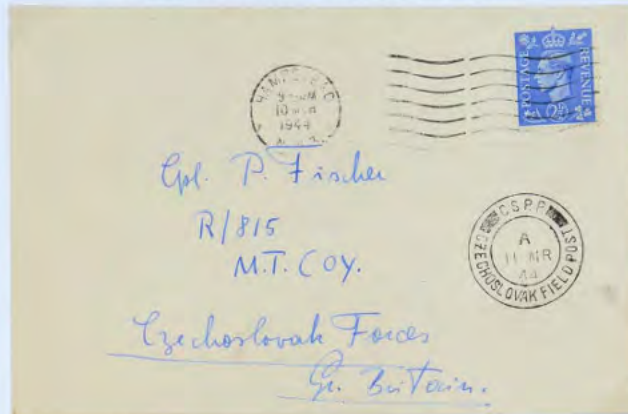
Heinz-Jürgen Kumpf
Postfach 101
D-80973 München, Germany





The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours. Above postmark type with smaller segment on left side



Letter from Hampstead with a 2 1/2 p KGVI stamp cancelled on 10th March 1944 to a Corporal at M.T. Coy and arrival Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 11th MAR 1944



Registered Stationery Envelope (reverse "Compensation") with 3 p KGVI imprint and registered printed label FPO D.S. No. BCZ1 in violet (Brigade Czechoslovak No. 1) with Czechoslovak Field postmark as described above, dated 14th MAR 1945 and British censor cachet No. 11694 (Transport Unit) and censor's signature to London



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Double circular bilingual Czechoslovak Field Post datestamp in the style of the regular British Field Post handstamps in various colours. Above postmark type with smaller segment on left side



Cover from a registered parcel with Registered label FPO No. 8021 and Czechoslovak Field postmark, dated 24th NOV 1944 sent by a Field Prosecutor of the Czechoslovak Forces to Leamington SPA, then redirected to Summerland, Minehead and transit postmark Leamington SPA – Warwickshire, dated 30th NOV 1944. The parcel was censored with British censor cachet No. 11694 (Transport Unit)



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Czechoslovak Censorship

The Czechoslovak Brigade commanders were given British shield design censor cachets to censor their own mail, about 17 numbered examples are known



Letter from Hammersmith, dated 15 Oct 1944 to an officer in 1st Tank Regiment at the Czechoslovak Forces, B.L.A. (British Liberation Army) with British censor cachet No. 11689 belonging to censor in No. 1 Tank Battalion



View of crew of 1st Heavy Tank Regiment waving to recently liberated folk



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Obliterated Censormarks

On international mail British censorship was applied in addition to the internal Czechoslovak censor system. However, in order to hide the unit of the Czechoslovak censor the unit number had been obliterated either by inking over or chemical treatment or to stick an adhesive tape over the censormark. If the letter was not written in English this had to be noted on top of the envelope



Letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with Czechoslovak Field postmark, dated 11th September 1944. The unit number of the Czechoslovak censor has been obliterated by inking over. The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 1468 was affixed later.

Redirected letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with Czechoslovak Field postmark, dated 17th October 1944. The unit number of the Czechoslovak censor has been obliterated by inking over. The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 1468 was affixed later.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Obliterated Censormarks

On international mail British censorship was applied in addition to the internal Czechoslovak censor system. However, in order to hide the unit of the Czechoslovak censor the unit number was obliterated either by inking over or chemical treatment or to stick an adhesive tape over the censormark. If the letter was not written in English this had to be noted on top of the envelope



Redirected letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with Czechoslovak Field postmark dated 23rd August 1944. The unit number of the Czechoslovak censor was obliterated by chemical treatment. The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 6638 was affixed later.

Letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with red Czechoslovak Field postmark dated 28th October 1944. The unit number of the Czechoslovak censor was obliterated by inking over. The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 1468 was affixed later.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Obliterated Censormarks

On international mail British censorship was applied in addition to the internal Czechoslovak censor system. However, in order to hide the unit of the Czechoslovak censor the unit number was obliterated either by inking over or chemical treatment or to stick an adhesive tape over the censormark. If the letter was not written in English this had to be noted on top of the envelope



Redirected letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with Czechoslovak Field postmark dated 25th September 1944. The unit number of the Czechoslovak censor was obliterated by inking over. The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 7700 was affixed later.



Letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with Czechoslovak Field postmark dated 3rd November 1944. The unit number of the Czechoslovak censor was obliterated by sticking an adhesive tape over the censormark. The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 9941 was affixed later.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Obliteration of geographical location on postmarks

On international mail British censorship was applied. If the mail did not go through the mailing system of the Czechoslovak forces the geographical location of the British postmark was obliterated by inking over that part of the postmark and leaving only the time and date details visible. If the letter was not written in English this had to be noted on top of the envelope.



... officer to his wife in Sweden
... 1943
... en removed.
... as obliterated by inking over.
... 1277 was affixed later.

Letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with roller cancel, dated ...JY....
The geographical location and time and most of date details were unidentifiably obliterated by inking over.
The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 6638 was affixed later.



The Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain 1939 – 1945

Obliteration of geographical location on postmarks

On international mail British censorship was applied. If the mail did not go through the mailing system of the Czechoslovak forces the geographical location of the British postmark was obliterated by inking over that part of the postmark and leaving only the time and date details visible. If the letter was not written in English this had to be noted on top of the envelope.



Redirected letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with roller cancel, dated 30th March 1943.
The geographical location Peterborough, Northhamshire was obliterated by inking over.
The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 1277 was affixed later.



Letter from a Czechoslovak officer to his wife in Sweden with roller cancel, dated 19th November 1943.
The geographical location was unidentifiably obliterated by inking over.
The British censor label OPENED BY EXAMINER 6638 was affixed later.