



Look to Norway

The Norway Flag Stamp of the 1943 Overrun Countries Series



Purpose – The purpose is to present a special study of the history of the NORWAY Flag stamp. The stamp was issued July 27, 1943.

Scope – The exhibit takes us from the conception of the stamp via First Day of Issue through its many commercial usages.

Treatment and Philatelic Importance – Beginning with the background for the issue. The production process is explained. The First Day Cachets and Patriotic Covers are studied, as are the many usages of the stamp. Post-contemporaneous cachets and usages are not particularly included. The set was a popular success, issued as a tribute to the nations that were overrun by the Axis Powers.

Knowledge and Research – Effort has been put into identifying cachet-makers and first cachets. The identification of the printing techniques used for the cachets was vetted by a printing expert.

Condition and Rarity – Condition is a challenge particularly for the more elusive usages. Many of the privately made FDCs, those hand-painted or hand-drawn are more difficult to obtain than those made by recognized cachet-makers.

Recent Development – New items since achieving 80p at Bodø 2024 includes a die proof and a photo essay. SFK 100 is first time at national level.

Plan of the Exhibit

0. Introduction	1
1. Background and Production	13
President Roosevelt's relationship to Norway, and his proposal for a propaganda stamp issue printed by the American Banknote Company	
2. First Day of Issue	12
Dedication Ceremony, First Day Cancels	
3. Norway First Day Cachets	16
FDCs where the cachet relates directly to the stamp issue or to Norway	
4. Patriotic Envelopes	12
Covers where the cachet does not relate directly to the stamp issue	
5. The NORWAY Flag Goes to War	10
Uses related to the course of the war	
6. From Here to Everywhere	12
Domestic and International Uses	
7. Liberation and Conclusion	4
The war is over, and Norway is again free	
Total	80

The "Look to Norway" Speech by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt on September 16, 1942:

If there is anyone who still wonders why this war is being fought, let him look to Norway. If there is anyone who has any delusions that this war could have been averted, let him look to Norway; and if there is anyone who doubts the democratic will to win, again I say, let him look to Norway.

Main sources

- Ken Lawrence: *U.S. Stamps That Went To War* (American Philatelist January 1998)
- Michael Mellone: *Specialized Cachet Catalog of first day covers of the 1940's* (2nd edition 1984)
- Dr. Rickard A. Monty: *Jacques Minkus FDC and Patriotic Cachet Catalog* (1977)
- Lawrence Sherman: *United States Patriotic Envelopes of World War II* (2006)
- Keith Lichtman: *Overrun Countries Series #3 The Norway Stamp and its varieties* (2015)
- Henry W. Beecher & Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz: *U.S. Domestic & International Postal Rates handbooks* (1994, 1996)

1. Background and Production

The Outbreak of World War II

Germany occupied Norway on the morning of April 9, 1940. Communication with friendly and neutral countries was functioning from early summer 1940, but remained closed throughout the war to Germany's enemies. The United States became fully engaged in the war after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and mail services USA-Norway were suspended.

1940: GERMANY INVADES NORWAY.

1941: THE UNITED STATES DECLARE WAR ON GERMANY.

OPROP!

Til de norske soldater og det norske folk!

Uten grunn, og imot den tyske regjering og det tyske folks oprigtige ønske om at leve i fred og venskap med det engelske og det franske folk, har Englands og Frankrikets makthavere ifjor i september erklært Tyskland krigen. Deres hensigt var og blir efter mulighet at treffe avgjørelsen på krigsskueplasser som ligger mere avsides, og derfor er mindre farlige for Frankriket og England, i det håp, at det ikke vilde være mulig for Tyskland at kunne optræ sterkt nok imot dem.

Av denne grunn har England blandt annet stadig krænket Norges og Danmarks nøytralitet og deres territoriale farvand.

Det forsøkte stadig at gjøre Skandinavien til krigsskueplass. Da en ytterlig anledning efter den russisk-finske fredsslutning ikke synes at være givet, har man nu offisielt erklært og truet, ikke mere at tåle den tyske handelsflåtes seilads innenfor de norske og de danske territorialfarvand. Man erklærte selv at ville overta politiopsigten der. Man har tilslutt truffet alle forberedelser for overraskende at ta besiddelse av alle nødvendige støttepunkter ved Norges kyst. Århundredes største krigsdriver, den allerede under den første verdenskrig til ulykke for hele menneskeheten arbeidende Churchill, uttalte det åpent, at han ikke var villig til at la sig holde tilbake av »legale avgjørelser eller nøytrale rettigheter som står på papirlapper«.

Han har forberedt slaget mot den norske og den danske kyst. For noen dager siden er han nu blit utnævnt til foransvarlig chef for hele den britiske krigsføring.

4b

Above: German air leaflets were dropped over Norwegian cities during the German attack on Norway April 9, 1940.

Right: Mail service between the United States and Norway was suspended from Nov. 11, 1941. 1941 letter USA-Norway, returned to sender. Imperial (British) civil censorship in Bermuda. 30c postage for airmail to Europe Apr. 28, 1939 to Nov. 1, 1946.

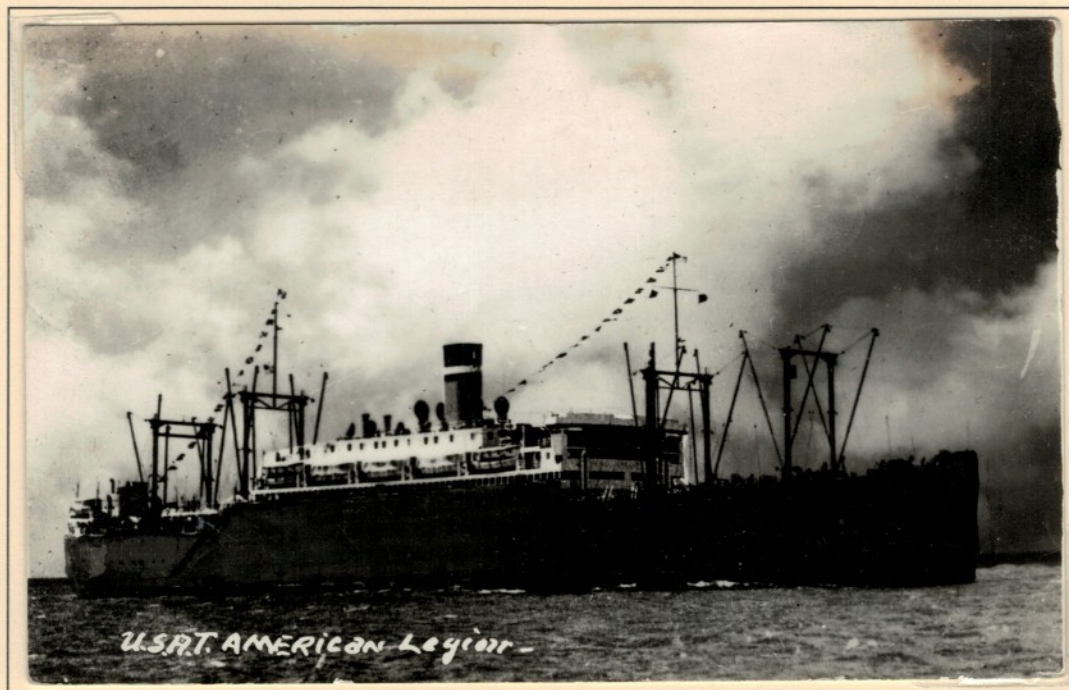


1. Background and Production

The Norwegian Royal Family had to Flee Norway

During the flight from the German invasion in April 1940, the Norwegian government decided that the Crown Princess and her children were to flee the country. They travelled first to her native Sweden, and then onwards to Finland. President Roosevelt offered her a personal invitation to the United States and sent the US Army Transport American Legion to pick her up from the then Finnish port city of Petsamo on the coast of the Arctic Ocean.

U.S.A.T. AMERICAN LEGION POSTCARD



The ship U.S.A.T. *American Legion* was built 1919 for troop transport, used as US Army Transport from 1939 until transfer 1941 to the US Navy, operating as USS *American Legion*. Decommissioned 1946. H.R.H. Crown Princess Märtha and her three children went to the United States on the U.S.A.T. *American Legion* from Petsamo, Finland August 17-28, 1940.

U.S.S. AMERICAN LEGION LETTER 1943



Airmail letter posted from U.S.S. *American Legion*. Postmarked "U.S. NAVY JUN , 14 1943" to Kentucky. U.S. Navy censorship. Airmail to/from overseas US military personnel (concession rate) 6c per ½oz Dec. 25, 1941 to Oct. 1, 1946.

1. Background and Production

The Norwegian Royal Family befriended the President

In 1939, shortly before the outbreak of World War II, the Crown Prince and Princess visited the United States, where the couple befriended President Franklin Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor. In the U.S., the Crown Princess and her children initially stayed at the White House. The friendship that the Crown Prince and Crown Princess had cultivated with the Roosevelts was further developed during the war years.

VISIT BY THE NORWEGIAN CROWN PRINCE & PRINCESS TO THE UNITED STATES, 1939

Norwegian Royalty visit President at Hyde Park.

Poughkeepsie, N.Y., - Prince Olav of Norway and President Roosevelt in an automobile, April 28, en route to the Roosevelt home at Hyde Park for a week-end visit. The Norwegian Crown Prince and Crown Princess had arrived at Poughkeepsie on the Presidential Yacht Potomac, following a ride up the Hudson River from New York City.

Credit Line (ACME) 4-28-39 (CT).

Original photo, dated May 2, 1939.



CHRISTMAS CARD FROM THE CROWN PRINCESS



1943 Christmas card depicting H.R.H. Crown Princess Märtha, with Astrid, Ragnhild and Harald.

The photo is from Pook's Hill, Bethesda, MD, where Märtha lived in exile, conveniently close to Washington D.C. Her husband and his father, King Haakon VII, stayed in London to support the Allied fight against the Nazis.

1. Background and Production

President Roosevelt Proposes New Stamps

President Roosevelt proposed a third propaganda stamp issue to help maintain high morale on the home front and show support and solidarity with the countries overrun by the Axis. The President himself is credited with having chosen the design concept in 1942, and particularly with having preferred an allegory of liberation and redemption rather than those of martial gallantry. The proposal to use the flags as the main subject came from the State Department.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT PROPOSED THE NEW STAMP ISSUE



5c of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Set, June 30, 1946.

The cachet shows the stamps of the Overrun Countries set, proposed by FDR.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, THE STAMP COLLECTOR



The Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Set, June 30, 1946. The cachet shows FDR with his stamp collection.

1. Background and Production

Stamp Denomination and Design

Overrun Countries were the first U.S. postage stamps to be printed in more than two colors of ink. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which had printed all the U.S. stamps since 1894, did not have the practical capability to produce such a product in the 1940's, so the contract was awarded to the American Banknote Company, whose previous U.S. stamp contract had been for the 1893 Columbian series.

Denomination: A 3 cent stamp for the domestic first class letter rate to 1 oz would have the greatest usage. The 5 cent international rate was selected to promote international mail, and for the United States to be seen to support the occupied countries. There were several unforeseen issues:

- Americans did not like or understand the purpose of the designs
- The 5c rate restricted its usage
- Mail connections were suspended to the European countries the issue was meant to support!
- The philatelic press criticized severely the issue because the American Bank Note Company refused to answer questions about printing
- Americans were reluctant to use anything with a flag other than the American flag
- But the stamp issue was popular with stamp collectors!

The design comprises two separately printed components: an outer steel-engraved intaglio frame, with a flag and name of the country in the center done by an indirect relief press.

FRAME DESIGN



The outer frame is in Steel Blue color – Scott refers to it as Blue Violet – (above, facsimile). It has a top banner with "UNITED STATES POSTAGE", a bottom banner with "CENTS". To the left is the Phoenix, a mythological bird symbolizing the renewal of life, and to the right a kneeling female figure 'Freedom' breaking the shackles of oppression, both of these on pedestals with the denomination "5".

FLAG DESIGN



Left (enlarged scan): The central design is the country's flag in its natural colors. The flags were taken from Hydrographic Office Bulletin 89, 1939, "Flags of the United States and other countries". There was a choice of four flags of Norway in the Hydrographic Book, and the choice was the "Merchant" flag. The flag was drawn as though flying from a pole. The name of the country was inscribed below the flag, printed in the red color of the flag.

The Norwegian official description of its flag is "A red field charged with a white-fimbriated dark blue Nordic cross that extends to the edges; the vertical part of the cross is shifted to the hoist side."

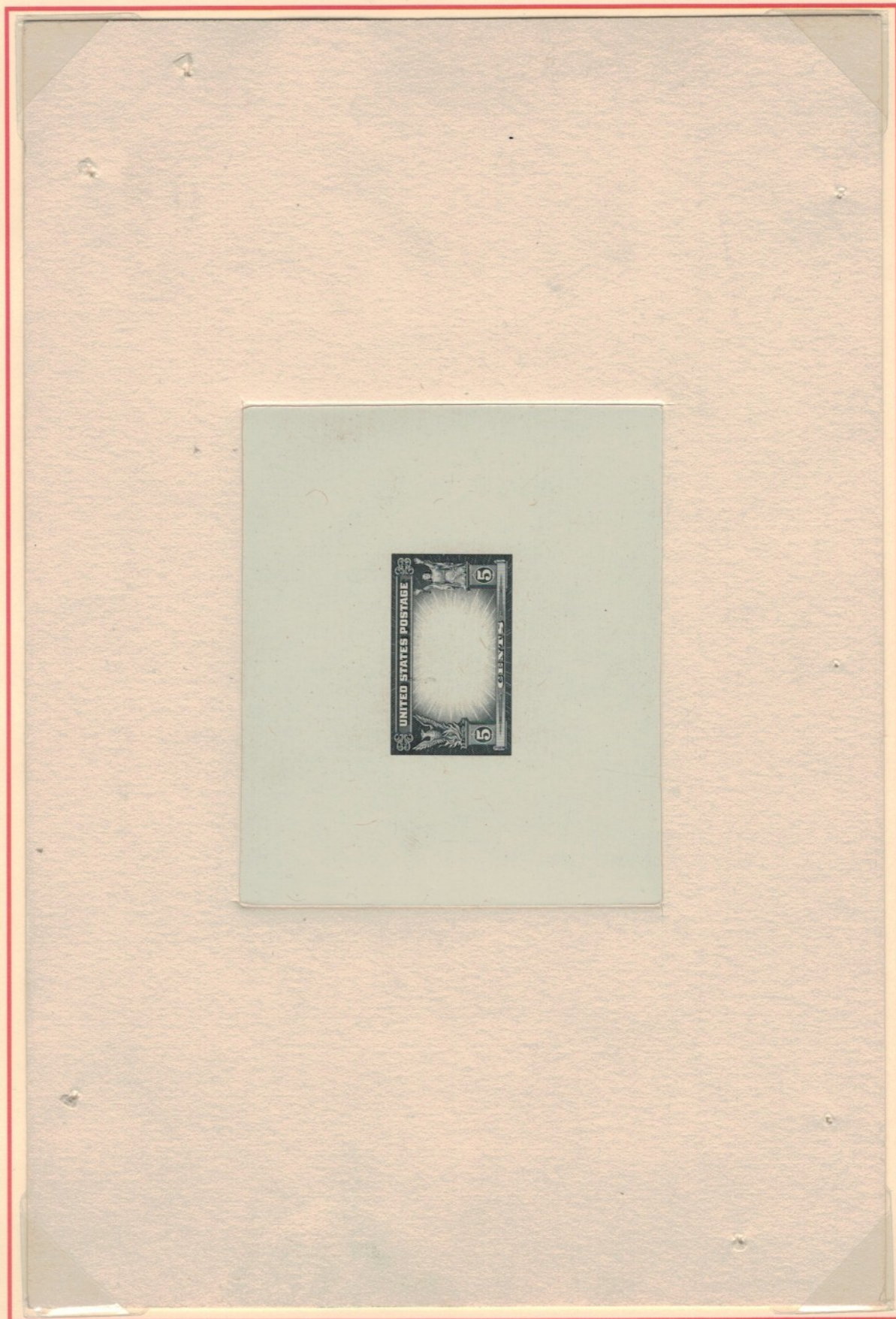
The Hydrographic Book and the Overrun Countries postage stamp did get the colors fairly correct. However, the proportions are not quite right, with the white being too narrow and the blue too wide: "The proportions of the national flag are 16:22 (height (width) to length), its color elements having widths of 6:1:2:1:6 and lengths of 6:1:2:1:12."

1. Background and Production

Stamp Frame

*This frame was used for all 13 different flag stamps of the Overrun Countries series.
Frame design was by A. E. Foringer and it was engraved by Arthur C. Vogel.*

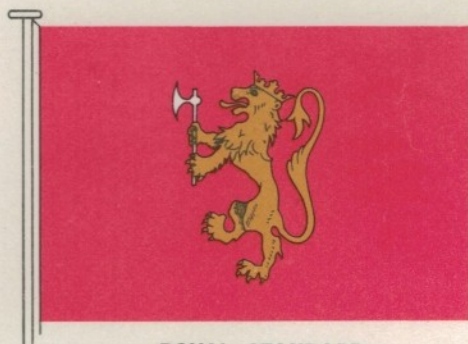
DIE PROOF OF THE FRAME



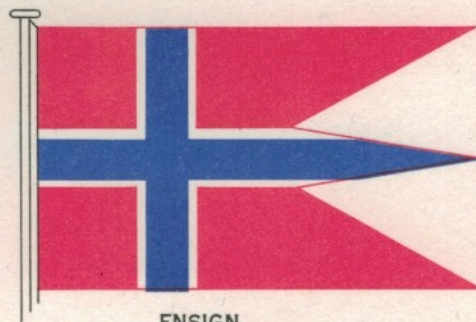
Die proof of the completed frame, sunk on card.
Only two large die frame essays are recorded, this being the only example known in black.

The flags were taken from Hydrographic Office Bulletin 89, 1939, "Flags of the United States and other countries".

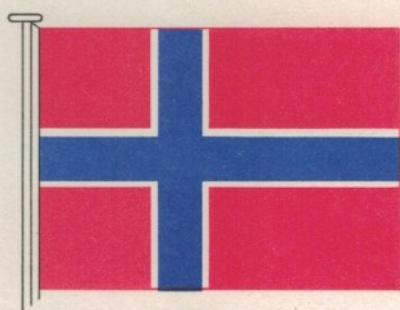
NORWAY



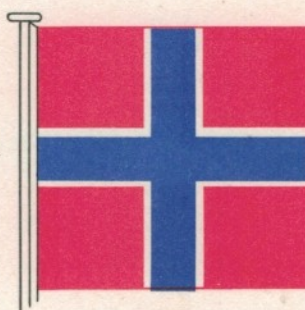
ROYAL STANDARD



ENSIGN



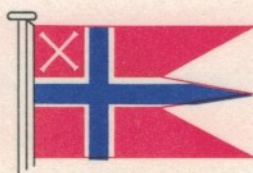
MERCHANT



JACK



MINISTER OF DEFENSE



COMMANDING ADMIRAL



ADMIRAL



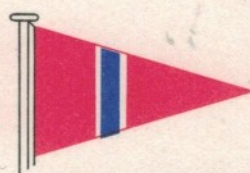
VICE ADMIRAL



REAR ADMIRAL



CAPTAIN
COMMANDER
Independent Command



SENIOR OFFICER PRESENT



PENNANT

AIRCRAFT MARKINGS



WING



RUDDER

1. Background and Production

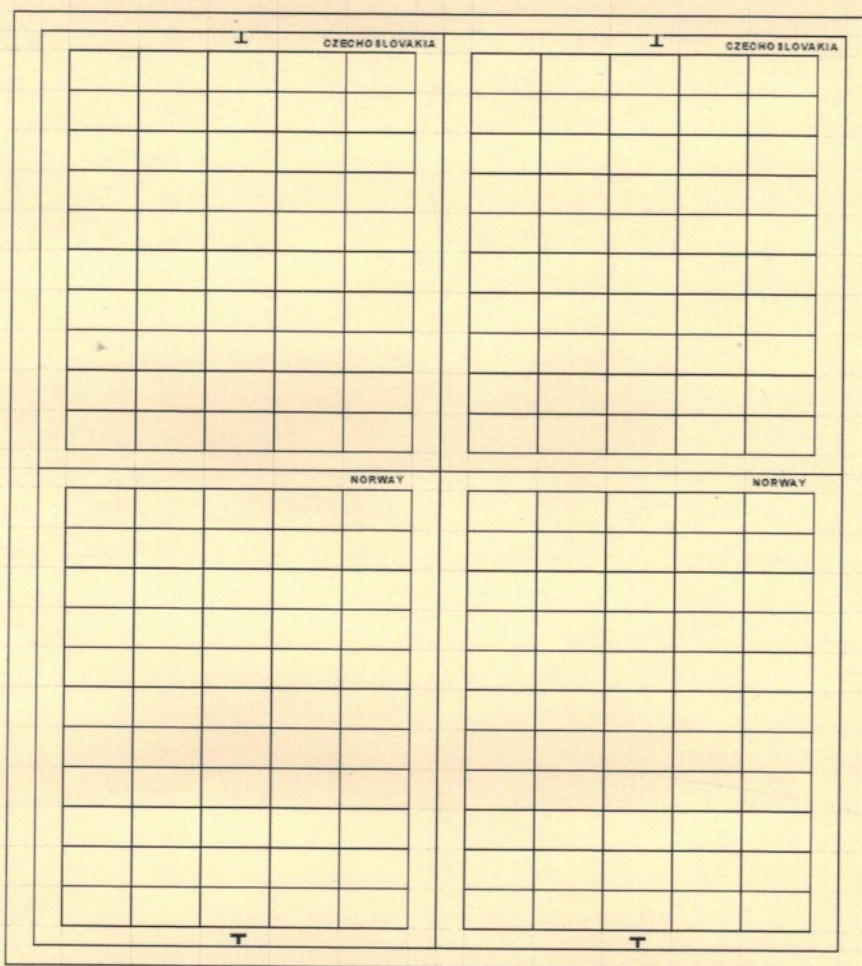
Plate Layout, Finished Stamp

There were three separate and distinct plate layouts used by the American Banknote Company to produce the Overrun Countries stamp set, and the Norway stamps were printed with setup type II.

The 200 stamp plates were divided into panes of 50 stamps each surrounded by a gutter. The full plates were cut along the center of these gutters and the stamps issued in sheets (panes) of 50 stamps.

The Norway stamps were paired in printing so that the top two panes were Czechoslovakia stamps, and the bottom two panes were Norway stamps. Thus, the Norway stamps only come with T-bar color registration marks at the bottom of each sheet (pane).

PLATE LAYOUT



The plate layout, with the two NORWAY panes at the lower half.
T-bar color registration marks in the lower margin at the center of each lower pane.

PHOTO ESSAY



Photo Essay (probably also used as post office publicity photo).

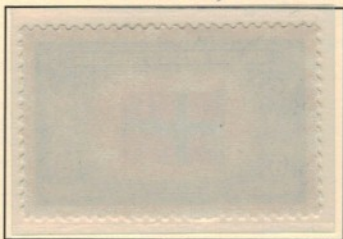
1. Background and Production

Four Papers and Two Gums

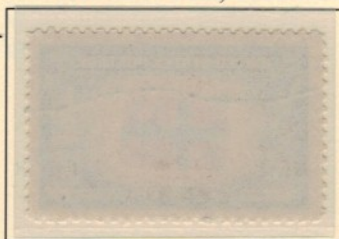
Four papers and two gums were used in the production of the NORWAY stamps.

Beware that the paper will tone with long exposure to daylight. Toning shows on both sides of the stamps. Normal white, brownish and greyish only show on the reverse side of the stamps.

WHITE PAPER, THINNER

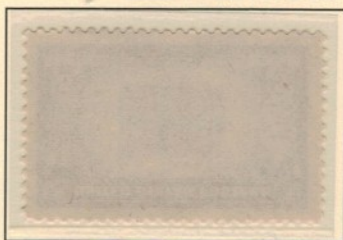


WHITE PAPER, THICKER



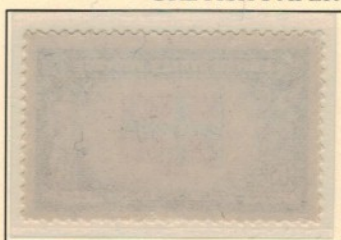
White paper is a better grade paper, with less ground wood content.
The white paper is found in two thicknesses.

BROWNISH PAPER



Brownish paper with high
natural wood-content.

GREYISH PAPER



Greyish paper has a high natural
fiber, wool & cotton content.

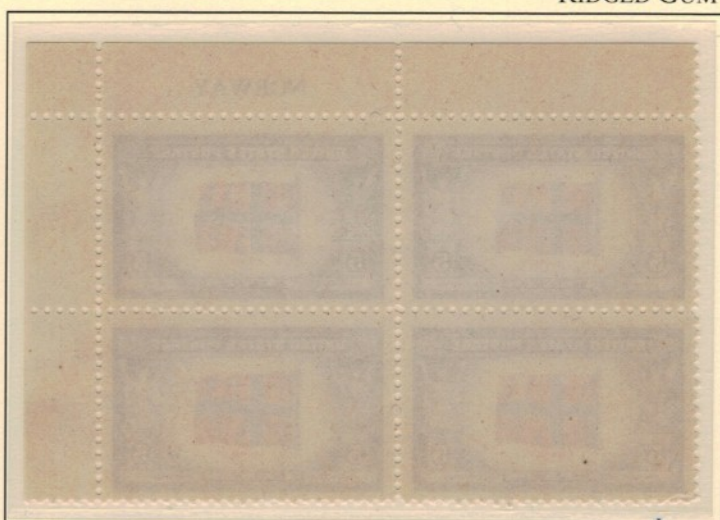
The paper was supplied on rolls to the printers and was pre-gummed.

SMOOTH GUM



Smooth gum is found on all three papers.

RIDGED GUM



Ridged (ribbed) gum is found on white and brown paper.
(hold 30°-45° to light to see this)

1. Background and Production

Two Printing Processes, T-Bar Registration Marks

ALIGNED T-BAR REGISTRATION MARKS



Perfect alignment of the two T-bar registration marks.

The margin cut widths show left or right pane. From left pane: Outside left margin 10-11 mm. Inside right margin 8.5-9.5 mm.

Two separate printing processes were used, intaglio for the outer frame and indirect relief (letterset) for the flag and country name.

The first printing was that of the outer steel-engraved intaglio frame.

The only marginal marking was the thin steel-blue T-bar registration guide to assume proper alignment of the second impression.

Eight pairs of curved intaglio plates were used.

The second printing operation was the letterset press of the flag in color as well as the remainder of the central portion of the design.

Also the country name in black and the registration marker in the red color of the flag that is found in the margins of the sheet after this printing.

Three sets of central design plates were employed.

SHIFTED T-BAR REGISTRATION MARKS



The red color T-bar registration mark is shifted slightly to the right and down relative to the thin steel-blue T-bar.

From right pane:
Inside left margin 8.5-9.5 mm.
Outside right margin 10-11 mm.

1. Background and Production

Country Name Instead of Plate Number

In place of the customary plate number found on the sheets of postage stamps produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Overrun Countries stamps have the printed name of the country in the upper right hand margin of each of the two panes of 50 stamps.

The letterset NORWAY is printed in black ink. The color sometimes appears as light black ink. This is, however, an illusion caused by under-inking, normally at press start-up after a plate change, mechanical problem or maintenance.

NORWAY MARGIN INSCRIPTION

There are three plate varieties on the NORWAY margin inscription, one on the left pane and two on the right pane.

Type I is found on the right pane with three black dots, one to the left of the 'A' above the horizontal bar, the second and third at the left side of each upright bar of the 'Y'.



Type I, constant on the right panes.

Type II appears on the left pane above the 'R' with a vertical line and dot at the bottom, having the general appearance of an L.



Type II, constant on the left panes.

Type III appears as a black dash centred between the 'N' and 'O' and found only on 10% of the right panes, in addition to type I mentioned above.



Type III, on 10% of the right panes.

1. Background and Production

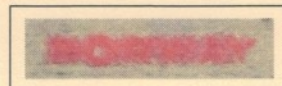
Double Script Line and Reverse Printing Sequence

The script line (country name in red below the flag) was a separate ink color and printing plate, creating possibility for errors.

DOUBLE IMPRESSION



(e)



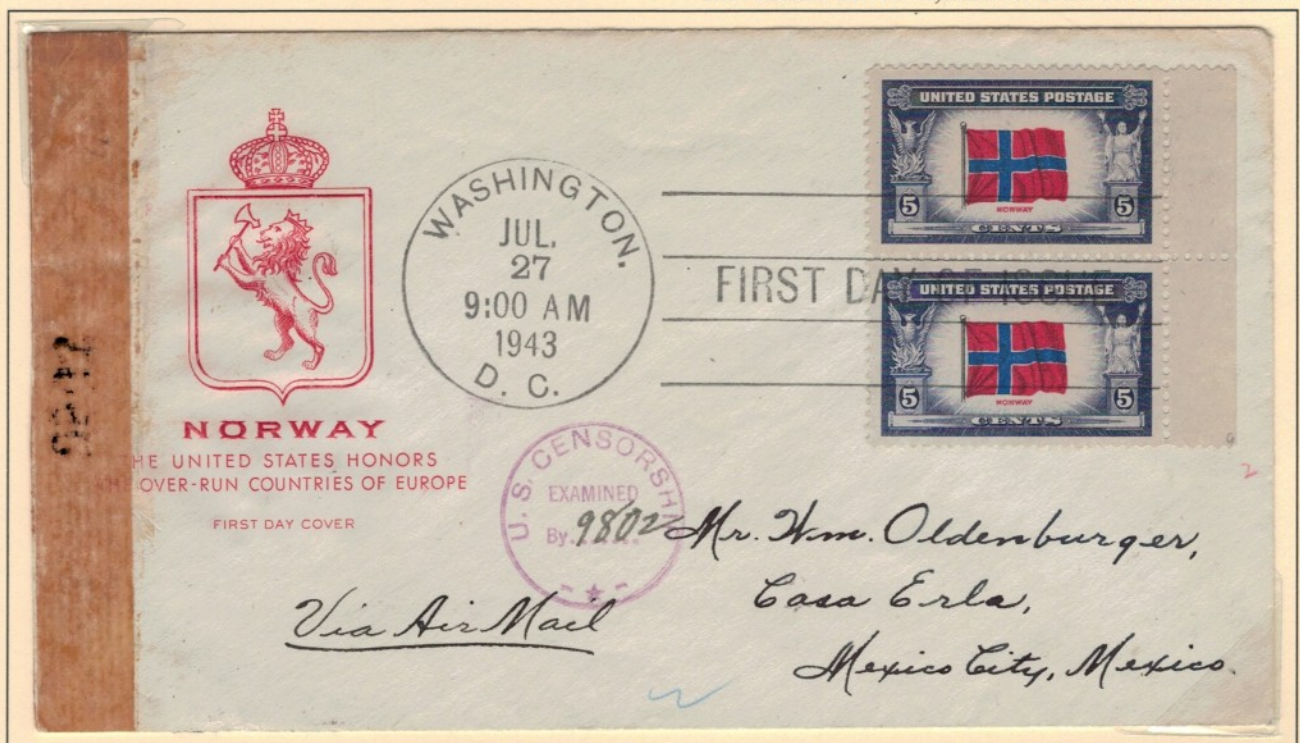
(enlarged scan)

A double impression of NORWAY below the flag.

When the country inscription shows a doubling effect while the portion of the flag printed in the same color of ink does not, this proves that the two portions of the design were printed from separate plates despite the color similarity.

There were several passes in the printing process. The normal printing order for the flag is considered to be the black ink printing over the red and blue printing plates. The reverse printing order for the colors of this stamp is considered the red and blue inks printing over the black ink.

REVERSE PRINTING, RED AND BLUE OVER BLACK



Reverse printing, with red and blue inks printing over the black ink.

Thermographed cachet by House of Farnum (Mellone 4, not in Sherman).

U.S. civil censorship in New York. 6¢/oz for airmail letters to Mexico Jul 1, 1934 to Mar 26, 1944.

1. Background and Production

Plate and Printing Varieties

There are various plate and printing varieties on this issue, including flyspecks of little interest. Color differences and color shifts on the central design print due to start/stop of the printing process. Some are constant (plate varieties), a few are retouches and some are due to dust etc. on the plates.

PLATE FLAWS



NORWAY overinked.



"RORWAY"
Misprint on N in NORWAY.



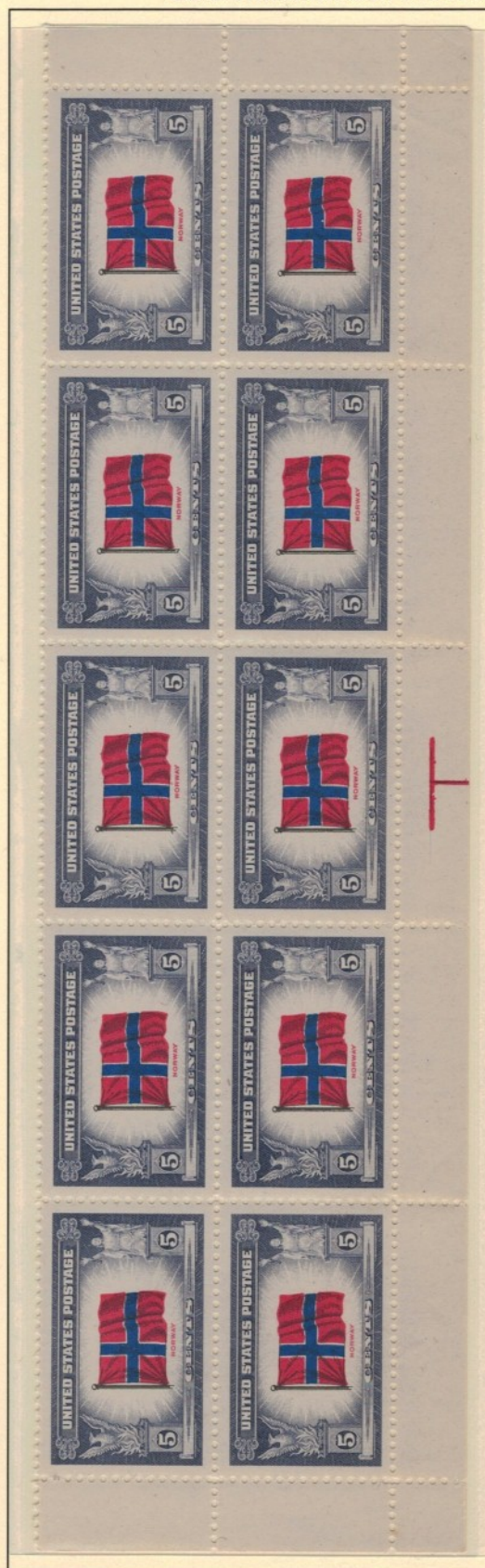
Red dot above R in NORWAY.
Pos. 27 in right pane.

FLAG SHIFTED DOWN



The central design with flag and country name
is shifted down approximately 1 mm.

LINE THROUGH C IN CENTS



Diagonal engraved line from base of flag pole
through C in CENTS. Constant plate variety at
position 48 in left pane (above the T-bar).

2. First Day of Issue

The Overrun Countries Stamps are Announced

THE POSTAL BULLETIN JUNE 4, 1943 ANNOUNCES COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS—OVERRUN COUNTRIES

INSTRUCTIONS OF THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS—OVERRUN COUNTRIES

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are advised that a special series of United States postage stamps has been authorized in commemoration of European countries which have been overrun and occupied by the Axis powers, as follows: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania, and Austria. All of the stamps will be of 5-cent denomination. The series will be inaugurated by the placing on sale of the stamp for Poland on June 22, 1943, at Washington, D. C., and Chicago, Ill. Dates of sale of the remaining stamps in the series will be announced at intervals during the next several months.

The stamps will be $\frac{54}{100}$ by $1\frac{44}{100}$ inches in dimensions, arranged horizontally, and issued in sheets of 50 stamps each. The central subjects, which are surface printed, will be reproductions in natural colors of the flags of the respective countries, with the name of the country underneath. Rays of light extend from behind the central subjects to the outer frames. The main frames of the stamps, which will be steel engraved, will be printed in purple and will depict on the left the phoenix, a mythological bird symbolizing the renewal of life, and on the right, in a corresponding position, a kneeling female figure portraying the breaking of the shackles of oppression and enforced servitude. Both figures are supported by pedestals on which appears the denomination numeral "5" in white in oval-shaped panels with dark ground. The pedestals rest on a panel, in which appears the word "Cents" in white-faced Roman. Immediately back of the wording the panel is of a darker shade fading out at each end. Across the top of the stamp are the words, "United States Postage," in white-faced Gothic, within a ruled panel with ornamental scroll ends. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Treasury Department, has contracted with the American Bank Note Co., New York, N. Y., for the printing of these stamps to take advantage of their special multicolor printing equipment.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of the stamp for Poland on June 22, 1943, may send a limited number of addressed envelopes, not in excess of 10, to the Postmasters, Washington 13, D. C., and Chicago 7, Ill., with cash or money order remittance to cover cost of the stamps required for affixing. Requests for uncanceled stamps must not be included with orders for first-day covers. Envelopes used for covers should be of ordinary letter size, and each envelope must be properly addressed. An enclosure of medium weight should be placed in each envelope, and the flap either sealed or turned in. **Postage stamps and personal checks will not be accepted in payment for stamps.** If coins are enclosed they must not be attached with glue or other adhesive, as such currency cannot be deposited without washing.

Stamps of this series desired for postage purposes should be purchased at the local post office. Stamps of selected quality for collection use may be obtained on mail order sent to the Philatelic Agency, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C. Stamps are sold through this agency at face value, plus return mailing charges. To insure prompt shipment, mail orders to the Philatelic Agency for the new stamp should not include other stamp issues. The Philatelic Agency does not service first day covers.

Postmasters at direct and central-accounting offices may submit separate requisitions, on Form 3201-A, for a limited supply of the 5c Poland stamp endorsed "Poland", shipment of which will be made as soon as the printed stock is available. Postmasters are cautioned, however, not to place the new stamp on sale before June 23. Postmasters at district-accounting offices may obtain small quantities of these stamps by requisition on the central-accounting postmaster.

Requisitions shall not be submitted for remaining stamps of this series until further notification is received.

THE POSTAL BULLETIN JULY 2, 1943 ANNOUNCES THE NORWAY STAMP

INSTRUCTIONS OF
THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS—OVERRUN COUNTRIES

Norway

Postmasters and employees of the Postal Service are advised that a 5-cent postage stamp honoring Norway, the third stamp in the Overrun Countries Series, will be first placed on sale July 27, 1943, at Washington, D. C. Announcements concerning the remaining stamps in the series will appear later.

The central design of the Norway stamp is a reproduction of the flag of that country in colors, with the name "Norway" printed underneath. The stamp will be of the special delivery size, 0.84 by 1.44 inches in dimension, arranged horizontally and issued 50 stamps to a sheet.

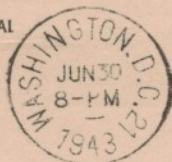
Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of the stamp for Norway on July 27, 1943, may send a limited number of addressed envelopes, not in excess of 10, to the Postmaster, Washington 13, D. C., with cash or money-order remittance to cover the cost of the stamps required for affixing. Requests for uncanceled stamps must not be included with orders for first-day covers. Envelopes used for covers should be of ordinary letter size, and each envelope must be properly addressed. An enclosure of medium weight should be placed in each envelope, and the flap either sealed or turned in. Postage stamps and personal checks will not be accepted in payment for stamps.

Stamps of this series desired for postage purposes should be purchased at the local post office. Stamps of selected quality for collection may be obtained on mail order sent to the Philatelic Agency, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C. Stamps are sold through this Agency at face value, plus return mailing charges. To insure prompt shipment, mail orders to the Philatelic Agency for the Norway commemorative stamp should not include other stamp issues. The Philatelic Agency does not service first-day covers.

Postmasters at direct- and central-accounting offices may submit separate requisitions, on Form 3201-A, for a limited supply of the 5-cent Norway stamp, endorsed "Norway," shipment of which will be made as soon as the printed stock is available. Postmasters are cautioned not to place this stamp on sale before July 28, 1943. Postmasters at district-accounting offices may obtain small quantities of these stamps by requisition on the central-accounting post office.

Requisitions shall not be submitted for any of the remaining stamps in the Overrun Countries Series until further notification is received.

Post Office Department
THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
DIVISION OF STAMPS
Washington
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

BUY
WAR SAVINGS
BONDS AND STAMPS

Postal Card from the
Post Office Department,
announcing the Norway
Commemorative Stamp,
from Washington, D.C.

June 30, 1943.

It included instructions for
ordering First Day Covers.

Post Office Department
THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
Washington

NORWAY COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

The 5-cent postage stamp for Norway, the third of the special series of stamps honoring the Axis overrun and occupied countries in Europe, will be placed on sale at Washington, D. C., on July 27, 1943. The central design of this stamp is a reproduction in colors of the flag of Norway. The stamp will be of the special-delivery size, 0.84 by 1.44 inches in dimensions, arranged horizontally, and issued 50 stamps to the sheet.

Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations of this stamp on July 27 may send addressed envelopes, not in excess of 10, to the Postmaster at Washington 13, D. C., with cash or postal money order to cover the cost of the stamps. Postage stamps and personal checks will not be accepted in payment. Each cover should be pencil-marked in the upper right corner to show the number of stamps to be affixed and, therefore, no letter of instructions will be necessary. Enclosures of medium weight should be placed in each cover and the flaps turned in or sealed. Envelopes should not be smaller than 3 by 6 inches. Requests should not be made for unusual arrangements and special markings. The Philatelic Agency will not service first-day covers.

Requests for uncanceled stamps must not be included with orders for first-day covers. For the benefit of collectors desiring select stamps, the Norway commemorative postage stamp will be placed on sale also at the Philatelic Agency, Washington 25, D. C., on July 27. To insure prompt shipment, mail orders to the Agency should not include other stamp issues. Allowance must be made for return postage.

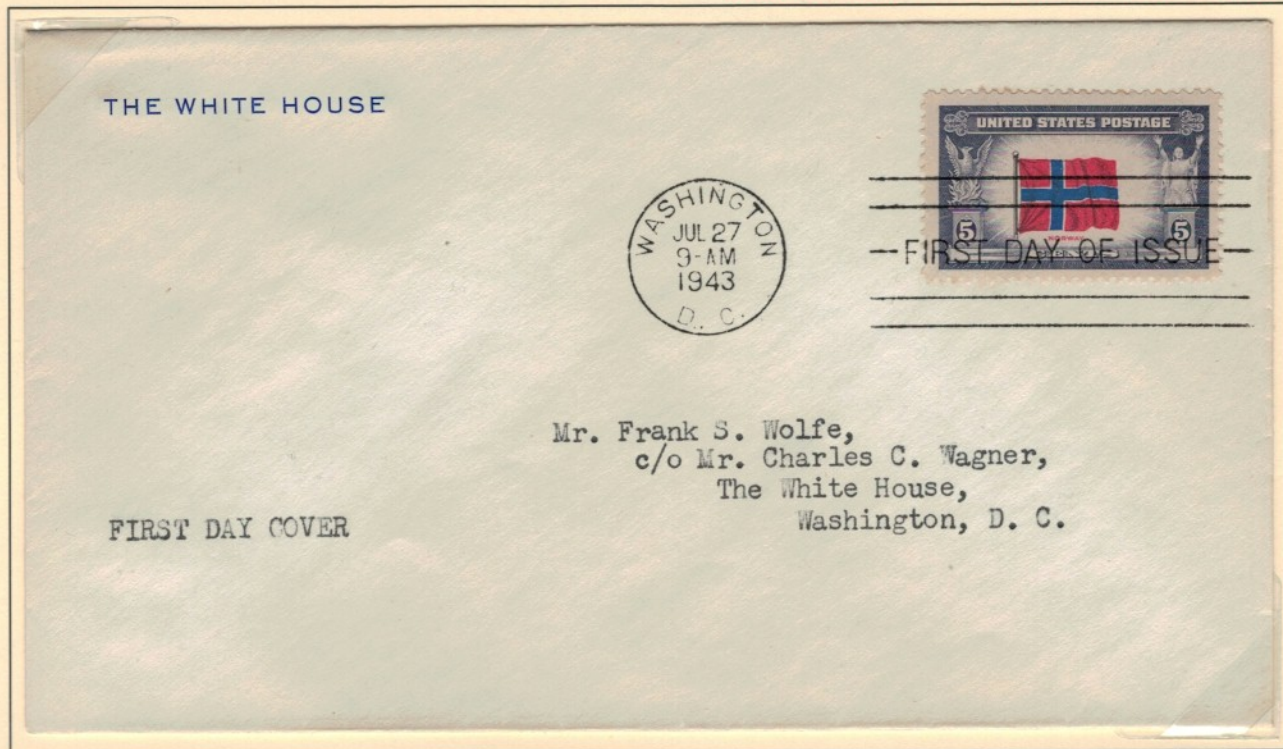
All requests for first-day cover service must be addressed to the Postmaster, Washington 13, D. C.

2. First Day of Issue

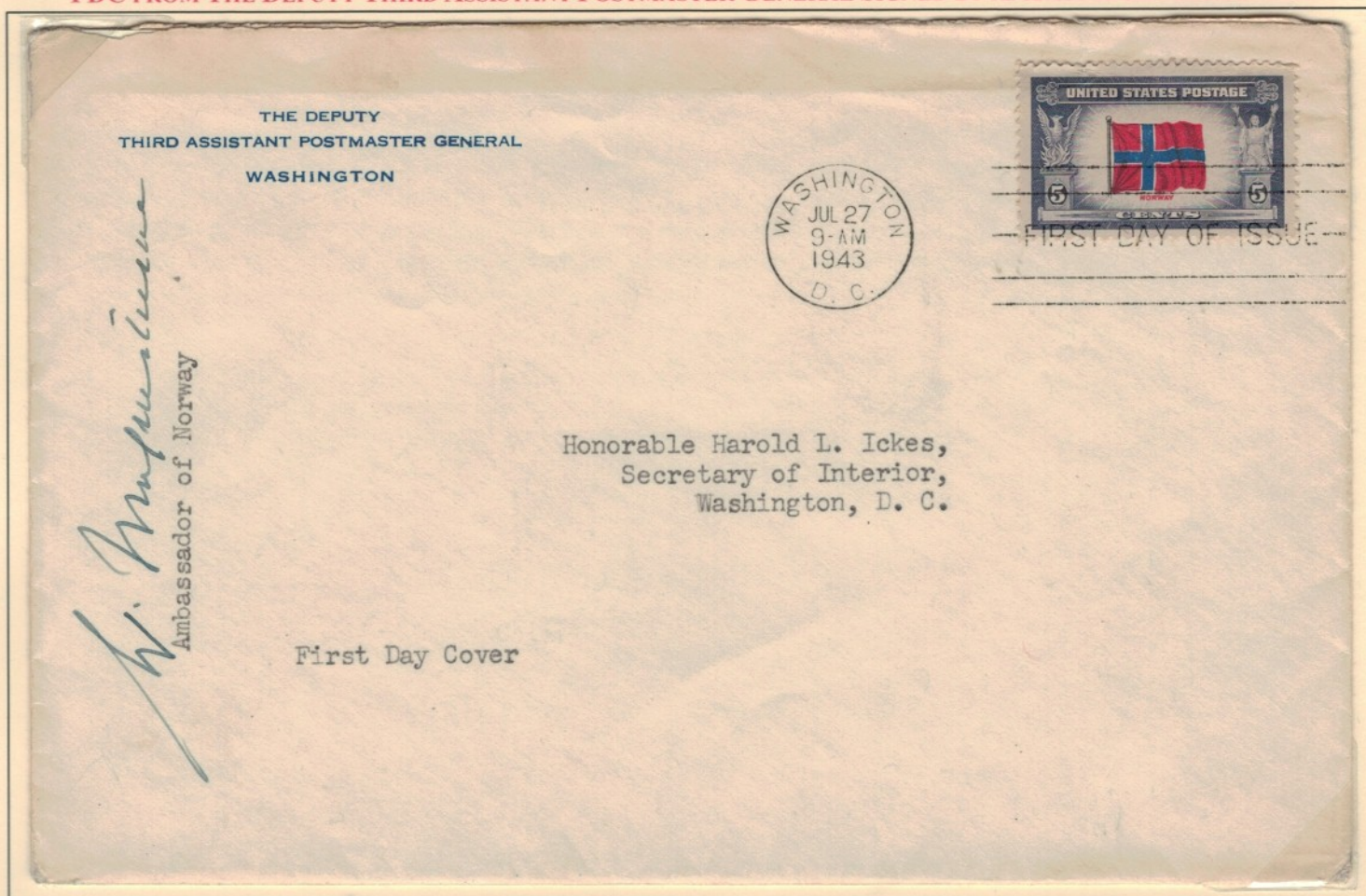
Dedication Ceremony at the White House

The NORWAY stamp was issued at Washington, D.C., on July 27, 1943. In a dedication ceremony at the White House, Deputy Third Assistant Postmaster General Roy M. North sold the first sheet to President Roosevelt. The Norwegian ambassador to the United States, Wilhelm von Munthe af Morgenstierne also was present.

FIRST DAY COVER FROM THE WHITE HOUSE



FDC FROM THE DEPUTY THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL SIGNED BY AMBASSADOR MORGENSTIERNE



First Day Covers from the Dedication Ceremony at the White House.

2. First Day of Issue

Dedication Ceremony at the White House

The NORWAY stamp was issued at Washington, D.C., on July 27, 1943. In a dedication ceremony at the White House, Deputy Third Assistant Postmaster General Roy M. North sold the first sheet to President Roosevelt. The Norwegian ambassador to the United States, Wilhelm von Munthe af Morgenstjerne also was present.

LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

THE DEPUTY THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1943.

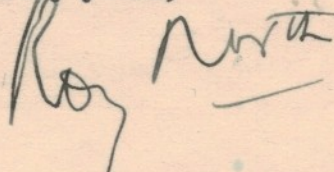
Dear Mr. Secretary:

The envelope carrying this letter bears the commemorative postage stamp issued for Norway, which was first placed on sale today at Washington, D. C. This is the third in our series of stamps for the Overrun and Occupied Countries of Europe.

It is a pleasure for me to send you this cover which also bears the autograph of the Ambassador of Norway.

I had the added pleasure today of selling the first sheet of stamps to the President.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Roy North", with a horizontal line underneath.

Hon. Harold L. Ickes,
Secretary of Interior,
Washington, D. C.

2. First Day of Issue

Dedication Ceremony at the White House

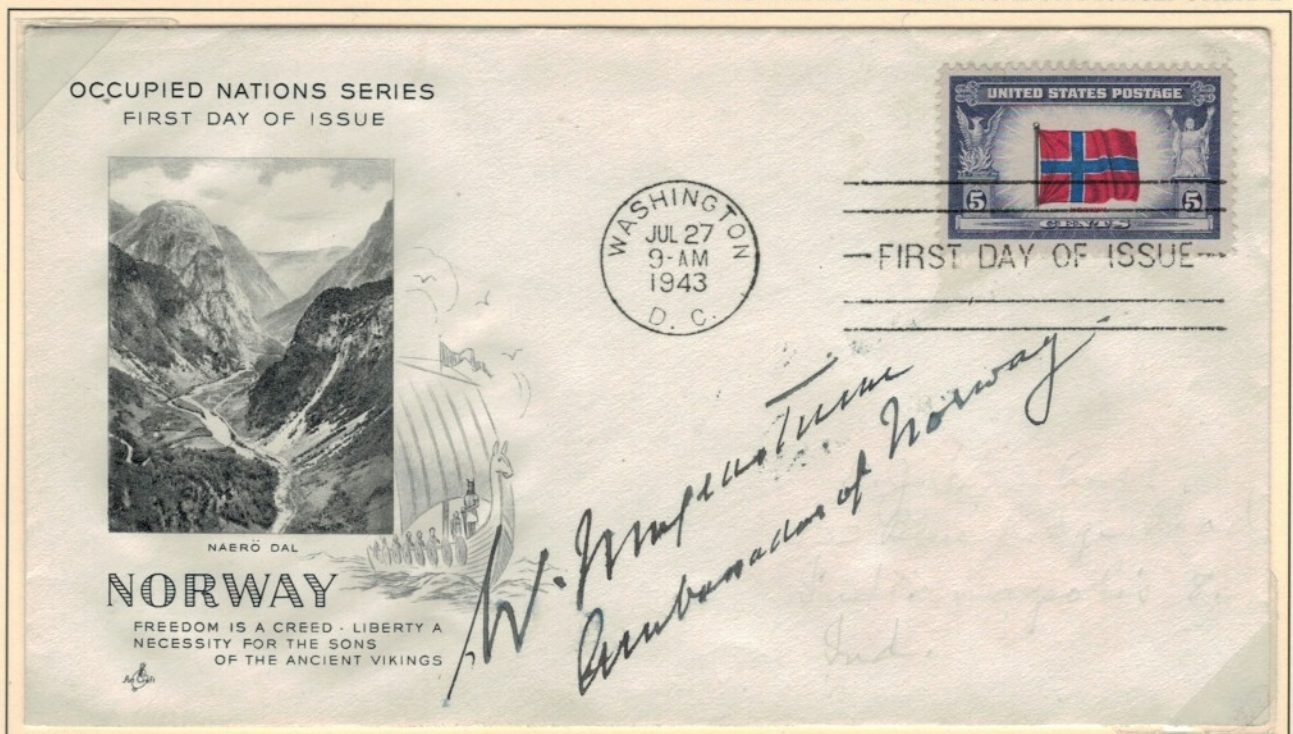
The Norwegian Ambassador to the U.S. was present at the Dedication Ceremony for the Norway stamp in the White House. William Howard Taft was President of the U.S. when Wilhelm Morgenstierne arrived in Washington as a junior attaché at the old Norwegian legation in 1910. Named Norway's Minister to the U.S. in 1934 and Ambassador in 1942, he saw the U.S. through seven other Presidents, three wars, depression and unprecedented prosperity. At his retirement in 1958, Morgenstierne offered some advice about the nation he had watched through 47 years of trial and triumph. "Never lose faith in the U.S. as a leader of the free world. I don't think the U.S. is going to fail the free world – just wait and see."

FDC SIGNED BY AMBASSADOR MORGENSTIERNE



First Day Cover signed by the Ambassador of Norway who was present at the Dedication Ceremony in the White House. Cachet by House of Farnam (Mellone 4).

FDC SIGNED BY AMBASSADOR MORGENSTIERNE



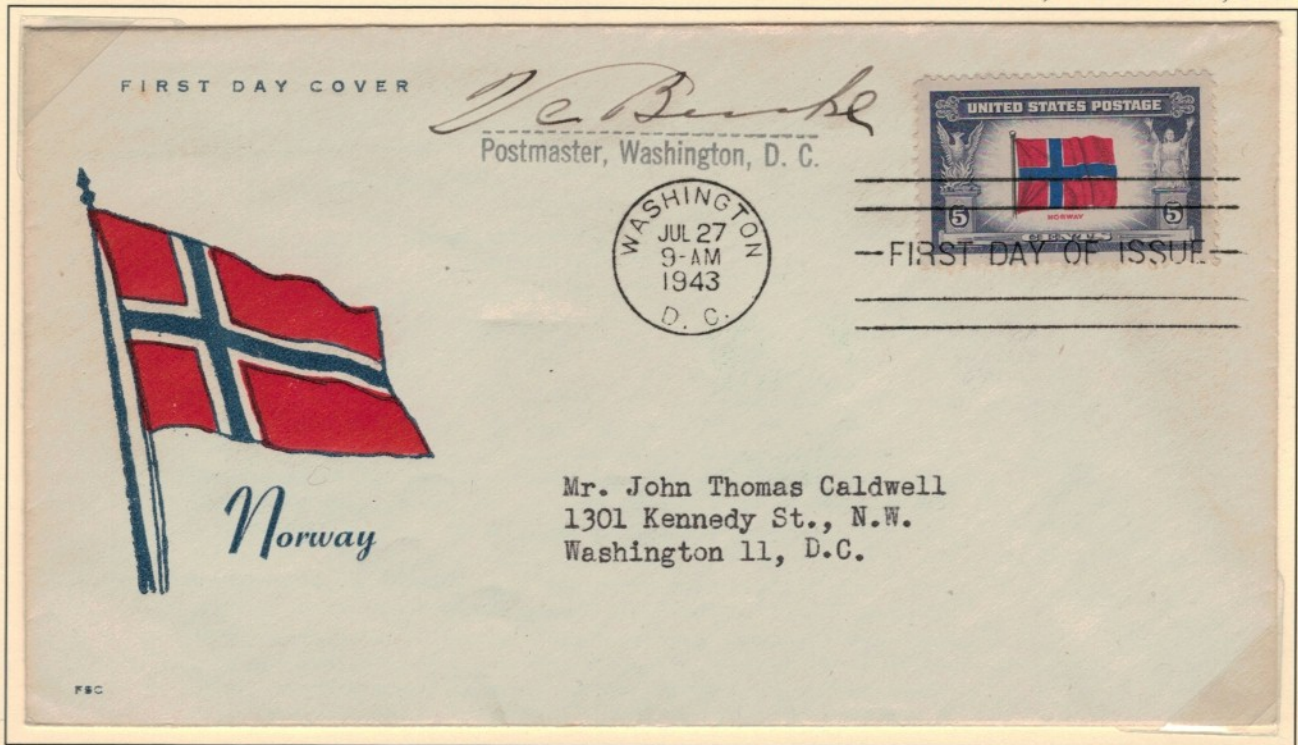
First Day Cover signed by the Ambassador of Norway who was present at the Dedication Ceremony in the White House. Cachet by ArtCraft (Mellone 12).

2. First Day of Issue

Postmasters also send FDCs

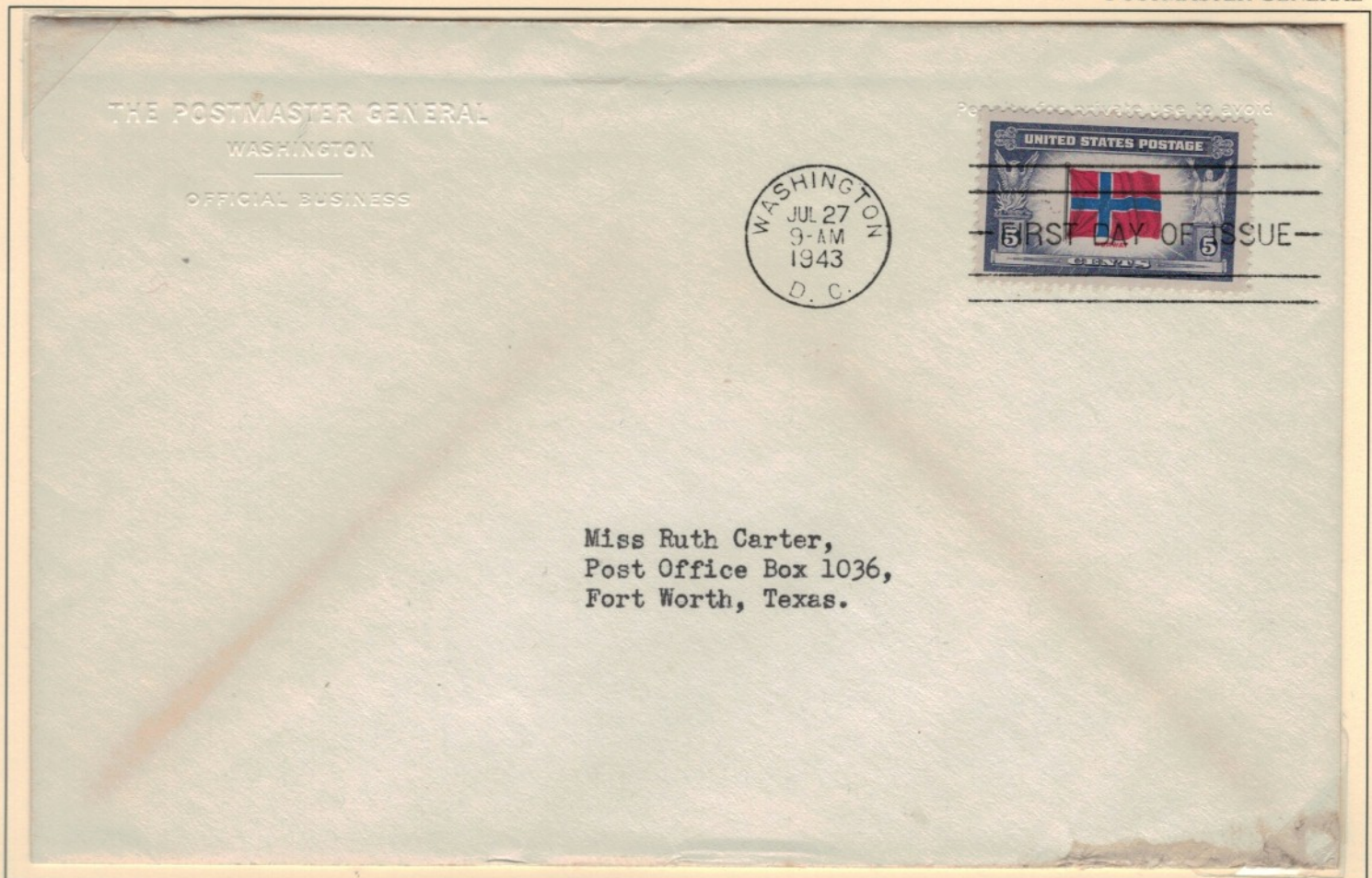
*Vincent C. Burke was postmaster of Washington, D.C. from 1936 to 1948 and Deputy Postmaster General from 1949.
Frank C. Walker was Postmaster General 1940-1945, appointed by President Roosevelt.*

POSTMASTER, WASHINGTON, D.C.



First Day Cover signed by the Washington, D.C. Postmaster.
Cachet by Fidelity Stamp Co. (Mellone 2).

POSTMASTER GENERAL



First Day Cover from the Postmaster General (embossed corner card). Contents next page.

Frank C. Walker was Postmaster General 1940-1945, appointed by President Roosevelt.

LETTER FROM THE POSTMASTER GENERAL



THE POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1943.

My dear Ruth:

The third stamp included in the Overrun Countries Series honors Norway, and is being first placed on sale today at Washington, D. C.

The subject matter depicted on this series of stamps symbolizes renewal of life and the breaking of the shackles of oppression and enforced servitude.

It gives me great pleasure to dispatch this letter to you so that you may receive a first-day cover.

Sincerely yours,

Frank C. Walker

Miss Ruth Carter,
Post Office Box 1036,
Fort Worth, Texas.

2. First Day of Issue

FDC Postmarks

A total of 155,054 first day covers were serviced with the special first day postmarks. It had at first been announced that the total of first day covers was 130,054, but this figure was corrected to the higher total shown above. The incorrect number refuses to die and is still often published. Two different special postmarks were used for the First Day of Issue:

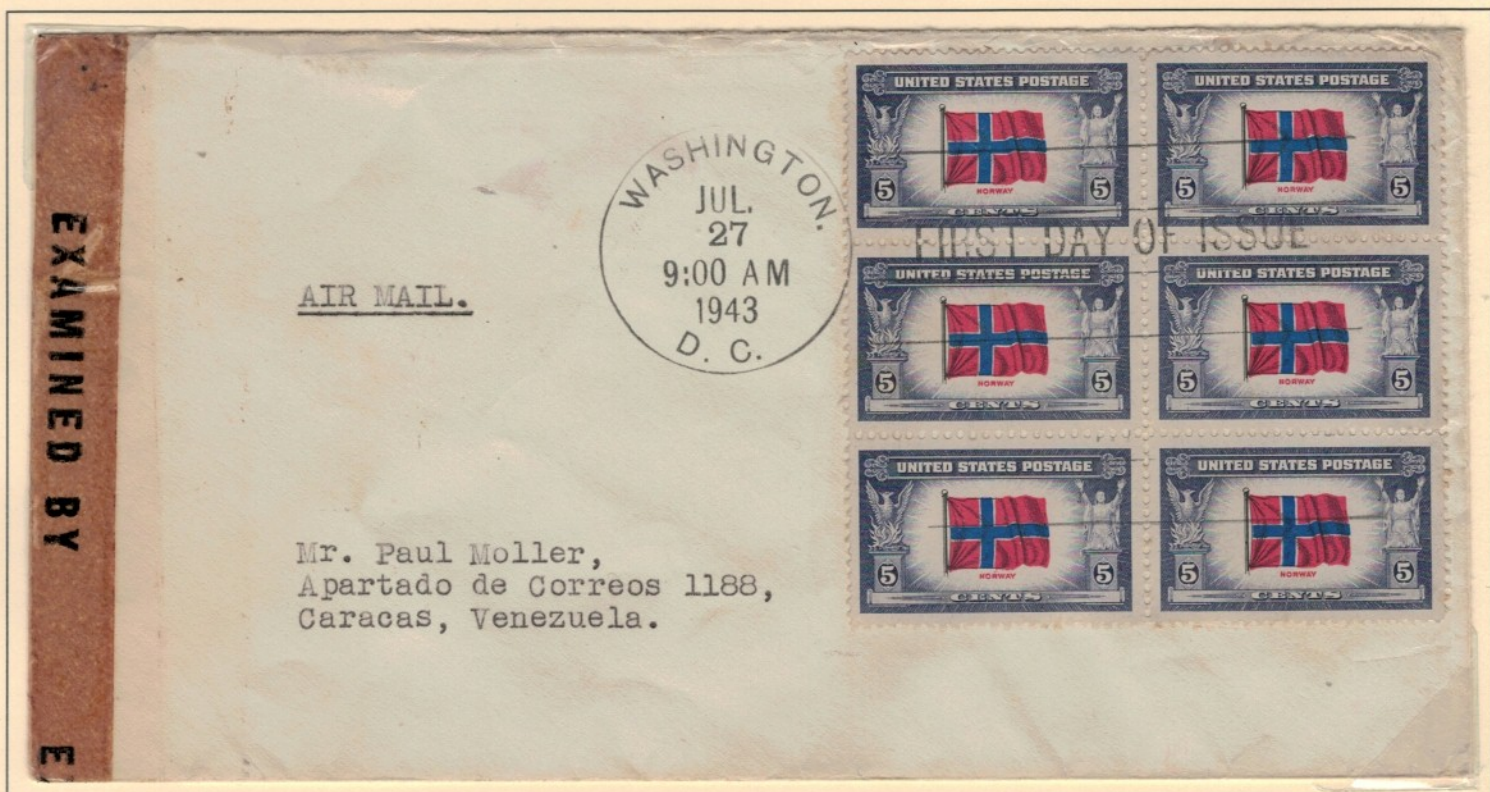
1. Washington, D.C. with a 21 mm circular datestamp – machine cancel, and most common.
 2. Washington, D.C. with a 33 mm circular datestamp – hand cancel, for larger envelopes / several postage stamps.
- In addition, it was of course possible to create First Day Covers with any postal datestamp in use at the time.

MACHINE CANCEL



First Day Cover to North Plainfield, NJ. Machine Cancel.

HAND CANCEL



First Day Cover to Venezuela, U.S. civil censorship in New York. 25c per ½ oz from Jun 22, 1938 to Apr 1, 1945, 5c overpaid. Hand Cancel, and the lower two stamps seem to be cancelled with a single line of the Hand Cancel device.

2. First Day of Issue

FDC Postmarks – Machine Cancel Slippage

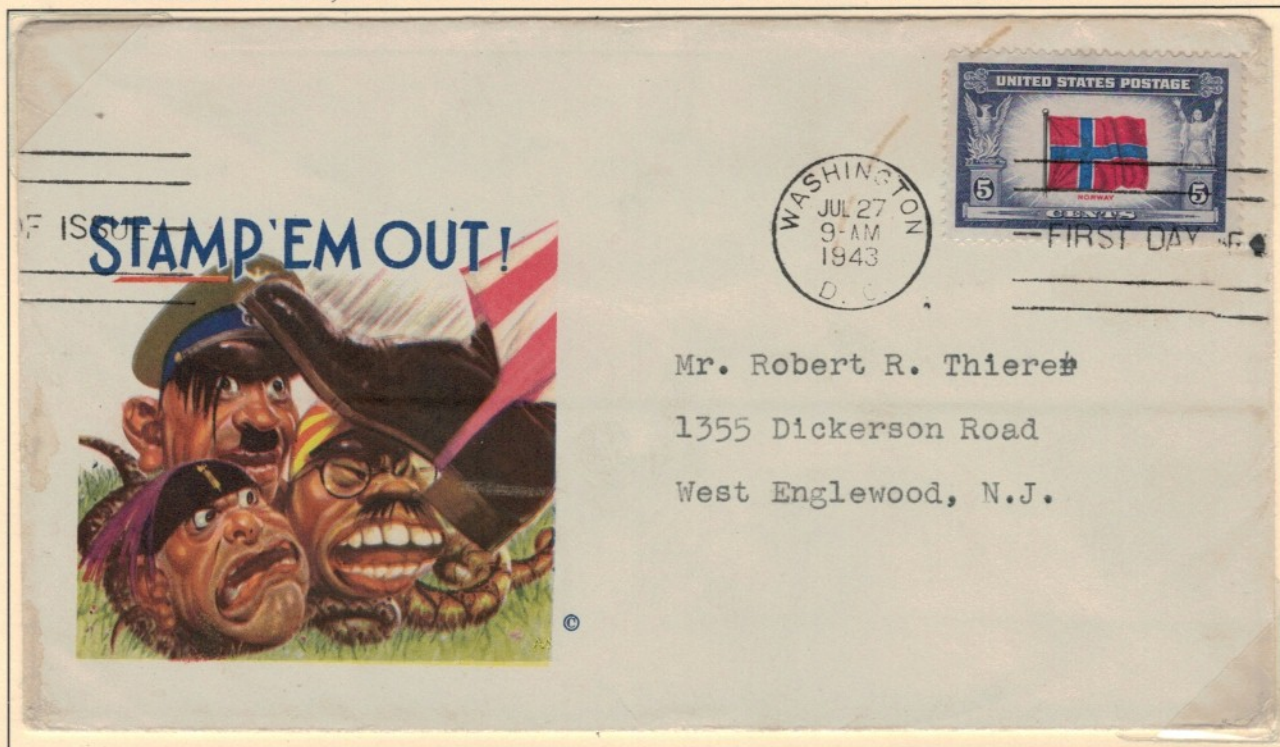
The machine cancel with the 21 mm circular datestamp is usually perfectly placed in upper right corner of the cover. Sometimes there has been a mishap where the cover / postmark alignment has shifted horizontally.

MACHINE CANCEL, HORIZONTAL SHIFT



First Day Cover to San Francisco, CA. Machine Cancel slipped / shifted to the right. Thermographed cachet by House of Farnam (Mellone 4, not in Sherman).

MACHINE CANCEL, HORIZONTAL SHIFT AND SECOND IMPRESSION OF CANCEL SHOWS TO THE LEFT



First Day Cover to to West Englewood, NJ. Machine Cancel, slipped / horizontally shifted to the right, and second impression of the cancel shows to the left. Offset cachet by Jacques Minkus (no. 1-9).

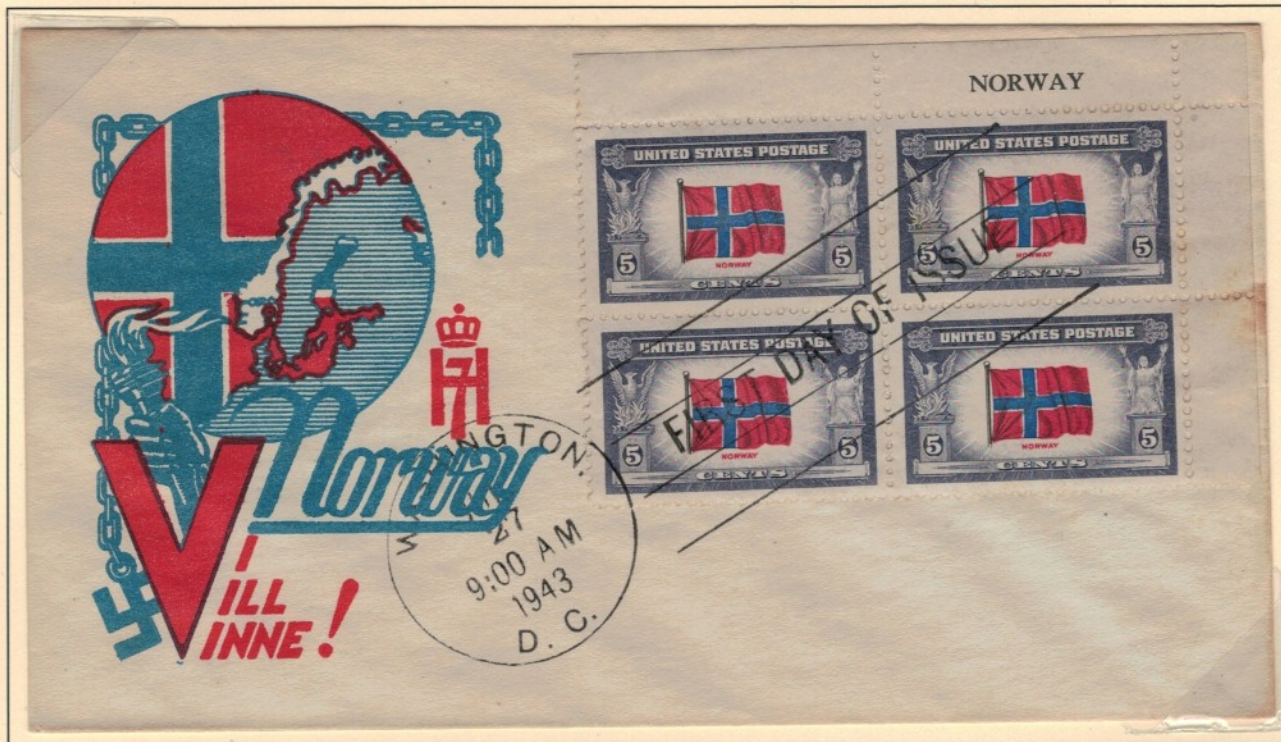
2. First Day of Issue

FDC Postmarks – Rotated Hand Cancel

The hand cancel with the 33 mm circular datestamp is most commonly used on larger covers or where there are several rows of postage stamps, and it is usually placed in a horizontal upright position.

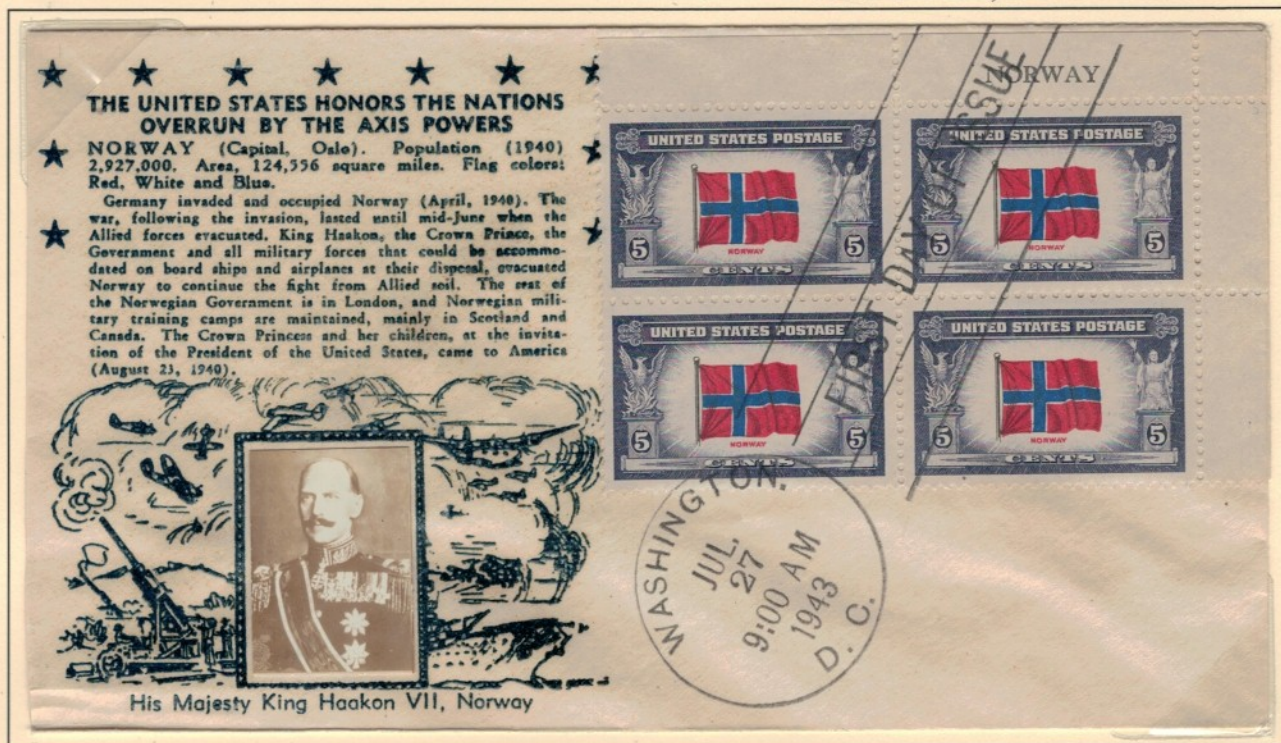
It could be placed in any orientation, and strange angles are sometimes seen.

HAND CANCEL, 30 DEGREES ROTATION



Unaddressed FDC with the First Day of Issue postmark rotated 30 degrees counterclockwise.
Letterpress cachet by Cachet Craft (Mellone 18).

HAND CANCEL, 65 DEGREES ROTATION



Unaddressed FDC with the First Day of Issue postmark rotated 65 degrees counterclockwise.
Thermographed cachet with small photo, by W.G. Crosby (Mellone 19).

2. First Day of Issue

Third Assistant Postmaster General

FDC FROM THE THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

The Third Assistant Postmaster General's Office was created by Congress on 2 July 1836 to "provide more effectually for the settlement of the accounts" of the Post Office Department (POD).

When postage stamps were introduced in 1847 they fell under the Third Assistant's jurisdiction as accountable paper.

Ramsey S. Black served as Third Assistant Postmaster General 1938-1945.

First Day Cover addressed to
Johnstown NY, from the
Post Office Department,
Third Assistant Postmaster General,
Division of Stamps,
Philatelic Agency.

First Day of Issue
Hand Cancel.

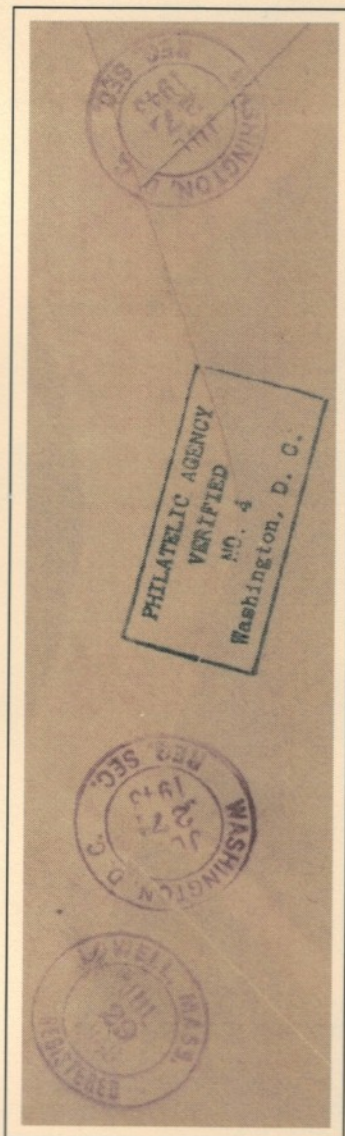


2. First Day of Issue

Third Assistant Postmaster General

The Third Assistant Postmaster General's Office was created by Congress on 2 July 1836 to "provide more effectually for the settlement of the accounts" of the Post Office Department (POD).

When postage stamps were introduced in 1847 they fell under the Third Assistant's jurisdiction as accountable paper.



Reduced scan of reverse.

Registered letter to Lowell, MA, from the Post Office Department, Third Assistant Postmaster General, Division of Stamps, Philatelic Agency.

Postmarked "WASHINGTON, D.C. REG. SEC JUL 27 1943".

3c/oz for domestic first class surface letters and 15c domestic registry from Jul 1, 1932 to Mar 26, 1944.

UNOFFICIAL FDC FROM THE THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL



3. Norway First Day Cachets

Artist Dorothy Knapp

A good number of cachets were designed specifically for the Norway stamp and for the Overrun Countries issue. Cachet publishers and artists were busy creating everything from mass-produced designs to unique hand-painted covers.

Dorothy Knapp (1907-1986) was a commercial artist and art teacher (residing in Rhinebeck, NY) who designed commercial First Day Covers during the 1940's. In addition to those mass-produced designs, she often created small quantities - ten or twelve per stamp issue - of hand-drawn, hand-painted covers. She used a combination of brush and watercolor pens, as well as fine and thick Crowquill pens. Intricate detail, graceful lettering and billowing clouds framing her design characterize many of her cachets. She is the most famous cachet artist in the history of philately.

HAND-PAINTED BY DOROTHY KNAPP



Hand-painted cachet by Dorothy Knapp, signed D. KNAPP, RHINEBECK, NY, addressed to herself. FDC machine cancel.

DOROTHY KNAPP FOR FLEETWOOD COVERS



Letterpress cachet designed by Dorothy Knapp for Fleetwood Covers, Pleasantville, NY (Mellone 37, Sherman 6793). FDC machine cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Artists Dorothy Knapp and Mae Weigand

One of the best known and most prolific artists to produce handpainted postal covers, Mae Weigand began her work in the early 1940's and, in addition to First Day Covers, produced many patriotic covers in support of the war effort. Her husband Louis Weigand had entered the cacheted cover market in 1936. Dorothy Knapp designed and painted FDC cachets for Weigand. These were serviced by the Weigands for their customers, often addressed to Weigand.

HAND-PAINTED BY DOROTHY KNAPP FOR WEIGAND



Hand-painted cachet by Dorothy Knapp, signed MW (for Mae Weigand). FDC hand cancel, shifted to the right to allow more space for the cachet. Weigand address in pencil.

HAND-PAINTED BY DOROTHY KNAPP FOR WEIGAND



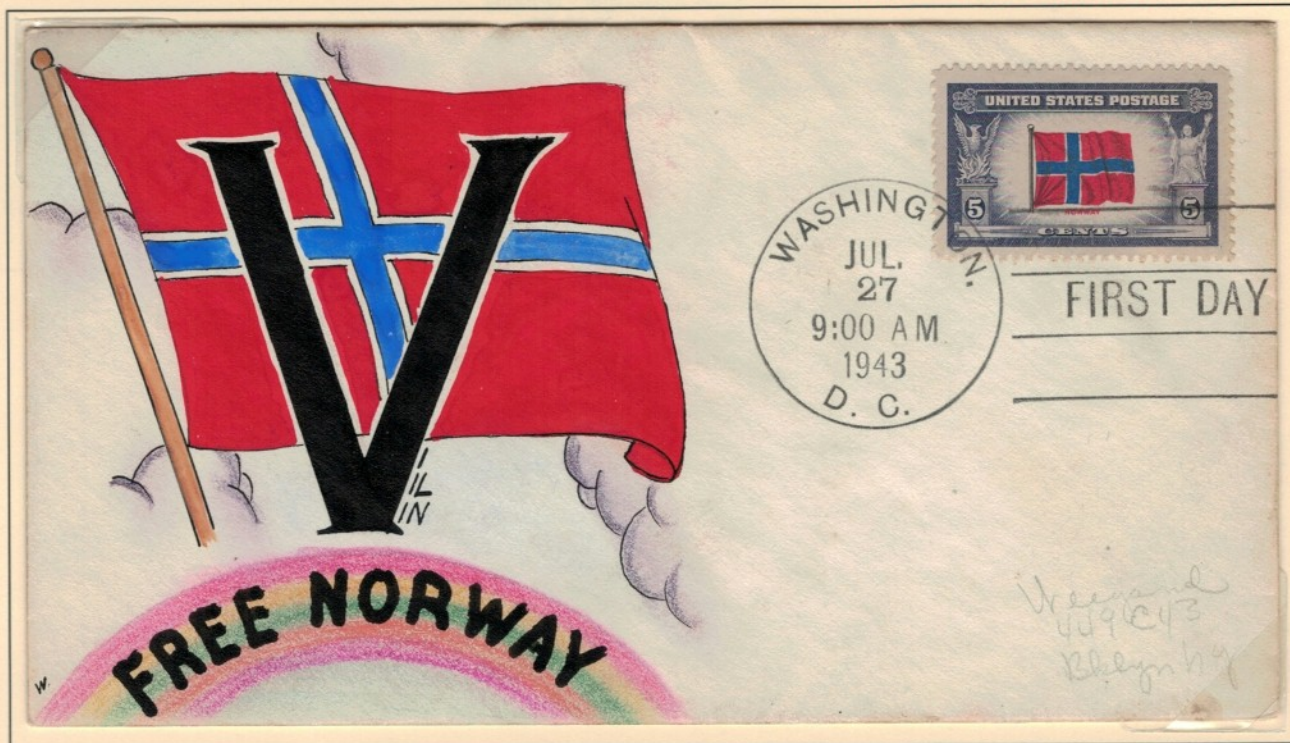
Hand-painted cachet by Dorothy Knapp, signed MW (for Mae Weigand). FDC hand cancel, shifted to the right to allow more space for the cachet. Weigand address in pencil.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Artist Mae Weigand

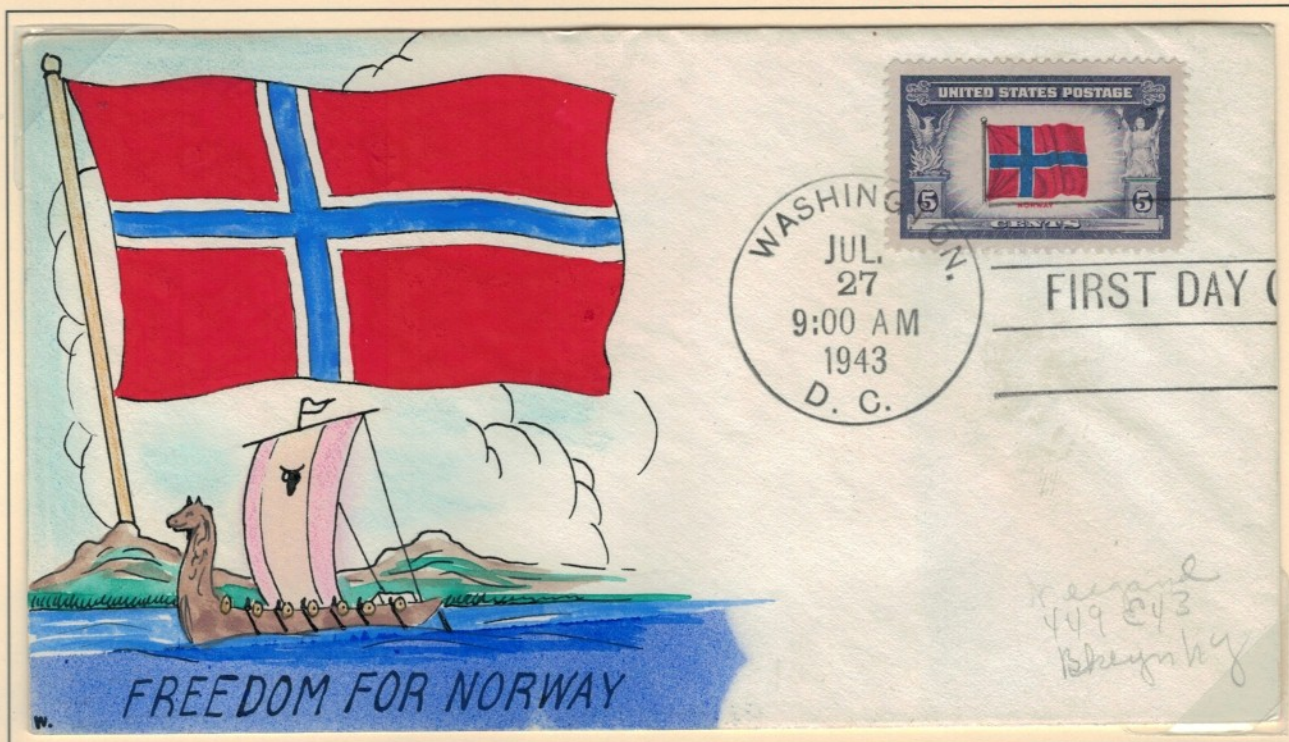
One of the best known and most prolific artists to produce handpainted postal covers, Mae Weigand began her work in the early 1940's and, in addition to First Day Covers, produced many patriotic covers in support of the war effort. She used graphite/pencil, pen and ink, and thinned paint. Her husband Louis Weigand had entered the cacheted cover market in 1936.

HAND-PAINTED BY MAE WEIGAND



Hand-painted cachet by Mae Weigand, signed W (for Weigand). FDC hand cancel, shifted to the right to allow more space for the cachet. Weigand address in pencil.

HAND-PAINTED BY MAE WEIGAND



Hand-painted cachet by Mae Weigand, signed W (for Weigand). FDC hand cancel, shifted to the right to allow more space for the cachet. Weigand address in pencil.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Artists Gladys Adler and Leon Arnal

Gladys Adler, a resident of Bellaire, TX. To create her envelope art, she used acrylic over lead pencil, as well as a Crowquill pen (dip-pen) and watercolor pens, to achieve a dramatic effect influenced by the comic-book style of the 1930s and 1940s.

HAND-PAINTED BY GLADYS ADLER

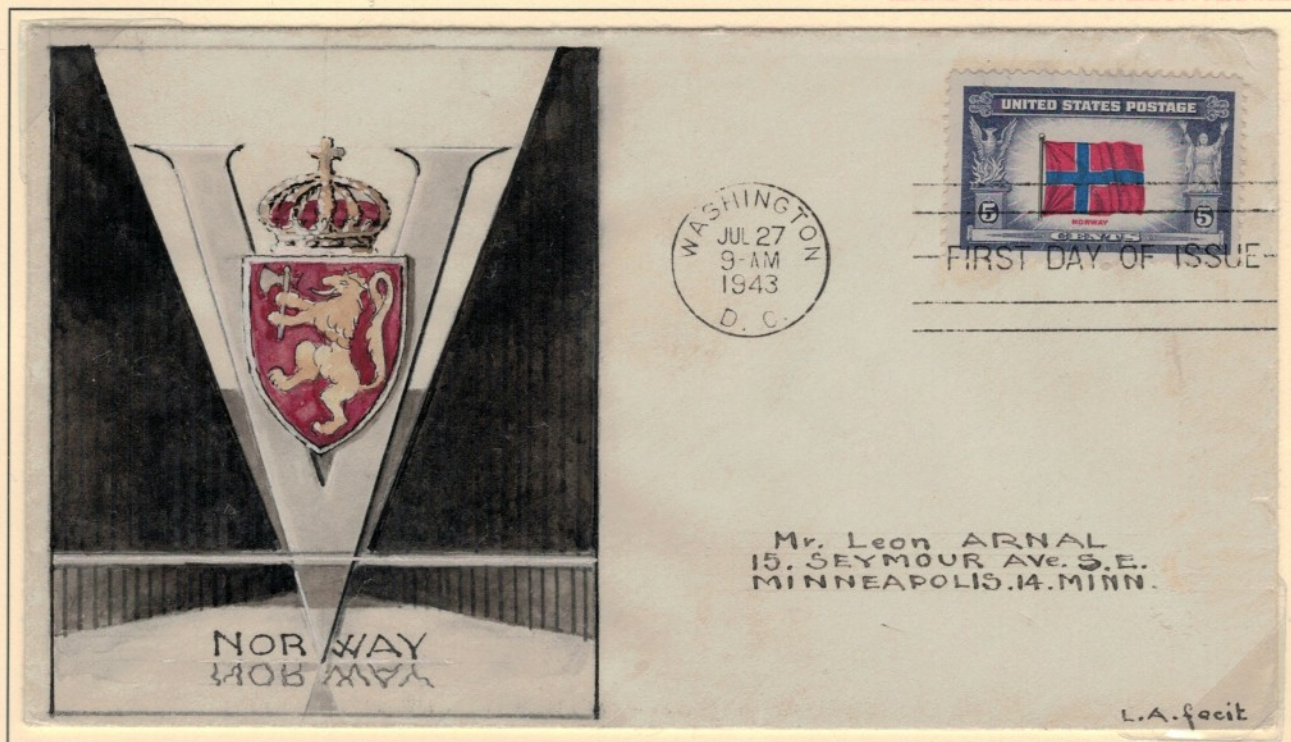


Hand-painted cachet by Gladys Adler, unsigned. Adler handstamp on reverse. FDC machine cancel.

Leon Arnal (Léon Eugène Arnal) (1881-1963), worked as architect and university professor in Minneapolis, MN. Among the buildings in Minneapolis he designed for Magney & Tusler was the U.S. Post Office (1934).

This is the only recorded cachet by Leon Arnal.

HAND-PAINTED BY LEON ARNAL



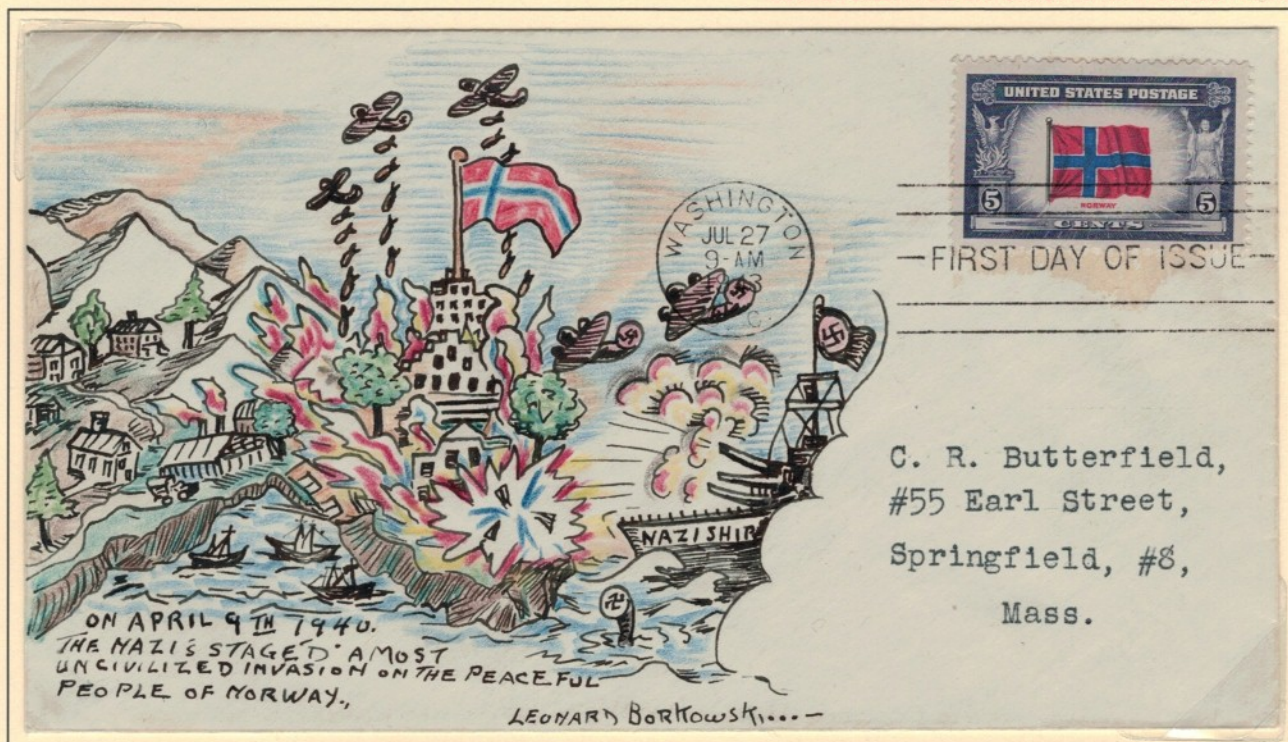
Hand-painted cachet by Leon Arnal, signed "L. A. fecit" (*fecit* is latin for *did it*) in lower right corner. FDC machine cancel. Addressed to himself.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Artists Leonard Borkowski and Zelma Moore Swartz

A commercial artist who lived in Milwaukee, WI, Leonard Borkowski employed charcoal and colored pencils, and a Speedball calligraphy pen. "Action lines" abound in his cachets, which are filled with movement of soldiers, airplanes and bombs.

HAND-PAINTED BY LEONARD BORKOWSKI



Hand-painted cachet by Leonard Borkowski, signed. FDC machine cancel.

Zelma Moore Swartz of Houston, TX designed and painted FDCs between 1940 and 1947. Although her actual name was Zelma Moore Swartz, on her cachets, she chose to use the moniker R.H. Swartz, which she marked on her hand-painted envelope's reverse side flap. The initials R.H. were her husband's initials, Robert Henderson Swartz.

HAND-PAINTED BY ZELMA MOORE SWARTZ



Hand-painted cachet by Zelma Moore Swartz, unsigned. R. H. Swartz label on reverse. FDC machine cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Artist Abram LeGallez, and unknown cachet-maker

A resident of Slingerlands, NY, Abram LeGallez (1869-1950) used a variety of techniques to create his cachets, including pasted-on cachets.

HAND-COLORED BY ABRAM LE GALLEZ (FIRST CACHET)



Hand-colored photo cachet by Abram LeGallez, addressed to himself(not in Mellone, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel. The photo was mounted inside the envelope, where the envelope front was used as matting for the photo. **The Overrrun Countries issue represents First Cachet for Abram LeGallez.**

UNIDENTIFIED CACHET-MAKER



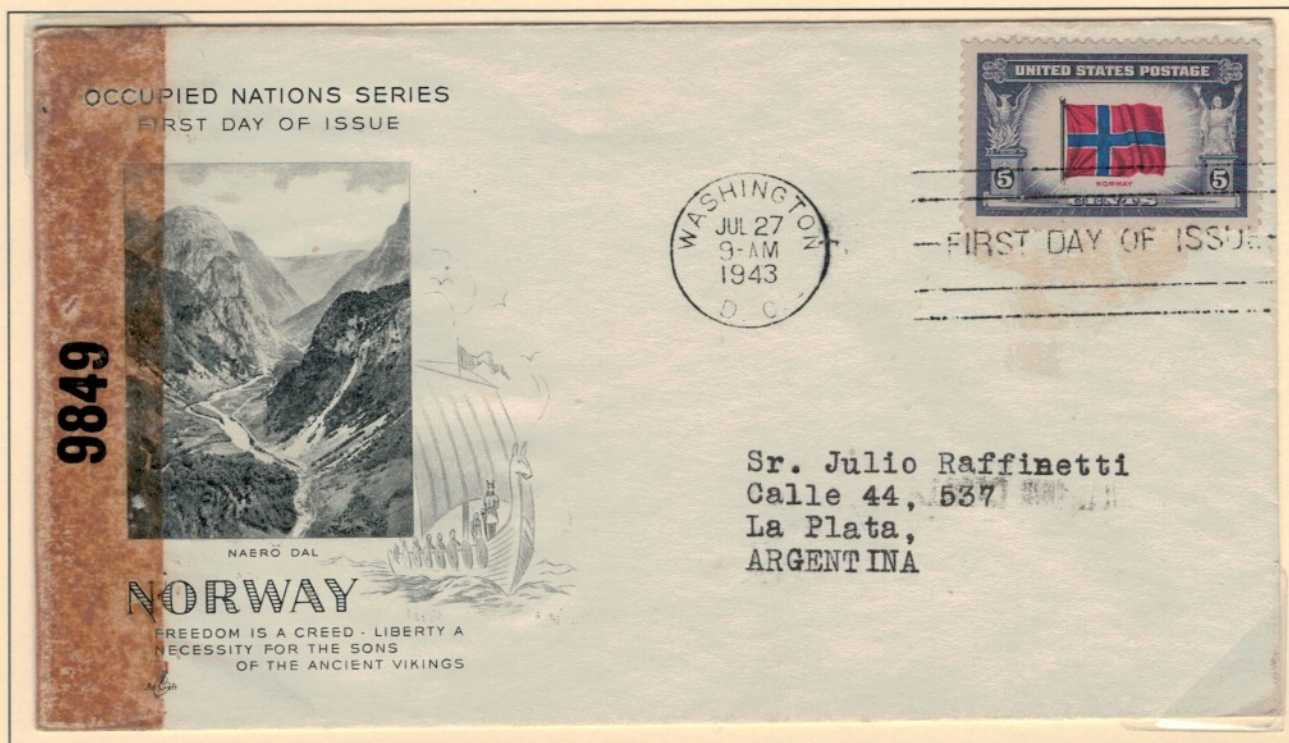
Silk-print cachet by unidentified cachet-maker (not in Mellone, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-makers ArtCraft and Cachet Craft

ArtCraft of Newark, NJ has been the first name in First Day Covers since the brand was introduced by Washington Stamp Exchange in 1939. They ceased operation in 2019.

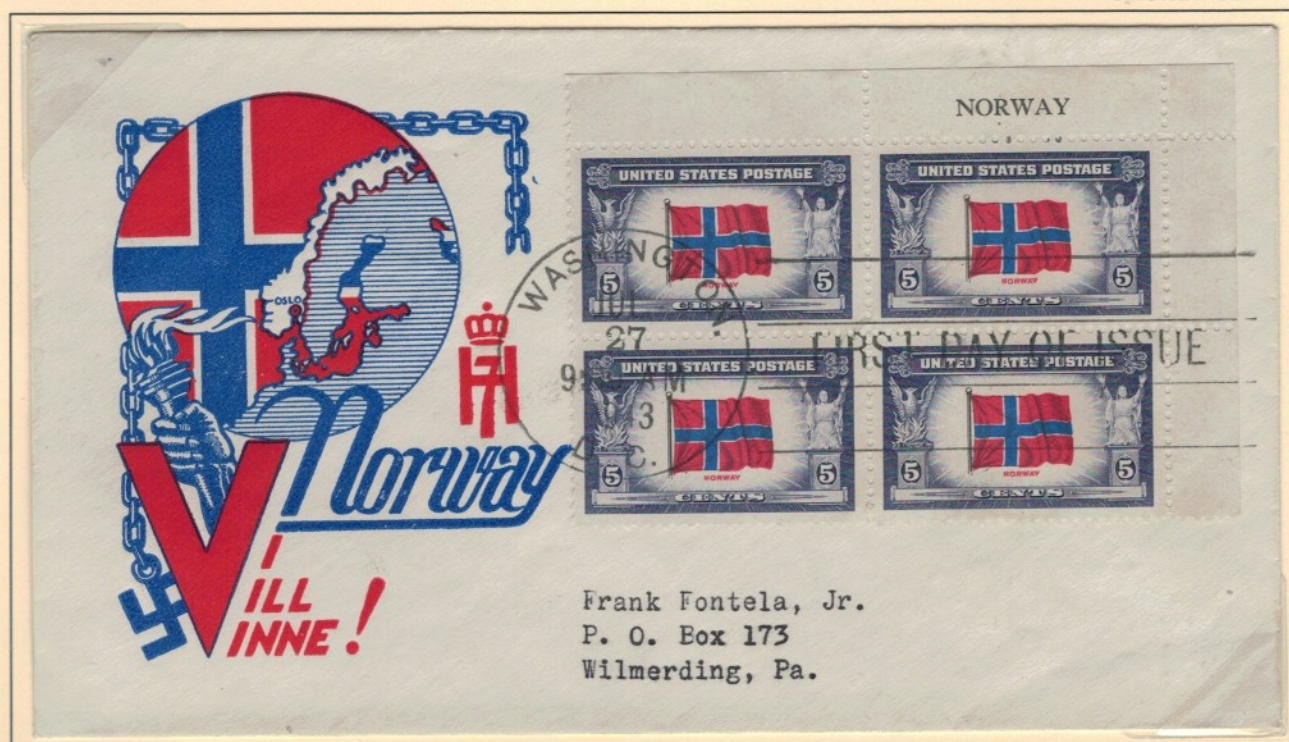
ARTCRAFT



Letterpress halftone and thermographed cachet by ArtCraft, logo in lower left corner (Mellone 12, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel. Hand-tinted cachets are later add-on. Foreign first class, surface letter 5c/oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953. U.S. censorship in New York. Arrival postmark "LA PLATA SEP.11 1943" on reverse.

*Frederick B. Fitts operated Cachet Craft Cover Service from Framingham, MA.
He sold the business to Fleetwood in the early 1970's.*

CACHET CRAFT



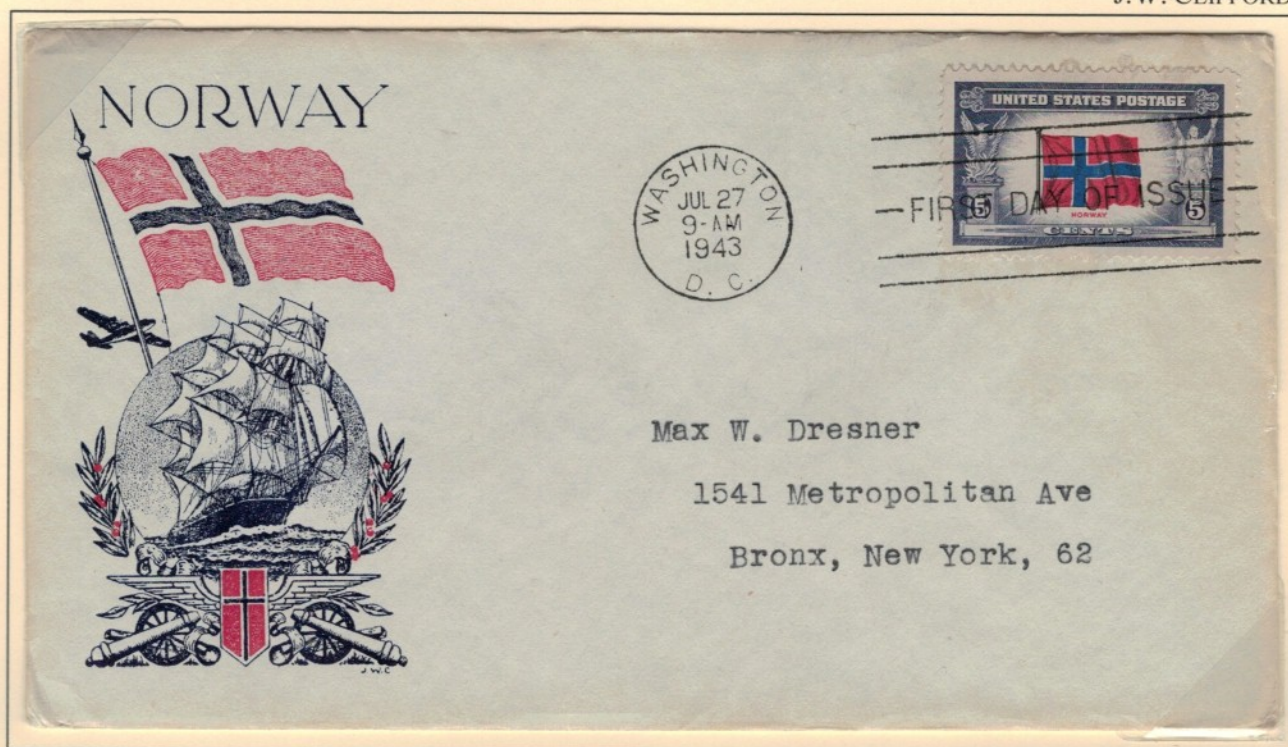
Letterpress cachet by Cachet Craft Cover Service, unsigned (Mellone 18, Sherman 5564). FDC hand cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-makers Clifford and Collector's Surplus / PentArts

J. W. Clifford of New York, NY produced cachets from 1936 onwards.

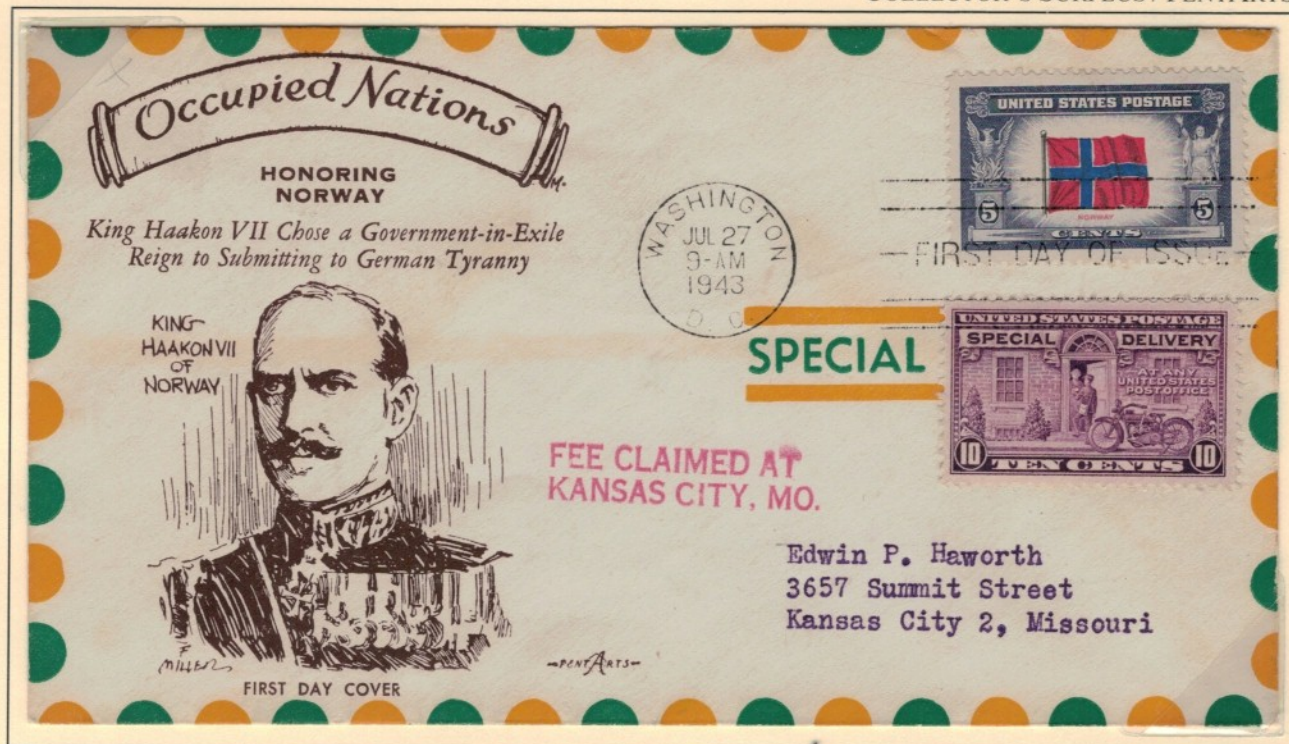
J.W. CLIFFORD



Letterpress cachet by J.W. Clifford, initials J.W.C. (Mellone 13, Sherman 5559). FDC hand cancel.

Edwin P. Haworth was proprietor of Collector's Surplus of Kansas City, MO. He produced his own line of patriotic envelopes (PentArts covers) and was a key distributor of the cacheted covers of Walter G. Crosby.

COLLECTOR'S SURPLUS / PENTARTS



Letterpress cachet by Collector's Surplus / PentArts, signed by artist F. Miller (Mellone 3, Sherman 5652). FDC hand cancel.

3¢/oz for domestic, first-class letter plus 10¢ domestic special delivery fee Jul. 6, 1932 to Nov. 1, 1944.

The cachet is found on regular covers, airmail covers, special delivery covers and the same in long format.

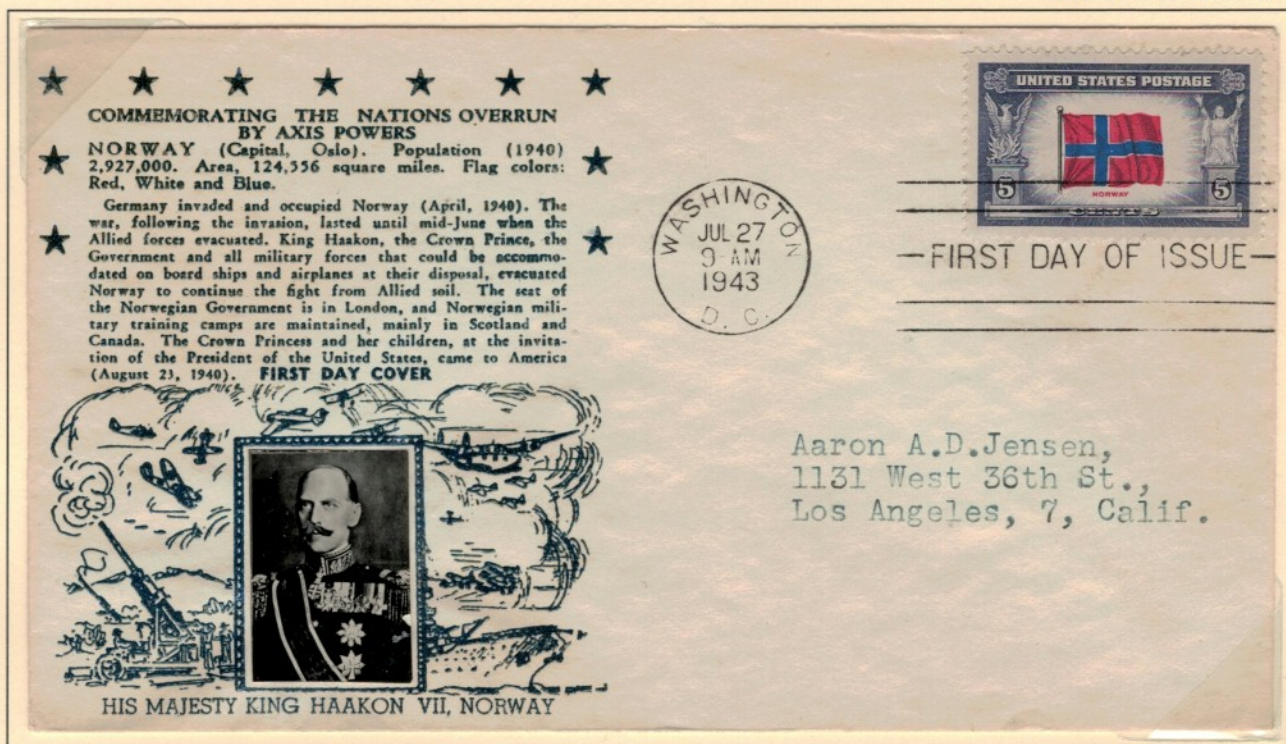
The Overrun Countries issue represents First Cachet for PentArts.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-maker Crosby

Walter G. Crosby (1881-1947) produced cachets 1929-1947, and from 1935 used a specialized heat printing process known as "thermography" which was done by sprinkling resin or wax powder on the wet ink and then heating the cover melting the material, resulting in a raised effect in the printing. Often a small paste-on photo was added within the cachet design.

WALTER G. CROSBY



Thermographed cachet with paste-on photo by W. G. Crosby, unsigned (Mellone 19D, Sherman 1637).
FDC machine cancel. First line "COMMEMORATING THE NATIONS OVERRUN".

WALTER G. CROSBY



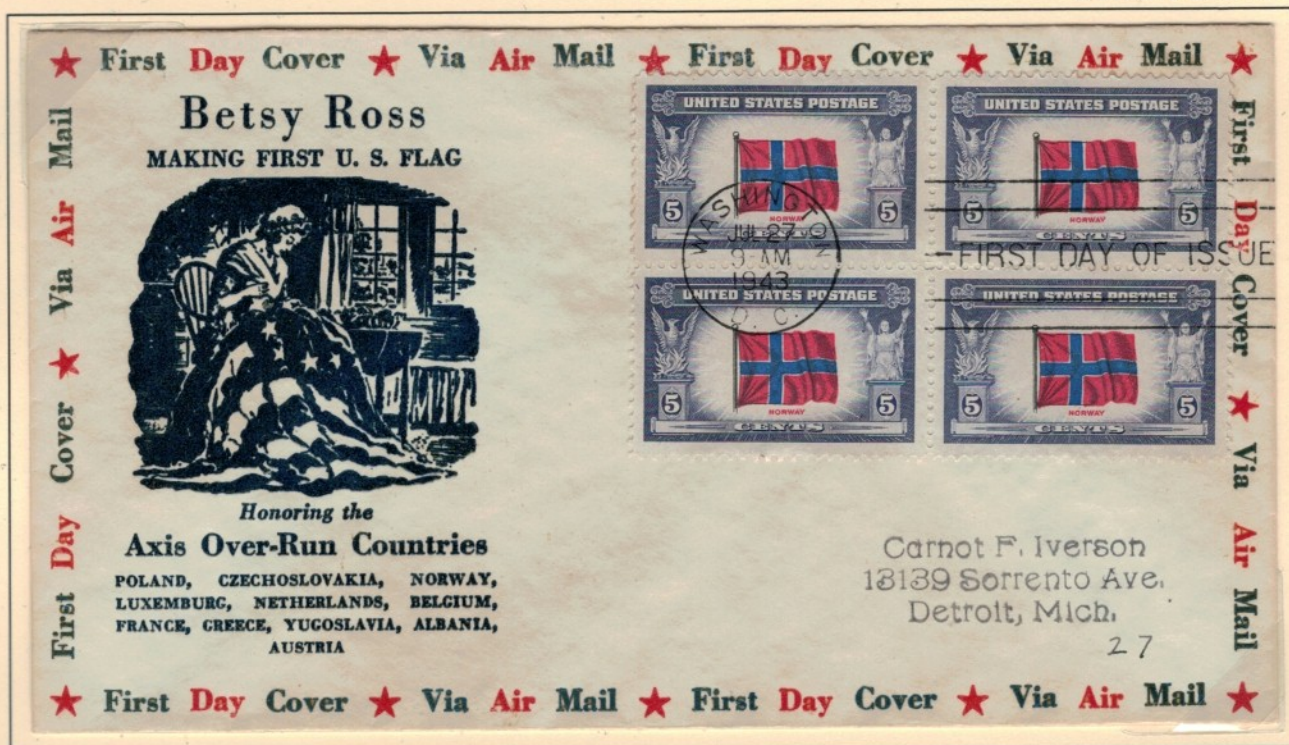
Thermographed cachet with paste-on photo by W. G. Crosby, unsigned (Mellone 19D, Sherman 7823).
Imperial (British) civil censorship, probably in Bermuda, label P.C. 90 / Examiner 7419 (Ludington type CL5).
5¢/oz for foreign first-class surface letters Oct. 1, 1907 to Nov. 1, 1953.
FDC machine cancel. First line "THE UNITED STATES HONORS THE NATIONS".

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-makers Detroit-Ludwig and House of Farnum

Cachet-maker Oswald A. Ludwig (1896-1950s) of Detroit, MI.

DETROIT-LUDWIG



Thermographed cachet by Oswald A. Ludwig (Mellone 52, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.
The cachet is also found on regular envelopes.

House of Farnum, cachet-makers in Cleveland, OH.

HOUSE OF FARNUM



Thermographed cachet by House of Farnum. **Hand-coloured by the cachet designer Ludwig W. Staehle, addressed by and to himself.** The regular cachet is in red color (Mellone 4, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-maker Fidelity

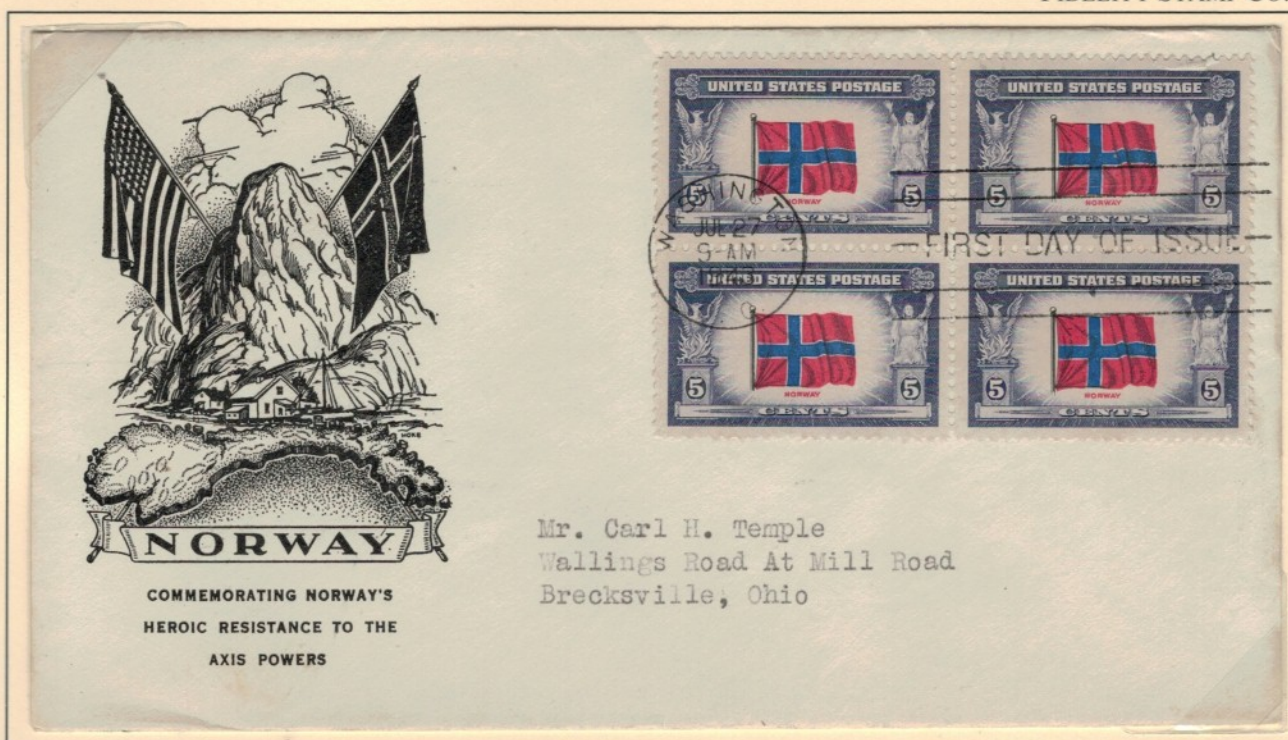
Fidelity Stamp Co., Washington, D.C.

FIDELITY STAMP CO.



Letterpress cachet by Fidelity Stamp Co., initials FSC (Mellone 2, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.
16¢ correct postage for domestic airmail (6¢) special delivery (10¢) Jul 1, 1934 to Mar 26, 1944.
The cachet is also found addressed to the various "Norway" post offices in the United States.

FIDELITY STAMP CO.



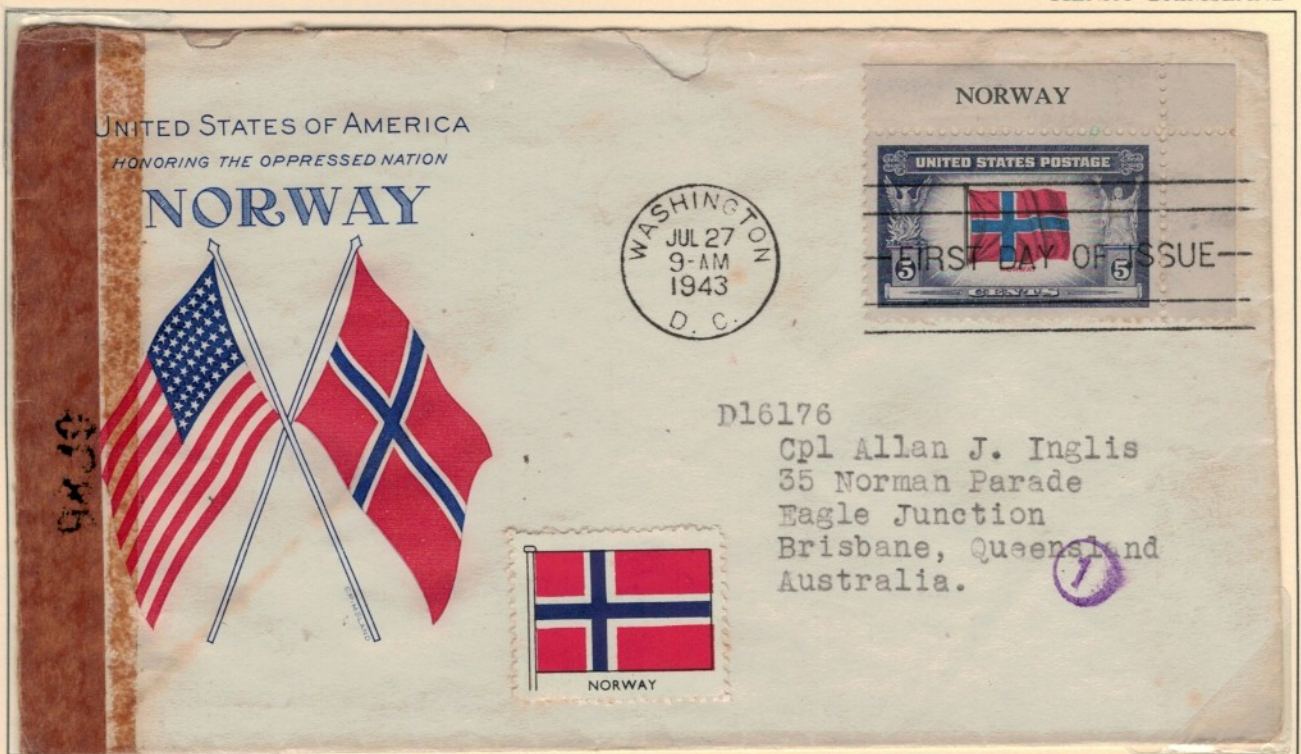
Letterpress cachet by Fidelity Stamp Co., signed HOKE (Mellone 16, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-makers Grimsland and Ioor

Cachet-maker Henry Grimsland (1889-1957) from Chicago, IL. He was born in Risør, Norway.

HENRY GRIMSLAND



Letterpress cachet by Henry Grimsland (Mellone 8, Sherman 8935). FDC machine cancel. U.S. censorship in New York. 5¢/oz foreign first-class surface rate Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953. The Norway flag label is not part of the cachet.

Cachet-maker Harry Ioor (1882-1940), with sister Travilla Ioor Peck (-1967), Indianapolis, IN.

HARRY IOOR



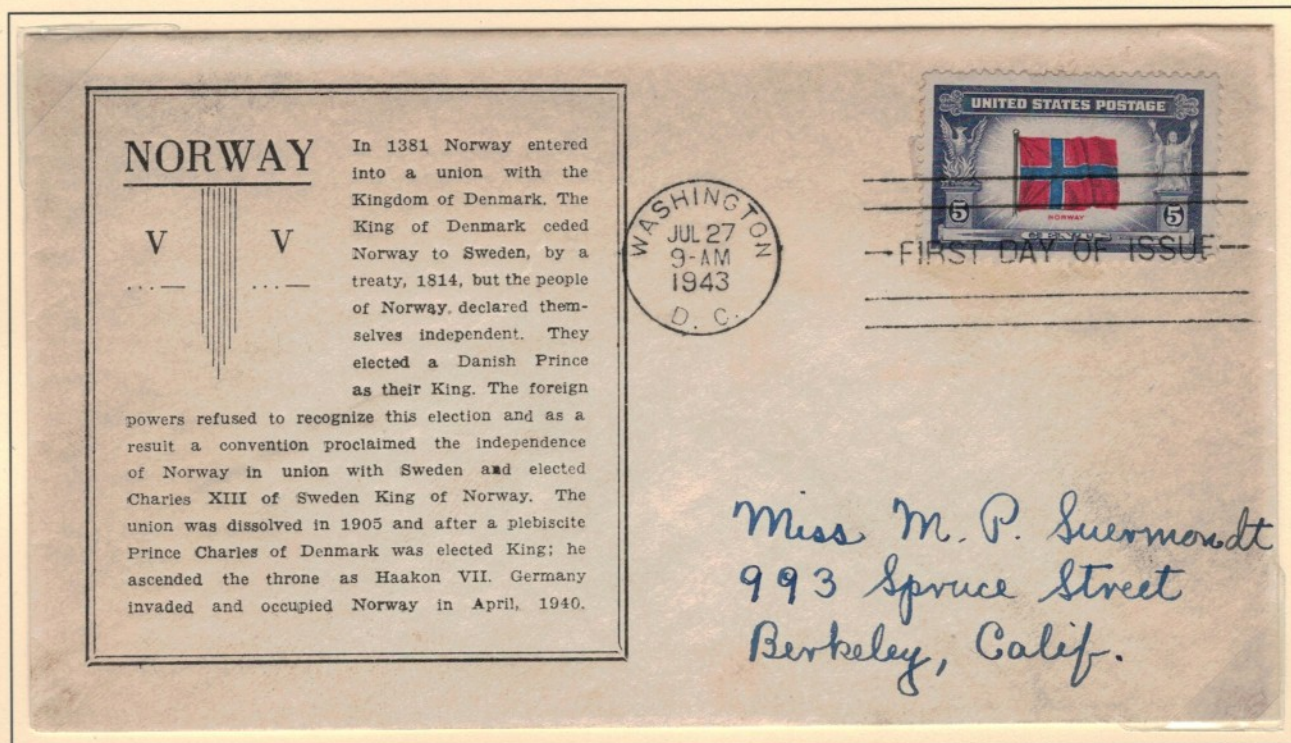
Letterpress cachet by Harry Ioor (Mellone 5, Sherman 4470). FDC hand cancel. U.S. censorship, illegible number from unidentified location. 5¢/oz foreign first-class surface rate Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-makers Von Ohlen and Poppenger

Cachet-maker William J. Von Ohlen (1895-1991) of New York, N.Y.

WILLIAM J. VON OHLEN



Letterpress cachet by William J. Von Ohlen (not in Mellone, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.

Cachet-maker and stamp dealer Walter T. Poppenger (1885-1973), Akron, OH.

WALTER T. POPPENGGER



Letterpress cachet by Walter T. Poppenger, unsigned (Mellone 11, Sherman 2596). FDC machine cancel. The cachet comes on covers with various paper colors.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-maker Staehle

Ludwig W. Staehle (1893-1967), New York, NY, an interior architectural designer who started designing cachets in the early 1930s for his own collection and by 1936 he was designing cachets for FDC publishers. For three consecutive years 1942-1944 he won Stamps magazine's "King of Cachets" contest.

LUDWIG W. STAEHLE



Thermographed cachet by Ludwig W. Staehle (Mellone 28, Sherman 7991). FDC machine cancel.

LUDWIG W. STAEHLE



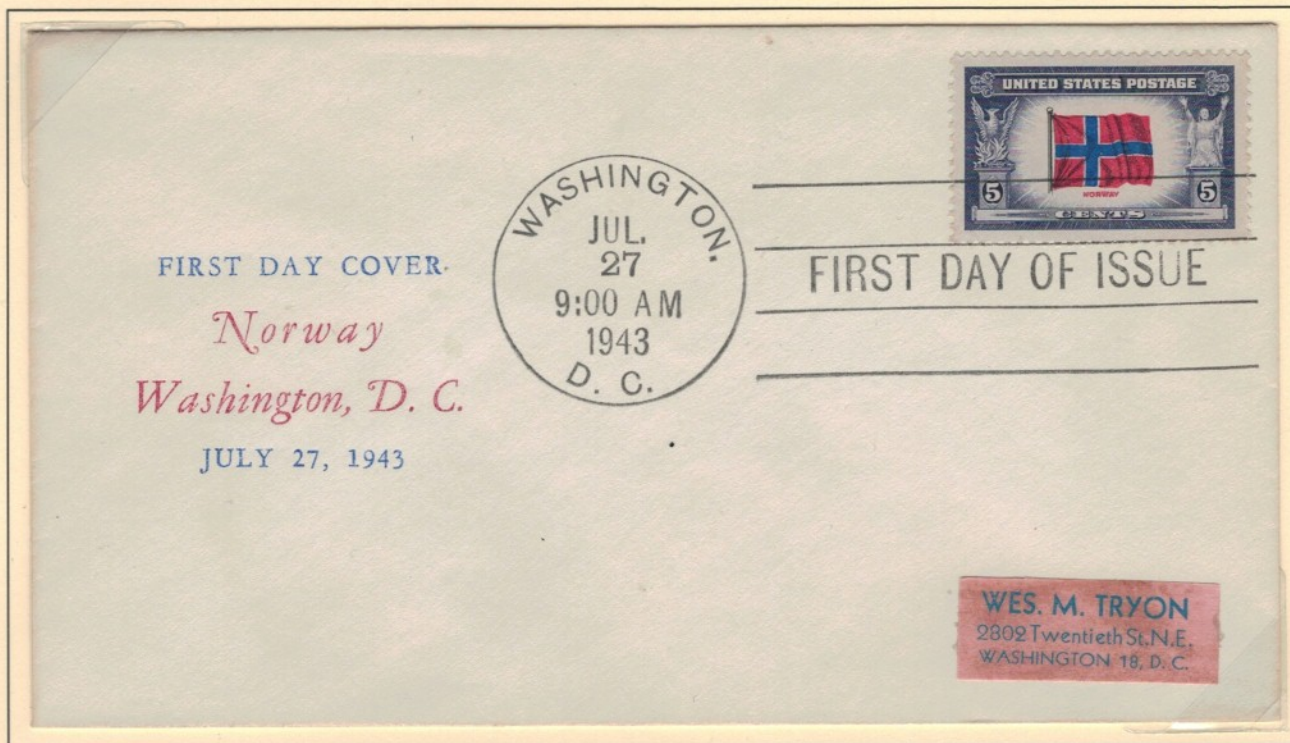
Thermographed cachet by Ludwig W. Staehle (Mellone 1, Sherman 9958). FDC machine cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Cachet-makers Tryon, unidentified

Cachet-maker Wesley M. Tryon of Washington D.C. (1895-1991).

WESLEY M. TRYON



Letterpress cachet by Wesley M. Tryon (not in Mellone, not in Sherman). FDC hand cancel.
Address label to the cachet-maker.

It has not been possible to identify all cachet-makers.

UNIDENTIFIED CACHET-MAKER



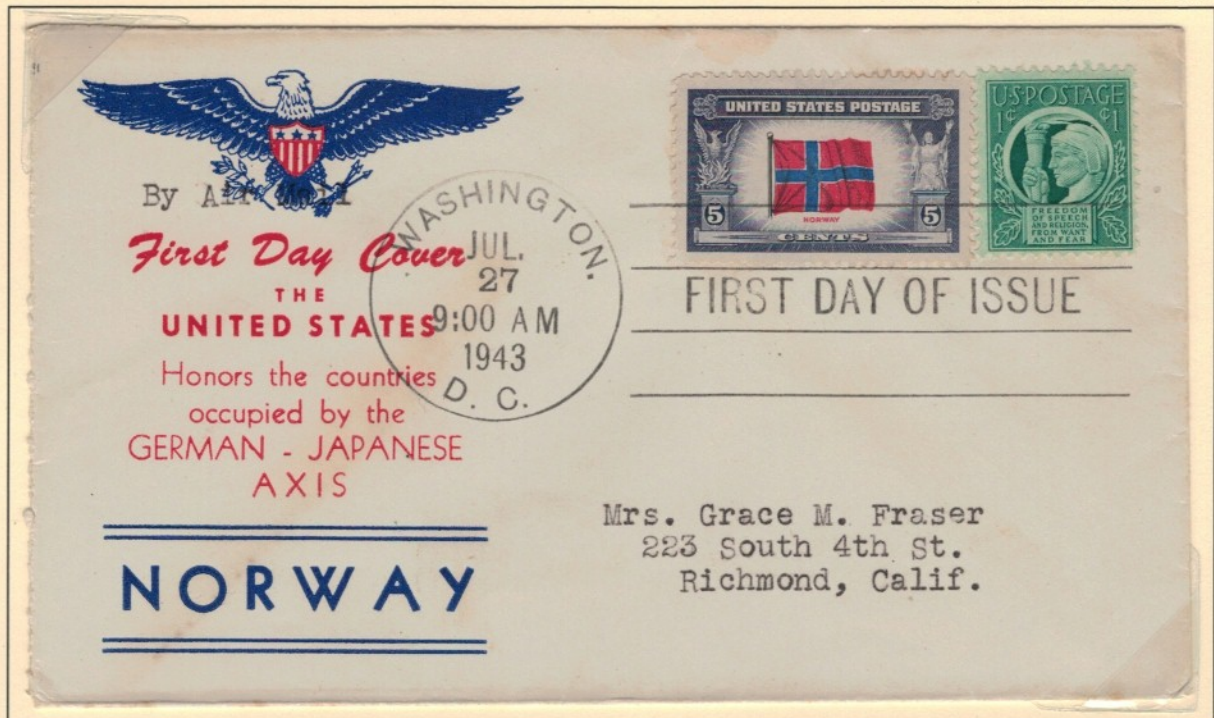
Letterpress cachet by unidentified cachet-maker (Mellone 17, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.

3. Norway First Day Cachets

Unidentified cachet-makers

It has not been possible to identify all cachet-makers.

UNIDENTIFIED CACHET-MAKER



Letterpress cachet by unidentified cachet-maker (Mellone 9, not in Sherman).

FDC hand cancel. 6¢/oz domestic airmail rate Jul 1, 1934 to Mar 26, 1944.

The cachet also comes on covers with printed airmail border.

UNIDENTIFIED CACHET-MAKER



Letterpress cachet by unidentified cachet-maker (not in Mellone, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-makers Advertiser

Envelope art has flourished in the service of love, money, or war since the mid-nineteenth century. Patriotic covers were employed in the United States beginning with the American Civil War, and the zenith of their use came during World War II. Many patriotic covers were used for the Overrun Countries Issue, including the Norway stamp.

Cachet-makers The Advertisers Press (Capitol Stamp Co.) / Victory Envelopes, Des Moines, IA.

Printed on reverse "VICTORY ENVELOPES TRADE MARK THE ADVERTISERS PRESS DES MOINES".

In a nice patriotic touch the letters "ELOPES" are underlined with the morse code "...—" (V for Victory).

ADVERTISER



Letterpress cachet by Advertiser (Sherman 4277).

ADVERTISER



Letterpress cachet by Advertiser (Sherman 5451).

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-maker American Art Service

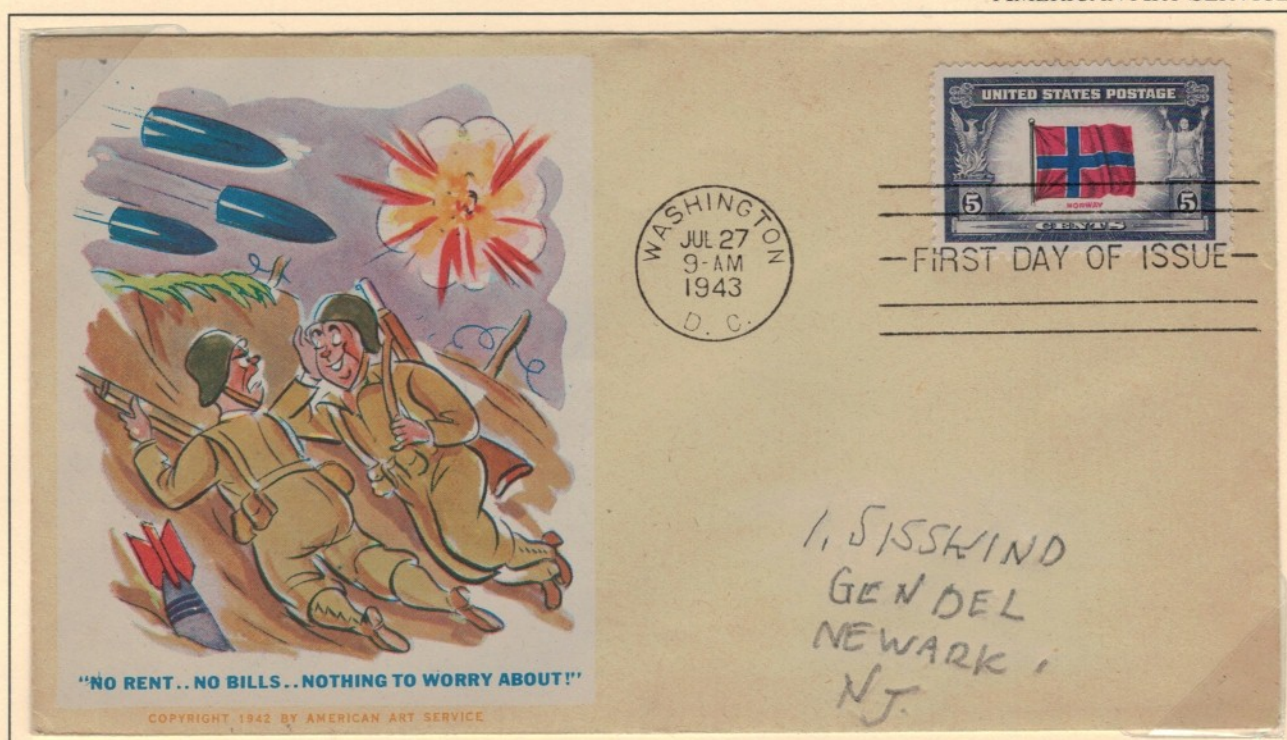
Cachet-makers American Art Service, based in Chicago, IL produced military-themed comics to illustrate envelopes. The designs were particularly popular among young service members and show soldiers and sailors interacting with women, on KP duty ("kitchen patrol"), or sharing snacks mailed from home.

AMERICAN ART SERVICE



Letterpress cachet by American Art Service, name printed below the cachet (Sherman 3216).
The eagle label is not part of the cachet.

AMERICAN ART SERVICE



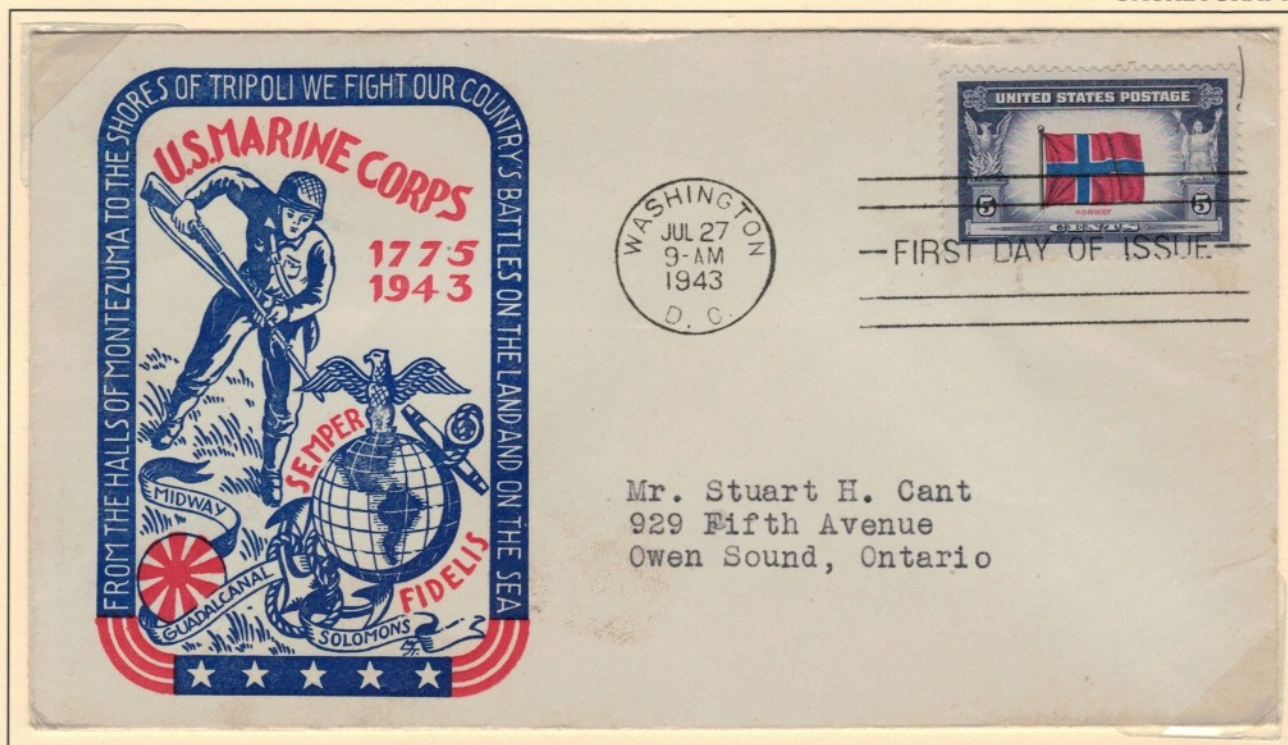
Letterpress cachet by American Art Service (Sherman 5546).

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-makers CachetCraft

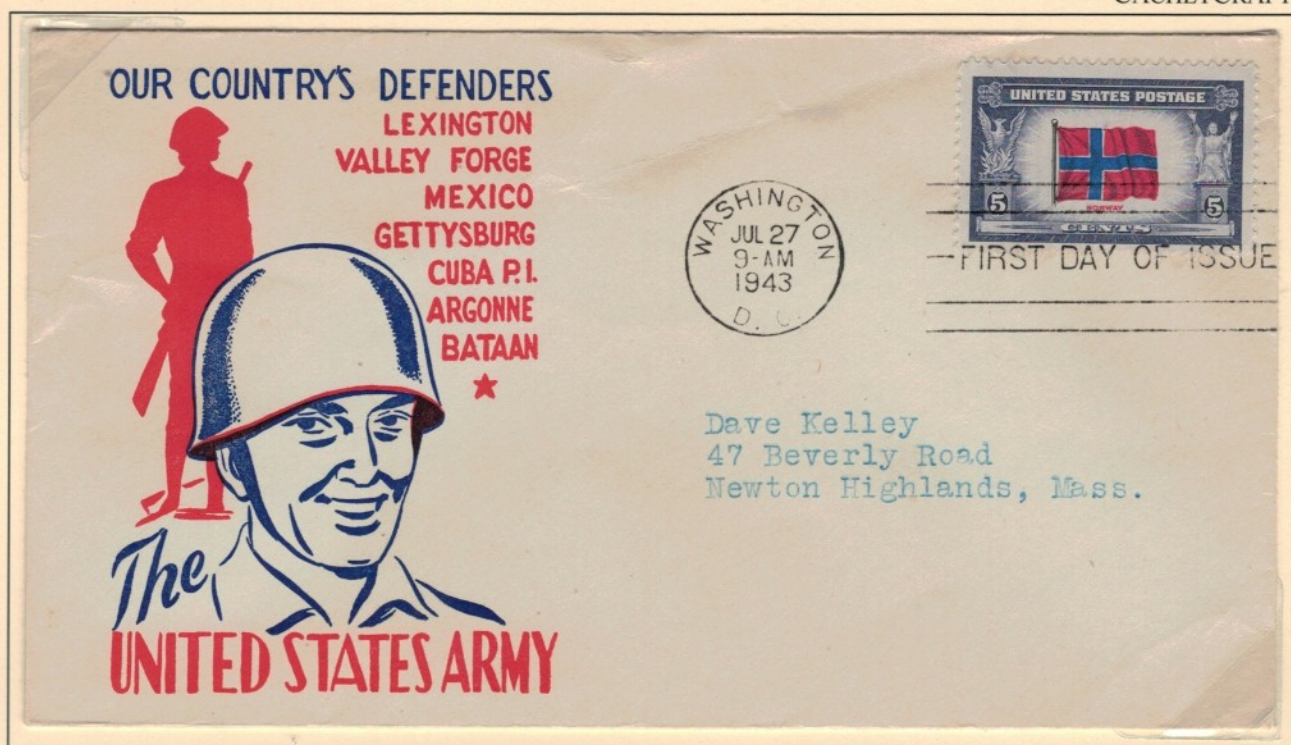
*Frederick B. Fitts operated Cachet Craft Cover Service from Framingham, MA.
He sold the business to Fleetwood in the early 1970's.*

CACHETCRAFT



Letterpress cachet by CachetCraft, unsigned (Sherman 2681).

CACHETCRAFT



Letterpress cachet by CachetCraft, unsigned (Sherman 5950).

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-maker Dime Stores

Dime Stores, also known as five-and-ten-cent stores and variety stores, began in the late nineteenth century and developed into a major sector of U.S. retailing. However, changes in shopping patterns and new forms of retailing in the 1970s and 1980s caused the virtual demise of dime stores by the early 1990s.

DIME STORES



Letterpress cachet by Dime Stores, unsigned (Sherman 2520). FDC machine cancel.

DIME STORES



Letterpress cachet by Dime Stores, unsigned (Sherman 4452). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-makers House of Farnum and Grimsland

House of Farnum, cachet-makers in Cleveland, OH.

HOUSE OF FARNUM



Thermographed cachet by House of Farnum, unsigned (Sherman 2190). FDC machine cancel.

Cachet-maker Henry Grimsland (1889-1957) from Chicago, IL. He was born in Risør, Norway.

GRIMSLAND



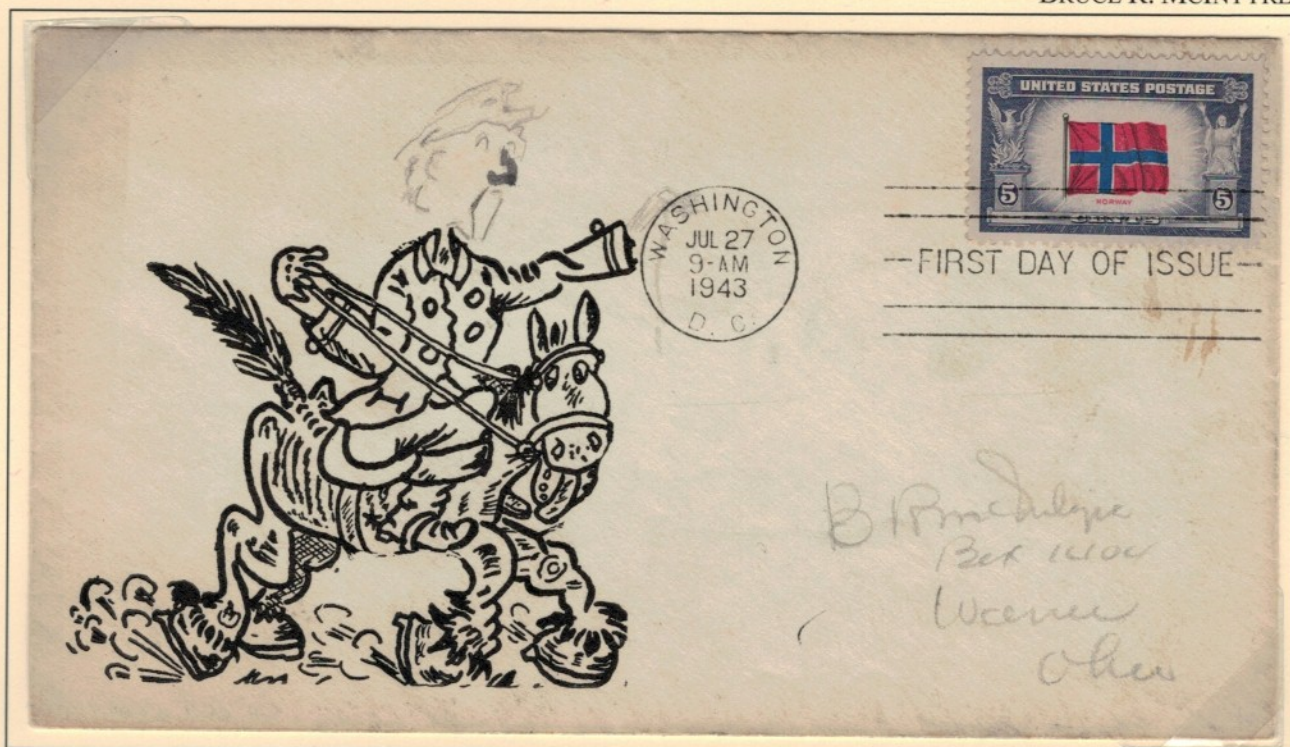
Thermographed cachet by Henry Grimsland, signed GRIMSLAND (Sherman 698). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-makers McIntyre and Poppenger

Cachet artist Bruce R. McIntyre, a commercial photographer and news cameraman from Warren, Ohio. He was one of the early pioneer cachet artists and a member of the Art Cover Exchange (ACE) starting as early as the late 1920s.

BRUCE R. MCINTYRE



Unfinished hand-painted cachet by Bruce R. McIntyre, addressed by the artist to himself (not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel.

Right: Facsimile of a similar 1939 cachet by the same artist.



Cachet-maker and stamp dealer
Walter T. Poppenger
(1885-1973), Akron, OH.

WALTER T. POPPENGGER



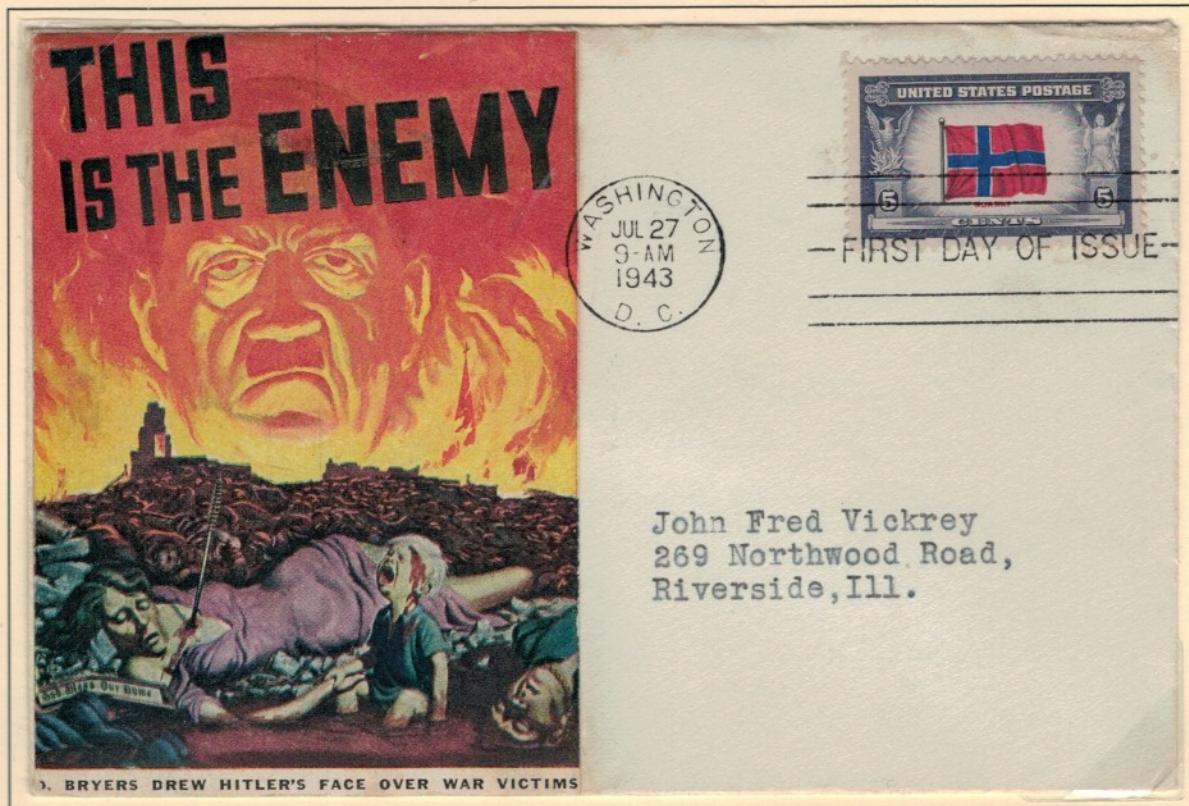
Letterpress cachet by Walter T. poppenger (Sherman 462). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Unidentified Cachet-makers

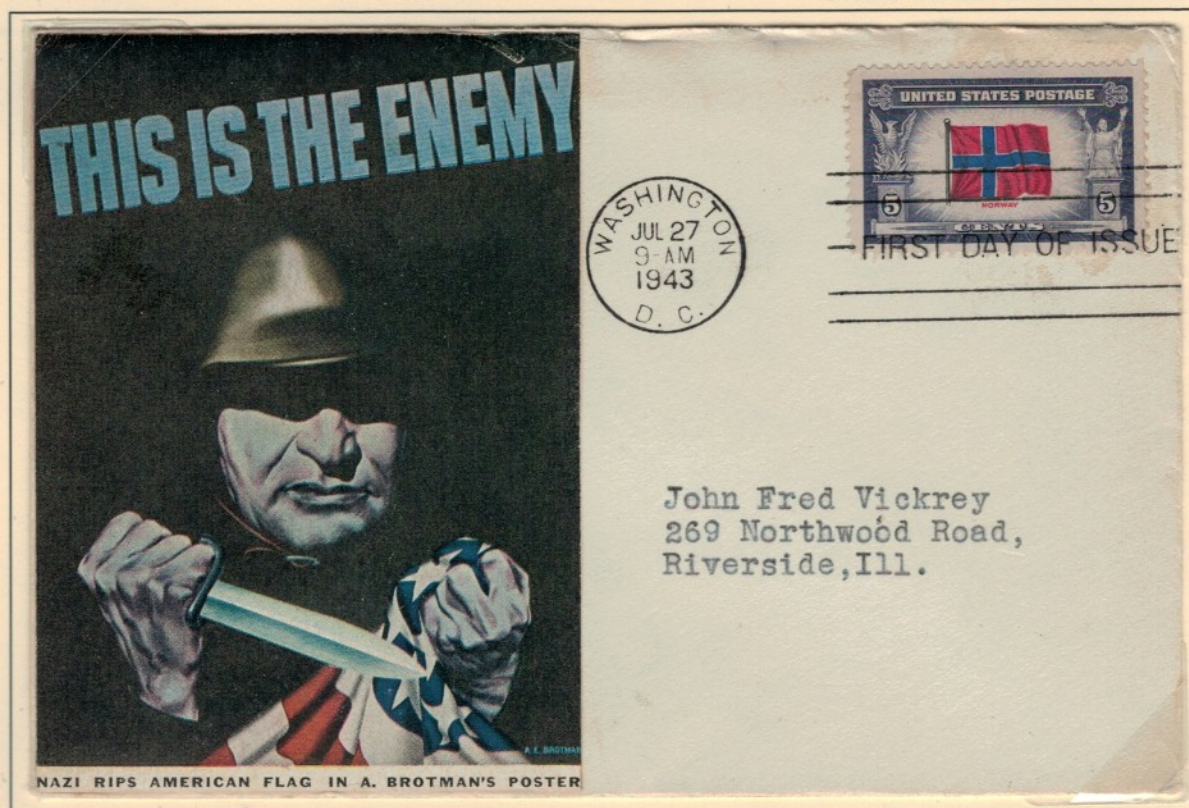
It has not been possible to identify all cachet-makers.

UNIDENTIFIED CACHET-MAKER



Home-made cachet by paste-on letterpress label, tied by FDC machine cancel.

UNIDENTIFIED CACHET-MAKER



Home-made cachet by paste-on letterpress label. FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-maker Jacques Minkus, Series 0

Jaques Minkus of New York, NY established his first stamp counter at Gimbels department store in Manhattan in 1931. He was successful in this method of selling stamps and continued to open stamp counters in department stores until the 1960s, when he had opened 38 counters. Minkus issued five series of patriotic envelopes 1940-1943, printed in a four-color lithograph offset process. The Minkus designs received the widest circulation of all patriotic envelopes.

The first series of 12 designs was issued October, 1940 and is referred to as Series JM-0. The envelopes of this series were largely sold out by the end of 1942, and not all are recorded used with the Norway Overrun postage stamp.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-0.7



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 4615). FDC machine cancel.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-0.8



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 4633). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-maker Jacques Minkus, Series JM-1

Jaques Minkus of New York, NY established his first stamp counter at Gimbels department store in Manhattan in 1931. He was successful in this method of selling stamps and continued to open stamp counters in department stores until the 1960s, when he had opened 38 counters. Minkus issued five series of patriotic envelopes 1940-1943, printed in a four-color lithograph offset process. The Minkus designs received the widest circulation of all patriotic envelopes. 20 new designs were released June 1942 after a design contest, split in two sets Series JM-1 and JM-2 with 10 in each.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-1.9



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 7195). FDC machine cancel.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-1.10



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 8732). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-maker Jacques Minkus, Series JM-2

Jaques Minkus of New York, NY established his first stamp counter at Gimbels department store in Manhattan in 1931. He was successful in this method of selling stamps and continued to open stamp counters in department stores until the 1960s, when he had opened 38 counters. Minkus issued five series of patriotic envelopes 1940-1943, printed in a four-color lithograph offset process. The Minkus designs received the widest circulation of all patriotic envelopes. 20 new designs were released June 1942 after a design contest, split in two sets Series JM-1 and JM-2 with 10 in each.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-2.1



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 1415). FDC machine cancel.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-2.2



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 1901). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-maker Jacques Minkus, Series JM-3

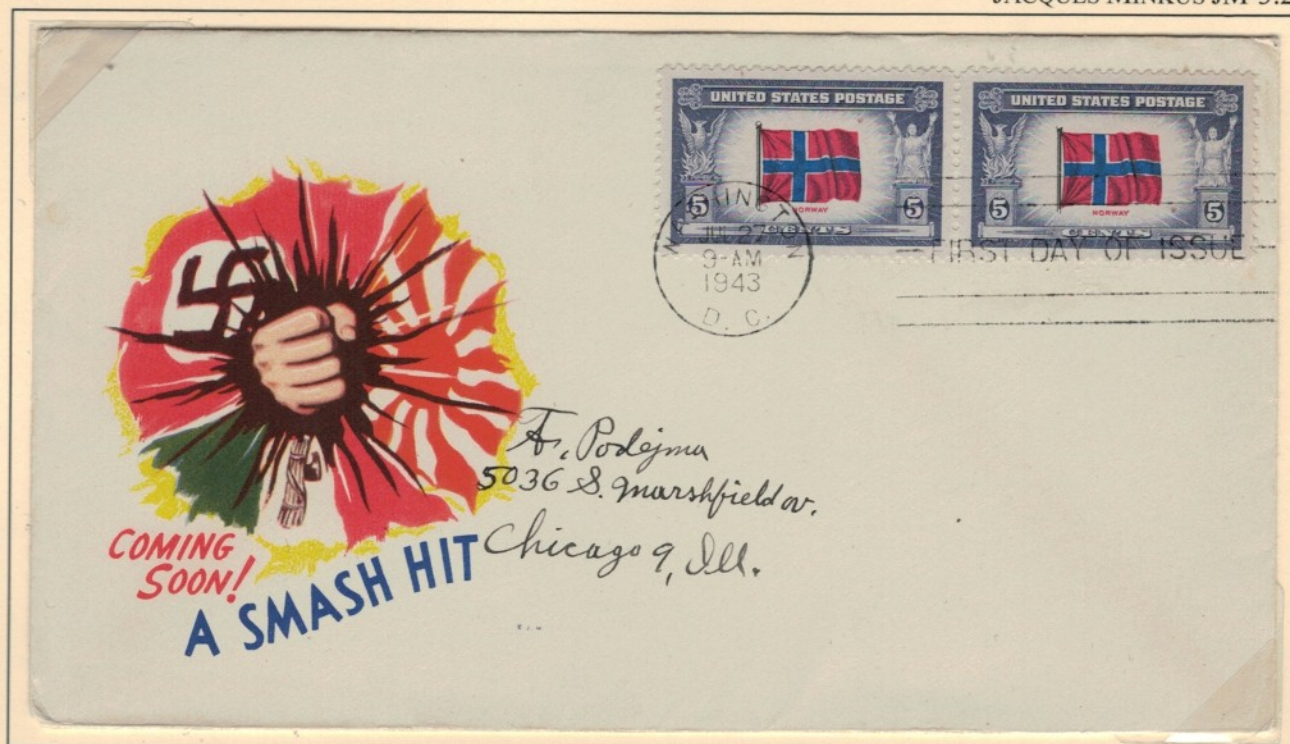
Jaques Minkus of New York, NY established his first stamp counter at Gimbels department store in Manhattan in 1931. He was successful in this method of selling stamps and continued to open stamp counters in department stores until the 1960s, when he had opened 38 counters. Minkus issued five series of patriotic envelopes 1940-1943, printed in a four-color lithograph offset process. The Minkus designs received the widest circulation of all patriotic envelopes. The last 20 designs came June 1943, also the result of a contest, split in two sets Series JM-3 and JM-4 with 10 in each.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-3.1



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 100). FDC machine cancel.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-3.2



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 1612). FDC machine cancel.

4. Patriotic Envelopes

Cachet-maker Jacques Minkus, Series JM-4

Jaques Minkus of New York, NY established his first stamp counter at Gimbels department store in Manhattan in 1931. He was successful in this method of selling stamps and continued to open stamp counters in department stores until the 1960s, when he had opened 38 counters. Minkus issued five series of patriotic envelopes 1940-1943, printed in a four-color lithograph offset process. The Minkus designs received the widest circulation of all patriotic envelopes. The last 20 designs came June 1943, also the result of a contest, split in two sets Series JM-3 and JM-4 with 10 in each.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-4.5



Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 5811). FDC machine cancel.

JACQUES MINKUS JM-4.6

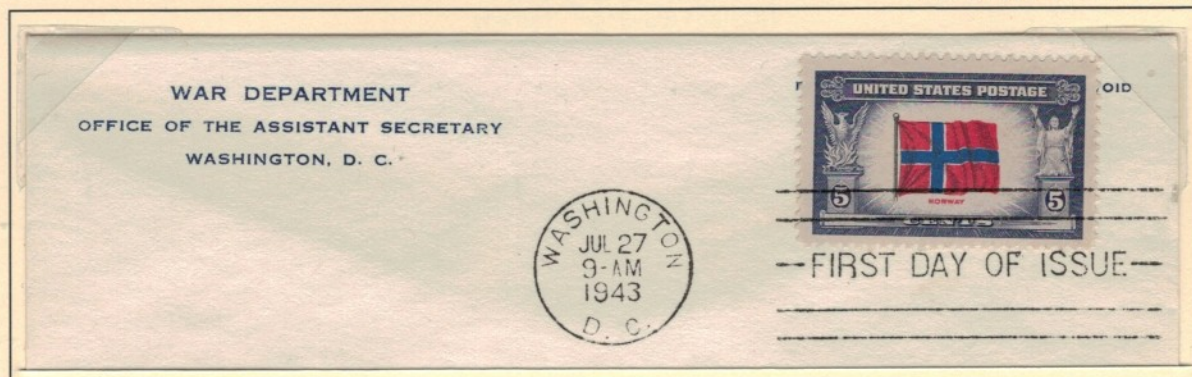


Lithograph (offset) cachet by Jacques Minkus (Sherman 6031). FDC hand cancel.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War Boosting Morale and Show Support

President Roosevelt proposed the Overrun Countries stamp issue to help maintain high morale on the home front and to show support and solidarity with the countries overrun by the Axis. The Flag stamps played an important role in the support of the armed forces as well as patriotic and other civilian efforts to encourage the war effort. Their colorful, positive appearance inspired the US soldiers and allies to move forward with the difficult task of winning the war.

WAR DEPARTMENT FDC



First Day of Issue corner card (cover) from the War Department.

The U.S. Department of War, also called the War Department, was the Cabinet department originally responsible for the operation and maintenance of the U.S. Army, also bearing responsibility for naval affairs until the establishment of the Navy Department in 1798, and for most land-based air forces until the creation of the Department of the Air Force in 1947. In the Department of Defense from 1949.

V-MAIL FROM BRITISH SERVICEMAN AT 5c RATE



An R.A.F. serviceman writes to his wife in England, from "WASHINGTON, D.C. AUG 30, 1943". Members of British armed forces stationed in U.S.A. were accorded V-mail service at 5c rate from April 30, 1943 to end of V-mail service Nov, 1945. Not censored, so probably mailed to the V-mail processing station and not all the way to England. Unprocessed V-mail forms should have been destroyed after the letters had been photographed and the film sent overseas.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

1943: Financing the War, Military Training

President Franklin D. Roosevelt launched the Third War Loan on Sept. 9, 1943, recognizing the fact that in carrying the war into enemy territory, great amounts of money would be needed.

FINANCING THE WAR



Machine cancel "BACK THE ATTACK SEPT. 9-26 1943" airmail from Army P.O. Washington D.C. SEP 14, 1943 to Kingston, NY. 6¢ concession rate.

Military training required vast resources, both human and financial. Camp Sibert was a U.S. Army chemical weapons training facility in Alabama, operating 1942-1945.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS TRAINING IN ALABAMA



Airmail letter from "CAMP SIBERT, ALA SEP 20, 1943" to Bermuda from a Colonel at the Station Hospital. 10¢ per ½ oz for airmail letters to Bermuda Feb 14, 1938 to Nov 1, 1946. U.S. civil censorship in New York.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

1943: Concession Rate

A special 6¢ per ½ oz rate was introduced from Dec. 25, 1941 for air mail matter to and from personnel of the U.S. armed forces stationed outside the continental United States. The rate was called the Concession rate and it lasted until Oct. 1, 1946.

INFANTRY TRAINING IN CALIFORNIA



Airmail letter from Infantry Lieutenant at "CAMP ELLIOTT, CALIF. OCT 11, 1943" to Kansas City, KS. Camp Elliott Training Center was located in San Diego, CA. 6¢ concession rate.

Accra in today's Ghana was important stop on the long supply line from Florida, south to Natal, Brazil, then across the South Atlantic to Africa and the Middle East. Algeria had been retaken by the Americans and British in 1942.

AIR BASES IN AFRICA SECURED SUPPLIES TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND EUROPE



Airmail letter from "AUSTIN, MINN. NOV 22 1943" to officer in Base Air Depot, APO 625 (18th Marine Provisional Company in Accra, Gold Coast, Africa), forwarded to APO 539 (The American Air Force Station at Constantine, Algeria). 6¢ concession rate for weight to ½ oz.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

1944: Concession Rate

"The best hotel room is none too good for the American soldier." 300 Miami Beach hotels and apartment buildings became military facilities in service to nearly one half million US Army trainees during the war.

FAMOUS FLORIDA RESORTS SERVED SOLDIERS IN TIME OF WAR



Airmail letter from "WICHITA, KANS JAN 22, 1944" to serviceman in the United States Army Air Force Technical Training Command at Gaylord Hotel, Miami Beach, FL. Multiple cachets in search of the addressee, and ultimately returned from "MIAMI FLA. FEB 7 1944" to sender. 6¢ concession rate for weight to ½oz.

Rocky Mount was the 3rd of a new type of naval auxiliary: a specially-equipped command and communications ship. She sailed from Pearl Harbor May 29, 1944 as flagship for the "Joint Expeditionary Force" attacking the Marianas Islands. On June 15 she reached Saipan and directed initial landings which came under heavy mortar and rifle fire and air attack. After 24 days, organized resistance on the island ceased.

U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT, FLAGSHIP FOR THE ATTACK ON THE MARIANAS ISLANDS



Airmail letter from U.S.S. *Rocky Mount* to San Francisco, CA, postmarked "U.S. NAVY MAY 1944". 6¢ concession rate for weight to ½oz. U.S. Navy censorship at undisclosed location.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

1944: Concession Rate

The Italian Campaign was from July 1943 to May 1945. Rome had been liberated on June 4, 1944.

LIBERATION OF ITALY



Airmail letter from "PORTLAND, OREG. JUL 13 1944" to Private infantryman in the 431st Replacement Company, APO 9372 at Algiers, Algeria. Forwarded to Company H, 168th Infantry, APO 34 in Rome, Italy. On reverse "N.Y.P.E. ARMY DIRECTORY SERVICE GIVEN TOUR 2 ARMY POSTAL JUL 17 1944". 6¢ concession rate for weight to ½oz.

RAF Honington in Suffolk, U.K. opened in 1937. The station was handed to the USAAF in 1942 as a repair depot for B-17s, joined in 1944 by P-38 and then P-51 of the 364th Fighter Group.

REPAIRING BOMBER AIRCRAFT IN ENGLAND



Airmail letter from "SACRAMENTO, CALIF. AUG 30 1944" to Technical Sergeant in 9th Depot Repair Squadron Unit #22 of the Maintenance Division, APO 636 located in Honington. 6¢ concession rate for weight to ½oz.

The Liberation of Belgium from German occupation was from September 1944 to February 1945.

LIBERATION OF BELGIUM



Airmail letter from PFC in Company 1 of the 38th Infantry, A.P.O. 2 in Vielsalm, Belgium, "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE A.P.O. 2 OCT 28 1944" to St. Paul, MN. 6¢ concession rate up to ½oz. U.S. Army Censorship at undisclosed location.

When the U.S. Navy brought MacArthur back to the Philippines in the momentous Leyte campaign, USS Heron was there, reaching San Pedro Bay on Nov. 21, 1944. In the thick of almost continuous enemy air attacks, Heron spent over a month in the Philippines tending seaplanes before returning to New Guinea for repairs.

FROM THE BATTLE OF LEYTE TO NEW ASSIGNMENT IN IOWA



Airmail letter from "ROSEBUD MON. NOV 15 1944" to Chief Radioman on board USS *Heron*, Fleet P.O., San Francisco. Forwarded to Naval Air Station Ottumwa, IA. On reverse "NEW YORK, N.Y. 10583 BR. NOV 28, 1944", purple cachet "FORWARDED JAN 26 1945 To avoid delay..." and "OTTUMWA IOWA 10026 BR. JAN 30 1945". 6¢/½oz concession rate.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

1944: Concession Rate

Japan occupied the Solomon Islands northeast of Australia early 1942. The Battle of Guadalcanal was fought Aug 1942 to Feb 1943 on and around the island of Guadalcanal. It was the first major land offensive by Allied forces against Japan. The Guadalcanal campaign marked the Allies' transition from defensive operations to offensive ones.

FIRST MAJOR LAND OFFENSIVE BY ALLIED FORCES AGAINST JAPAN



Airmail letter from "U.S. NAVY NOV 17 1944", a PFC in 3rd Bat., 22nd Marines stationed at Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, to Portland, OR. 6¢ franking, 6¢ postage due; 12¢ concession rate for weight ½-1oz. U.S. Navy censorship at undisclosed location.

Camp Huckstep near Cairo, Egypt was as the largest military supply depot in the Middle East. It hosted personnel of United States Army Forces in the Middle East. At the same time, it functioned as an air base.

CAMP HUCKSTEP, LARGEST MILITARY SUPPLY DEPOT IN THE MIDDLE EAST



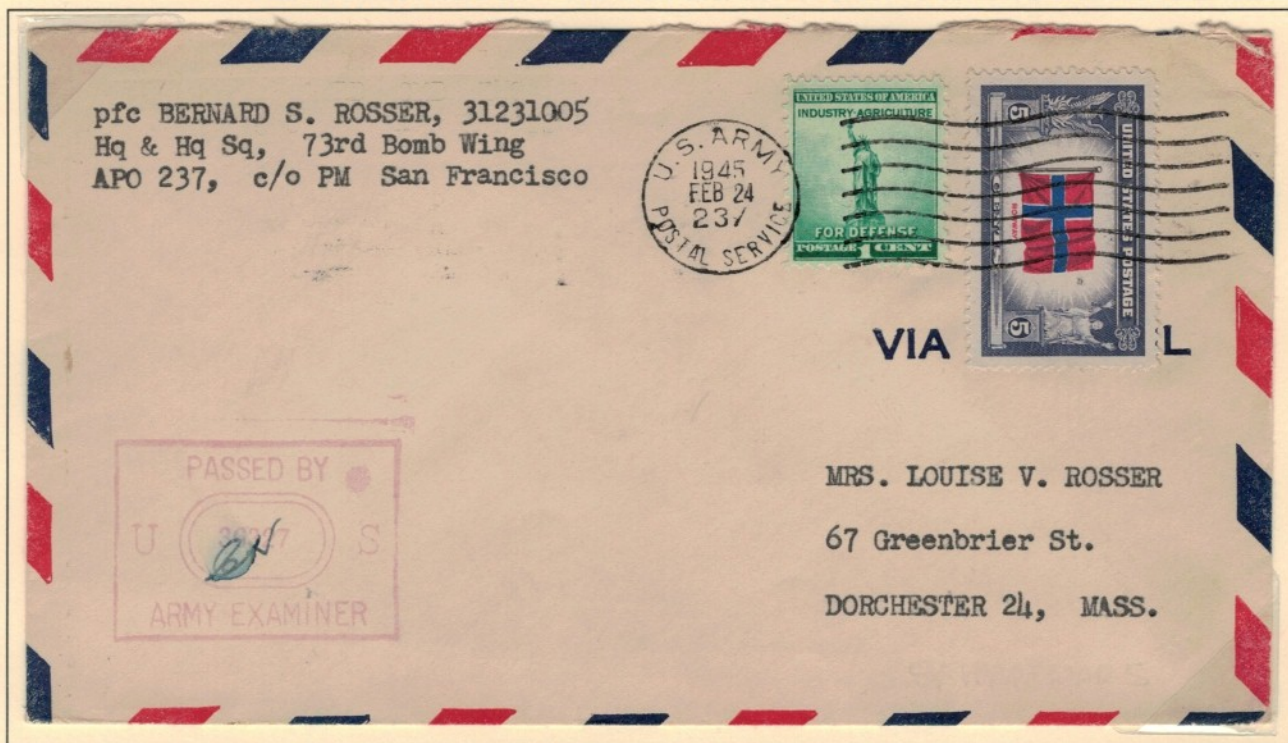
Airmail letter from civilian at APO 678 which was Camp Huckstep in Egypt, "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE A.P.O. NOV 27 1944" to Chicago IL. 6¢ concession rate for weight to ½oz. U.S. Army censorship at undisclosed location.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

1945: Concession Rate

The Battle of Saipan was an amphibious assault by the U.S.A. against Japan June-July, 1944. The initial invasion triggered the Battle of the Philippine Sea, and the battle resulted in the American capture of the island.

THE MARIANA ISLANDS – THE LAST BASTION OF JAPAN'S CENTRAL PACIFIC PERIMETER



Airmail letter from PFC in HQ & HQ Squadron of the 73rd Bomb Wing, APO 237, in Saipan, Mariana Islands, pm "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE 1945 FEB 24 237". 6¢¹/₂oz concession rate. U.S. Army censorship at undisclosed location.

The fighting and increased need for a hospital after the surprise attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor led to a hurried completion of the Aiea Naval Hospital which was finished 1942. This became the primary rear-area hospital for Navy and Marines.

NAVAL HOSPITAL IN HAWAII



Airmail letter from PFC at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Aiea, Oahu, Hawaii, c/o Fleet PO, San Francisco, CA, pm "U.S. NAVY MAR 31, 1945" to Oaks, PA. 6¢ concession rate for weight to ¹/₂oz. U.S. Navy censorship at undisclosed location.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

The War is Coming to an End

The allied landing in Normandy on D-Day June 6, 1944 was a turning point for the war. Europe was gradually liberated. Germany surrendered on May 7, 1945 effectively ending the war in Europe from May 8. Japan surrendered on Aug. 14, 1945.

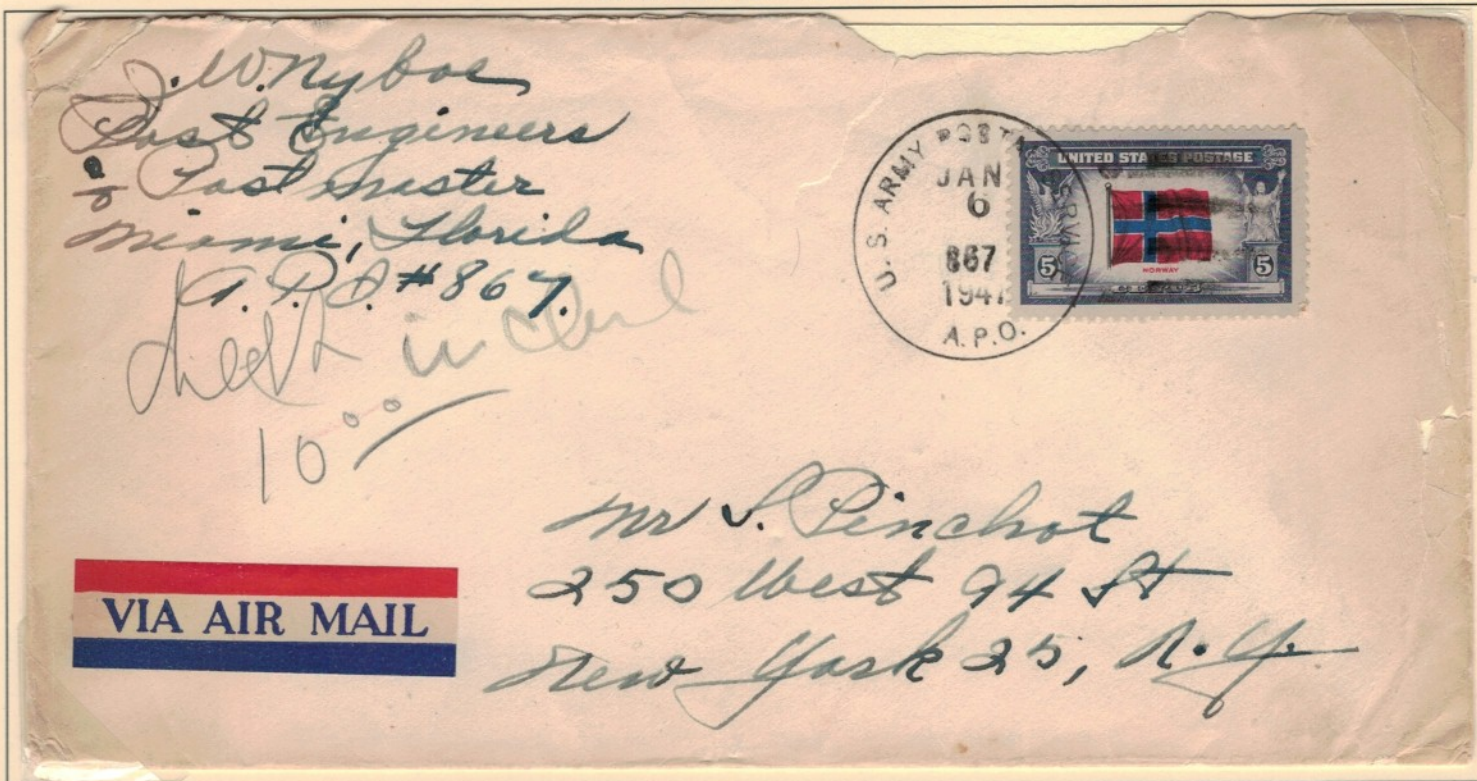
LIBERATION OF ITALY



The liberation of Italy started with Sicily July 1943 and Florence was free in August 1944. Airmail letter "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE APR 23 1945" from Corporal in the 100th Mountain Signal Company, A.P.O. 345 stationed in Florence, Italy, to Newport, VT. 6¢ concession rate up to ½oz – this rate lasted until Oct. 1, 1946. U.S. Army censorship at undisclosed location.

Vieux Fort near the southernmost tip of Saint Lucia was a base for American troops 1942-1949.

AMERICAN BASE IN BRITISH WEST INDIES REMAINED ACTIVE UNTIL 1949



Airmail letter from engineer at Fort Vieux, St. Lucia, British West Indies, postmarked "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE A.P.O. JAN 6 867 1947" to New York, N.Y. 5¢/oz for domestic airmail 5¢/oz Oct 1, 1946 to Jan 1, 1949.

5. The NORWAY Flag goes to War

The War is Over

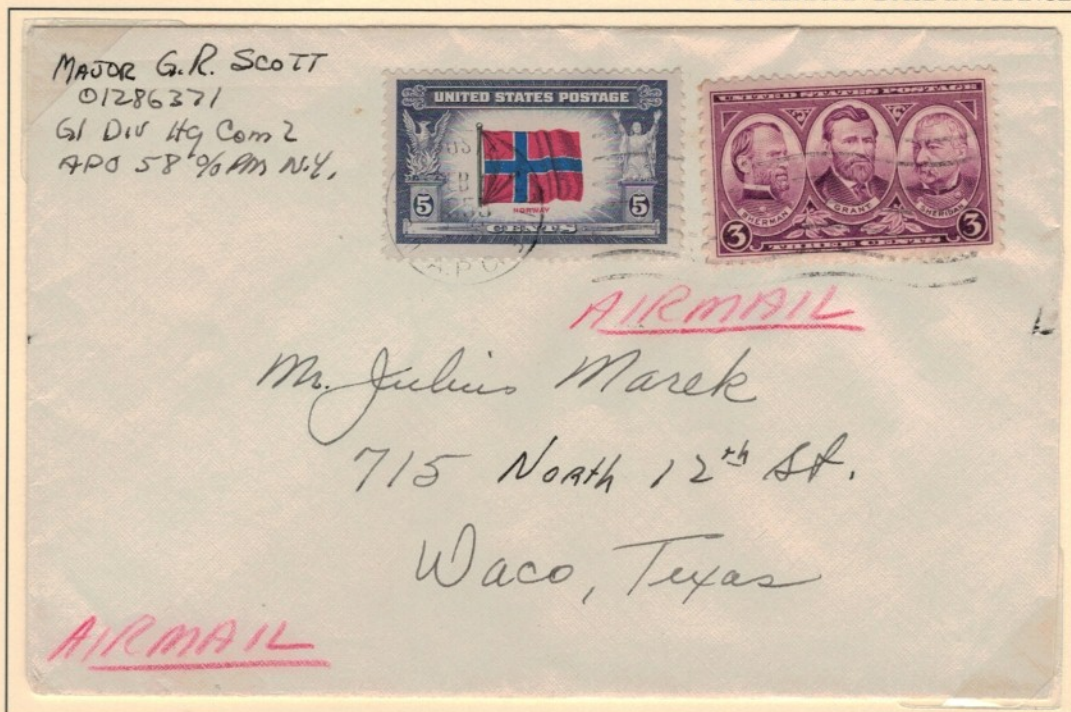
After the defeat of Japan in World War II, the United States led the Allies in the occupation and rehabilitation of the Japanese state. Likewise, U.S. troops were stationed in Europe to rearm Europe and to deter the Soviet Union.

AMERICAN BASE IN JAPAN



Airmail letter "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE A.P.O. MAY 19 1951 201" from soldier in "D" Battery, 507th Ant-Aircraft Artillery Air Warning Battalion (M), APO 201 stationed in Otawa, Japan, to New York, N.Y. 6¢/oz for domestic airmail Jan 1, 1949 to Aug 1, 1958.

AMERICAN BASE IN FRANCE



Airmail letter from Major in GI Division, Com Z, stationed in Orléans, France, postmarked "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE A.P.O. FEB 1 1955" to Waco, TX. ComZ was an organized zone of logistical installations, designed to support forward-based combat troops in Germany. 6¢/oz for domestic airmail Jan 1, 1949 to Aug 1, 1958.

6. From Here to Everywhere

Domestic Postal Rates

Throughout the period that the NORWAY flag stamp was in regular use, domestic letters cost three cents per ounce. Local letters at carrier post offices were two cents and postcards cost one cent. Airmail letters were from six cents. Some rather obscure domestic rates could have been paid exactly with five cents: the third-class rate for lost keys and the Dead Letter Office return fee, also fourth-class library rate for a book parcel. No such mail items are recorded. Sometimes the mailer solo used a 5¢ stamp overpaying the domestic rate by 2¢, for convenience or patriotic reasons.

3¢ DOMESTIC FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1932-1958



Patriotic envelope "DETROIT, MICH. JUL 26 1944" to Wooster, OH.
3¢ for domestic first-class surface letters to 1oz from Jul 6, 1932 to Aug 1, 1958.

6¢ DOMESTIC AIRMAIL 1934-1944



Letterpress cachet by Fidelity Stamp Co., initials FSC (Mellone 2, not in Sherman).
FDC machine cancel "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" to Evansville, IN.
6¢ for domestic airmail to 1oz from Jul 9, 1934 to Mar 26, 1944.

6. From Here to Everywhere

Domestic Postal Rates

8¢ DOMESTIC AIRMAIL 1944-1946



Airmail letter "SYRACUSE N.Y. APR 18 1944" to Pittsburg, PA.
8¢ for domestic airmail letters to 1oz from Mar 26, 1944 to Oct 1, 1946.

13¢ DOMESTIC SURFACE LETTER (3¢), SPECIAL DELIVERY (10¢) 1932-1944



Special delivery letter from "BATAVIA N.Y. JUL 30 1943" to Chicago, IL, only 3 days after the NORWAY flag stamp was issued. The *Fee Claimed by Office at First Address* cachet was applied at the Chicago, IL P.O. 3¢ for domestic surface letter to 1oz and 10¢ domestic special delivery fee from Jul 6, 1932 to Nov 1, 1944.

6. From Here to Everywhere

Domestic Postal Rates

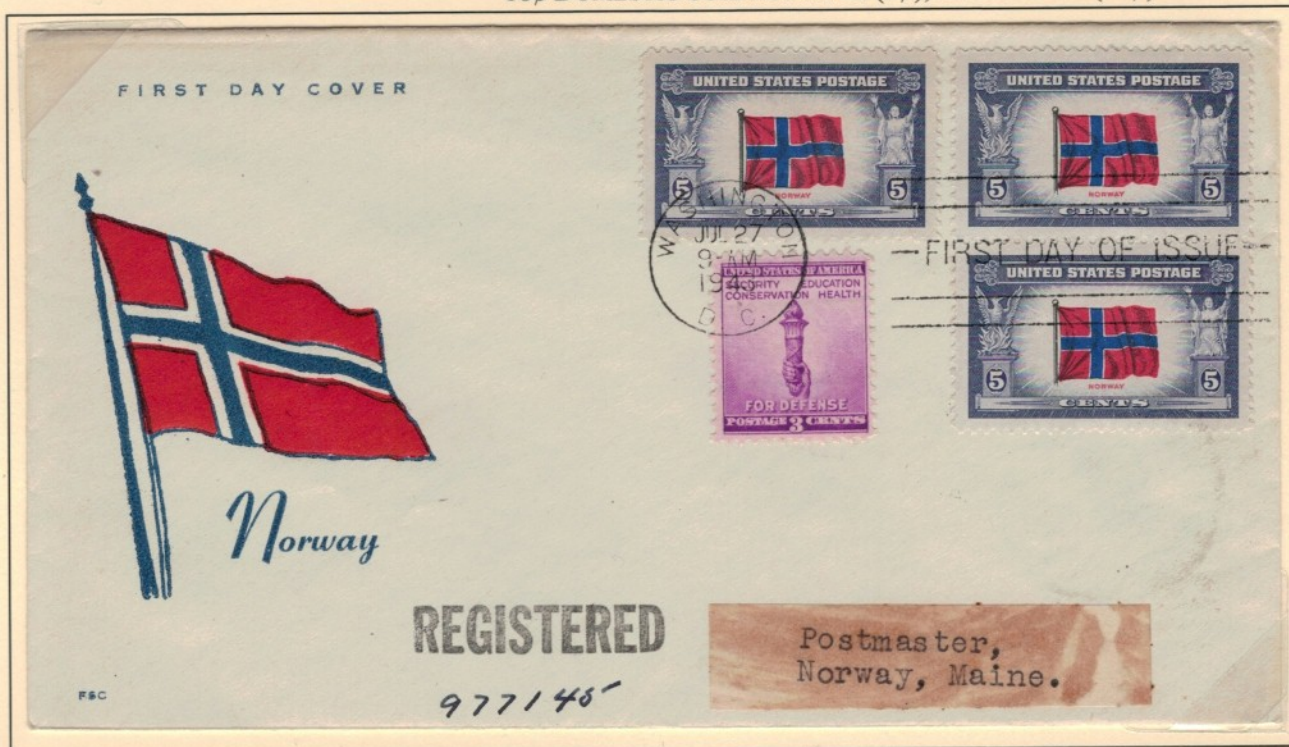
16¢ DOMESTIC AIRMAIL (6¢), SPECIAL DELIVERY (10¢) 1934-1944



Airmail special delivery letter "GREAT FALLS, MONT. OCT 9 1943" to Denver, CO.

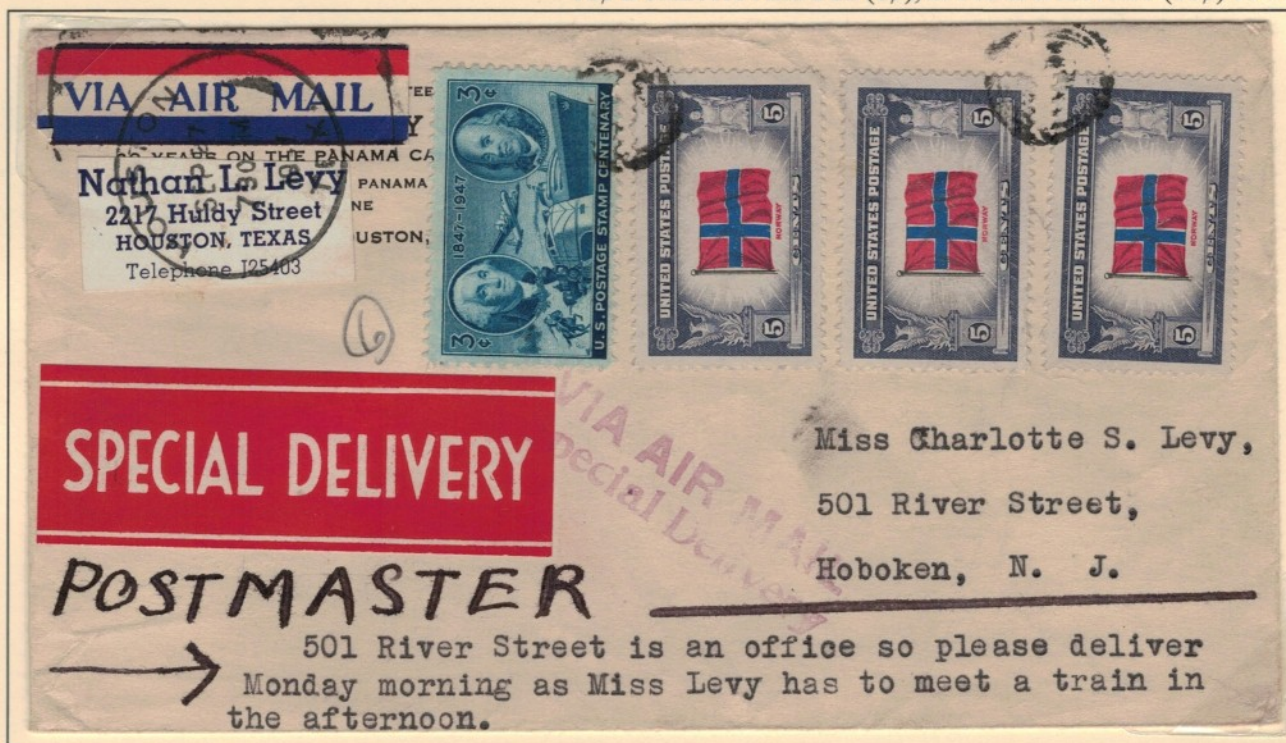
6¢ for domestic airmail letter to 1oz and 10¢ domestic special delivery fee from Jul 1, 1934 to Mar 26, 1944.

18¢ DOMESTIC SURFACE MAIL (3¢), REGISTERED (15¢) 1932-1944



Letterpress cachet by Fidelity Stamp Co., initials FSC (Mellone 2, not in Sherman). FDC machine cancel "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" sent registered to Norway, ME. The Norway, ME post office was established 1801, making this the earliest reported U.S. post office with name related to Norway. 3¢ for domestic first-class surface letter to 1oz and 15¢ domestic registry fee Jul 6, 1932 to Mar 26, 1944.

18¢ DOMESTIC AIRMAIL (8¢), SPECIAL DELIVERY (10¢) 1944



Special delivery airmail letter "HOUSTON TEX. SEP 17 1944" to Hoboken, NJ.

8¢ for domestic airmail letter to 1oz and 10¢ domestic special delivery fee from Mar 26 to Nov 1, 1944.

21¢ DOMESTIC AIRMAIL (3¢), SPECIAL DELIVERY (18¢) 1944-1949



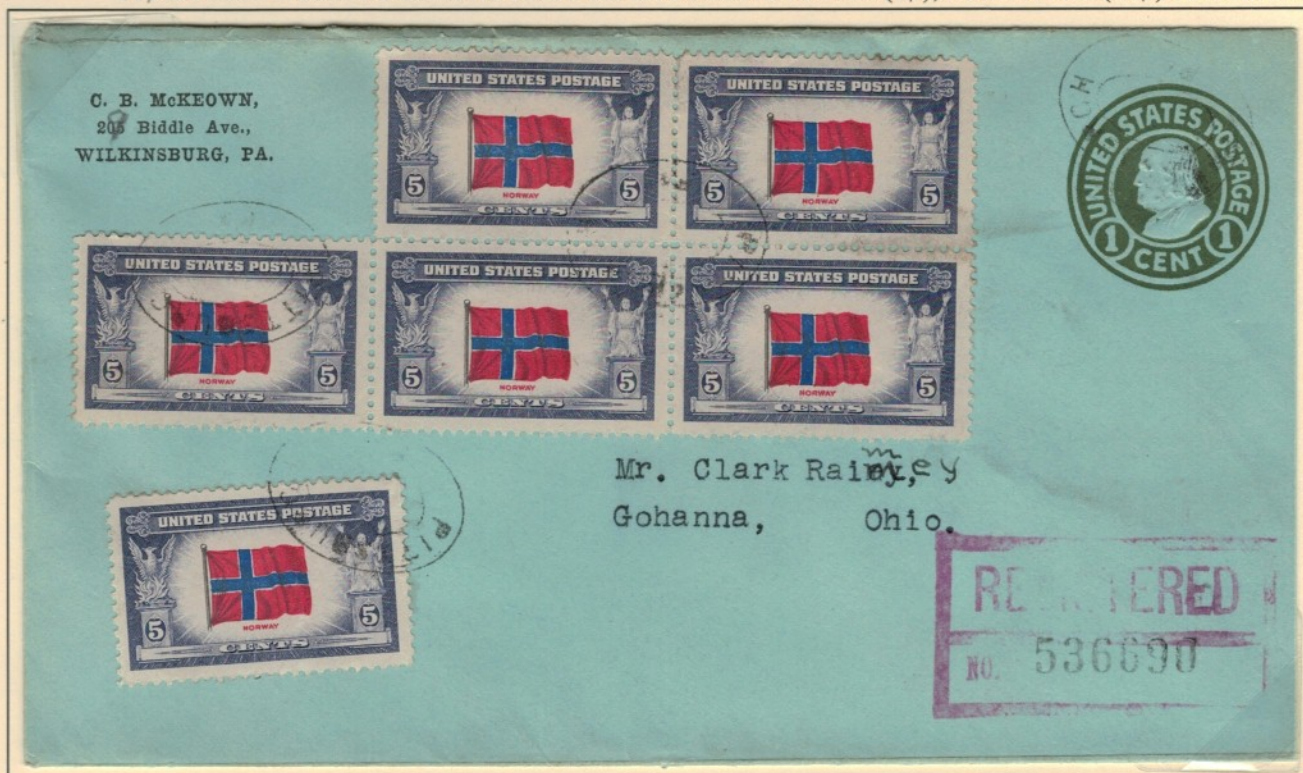
Special delivery airmail letter from "MILWAUKEE WIS. JAN 8 1945" to Concord, NH.

8¢ for domestic airmail letter to 1oz and 13¢ domestic special delivery fee from Nov 1, 1944 to Jan 1, 1949.

6. From Here to Everywhere

Domestic Postal Rates

31¢ DOUBLE-WEIGHT DOMESTIC FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER (6¢), REGISTERED (25¢) 1949-1952



Registered letter "PITTSBURGH, PA. APR 6 1950" to Gohanna, OH.

6¢ for domestic first-class surface letter 1-2oz and

25¢ domestic registry fee for indemnity to \$25 from Jan 1, 1949 to Jan 1, 1952.

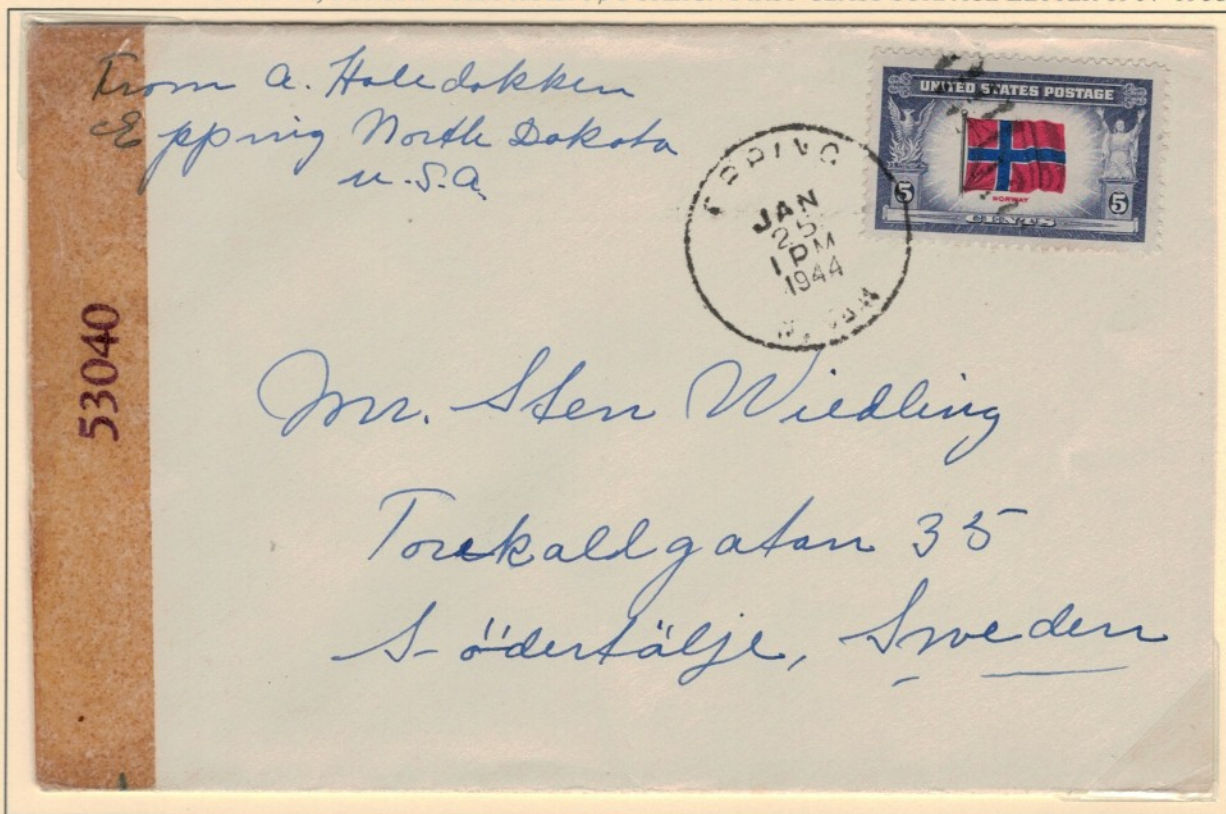
33¢ DOMESTIC LETTER (3¢), REGISTERED (25¢), RETURN RECEIPT (5¢) 1949-1952



Registered letter with return receipt requested, from "BROOKLYN N.Y. APR 9 1949" and sent locally. 3¢ for domestic first-class surface letter to 1oz, 25¢ domestic registry fee and 5¢ return receipt fee from Jan 1, 1949 to Jan 1, 1952.

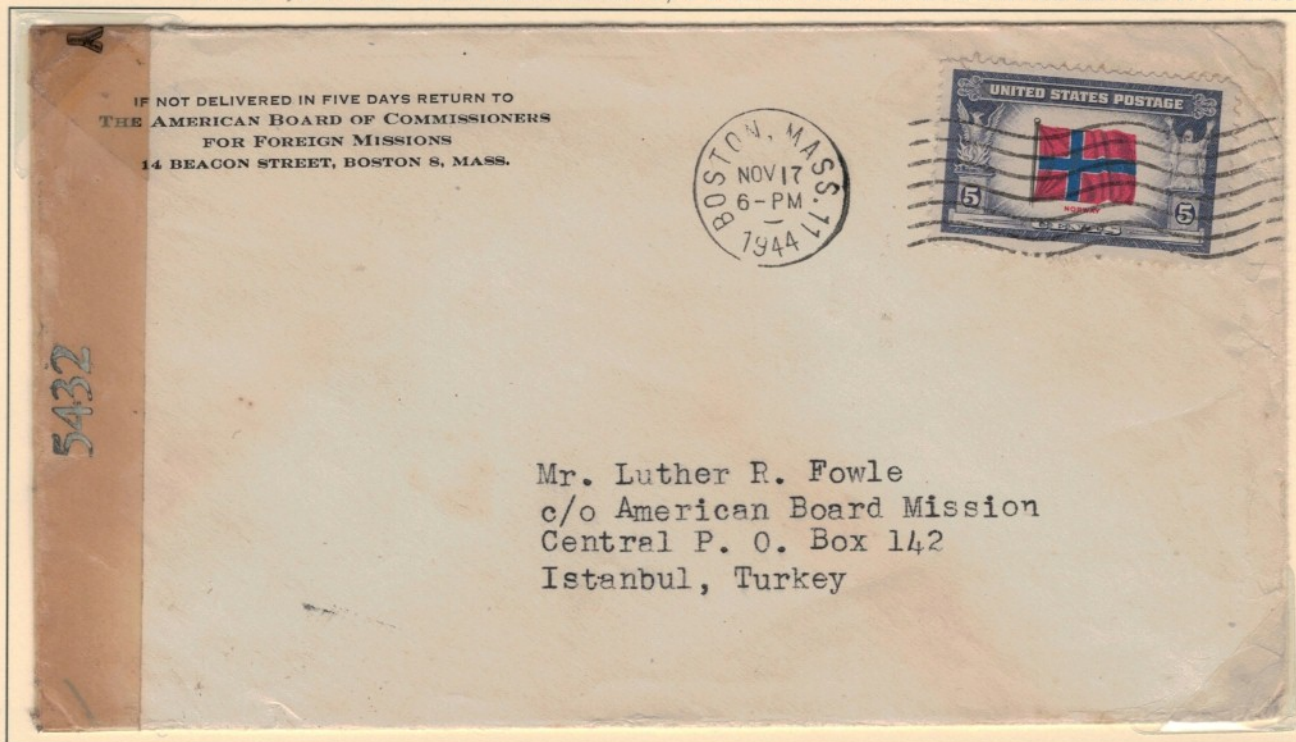
The primary intended use for the 5¢ NORWAY flag stamp of the Overrun Countries series was foreign, first class surface letter up to 1 ounce. However, mail connections between the United States and all the Overrun Countries were suspended due to the war. It was only possible to send mail from the U.S.A. to friendly and neutral countries.

SWEDEN, EUROPE – NEUTRAL: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953



Letter from "EPPING, N.DAK. JAN 25 1944" to Södertälje, Sweden. 5¢ for foreign first-class surface letters to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953. U.S. civil censorship in Chicago, IL. Sweden was one of only nine of European nations to remain neutral during the entire war.

TURKEY, EUROPE – NEUTRAL/ALLIED: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953



Letter from "BOSTON, MASS. NOV 17 1944" to Turkey. 5¢ for foreign first class, surface letter to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953. U.S. civil censorship in New York. Turkey was neutral until Feb 1945 when declared war on the Axis powers.

ARGENTINA, SOUTH AMERICA – NEUTRAL/ALLIED: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953



First Day Cover from "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" to Cordoba, Argentina. 5¢ for foreign first-class surface letters to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953. U.S. civil censorship in New York. Argentina was neutral until March 1945 when they declared war on the Axis powers.

CURAÇAO, CARIBBEAN – ALLIED: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953

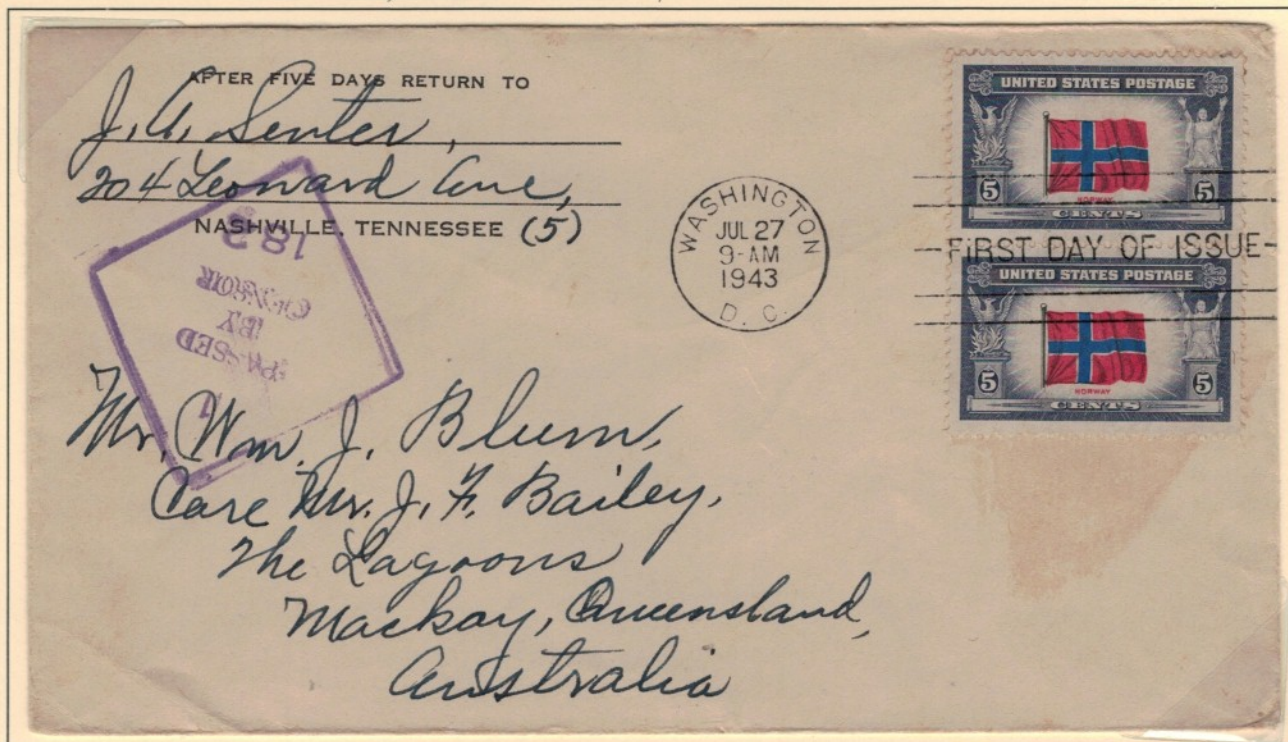


Letterpress cachet by Harry Ioor (Mellone 5, Sherman 4470). FDC hand cancel "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" to Aruba, Curaçao. 5¢ for foreign first class, surface letter to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953.

U.S. civil censorship in New York and Curaçao civil censorship.

The islands and Suriname in Dutch Caribbean were the only non-occupied territories of the Kingdom of the Netherlands during WW II. Curaçao was strategically important to the Allies and U.S. forces defended the islands.

AUSTRALIA, OCEANIA – ALLIED: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953



First Day Cover from "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" to Mackay, Queensland, Australia.

5¢ for foreign first-class surface letters to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953 (overpaid).

Civil censorship in Australia. Australia was at war with Germany from September, 1939 and later, the Axis powers.

NEW ZEALAND, OCEANIA – ALLIED: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953



Thermographed cachet with paste-on photo by W. G. Crosby, unsigned (Mellone 19D, Sherman 7823).

FDC machine cancel "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" to Morrinsville, New Zealand.

5¢ for foreign first-class, surface letters to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953 (overpaid). Not censored.

New Zealand was at war with Germany from September, 1939 and from 1941 also with Japan.

BERMUDA, NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN – ALLIED: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953



First Day Cover from "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" to Pembroke, Bermuda.

5¢ for foreign first-class surface letters to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953. Not censored.

Bermuda's strategic location in the Atlantic secured it a role in Allied military and intelligence operations in WWII.

Bermuda was WWII's largest mail transit censorship operation with a peak strength of 700 examiners.

ENGLAND, EUROPE – ALLIED: 5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER 1907-1953



Letter from "N.Y. 7 WASH. R.P.O. AUG 30 1943" to Rotherham, Yorkshire, England. U.S. civil censorship in Bahamas. 5¢ for foreign first-class, surface letters to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953.

England was at war with Germany from September, 1939 and from 1941 also with Japan.

BERMUDA, NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN – ALLIED: 10¢ AIRMAIL 1938-1944



First Day Cover from "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943" to Pembroke, Bermuda. U.S. civil censorship in New York. 10¢ for airmail to Bermuda to 1oz from Feb 14, 1938 to Nov 1, 1944. Bermuda's strategic location in the Atlantic secured it a role in Allied military and intelligence operations in WWII. Bermuda was WWII's largest mail transit censorship operation with a peak strength of 700 examiners.

HONDURAS, NORTH & CENTRAL AMERICA: 10¢ AIRMAIL 1946-1961



Letter from "N.Y. 7 WASH. R.P.O. AUG 30 1943" to Rotherham, Yorkshire, England. 10¢ per ½oz for airmail to North & Central America & Caribbean from Nov 1, 1946 to Jul 1, 1961.

BRITISH GUIANA, WEST INDIES - ALLIED: 30¢ AIRMAIL 1930-1945



Letter from "NEW YORK, N.Y. SEP 7 1943" to Georgetown - Demerara, British Guiana.
 30¢ per ½oz for airmail to British Guyana from Jan 1, 1930 to Apr 1, 1945. U.S. civil censorship in New York.

Like all the other British colonies in the West Indies, British Guiana gave full support to the Allied war effort by providing personnel for the British Armed Forces, land for an American military base, and raw materials for war production.

BRITISH GUIANA, WEST INDIES - ALLIED: 30¢ AIRMAIL 1930-1945



Airmail letter from "NEW YORK, N.Y. MAY 20 1944" to Georgetown - Demerara, British Guiana.
 30¢ per ½oz for airmail to British Guyana from Jan 1, 1930 to Apr 1, 1945.
 U.S. civil censorship in New York and attached label: RETURNED TO SENDER BY CENSOR.

ENGLAND, EUROPE - ALLIED: 30¢ AIRMAIL 1939-1946



Letter from "NEW YORK, N.Y. SEP 9 1943" to London, England.

Imperial (British) censorship in Bermuda.

30¢ per ½oz for airmail to Europe from Apr 28, 1939 to Nov 1, 1946.

SWEDEN, EUROPE - NEUTRAL: 30¢ AIRMAIL 1939-1946



Airmail letter from "NEW YORK, N.Y. JUL 27 1944" to Stockholm, Sweden.

30¢ per ½oz for airmail to Europe from Apr 28, 1939 to Nov 1, 1946. U.S. civil censorship in New York.

Sweden was one of only nine of European nations to remain neutral during the entire war.

7. Liberation and Conclusion

Axis collapse and Allied victory

In early 1945, Allied troops entered Germany. By mid-April, the Soviets had encircled the German capital of Berlin. Adolf Hitler killed himself on April 30, 1945. On May 8, 1945, Germany surrendered. After the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan surrendered on September 2, 1945, and the Second World War came to an end.

MAY 8, 1945 – EUROPE IS FREE!



Letterpress cachet by American Patriotic Press of San Francisco, CA (Sherman 3039), "WASHINGTON, D.C. MAY 8 1945", to Galveston, TX. 3¢ for domestic first-class surface letters to 1oz from Jul 6, 1932 to Aug 1, 1958.

NORWAY IS FREE!



Letterpress cachet by Staehle (Sherman 4675), "SYRACUSE N.Y. MAY 7 1945", sent locally. The NORWAY 1940 label (also by Staehle) on the cachet says "LIBERATION DAY of the Occupied Nations in Europe. Norway actually observes Liberation Day on May 8. 3¢ for domestic first-class surface letters to 1oz from Jul 6, 1932 to Aug 1, 1958.

The Soviet Red Army liberated the eastern part of Finnmark in Northern Norway in October 1944. The German forces in Norway surrendered on May 8, 1945, following the end of World War II in Europe. Postal connections between Norway and the United States were reopened after the liberation.



**AIR LEAFLET –
AT THE LIBERATION OF NORWAY**

Left:

Air leaflet (no. N28) "On the liberation of Norway", a booklet of 48 pages, began with a message from the H.M the King, and gave detailed information in 50 points about most matters in connection with the liberation, from supplies to the postal service.

608,000 such leaflets were dropped over 27 places in Norway from 15 to 21 May 1945. It also contained messages from Dwight D. Eisenhower - Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force in Europe and from the Prime Minister of Norway.

Below:

Letterpress halftone and thermographed cachet by ArtCraft, logo in lower left corner (Mellone 12, not in Sherman). 1943 FDC hand cancel "WASHINGTON D.C. JUL 27 1943". Upfranked 10¢ from "GREENWICH, CONN. AUG 1 1947" and sent to Florø, Norway.

Airmail letter to Europe 15c per ½oz from Oct 1, 1946 to May 1, 1967 - the 5c Norway Overrun with 1943 FDC postmark was accepted for postage!

FDC TO NORWAY



7. Liberation and Conclusion

Norway is Liberated!

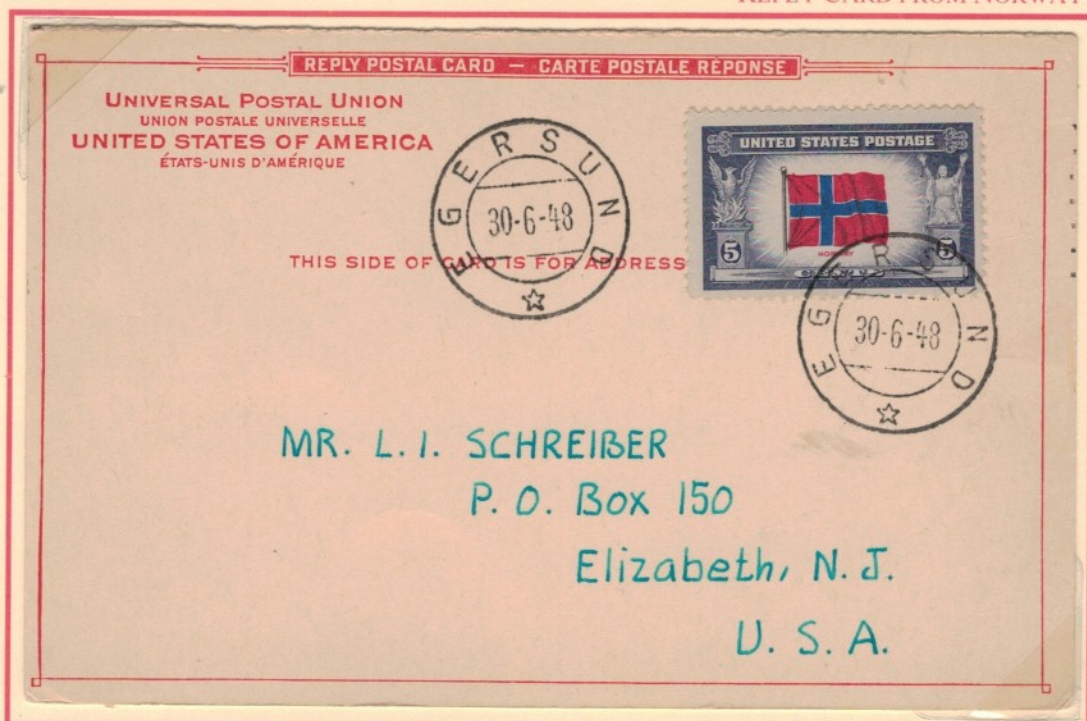
Postal connections from the United States to Norway were gradually reopened after the liberation. Surface mail opened first, and non-illustrated postcards could be sent from May 17, 1945. Letters and letter packages followed from June 15. Airmail letters were accepted from June 21.

5¢ FOREIGN FIRST-CLASS SURFACE LETTER



Letter from "NATICK, MASS. DEC 13 1950" to Oslo, Norway.
5¢ for foreign first class, surface letter to 1oz from Oct 1, 1907 to Nov 1, 1953.

REPLY CARD FROM NORWAY



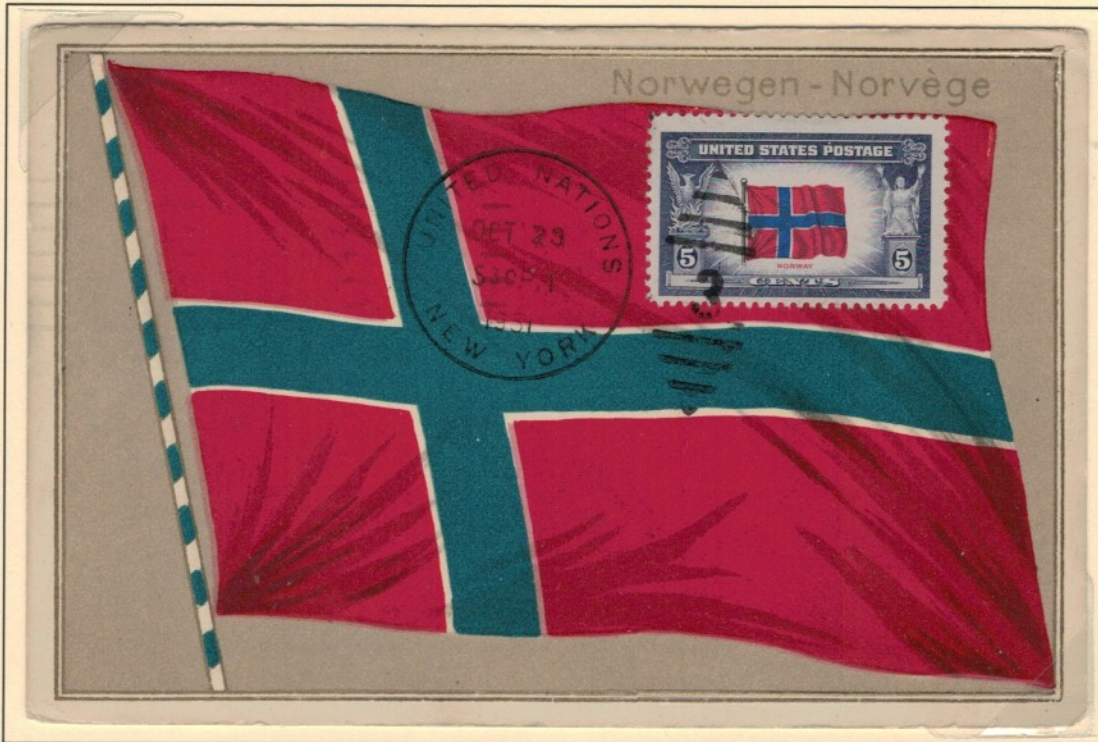
Reply postcard from Norway "EGERSUND 30-6-48" to Elizabeth, NJ, U.S.A.
3¢ for foreign surface postcard from Oct 1, 1925 to Nov 1, 1953.

7. Liberation and Conclusion

The NORWAY Flag is Flying! Thank you to the United States!

During World War II when Norway was under occupation by the Nazis, it was strictly forbidden for Norwegians to celebrate Constitution Day, participate in any procession, or to use the colors of the Norwegian flag on clothes. At the liberation on May 8, 1945, the Norwegian flag therefore became a strong symbol of Norway's freedom.

THE NORWAY FLAG IS FLYING AGAIN



Postcard from the UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK OCT 23 1951" to Geneva, Switzerland.
3¢ for foreign surface postcard from Oct 1, 1925 to Nov 1, 1953.

NORWAY SAYS THANK YOU TO THE UNITED STATES



A monument to President Franklin D. Roosevelt has been erected in Oslo, Norway. It was financed through a nationwide fundraiser, as a thank you for the United States' help during and after the Second World War. The monument is made of granite by Stinius Fredriksen and was unveiled by the president's widow Eleanor Roosevelt on June 7, 1950.