

THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY



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Additions & Revisions (2020)

BWISC

MILITARY
MAILS

VOL 9

PREFACE (2020)

Since the first update (February 2017) to the revised Volume 9 of The Encyclopaedia of Jamaica Philately (“Military, Censorship & Patriotic Mails”) a number of new items and other revisions have been found by, or shown to the authors. Accordingly, we are now able to provide a second update to the volume, “Additions & Revisions (2020)”, which includes some additions to almost all chapters.

As stated in the Preface to the 2017 update, we kindly request anybody with information, examples, illustrations etc. that might improve this volume to contact one of the authors so that we can include them in the next update. Indeed, we are grateful to several people, notably Paul Wright, Harold Krische & Steve Jarvis, who have provided details for some of the new content listed here. It is our hope that this aspect of Jamaican philately can be kept up to date through the cooperation of other collectors – we look forward to hearing from you.

Paul Farrimond and Ray Murphy

August 2020

CHAPTER 2

THE BRITISH ARMY IN JAMAICA

09-02-21 **GS4. HEADQUARTERS, CARIBBEAN AREA, JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use Purple EKD: 14 July 1949

LKD: 16 November 1956

09-02-24 **MS2A. MILITARY HOSPITAL, UP PARK CAMP, JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 18 July 1945

LKD: 11 December 1946

09-02-26 **PY2. COMMAND PAYMASTER/JAMAICA**

The EKD is actually the date of the proof strike; the handstamp was only sent out to Jamaica on 28th November 1920. Not seen used on mail in Jamaica.

09-02-26 **PY2A. COMMAND PAYMASTER/JAMAICA** (*new addition*)

A Birmingham-type datestamp reading "COMMAND PAYMASTER / JAMAICA" with the centre showing time, data and year in three lines. Proof strike dated 22 March 1920, but only sent out to Jamaica on 25 March 1920.

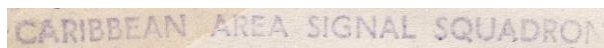
Not seen used on mail in Jamaica.



PY2A

09-02-33 **AS3A. CARIBBEAN AREA SIGNAL SQUADRON** (*new addition*)

A straight-line handstamp reading "CARIBBEAN AREA SIGNAL SQUADRON" in sans serif capitals measuring 74 × 2.5mm. The only example seen is struck in purple ink on the back of the cover.



AS3A

EKD: 27 July 1949

LKD:

09-02-34 **OR2B. HEADQUARTERS, ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS, CARIBBEAN AREA** (*new addition*)

A boxed handstamp, similar to types OR2 & OR2A, having the same text but in another different font. The first line reads "H.Q. R.A.O.C." in relatively square sans serif font, 38 × 4mm, the second line having the date, and the lower line reading "CARIBBEAN AREA" in a tall sans serif font, 39 × 5mm. The frame measures 46 × 30mm, and the two examples seen are both in purple ink. This mark was apparently used alongside OR2 as the periods of use coincide.



OR2B

EKD: 23 November 1959

LKD: 17 June 1960

09-02-35 OR4. ORDNANCE OFFICER/CARIBBEAN AREA *(new addition)*

An oval datestamp with the text “ORDNANCE OFFICER” around the top and “CARIBBEAN AREA” offset from the centre at the bottom, all in relatively crude sans serif font. The centre contains the word “DATE” in smaller font and a dotted line, the only recorded example having a date handstamped below the line. The oval contains an ornament at each side, and the outer frame measures 50 × 31mm. Struck in a grey-purple ink.



OR4

EKD: 22 November 1949

LKD:

09-02-40 PM1. UP PARK CAMP, JAMAICA

Correction: This handstamp, previously noted as a “TRD” was not made of rubber but soft metal faced with copper.

09-02-41 PM2. MILITARY POST/UP PARK CAMP

This oval datestamp has been seen on Canadian Army mail (Winnipeg Grenadiers) from June to August 1941.

09-02-43 PM12. CAMP OFFICE/DATE.../NEWCASTLE, JAMAICA

Revised dates of use EKD: 9 December 1952 LKD: 21 August 1961

The newly-reported example providing the EKD is struck in purple ink on a cover to England, and has the date in manuscript in the space provided.

09-02-43 PM5C. FORCES AIR MAIL

Revised dates of use Purple EKD: 1 December 1959 LKD: 31 August 1967

09-02-53 AC3. PASSED BY CENSOR/No. (number) *(new addition)*

5982 Blue Date unknown

09-02-55 AC4. MILITARY CENSOR/No. (number) *(new addition)*

16 Black EKD: 24 August 1942 LKD: 13 October 1942

NB: The cover from 24 August 1942 was sent by a member of the Canadian Forces with the return address: Lieut. A.C. Logis, 300, Cdn. Army Overseas. The censor mark was signed by another officer.

CHAPTER 3

THE ROYAL NAVY IN JAMAICA

09-03-05 **RNC1. SENIOR OFFICER, PORT ROYAL, JAMAICA**

Revised dates of use EKD: 14 September 1914 LKD: 2 October 1914

09-03-05 **RNC3. PASSED BY NAVAL/CENSOR...**

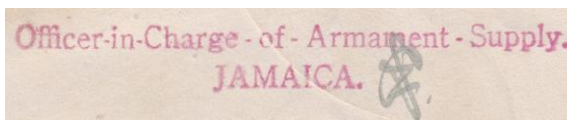
Revised dates of use Magenta EKD: 13 October 1917 LKD: 13 March 1918

09-03-12 **RNC12. FLEET MAIL OFFICE/JAMAICA**

In addition to military mail bearing a Fleet Mail Office handstamp, numerous covers are recorded with the return address on the reverse including "Fleet Mail Office 902" (or F.M.O. 902), and similarly for Fleet Mail Office 901 previously. A cover mailed on 24 December 1941 is possibly the earliest noted for FMO 902. These manuscript FMO addresses are found on mail from both Royal Navy and Royal Air Force personnel on Jamaica.

Although there are no records of British warships being permanently stationed in the Caribbean, Kingston served as a fuelling & repair point for forces in the South Atlantic and those transiting the Panama Canal.

09-03-13 **RN13A. Officer-in-Charge-of-Armament-Supply/JAMAICA** *(new addition)*



A two-line text handstamp, the first line reading "Officer-in-Charge-of-Armament-Supply." in mixed upper and lower case serif font (70 × 3mm), the second line reading "JAMAICA." in serif capitals. The only recorded example was struck in red ink on the back of a cover to the R.N. Armament Depot on Ireland Island, Bermuda, and is initialled by the sender.

RN13A

EKD: 3 October 1942

LKD:

CHAPTER 5

PRISONERS OF WAR, INTERNEES & EVACUEES

05-05-05 **POW2A. PRISONER OF WAR/POSTAGE FREE.**

A boxed handstamp reading “PRISONER OF WAR” in tall serif capitals on the first line, and “POSTAGE FREE.” in wider serif capitals beneath, all within a single line frame and struck in purple ink. The only example seen is on the front of a cover to Kiel, Germany, which has on the reverse a strike of the RN3 Senior Officer handstamp, a Port Royal double ring datestamp (2 October 1914) and a Kingston machine cancellation of the same date.

EKD: 2 October 1914

LKD:

09-05-06 **POWC1. PASSED CENSOR**

Revised dates of use Purple EKD: 10 October 1914

LKD: 4 October 1917

09-05-06 **POWC2. PASSED MIL : CENSOR/JAMAICA**

This marking has been seen in magenta ink as well as purple and blue, recorded previously.

09-05-08 **POWPS1A. Prisoners of War Envelope**

Revised dates of use EKD: 31 July 1916

LKD: 14 November 1916

09-05-16 **POW3. FROM INTERNMENT CAMP**

Revised dates of use EKD: 1 January 1940

LKD: 30 January 1940

09-05-17 **POW3B. INTERNMENT CAMP/JAMAICA, B.W.I.**

A second example of this circular marking has now been found, also struck in purple ink. The Cross Roads double ring datestamp reads 22 December and has no year plug, but the cover is franked with stamps of the New Constitution issue (released August 1945), so the marking must be post-war, whilst the internment camp was still operating (1945 or 1946).

09-05-21 **POW11. RETURNED**

This boxed handstamp reads simply “RETURNED” in large serif capitals contained within a single-line frame measuring 56 × 16.5mm. The only recorded example is on the back of an incoming cover from Germany to an internee, which was opened and returned to the sender. The cover also bears the JCH3 censor handstamps of examiners No.38 and 39, a “Checked No.2” oval mark (POWC4), and was resealed with a carmine on white paper censor label (JL14). The cover was mailed in Hamburg, Germany, on 16 June 1942 but there are no further datestamps.



POW11

09-05-24 Section XI: World War II – Postal Censorship Handstamps on POW Mail

Handstamp type JCH1 is also now recorded on POW mail with number 39 as a manuscript alteration of No.1.

New subsection to be added:

American Aid for German War Prisoners

Many of the items of mail from the WWII internment camp on Jamaica encountered by collectors are addressed to this organisation at 16 Duerstein Street, Buffalo, New York. American Aid for German War Prisoners was established in September 1940 by Emil Auer, who was German-born but who had moved to the United States as a young man and became a naturalised American citizen in 1931 (Fugger, 2012). The aid operation was based at Auer's home at 16 Duerstein Street. Although initially focussed on providing aid to German POWs held in camps in Canada, the organisation almost immediately also started providing aid to German and Italian prisoners in Jamaica, Australia, Bermuda and Surinam. The donations sent to prisoners included cigarettes, clothing, books and even sports equipment.

When America entered the war in December 1941, Germany became an official enemy and greater scrutiny was inevitably placed on the various aid organisations helping German and Italian prisoners, including American Aid for German War Prisoners. This may be the reason why Emil Auer sought permission from the U.S. authorities in January 1942 to change the name of the organisation, dropping "German", a change that was approved in February 1942. Items of mail from the internment camp in Jamaica show the shortened name being used as early as April 1942, although the original name also continued to be used (probably out of habit and familiarity).

From July 1942 the United States President's War Relief Control Board took over control of war relief efforts and began a programme of streamlining these, drastically reducing the number of organisations involved. American Aid for War Prisoners was able to continue for a while, but on 27 May 1943 Emil Auer's assets were frozen, along with those of the organisation. The permit for American Aid for War Prisoners was officially revoked in late June 1943. During the almost three years that it operated the organisation had shipped around 200,000 aid parcels worldwide.

In addition to envelopes, all types of internment camp stationery (POWPS2 to POWPS5) are found addressed to Emil Auer's organisation (or just to Auer himself after the organisation was closed down); examples of each card are shown later in this section. There is a single recorded example of a card from the organisation to a prisoner in the camp in Jamaica which acknowledges the sending of an aid parcel; it is shown below, front and back. The text notes that the organisation is "sending you today one parcel" in both English and German, with Emil Auer's signature. The card was sent from Buffalo on 8 May 1942 and was censored on arrival in Jamaica by censor number 7 (PC3 handstamp). It also received the POWC4 "CHECKED" oval handstamp (No.2). The handstamp indicating sender address clearly reveals the place where "GERMAN" has been removed from the rubber stamp. In theory samples of incoming correspondence with both sender handstamps should exist.

Another exceptionally rare item is a label reading "PRISONER OF WAR POST! / Postage Free" in red ink. The only known example has a Buffalo machine cancellation dated 12 March 1941 and was used on a cover sent to a camp in Canada. Only a small number of labels were printed (perhaps 50 or 100) and were mostly used on parcels before the local post office requested that they no longer be used as they were deemed to resemble a stamp. Emil Auer recollected using "perhaps half a dozen" of these labels on covers to Canada, Jamaica and Australia (Harold Krische, pers. comm.*) with most of the labels being used on parcels.



The survival of a large number of items of mail from POWs in Jamaica to Emil Auer and his organisation must be largely due to the fact that he was a stamp dealer. Items that he received were apparently put in his "25 cent boxes" and subsequently entered numerous collections.



**Harold Krische, nephew of Emil Auer, had a number of conversations with his uncle regarding American Aid for German War Prisoners, and inherited some papers and records. His help in writing this section is gratefully acknowledged.*

09-05-24 POWPS2. INTERNMENT CAMP, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

Revised dates of use EKD: 8 November 1941 LKD: 25 November 1943

The first row of dots begins slightly to the left of the other three lines. The first and fourth rows of dots are 28 mm apart. Minor variants are found with a large final dot in the line after "NAME" and a slight upturn to the end of the solid line immediately beneath this.

09-05-25 POWPS2A. INTERNMENT CAMP, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

The four rows of dots for the address are aligned to the left, and the first and fourth rows are 26-27mm apart.

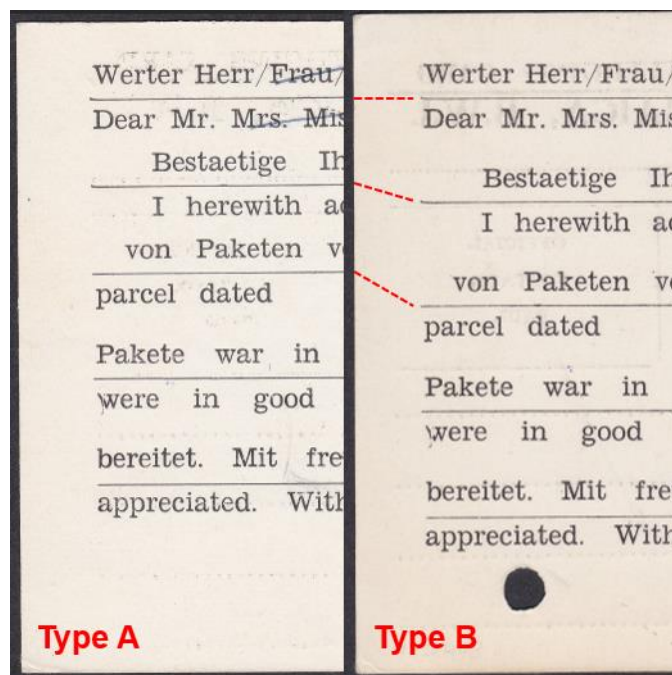
09-05-25 **POWPS3. BESTAETIGUNGSKARTE – ACKNOWLEDGING CARD**

Two types of this card are now recognized with different spacing between the top three solid lines on the message side of the card:

Type A: The first three lines are spaced 11.5 mm apart (as shown in Fig.5.19)

Type B: The first three lines are spaced 13.5 mm apart

The differences in these cards are shown in the figure below.

09-05-26 **POWPS5. PRISONER OF WAR MAIL**

Revised dates of use EKD: 26 June 1943

LKD: 23 December 1946

09-05-38 **GCRL4. GIBRALTAR CAMP manuscript**

Revised dates of use EKD: 24 January 1942

LKD: 7 June 1943

09-05-41 **GCU2A. GIBRALTAR/CAMP**

The EKD of 22 May 1940 is almost certainly incorrect, although this is clearly the date on the Halfway Tree double ring datestamp on the cover. Work on building Gibraltar Camp only began in July 1940, and the first evacuees arrived in October of that year. Most likely the date plug on the datestamp should have read 1941.

09-05-41 **GCU2C. GIBRALTAR/CAMP**

Revised dates of use EKD: 4 September 1942

LKD: 9 April 1943

09-05-42 **Section XVII Gibraltar Camp - Stationery**

The only item of printed stationery for Gibraltar Camp is an envelope with a printed address in the top left corner reading: "GIBRALTAR CAMP / ST. ANDREW / JAMAICA, B.W.I." in black. A single

used example is recorded (shown below) sent by the Chaplain of the camp on 30 November 1942. The letter was censored by the postal censorship service in Jamaica.



CHAPTER 6

THE POSTAL CENSORSHIP SERVICE

09-06-09 **DS1. British style**

Revised dates of use EKD: 11 June 1941 LKD: 27 May 1943

09-06-10 **CMS1. Manuscript Censor number** (*additional number recorded*)

Censor numbers seen applied in manuscript are 1, 3, 8, 18, 19, 20, 28, 823, 848, 4409, 8810 and 8823.

09-06-13 **JL10. OPENED BY / CENSOR.** (**vermilion on white paper**)

Revised dates of use EKD: 9 September 1939 LKD: 2 December 1942*

*The LKD of 2 December 1942 must be considered unlikely since the vermilion on white labels were used only relatively rarely after the introduction of those printed in carmine on white paper early in 1942, and the use of these labels ceased entirely when the local and imperial censorship departments merged on 1 September 1942.

09-06-21 **JL32. OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*additional number recorded*)

Censor numbers on this label used in Jamaica are 622, 823, 838, 846, 848, 960, 1260, 4599, 5682, 6106 and 6129.

Revised dates of use EKD: 21 June 1941 LKD: 21 August 1943

09-06-21 **JL32A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('D' added in manuscript)** (*additional numbers recorded*)

Known with censor numbers 838, 846, 848, 965 and 4599.

09-06-21 **JL32A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('ID' added in manuscript)**

Recorded with censor number 622.

09-06-22 **JL34. OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*additional numbers recorded*)

It has been seen used in Jamaica with censor numbers 367, 622, 838, 1260, 1655, 1894, 2280, 2548, 2870, 3650, 4381, 4526, 4561, 4598, 4599, 6254, 6383, 6416, 7262, 7549 and 881.

09-06-23 **JL34B. OPENED BY / EXAMINER ('ID' added in manuscript)**

Revised dates of use EKD: 20 October 1942 LKD: 5 October 1944

09-06-24 **JL40. OPENED BY / EXAMINER** (*additional numbers recorded*)

Used by censors 2280, 4599, 5662, 5682, 6084, 6106 and 6129.

09-06-25 JL44. OPENED BY / EXAMINER (with printer's code)

Revised dates of use EKD: 21 October 1941 LKD: 12 February 1943

09-06-26 JL50A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D/number ('I' added in manuscript)
(additional numbers recorded)

Censor numbers 1260, 5717, 8801, 8802, 8804, 8805, 8807, 8809, 8816, 8818, 8820, 8823, 8825, 8827, 8828 and 8830.

Revised dates of use EKD: 5 June 1942 LKD: 2 October 1942

09-06-27 JL52A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER / D/number ('I' added in manuscript)

Revised dates of use EKD: 17 December 1941 LKD: 16 August 1942

09-06-35 JL78. OPENED BY / EXAMINER I.D./number *(additional numbers recorded)*

This type is recorded for censor numbers 622, 1645, 2005, 5403, 5662, 5717, 6106, 8805, 8806, 8809, 8811, 8812, 8814, 8817, 8828, 8834, 8835 and 8843.

09-06-38 JL48. OPENED BY / EXAMINER number *(additional numbers recorded)*

Censor numbers seen: 4381, 4561, 4598, 4599, 5610, 5717, 6106 and 6129.

09-06-39 JL48A. OPENED BY / EXAMINER number ('D' added in manuscript)
(additional number recorded)

Known used by censor numbers 4691, 4817 and 5610.

09-06-43 Typographical error

(2nd paragraph): The correct spelling is Transcontinentali.

09-06-66 CL4. OPENED BY/EXAMINER D/

Revised dates of use EKD: 4 September 1939 LKD: October 1939

09-06-67 CJL62. OPENED BY/EXAMINER D./

Revised dates of use EKD: 4 May 1944 LKD:

09-06-67 CJL78. OPENED BY/EXAMINER I.D./

Revised dates of use EKD: 24 February 1945 LKD:

CHAPTER 7

THE CANADIAN FORCES IN JAMAICA

09-07-01 **SV2. HMCS Fraser**

A directly comparable cover to SV1 has been seen to commemorate the visit to Jamaica of the H.M.C.S. Fraser, dated 20 February 1939 (Kingston double ring datestamp). The design of the cover is the same as SV1, but with the name and ship's crest replaced with that of H.M.C.S. Fraser. The photograph of the ship is missing in the example seen.

09-07-07 **CAC2. MILITARY CENSOR / THE WINNIPEG GRENADIERS (M.G.)**

Revised dates of use Purple EKD: 12 November 1940 LKD: 3 January 1941

09-07-08 **CAC3A. Winnipeg Grenadiers** (*additional number recorded*)

Add to the table:

2	Magenta	With oval "Military Post/Up Park Camp" datestamp (PM2)
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09-07-09 **CAC3B. 1st Battalion Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada** (*additional types recorded*)

Add to the table:

2	Magenta	-
4	Purple	No inverted commas (3 October 1942)

09-07-10 **CAC3C. Irish Fusiliers of Canada (The Vancouver Regiment)** (*additional numbers recorded*)

Add to the table:

1	Black	-
8	Blue	-

09-07-11 **CAC4. MILITARY CENSOR / Y FORCE**

Revised dates of use Purple EKD: 27 March 1942 LKD: 4 January 1944

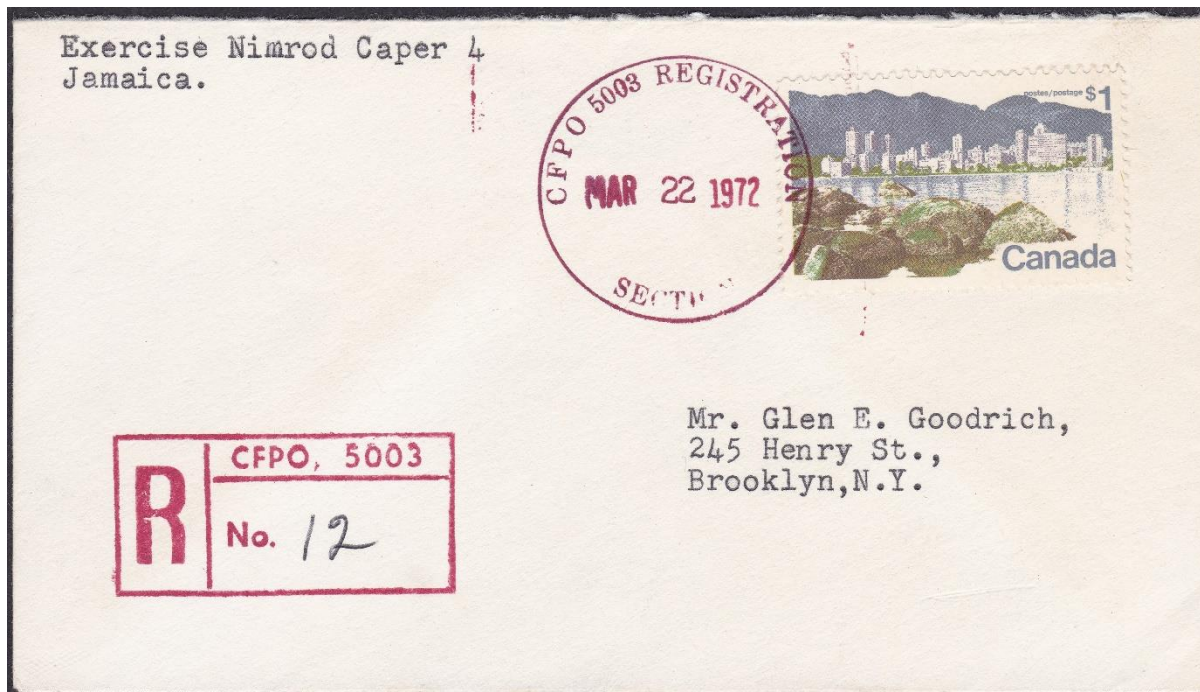
09-07-12 **CAC5A. Irish Fusiliers of Canada (The Vancouver Regiment)**

Revised dates of use Blue EKD: 6 March 1944 LKD: 5 June 1944

The CAC5 censor mark has also been seen in magenta ink, date unknown but 1944 (thus uncertain which regiment it was used by).

09-07-19 CA2E. Nimrod Caper IV

A registered cover sent by a participant on this exercise (shown below) bears a Canadian stamp cancelled with a large single ring datestamp (36 to 37mm diameter) reading "CFPO 5003 REGISTRATION / SECTION" and dated 22 March 1972. Also on the front of the cover is struck a boxed registration mark inscribed CFPO 5003 with the registration number "12" added in manuscript. The sender was Captain R. Johnstone of 408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron.



CHAPTER 8

AMERICAN FORCES IN JAMAICA

09-08-08 **List of known uncacheted mail from visiting US ships:-** *(new addition)*

USS ARGONNE 6 March 1939 submarine tender AS-10

USS TATTNALL 29 June 1937 destroyer DD-125

09-08-09 **Section II ‘Destroyers for Bases’ and the American Presidential ‘Working Vacation’**

Paragraphs 3 & 4: The cover shown below is from the voyage of the heavy cruiser **USS TUSCALOOSA**, carrying President Roosevelt on a sea voyage in the Caribbean. It bears a datestamp commemorating the meeting with the Duke of Windsor that took place at Eleuthera Island, Bahamas, some days following the president’s visit to Jamaica.



09-08-16 **USAC2. Captain Charles M. Baer**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 3 June 1941

LKD: 15 July 1941

09-08-32 **USAC4 (Army Unit Usage). PASSED BY/ARMY EXAMINER**

Revised dates of use

113

EKD: 2 July 1942

LKD: 19 November 1943

09-08-35 **USA1B. AMERICAN BASE FORCES APO 804/REGISTERED**

Revised dates of use

EKD: 17 November 1941

LKD: 20 April 1942

09-08-36 USA2AA. U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE/A.P.O.

A variant of the USA2A datestamp has been seen in which the numeral 861 is missing, but there is no bar in its place. The date plugs are in the order: JUL/9/A.M./1942.

EKD: 9 July 1942

LKD:

09-08-38 USAC4 (continued) (Army Air Force Unit Usage). PASSED BY/ARMY EXAMINER

Revised dates of use 122 EKD: 14 August 1943 LKD: 17 March 1944

CHAPTER 9

PROVINCIAL FORCES

09-09-15 **JRU2. HEADQUARTERS / THE JAMAICA REGIMENT / PALISADOES / CAMP / KINGSTON**

Revised dates of use EKD: 3 November 1954 LKD: 5 March 1958

09-09-21 **JRU4. Jamaica Defence Force Supply Depot / Up Park Camp, Kingston**

Revised dates of use EKD: 28 February 1974 LKD: 6 May 1975

09-09-21 **JRU4A. Jamaica Military Stores Depot / Up Park Camp Kingston** *(new addition)*

This datestamp is of a very similar style to JRU4 but is inscribed “Jamaica Military Stores Depot” around the top in serif lettering, with “Up Park Camp Jamaica” around the bottom in the same lettering. The datestamp is a double ring type, the outer ring being thicker than the inner, with an outer diameter of 40mm. The date is in the centre, as with the other similar types listed, and it has only been seen struck in purple ink. Beneath the date is a manuscript reference number, and the examples seen were sent to the Crown Agents in London.



EKD: 17 April 1973

LKD:

JDFU4A

09-09-25 **GP11. GARRISON POST OFFICE**

Revised dates of use EKD: 1 April 1985 LKD: 29 July 1985

09-09-26 **GP12. GARRISON POST OFFICE**

Revised dates of use EKD: 19 April 1990 LKD: 25 May 1994

CHAPTER 10

PATRIOTIC MAIL

09-10-19 PT23. The British Bulldog

Revised dates of use EKD: 23 December 1940 LKD: 27 April 1943

09-10-19 PT23A. The British Bulldog with addition

Revised dates of use EKD: 27 January 1941 LKD: 23 March 1942

09-10-19 PT23B. V & Union Flag Shield *(new addition)*

This label has been reported used in Jamaica on 22 December 1941 in the book on patriotic labels by Clive Edwards (1990). It comprises a shield-shaped Union flag printed in red & blue with a black background, bearing a large “V” for Victory and the words “THERE WILL ALWAYS BE AN” (vertical in black) and “ENGLAND” (horizontal in gold). The label may not have been produced in Jamaica.

EKD: 22 December 1941 LKD:



PT23B

09-10-22 PT26A. NAAFI cover with return address

Revised dates of use EKD: 29 August 1942 LKD: 6 March 1943

09-10-23 PT27. The Fellowship of the Bellows

Revised dates of use EKD: 13 November 1944 LKD: 24 November 1945

This LKD has been taken from the book on patriotic labels by Clive Edwards (1990).

09-10-26 PT31D. V ... – label *(new addition)*

A small square label, approximately 25mm × 25mm, printed in scarlet on white paper, with a large capital sans serif “V” at the top, and the Morse code beneath. It is not known if it was printed in Jamaica.

EKD: 23 May 1942 LKD:



PT31D

REFERENCES

Add the following references:

Edwards, C. (1990). *Patriotic & Propaganda of the British Commonwealth*, Label Lads, 36pp.

Fugger, E. (2012). *American Aid for German War Prisoners: Humanitarian Relief as Reconciliation between Heritage and Patriotism*, Honors Theses, 927.