The main purpose of this exhibit...
...is to show the postal communications and special arrangements for Swedes in military campaigns or in active (military) service abroad. All the important Swedish wars and most interesting volunteers' mail are shown. This exhibit is the first exhibit ever to treat this.

The Exhibit Plan

1. Sweden's rise to a Great Power in Central Europe 16th century - 1648 2-16
2. Sweden's Great Power Era in Europe -1721 17-36
3. Sweden's descend and end as a Great Power in Central Europe -1814 37-61
4. Sweden's 1st 100 years of Peace -1914 62-96
5. Swedish war and military support abroad during WWI and its aftermath 1919 97-128

The main chapters are the key periods of the Swedish history and they begin with a short historical introduction followed by a postal history overview. Each chapter is divided into subchapters (e.g. the individual wars) which in general also are listed in a chronological order. The exhibit begin with the earliest known cover from any Swedish militaries & volunteers in war and campaigns.

Focus is on militaries in war and campaigns.
The exhibit also show some items of war and campaign preparations such as recruitment, transport and logistics for the forces. These elements are necessary for the forces.

Necessary are knowledge of the military...
...operations to do the depth of the exhibit's treatment and understand the difficulties of forces' mail at wartime.

All the items are philatelically different...
...by rate, route, postal marking or censorship. Each item is analysed and explained including the route and rate where that is possible to do. Maps is used to enhance this. These elements together show usage of different mail systems by Swedish militaries in wartimes and abroad.

Important are fast and safe mail routes...
...to commanders at the front for a successful outcome of all wars. All military orders and information were written letters to the 20th century. All the methods of handling the mail for the Swedish militaries and volunteers are shown. A broad range of usage of postal services to and from Sweden are also shown by the items in chapter 4 and 5.

Best available quality and condition...
...of the items in the philatelic market throughout the whole exhibit, especially the items from the Swedish wars. Due to bad conditions in times of war and age, items are not often in the best quality as other items are from the same period.

Original research and personal studies...
...have been done of the whole topic of the exhibit and unknown philatelic information have been published by the exhibitor several times (see the presented list "References of special interest" on this page). There are very little published philatelic knowledge of this exhibit's subject.

The items are unusual to very rare.
Most items are very difficult to obtain (-5 copies) incl. several only known items. Almost only officers could write and afford the postage. The militaries at war did not receive mail in the same extent as others and in most cases had little time to write letters. “e.” indicates an item certificate.

The page layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year, type of</th>
<th>Subchapter headline</th>
<th>Item description is a direct continue of the &quot;Item headline&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>item and start</td>
<td></td>
<td>Double frame = important item.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>end of route.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Postal rate (amount, &quot;for what&quot; and period).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References of special interest
By the exhibitor (Bodin, R.) published articles:
- "Military Mail" section, FACIT Postal catalogue, 1997 & 2009
- Svenska Fältpostkontor i utlandet (Swedish FPO's Abroad), SSPD's Aktuellt om Posthistoria nr 5, 1997
- War against Russia & Denmark 1788-1790, Militär Postal Tidskrift (Military Postal Journal) MPT 59, 2006
- Pommerska Kriget (Pomeranian War) 1805-07, MPT 57, 2005
- The Finnish War 1808-09, MPT 55, 2004 and MPT59, 2006
- Svensk orlogsutbildning i flottan (Sw. Navy's naval education) 1860-1861, Posthistoriska notiser från SSPD nr 3, 2005
- Svenska Cadettlägret på (Sw. Cadet Corps at) Gardemoen (Norway) 1862, MPT 55, 2004
- Swedish volunteers in the Anglo-Boer War, MPT 58, 2005
- The Finnish Liberation War, MPT 59, 2006
- The Swedish Navy and Army Detachment at Åland 1918-1919, MPT 59, 2006

By others:
Heurgren, P.G: Svensk Militärpost (Sw. Military Mail), 1961
Posträttaren: Postmuseet Årskrift (yearbook) 1994 and 1996
1. Sweden’s rise to a Great Power in Central Europe 16th century - 1648

This period covers the change of Swedish Kings’ interest from only domestic matters to Sweden’s neighbour countries and the birth of a great power in Europe during the Europe’s 30 years war (1618-1648).

In late 16th century Sweden start to extend its territory east of the Baltic Sea. One major reason was to control more of the trade from the eastern Baltic area, thus generated more income of taxes and duty to the Government. Other reasons for the early wars in 17th century were the complicated situation of the rights to the Swedish throne and different religion. For example the Swedish King Gustav II Adolf was Protestant and his cousin Sigismund was King of Poland, former King of Sweden and Catholic.

The officers and soldiers in the Swedish army these years were mercenaries and were all to be paid, thus the need of income to the Government. A long war could have periods with armistices and little fighting, because everything one wish to do with the army was dependent on one’s ability to raise the money.

Postal History

Royal or military couriers were the only options for letter conveyance to and from the Swedish military at war until 1631, when the organized Swedish field post system was introduced in Germany during the 30 years war. The Royal Swedish Mail started 1636 with a few post offices.

Maps are used to show the conflict area, the major military campaigns (by arrows) and the route for shown postal items. This is done to easier understand the relation a war and a campaign had upon mail, especially for the shown items.

1.1 The Twenty five years War against Russia 1570-1595

1582 Official letter by courier from the Sw. commander at Coporie, Russia - Finland...

...and the Swedish treasurer for Finland Lasse Holgersson. Sent from the Swedish field camp at Coporie by riding military courier. Dated and signed by Field marshal Pontus De La Gardie March 9, 1582.

The commander of the Swedish forces (1580-1585) Field marshal Pontus De La Gardie began in August 1581 an offensive campaign on the Russian soil. Narva was taken Sept. 6, 1581 and Coporie in early October 1581. Armistice was signed Aug. 10, 1583 and lasted to 1590.

Duration: Aug. 21, 1570 - May 18, 1595
Main area: Estonia, Sweden & Ingermanland, western Russia
Enemy: Russia
1.5 Conflict with military campaign against Denmark 1624

1624 By courier to Sw. chancellor and commander A. Oxenstierna in Sjöared...

...at the southwestern border to Denmark with arrival notation June 7, 1624 on back.

Address and seven rows of titles in German. For example: Right Honourable man, chancellor of the Sw. Government, legate, commander in the Sw. Army, lord of Kimito, Fiholm and Tidön.

Sender was B. Ribbing, councillor in Sw. Government.

The Swedish King planned to attack Denmark if the new treaty talks were unsuccessful.

Axel Oxenstierna were Supreme commander of the southern Sw. military forces (5000 soldiers within 5 km from Sjöared at his own disposal) and also leader of the Sw. delegation in the treaty discussions at the Danish border.

There were also several regiments in Göteborg, Jönköping and Calmar that were combat ready.

The Danes broke the treaty of Stettin 1613 by collecting tax on the Swedish ships passing the Öresund. In the treaty, Sweden were entitled of free tax on Swedish goods passing Öresund and the Danes free trade in some major Swedish cities.

June 15, the Danes withdrew its demand of Swedish tax in Öresund and Oxenstierna could send home some Swedish soldiers. The new treaty was signed June 29, but Sw. forces remained combat ready for some months.

Duration: Spring - Autumn 1624
Main area: South & west of Sweden
Enemy: Denmark
Sw. militaries: around Sjöared approx. 5000
1.6 The Thirty years War 1630-1648

1.6.6 Campaign in Bavaria 1646-1647

1646 Military order by courier Nördlingen-Wemding...

...in Bavaria (south Germany). Dated and signed October 20, 1646.

From the Swedish Colonel Barthold von Bülow to the Swedish Army. Military order to be in Nördlingen 6 am the next morning with 8 wagons, each pulled by four horses. The Army was going to march west for good winter quarters.

1.6.7 Campaign in Bavaria 1648

...dated September 21, 1648 and to the Swedish Army's commander Field marshal Karl Gustav Wrangel. Sender was the Mayor of Wemding. Address and six rows of titles is written in German.

The Swedish Army headquarter was at Moosburg for a couple of weeks until Sep. 20. The courier did not know the receiver's departure and had to catch up the Swedish Army towards Landsberg.

1648 By courier Wemding - via Moosburg - Landsberg,...

Sep. 20, 1648 Field marshal Wrangel is marching with the French commander Turenne from Moosburg (about 45 km northeast of München) towards Landsberg (about 50 km west of München) which is reached in a couple of days. The Swedish and French armies were lined up Sep. 28 and 29 for a battle, but the Catholic Army avoid a battle by retreat to the west.
2.5 War against Brandenburg and Denmark 1674-1679

2.5.1 War against Denmark in Sweden

1679 Royal Free-letter by Sw. Royal Mail Ljungby - Stockholm...

...with a Royal seal and listing nr “12”. Dated February 12, 1679 at the headquarter in Ljungby.

Sent as Free-letter with notation of weight and rate in the sender’s Free-letter book by the postmaster, probably in Växjö (nearest post office to Ljungby). Mail by the Sw. Royal Mail was sent Växjö-Jönköping-Stockholm.

From the Sw. King Carl XI to the Sw. minister of finance Steen Bielke in Stockholm.


Sweden was obliged by treaty with France to attack Brandenburg (north Germany). The Danes invaded Scania Jun. 27, 1676.

During the winter 1677-1678 the Sw. Army intensified the hunt of the pro-Danish “Snapphanarna”.

The Sw. Army besieged Helsingborg and Landscrona (east coast of Scania) from early 1679 until end of the war.

2.5.2 War against Brandenburg

1678 Urgent letter by Sw. Royal Mail Stockholm-Wollmar...

...in Sw. Livonia with notation “Cito, Cito, Citissime” (=express) and listing nr “17”. Dated August 3, 1678.

Mail by Sw. Royal Mail to Livonia was often sent by ship Stockholm-Riga.

To the Sw. Count and Colonel Carl Gustaf Oxenstierna, Sw. commander of an infantry regiment marching south towards Brandenburg.

2.8 War against Russia 1700-1721

2.8.1 Defence of the Swedish Baltic provinces 1700-1710

1709 Double rate letter by Sw. Royal Mail from a Sw. warship, Reval, Estonia - Carlskrona, Sweden...

...via Stockholm and with listing nr "2". Dated “the warship Öhland ride at anchor at Nargöön June 24, 1709” (outside Reval).

Also with the rare ribbon town postmark “REVAL” (Jun. 9, 1708 - Oct. 1710). One of the first town cancellation in Sweden and its provinces. Probably made in Pernau.

20 öre silver coins Reval-Carlskrona letter rate 1¼-2¼ lod (=16.6-29.9g.) Jan. 1, 1693-Jan. 31, 1710.

Content is that the first line-of-battle ship Öland is waiting for wind for the homeward journey, after completed escort of transport ships with crucial supplies and new soldiers to Reval, which was under siege.

The earliest known cover from or to a Swedish warship!

In 1709 the Russian Army control whole Estonia except for the major cities as Reval and Pernau. At this time the Swedish Navy did an important work by escorting transport ships with supplies to the cities under siege, e.g. Reval.

The last Swedish Baltic city, Reval, capitulated in Sep. 1710.
1788  Paid letter by Sw. Royal Mail Åbo, Finland - Stockholm, Sweden...

...with listing nr "32". Dated and signed March 11, 1788.

Sender was the Sw. Colonel Johan Henrik Hästesko in charge of the Infantry Regiment of the County of Åbo.

Addressee was the Field marshal Count A. Fersen.

Content is about the situation of the regiment and money for extra supplies in the near future (to be used in the war).

3 skilling 6 runstycken
Äbo-Stockholm letter rate -1¼ lod (=16.6g.)
Jan. 1, 1786 - Apr. 30, 1807.

...outside Hangö, in south Finland with marking in Sw. on front “conveyed by the ship pilots, of high responsibility, as fast as possible...Highest priority.”

The Sw. Colonel Olof Martin Fust was at the Sw. warship Wladislaff (captured from the Russians in 1788). He commanded a Sw. naval squadron that was only in the Finnish waters Sep. 3-7, 1789.

1789  By ship pilots to the Sw. Navy's commander...

Duration: Jun. 27, 1788 - Aug. 14, 1790  Main area: Finland & Baltic Sea  Enemy: Russia  Sw. militaries: approx. 32000
3.7 The Finnish War 1808-1809

3.7.2 Swedish offensive campaign in Finland August - September 1808

1808 Military Report by Regimental Mail Kauhajoki...

...Lappfjärd (outside Kristinestad) with marking in Sw. on front (dispatch with Regimental Mail in somewhat trot). Distance was 40 km.

From the division commander Lieutenant-colonel Carl von Otter August 27, 1808 to the brigade commander Colonel August Fredrik Palmfelt.

The battle of Nummijärvi August 28, 1808.
August 28, 1808 4.30 am a Russian force of 1500 men and two sex pounded batteries attacked von Otters troops. These were a Battalion of Österbotten with five companies, a company of Vasa militia, 20 dragoons and two three pounded batteries. Totally 600 men.

The Swedes had prepared good defence fortifications and field of fire north of Nummijärvi. After four hours battle the Russians retreated with heavy casualties.

1808 By military, Ytterjeppo...

...(southeast of Nykarleby) to the brigade commander Colonel Palmfelt. Military Report from the guards (at 1st battalion) 5 pm September 11, 1808.

The report is about that the Russian forces is building a bridge at the Ekola Inn at Ekola and that they have seen 3 Cossacks at Öfverjepo

The positions of Swedish units (in blue) and Russian units (in red) in the morning September 12, 1808.
3.7 The Finnish War 1808-1809

3.7.3 Defence of Finland, Åland and mainland of Sweden October 1808 - 1809

Extra mail transport, ordered by the military, by General Mail from Norrtelje Royal Post office...

...for a letter to the commander of the Sw. Coastal Army and to the Chief Bailiff of the Stockholm county. Dated September 25, 1809.

Content:
"Chief aide in command etc...request at the Royal Post Office in Norrtelje, an extra mail transport which will departure with one letter to the commander in chief of the Coastal Army and also one to the King's Chief Bailiff of the Stockholm county.

Norrtelje Sept. 25, 1809
Order by Edelfeldt
Aide of staff"

The "Extra Mail" was a mail transport between the regular ones. Often consisted of only 1 or 2 letters.

The Extra Mail transport could only be ordered by a handful of persons (e.g. the King, high rank militaries and high Government officials) and only for very important and highest official service.

In March 1809 the Sw. Coastal Army was moved across the sea from Åland to the Swedish mainland and the headquarter was placed in the surroundings of Norrtälje.

Most probably was these "Extra Mail" letters content about to cease any ongoing hostilities and standby for further instructions because of the progressive peace talks and the official peace treaty could be signed any day to come.
3.8 War against Denmark and Norway 1808-1809

1808 Royal Proclamation "War against Denmark & Norway" with mail restrictions...

from March 15, 1808. Also about the total prohibition of mail contact inclusive transit. Other is the prohibit of contact with anybody in Denmark and Norway inclusive its possessions.

At the peace treaty of Tilsit Jul. 7-9, 1807 Denmark and Norway joined the Continental system (ally with France) against England and Sweden.

It specifies especially mail inclusive transit, all shipping, commerce and trade. The life sentence penalty was mentioned for violation of these restriction.

As Sweden refused to join the Continental system Denmark and Norway declared war against Sweden.

Duration: Mar. 14, 1808 - Dec. 10, 1809 Main area: Scania & border to Norway Enemy: Denmark & Norway
3.8 War against Denmark and Norway 1808-1809

3.8.1 The Norwegian front

1808 Official express letter (feather!) no 44 from the Life Regiment by Crown Mail to Bullarby...

...dated July 14, 1808 to the head of County. Feather in the seal indicate "important letter, hurry on!" (=express).

Content is a requisition of transport of the regiment to Strömstad (near the Norwegian border).

3.8.2 The Danish front

1808 Letter by local Regimental Post Helsingborg - Hjelmshult...

...with notation in Sw. "arrived at Råå 30 dec 1808 10.45 pm and depart immediately" on back.

It was from the Swedish Colonel Tawast to Major von Liewen, "1st" Major at the Northern Scanian Hussar Regiment.
1813 Order to the North Army, to respect all postal service agencies in Germany...


Hauptquartier Mühlhausen den 28sten October 1813.

Auf Befehl Seiner Königlichen Hoheit.

Baron Adlercreutz,

Chef vom Generalstab.

...dated October 28, 1813 in Mühlhausen (160 km west of Leipzig), Gennany. Printed in Germany.

Signed by the Sw. chief of staff Baron Adlercreutz. The order was from the commander of the allied North Army, the Sw. Crown Prince Carl-Johan.

Item oversized
Original folded
Copy of Item (31 %)
4.4 Swedish Volunteers in the French Army 19th Century

4.4.1 The French pacification of Algeria 1858-1871

1869 Foreign paid letter Wadstena, Sweden - Paris - Medeah, Algeria. (e)

Sweden’s share was 17½ öre for each normal letter to France per 10g. France got 35 centimes and they paid the transit through Prussia. 42 öre, F9c3 + F11e2, paid letter -10g, direct to France Feb. 1, 1868 - Dec. 31, 1875.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>-cancel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wadstena*</td>
<td>5.5.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PKXP Nr2*, Falköping- Malmö</td>
<td>6.5.69</td>
<td>Railroad postal compartment PD* (Paid to destination)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>via Denmark and North Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td>By closed mail bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suède-Er- quelines 2*</td>
<td>9.5.69</td>
<td>Railroad postal compartment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris a Lyon*</td>
<td>9.5.69</td>
<td>Change of train</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marseille-Alger</td>
<td></td>
<td>French ship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alger</td>
<td></td>
<td>Forwarded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medeah*</td>
<td>15.5.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cancel “PD” (Port Payé jusqu’à Destination =Paid to destination) was ordered in ten and two were delivered Jan. 2, 1868 and eight Jan. 22, 1868 by engraver Barklund. The cancel PD was to be struck on fully paid letters to the final destination.

Swedish officers joined foreign military forces to gain knowledge and qualifications which could be used for the career at home. The French Army was one of the most prominent armies in the world in the 19th century.

French forces invaded the city Alger 1830. One reason was to deal with the piracy in the Mediterranean. The conquest of Algeria went on for several decades. The Kabyle people in the mountainous northern Algeria made most resistance to the French Army during the whole 19th century.
4.4 Swedish Volunteers in the French Army 19th Century

4.4.1 The French pacification of Algeria 1858-1871

1869 Unpaid dom. letter Teniet El Haad - Boghar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place (*=cds)</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>*=cancel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teniet-el-Haad*</td>
<td>10.2.69</td>
<td>Surcharge &quot;30¢&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blidad*</td>
<td>11.2.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boghar*</td>
<td>13.2.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

30 centimes unpaid domestic (Algeria & France) letter -10g. Jul. 1, 1854 - Aug. 31, 1871.

1869 Domestic letter with left Late fee, Tlemcen - Medeah.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place (*=cds)</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>*=cancel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tlemcen*</td>
<td>20.5.69</td>
<td>nr &quot;5075&quot;* = Tlemcen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alger*</td>
<td>23.5.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alger*</td>
<td>24.5.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Médéah*</td>
<td>24.5.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter left after the last time of collection of mail could be accepted at an extra fixed fee in three escalating steps (depends on in which time period it was left) and still be in the next mail departure.

20 centimes, 3x Y29A, domestic (Algeria & France) letter -10g. Jul. 1, 1854 - Aug. 31, 1871.

40 centimes fee for 2nd period after last time of collection of mail Jun. 1, 1863 - 1871.

1869 Paid domestic letter within Algeria Blidah - Alger.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place (*=cds)</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>*=cancel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blidah*</td>
<td>4.11.69</td>
<td>nr &quot;5013&quot;* = Blidah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alger*</td>
<td>4.11.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cancels with large numbers were in use in Algeria Jun. 1, 1863 - Mar. 1876.


Sw. Lieutenant Count Mauritz Gyllenram served in the 1st Zouaves Regiment 1868 and also during the campaigns.
4.6 Swedish Navy voyages and Army observers abroad 1880s - 1914

4.6.5 The Swedish Navy corvette Saga voyage Overseas 1908

1908 By Sw. Warship mail Alger, Algeria - Sweden, forwarded to France.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alger</td>
<td>2.7.08</td>
<td>Franked 5 öre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through Europe</td>
<td></td>
<td>Closed mail bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malmö 1 Örl Post*</td>
<td>6.7.08</td>
<td>Warship mail only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halmstad*</td>
<td>7.7.08</td>
<td>Forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockholm 2*</td>
<td>8.7.08</td>
<td>Franked 5 öre Forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talloise*, Haute-Savoie</td>
<td>11.7.08</td>
<td>Forward</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Sw. warship used domestic rates for mail to Sweden.

5 öre, F52, Postcard within Scandinavia Apr. 1 1885 - May 31, 1918.


4.6.6 The Swedish Navy corvette Saga voyage Overseas 1910

1910 Domestic letter by Swedish Warship mail to Jönköping, Sweden...

The Swedish corvette Saga was built 1877 at Naval Shipping Yard in Karlskrona. She was 61 m. long, 10.2 m. wide and the weight was 1617 ton. Max speed was 11 knots. Armed with one 167 mm and six 122 mm cannons.

Duration: May 24, - Jul. 30, 1910
Main area: Baltic Sea
Mission: Naval training
Sw. sailors: 188

4.9 Swedish Militaries and Policemen in Persia 1911-1921

4.9.2 The Persian Police Force 1913-1921

1914 Registered pre-printed letter Teheran, Persia - Stockholm, Sweden...

...with cds “Teheran 5” March 16, 1914 and cancel “Teheran R nr 3919”. Arrival cds “Stockholm PKXP 63” (railroad postal compartment) March 26, 1914 on back.

From the Sw. Superintendent Leopold Bjurling in Teheran.

12 chahi. SG372, Foreign letter -15g. 1913 - 1921.

12 chahi, Registration fee 1913 - 1921.

Photocopy of reverse

1918 Postcard censored by “Dunsterforce” Lund, Sweden - Teheran...

...with pre-printed stamp 10 öre and additional 6 öre, over franked, cds “Lund” June 24, 1918. Censored by Russian military authorities in Petrograd by censor mark from censor nr 191. Censored again by the British Army, censor mark “Censuré DUNSTERFORC” on back (Baku Aug. 4. - Sep. 14, 1918). Arrival cds “Teheran 6” September 9, 1918.

Mail were directed “Sweden (by boat) - Finland (Russia) - Russia (by rail) -Persia”.


The British Major-general Lionel Dunsterville was leading the so-called “Dunsterforce” from India to Baku, a key oil port in Russia, across Persia.

Photocopy of reverse
4.10 The Balkan War 1912-1913

4.10.3 Field doctors in the Ottoman Army 1912-1913

1912 Foreign letter by Ottoman Postal Service, Constantinople, Turkey - Sweden...

...with cds "Constantinople" November 26, 1912. Arrival cds "Västerås" December 2, 1912 on back.

Written by the Sw. military field Doctor Richard Erhardt.


1912 Foreign letter by German Postal Service, Constantinople, Turkey - Sweden...

...with cds "Constantinople III" December 10, 1912. Arrival cds "Västerås" December 14, 1912 on back.

Ottoman postal rates were applicable.

Sw. Dr. R. Erhardt.


1912 Foreign letter by Austrian Postal Service, Constantinople, Turkey - Sweden...

...with cds "Constantinople III", December 18, 1912.

Ottoman postal rates were applicable.

Sw. Dr. R. Erhardt.

5.3 The Finnish Liberation War 1918

5.3.2 The Swedish Red Cross Field Ambulances

1918 Censored (Torneå) letter from Sw. R.C. ambulance B, Vasa - Stockholm...

...with cds "Nikolaistad" (Vasa 1855-1917) February 25, 1918. Censored in Torneå with a bilingual (Finnish and Swedish) censor label.

H. von Below served in the Swedish Red Cross ambulance B.

1918 Official mail to the Swedish ambulance C in Vasa from Wirrat...

...with pre-printed stamp 10 penni cds "Wirrat" March 14, 1918, notation "Fieldpost" (Field post). Sent via the civil mail. Arrival cds "Wasa" March 15, 1918.

Official violet rubber cancel "Virtain Suojeluskunta. Wirrat" (the Finnish women's local organization for supporting the White Army). This unit had right to use the field post rate.

Addressee was the Sw. Friends of Finland's female nurse Aina Barck in Vasa.

Field post was forwarded free in Finland Feb. 20. - Dec. 31, 1918 (15 penni domestic postcard rate).

In Feb. 1918 the Swedish organization Finlands Vänner (Friends of Finland) Red Cross department also equipped two ambulance units C and D for service in Finland. The unit C was moved from Vasa to Kuopio in late Mar. 1918.
5.4 The Swedish Intervention at Åland 1918

5.4.2 The Swedish Army Detachment at Åland

1918 Early censored postcard Sw. Detachment Åland - Stockholm...

...(Sweden) dated March 6, 1918 and with machine-cancel "Stockholm 1" March 13, 1918 and Sw. red censor cancel by the Sw. military censor at Åland.

Postcard by local publisher in Mariehamn, showing a local may-pole on Åland.

5 öre, F79, Postcard within Scandinavia Apr. 1, 1885 - May 30, 1918.

Postcard of the Sw. forces mail handling warship HM Svensksund,...

...on which the Sw. postmaster A.E.W Strömbäck travelled when handled and cancelled most part of the Sw. forces mail.

Feb. 18 1918 the Swedish Government decided to send military forces to guard the Swedish consulate in Mariehamn and protect the local population from aggression against the Russian, the Red and White forces.

Announcement in the newspaper Åland:

To the population on Åland.
Sw. troops have under my command arrived at Åland with tasks that includes to protect outrages against the population from whoever it may be, which has now been announced. Mariehamn March 4, 1918,
Gustaf Ros, commander of the Detachment at Åland
5.4 The Swedish Intervention at Åland 1918

5.4.2 The Swedish Army Detachment at Åland

1918 Rationed receipt for official stamp/cover from the Army at Åland...

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Kvitto å tjänstefrankotecken.
Innehavaren härav berättas att från postanstalt utbokoma ett konvolut till militärbrev för brevväxling med mobiliserad person vid krigsmakten.

För att gälla skall detta kvitto vara försett med vederbörligt kompanis, skvadrons, batteris eller motsvarande avdelningars stämpel.

"Kvoltto å tjänstefrankotecken."
Innehavaren får berättas att från postanstalt utbokoma ett konvolut till militärbrev för brevväxling med mobiliserad person vid krigsmakten.

Kongl. Göta livgardes Expedition.
5. Kompani.

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1918 Military reply letter Stockholm - the Swedish commanding officer at Åland...

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Coupon “Receipt of official stamp” was distributed only to special organized military units at a monthly rate of 6 coupons per person, according to the Royal proclamation Oct. 8, 1915.

...with pre-printed official stamp 10 öre (Mu 2) machine-cancel “Stockholm 1” March 27, 1918.

Mu 2 was received against the special coupon “Receipt of official stamp” at a post office in Sweden (Royal proclamation Oct. 8, 1915).

Mu 2 was printed by lithography in 474500 copies May 1916 by Jacob Bagge’s Banknote Printing Works, Stockholm.

Lieutenant-colonel G.E. Ros was commander of the Sw. Army at Åland.

5.6 The Swedish Demolition Detachment at Åland 1919

5.6.2 July - October 1919

1919 Rationed military postcard + 5 öre official postage Åland - Filipstad...

...Sweden, with cds “Stockholm” August 29, 1919 and 2-line rubber cancel “Demoleringsslutonen Ing. 1 å Åland”. Sent from Boxö.

MbK 2 was distributed only to special organized military units and at a weekly rate of one per person (Royal proclamation Oct. 8, 1915).

Military postcard (MbK 2), pre-printed official stamp 5 öre, was printed by typography in 850000 copies July 1916 by Postal Printing Works, Malmö.


1919 Rationed military letter Mu 1 + 20 öre official postage Åland - Askim, Sweden...

...with pre-printed official stamp 10 öre cds “Stockholm 1” July 25, 1919 and 2-line rubber cancel “Demoleringsslutonen Ing. 1 å Åland” on back.

Mu 1 was distributed only to special organized military units at a weekly rate of one per person (Royal proclamation Oct. 8, 1915).

Mu 1 was printed by lithography in 282000 copies May 1916 in Stockholm.

5.7 The Russian Civil War during 1919

5.7.2 The Swedish White Legion of the Russian Northwest Army

1919 Internal telegram from the unit at the front - Narva...

...with an arrival violet rubber cancel, text in Swedish. (=Swedish White Legion / Of Russian Northwest Army / The War cashier / Arr Nr 28 Dep.Nr / Sep. 18, 1919). The violet cancel is correctly used as internal cancel for keeping record of this official document.

To the Swedish Major Liljencrantz in the Legion's headquarter in Narva. The content is written in Cyrillic.


These telegrams had been sent from the front in Russia thus rated as internal in Estonia.

The fee for telegram was paid in the sending office and the stamps were affixed on the original telegram form which stayed in the sending office.

... with an arrival violet rubber cancel, in Cyrillic. (=Sw. White Legion / Of Russian Northwest Army / Chief of Economy / Arr Nr 27 Dep.Nr / Sep. 16, 1919)


The violet cancel is correctly used as internal cancel.