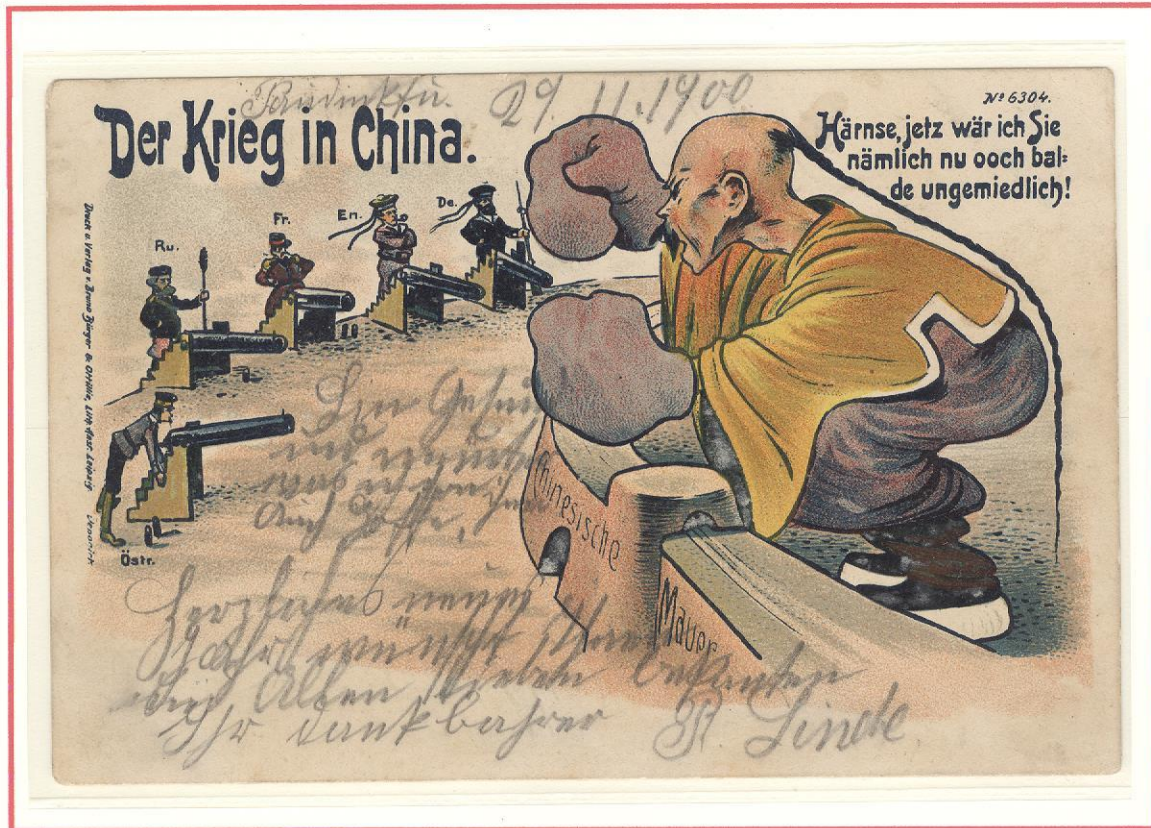


# GERMAN INTERVENTION IN CHINA

by

Jerry H. Miller

## GERMAN INTERVENTION IN CHINA



### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

With the increasing influence of foreigners involved in commerce, transportation, and religious activities in particularly northeastern China during the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, a xenophobic nationalistic secret society, which had heretofore existed in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, again appeared.

Its name, as defined by the British, was **"The Boxers"**.

Commencing in 1899, the Boxers actively and openly attempted to eliminate all foreign influences, including attacking and killing merchants, missionaries, Chinese Christians and foreign dignitaries. Those actions resulted in legations and offices at Peking and Tientsin being reinforced with marines, albeit to be besieged by the Boxers in June 1900, and the sending to China of naval and military units from a number of countries to quell the uprising as well as to destroy the Boxer Movement.

In that effort, the German Kaiser approved his Ministry of War's formation of a combined naval and military force, which ('The East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps') was the strongest entity of all the nations involved and exceeded 20,000 military and naval personnel under the command of Field Marshall Count von Waldersee.

In less than one year, the Boxers and the supporting Chinese military forces were defeated and a peace treaty between China and the Allies was signed resulting in China to pay reparations and having to agree to permit foreign garrisons to remain in China.

Miller, Jerry H., "German Offices in China 1886-1917: Background & Evolution",  
The China Clipper, March, 2012, Volume 76, Number 3, Whole Number 435,  
Pages 90-96, 106-108.

# GERMAN INTERVENTION IN CHINA

## EXHIBIT

This postal history exhibit, organized chronologically, shows the origin of German presence in China, German military buildup and activity as a result of the Boxer Uprising, the subsequent occupation period, and concludes with the end of German military and postal presence in China in 1917.



## TEXT COLOR-CODING

**BLACK:** General historical, geographical & postal rate/route/markings information

**BLUE:** Chapter-Start-Page Heading & Important annotative information

**MAROON:** Postal Rate Information

## EXHIBIT OVERVIEW

- I. Historical Background  
Title Page, Map & Exhibit Summary
- II. Pre-1900 German Presence in China
- III. 1900-1901 Marine Detachment Mail & Naval Post Office
- IV. 1900-1901 East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps
- V. 1900-1901 Provisional Government & Stamp Usages
- VI. 1901-1906 Occupation Period Mail
- VII. 1900-1914 German Naval Ships in Chinese Waters
- VIII. 1914-1917 End of German Presence in China

# PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

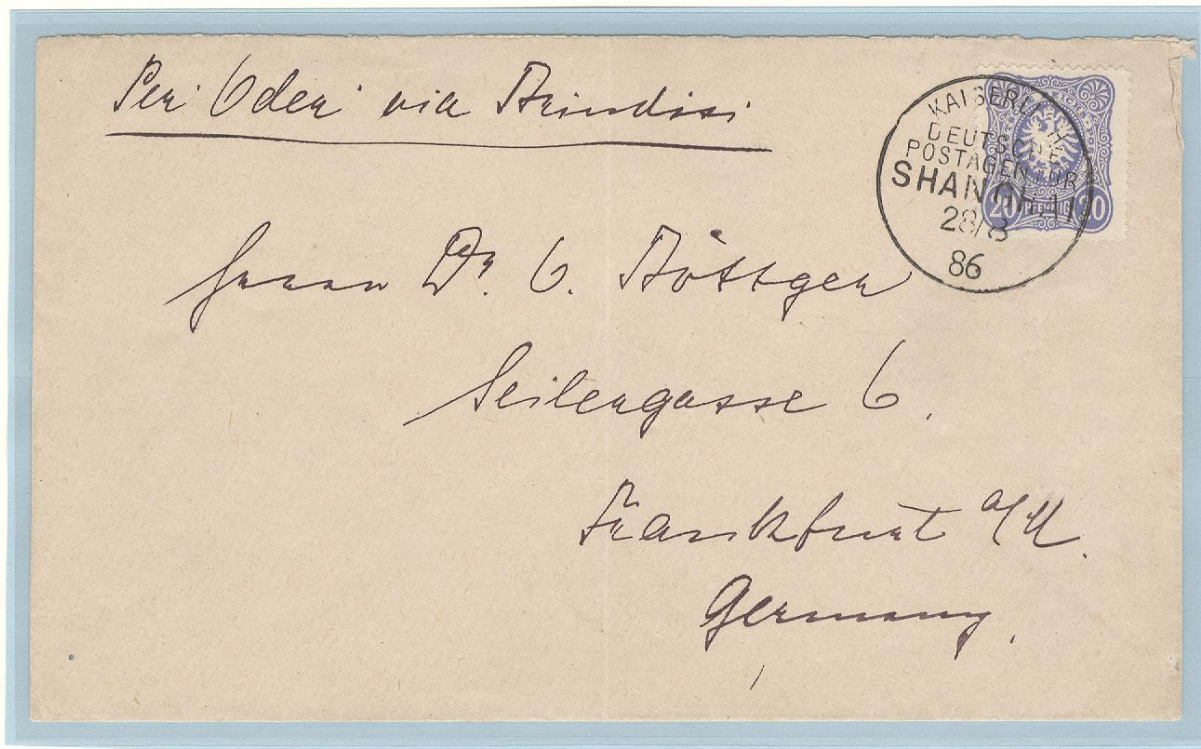
Shanghai Postal Agency  
1886-1896  
'Pfennig' Series

A GERMAN POSTAL AGENCY IN CHINA WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE GERMAN CONSULATE AT SHANGHAI ON 16 AUGUST 1886 WITH FIRST DAY OF EFFECTIVE OPERATION ON 28 AUGUST to facilitate communications overseas in support of German commercial activities & investment in China.



USAGE: 28 August 1886 –  
June 1894

## EARLIEST KNOWN POSTMARK USE



Cert. Steuer

28 AUGUST 1886

Commercial cover (Carlowitz & Co.), postmarked at Shanghai, endorsed "Per Oder Via Brindisi", sent to Frankfurt/Main, Germany, 37-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(reverse)

"Frankfurt a. Main, 4 October 1886, 4-5 AM"

20 Pfennig ...

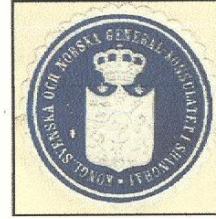
Single-weight (15 grams) international letter-rate

One of three known covers with first-day postmark use.

PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

Shanghai Postal Agency  
1886-1896  
'Pfennig Series'

CONSULAR MAIL TO SWEDEN



Reverse

17 JANUARY 1890

Registered  
116 gram cover  
sent by the  
"Consulate General for  
Sweden & Norway"  
at Shanghai to  
government offices at  
Stockholm, Sweden.  
38-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"24 February 1890"



120 Pfg..  
UPU International  
Registered Letter-Rate:

100 Pfg..  
116 grams rated at  
120 grams  
(15 gr x 8 x 20 Pfg)

+  
20 Pfg.. Registration fee

PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

Shanghai Postal Agency  
1886 - 1896  
'Crown & Eagle' Series

THREE-COLOR COMMERCIAL MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
VIA JAPAN & CANADA



2 NOVEMBER 1892

Three-color franked fourth-weight-level commercial mail,  
postmarked at the German Postal Agency at Shanghai,  
routed via Japan & Canada to New York "Wall Street".

Routing:

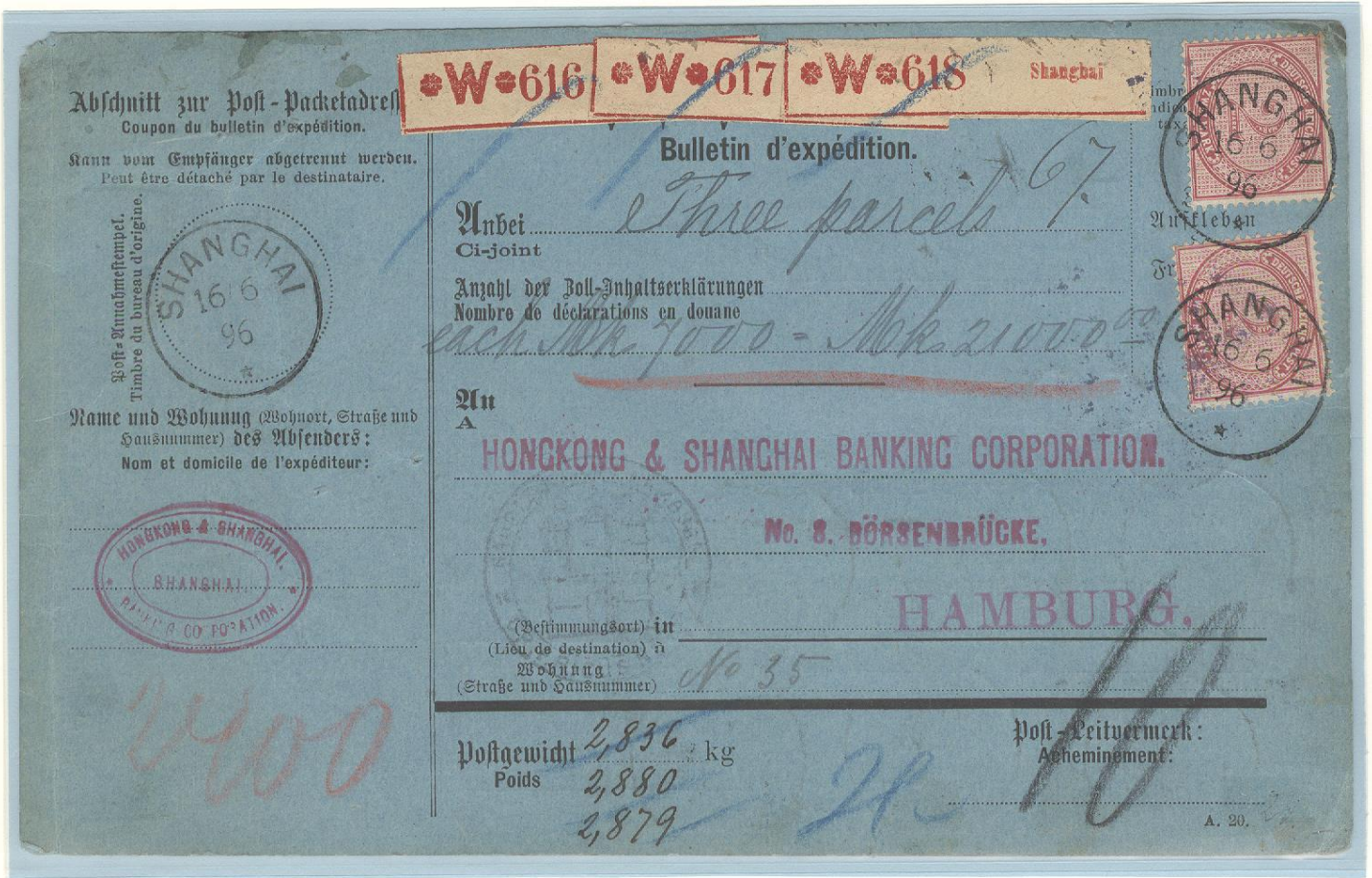
(Front & Reverse)

- \* 2 November 1892: German Postal Agency Shanghai
- \* 5 November 1892: Imperial Japanese Post Office  
at Shanghai, China
- \* 9 November 1892: Imperial Japanese Post Office  
at Yokohama, Japan
- \* "Via Vancouver" Endorsement: by rail to New York
- \* 30 November 1892: Arrival New York (Reverse)

80 Pfennig...

Fourth-weight level (45-60 grams) UPU International Letter-Rate

PARCEL POST FORM CARD COVERING THREE INSURED PARCELS



16 JUNE 1896

Parcel post card for three insured (RM 21,000.00)  
2.8 Kg parcels (gold) sent to the German branch of the  
'Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation'  
at Hamburg.  
48-day transit time.

Bank Delivery Mark:  
(Reverse)  
"Hamburg, 3 August 1896"

**2400 Pfennig...**  
(Block of 10 + 2 multiple franking of RM 2.00 service stamp)  
**800 Pfg** covered the parcel post &  
insurance rates for each 2.8 kg parcel ..  
320 Pfg = 5-kg flat rate +  
480 Pfg = 16 Pfg for each  
**RM 240 Insured = 30x 0.16 for RM 21,000.00 value.**

One of two known high-value multiple franking  
insured parcel post cards.



Reverse Side

ex S. Wiesenthal

# PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

Shanghai Postal Agency  
Inland Locations .. PEKING  
'Crown & Eagle Series'

## DOUBLE-FRANKED MAIL TO GERMANY

China origin mail destined for overseas had to be processed by a foreign post office, since China first became a UPU member in March, 1914.

**MAIL SENT FROM AN INLAND CHINA LOCATION, WHERE NO FOREIGN POST OFFICE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED, REQUIRED THE SENDER TO PAY THE INLAND CHINESE RATE FROM THAT LOCATION TO SHANGHAI, WHERE A FOREIGN POST OFFICE EXISTED, FOR FORWARDING OVERSEAS.**

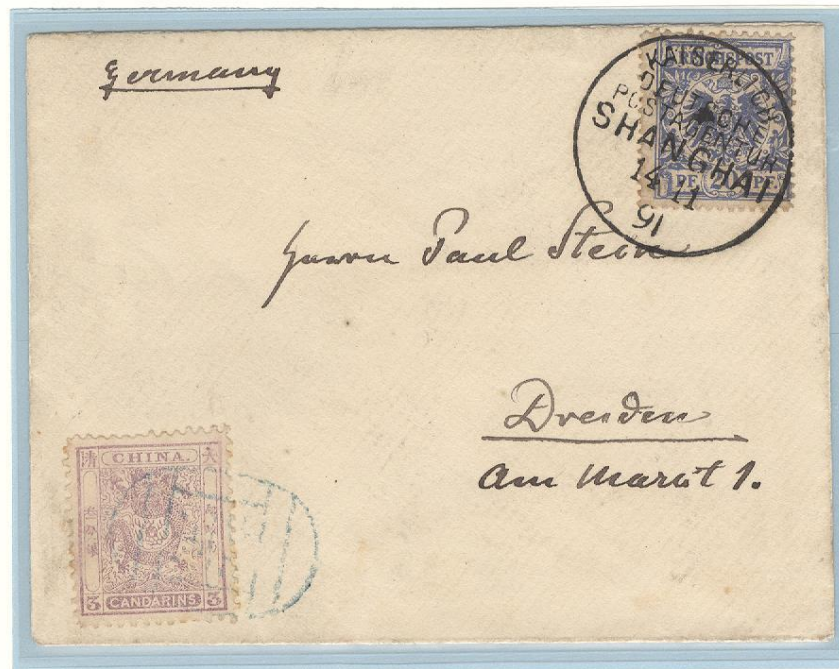
Between 1886-1897, mail franked with Chinese-Local, Chinese-Customs or Chinese government-issued postage as well as stamps of the applicable foreign post office was routed through Chinese-Customs to a foreign post office.



Cert. Steuer

3 JULY 1896

Double-franked clip-example for a double-weight letter



Cert. Steuer

14 NOVEMBER 1891

Double-franked single-weight "Lady's" cover postmarked at Peking with transit through the Chinese Customs at Peking, Tientsin & Shanghai for forwarding to Dresden, Germany, by the German Post Office at Shanghai.

6 November :	Letter mailed at Peking
9 & 11 November:	Transit through the Peking, Tientsin & Shanghai Customs (Postmarks/Reverse Side)
14 November:	German Postal-Agency postmark at Shanghai
21 December:	Arrival postmark (Reverse side) at Dresden, Germany

**3 Candarins covering the domestic letter-rate from Peking to Shanghai with 20 Pfennig covering the single-weight (15 grams) international letter-rate from Shanghai to Germany.**



# PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

Tientsin Postal Agency  
1893 – 1900  
'Crown & Eagle' Series

Established in October, 1889, as a postal station  
in the German Consulate,  
**THE TIENSIN POSTAL STATION BECAME A  
POSTAL AGENCY IN 1893**  
and a full post office in 1900.



USAGE:  
1 April 1893 –  
November 1899

## THREE-COLOR COMMERCIAL MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



1 SEPTEMBER 1897

Cert Steuer

Commercial cover, postmarked at Tientsin,  
sent to a bank at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.  
34-day transit time.

Transit Postmarks:  
(Front & Reverse)

- "Shanghai, (Japanese Post Office), 16 September 1897"
- "Yokohama, Japan, September 1897"
- "San Francisco, California, Paid-All, 29 September 1897"

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)

"Received Philadelphia, 5 October 1 PM"

40 Pfennig...

40 Pfg.. UPU International Double-Weight (15-30 grams) Letter-Rate.

PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

Tientsin Postal Agency  
1893 - 1900  
'Crown & Eagle' Series

REGISTERED MAIL

COMMERCIAL SAMPLES

1 JUNE 1895

Register commercial  
(Drosste & Walter Company)  
sample mail-tag,  
postmarked  
at Tientsin, sent to  
Kobe, Japan.

30 Pfennig...  
10 Pfg: Samples  
weighing  
between 20-250 grams +  
20 Pfg: Registry fee



PRINTED MATTER

23 NOVEMBER 1898

View-card,  
endorsed  
"Drucksache",  
postmarked at  
Tientsin, sent to  
Frankfurt/Main,  
Germany,

Arrival Postmark:  
(Front)  
"Frankfurt/Main,  
31 December  
1898"

25 Pfennig...  
5 Pfg:  
UPU International  
Printed-Matter Rate  
+  
20 Pfg: Registry Fee



**PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**

**Kiautschou Territory  
1898-1914  
German Protectorate**

**ON 6 MARCH 1898, A 99-YEAR LEASEHOLD AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE IMPERIAL CHINESE GOVERNMENT COVERING THE KIAUTSCHOU BAY TERRITORY IN NORTHERN CHINA, which subsequently became the home port facility of the German Far East Cruiser Squadron, responsible for protecting the Far East and Pacific German Colonies, Territories and Settlements.**

**MAP OF KIAUTSCHOU BAY TERRITORY**



**EARLY KIAUTSCHOU-RELATED NAVAL MAIL  
MSP 38 = HMS GEFION  
(Light Cruiser)**

**8 FEBRUARY 1898**

**Special Naval Postal Card postmarked on board HMS Gefion .. on route (mailed between Aden & Columbo, Ceylon) to Kiautschou Naval Base, sent to Coburg, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Coburg,  
28 February 1898"**

**10 Pfennig...  
Special Naval Postal Card sold on-board for 5 Pfennig with German Naval Command subsidizing 5 Pfg.**



# PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

Kiautschou Territory  
1898-1914  
'Naval Field-Post' Postmark

WITH THE ARRIVAL OF GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS AT "TSINTANFORT" ON KIAUTSCHOU BAY ON 26 JANUARY 1898, USE OF A 'GERMAN NAVAL FIELDPOST' POSTMARK COMMENCED BEING USED AT THE FIRST GERMAN POST OFFICE IN THE TERRITORY.



USAGE: 26 January 1898 -  
12 March 1898



26 January 1898



Exp. Dr. Steuer

## OPENING OF THE FIRST POST OFFICE FIRST DAY COVER USAGE

26 JANUARY 1898

Cover on ship's stationery postmarked at Tsintanfort, Kiautschou, sent on the day of opening of the German Naval Post Office to Bremerhaven, Germany.

Cover sent by the ship's medical doctor aboard the North German Lloyd transport steamer 'Darmstadt' (MSP 24), which also transported the equipment & supplies for the first post office during its stay at Kiautschou from 26 - 31 January 1898.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Bremerhaven, 14 March 1898"

40 Pfennig...  
Double-weight (30 grams) UPU International Letter-Rate.

# PRE-1900 GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

Kiautschou Territory  
1898-1914  
Postmark Evolution

The heretofore postmark designation "Tsintau .. China"  
was again corrected in May 1899  
NOW INDICATING "KIAUTSCHOU",  
ELIMINATING THE WORD "CHINA" FROM A NEW POSTMARK.



USAGE:  
Early May 1898-  
23 December 1899

14 JUNE 1899

Registered cover,  
postmarked at  
Tsintau,  
Kiautschou,  
sent to Jena,  
Germany.  
40-days transit  
time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Jena,  
24 July 1899"



40 Pfennig...  
(Stamps: 56°  
'China' Overprint)  
20 Pfg..  
Single-weight  
(15 grams) UPU  
International  
Letter-Rate +  
20 Pfg.. Registration  
Fee.

## MARINE DETACHMENT MAIL

Siege of Peking

PEKING

21 June – 14 August 1900

Between May-June 1900, foreign missionaries and Chinese Christians were murdered at Paoting (Paotingfu) by "Boxers" attempting to remove foreign influence in China.

Foreigner flight to the legation-quarter of Peking took place, guarded by 340 soldiers & marines. Between 11-13 June 1900, the quarter was under continuous Boxer attack.

**WITH THE STREET MURDER OF IMPERIAL GERMAN EMISSARY BARON von KETTLER ON 20 JUNE, PEKING WAS THEREUPON UNDER FULL SIEGE BY THE BOXERS.**

To relieve Peking and reinforce Tientsin, also under attack, a relief column of 2400 marines of different nationalities was organized under the command of British Admiral Seymour. Upon fierce fighting about fifty kilometers from Peking, the relief column retreated to Tientsin, unable to relieve Peking.



### GERMAN-MARINE MAIL

12 JUNE 1900

Viewcard written by one of the 489 German Marines of the 'Seymour Relief Column', postmarked at Tientsin, manuscript routing: *"Naval Mail from the Marine Detachment"*, sent to Altenkirchen, Germany. 39-day transit time.

#### Partial Text Translation:

*"Since yesterday, we are here in Tientsin to put down the revolt by the Chinese. We, from the "Irene" (German light cruiser), are here to protect the Germans, while the other units march to (relieve) Peking."*

#### Arrival Postmark:

*"Altenkirchen, 21 July 1900"*

**5 Pfennig..**

**German military personnel postcard-rate for mail sent to Germany.**

MARINE DETACHMENT MAIL  
Relief of Tientsin

Tientsin  
13 July 1900

Retreating 'Seymour Relief Column' (attempting to relieve the siege of Peking),  
returned to Tientsin on 26 June, also under heavy attack by the Boxers.

With the addition of fresh marines from various allied navies,  
**SEYMOUR WAS ABLE TO REOCCUPY AND FREE TIENSIN FROM ATTACK ON 13 JULY 1900.**

FELDPOSTBRIEF

German Marine & Naval Personnel mail was free-frank when  
the "Field-Post" handstamp "FELDPOSTBRIEF" was applied.

13 JULY 1900

First Day of Freed  
Tientsin

Free-frank UPU Card,  
marine fieldpost mail,  
postmarked at the  
German Post Office  
at Tientsin, sent to  
Frankfurt/Oder,  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Frankfurt (Oder),  
30 August 1900"



17 JULY 1900

Free-frank fieldpost  
cover, postmarked at  
the German Post  
Office at Tientsin, sent  
to a naval officer  
aboard  
the German Heavy  
Cruiser  
"HMS Hertha".

# NAVAL MAIL OFFICE AT BERLIN

Marine/Naval Mail to China

August 1900

EARLY GERMAN MARINE & NAVAL MAIL TO & FROM CHINA WAS ROUTED THROUGH THE 'NAVAL POST OFFICE' AT BERLIN BY THE GERMAN POST OFFICE (Reichspost).

Prior to having its own dedicated postmark, the German Naval Post Office often applied a "Berlin C1 O" transit mark on mail sent to China.



2 AUGUST 1900

Free-frank fieldpost form-card, postmarked at Leipzig, Germany, routed through the Naval Post Office at Berlin to a marine sergeant at Tsingtau, Kiautschou.

Transit Postmark: "Berlin C1 O, 3 August 1900"

Earliest usage of seven known examples.



23 AUGUST 1900

Free-frank fieldpost form-card, postmarked at Leipzig, Germany, sent to a seaman aboard the German Transport Ship "HMS Wörth" in Chinese Waters (30 July 1900 - 9 August 1901)



**NAVAL MAIL OFFICE AT BERLIN**  
**Marine/Naval Mail to Germany**

1900-01

**EFFECTIVE 3 SEPTEMBER 1900,  
 THE NAVAL MAIL OFFICE AT BERLIN  
 APPLIED THEIR DEDICATED POSTMARK  
 TO FREE-FRANK MAIL ROUTED TO THEIR  
 OFFICE ADDRESSED FOR  
 DELIVERY TO GERMAN DESTINATIONS.**



**Feldpostbrief.**

**3 SEPTEMBER 1900**

**Free-frank fieldpost  
 UPU-Egypt Form-  
 Card, postmarked  
 upon arrival at the  
 Naval Post Office at  
 Berlin for delivery at  
 Krappitz, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 "Krappitz,  
 4 September 1900"**

**Earliest known use.**

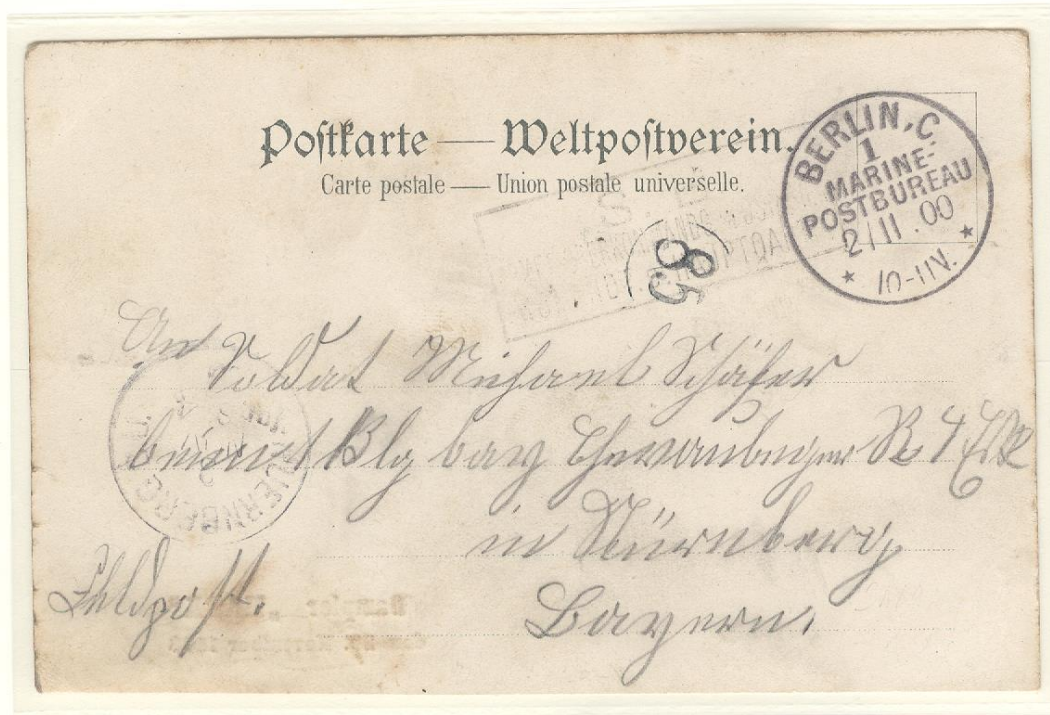


**2 NOVEMBER 1900**

**Free-frank fieldpost  
 UPU Form-Card,  
 postmarked upon  
 arrival at the Naval  
 Mail Office at Berlin  
 for delivery at  
 Nürnberg, Bavaria,  
 Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 "Nürnberg,  
 3 November 1900"**

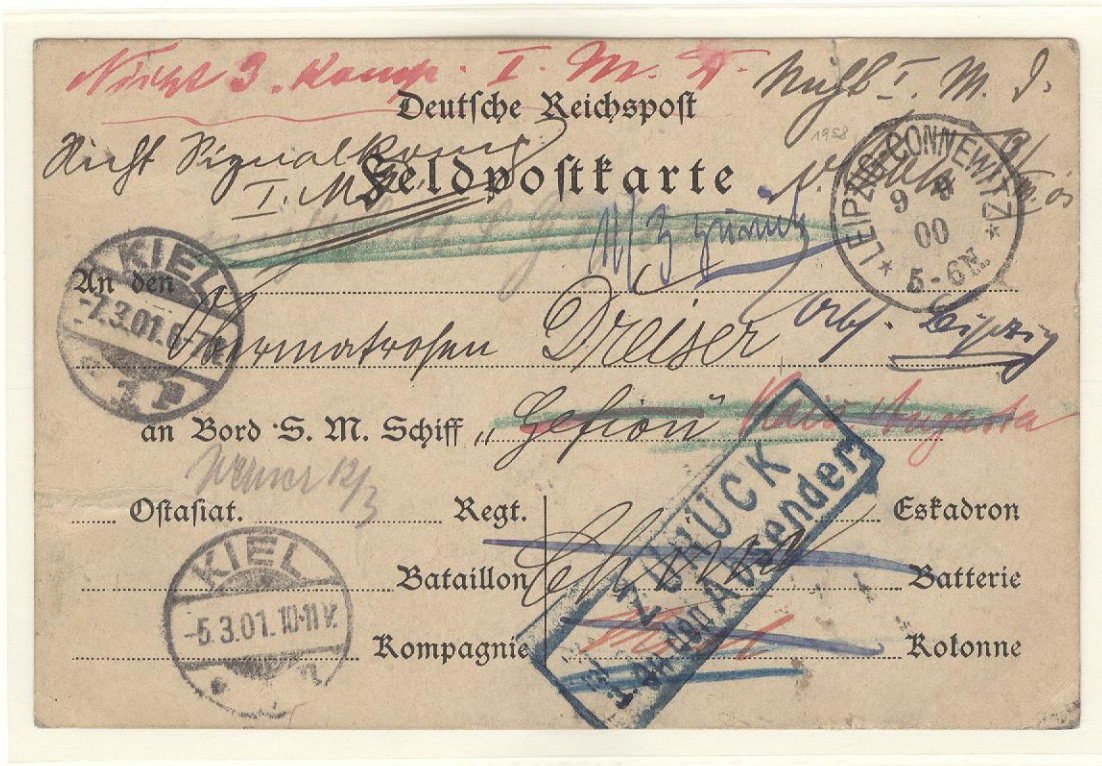
**Military Unit Cachet:  
 "S.B. Oberkommando  
 ostasiatisches  
 Hauptquartier"  
 (Headquarters of the East  
 Asiatic Command)**



**NAVAL MAIL OFFICE AT BERLIN**  
**Redirected & Returned Fieldpost Mail**

1900-01

Where mail intended for marine or naval personnel arrived in China, or on a naval vessel, to find the recipient having been transferred, such mail would be redirected to the recipient's new location, or, **IF NOT KNOWN, SUCH MAIL WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE NAVAL MAIL OFFICE AT BERLIN FOR HANDLING.**



**'RE-DIRECTED & RETURNED FIELDPOST MAIL' ODYSSEY:  
 GERMANY-CHINA-GERMAN NAVAL MAIL OFFICE-GERMAN NAVAL BASE KIEL –  
 RETURN-TO-SENDER**

- \* **Origin Postmark:** "Leipzig-Connewitz, 9 September 1900"
- \* **Manuscript Markings:** Arrival at light-cruiser "HMS Gefion", negative search efforts, re-direction to the Naval Mail Office at Berlin, re-direction to Kiel Naval Base, Germany.
- \* **Arrival Postmark Kiel:** "Kiel, 5 March 1901"
- \* **Additional Negative Search Results:** Mail "Return to Sender" (cachet stamp) "Kiel, 7 March 1901"

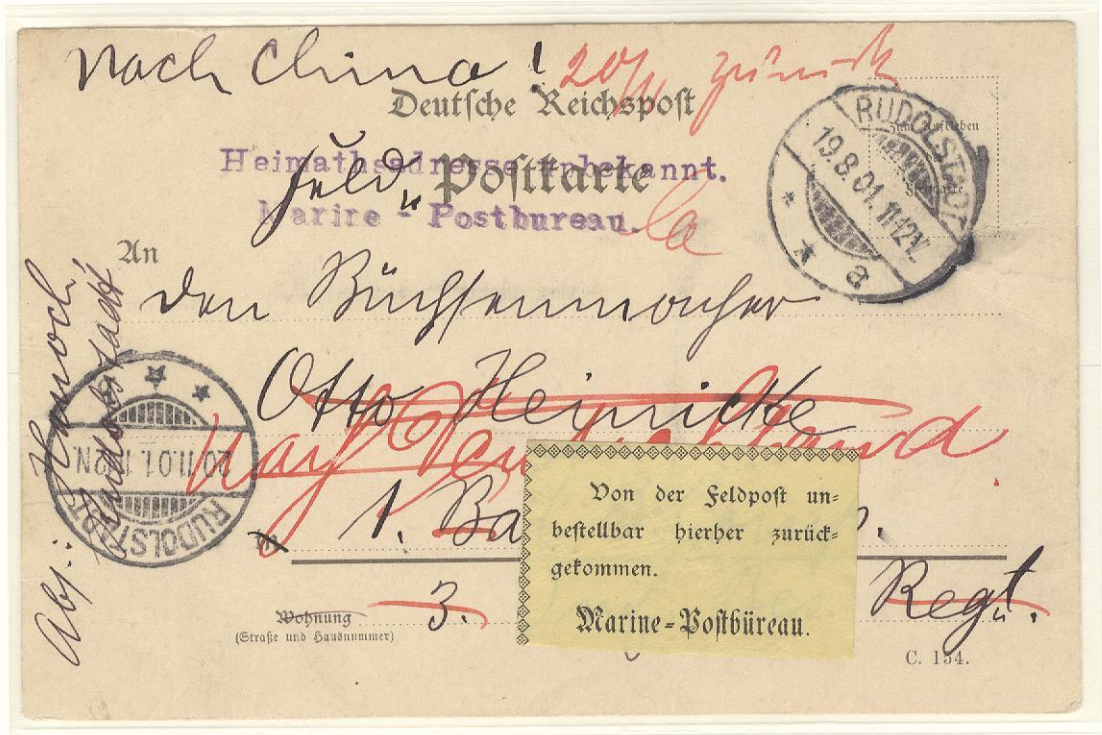
**NAVAL MAIL OFFICE AT BERLIN**  
 Redirected & Returned Fieldpost Mail

1900-01

Returned and/or re-directed mail arriving at the Naval Post Office at Berlin was frequently affixed with a **YELLOW-COLORED INFORMATION LABEL INDICATING A RETURN AND/OR REASON FOR THE RETURN TO THE NAVAL POST OFFICE.**

31 JULY 1900

Label Text:  
 "Mail undeliverable without exact indication of the naval vessel or the military unit .. Naval Mail Office"



19 AUGUST 1901

Label Text:  
 "Undeliverable by the Fieldpost and returned to this office .. Naval Mail Office"

Cachet Hand-Stamp:  
 "Homeland address unknown .. Naval Mail Office"

# NAVAL EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

Formation & Embarkation of the Corps to China

2 July – 15 August 1900

The assassination of Imperial German Emissary von Ketteler on 20 June as well as the failure of the 'Seymour Relief Column' (20-26 June) to relieve Peking resulted in the **GERMAN KAISER ORDERING FORMATION OF A 'NAVAL EXPEDITIONARY CORPS'** consisting of 2500 marines to embark for China. At their embarkation ceremony, the German Kaiser gave his renowned "Hun Speech".

Two steamer ships of the North German Lloyd ("Wittekind" and "Frankfurt") were chartered and departed from Wilhelmshaven on 2 July 1900 with arrival at Taku, China, on 15 August 1900, able to assist existing German Marines already engaged against the Boxers.

Domestic German postal rates were applicable for the navy & marines.

14 JULY 1900

Naval Ship 26:  
"NDL Frankfurt"

View-card of the 'Frankfurt', postmarked on board by a marine of the '2nd Marine Battalion', sent to Cologne, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Cöln,  
29 July 1900"

5 Pfennig..  
German domestic  
postcard-rate.



15 JULY 1900

Naval Ship 2:  
"NDL Wittekind"

Cover, postmarked on board by a marine of the '1st Marine Battalion', sent to Leipzig, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Cöln,  
29 July 1900"

10 Pfennig..  
German domestic  
single-weight  
(15 grams) letter-rate.



Exp. Von Willmann

# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

## Formation of the First Troop Convoy

July 1900

Upon the departure of the 'Naval Expeditionary Force' for China on 2 July, an imperial directive ordered the **FORMATION OF THE 'EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS'** consisting of 577 officers and 12,213 soldiers, with assembly at Bremen and embarkation at Bremerhaven.

27 JULY 1900

Free-frank "Field-Post" postcard, postmarked at Bremerhaven on the first-day of embarkation of the first convoy, sent to Berlin.

Arrival Postmark:  
"(Berlin),  
28 July 1900"



## Feldpostbrief.

2 AUGUST 1900

Free-frank "Field-Post" view-card, postmarked at Bremen on the second to last day of embarkation of the first convoy, sent to Wickrath, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Wickrath,  
3 August 1900"

Reverse:  
"Volldampf voraus  
nach China!"  
("Full steam ahead  
to China!")



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**First Troop Convoy to China**

27 July – 4 August 1900

**THE FIRST CONVOY TO CHINA CONSISTED OF  
 TEN CHARTERED TRANSPORT VESSELS**  
 which commenced sailing from Bremerhaven between  
 27 July – 4 August 1900 with the first ship arriving  
 at Taku, China, on 6 September 1900.

20 AUGUST 1900

**“German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 27”**  
 (Blue postmark ink used  
 only on 20 & 26 August)

**Steamer “Dresden”**  
 (Voyage: 27 July-  
 6 September 1900)

**Free-frank Field-Post  
 view-card, mailed  
 on-board at  
 Columbo, Ceylon,  
 sent to Berlin-  
 Schöneberg.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 “(Berlin),  
 9 September 1900”**

**Unit Cachet:  
 “East Asiatic  
 Expeditionary Corps  
 Railway Construction  
 Company”**



10 AUGUST 1900

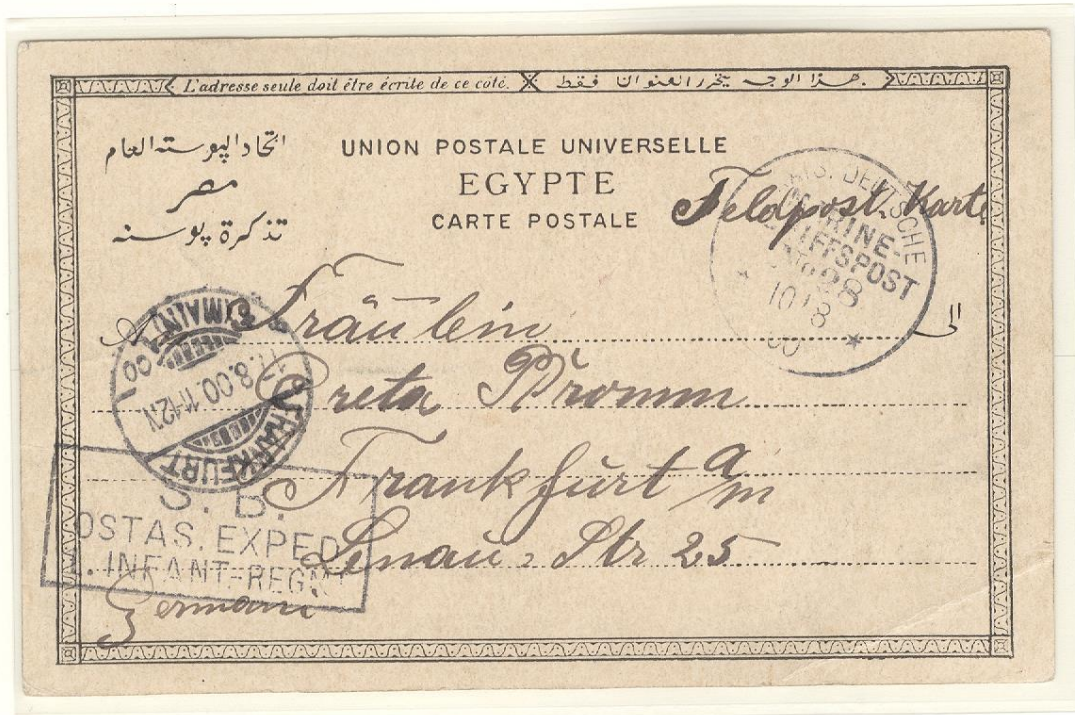
**“German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 28”**

**Steamer “Batavia”**  
 (Voyage: 27 July-  
 9 September 1900)

**Free-frank Field-Post  
 view-card, mailed  
 on-board at Port  
 Said, Egypt, sent to  
 Frankfurt/Main,  
 Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 “Frankfurt/Main,  
 17 August 1900”**

**Unit Cachet:  
 “East Asiatic  
 Expedition 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry  
 Regiment”**



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**

**First Troop Convoy to China**

**27 July - 4 August 1900**

**26 AUGUST 1900**

**"German Naval Ship Post Office No. 50"**

**Steamer "Rhein"**  
(Voyage: 2 August-13 September 1900)

**Free-frank Field-Post view-card, mailed on-board at Columbo, Ceylon, sent to Berlin.**

**Arrival Postmark:**  
"(Berlin),  
14 September 1900"

**Unit Cachet:**  
"East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps..  
War Finance Office"



**26 AUGUST 1900**

**"German Naval Ship Post Office No. 50"**

**Steamer "Rhein"**

**Free-frank Field-Post view-card, mailed at sea in the Indian Ocean, sent to "Dr. Paul Mauerberg, Chief Medical Officer", redirected since recipient was "On Maneuver".**

**Unit Cachet:**  
"East Asiatic Expedition, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment"



**16 AUGUST 1900**

**"German Naval Ship Post Office No. 64"**

**Steamer "H.H. Meyer"**  
(Voyage: 4 August-18 September 1900)

**Free-frank "Field-Post" graphic-card, endorsed...**

**DEUTSCHE FELD Postkarte**

**mailed at sea, sent to Darmstadt, redirected to Frankfurt/Main, Germany.**



# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

First Troop Convoy to China  
Mail to Bavarian Military Units

27 July – 4 August 1900

TROOPS FROM THE "KINGDOM OF BAVARIA" WERE ALSO PART OF THE FIRST CONVOY TO CHINA.

**BAVARIAN FIELD-POST  
FORM CARD  
REDIRECTED & RETURNED  
TO SENDER**

22 AUGUST 1900

Free-frank "Bavarian Field-Post" form-card, sent from Munich, Bavaria, to a infantryman in the "Bavarian Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, redirected to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Companies without success in finding the recipient and returned to sender in Munich.

Munich Return  
Postmark:

"Munich,  
5 December 1900"



3 SEPTEMBER 1900

"German Naval Ship  
Post Office No. 53"

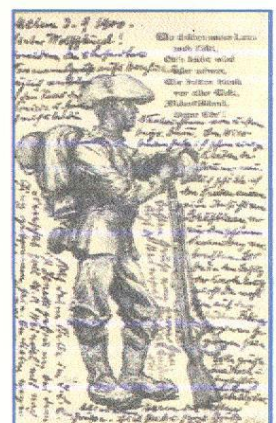
Steamer "Phonicia"  
(Voyage: 4 August-  
22 September 1900)

Free-frank "Field-Post"  
graphic-card,  
postmarked at Munich,  
Bavaria, sent to a military  
physician with the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Regiment of the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Bavarian Battalion.



Graphic Reverse..  
'Infantryman with Text'

"Whatever our burden will be over there, be it light or heavy,  
we will clearly hold up your honor, Germany, to the whole world"





# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

First Troop Convoy to China  
"HAPAG Steamer Phönicia"

27 July - 4 August 1900

"TRAVEL ODYSSEY" MAIL ADDRESSED TO "MAJOR WICHURA" EN ROUTE TO CHINA



8 AUGUST 1900

Mail to Steamer "Phönicia"

(Voyage: 4 August - 21 September 1900)

"Odyssey" Cover,  
postmarked at Mutzig, Germany,  
addressed to..

"Major Wichura"

(Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment),  
aboard Steamer "Phönicia"...



Reverse

- 8 August 1900.. Mail postmarked at Mutzig, routed over Bremerhaven with NGL 'Australian Line' Steamer to Sydney, Australia;
- 12 September 1900.. At Sydney, mail re-directed to Port Said, Egypt, attempting to connect with a ship of the 'Expeditionary' Convoy;
- 16 October 1900.. Mail re-directed at Port Said, Egypt, to China;
- 27 October 1900.. Mail transit Columbo, Ceylon;
- 26 November 1900.. Mail arrives at Chinese Post Office at Takou (Taku/Tongku), Tschilli Province, North China, not finding ship or addressee;
- ? November 1900.. Mail arrives at Chinese Post Office at Shanghai, not finding ship or addressee;
- 14 November 1900.. Mail arrives at British Post Office at Hong Kong, again not finding ship or addressee; Mail held 1-2 months and then returned to Germany;
- 12 March 1901.. Mail arrives at Mutzig, where post office clerk endorses receipt for return to sender.

20 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Single-Weight  
(15 grams)  
Letter-Rate

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Formation of the Second Troop Convoy**

August 1900  
(Lehe)

On 12 August an Imperial Directive ordered the  
**FORMATION OF A SECOND TROOP CONVOY**  
**IN SUPPORT OF THE FIRST,**  
consisting of 289 officers and 7,285 soldiers,  
with assembly at  
**LEHE & BREMEN**  
with embarkation at  
**BREMERHAVEN.**



31 AUGUST 1900

Free-frank Field-Post folded-letter,  
(view of Bremen City Hall on reverse)  
written by a soldier preparing for transport to China,  
postmarked at Lehe,  
sent to a comrade at Breslau,  
twice re-directed, since recipient was on maneuvers.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:

"Breslau, 1 September 1900"  
"Herrnmotscheinitz, 2 September 1900"  
"Paukuswitz, 2 September 1900",

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Formation of the Second Troop Convoy**

August-September 1900  
 (Bremen)

7 SEPTEMBER 1900

Free-frank Field-Post  
 Form-Card,  
 postmarked at  
 Bremen,  
 written by a soldier  
 preparing for transport  
 to China,  
 sent to Mainz,  
 Germany.

Inscription on Reverse:  
 "Volldampf voraus  
 nach China!"  
 ("Full speed ahead to  
 China!")

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Mainz,  
 8 September 1900"



7 SEPTEMBER 1900

Free-frank Field-Post  
 viewcard  
 with (blue-colored)  
 hand-stamp..

**Feldpostbrief.**

postmarked at  
 Bremen,  
 written by a soldier  
 preparing for transport  
 to China, sent to  
 Halle, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Haller Machine Marking)  
 "Halle (Saale),  
 7 September 1900"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Second Troop Convoy to China**

31 August – 7 September 1900

**THE SECOND CONVOY TO CHINA CONSISTED OF EIGHT CHARTERED TRANSPORT VESSELS**  
 which commenced sailing from Bremerhaven between 31 August – 7 September 1900 with the first ship arriving at Taku, China, on 12 October 1900.

18 SEPTEMBER 1900

**“German Naval Ship Post Office No. 68”**

**Steamer “Arcadia”**  
 (Voyage: 4 September-29 October 1900)

**Free-frank Field-Post view-card (pyramids), mailed on-board at Suez, Egypt, sent to Hamburg-Altona, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark: “Altona, 25 September 1900”**

**Hand-Stamp: “Deutsche Feldpostkarte – Reichs-Dampfer-Arcadia”**

(“German Field-Post Imperial Steamer Arcadia”)



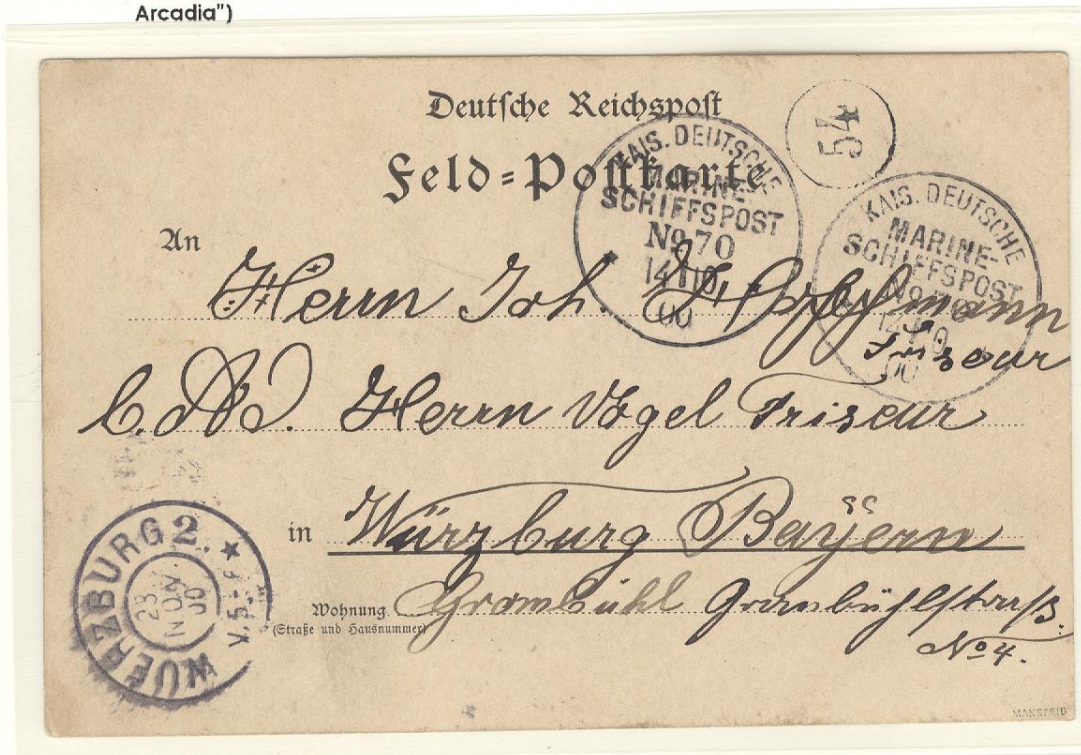
14 OCTOBER 1900

**“German Naval Ship Post Office No. 70”**

**Steamer “Hannover”**  
 (Voyage: 4 September-19 October 1900)

**Free-frank Field-Post Form-Card, mailed on-board at Shanghai, sent to Würzburg, Bavaria, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark: “Würzburg, 23 November 1900”**



Exp. Mansfeld

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Second Troop Convoy to China**

**31 August – 7 September 1900**  
**(Bremen)**

**MSP 70 "HANNOVER"**  
**TRANSPORTED RANK & FILE OF THE**  
**BAVARIAN INFANTRY REGIMENT**



Front



**"German Naval Ship**  
**Post Office No. 70**

**Steamer "Hannover"**  
 (Voyage:  
 4 September – 19 October  
 1900)

**10 OCTOBER 1900**

**Free-frank Field-Post**  
**NDL Liner Menu, signed**  
**by members of the**  
**Bavarian Infantry,**  
**mailed on board, sent**  
**to their home-base at**  
**Munich, Bavaria,**  
**Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:**  
**"München,**  
**23 November 1900"**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Second Troop Convoy to China**

31 August – 7 September 1900

21 October 1900

**"German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 71"**

**Steamer "Valdavia"**  
 (Voyage: 7 September-  
 27 October 1900)

**Free-frank Field-Post  
 Form-Card, mailed  
 on-board at  
 Shanghai, sent to  
 Berlin, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 "(Berlin)  
 26 November 1900"**



12 SEPTEMBER 1900

**"German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 72"**

**Steamer "Crefeld"**  
 (Voyage: 4 September-  
 19 October 1900)

**Free-frank Field-Post  
 View-Card, mailed  
 on-board at Shanghai,  
 sent to  
 Bremerhaven,  
 Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 "Würzburg,  
 23 September 1900"**

**Inscription of Reverse:  
 "Vollampf voraus  
 nach China!"  
 ("Full speed ahead  
 To China!")**



# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

Provisional Fieldpost .. Tongku

9 August – 2 September 1900

**IN ADVANCE OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE EXPEDITIONARY CORPS, A PROVISIONAL 'FIELDPOST' STATION WAS ESTABLISHED AT "TONGKU" (TAKU),**

located at the mouth of the Peiho River on the Gulf of Tschili (Pechili). Later, after the forces of the convoys had fully arrived, the "Tongku Provisional Field-Post" became part of the military mail system and became "Fieldpost Station No. 4"

**THREE TYPES OF "TONGKU" PROVISIONAL POSTMARKS EXIST, with valid usage/arrival in Germany no later than 21 October 1900.**



Type I

Wide "00" /  
Positioned closely



Exp. Bothe & ABGM-Berlin

Free-frank fieldpost cover,  
undated-postmark,  
**'Tongku Provisional Type I'**,  
sent to Bernstadt, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Bernstadt,  
14 October 1900"

EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS  
Provisional Fieldpost .. Tongku

9 August – 2 September 1900



Wide "00"/  
Positioned closely

Type I



Exp. R. Steuer

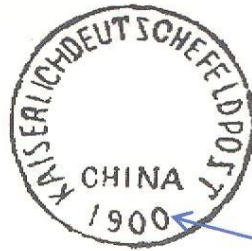
Free-frank fieldpost cover,  
undated-postmark,  
*'Tongku Provisional Type I'*,  
sent to Peitz, Germany, by  
"Acting Marine Paymaster  
Hans Metsch  
on "HMS Jaguar"  
(Gunboat)

Manuscript Mailing &  
Arrival Markings:  
(Reverse)  
"24 August 1900"  
(Tongku)  
"13 October 1900"  
(Peitz)



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Provisional Fieldpost .. Tongku**

9 August – 2 September 1900



Type II

Wide "00" /  
 Positioned widely

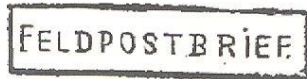


Front

Reverse

Cert.. R. Steuer

Franked fieldpost "Mandarin" Cover,  
 undated postmark  
 'Tongku Provisional Type II', cachet hand-stamps..



FELDPPOSTBRIEF

sent to Bremerhaven by  
 "Senior Paymaster Kretzden"

Arrival Marking:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Bremerhaven, 27 September 1900"

10 Pfennig..  
 Single-weight (20-60 grams) domestic German  
 letter-rate applicable for military personnel  
 sending non-relative mail to Germany.

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Provisional Fieldpost .. Tongku

9 August – 2 September 1900



Type III



Free-frank fieldpost  
water-colored painted cover,  
undated postmark  
**'Tongku Provisional Type III'**,  
sent to Berlin, Germany.

Arrival Marking:  
(Reverse)  
“(Berlin), 13 October 1900”

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Early Tientsin Fieldpost .. Types Ia & Ib**

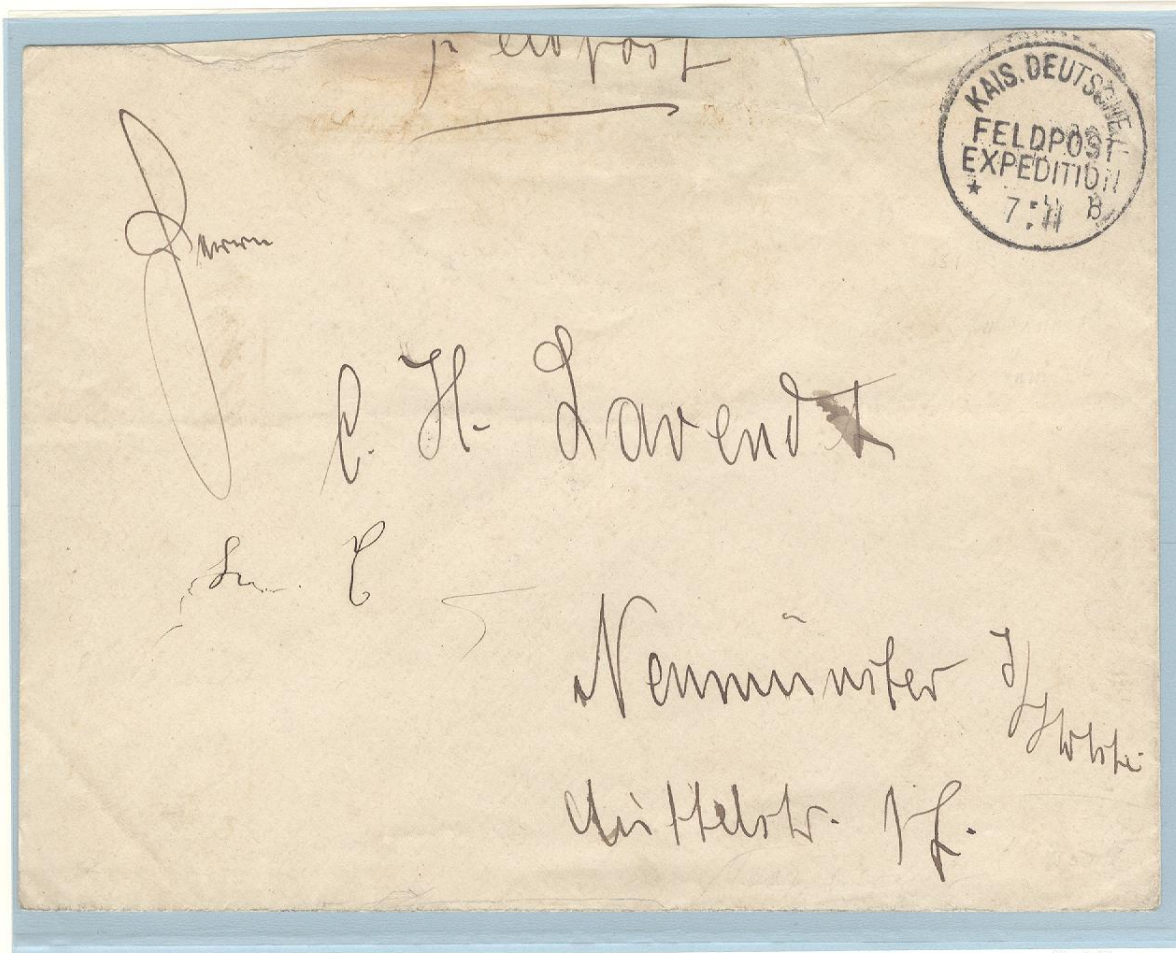
September-November 1900

Located about 50 Kilometers (approx. 30 miles) from the mouth of the Peiho River (Taku) and the Yellow Sea,  
**"TIENTSIN" WAS A RAILWAY CROSSROADS AND LOCATION OF THE GERMAN MILITARY "FIELDPOST" HEADQUARTERS.**



Type Ia

Only known used as a favor cancel 1 September (1900)



Type Ib

Usage:  
 7-10 November (1900)

**7 NOVEMBER (1900)**

Free-frank fieldpost cover on 'Astor House Hotel' stationery (Officer Billets), postmarked "Tientsin Type Ib", sent to Neumünster, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Neumünster, 21 December 1900"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Early Tientsin Fieldpost .. Type Ib**

November 1900



Type Ib

Usage:  
 7-10 November  
 (1900)

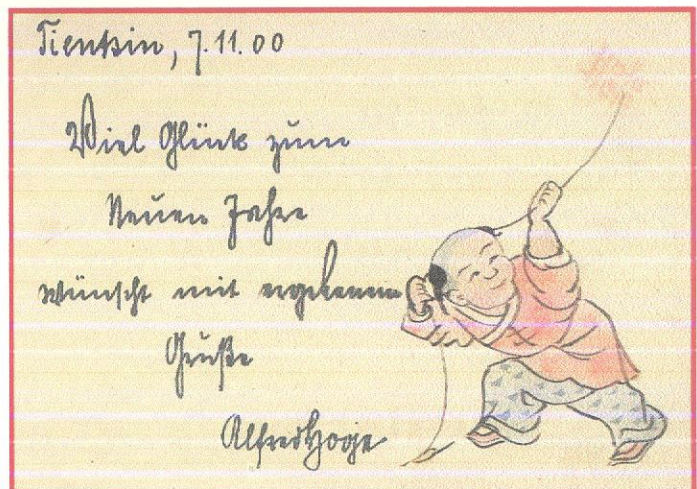


**7 NOVEMBER (1900)**

Free-frank fieldpost-card,  
 (Chinese Postal Stationery/  
 New Year's Greetings),  
**first-day of use of "Tientsin Type Ib" Postmark,**  
 sent to Gross-Lichterfelde/Berlin, Germany.

**Military Unit Marking:**  
 "East Asiatic Expedition ..  
 War Finance Office"

**Arrival Postmark:**  
 "Gross Lichterfelde  
 (Potsdamer Bahnhof),  
 2 December 1900"



Reverse

# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'a')

18 October 1900 – 31 August 1901

Once a formal military base with postal facilities had been established at 'Tientsin', A POSTMARK WAS INTRODUCED WHICH INDICATED "IMPERIAL GERMAN FIELDPOST OF THE EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS".



Type IIa



## REGISTERED FIELDPOST MAIL TO GERMANY

27 JUNE (1901)

Registered letter written by "Fieldpost Secretary Breyther", postmarked with 'Tientsin Type IIa', sent to Hamburg-Emsbüttel, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Hamburg \*19b,  
16 August 1901"

40 Pfennig..

20 Pfg.. Single-weight (15 grams) UPU International Letter-Rate  
+ 20 Pfg.. Registration fee

So-called "Tschili" (Petchili) Provisional

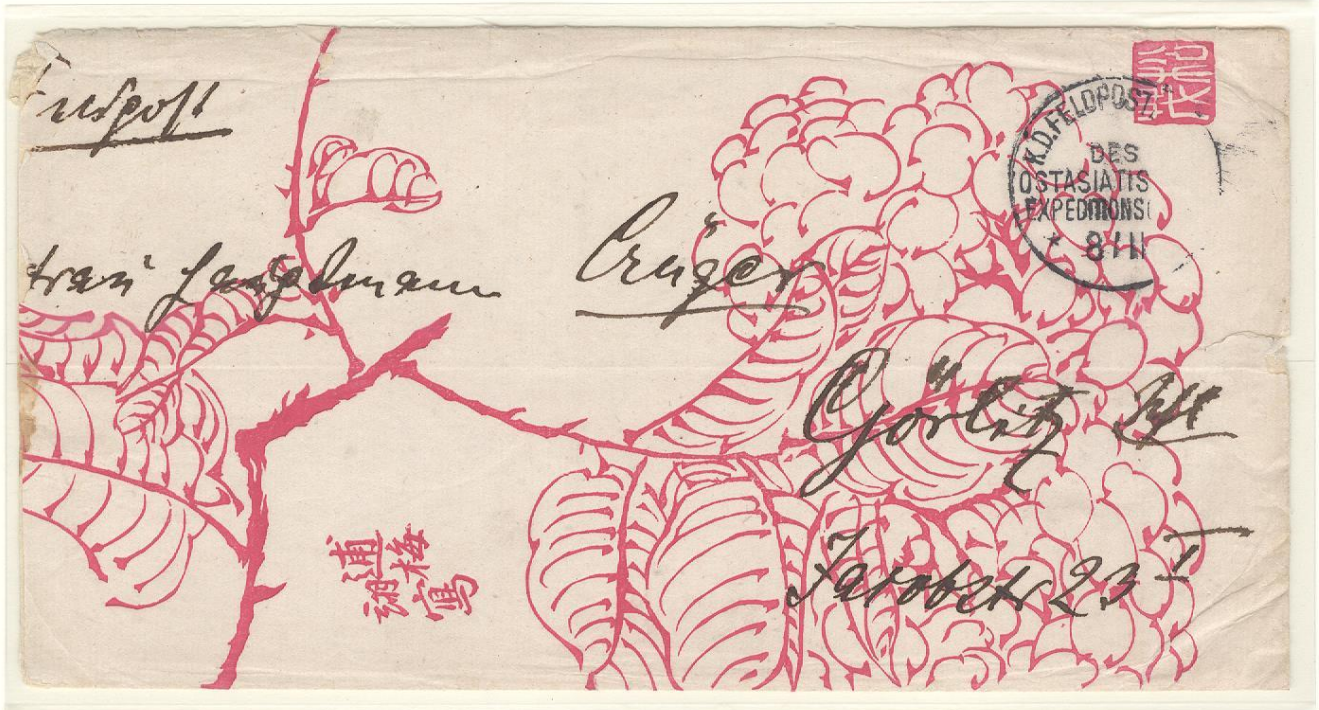


Reverse

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Types II (Code 'a')**

18 October 1900 – 31 August 1901

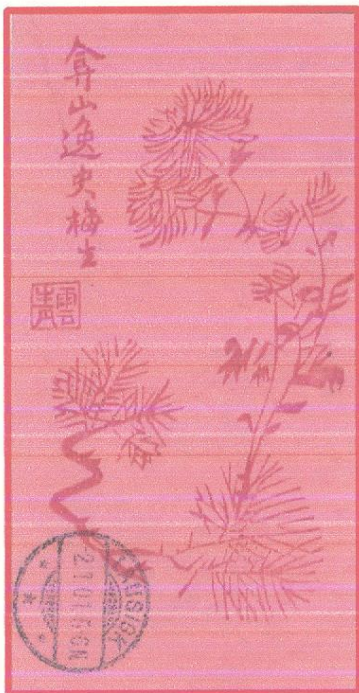
**SOCALLED "MANDARIN" (DECORATIVE RICE-PAPER PRINTED) COVERS WERE FAVORITES OF SOLDIERS TO SEND HOME.**



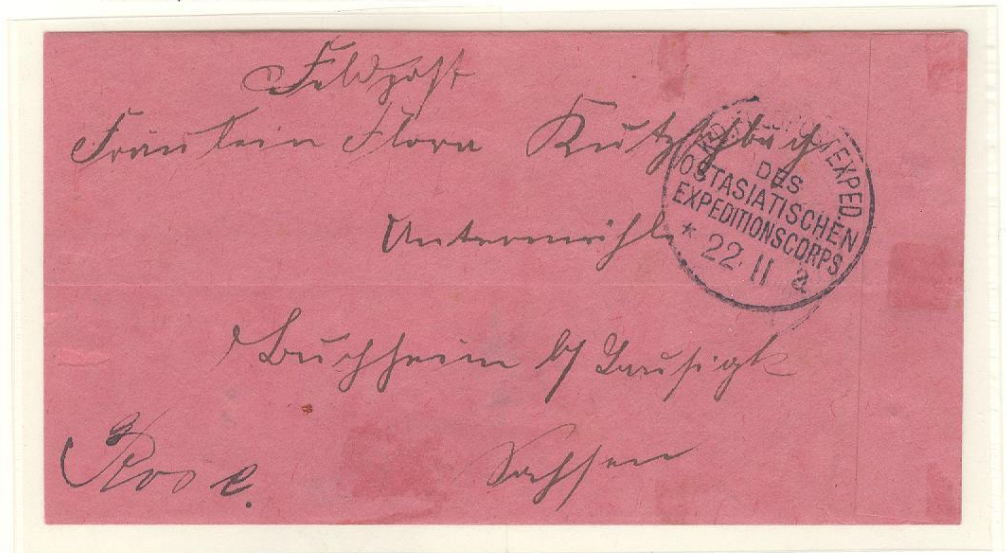
8 NOVEMBER (1900)

Free-frank fieldpost "Mandarin" Cover, postmarked at Tientsin,  
 sent to Görlitz, Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Görlitz, 24 December 1900"



Front



22 NOVEMBER (1900)

Free-frank fieldpost "Mandarin" Cover,  
 postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Lausigk, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Lausigk, 2 January 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'a')**

**Military Hospital Tientsin**



Front

**5 DECEMBER (1900)**

**Free-frank "Mandarin" cover, written by "Dr. Mauersberg of the Military Hospital (Tientsin)" with Type II (a) postmark at Tientsin, sent to Schulenburg, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Schulenburg,  
 20 January 1901"**

Since underwater cable lines were non-German-owned, the cost of sending full-message cable-telegrams to Germany was prohibitive (RM 5.75/word) for military personnel and for military communications, inspiring THE GERMAN POST OFFICE & MILITARY TO DEVELOP A NUMBERING SYSTEM REFLECTING THE SERVICE MEMBER'S UNIT & PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION ALONG WITH SIMPLIFIED STANDARD TEXTS IN THE TRANSMISSION OF TELEGRAMS.

FIELD TELEGRAM CODE BOOK



**I = TELEGRAMS WITH GENERAL MESSAGES**

Telegrams were 50% subsidized by the German Government for servicemen/ non-officers:

**RM 3.00 - Servicemen/ Non-Officers**  
**RM 6.00 = Officers**

**II = TELEGRAMS WITH MESSAGES CONCERNING THE HEALTH OF THE SOLDIER**

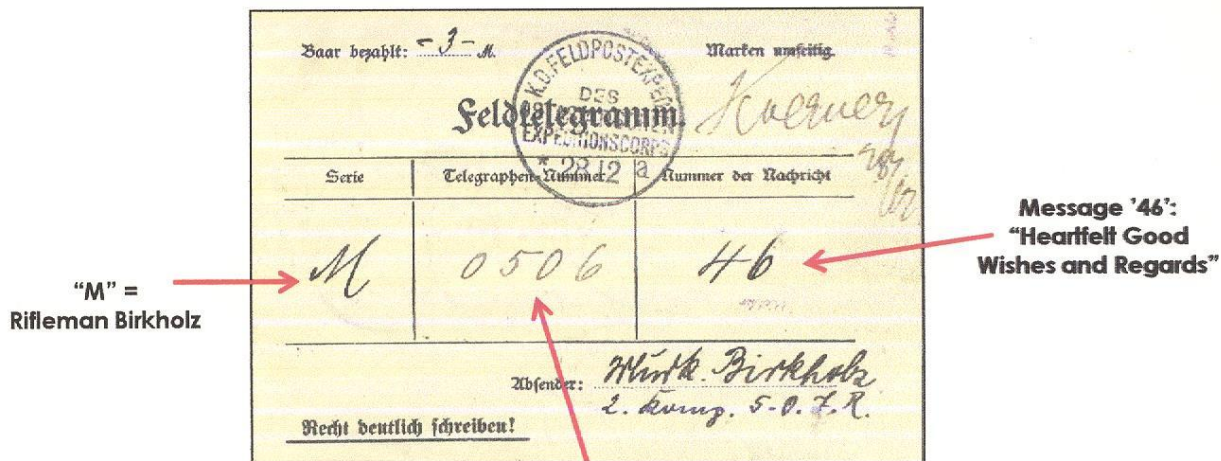
Telegrams with messages concerning the health of servicemen were fully-paid by the German Military.



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'a')

Out-Bound Field Telegrams

**FOR THE ENTIRE 27,000 MEMBERS OF THE GERMAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, MILITARY UNITS WERE CATALOGED IN BERLIN FROM 1-2100 WITH EACH SERVICEMAN OF A PARTICULAR UNIT ALLOCATED A 'LETTER' DESIGNATION OR IDENTIFICATION CODE. 99 STANDARD MESSAGE TEXTS WERE CODED BY NUMBER.**



**Unit Identification:**  
"2nd Company of the 5th Regiment" of the East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps"



Richter & Cerf. Steuer

**OUT-BOUND NON-OFFICER FIELD-TELEGRAM**

**28 DECEMBER (1900)**

Telegram sent from Tientsin, from "Rifleman Birkholz" to his family in Germany at the address registered by him with the military authorities prior to leaving Germany.

**RM 3.00: 50% subsidized rate for non-officer field-telegrams to Germany.**

**10x 10-Pfg Germania un-overprinted provisional stamps (Type II) + RM 2.00 value**

**One of four known field-telegrams sent by non-officers at RM 3.00 rate.**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'a')

In-Bound Field Telegrams

**IN-BOUND TELEGRAMS WERE DELIVERED TO THE RECIPIENT BY MEANS OF DEDICATED FORM-CARDS.**

Messages were received by cable transmission using the same system as was being used for out-bound telegrams, transposed in manuscript on the card reverse and sent through the German Post Office to the recipient.

**DURING THE CONFLICT PERIOD, TELEGRAM FORM-CARDS WERE HANDLED BY REGISTERED MAIL, AND BY ORDINARY MAIL DURING THE PROVISIONAL-GOVERNMENT AND/OR OCCUPATION PERIODS.**

**REGISTERED TELEGRAM CARD  
(War Period)**

5 JANUARY (1901)

Telegram sent from Berlin, dated 3 January 1901, to a marine of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Battalion stationed at Peking.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
"Tientsin, 5 January 1901"  
"Peking German Post Office, 6 January 1901"

**Feldtelegramm**  
(Einschreiben!)

An  
S. M. Schiff

Ostasiat. *1 Lee* Bataillon

Kompagnie

Estadron  
Batterie  
Kolonne

*Peking*

T. S. *89*

Kaiserlich Deutsche Feldpostexpedition  
Eingeschrieben. No 184 **R**

DES OSTASIATISCHEN EXPEDITIONSCORPS  
K.D. FELDPÖSTEXPED.  
5.1.01

PEKING  
DEUTSCHE POST  
01

Cert. Steuer BPP

**Feldtelegramm**  
(Einschreiben!)

An  
S. M. Schiff *6 0512*

Ostasiat. *Regt. II/2*

Regt. Bataillon

Kompagnie

Estadron  
Batterie  
Kolonne

TIENTSIN a.  
21/5  
02  
DEUTSCHE POST

T. S.

**UNREGISTERED TELEGRAM CARD**  
(Tientsin Provisional Government Period)

21 MAY 1902

Telegram sent from Berlin, dated 20 May 1902, to "Soldier C-0512" of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, 2nd Battalion at Tientsin.

Exp. Kilian

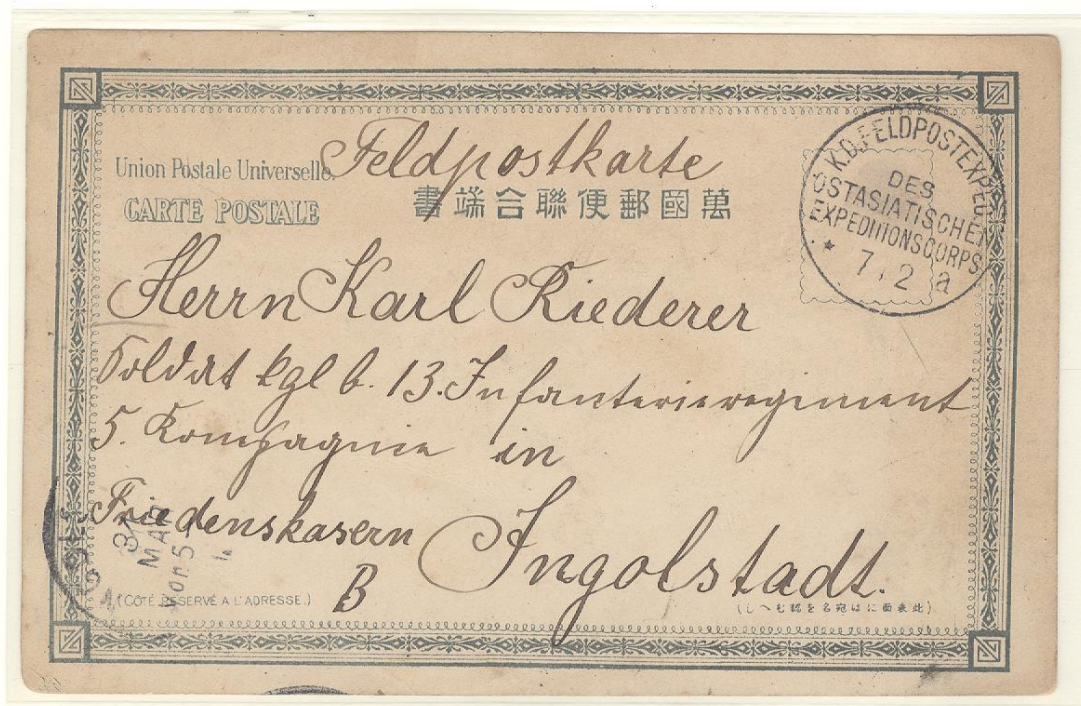
EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS  
Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'a')

Soldier-Soldier Mail  
Officer-Officer Mail



21 NOVEMBER (1900)

Free-frank "Red-Band Cover", **Officer-Officer Mail**,  
postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Glogau, Germany, re-directed upon arrival.



7 FEBRUARY (1901)

Free-frank view-card, **Soldier-Soldier Mail**, postmarked at Tientsin,  
sent to Ingolstadt, Bavaria, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Ingolstadt, 31 March 1901"

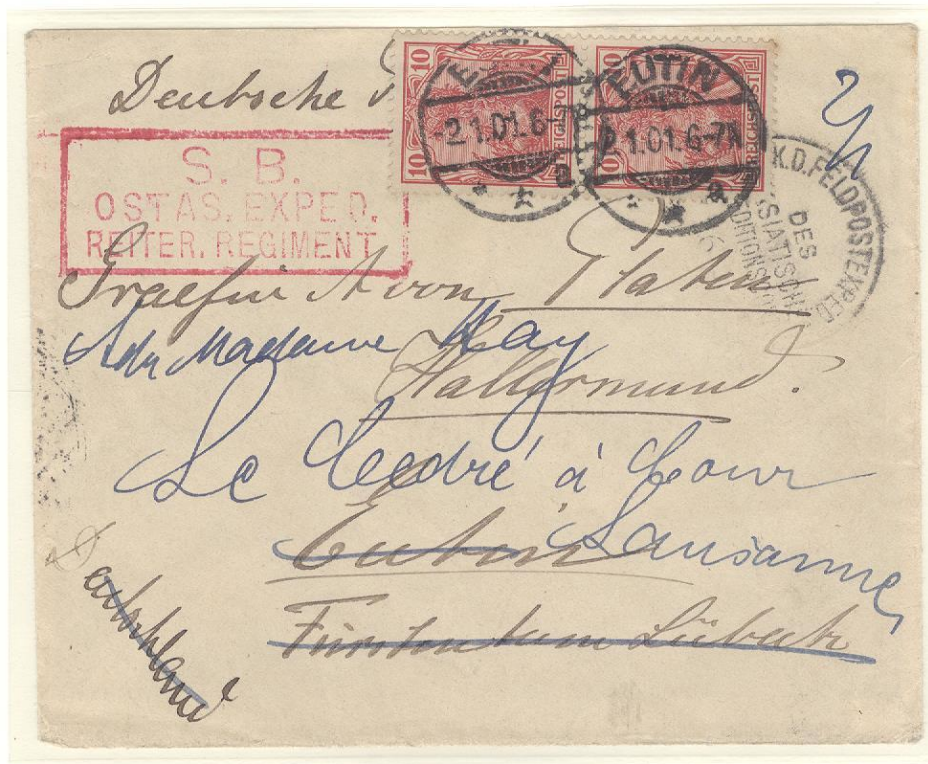
**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'b')

18 October 1900 – 31 August 1901

A SECOND POSTMARK, SIMILAR TO TYPE IIa,  
HAVING THE CODE 'b', was in use during the similar period.



Type IIb



**GERMAN-BOUND FIELDPOST MAIL RE-DIRECTED TO SWITZERLAND**

16 NOVEMBER (1900)

Cover, sent by "Count von Platen", a lieutenant,  
postmarked *Tientsin Type IIb*,  
sent to Eutin (Lübeck), Germany, upon arrival  
(2 January 1901)  
up-rated & re-directed to Lausanne, Switzerland.

**Military Unit Validation Cachet:**  
*"East Asiatic Expedition..  
Mounted Cavalry Unit"*

**Arrival Postmark:**  
(Reverse)  
"Lausanne,  
4 January 1901"

**20 Pfennig..**  
**Single-weight UPU International Letter-Rate**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'b')

18 October 1900 – 31 August 1901

**MILITARY POST OFFICE  
CLERK'S MAIL**

26 APRIL (1901)

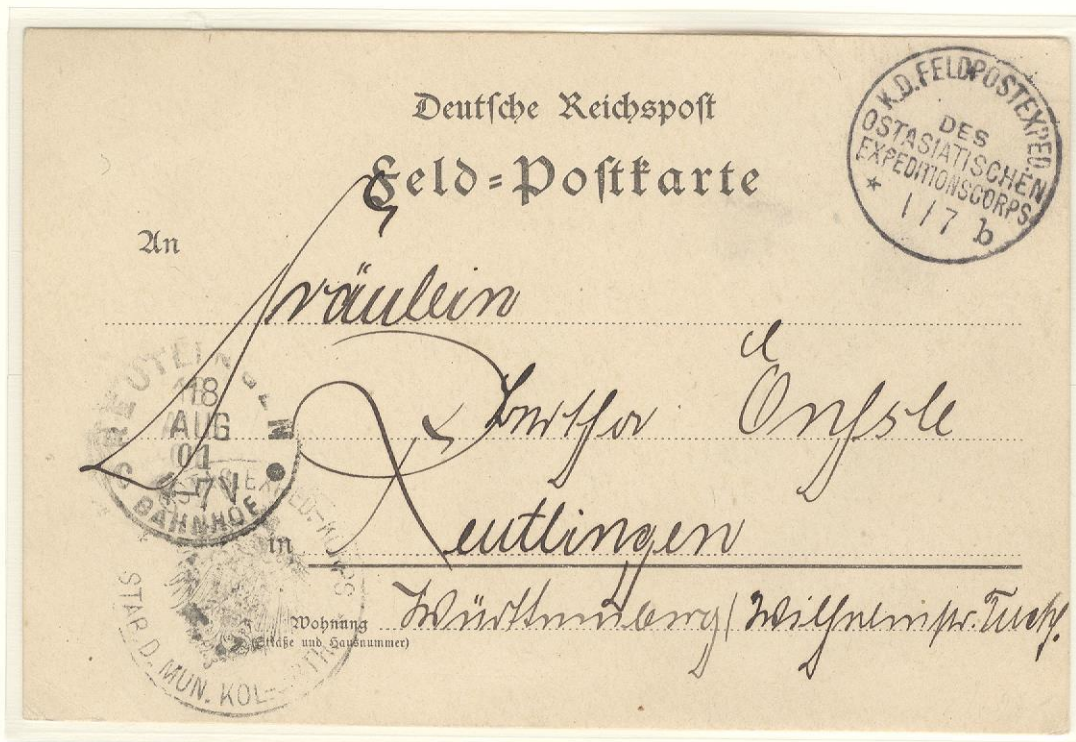
Cover, written by "Fieldpost  
Ship's Mail Clerk  
Otto Waezel",

**FELDPOSTBRIEF**

postmarked with  
'Tientsin Type IIb',  
sent to Berlin, Germany.

Military Unit Validation  
Cachet:  
"East Asiatic Expedition..  
Fieldpost Expedition"

Arrival Postmark:  
"(Berlin) 10 June 1901"



**FIELDPOST CARD SENT TO  
THE INDEPENDENT  
GERMAN PROVINCE OF  
WÜRTTEMBERG**

1 JULY (1901)

Free-frank German-Reich  
Fieldpost Form Card,  
postmarked with  
'Tientsin Type IIb',  
sent to Reutlingen,  
Württemberg, Germany.

Military Unit Validation  
Cachet:  
"East Asiatic Expedition..  
Staff of the Munitions  
Column"

Arrival Postmark:  
"Reutlingen Train Station,  
18 August 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Codes 'a' & 'b')

**Fieldpost Money Transfers**

**POST—EINLIEFERUNGSSCHEIN  
UEBER.**

Postanweisung } No. 228  
Brief.


Werth 70 Mark

Empfaenger Hintze

Tongku

Tientsin 21/4 1901.

K. Deutsche Feldpost



**SERVICEMEN WERE PERMITTED FREE TRANSFERS OF MONEY FOR AMOUNTS UP TO RM 800.00, completed on dedicated three-part money-transfer forms along with their name, unit identification and space for any short message.**

**Sender's receipts for payment transfers were issued by the Military Post Office.**

Abschnitt  
Post-Annahmestempel  
K.D. FELDPPOSTEXPED.  
DES  
OSTASIATISCHEN  
EXPEDITIONSCORPS  
\* 18/3 b

Eingezahlt von  
(Name, Truppendienst und Charge  
des Absenders muss genau ange-  
geben werden)

Herrn. Waller  
b. Offiziersstube  
Feldbattalion  
70 Mark Pf.  
am 18. 3 1901

Mitteilungen umseitig

**RECIPIENT'S  
MONEY-  
TRANSFER  
RECEIPT**

**18 MARCH  
(1901)**

**Money transfer  
(recipient)  
receipt  
for RM 70.00  
sent by  
"Soldier  
Waller"  
of the  
"6th East Asiatic  
Field Battalion"  
to his parents  
in Germany.**

Cert. Steuer BPP

**SENDER'S MONEY-TRANSFER RECEIPT**

**21 APRIL 1901**

**Military Post Office**  
**Sender's Receipt Form for a RM 40.21**  
**transfer to Tongku, China**

Mitteilungen

*Liebe Eltern!  
Ich sende hier 70 Mark.  
Bist du bitte für mich noch liebend  
kommend. Mit ganz  
Heinrich*

Message from Reverse Side:

**"Dear Parents!**  
**Am sending here RM 70.**  
**Please hold for me until I return.**  
**Greetings, Heinrich"**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Tientsin Base Fieldpost .. Type II (Code 'b')

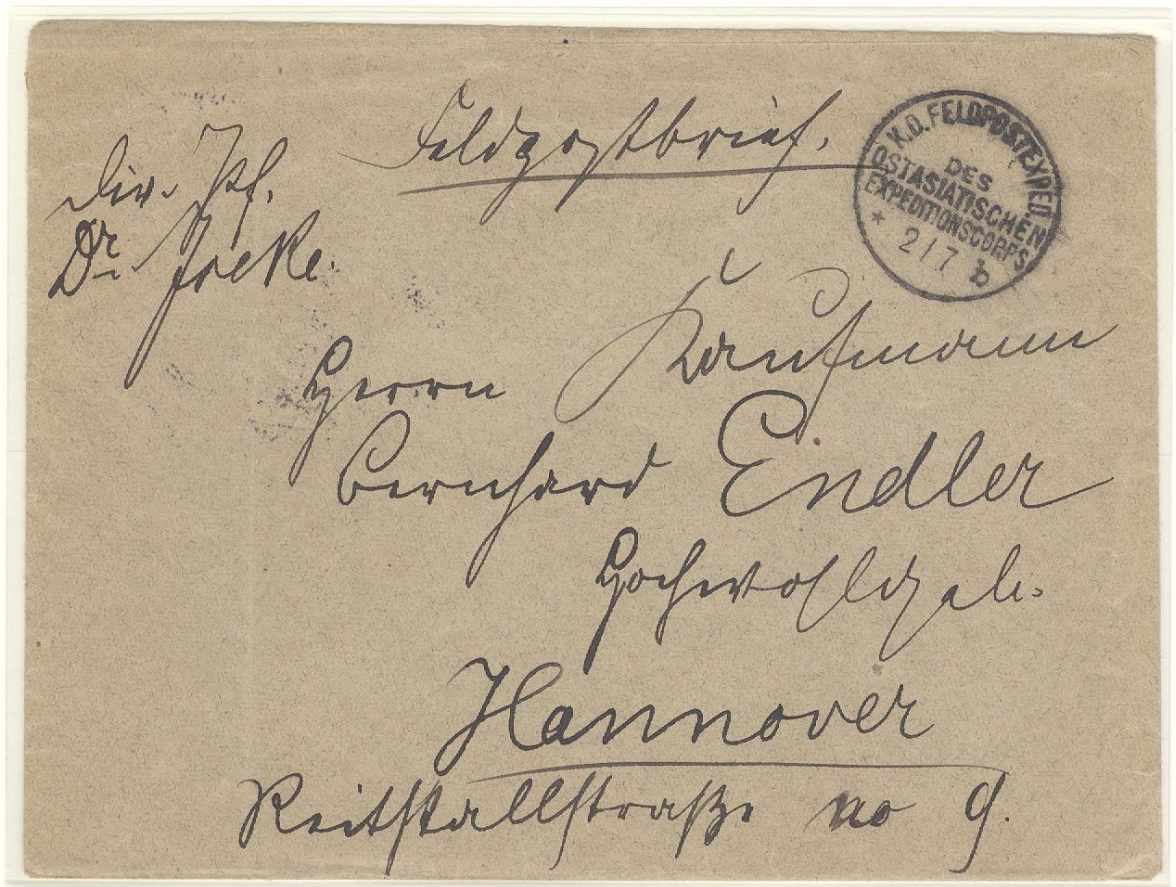
18 October 1900 – 31 August 1901

**DIVISION  
CHAPLAIN'S MAIL**

**2 JULY (1900)**

Free-frank  
fieldpost, sent by  
"Division  
Chaplain Dr.  
Jaekel",  
postmarked at  
Tientsin, to  
Hanover,  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Hannover,  
18 August 1901"



**NON-FIELDPOST MAIL  
SENT THROUGH GERMAN  
MILITARY POST OFFICE**

**22 JUNE (1901)**

Philatelic-inspired  
complete reply-card  
postal stationery,  
postmarked at Tientsin,  
sent to Wiesbaden,  
Germany.  
47-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Wiesbaden,  
8 August 1901"

**5 Pfennig..  
Colonial postcard-rate  
for mail sent to Germany**



Exp Schmitt

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Peking Provisional Fieldpost (Type I)**

11 September – 13 November 1900

Upon the relief of Peking in August 1900, a provisional German Postal Station was opened in September, which used  
**TWO WOOD-CARVED PROVISIONAL POSTMARKS:**  
 Type I = Soft Wood & Type II = Hard Wood.



Type I = Soft Wood



Reverse

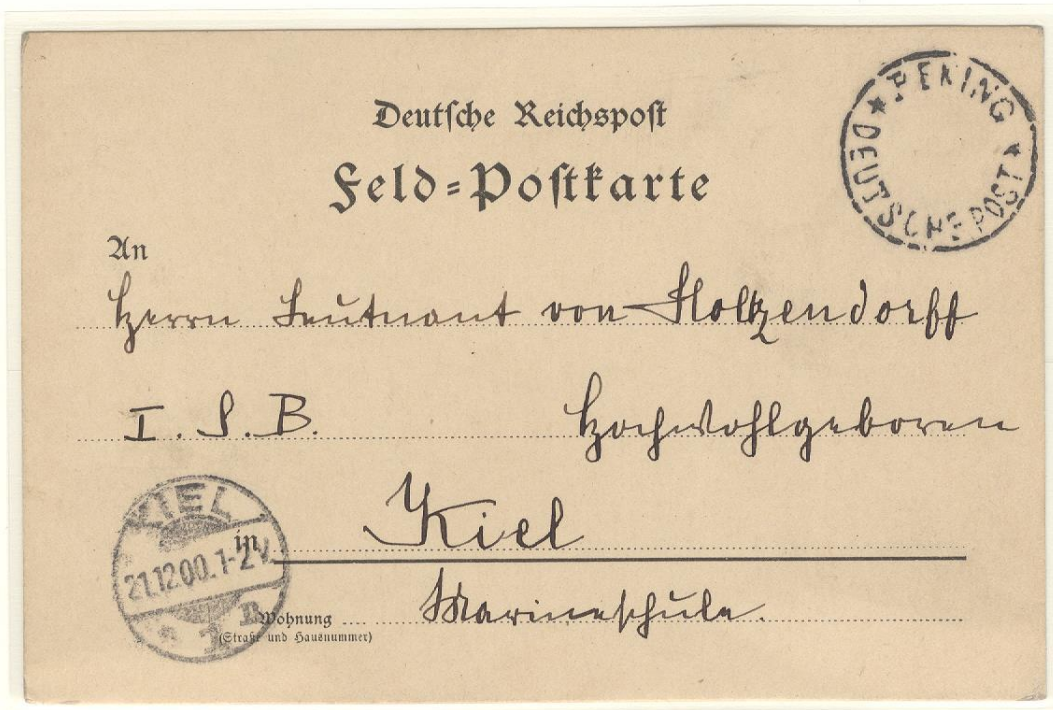


**CHINESE RICE-PAPER "MANDARIN" COVER**

OCTOBER (1900)

Free-frank cover, postmarked with  
 "Peking Provisional Type I",  
 sent to Weissenfels, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Weissenfels, 15 November 1900"



**OFFICER'S MAIL**

(25) OCTOBER (1900)

Fieldpost Form Card,  
 postmarked with  
 "Peking Provisional  
 Type I",  
 sent to  
 Kiel Naval Base,  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Kiel,  
 21 December 1900"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Peking Provisional Fieldpost (Type I)**

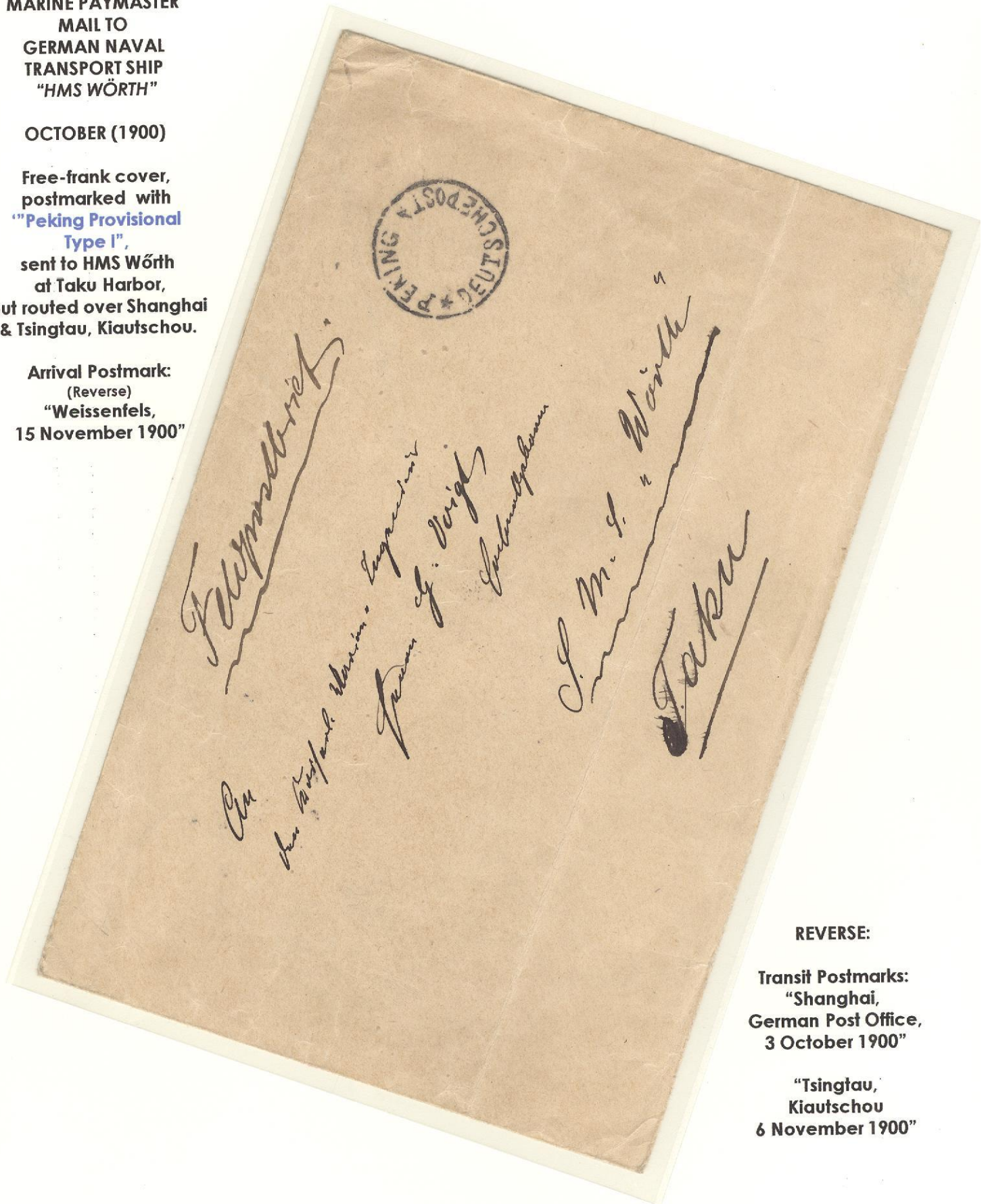
11 September – 13 November 1900

**MARINE PAYMASTER**  
**MAIL TO**  
**GERMAN NAVAL**  
**TRANSPORT SHIP**  
**"HMS WÖRTH"**

**OCTOBER (1900)**

Free-frank cover,  
postmarked with  
"Peking Provisional  
Type I",  
sent to HMS Wörth  
at Taku Harbor,  
but routed over Shanghai  
& Tsingtau, Kiautschou.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Weissenfels,  
15 November 1900"



**REVERSE:**

**Transit Postmarks:**  
"Shanghai,  
German Post Office,  
3 October 1900"

"Tsingtau,  
Kiautschou  
6 November 1900"

# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

Peking Provisional Fieldpost (Type II)

11 September – 13 November 1900

PROVISIONAL POSTMARK 'TYPE II'  
WAS CARVED FROM HARD WOOD.



Type II = Hard Wood



Reverse

## CHINESE RICE-PAPER "MANDARIN" COVER

SEPTEMBER 1900

Free-frank,  
so-called "Mandarin" Cover,  
postmarked with  
"Peking Provisional Type II",  
sent to Halle, Germany,  
by a member of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Marine Battalion.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Halle,  
29 October 1900"

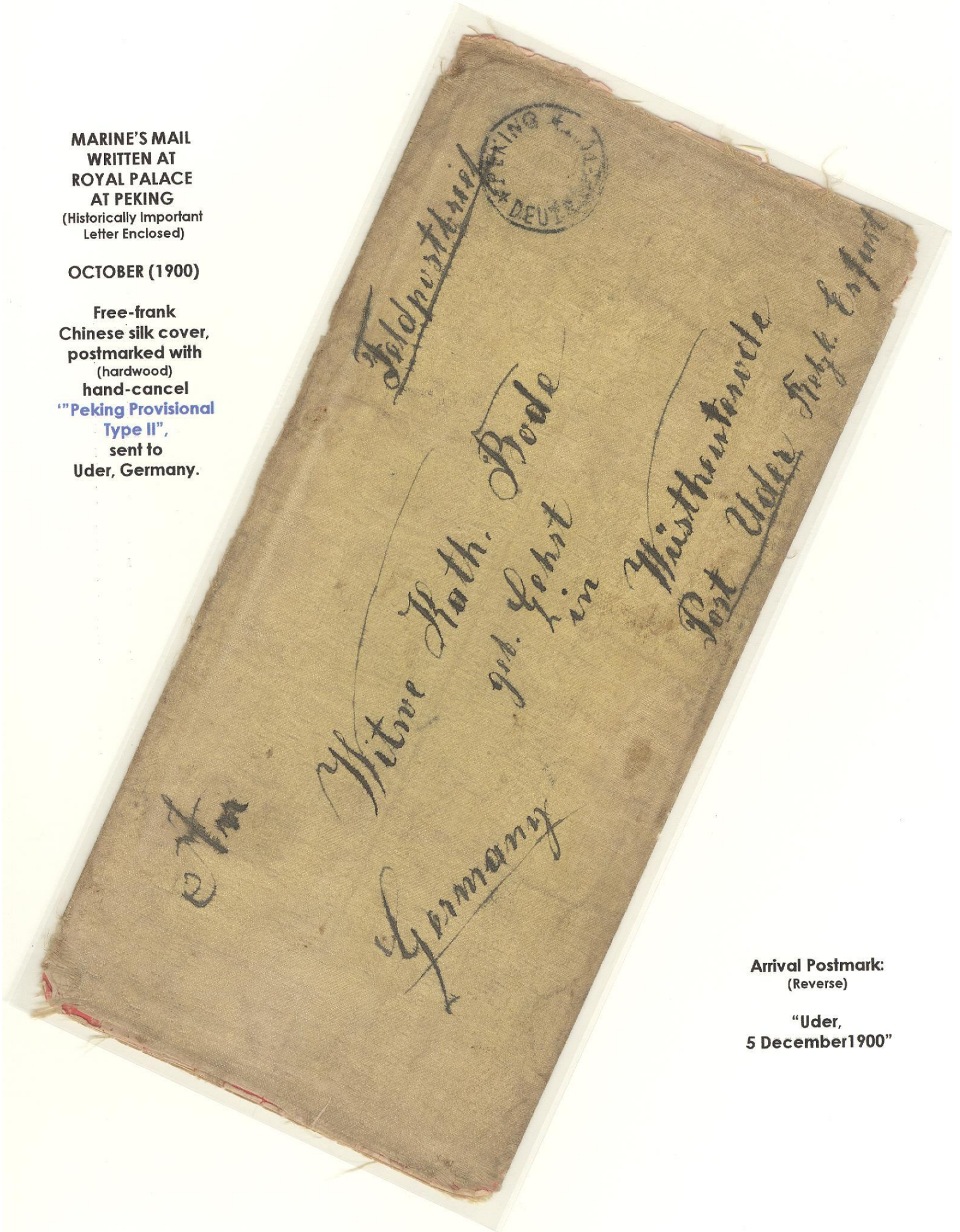
**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Peking Provisional Fieldpost (Type II)**

11 September – 13 November 1900

**MARINE'S MAIL**  
**WRITTEN AT**  
**ROYAL PALACE**  
**AT PEKING**  
(Historically Important  
Letter Enclosed)

**OCTOBER (1900)**

Free-frank  
Chinese silk cover,  
postmarked with  
(hardwood)  
hand-cancel  
"Peking Provisional  
Type II",  
sent to  
Uder, Germany.



**Arrival Postmark:**  
(Reverse)

**"Uder,**  
**5 December 1900"**

# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

## "Taku Süd-Fort" Provisional Postmark

9-26 November 1900

In June 1900, the "Forts at Taku", over-looking the mouth of the Pei-Ho River at the "Gulf of Tschili", were manned by Chinese Artillery, preventing German and allied naval vessels from anchoring in the bay at "Taku".

In order to eliminate the guns, German and allied marines successfully stormed the forts on 16-17 June.

**IN NOVEMBER 1900,  
GERMAN FORCES ESTABLISHED A SIGNAL STATION ALONG WITH A SHORT-  
LIVED PROVISIONAL POSTAL STATION AT THE FORTS,  
which used a wood-carved postmark. Mail was later handled by  
"Fieldpost Station No. 4" at Tongku.**



Usage: 9-26 November 1900



Cert. Bothe, Exp AG-Berlin

13 NOVEMBER (1900)

Free-frank UPU View-card, double-postmarked  
at "Taku Süd-Fort"  
Signal-Station-Base Provisional Postal Station,  
sent to Kiel, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Kiel,  
2 January 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**War-Front & Home-Front Propaganda Mail**

1900 - 1901

**WAR-FRONT  
 PROPAGANDA**

9 JANUARY 1901

Free-frank soldier's mail, postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Berlin, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "(Berlin),  
 21 February 1901"

"Greetings From the War Front ..

Public Notice:  
 The Empress of China extends her regrets for death & murder. It should not take place again...

**Liung Schang**  
 (Chinese Government Official)



**HOME-FRONT  
 PROPAGANDA**

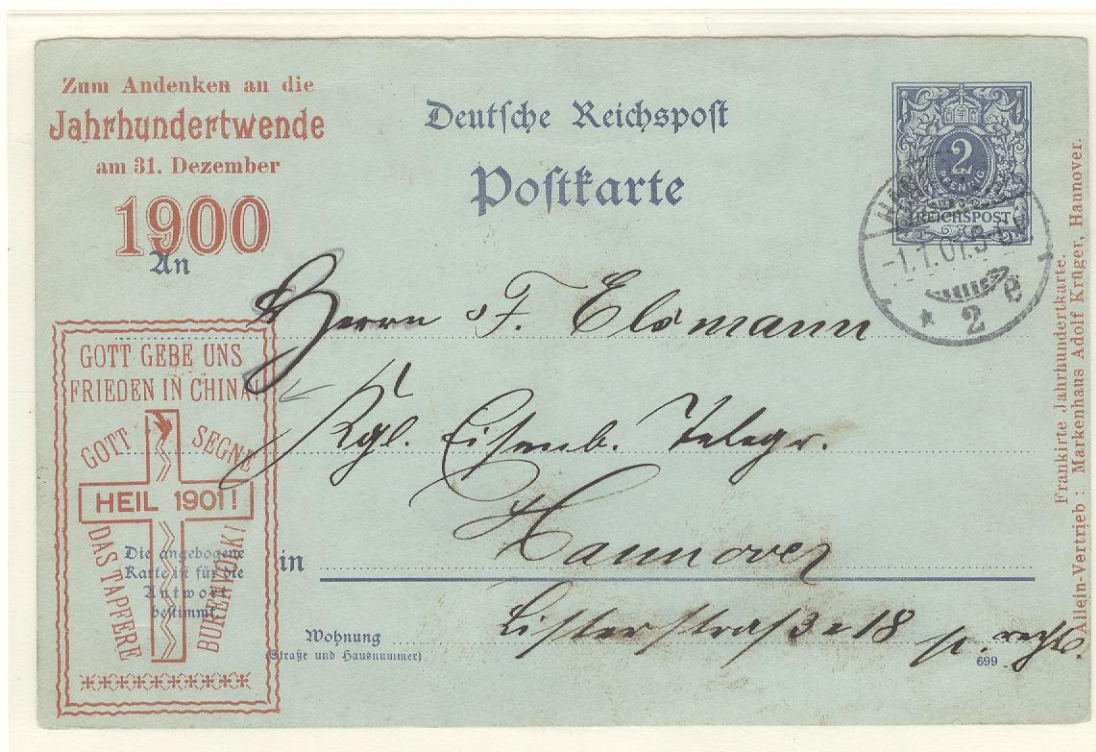
1 JANUARY 1901

Local Hanover-City postal card mail, with privately-applied messages:

"In celebration of the Turn of the Century on 31 December 1900 ..

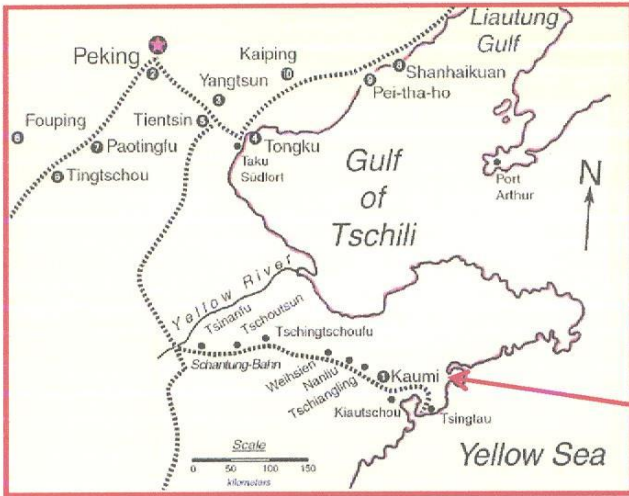
May God grant us peace in China 1901.

God Bless the brave Boer People."



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 1 ... Kaumi  
 24 November 1900 – 4 July 1901



With the arrival of the troop convoys, the **'FIELDPOST EXPEDITION'** (postal services unit for the Expeditionary Corps) **ESTABLISHED A SERIES OF TEN POSTAL STATIONS IN STRATEGIC MILITARY LOCATIONS.**

**"Station No. 1" was located 99 Kilometers (approx. 60 miles) from Tsingtau, Kiautschou (German-Leasehold Territory), along the important Schantung Railway Line.**



**10 MAY (1901)**

**Non-fieldpost cover, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 1, sent to Tsingtau, Kiautschou Territory.**

**Arrival Postmark: (Reverse) "Tsingtau, Kiautschou, 15 May 1901"**

**10 Pfennig.. (II) Single-weight (15 grams) letter-rate for mail sent between German Post Offices in China.**



Exp. Dr. Steuer BPP



**3 OCTOBER (1901)**

**Non-fieldpost "Gruss-aus Kiautschou" Postcard, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 1, sent to Bochum, Germany**

**5 Pfennig.. (II) Colonial-rate for postcards sent to Germany.**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 2 ... Peking  
 9 November 1900 – 31 August 1901

**FIELD MARSHALL 'COUNT von WALDERSEE'**  
**WAS SUPREME COMMANDER OF GERMAN FORCES OF THE**  
**'EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS'.**



18 December (1900)

(Free-frank) money transfer  
 receipt covering RM 800.00  
 transferred by 'Count von  
 Waldersee' to Germany.



11 NOVEMBER  
 (1900)

Free-frank  
 cover,  
 written by  
 'Count von  
 Waldersee',  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station  
 No. 2, sent to  
 Hanover,  
 Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Hannover,  
 27 December  
 1900"



Reverse

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 2 ... Peking  
9 November 1900 – 31 August 1901

**REGISTERED FIELDPOST STATION MAIL**  
**TRANSFERRED TO THE GERMAN POST OFFICE IN PEKING**



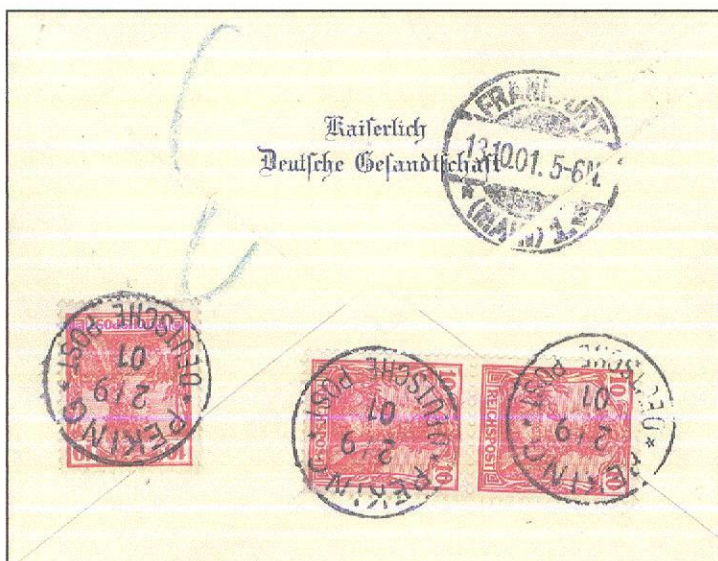
Cert. Steuer

2 SEPTEMBER 1901

Registered cover, embossed  
"Imperial German Legation",  
written by Staff Physician "Dr. Velde",  
registered at  
"Fieldpost Station No. 2 of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army"  
but transferred to the  
Imperial German Post Office at Peking  
("Peking" hand-stamped on registration label)  
for forwarding to Frankfurt (Main), Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Frankfurt (Main),  
13 October 1901"

40 Pfennig..  
(Type II Provisional Stamp Usage)  
20 Pfg.. Single-weight  
UPU International Letter-Rate +  
20 Pfg.. Registration Fee



Reverse



EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS  
Fieldpost Station Network

Station No. 2 ... Peking  
9 November 1900 – 31 August 1901

Supplementary Marking  
"Peking Kaiserpalast"  
(Emperor's Palace)

German military units occupied the palace grounds with a supplementary marking applied to their mail.



31 MARCH (1901)

Free-frank fieldpost form card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 2, sent to "1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Hinkelmann", photographer, stationed at Paotingfu, China (Fieldpost Station No. 7).

Unit Validation Mark:  
"4<sup>th</sup> Company of the 1<sup>st</sup> East Asiatic Rifle Regiment"

Exp. Bothe/AG-Berlin



3 APRIL (1901)

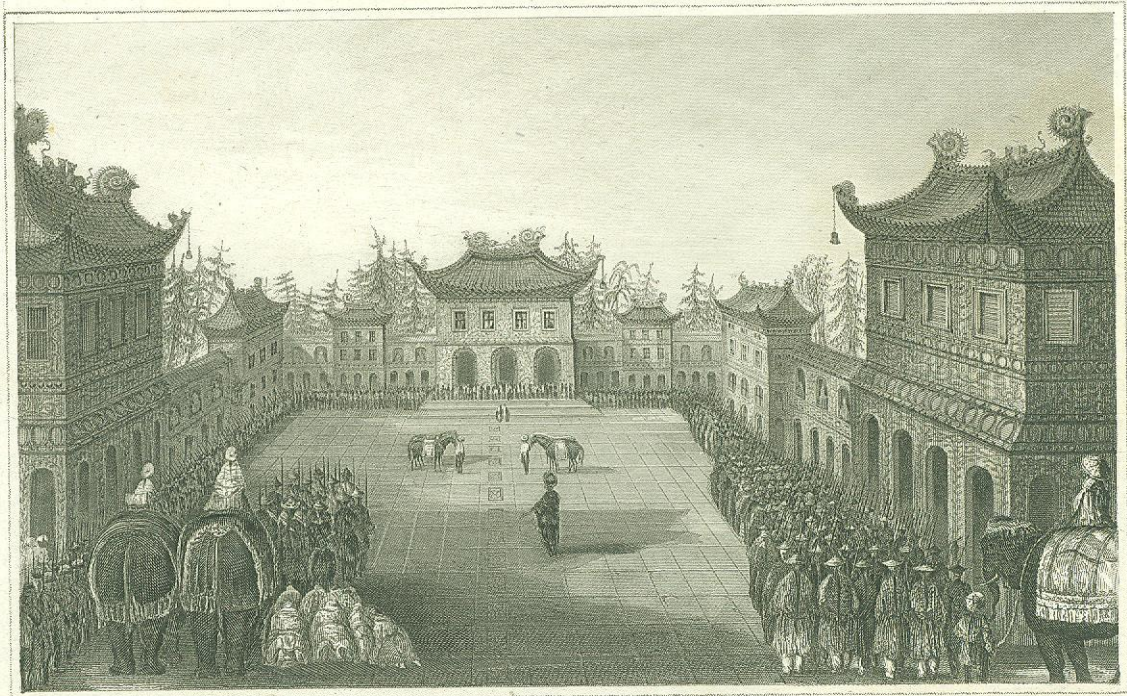
Free-frank cover, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 2, sent to Duisburg, Germany.

Unit Validation Mark:  
"1<sup>st</sup> Company, 1<sup>st</sup> East Asiatic Rifle Regiment"

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Duisburg,  
15 June 1901"

Cert Steuer BPP

# Emperor's Palace Original Print 1842



DER KAISER-PALLAST  
in Peking

Aus d. Kunstanst. d. Biblioth. Inst. in Hildb.

Eigenthum d. Verleger

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 2 ... Peking  
 9 November 1900 – 31 August 1901

The headquarters of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Battalion  
 was located at the German Legation at Peking.

29 MARCH (1901)

Free-frank marine's  
 mail, postmarked  
 at Fieldpost Station  
 No. 2, sent to  
 Grimma, Germany.

Unit Validation  
 Mark:  
 "Headquarters of  
 the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine  
 Battalion"

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Grimma,  
 12 May 1901"



28 MAY (1901)

Free-frank marine's  
 mail, postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 2,  
 sent to Kiel, Germany.

Unit Validation Mark:  
 "Headquarters of the  
 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Battalion"

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Kiel,  
 13 July 1901"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

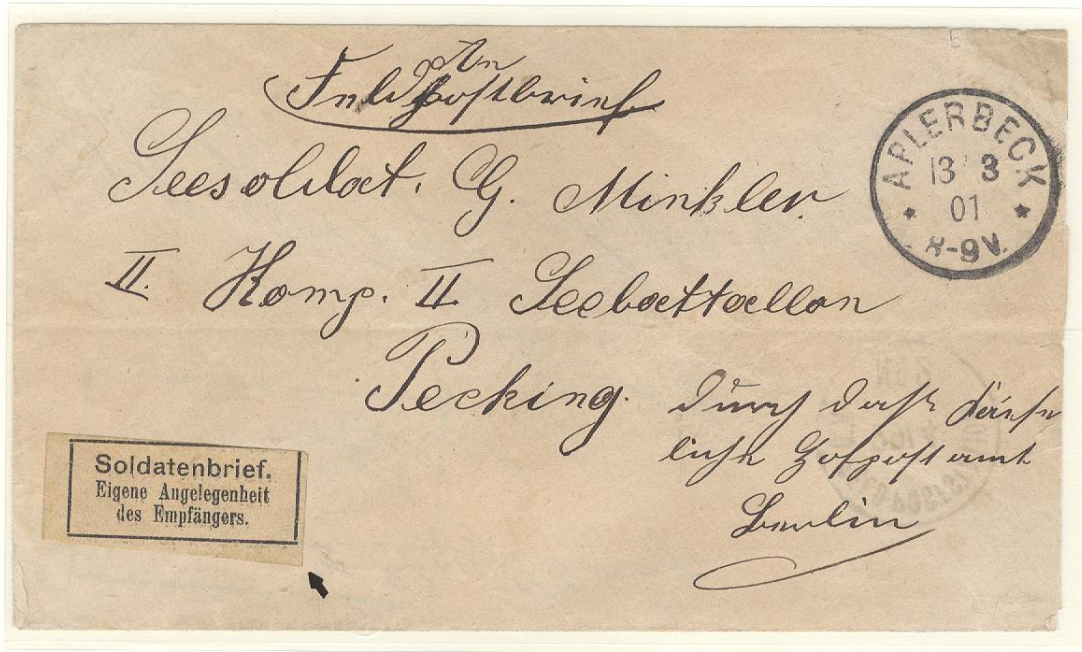
Station No. 2 ... Peking  
 9 November 1900 – 31 August 1901

**MAIL FROM GERMANY SENT TO SOLDIERS IN CHINA**

During peacetime, mail to soldiers had to be endorsed,  
 or affixed with a label,  
**"SOLDIER'S MAIL.. PERSONAL MATTERS OF THE RECIPIENT".**

During the Boxer Revolt Period, such labels were not mandatory.

**TURN-LETTER .. GERMANY-CHINA-GERMANY**



13 MARCH 1901

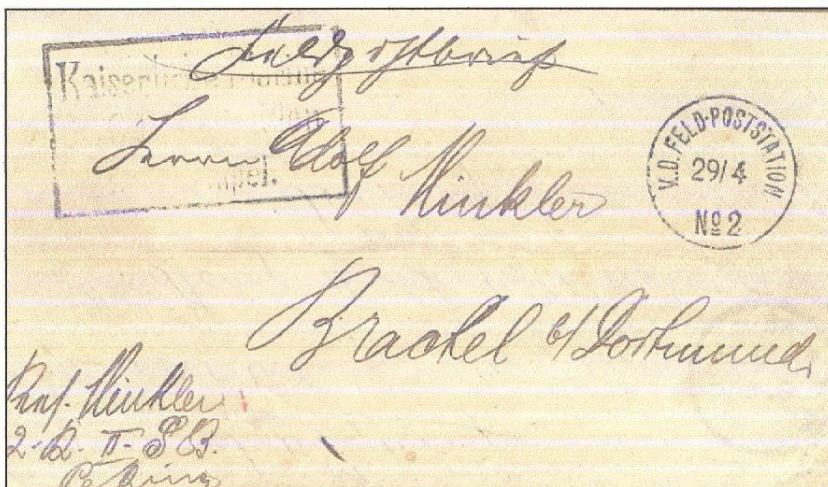
Free-frank (label affixed) cover,  
 postmarked Aplerbeck, Germany,  
 sent to "Marine G. Minkler,  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Company,  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Battalion, Peking"

**TURN COVER REPLY:**  
 29 APRIL (1901)

Free-frank Marine's Mail reply  
 (using same envelope turned inside-  
 out), postmarked Fieldpost Station No.  
 2,  
 sent to Brackel, Germany.

Unit Validation Mark & Endorsement:  
 "2<sup>nd</sup> Company,  
 Imperial 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Battalion"

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Brackel, 10 June 1901"



Inside View

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Fieldpost Station Network

Station No. 2 ... Peking  
9 November 1900 - 31 August 1901

Free-franking privilege was only valid for soldier's mail, when  
**THE SOLDIER'S UNIT VALIDATION STAMP OR ENDORSEMENT**  
APPEARED ON THE COVER OR POSTCARD.

1 JULY (1901)

Free-frank fieldpost  
view card, postmarked at  
Fieldpost Station No. 2,  
sent to  
Altrüdnitz, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Altrüdnitz,  
8 August 1901"

Unit Validation Mark:  
"3<sup>rd</sup> Company,  
1<sup>st</sup> East Asiatic  
Expeditionary  
Infantry Regiment"



3 AUGUST (1901)

Free-frank view card,  
postmarked at  
Fieldpost Station  
No. 2, sent to  
Magdeburg,  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Magdeburg,  
14 September 1901"

Unit Validation Mark:  
"2<sup>nd</sup> Company,  
2<sup>nd</sup> East Asiatic  
Expeditionary  
Infantry Regiment"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS  
Fieldpost Station Network**

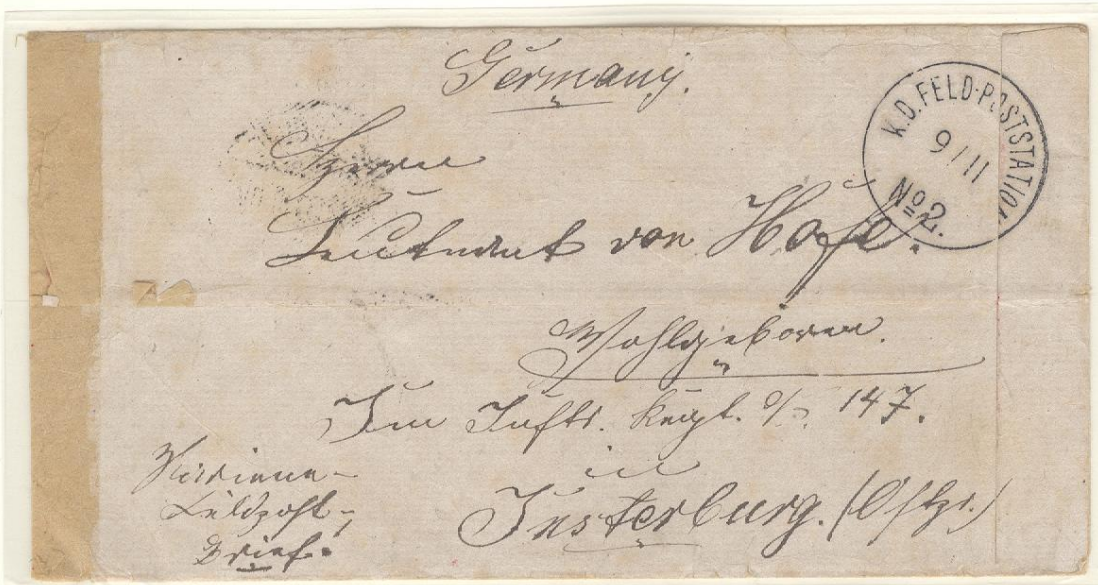
Station No. 2 ... Peking  
9 November 1900 – 31 August 1901

**INCORRECTLY ADDRESSED  
IN-BOUND MAIL FROM  
GERMANY**

30 AUGUST 1900

Free-frank in-bound cover, postmarked at Potsdam, Germany, sent to "Sargeant Wagner" of the 1<sup>st</sup> Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment".

Since the recipient was not part of that unit, the cover was circulated to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Companies without success with final return on 30 December 1900 to the Naval Post Office by the German Post Office at Peking.



**"MANDARIN" COVER  
USAGE**

9 NOVEMBER (1900)

Free-frank cover, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 2, sent to Insterburg, East Prussia, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Insterburg,  
24 December 1900"

Unit Validation Mark:  
"1<sup>st</sup> Company,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion  
East Asiatic  
Expeditionary Corps"

Earliest Known Usage



Reverse



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 2 ... Peking  
 9 November 1900 – 31 August 1901

**FIELDPOST MAIL USING CHINESE POSTAL STATIONERY**

**PEKING FIELDPOST MAIL  
 TRANSFERRED TO GERMAN  
 POST OFFICE**

**19 NOVEMBER (1900)**

Free-frank  
 "Shanghai Local Post"  
 Postal Stationery  
 used as fieldpost, with

**FELDPOSTBRIEF**

postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 2,  
 transferred to the German  
 Post Office at Peking,  
 sent to  
 "Lieutenant Staehle"  
 at Tientsin.

Unit Validation  
 Endorsement:  
 "Fieldpost Clerk Peking"



**FIELDPOST MAIL THROUGH  
 CHINESE POST OFFICE  
 AT PEKING**

**8 JUNE (1901)**

Fieldpost mail on a Chinese  
 Postal Stationery Card,  
 postmarked at the Chinese  
 Post Office at Peking,  
 transferred to  
 Fieldpost Station No. 2,  
 sent to Frankfurt/Main,  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Frankfurt (Main),  
 4 August 1901"



**1Cent..  
 Local Chinese Postcard Rate**

(transferred from Chinese Post Office to German Fieldpost)  
 + free-frank to Germany



Reverse Side Artwork



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 3 ... Yangtsun  
 2 September 1900 – 30 April 1901

One of the first railway stretches on the Taku-Peking Line to be rebuilt after the Boxer Revolt was at "YANGTSUN",  
**A STRATEGIC MILITARY LOCATION HAVING "FIELDPOST STATION NO. 3".**



**1 OCTOBER (1900)**

**Free-frank UPU view-card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 3, sent to Görlitz, Germany.**

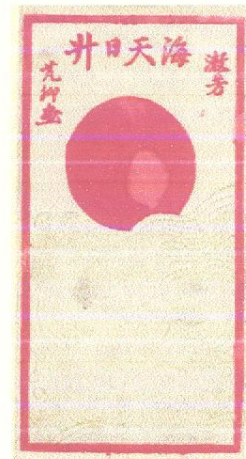
**Arrival Postmark: "Görlitz, 16 November 1900"**



**4 SEPTEMBER (1900)**

**Free-frank "Mandarin" Cover, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 3, sent to Allendar (Coblenz), Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark: "Allendar, -- October 1900"**



Reverse

**Third-Day Usage at Station No. 3**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 4 ... Tongku  
 2 September 1900 – 30 August 1901

**'TONGKU HARBOR' WAS THE BRIDGEHEAD FOR ARRIVING ALLIED TROOPS DURING THE BOXER REVOLT, of strategic importance and location of Fieldpost Station No. 4.**



**9 SEPTEMBER (1900)**

Free-frank fieldpost form-card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 4, sent to Bremen, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Haller Machine Mark)  
 "Bremen,  
 30 October 1900"



**9 OCTOBER (1900)**

Free-frank postal card, written by a member of Gunboat "HMS Jaguar", postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 4, sent to Altona, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Altona,  
 24 November 1900"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 4 ... Tongku  
 2 September 1900 – 30 August 1901

**"TONGKU" WAS A RAILWAY HUB ON THE NORTH-BOUND  
 'SHANHAIKWAN RAILWAY'**  
 with strategic importance for military traffic with Russia.

1 JANUARY (1901)

Free-frank  
 Chinese UPU Postal  
 Card, postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 4,  
 sent to  
 Wiesbaden, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Wiesbaden,  
 20 February 1901"



4 APRIL (1901)  
 Free-frank Fieldpost  
 using an Imperial  
 Chinese Railway  
 Telegraph Card,  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station  
 No. 4,  
 sent to Magdeburg,  
 Germany.  
 Arrival Postmark:  
 "Magdeburg-  
 Buchau,  
 16 May 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 5 ... Tientsin  
 2 September 1900 – 18 October 1900

After the relief of Peking & Tientsin,  
**A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE ALLIES**  
**AT 'TIENSIN' ALONG WITH GERMAN 'FIELDPOST STATION NO. 5'.**



**2 SEPTEMBER (1900)**

Free-frank cover,  
 officer's-mail,  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station  
 No. 5, sent to  
 Bartenstein,  
 East Prussia,  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Bartenstein,  
 20 October 1900"

First Day Usage



**20 SEPTEMBER (1900)**

Free-frank Fieldpost  
 form-card, postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 5,  
 sent to  
 Rendsburg, Germany.

Exp Mansfeld

**14 OCTOBER (1900)**

Free-frank Chinese UPU  
 Card, postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 5,  
 sent to Munich,  
 Germany.

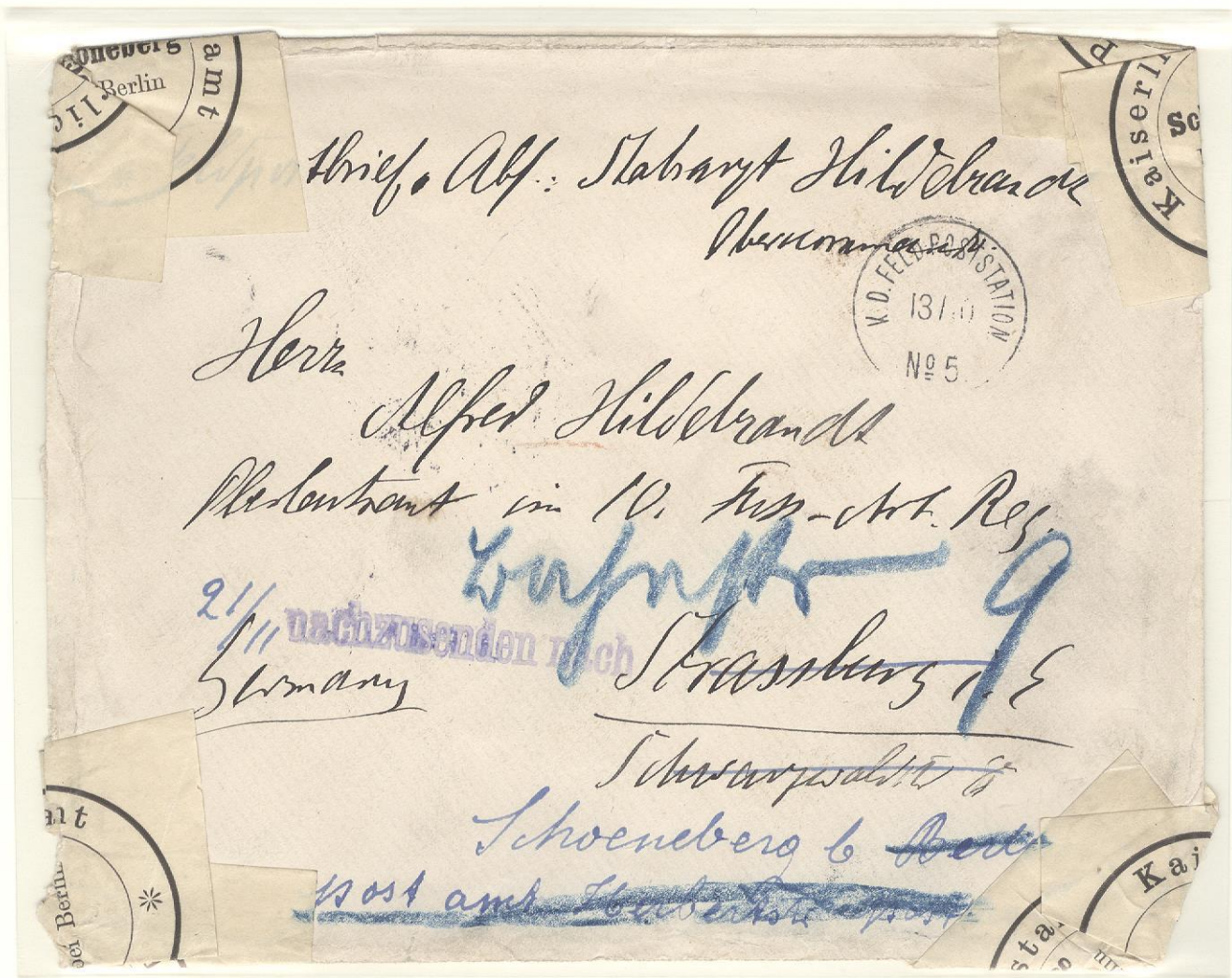
Arrival Postmark:  
 "München,  
 23 November 1900"



EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS  
Fieldpost Station Network

Station No. 5 ... Tientsin  
2 September 1900 – 18 October 1900

GERMANY-BOUND RE-DIRECTED, POSTALLY INSPECTED & RE-SEALED MAIL



13 OCTOBER (1900)

Free-frank cover, written by "Headquarters Staff Physician Hildebrandt",  
postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 5,  
sent to a relative in the "10<sup>th</sup> Artillery Regiment" at Strassburg, Alsace, Germany.

Upon arrival at Strassburg, forwarded to Schöneberg (Berlin),  
where recipient could not be located, requiring  
mail to be inspected for more information, with subsequent  
re-sealing and forwarding to recipient.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Reverse)

"21 November 1900, Strassburg"  
"21 November 1900, Schöneberg"  
"22 November 1900, Schöneberg"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Fieldpost Station Network

Station No. 6 ... Lung-Tsun-Kuan  
(Langtsouanking)  
17 - 25 May 1901

**MOBILE FIELDPOST STATION NO. 6,**  
the farthest station west of Peking, in the mountains, along the  
Great Wall of China,  
**HAD THREE DIFFERENT LOCATIONS:**

Tschingtschou = 18 April - 4 May 1901

Fouping = 5 - 16 May 1901

Langtsouanking = 17 - 25 May 1901



18 MAY (1901)

Cert. Dr. Steuer

Free-frank cover, written at "Lung-Tsun-kuan",  
by Chinese Post Office carrier to  
Fieldpost Station No. 6 at Langtsouanking,  
sent to Nuremberg, Bavaria, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"-- June 1900, Nürnberg"

Unit Validation Mark:  
"2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment,  
East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps"

1/2 Cent.. (Reverse)

Chinese Post Office fee for mail carrier  
to German Fieldpost Station No. 6 at "Langtsouanking",



Reverse

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS  
Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 7 ... Paotingfu  
20 November 1900 – July 1901

Located on the main telegraph & shipping route south to the cities of Hankau & Canton, "PAOTINGFU" WAS THE CAPITAL OF "TSHILI" PROVINCE, OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE TO ALLIED FORCES, with German Fieldpost Station No. 7 established there.



5 DECEMBER (1900)

Free-frank  
"Mandarin" Cover,  
postmarked at  
Fieldpost Station  
No. 7,  
sent to Dresden,  
Saxony, Germany.



5 DECEMBER (1900)

Free-frank  
"Mandarin" Cover,  
postmarked at  
Fieldpost Station No. 7,  
sent to  
Berlin, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"(Berlin)..  
Post Office No. 50,  
20 January 1901"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 7 ... Paotingfu  
 20 November 1900 – July 1901

Servicemen's registered mail was not free but subject to the standard UPU rates for international mail

REGISTERED MAIL ... FIELDPOST STATION NO. 7 ... 1<sup>ST</sup> ARMY



8 JUNE (1901)

Registered cover, postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 7,  
 sent to  
 St. Johann, Saar Province, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)

"St. Johann. --- July 1901"

Unit Validation:  
 "4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment,  
 East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps"

40 Pfennig..  
 20 Pfg.. Single-weight (15 grams) UPU  
 International Letter-Rate +  
 20 Pfg.. Registration Fee

MONEY ORDER  
 TRANSFER RECEIPT

9 JANUARY (1901)

Postal money-order  
 receipt for RM 1.00, sent  
 by "Lieutenant Witte",  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 7.





**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Fieldpost Station Network

Station No. 7 ... Paotingfu  
20 November 1900 – July 1901

Although there was no official Imperial German Post Office at  
"Paotingfu",  
THE MILITARY POSTAL STATION FUNCTIONED AS  
AS A TEMPORARY GERMAN POST OFFICE STATION WITH  
SOME MAIL BEING AFFIXED WITH  
A SUPPLEMENTAL "PAOTINGFU" POSTAL MARKING.



FIELDPOST MAIL WITH SUPPLEMENTAL "PAOTINGFU" MARKING



**30 MARCH (1901)**

**Free-frank cover, postmarked at  
Fieldpost Station No. 7  
with supplemental postal marking,  
sent to  
Heidelberg, Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Heidelberg. 17 May 1901"**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 7 ... Paotingfu  
 20 November 1900 – July 1901

**FIELDPOST MAIL TO  
 FRANCE**

**1 APRIL (1901)**

**Mandatory-franked,  
 Fieldpost Form-Card,  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 7,  
 sent to Paris, France.**

**Unit Validation:**  
 "1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Infantry Regiment, East  
 Asiatic Expeditionary  
 Corps"

**10 Pfennig..**  
 (Type II Provisional  
 Stamp Usage)  
**UPU International  
 Postcard-Rate.**



**FIELDPOST MAIL TO  
 GERMANY**

**26 MAY (1901)**

**Free-frank  
 UPU Postal Card,  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station  
 No. 7,  
 sent to  
 Brandenburg,  
 Germany.**

**Arrival Postmark:**  
 "Brandenburg,  
 7 July 1901"

**Unit Validation:**  
 "1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> East  
 Asiatic Infantry  
 Regiment"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 7 ... Paotingfu  
 20 November 1900 – July 1901

Since China first became a member of the UPU on 1 September 1914, any international mail through the Chinese Post Office had to be routed through a foreign post office in China, albeit Chinese postage rates were applicable, i.e. **DOUBLE FRANKING**, albeit fieldpost mail was free-frank.

**CHINESE FRANKING ON GERMAN FIELDPOST MAIL**

**3 FEBRUARY (1901)**

Chinese-franked postal-stationery card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 7, sent to Dresden, Saxony, Germany.

Free-frank fieldpost with added 8 Cents over-franked (1 Cent) UPU International Postcard-Rate.



**23 MAY (1901)**

Chinese-franked & Paoting-postmarked view-card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 7, sent to Beuthen, Upper-Silesia, Germany.

Arrival Postmark: "Beuthen, 8 July 1901"

Free-frank fieldpost with added 7 Cents UPU International Postcard-Rate.

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Fieldpost Station Network

Station No. 8 ... Shanhaikuan  
27 November 1900 - 31 August 1901

**ON 26 NOVEMBER 1900,**  
one day prior to the arrival of the 'Station No. 8' date-stamp,  
**A SUPPLEMENTAL POSTMARK "SHANHAIKUAN DEUTSCHE POST"**  
**WAS USED TO POSTMARK OUT-GOING FIELDPOST MAIL.**  
From 27 December, it was used as a supplemental postmark.



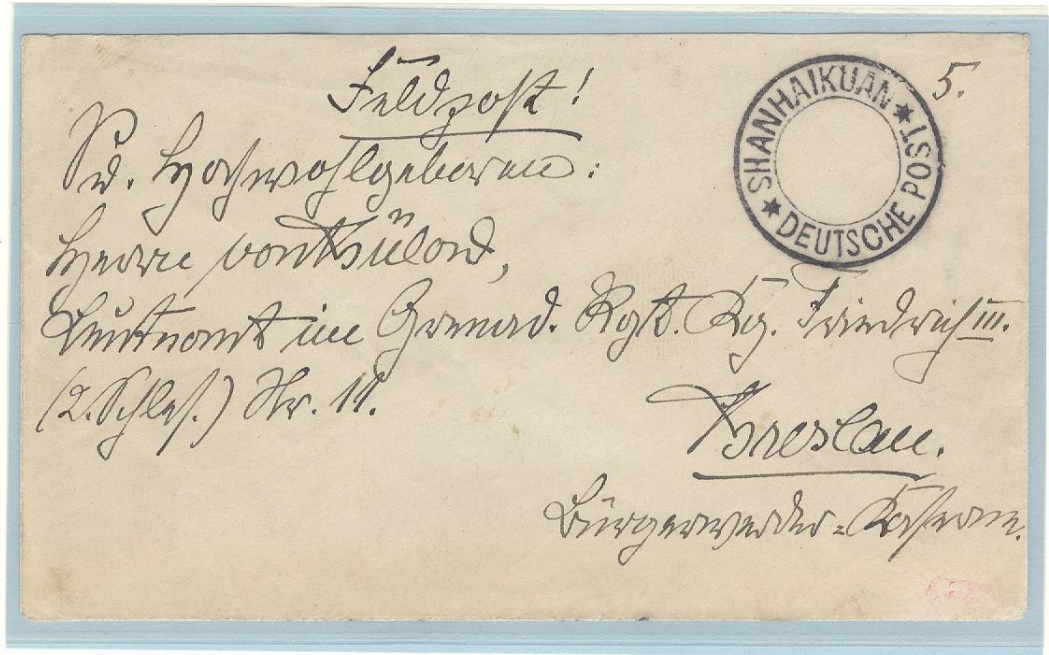
**FORERUNNER  
SUPPLEMENTAL  
POSTMARK USAGE**

**26 NOVEMBER 1900**

Free-frank officer's  
mail, postmarked at  
Shanhaikuan, sent to  
Breslau, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Breslau,  
17 January 1901"

**Less than five  
examples known.**



Cert. Haspel BPP



**FIELDPOST AND  
SUPPLEMENTAL USED  
POSTMARKS**

**15 MARCH (1901)**

Free-frank fieldpost  
form-card,  
postmarked at  
Fieldpost Station  
No. 8  
with supplemental  
postal marking,  
sent to  
Laubegast,  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Laubegast.  
9 May 1901"

REGISTERED COVER THROUGH THE GERMAN FIELDPOST MAIL SERVICE  
FROM THE AUSTRIAN MARINE DETACHMENT AT SHANHAIKUAN TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS ABOARD  
AUSTRIAN NAVAL VESSEL "HMS QUEEN MARIA THERESA"



15 APRIL (1901)

Registered cover, postmarked at  
Fieldpost Station No. 8,  
with registration label  
"Fieldpost Station No. 8 of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army",  
sent to  
'HMS Queen Maria Theresa  
anchored at "Taku" (Tongku).

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Tongku, German Post Office.  
17 April 1901"

40 Pfennig...  
20 Pfg. Single-weight (15 grams) UPU International Letter-Rate +  
20 Pfg. Registered Fee

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 8 ... Shanhaikuan  
27 November 1900 –31 August 1901

During the night of 28 February 1901, a shipment of fireworks ignited and caused a major fire at the Shanghai German Post Office, resulting in many sacks of German Fieldpost No. 8 being destroyed or damaged.

**RECOVERED DAMAGED MAIL WAS CACHET HAND-STAMPED AND FORWARDED TO DESTINATION:**

Beschädigt durch Brandunglück  
im Postamt Shanghai.  
("Damaged from the Shanghai Post Office Fire")

**FIELDPOST STATION NO. 8 MAIL DAMAGED IN-TRANSIT THROUGH THE GERMAN POST OFFICE FIRE AT SHANGHAI ON 28 FEBRUARY 1901**



**24 FEBRUARY (1901)**

Free-frank fieldpost form-card,  
postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 8,  
fire-damaged cachet hand-stamped,  
sent to Schöneberg (Berlin), Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Schöneberg (Berlin).  
9 April 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 8 ... Shanhaikuan  
 27 November 1900 - 31 August 1901

Located on the Northeast Railway Line between Tongku and Mukden,  
 "Shanhaikuan" was a strategic location for German Forces.  
**UPON CLOSURE OF THE GERMAN FIELDPOST STATION,**  
**A GERMAN POST OFFICE OPENED AT 'SHANHAIKUAN' ON 1 SEPTEMBER 1901**

16 JUNE (1901)

Free-frank UPU  
 View-card,  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station No. 8,  
 sent to Rengersdorf,  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Rengersdorf,  
 4 August 1901"



15 AUGUST (1901)

Free-frank view card,  
 postmarked at  
 Fieldpost Station  
 No. 8,  
 sent to  
 Leipzig-  
 Volkmarsdorf,  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Leipzig-  
 Volkmarsdorf.  
 30 September 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 9 ... Peithaho  
 22 May 1901 – 31 August 1901

One of three strategically-located fieldpost stations on the Northeast Railway Line between Tongku and Mukden, "PEITHAHO" WAS LOCATED BETWEEN FIELDPOST STATIONS 8 (SHANHAIKUAN) AND 10 (KAIPING).



6 JUNE (1901)

Free-frank view card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 9, sent to Babenhausen, Germany.

Arrival Postmark: "Rengersdorf, 4 August 1901"

Unit Validation Cachet: "Bavarian Unit.. 2<sup>nd</sup> Company, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment"



Exp. Mansfeld BPP



7 JULY (1901)

Free-frank UPU View-card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 9, sent to Bindlach, Bavaria, Germany.

Arrival Postmark: "Bindlach, 10 August 1901"



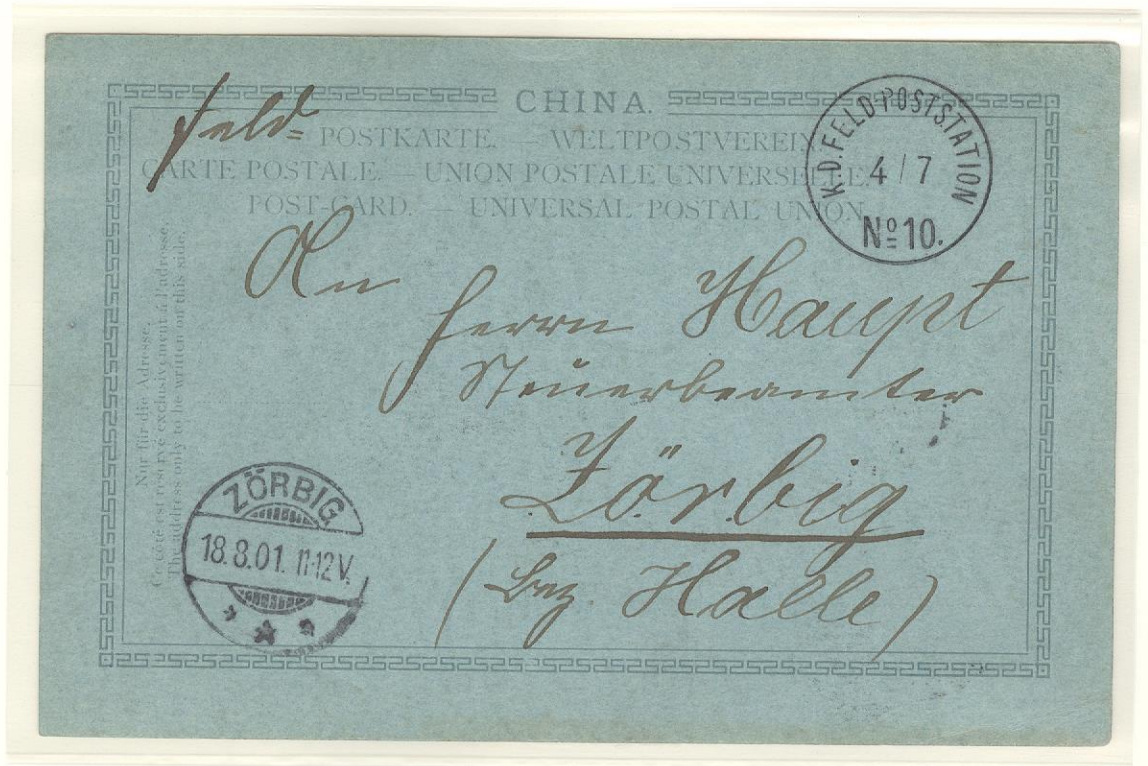
**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 10 ... Kaiping  
 21 May 1901 – 25 August 1901

One of three strategically-located fieldpost stations on the Northeast Railway Line between Tongku and Mukden, "KAIPING" WAS LOCATED BETWEEN FIELDPOST STATIONS 4 (TONGKU) AND 9 (PEITHAHO).



**4 JULY (1901)**  
 Free-frank Chinese UPU Card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 10, sent to Zörbig, Germany.  
 Arrival Postmark: "Zörbig 18 August 1901"



Ex Romanov Exp. Dr. Steuer BPP



**18 JUNE (1901)**  
 Free-frank view card, postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 10, sent to Leipzig, Saxony, Germany.  
 Unit Validation Mark: "1st Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Station Network**

Station No. 10 ... Kaiping  
21 May 1901 – 25 August 1901

“Value Letters”, i.e. insured mail, up to Mks 150.00 in value, not exceeding 50 grams in weight, were handled as registered mail, and were free of postage for military servicemen.

**DURING ITS OPERATION IN CHINA, THE GERMAN FIELDPOST SYSTEM HANDLED SIX MILLION UNITS OF MAIL OF WHICH ONLY 1553 UNITS WERE VALUE-LETTERS.**



22 MAY (1901)

Officer's value letter in the amount of Mks 14.00 (23.5 grams),  
postmarked at Fieldpost Station No. 10,  
sent to  
Neuenhaus with re-direction to Fulda, Germany.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
“Tongku, German Post Office, 22 May 1901”  
(Reverse)  
“Neuenhaus (Hanover), 25 July 1901”  
“Fulda, 26 July 1901”

Free-frank for military & value-letter mail under 50 grams to Germany.  
20 Pfennig affixed & postmarked at the 'Tongku' German Post Office  
by postal clerk assuming fee was required for officer's mail  
handled as registered value-letter.

**OTHER STAMP USAGES**

**FIELDPOST POSTMARKS 1900-1901**

**STAMPS NOT ISSUED  
OR SOLD IN CHINA**



**No. 7: Paotingfu**

**TWO-MARK HIGH  
VALUE ISSUE USED  
FOR PARCELS &  
FIELD TELEGRAMS**



**No. 2: Peking**

**FIRST REGULAR STAMP  
ISSUE.. GERMAN REICH  
CROWN & EAGLE SERIES  
WITH 'CHINA' AT 56°**



**No. 5: Tientsin**



**Tientsin-Base (Early)**



**No. 2: Peking**



**No. 7: Paotingfu**



**No. 10: Kaiping**

**SECOND REGULAR STAMP ISSUE..  
GERMAN 'REICHSPOST' SERIES  
WITH 'CHINA' OVERPRINT..  
ISSUED JANUARY/APRIL 1901**



**Tientsin-Base (Early)**



**No. 2: Peking  
Exp Mansfeld**



**No. 2: Peking  
Exp Bothe**

**Unique Example!  
ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE !**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Mail to China From Germany**

Inbound Parcel Post & Letter Mail

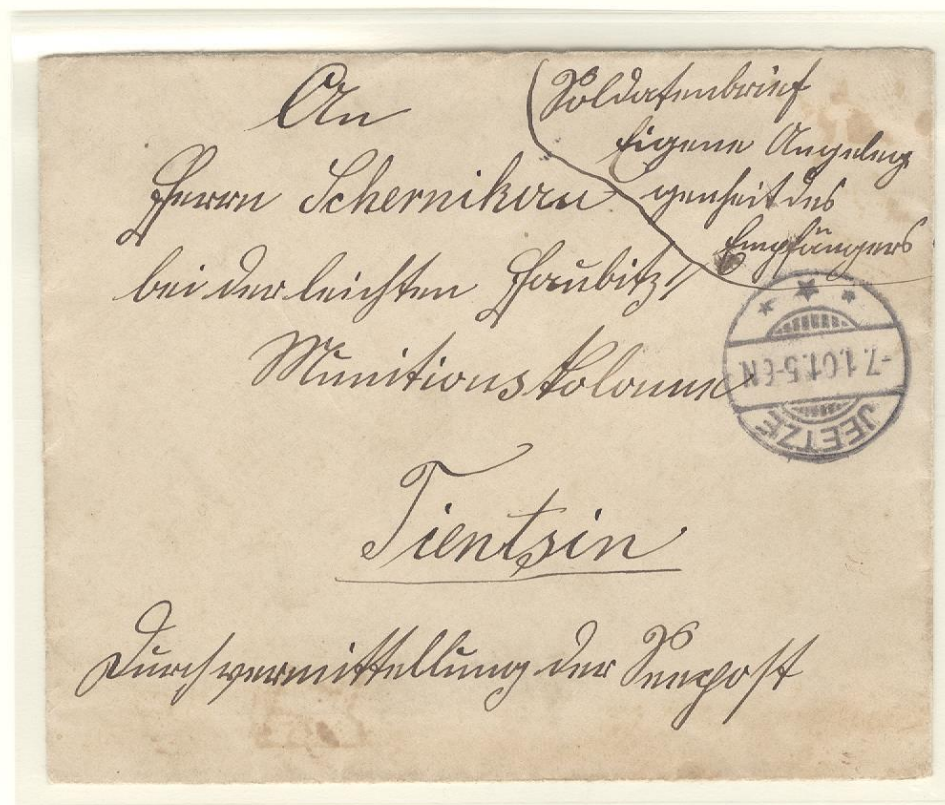
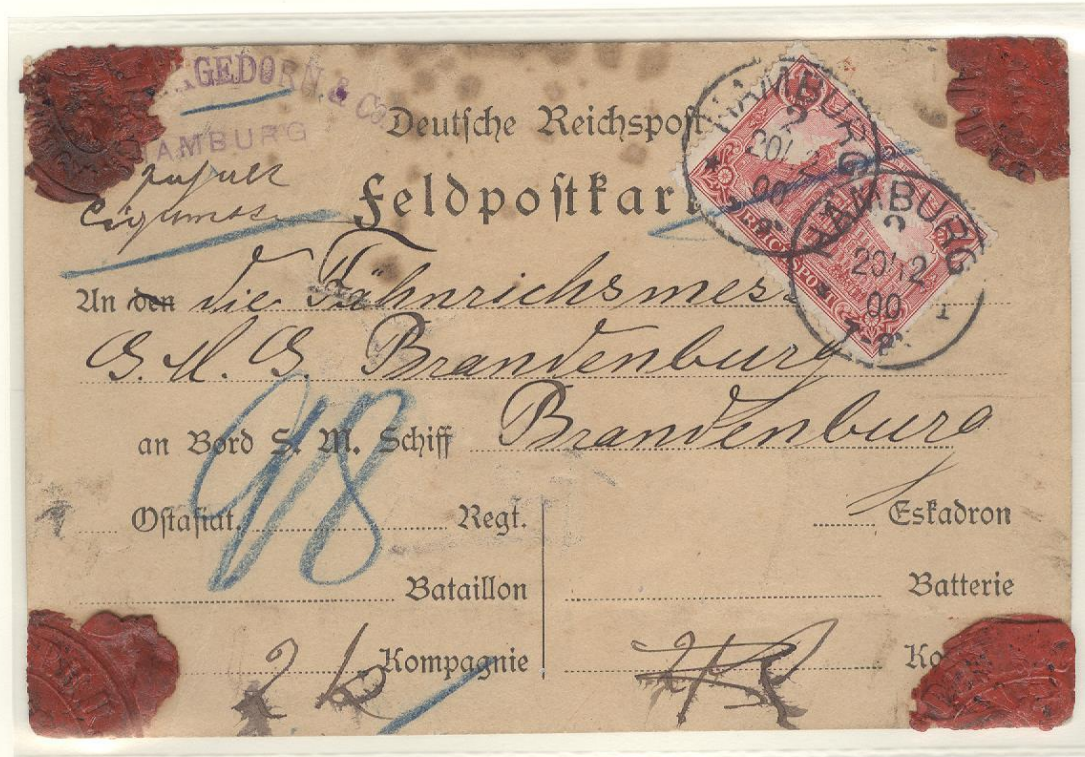
**PARCEL POST TO  
 SUPPORT TRANSPORT  
 SHIP OF THE FAR EAST  
 CRUISER SQUADRON**

**20 DECEMBER (1900)**

**2 kilo parcel,  
 postmarked at  
 Hamburg, sent to the  
 officer's mess aboard  
 "HMS Brandenburg"**

**(Period of Activity in  
 Chinese Waters:  
 (Boxer Campaign)  
 30 July 1900-  
 9 August 1901**

**RM 1.00..  
 Flat-rate for parcels up  
 to 2.5 kilo for military &  
 naval personnel.**



**INBOUND LETTER-MAIL  
 TO A SOLDIER AT  
 TIENSIN**

**7 JANUARY (1901)**

**Free-frank cover,  
 postmarked at  
 Jeetze, Germany,,  
 sent to a recipient in  
 the "Howitzer  
 Munitions Column" at  
 Tientsin.**

**Free-frank from  
 Germany as long as  
 endorsed  
 "Soldier's Mail ..  
 Personal Matters  
 Involving the  
 Recipient"**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China

August 1900 – September 1901  
Hankau

OFFICIAL NAVAL MAIL TO "HMS LUCKS"



13 NOVEMBER 1900

Free-frank official mail,  
postmarked at the German Post Office at Hankau,  
sent to the  
Imperial German Gunboat "HMS Luchs"  
docked at Canton, China

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Reverse)

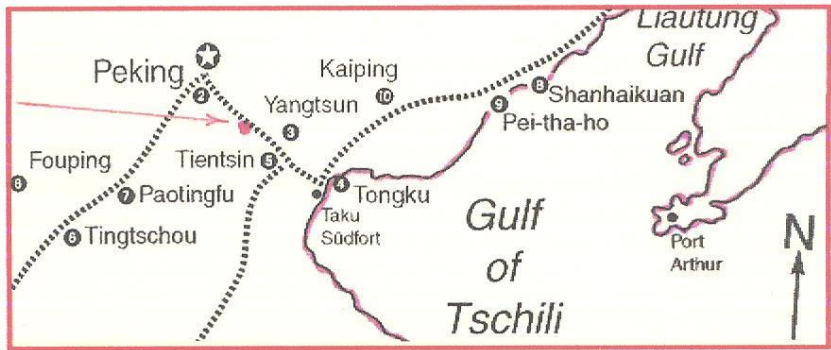
"Hong Kong,  
21 November 1900"

"Canton,  
22 November 1900"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China**

15 July 1900 – 1906  
 Langfang

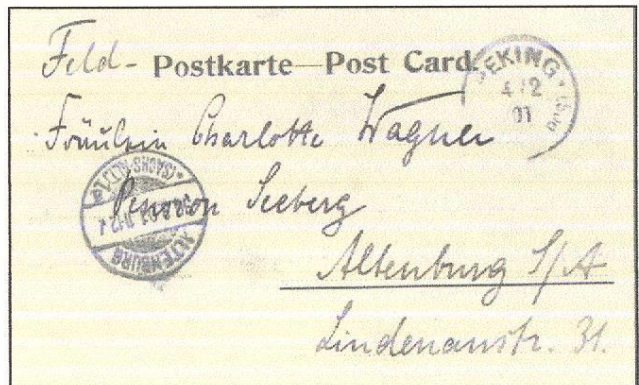
**"Langfang", located halfway between Peking and Yangtsun on the strategically important Peking-Taku Railway Line, site of a German military base without an official fieldpost station designation, RESULTING IN MAIL BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE GERMAN POST OFFICES AT, INITIALLY, 'TIENSIN' AND, LATER, 'PEKING' FOR FORWARDING.**



**2 FEBRUARY 1901**

**Free-frank view-card**  
 (Count von Waldersee inspecting troops),  
 written at "Langfang" Military Base,  
 postmarked at Peking,  
 sent to Altenburg, Province Saxony-Anhalt,  
 Germany.

**Arrival Postmark:**  
 (Front)  
 "Altenburg, 30 March 1901"



Front

EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS  
Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China

August 1900 – September 1901  
Peking

REGISTERED OFFICIAL MILITARY MAIL



Einschreiben



Vom

Königlichen Württembergischen Kavalarieregiments



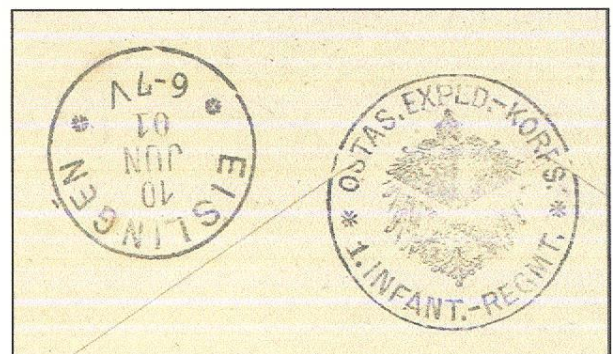
in  
Gross Eisingen

Militaria!  
No 457

30 APRIL 1901

Free-frank official registered mail from the  
"1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment of the  
East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps",  
endorsed "Militaria", postmarked at Peking,  
sent to the  
Imperial Courts of Württemberg at  
Gross Eisingen, State of Württemberg, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Eisingen,  
10 June 1901"



Reverse Cover Side

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China**

August 1900 – September 1901  
 Peking

**FIELDPOST FORM-CARD MAIL .. 1900**

**INBOUND MAIL,  
 RE-DIRECTED & RETURNED  
 TO GERMANY**

**6 DECEMBER 1900**

Free-frank inbound  
 Form-Card to  
 "Rifleman Rump of the  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment",  
 postmarked at Kiel,  
 Germany, upon arrival  
 soldier not located at the  
 2<sup>nd</sup>, then 1<sup>st</sup> Regiments,  
 and subsequently  
 returned to Germany.

Transit & Arrival  
 Postmarks:  
 "Peking,  
 German Post Office,  
 19 January 1901"

"Kiel, 8 March 1901"



**OUTBOUND MAIL TO  
 GERMANY**

**14 NOVEMBER 1900**

Free-frank outbound  
 Form Card,  
 postmarked at the  
 German Post Office  
 at Peking, sent to  
 Magdeburg.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Magdeburg,  
 2 January 1901"

Exp. Dr. Steuer



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China

August 1900 – September 1901  
Peking

**OUTBOUND FIELDPOST MAIL TO GERMANY .. 1901**

1 JANUARY 1901

Free-frank  
"Mandarin" Cover,  
postmarked at  
Peking, sent to  
Koschmin, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Koschmin,  
21 February 1901"

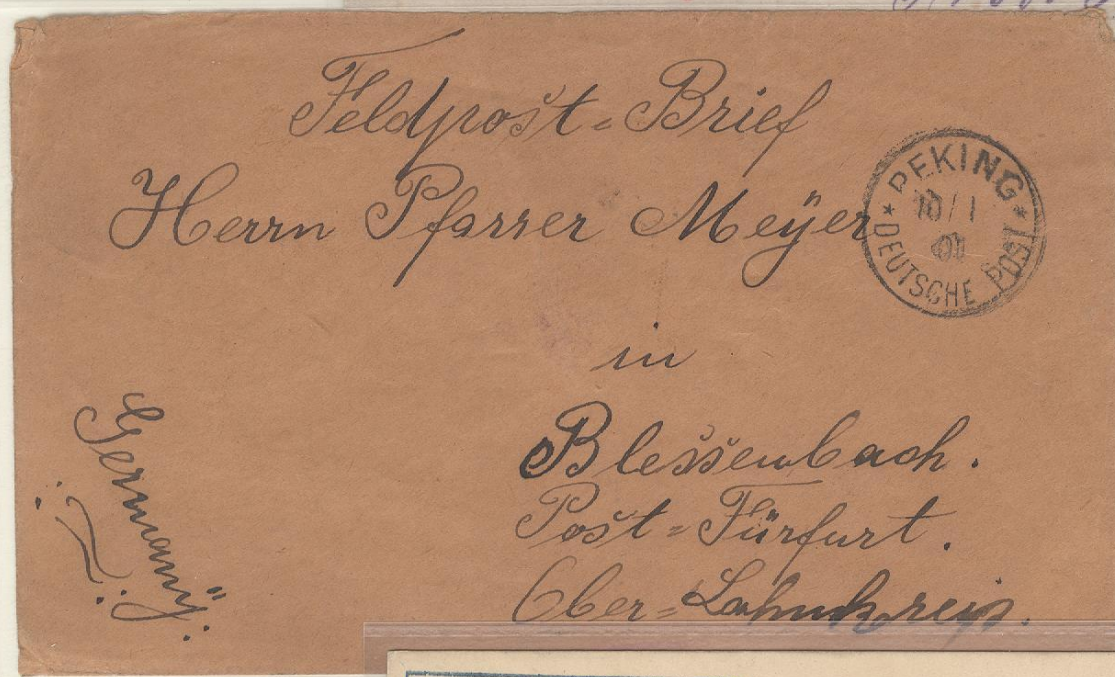
Exp. Dr. Lantelme



10 JANUARY 1901

Free-frank cover,  
postmarked at  
Peking, sent to  
Blessenbach  
(Fürfort),  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Fürfort,  
26 February 1901"



5 FEBRUARY 1901

Free-frank Form-Card  
with artwork (reverse),  
postmarked at  
Peking, sent to Leipzig,  
Germany.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
"East Asiatic  
Expeditionary  
Command  
Headquarters"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
 Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China

August 1900 – September 1901  
 Shanghai

**FELDPOST BRIEF**



16 DECEMBER 1900

Free-frank Chinese  
 UPU postal stationery  
 card

(artwork on reverse),  
 postmarked at  
 Shanghai, sent to  
 Breslau, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Breslau,  
 20 January 1900"



29 NOVEMBER 1900

Free-frank UPU  
 stationery card,  
 postmarked at  
 Shanghai, sent to  
 "Frau Ellen von  
 Siemens"  
 (renowned  
 German industrialist family),  
 Wannsee (Potsdam),  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Wannsee,  
 2 January 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China**

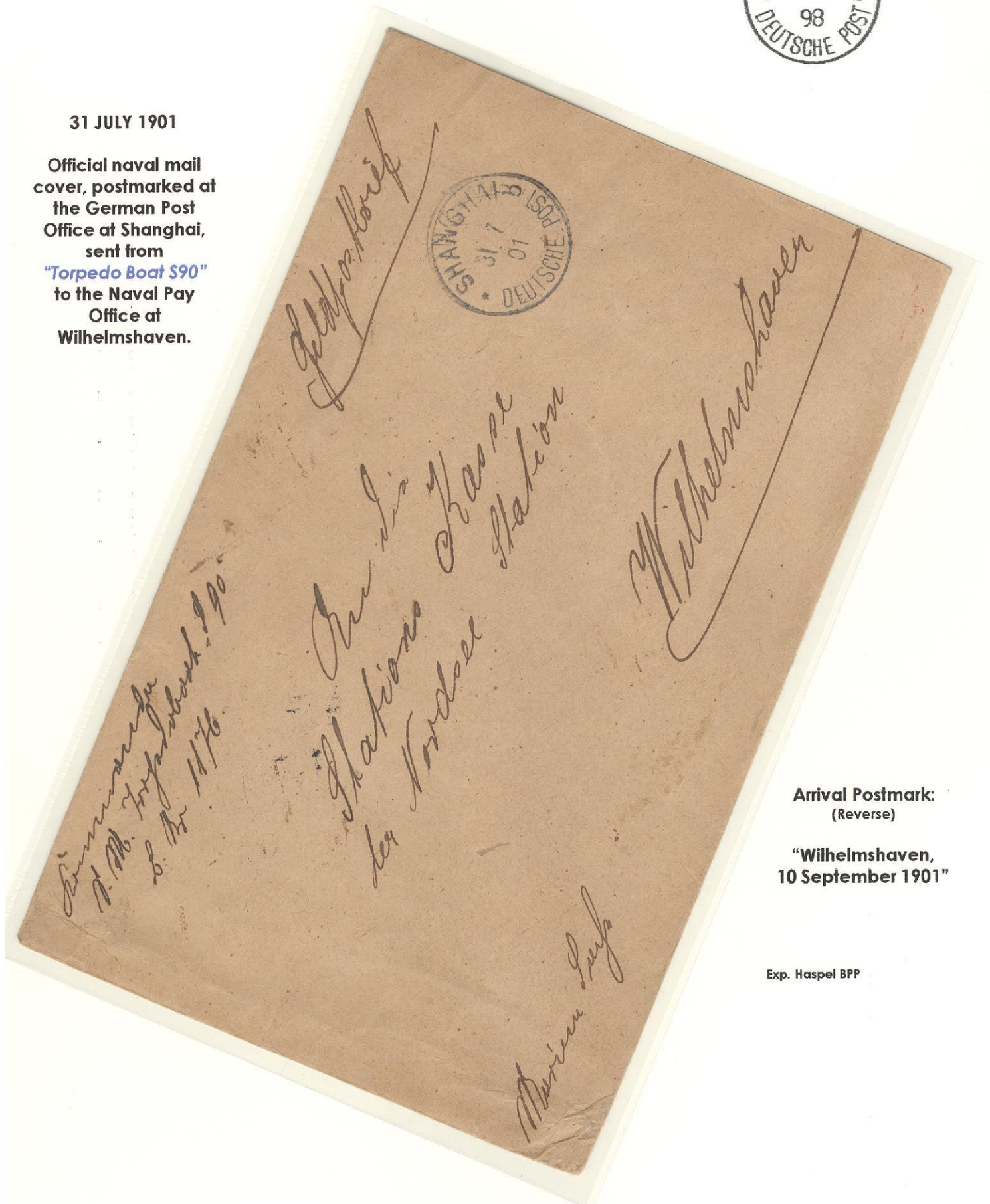
August 1900 – September 1901  
Shanghai

Official Naval Mail to Germany



31 JULY 1901

Official naval mail cover, postmarked at the German Post Office at Shanghai, sent from "Torpedo Boat S90" to the Naval Pay Office at Wilhelmshaven.



Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)

"Wilhelmshaven,  
10 September 1901"

Exp. Haspel BPP

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China**

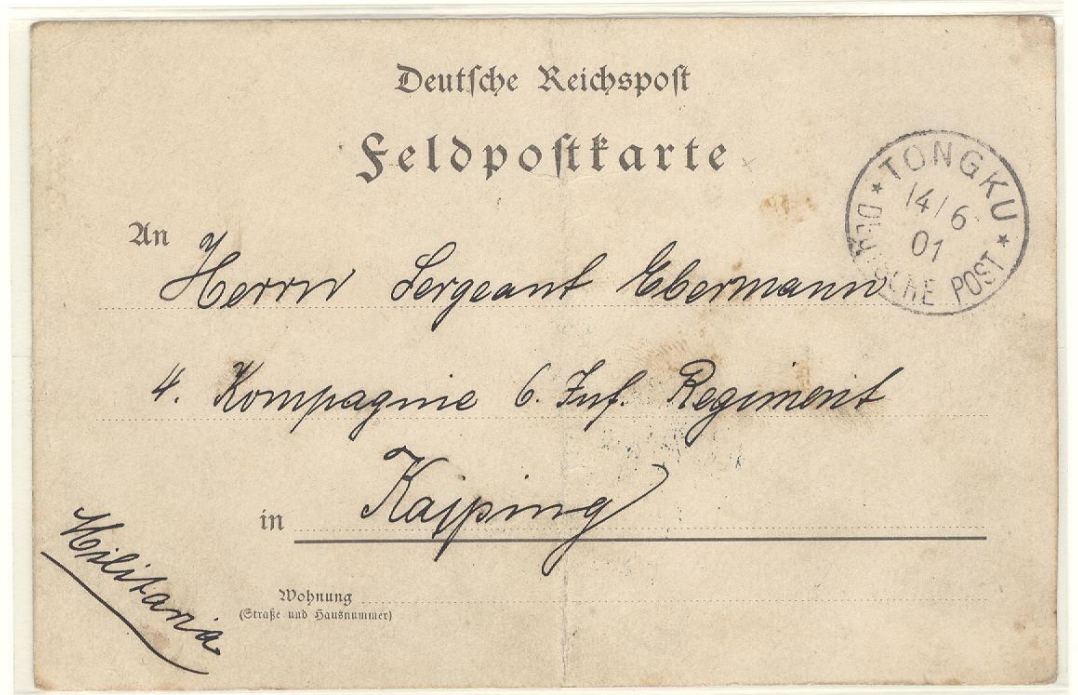
1 Nov. 1900 – Sept. 1901  
 Tongku



**OFFICIAL MILITARY  
 MAIL BETWEEN  
 GERMAN FORCES IN  
 CHINA**

14 JUNE 1901

Free-frank Fieldpost  
 Form-Card,  
 endorsed "Militaria"  
 from the Military  
 Supply Depot,  
 postmarked at  
 Tongku,  
 sent to  
 "Sergent Ebermann,  
 4<sup>th</sup> Company,  
 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment  
 at Kaiping".



**RE-DIRECTED  
 GERMAN-BOUND  
 MAIL**

29 APRIL 1901

Free-frank cover,  
 postmarked at  
 Tongku, sent to  
 a military officer  
 originally located at  
 Strassburg,  
 re-directed to  
 Charlottenburg,  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Charlottenburg,  
 11 June 1901"

Unit Validation  
 Cachet:  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Railway  
 Construction Column,  
 East Asiatic  
 Expeditionary Corps

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China**

1 Nov. 1900 – Sept. 1901  
Tongku

26 APRIL 1901

Free-frank Fieldpost  
Form-Card  
(with artwork on reverse),  
postmarked at  
Tongku,  
sent to  
Seelze (Hanover),  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Seelze,  
7 June 1901"

Unit Endorsement:  
"Battalion Fieldpost  
Postal Clerk"



24 JUNE 1901

Free-frank view-card,  
postmarked at  
Tongku, sent to  
Bamberg, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Bamberg,  
2 August 1901"

Unit Validation  
Cachet:  
"3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry  
Regiment,  
East Asiatic  
Expeditionary Corps"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China**

1 January 1900 – 16 March 1917  
Tschifu



**24 NOVEMBER 1900**

**Free-frank UPU view-card (Tschifu Harbor),  
postmarked at Tschifu,  
sent to  
Wilhelmshaven, Germany**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Wilhelmshaven,  
21 January 1901"**

**Unit Validation Endorsement  
"Senior Paymaster,  
Tschifu"**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China

26 Sept. – 31 Dec. 1900  
Kiautschou Territory



11 NOVEMBER 1900

Free-frank Fieldpost Form-Card,  
postmarked in "Kiautschou" Territory  
sent to  
Darkehmen, Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
"Darkehmen,  
22 December 1900"

Unit Validation Endorsement  
"2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion,  
East Asiatic Infantry Regiment"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Fieldpost Mail Through the German Post Office in China**

**Tsingtau**  
**Kiautschou Territory**



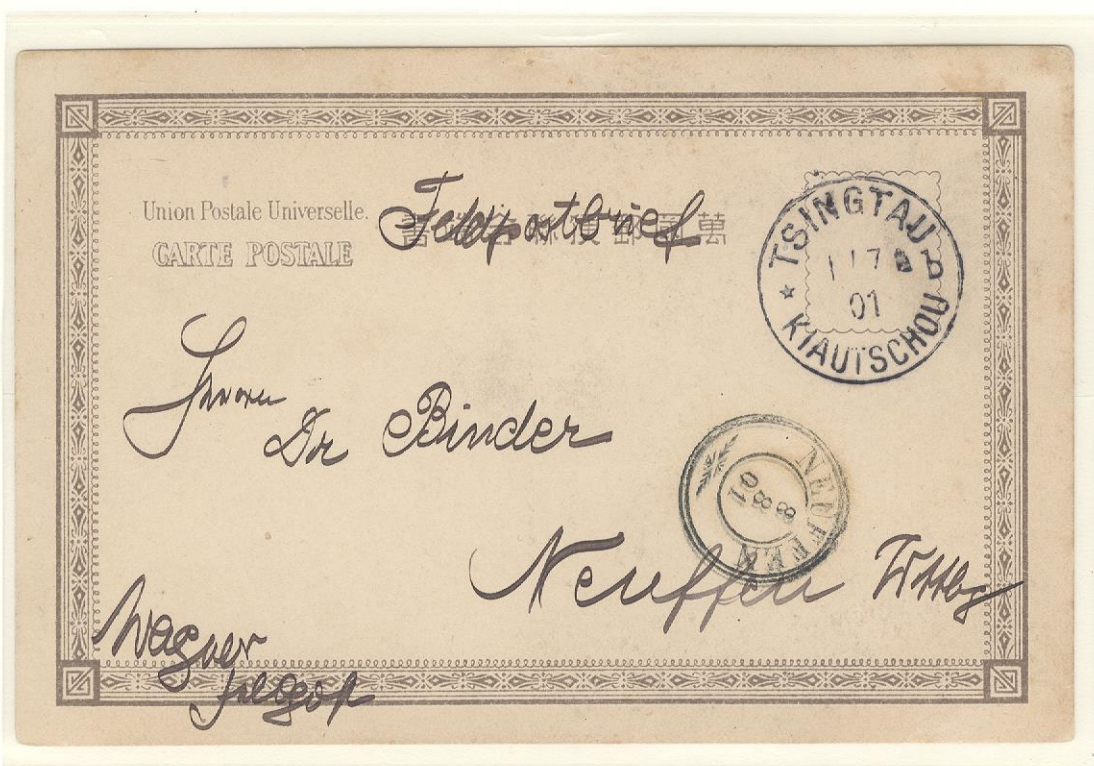
5 January 1900 –  
 6 November 1914

**8 JULY 1901**

Free-frank cover,  
 postmarked at  
 Tsingtau,  
 Kiautschou,  
 sent to Quedlinburg,  
 Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Quedlinburg,  
 18 August 1901"

Unit Endorsement:  
 "2 Company, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Marine Battalion"



1 April 1901 –  
 6 November 1914

**1 JULY 1901**

Free-frank Japanese  
 UPU Postal Card,  
 postmarked at Tsingtau,  
 sent to  
 Neuffen, Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Neuffen,  
 8 August 1901"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Troop Rotation

January - May 1901

**SIX CHARTERED VESSELS OF THE NORTH GERMAN LLOYD SHIPPING LINES (N.G.L.) WERE USED FOR TROOP ROTATION for the 'East Asiatic Expeditionary Corps' as well as the subsequent Occupation Brigade**

**NGL "H.H. MEYER"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 26**

Period of Activity:  
19 January -  
16 April 1901

(Port Said, Egypt)  
**4 APRIL 1901**

Free-frank NGL  
Postcard,  
postmarked on  
board, sent to  
Hamburg, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Hamburg,  
11 April 1901"



**NGL "RHEIN"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 26**

Period of Activity:  
5 May -  
9 August 1901

(Suez Canal, Egypt)  
**16 MAY 1901**

Free-frank view-card,  
postmarked on board,  
sent to  
Kiel, Germany.

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Troop Rotation

July - October 1901



A supplementary unofficial wood-carved postmark indicating "Imperial German Ship Mail - Steamer Bahia" was applied to some mail sent from the "Bahia".

**NGL "BAHIA"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 48**

Period of Activity:  
15 July -  
26 October 1901

(Port Said, Egypt)  
**28 JULY 1901**

Free-frank view-card  
sent to  
Altboyen, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Altboyen,  
5 August 1901"



**A UNIT VALIDATION CACHET MARK** (light blue ink)  
was applied to postmark mail sent from the "Wittekind" since an official  
German Naval Post Office Postmark was not used.



**NGL "WITTEKIND"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
WITHOUT NUMBER**

Period of Activity:  
5 September -  
27 October 1901

(Shanghai)  
**23 AUGUST 1901**

Free-frank view-card  
sent to  
Hagenau, Province  
Alsace, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Hagenau,  
22 October 1901"



# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

Naval Field Hospital

September 1900 – 31 August 1901

Yokohama, Japan

To service the German Navy as well as German-flag commercial vessels, a German Naval Hospital was established at Yokohama, Japan, in July 1878, closing in December 1911, after a similar hospital was established at Tsingtau, Kiautschou Territory.

**DURING THE 'BOXER REVOLT' PERIOD,  
THE YOKOHAMA HOSPITAL TREATED CASUALTIES FROM THE  
HOSTILITIES IN CHINA BETWEEN 1900-1901.**

Mail sent from the Yokohama Hospital was handled through the Naval Post Office, also accepted by the Japanese Post Office affixed with German postage at the proper UPU rates.



2 NOVEMBER 1900

Free-frank fieldpost cover, written by  
"Lieutenant Koch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Battalion",  
postmarked at the Yokohama Hospital,  
routed through the Naval Post Office,  
sent to Dortmund, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:

(Reverse)

"Dortmund, .. December 1900",

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Naval Field Hospital

September 1900 – 31 August 1901  
Yokohama, Japan

**MAIL SENT FROM THE HOSPITAL THROUGH THE YOKOHAMA JAPANESE POST OFFICE WAS ACCEPTED AS LONG AS PROPER GERMAN POSTAGE WAS AFFIXED MEETING THE UPU INTERNATIONAL RATES.**

26 NOVEMBER 1900

German postal stationery letter-card, postmarked at Yokohama Japan Post Office, sent to Prettin, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Prettin,  
29 December 1900"

20 Ffennig..  
Up-rated German-domestic stationery to UPU International Letter-Rate



6 JANUARY 1901

Japanese postcard, postmarked at the Yokohama Japanese Post Office, sent to Prettin, Japan.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Prettin, 9 February  
1901"

10 Pfennig (5x 2 Pfg)..  
UPU International Postcard-Rate

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Corps Field Hospital

September 1900 – 31 August 1901  
Tientsin

**'CORPS FIELD HOSPITAL NO. 1'**  
**WAS LOCATED AT TIENSIN,**  
site of supreme headquarters for the  
German military contingent.



**5 APRIL 1901**

**Free-frank fieldpost cover,  
postmarked at the Tientsin Military Fieldpost Station,  
Sent to Goldberg, Germany,**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Goldberg, 17 May 1901",**

**Red Chinese Cachet Marking:  
(Front & Reverse)  
"Local Mail Delivery from Hospital to  
Fieldpost Mail Station"**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Corps Field Hospital

September 1900 – 31 August 1901  
Peking

**'CORPS FIELD HOSPITAL NO. 2'**  
**WAS LOCATED AT PEKING,**  
sites of the heretofore Chinese Government,  
Foreign embassies & legations.



23 APRIL (1901)

Free-frank fieldpost  
form-card,  
postmarked at  
Peking, sent to  
Mökern,  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Mökern  
(Magdeburg),  
7 June 1901"

Unit Validation  
Cachet:  
(wood carved)  
"Naval Field  
Hospital..  
Mail Marking"



20 MAY (1901)

Free-frank fieldpost  
"Mandarin" cover,  
postmarked at  
Peking,  
sent to Neusalz,  
Germany,

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Neusalz, 10 July  
1901",

Unit Validation  
Cachet:  
"East Asiatic  
Expedition ..  
2<sup>nd</sup> Field Hospital"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Corps Field Hospital**

**September 1900 – 31 August 1901**  
**Peking**

**RANK & FILE SERVICEMEN WERE PERMITTED FREE-FRANK MONEY TRANSFERS UP TO MKS 800**  
**by completing a dedicated "Fieldpost Money Transfer Form Card" properly validated with a unit cachet mark.**

**Abschnitt**  
Post-Aufgabestempel

**Deutsche Reichspost**

**Seld-Postanweisung**

auf die Summe von 1 Mark 50 Pf.  
Zu wiederholen (die Mark in Buchstaben):

Ein Mark 50 Pf.

Eingezahlt von  
(Name, Truppenteil und Charge des Ab senders muß genau angegeben werden)

Herrn Gust. Hauswaldt  
„Zirkusgesellschaft“  
in Magdeburg-Neustadt  
Wohnung (Straße und Hausnummer) Leibniz-Platz 22

1 Mark 50 Pf.  
am 5.8. 1901.

Mitteilungen unseitig

Postwert

M. Pf. unter Nr. eingetragen durch: Aufgabert: den 1

**5 AUGUST 1901**

**Hospital-chaplain-completed free-frank fieldpost money transfer form card for a transfer of MKS 1.50, sent to a business located at Magdeburg-Neustadt, Germany.**

**Unit Validation Cachet:**  
**“East Asiatic Expedition ..**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Field Hospital”**

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Corps Field Hospital

September 1900 – 31 August 1901  
Peking

**AS A SOUVENIR FOR THE TIME SPENT IN CHINA,**  
one member of 'Field Hospital No. 2',  
affixed postage of four nations' post offices  
(China, Germany, India (Britain) & Japan)  
with appropriate postmarks.

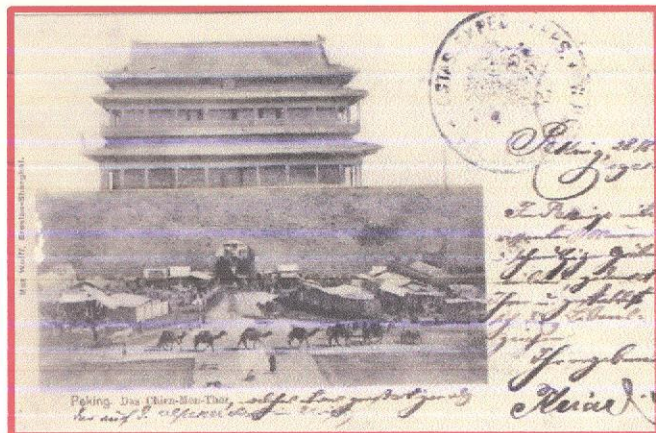


**29 AUGUST 1901**

Philatelic-inspired fieldpost view-card,  
postmarked at Peking, sent to Stuttgart,  
Württemberg, Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
"Stuttgart, 9 October 1901"

Unit Validation Cachet:  
(Front & Reverse)  
"East Asiatic Expedition ..  
2<sup>nd</sup> Field Hospital"





# EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS

Hospital Ship "Gera"

28 July 1900 – 6 August 1901

**STEAMER SHIP "GERA",**  
chartered from the North German Lloyd Shipping Line (N.G.L.)  
**FUNCTIONED AS A HOSPITAL SHIP OFF THE NORTH CHINA COAST**  
**DURING THE 'BOXER REVOLT' PERIOD.**

OUT-BOUND MAIL  
FROM  
"N.G.L. GERA"

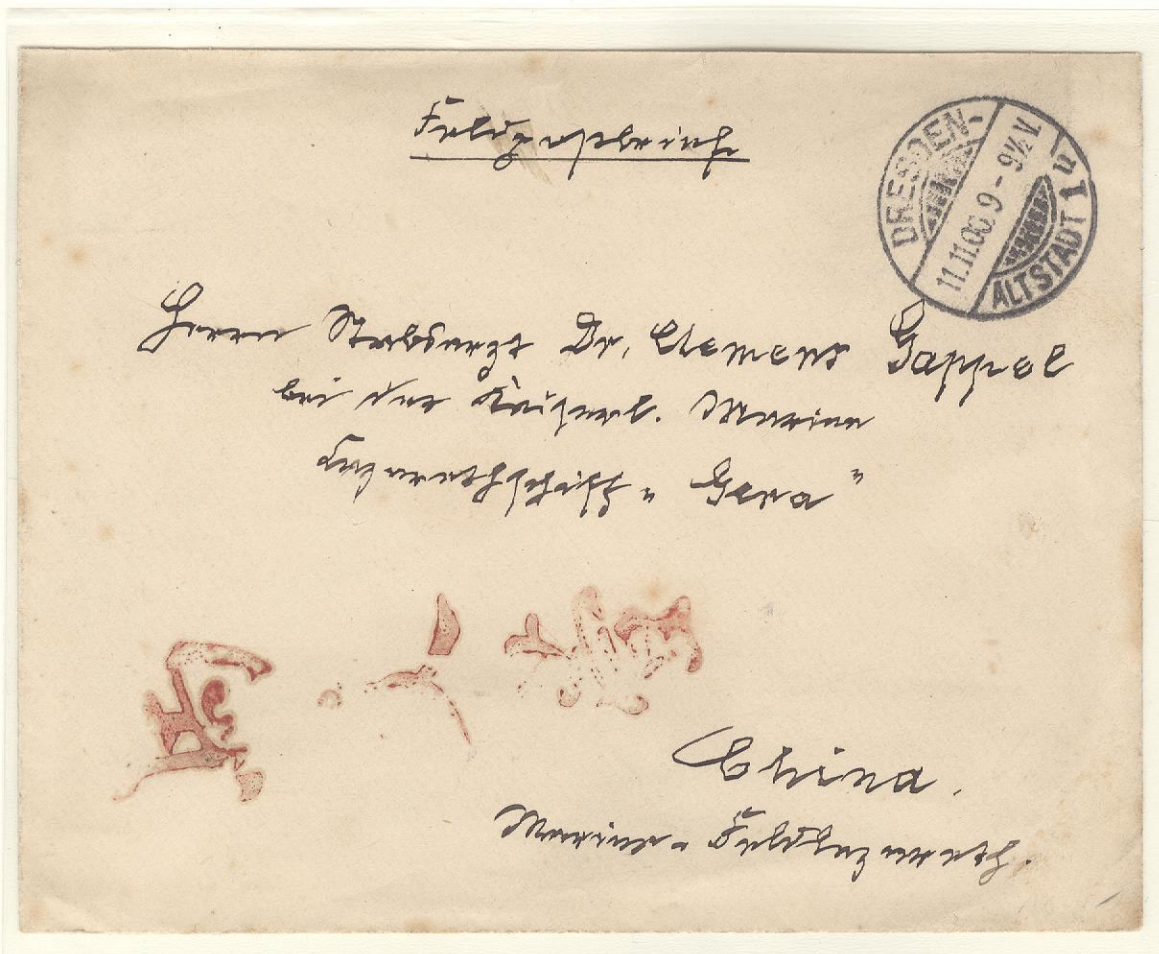
IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 6

Period of Activity:  
28 July 1900 –  
6 August 1901

6 SEPTEMBER 1900

Free-frank N.G.L.  
Postcard, postmarked  
on board, sent to  
Berlin, Germany

Arrival Postmark  
(Mix & Genest  
Experimental Machine)  
"Berlin"  
25 September 1900"



IN-BOUND MAIL TO  
"N.G.L. GERA"

11 NOVEMBER 1900

Free-frank in-bound  
cover, addressed to  
"Dr. Clemens  
Gappel, Medical  
Doctor on board  
the "Gera",  
postmarked at  
Dresden.

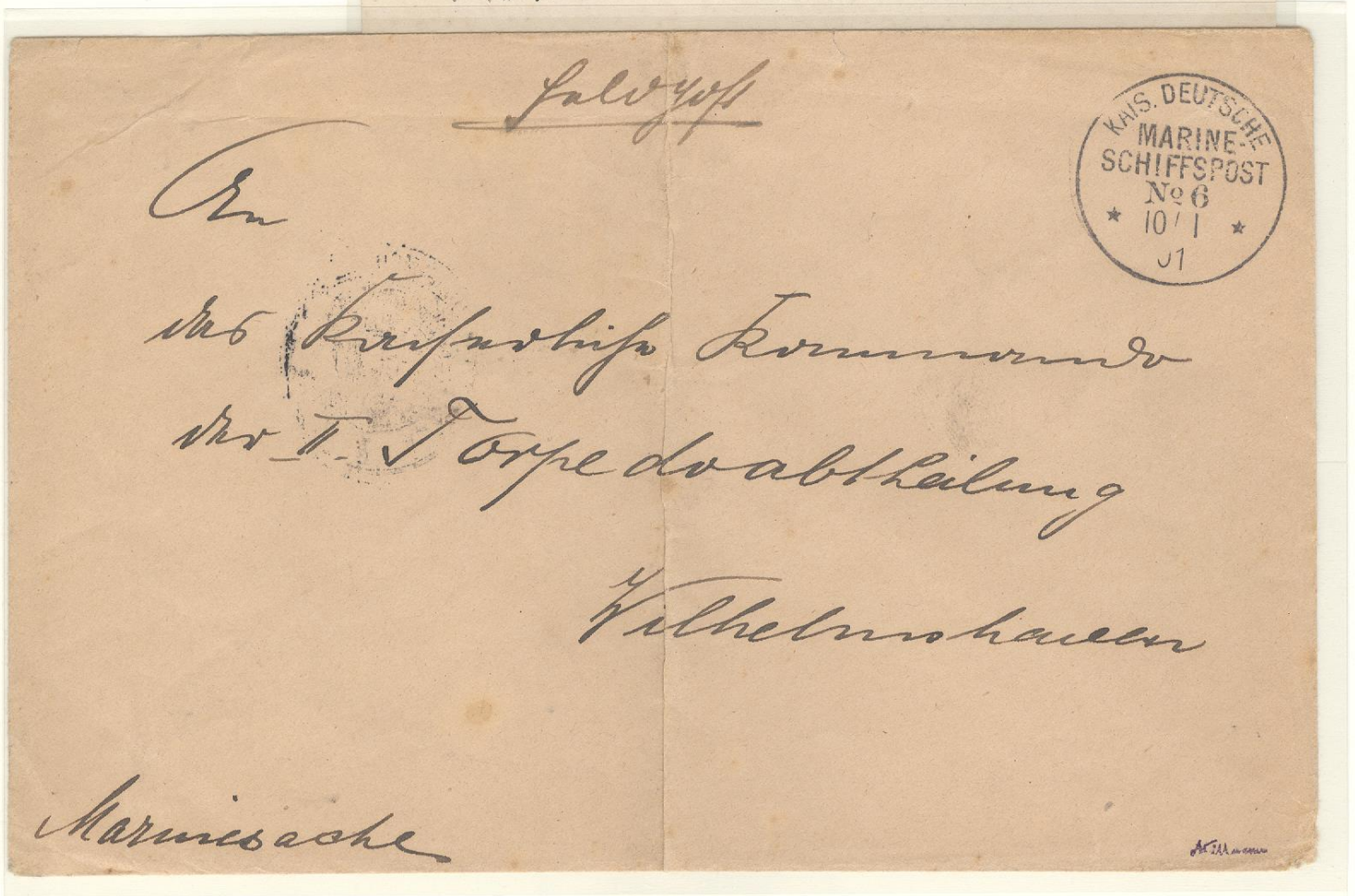
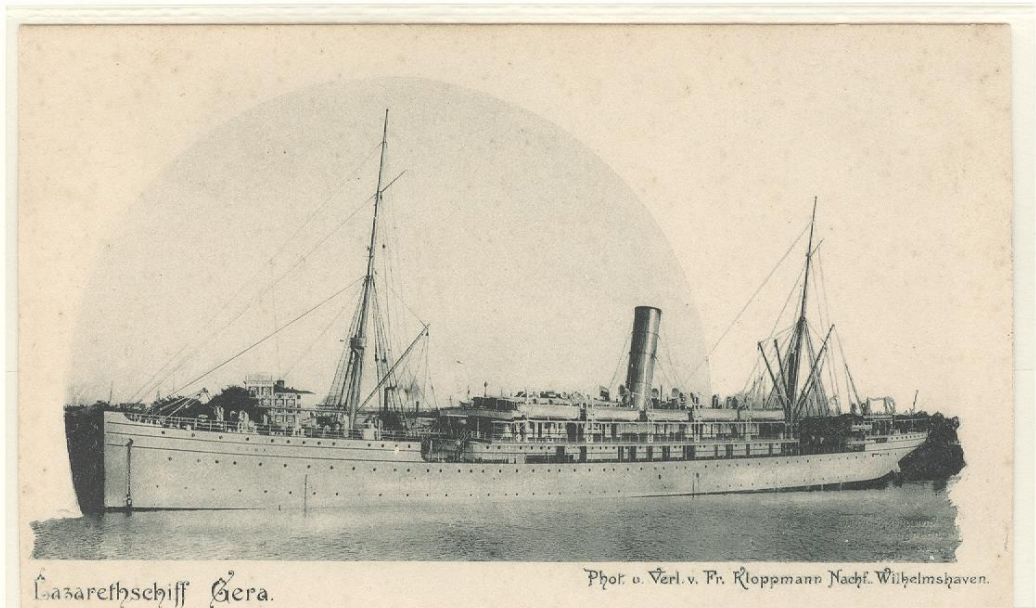
**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Hospital Ship "Gera"**

28 July 1900 – 6 August 1901

**OFFICIAL NAVAL  
MAIL FROM  
"N.G.L. GERA"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
POST OFFICE  
NO. 6**

Period of Activity:  
28 July 1900 –  
6 August 1901



10 JANUARY 1901

Exp Willman

Free-frank official naval cover, addressed to  
"Headquarters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Torpedo Unit"  
at Wilhelmshaven Naval Base".

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Wilhelmshaven, 21 February 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Hospital Ships "Savoia" & "Wittekind"

August 1900 – May 1901

**STEAMERS "SAVOIA" & "WITTEKIND",**  
chartered from the North German Lloyd Shipping Line (N.G.L.)  
**FUNCTIONED AS HOSPITAL TRANSPORT SHIPS OFF THE NORTH CHINA COAST**  
**DURING THE 'BOXER REVOLT' PERIOD.**

**"N.G.L. SAVOIA"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
WITHOUT NUMBER**

Period of Activity:  
26 August 1900 –  
10 March 1901

**20 SEPTEMBER 1901**

Free-frank fieldpost  
view-card,  
postmarked at the  
German Post Office  
Shanghai,  
cachet endorsed  
(reverse)  
**"Hospital Ship Savoia ..  
Supervising Medical  
Doctor",**  
sent to Hanover,  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark  
"Hannover,  
27 March 1901"



**"N.G.L. WITTEKIND"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 28**

Period of Activity:  
24 August 1900 –  
8 May 1901

**11 NOVEMBER 1900**

Free-frank fieldpost  
UPU/NDL Postcard,  
Postmarked on board,  
Sent to Mannheim,  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Mannheim,  
25 April 1901"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Return of Troops to Germany

June - October 1901

Allied Forces had neutralized 'Boxer' presence in Tschilli Province by early Spring 1901 with agreement on peace conditions between the Chinese Government and the Allies by the end of May 1901.

**BETWEEN JUNE - SEPTEMBER 1901, THE GERMAN WAR DEPARTMENT CHARTERED TWELVE VESSELS TO TRANSPORT UNITS OF THE 'EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS' BACK TO GERMANY.**

**NGL "PISA"**

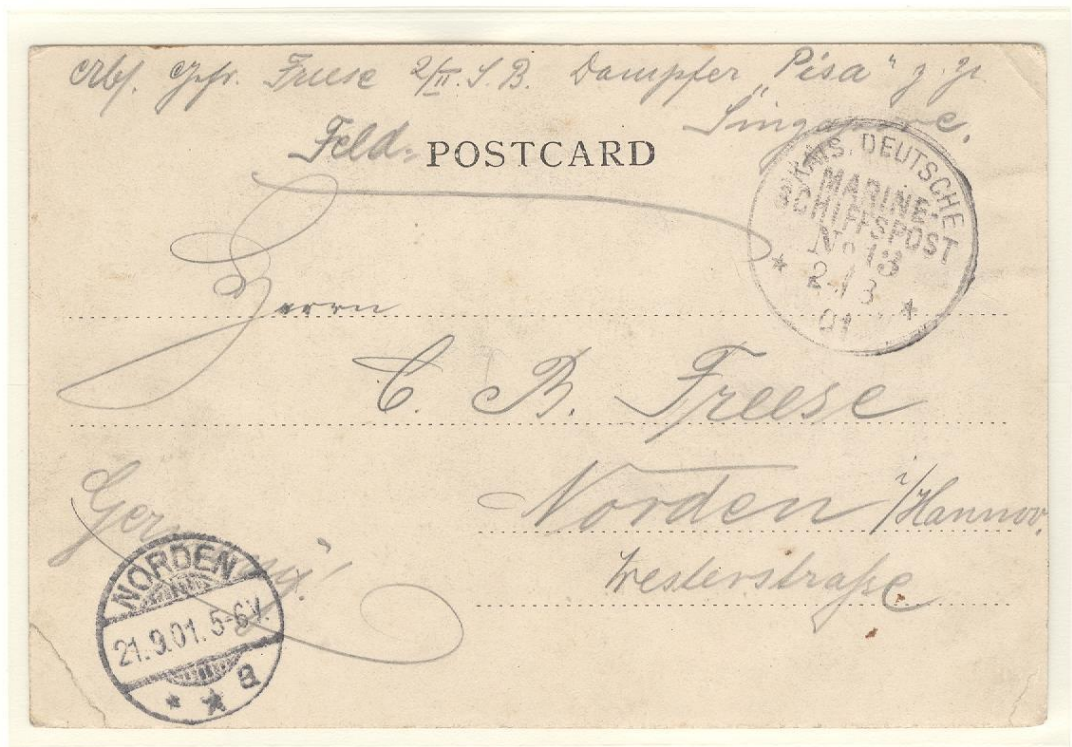
**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 13**

Period of Activity:  
15 August -  
29 September 1901

(Singapore)  
**24 AUGUST 1901**

Free-frank fieldpost  
view-card,  
postmarked on  
board, sent to  
Norden, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Norden,  
21 September 1901"



**NGL "PALATIA"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 49**

Period of Activity:  
5 September -  
27 October 1901

(Port Said, Egypt)  
**30 JULY 1901**

Free-frank fieldpost  
Egyptian UPU  
view-card,  
postmarked on board,  
sent to  
Dettingen, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Dettingen,  
10 August 1901"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Return of Troops to Germany**

June - October 1901

**HAPAG "BATAVIA"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 66**

Period of Activity:  
2 August -  
18 September 1901

(Egypt)  
**3 SEPTEMBER 1901**

Free-frank fieldpost  
view-card,  
postmarked on  
board, postmarked  
on board, sent to  
Wettingen,  
Germany.

Unit Validation  
Cachet Mark:  
"Field Bakery,  
East Asiatic  
Expeditionary Corps"



**NGL "NECKAR"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
NAVAL POST OFFICE  
NO. 71**

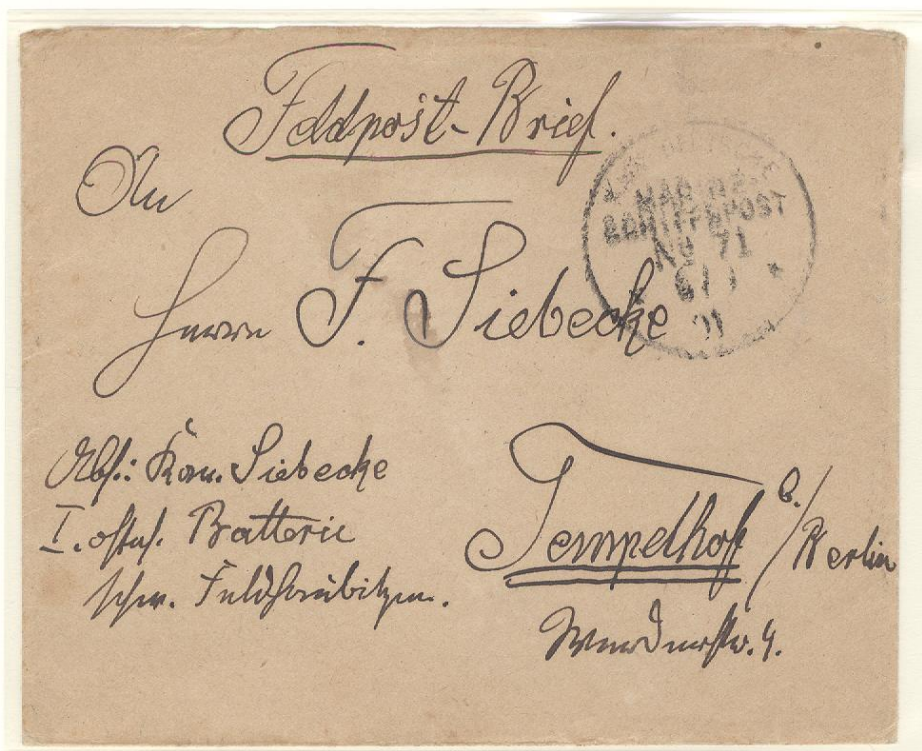
Period of Activity:  
11 August -  
22 September 1901

**6 SEPTEMBER 1901**

Free-frank  
fieldpost cover,  
postmarked on board,  
sent to  
Tempelhof (Berlin),  
Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Tempelhof,  
29 September 1901"

Unit Validation  
Endorsement:  
"1st Battery  
Field Howitzers"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Return of Troops to Germany**

June - October 1901

**NGL "CREFELD"**

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
 NAVAL POST OFFICE  
 NO. 72**

Period of Activity:  
 10 September -  
 29 October 1901

(Ceylon)  
**30 SEPTEMBER 1901**

View-card,  
 postmarked on  
 board, sent to  
 Harburg, Germany.

**5 Pfennig..  
 German domestic  
 postcard-rate**

Wood-carved  
 circular postmark  
 used only on return  
 voyage, since official  
 "MSP 72" Postmark  
 was transferred  
 earlier to the German  
 Cruiser Squadron's  
 Hospital Ship.



**NGL "WÖRTH"**  
 (Unchartered  
 Naval Liner)

**IMPERIAL GERMAN  
 NAVAL POST OFFICE  
 NO. 23**

Period of Activity:  
 11 July 1900 -  
 11 August 1901

**6 AUGUST 1901**

Free-frank fieldpost  
 form card,  
 postmarked on board,  
 sent to  
 Leipzig, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "(Leipzig) T13,  
 10 August 1901"

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**Return of Troops to Germany**  
**Returned Mail**

June - October 1901

Because of mail transit times, servicemen could not always timely advise relatives concerning relocations, transfers or reassignments.

WHERE IN-BOUND MAIL ARRIVED TO FIND THAT A SERVICEMAN HAD ALREADY EMBARKED FOR HOME, SUCH MAIL WAS CACHEDT-MARKED & FORWARDED..

*Heimreise angetreten*

("Return homeward has commenced")



30 MAY 1901

View-card, postmarked at Aurich, Germany, sent to "Sargent Bauer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> East Asiatic Infantry Regiment" in China.

Upon arrival in China, card was forwarded to various units searching for the recipient. Without success, mail was cachet-marked "Heimreise angetreten", returned to the Naval Post Office in Berlin, and forwarded back to Aurich.

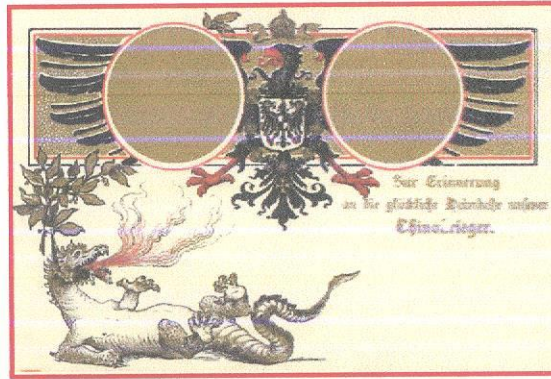
Arrival Postmark Germany:  
 "Aurich, 27 September 1901"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Domestic Postcard Rate

**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
Return of Troops to Germany

August – October 1901  
Home Bases

After having returned to Germany from China, servicemen were initially quarantined at either **MÜNSTERLAGER** or **LOCKSTEDTER MILITARY BASES** in northern Germany prior to discharge or reassignment.



*"In Commemoration of the Successful Return of our China-Warriors"*

**"LOCKSTEDTER LAGER"**  
19 OCTOBER 1901

Japanese UPU view-card, postmarked at "Lockstedter Lager", sent to Lugan, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Lugau,  
30 October 1901"



**"MÜNSTERLAGER"**  
24 SEPTEMBER 1901

Postal card, postmarked at "Münsterlager", with text indication that returning troops were in "Quarantine", sent to Taucha, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Taucha,  
25 September 1901"



**EAST ASIATIC EXPEDITIONARY CORPS**  
**"Wilhelmshaven Usage" of 'China' Postage**

September - November 1901

Upon return of the German Light Cruiser "Irene" from China-duty during the 'Boxer Revolt' Period (1900-1901) in September 1901...

**UNUSED POSTAGE INVENTORY OF 5, 10 & 20 PFENNIG VALUE 'CHINA'-OVERPRINTED POSTAGE STAMPS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE REICHSPOST AT WILHELMSHAVEN,**

**which supposedly transferred such stamps for sale to the main post offices in the Cities of Wilhelmshaven & Münster**



"China" Overprint

**30 OCTOBER 1901**

**View-card (Wilhelmshaven), postmarked at Wilhelmshaven, sent to Hamm, Germany**

**Arrival Postmark:  
 "Hamm (Westf.), 30 October 1901"**

**5 Pfennig..  
 German Domestic Postcard Rate**

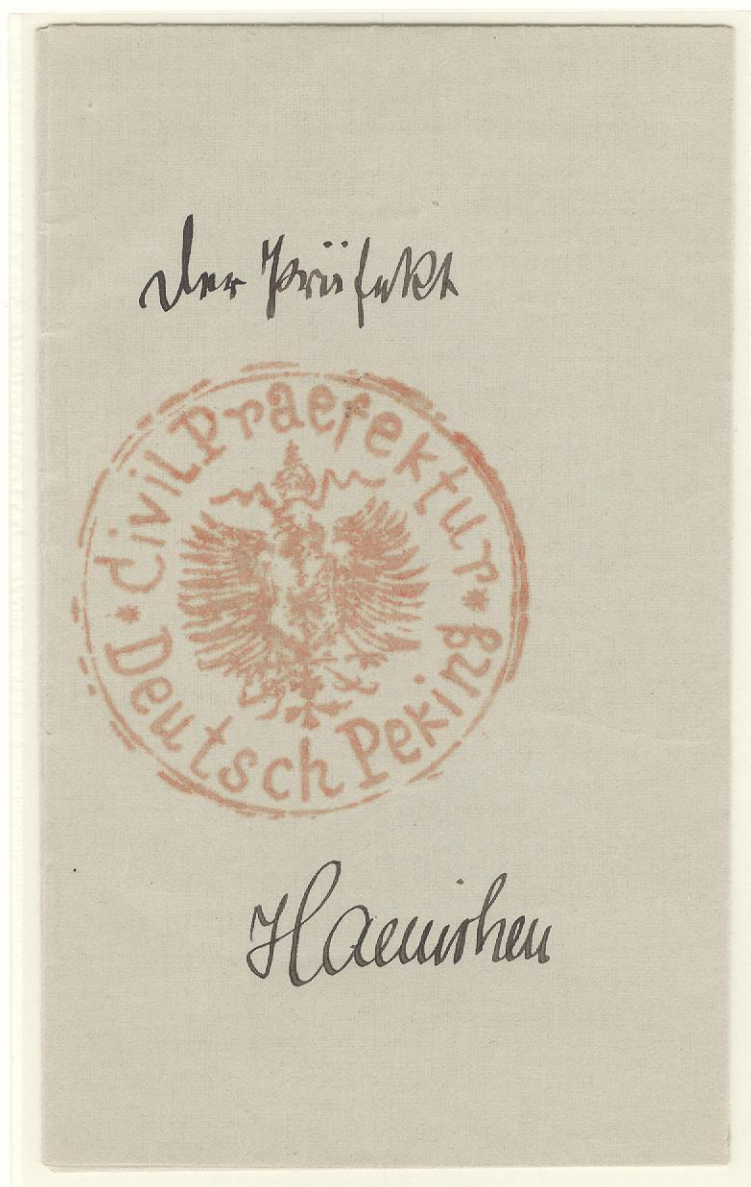
**Only known postal history example with  
 "Wilhelmshaven" Postmark;  
 Three examples known with "Münster" Postmark.**

**PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES**  
Provisional Government

**TIENTSIN & PEKING**  
1900-1902

Having been unsuccessful relieving Peking, the "Seymour Relief Forces" returned to now-besieged Tientsin, relieving it on 15 July 1900. Since the heretofore Chinese-administered government officials fled in fear of retribution by the expeditionary forces, **A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AT TIENTSIN WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMANDING OFFICERS OF THE FORCES ON 16 JULY 1900.**

A provisional governor was also established at Peking, upon having been relieved on 20 August.



**UNFRANKED COVER TO THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT  
OF "GERMAN PEKING"**

Cover sent to "Governor Haenichen" by courier  
with validation hand-stamp:

**"Civil Government .. German Peking"**

**PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES**  
**Provisional Government**

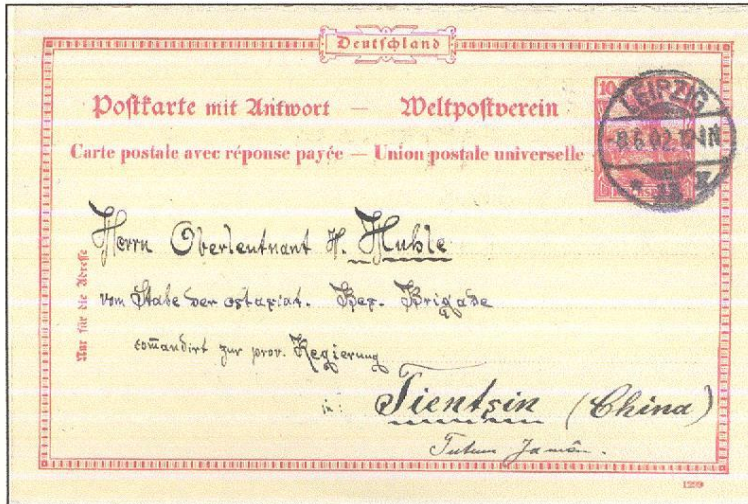
**TIENTSIN**  
**1902**

**PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT..**  
**"GERMAN DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL POLICE"**  
**INSPECTED MAIL**

**ORIGINAL MAIL**  
**FROM GERMANY TO**  
**CHINA**

**Leipzig**  
**8 JUNE 1902**

**Reply card stationery**  
**set, postmarked at**  
**Leipzig, Germany,**  
**and sent to**  
**"First Lieutenant**  
**Hukle"**  
**in the Provisional**  
**Government at**  
**Tientsin.**



**10+10 Pfennig.. UPU**  
**International**  
**Postcard-Rate +**  
**Prepaid Reply**

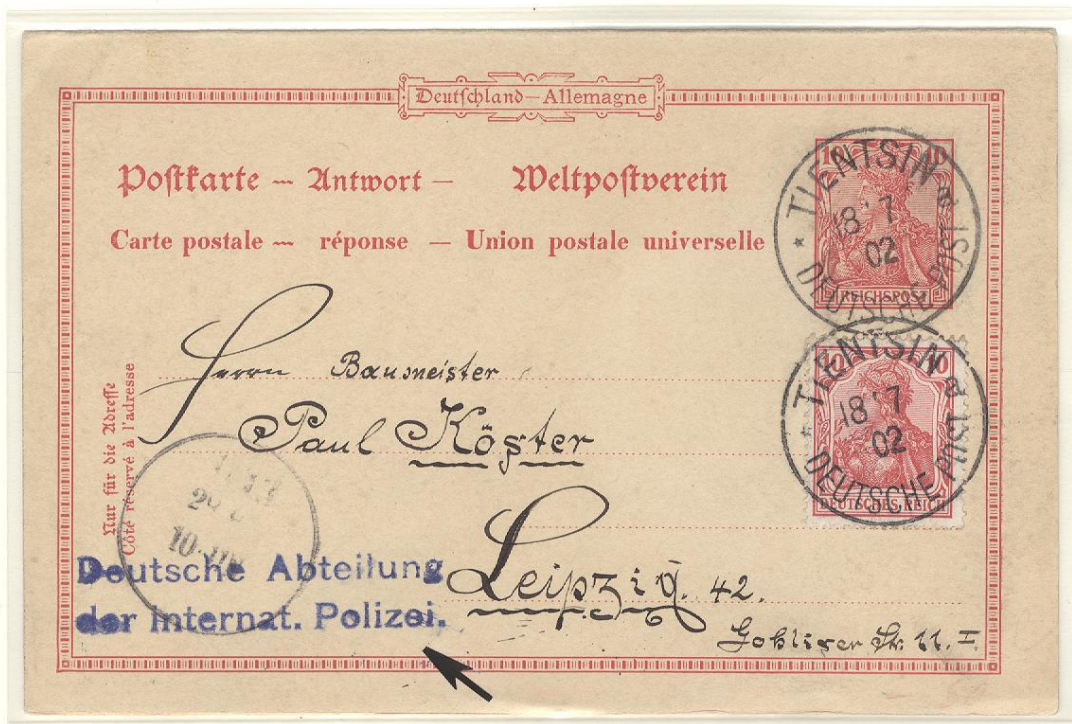
**RESPONSE-CARD**  
**REPLY TO LEIPZIG**

**18 JULY 1902**

**Response reply to**  
**Leipzig, postmarked**  
**at Tientsin, with**  
**original card left**  
**attached, resulting**  
**in the sender**  
**affixing an**  
**additional 10**  
**Pfennig in postage.**  
**73-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmarks:**  
**"Leipzig L13,**  
**28 August 1902"**

**10 Pfennig..**  
**UPU International**  
**Postcard-Rate +**  
**10 Pfg. . covering**  
**extra**  
**postage for the**  
**attached original**  
**card.**



Exp Bothe BPP

**Cachet Marking:**  
**(Blue ink)**

**"Deutsche Abteilung der**  
**internat(ionalen) Polizei"**  
**(German Department of the International Police)**

**This marking was applied at Tientsin where the mail was inspected**  
**for proper franking/postage by the**  
**"international police" of the Provisional Government.**

# PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES

Type I .. Non-Overprinted 'Crown & Eagle' Series

PEKING

1900-1901

A significant increase in mail volume during the Boxer Revolt of 1900-1901 resulted in a need for additional postage stamps by the German Post Offices in Tschili Province,  
**FOUR PROVISIONAL TYPES WERE USED.**

**"TYPE I" PROVISIONALS WERE NON-OVERPRINTED REICHSPOST 'CROWN & EAGLE' SERIES STAMPS TAKEN FROM THE STAMP STOCKS OF SEVEN GERMAN NAVAL VESSELS FROM THE PACIFIC FLEET FOR USE IN CHINA.**



Exp. Richter

## MIXED FRANKING OF TYPES I & II PROVISIONALS

26 NOVEMBER 1900

'Fieldpost' cover, mailed at the German Post Office at Peking, by a German Marine of the 4<sup>th</sup> Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, sent to a relative at Posen, Germany.  
52-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Posen, 17 January 1901"

20 Pfennig..  
German military personnel letter-rate for mail in excess of 50 grams in weight.

# PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES

## Type II .. Non-Overprinted 'Germania' Series

PEKING & TIENSIN

1900-1901

"TYPE II" PROVISIONALS WERE NON-OVERPRINTED REICHSPOST 'GERMANIA' SERIES STAMPS SHIPPED FROM THE GERMAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION AT SHANGHAI TO THE GERMAN POST OFFICES AT TIENSIN & PEKING.

### 'PEKING' ORIGIN MAIL

2 FEBRUARY 1901

Registered fieldpost mail on Chinese postal card stationery, postmarked at Peking, sent by an officer of the German military high command in China to the German colonial office at Dar-Es-Salaam, German East Africa, via Brindiisi sea mail. 72-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Front)  
"Brindisi,  
28 March 1901"  
"Dar-Es-Salaam,  
15 April 1901"

30 Pfennig..  
10 Pfg.. International  
postcard-rate +  
20 Pfg.. Registration  
fee.

### GERMAN-CHINA ORIGIN MAIL TO GERMAN EAST AFRICA



### 'TIENSIN' ORIGIN MAIL

20 JANUARY 1901

Tientsin postmarked cover written by a medical doctor at the German military hospital, sent to Bagamoyo, German East Africa, re-routed to Mpapua. 73-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Reverse)  
"Aden, 25 February 1901"  
"Dar-Es-Salaam, 8 March 1901"  
"Mpapua, 3 April 1901"

20 Pfennig..  
Single-weight (15 grams)  
UPU International  
Letter-Rate



**PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES**  
Type II .. Non-Overprinted 'Germania' Series

**PEKING**  
1900-1901

**REGISTERED FIELDPOST  
(SILK-COVER)  
MAIL TO GERMANY**

**5 FEBRUARY 1901**

**Registered double-weight  
fieldpost mail,  
postmarked  
at Peking, sent to  
Dresden, Germany.  
53-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Dresden,  
30 March 1901"**



**60 Pfennig..  
40 Pfg.. Double-weight  
(30 grams) UPU International  
Letter-Rate +  
20 Pfg.. Registration Fee**

PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES

Type II .. Non-Overprinted 'Germania' Series

FIELDPOST VALUE LETTER DURING BOXER REVOLT PERIOD



TIENTSIN –  
Field-Post 1901



USAGE:  
10 October 1900 –  
31 August 1901

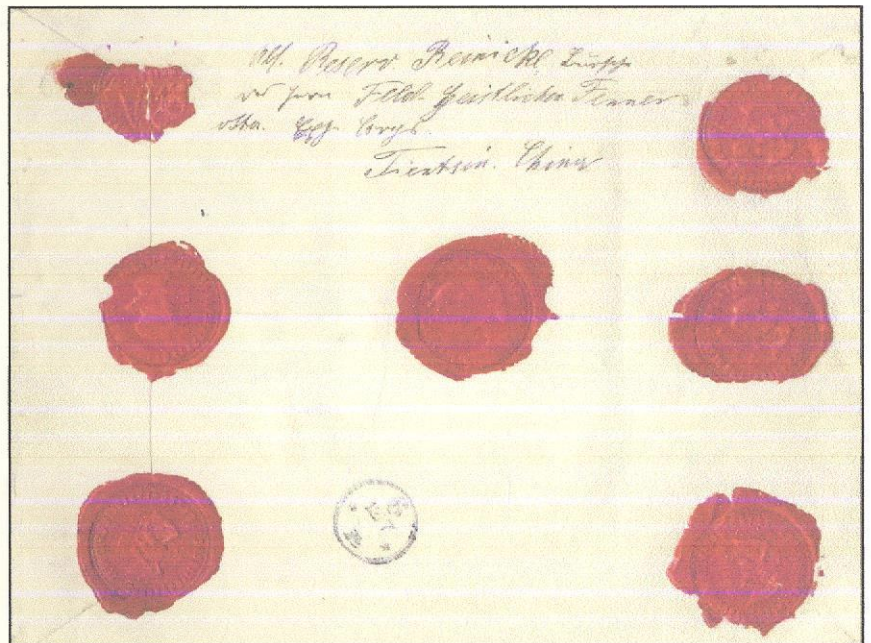
2 MAY (1901)

Double-weight linen-cover, 143 grams, value-letter  
(RM 10.00), postmarked at the Tientsin German  
Field-Post, sent to Berlin, Germany.  
71-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
“(Berlin 6) 12 July (1901)”

20 Pfennig..  
Value-letters up to RM 150.00/50 grams were free-frank.  
Value-letters to RM 150.00/50-250 grams were subject to  
20 Pfennig postage.

During the Boxer Revolt Period in China, the German Field-Post handled  
six million units of mail, of which only 1353 were value letters.



Reverse Side

Embossed Seals' Text:  
“Military Hospital Personnel of the East Asiatic  
Expeditionary Corps”



**PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES**  
**Type II .. Non-Overprinted 'Germania' Series**

**PEKING**  
**1900-1901**

**CIVILIAN & LEGATION MAIL TO GERMANY**

**CIVILIAN MAIL**

**18 FEBRUARY 1901**

**Registered postal stationery (hand-drawn artwork on reverse) card, postmarked at Peking, sent to Dresden, Germany. 51-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmark: "Dresden, 10 April 1901"**

**30 Pfennig..  
 10 Pfg.. UPU International Postcard-Rate +  
 20 Pfg.. Registration Fee.**



Cert. Steuer



Exp. Bothe

**GERMAN LEGATION MAIL**

**1 MAY 1901**

**Registered cover, postmarked at Peking, sent to Frankfurt/Main, Germany. 44-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmark: "Frankfurt/Main, 14 June 1901"**

**40 Pfennig..  
 20 Pfg.. Single-weight (15 grams) UPU International Letter-Rate +  
 20 Pfg.. Registration Fee**

# PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES

Type II .. Non-Overprinted 'Germania' Series

PEKING  
1900-1901

Marine's mail to Germany was free-frank.  
MAIL TO OTHER COUNTRIES WAS NOT FREE BUT SUBJECT TO UPU INTERNATIONAL RATES WITH OFFICER'S NON-FAMILY MAIL TO GERMANY REQUIRING FRANKING AT THE PREVAILING GERMAN DOMESTIC-RATE.

RE-DIRECTED MARINE'S MAIL ...  
CHINA-SWITZERLAND-  
ENGLAND

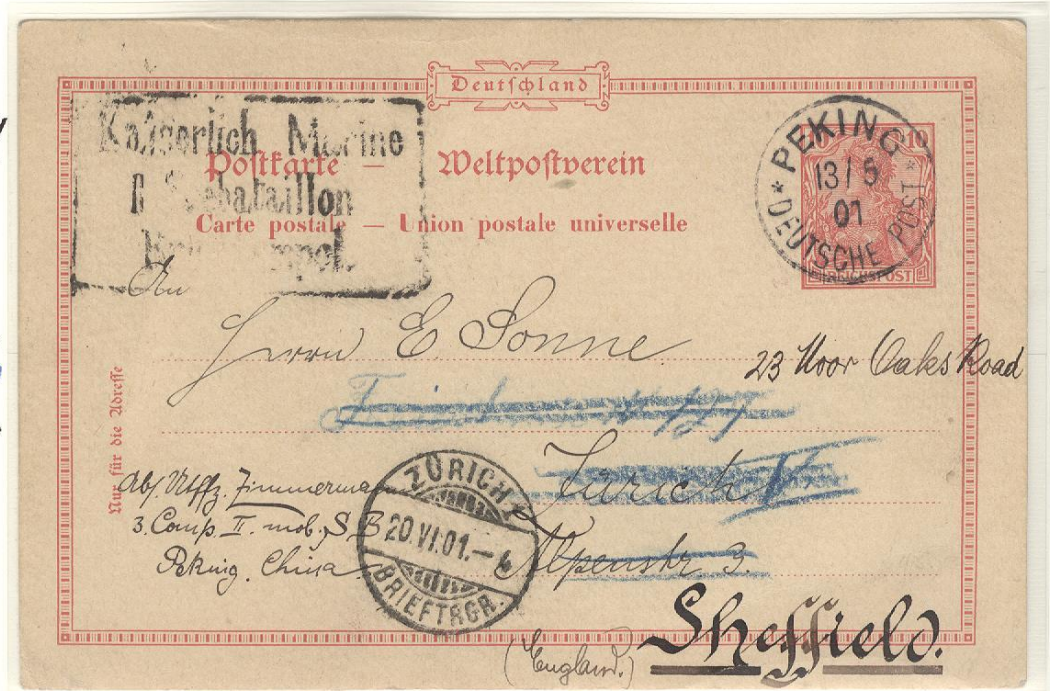
11 MAY 1901

UPU German-postal stationery card, postmarked at Peking, sent to Zurich, Switzerland, and re-directed to Sheffield, England.

Military Unit Cachet Marking:  
"Kaiserlich Marine II Bataillon Briefstempel"  
("Mail Marking .. Imperial 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Battalion")

Transit Arrival Postmark:  
(Switzerland)  
"Zürich,  
20 June 1901"

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International  
Postcard-Rate.



SENIOR OFFICER'S MAIL  
TO A MAIL-ORDER FIRM

8 JUNE 1901

'Field-post' endorsed cover, postmarked at Peking, sent to a business at Braunschweig, Germany.

Military Unit Cachet Marking:  
"Pavel, Colonel & Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> East Asiatic Infantry Brigade"

Arrival Postmark:  
"Braunschweig,  
22 July 1901"

20 Pfennig..  
Double-weight  
(30 grams)  
letter-rate to Germany



**PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES**  
Type III .. "China" Hand-Overprinted Issue

**TIENTSIN**  
1901

In China at the time, the Mexican Dollar was the currency of exchange having an official rate-of-exchange at \$2.50 = RM 1.00 but where the free market exchange rate was \$2.00 = RM 1.00. potentially enabling speculators to buy postage at the German Post Office at a discount of 25% and ship it back to Germany for profit.

**TO PREVENT SPECULATION, THE GERMAN POST OFFICE DIAGONALLY HAND-OVERPRINTED SEVERAL VALUES ALONG WITH A POSTAL STATIONERY CARD OF THE "GERMANIA" ISSUE WITH THE WORD "CHINA".**



Exp. Willmann

**"CHINA" HAND-OVERPRINTED POSTAL STATIONERY CARD**

**2 DECEMBER 1901**

**Businessman's mail, postmarked at Tientsin,  
sent to his sister at Berlin, Germany.  
64-day transit time.**

**Arrival Postmark:  
"Berlin,  
4 February 1902"**

**10 Pfennig..  
UPU International Postcard-Rate .**

**Less than five examples known.**

**PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES**  
**Type III .. "China" Hand-Overprinted Issue**

**TIENTSIN**  
**1901**



**3 Pfg. =**  
**PRINTED MATTER RATE**

Exp. Bothe BPP/Jakubek



**20 Pfg. =**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**LETTER-RATE**  
 Exp. Mansfeld/Grobe/Breitl



**RM 4.20 =**  
**PARCEL POST RATE**

Cerf. Dr. Steuer



Exp. Jakubek

**3 MARCH 1901**

**Civilian German military or government  
 employee mail, postmarked at the Tientsin  
 Military Field Post Office, sent to Cassel, Germany.  
 41-day transit time.**

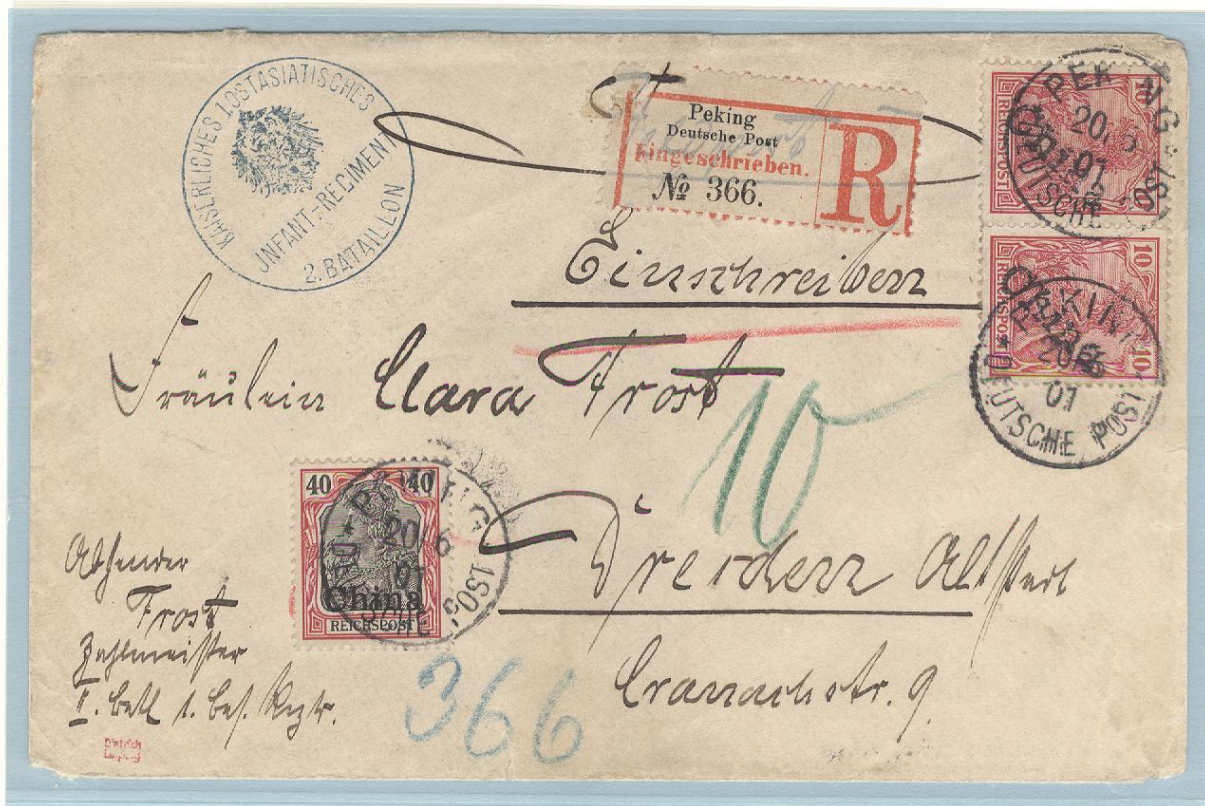
**Arrival Postmark:**  
**"Cassel,  
 13 April 1901"**

**10 Pfennig..**  
**UPU International Postcard-Rate .**

PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES  
Type III .. "China" Hand-Overprinted Issue

PEKING  
1901

Although most "China" hand-overprinted stamps were distributed at Tientsin, this example verifies that **HAND-OVERPRINTED STAMPS WERE POSSIBLY ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE 'PEKING' POST OFFICE.**



Signed: Dietrich & Schmidt  
Cert. Dr. Lantelme

10 PFG. "CHINA" HAND-OVERPRINT PAIR USAGE ON MIXED-FRANKED REGISTERED MAIL

20 JUNE 1901

Mixed franking registered cover,  
postmarked at Peking, sent by "Paymaster Frost" of the  
Imperial 1<sup>st</sup> East Asiatic Infantry Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion,  
to Dresden, Germany  
44-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Dresden,  
3 August 1901"

60 Pfennig..  
40 Pfg.. 2<sup>nd</sup> weight-level (30 grams)  
UPU International Letter-Rate +  
20 Pfg.. Registration Fee

Only known usage through the 'Peking' Post Office.

**PROVISIONAL STAMP USAGES**  
**Type IV .. Kiautschou 'Yacht' Series Usage**

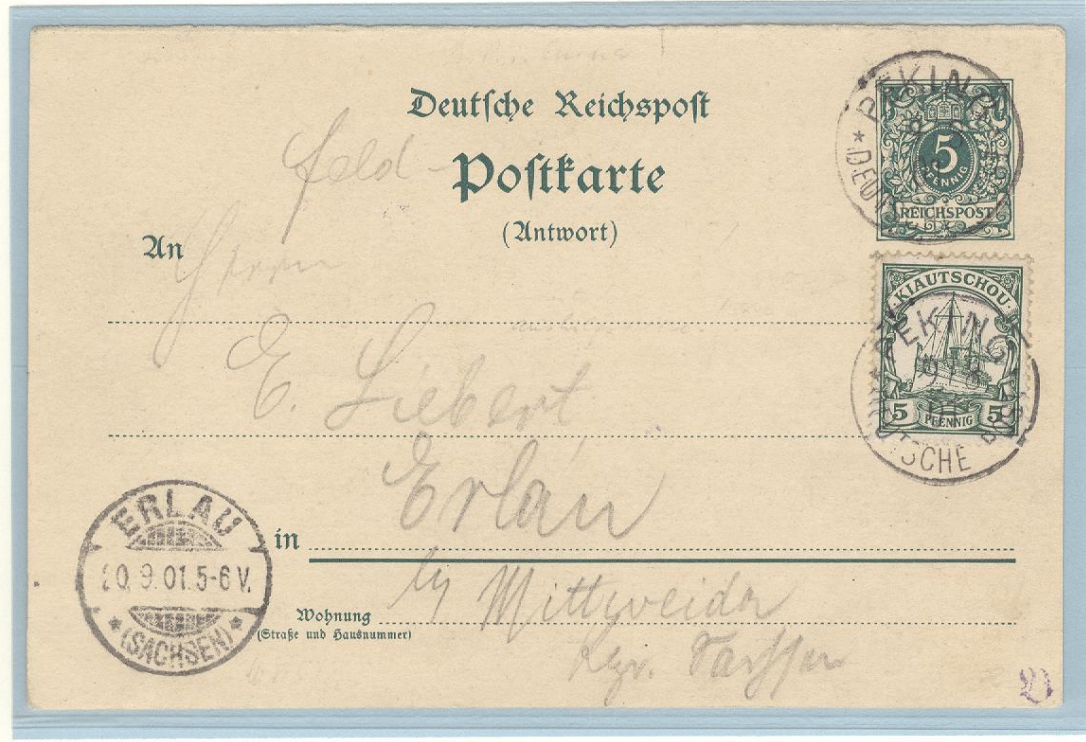
**PEKING**  
**1901**

**"TYPE IV" PROVISIONALS WERE NON-OVERPRINTED 'YACHT' SERIES STAMPS FROM GERMAN KIAUTSCHOU, supplied by the German Postal Administration at Shanghai, FOR USE AT THE GERMAN POST OFFICE AT PEKING to alleviate the shortage of stamps caused by heavy military-personnel mail usage.**

**SOLDIER'S POSTCARD MAIL**  
**16 SEPTEMBER 1901**  
 Fieldpost card, endorsed "Through the Naval Post Office", with indication of sender's name and unit, postmarked at Peking, sent to Lübeck, Germany.  
**5 Pfennig.. Concession postcard-rate for German military personnel in China.**



Exp. Dr. Steuer



**POSTAL-RESPONSE CARD MAIL**  
**9 AUGUST 1901**

Response portion of a Germany-origin Reichspost postal reply card set, postmarked at Peking, and returned to Erlau, Germany. 32-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark: "Erlau (Saxony), 10 September 1901"

**5+5 Pfg. = 10 Pfg.. UPU International Postcard-Rate** (not Fieldpost valid for reduced rate of 5 Pfg., since sender did not indicate his name or military unit)

Cert. Dr. Lanfelme

# GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS

"Pisa" Provisional  
(June - October 1902)

Chartered by the German Ministry of War to transport returning troops from China, the Steamer "Pisa" (Imperial German Naval Ship No. 2) during the period of 26 June- 4 October 1902 had no postage stamps to frank the mail written or mailed by the troops on-board, resulting in such mail being "Cash-Paid" and endorsed "Frei 5" covering the German domestic postcard-rate.

UPON ARRIVAL IN GERMANY, THE MAIL WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE NAVAL POST OFFICE AT BERLIN, WHICH AFFIXED POSTAGE, POSTMARKED SUCH WITH A "DIENSTMARKE" ("Dm" = "On Service") POSTMARK AND PLACED SUCH INTO THE GERMAN POSTAL SYSTEM FOR DELIVERY.

## EARLIEST PROVISIONAL USAGE

7 JULY 1902

View-card postmarked on-board ship, sent to Schroda, (near Posen), Germany

Arrival Postmark: "Schroda, 16 July 1902"

5 Pfennig.. German colonial postcard-rate.



## LATEST PROVISIONAL USAGE

25 SEPTEMBER 1902

View-card, postmarked on-board ship, sent to Gaustadt (near Bamberg), Germany.

Arrival Postmark: "Gaustadt, 6 October 1902"

5 Pfennig.. German colonial postcard-rate.

# GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS

Gunboat "SMS (HMS) Illtis"

May 1899 – September 1914

German Gunboat 'SMS Illtis' long effective service in China included **CAPTURE OF THE CHINESE FORTS AT TAKU (TONGKU) PERMITTING ALLIED SHIPS TO ENTER TAKU BAY, DISCHARGE TROOPS & MATERIEL DURING ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONARY FORCE TO PUT DOWN THE 'BOXER UPRISING' IN NORTH CHINA.**

'SMS Illtis' was scuttled by her crew at Tsingtau on 29 September 1914 to avoid capture by the invading Japanese Forces in World War I.

"SMS Illtis"

"German Naval  
Ship Post Office  
No. 20"

Tsingtau  
23 August 1900  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Yangtze River  
Voyage)

View-card,  
postmarked on-  
board sent to  
Hanau, Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
"Hanau,  
27 September  
1900"

5 Pfennig..  
German colonial  
postcard-rate.



Hong Kong  
17 October 1904  
(9<sup>th</sup> Coastal Voyage)

View-card, postmarked  
on-board, sent to  
Dortmund, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Dortmund,  
18 November 1904"

5 Pfennig..  
German colonial  
postcard-rate.



# GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS

Gunboat "HMS Luchs"

September 1900 – July 1914

"HMS Luchs"

German Naval Ship Post Office No.3"

2 AUGUST 1900

Cover, postmarked on board, sent to Kiel, Germany

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse) "Kiel, 12 August 1900"

20 Pfennig.. Double-weight Domestic German Letter-Rate.



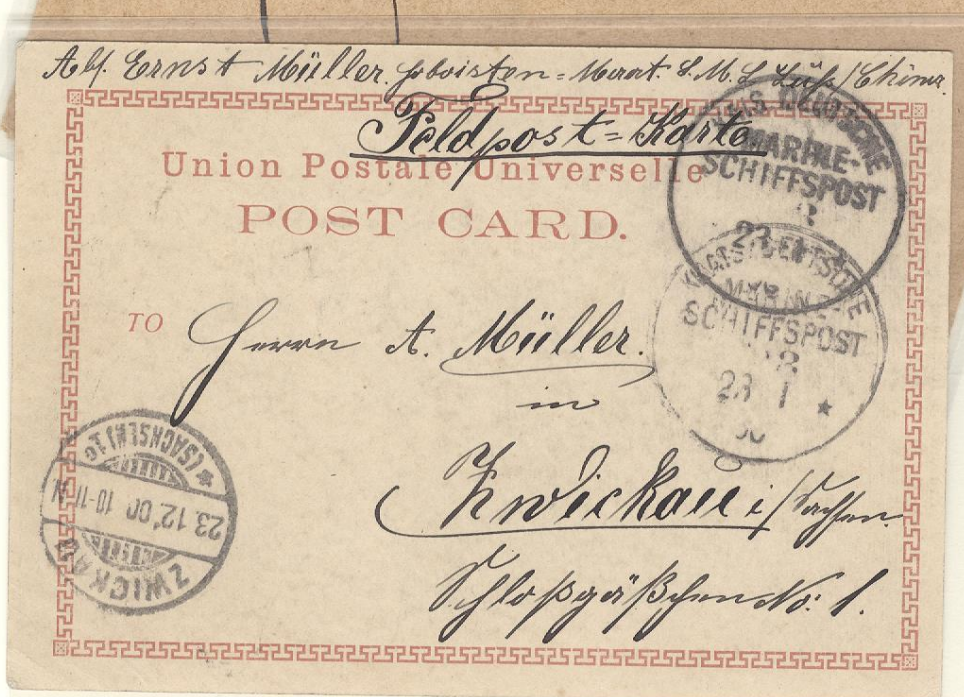
"HMS Luchs"

German Naval Ship Post Office No.3"

(Hong Kong) 23 NOVEMBER 1900

Free-frank, field post view card, postmarked on board, sent to Zwickau, Germany

Arrival Postmark: "Zwickau, 23 December 1900"



# GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS

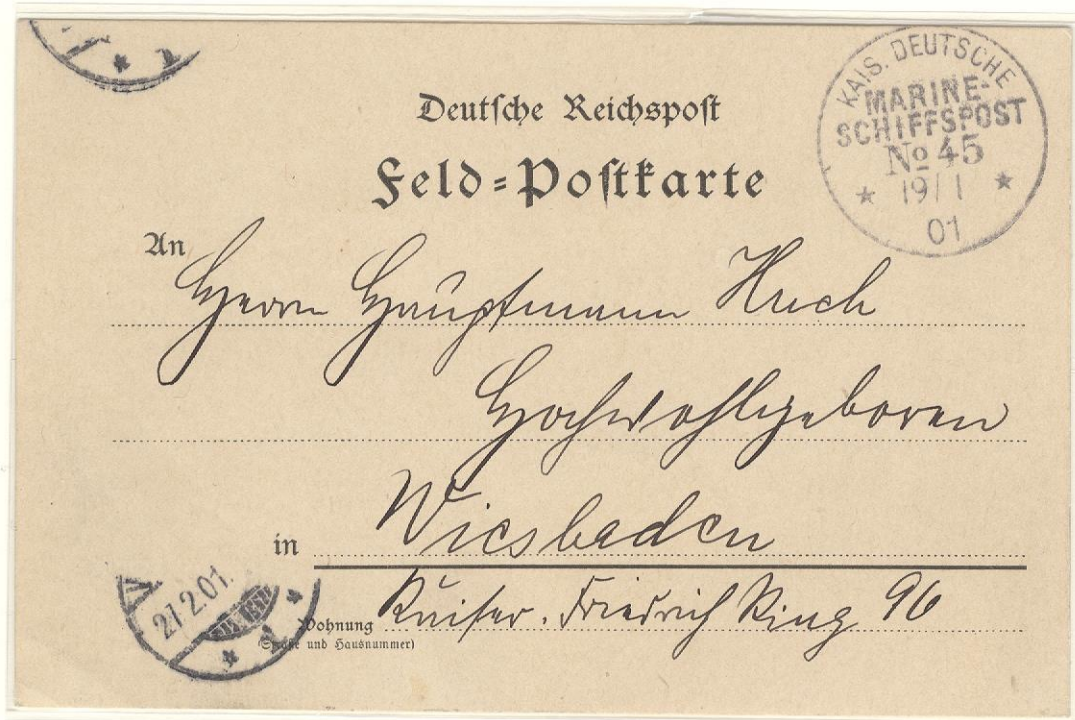
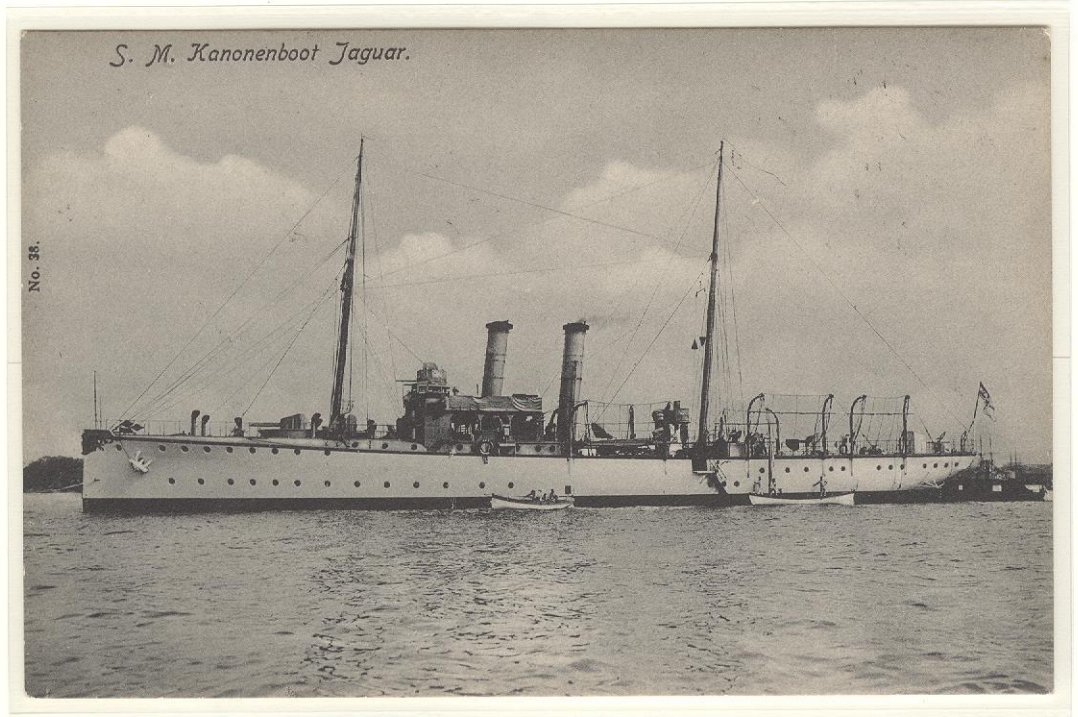
Gunboat "HMS Jaguar"

November 1899 – July 1914

"HMS Jaguar"

German Naval Ship  
Post Office No. 45"

Photo of Imperial  
German Gunboat  
"HMS Jaguar"



"HMS Jaguar"

German Naval Ship  
Post Office No. 45"

(Yangtze River)  
19 JANUARY 1901

Free-frank, field post  
form card, postmarked  
on board, sent to  
Wiesbaden  
Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
"Wiesbaden,  
21 February 1901"

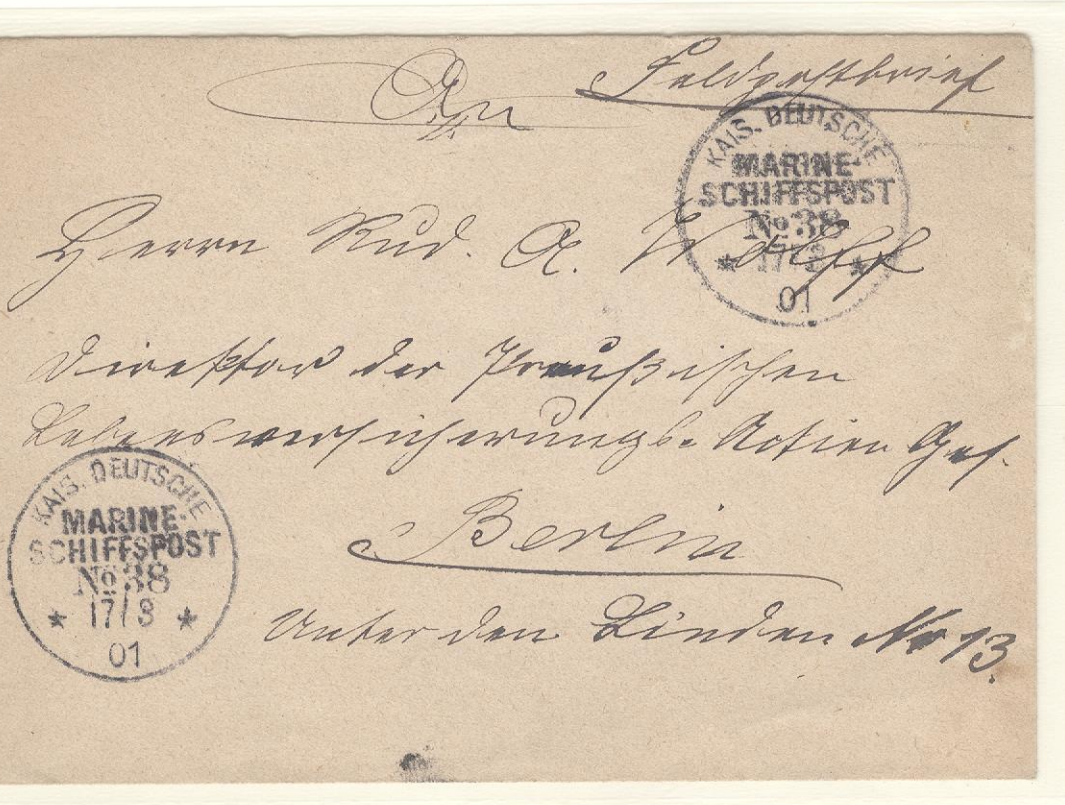
**GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS**  
**Light Cruiser "HMS Gefion"**

April 1898 – June 1905

"HMS Gefion"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 38"

Illustration Card of  
 Light Cruiser  
 "HMS Gefion"



"HMS Gefion"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 38"

17 MARCH 1901

Free-frank, field post  
 cover, postmarked  
 on board, sent to  
 Berlin,  
 Germany

**GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS**  
**Light Cruisers "HMS Seeadler" & "HMS Bussard"**

"HMS  
 Seeadler"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No.11"

Period of Activity:  
 August 1900 –  
 June 1905

29 AUGUST 1901

Free-frank, field post  
 cover, postmarked  
 on board, sent to  
 Wilhelmshaven,  
 Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Wilhelmshaven,  
 5 October 1901"



Exp. Willmann



"HMS Bussard"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No.51"

Period of Activity:  
 November 1901 –  
 February 1904

6 JUNE 1901

Free-frank, field post  
 cover, postmarked  
 on board, sent to  
 Wilhelmshaven,  
 Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Wilhelmshaven,  
 15 July 1901"

**GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS**  
**Light Cruiser "HMS Geier"**

September 1901 – September 1904

"HMS Geier"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 36"

23 OCTOBER 1900

Free-frank, field post  
 view card,  
 postmarked  
 on board, sent to  
 Hamburg-Bergedorf,  
 Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Bergedorf,  
 30 November 1900"



"HMS Geier"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No. 36"

(Shanghai)  
 14 FEBRUARY 1901

Free-frank, field post  
 form card, postmarked  
 on board, sent to  
 Wiesbaden,  
 Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Wiesbaden,  
 21 March 1901"

GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS  
Light Cruiser "HMS Schwalbe"

September 1900 – August 1902

"HMS  
Schwalbe"

German Naval Ship  
Post Office No. 17"

18 OCTOBER 1900

Free-frank, field post  
form card,  
postmarked  
on board, sent to  
Friedrichsort,  
Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
"Friedrichsort,  
15 November 1900"



"HMS Schwalbe"

German Naval Ship  
Post Office No. 17"

22 APRIL 1901

Free-frank, field post  
form card, postmarked  
on board, sent to  
Lübeck,  
Germany

# GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS

Heavy Cruiser "HMS Fürst Bismarck"

September 1901 – September 1908

"HMS  
Fürst Bismarck"

German Naval Ship  
Post Office No.43"

(Shan-Hai-Kuan)  
6 OCTOBER 1900

Free-frank, field post  
form card, postmarked  
on board, sent to  
Berlin,  
Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
"(Berlin)  
15 November 1900"



"HMS Fürst Bismarck"

German Naval Ship  
Post Office No.43"

5 MARCH 1902

Cover, postmarked  
on board, sent to the  
"Deutsche Bank"  
Berlin,  
Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"(Berlin),  
4 April 1902"

10 Pfennig..  
Domestic German  
letter-rate for  
occupation-period  
mail to Germany

**GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS**  
**Heavy Cruisers "HMS Kaiserin Augusta" & "HMS Hansa"**

"HMS Kaiserin  
 Augusta"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No.15"

Period of Activity:  
 April 1898 –  
 December 1901

(Taku)  
 16 SEPTEMBER 1901

Free-frank, field post  
 form card,  
 postmarked  
 on board, sent to  
 Frankfurt/Main,  
 Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Frankfurt/Main,  
 29 October 1900"



"HMS Hansa"

German Naval Ship  
 Post Office No.46"

Period of Activity:  
 October 1899 –  
 July 1906

18 SEPTEMBER 1900

Free-frank, field post  
 cover, postmarked  
 on board, sent to  
 Kiel,  
 Germany

Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)  
 "Kiel,  
 27 December 1900"



**GERMAN NAVAL SHIPS IN CHINESE WATERS**  
Mail to German Naval Ships in Chinese Waters

Printed-Matter Mail  
From Shanghai

*"HMS  
Kaiserin Augusta"*

Period of Activity:  
April 1898 –  
December 1901

(Shanghai)  
9 APRIL 1901

*"Der Ostasiatische  
Lloyd" Cover,  
postmarked at  
Shanghai, sent to  
"HMS Kaiserin  
Augusta"*

3 Pfennig..  
Printed-matter rate  
for mail to 50 grams  
Between German  
land or seas post  
offices in China  
(28 August 1886 –  
1 October 1905)



*"HMS Iltis"*

Period of Activity:  
May 1899 –  
September 1914

(Shanghai)  
2 October 1906

*"Der Ostasiatische  
Lloyd" Cover,  
postmarked at  
Shanghai, sent to  
"HMS Iltis"*

2 Cents..  
Printed-matter rate  
for mail to  
100 grams  
between German  
land or seas post  
offices in China  
(1 October 1905 –  
16 March 1917)

# OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China

Langfang

"Langfang", located halfway between Peking and Yangtsun on the strategically important Peking-Taku Railway Line, became a German military base, without a fieldpost station, RESULTING IN MAIL BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE GERMAN POST OFFICES AT, INITIALLY, TIENTSIN AND, LATER, TO PEKING FOR HANDLING.

(17 AUGUST 1901)

Free-frank Chinese UPU view-card, written by "Private Link, 4<sup>th</sup> Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of the East Asiatic Occupation Brigade", endorsed "Langfang", sent to "Private Reinke, Guard Headquarters" at Pai-tai-ho.

Unit Validation Cachet: Used to postmark mail sent between German Military Bases through the German Post Office in China.

**5 Pfennig..**  
German colonial postcard-rate valid for military occupation troop mail



Exp Steuer BPP



25 NOVEMBER 1905

PHOTO OF THE COMMEMORATIVE MEMORIAL AT "LANGFANG" RECOGNIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GERMAN MILITARY BASE

View-card sent to a soldier in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, East Asiatic Occupation Brigade at Shanhaikuan.

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
 Peking

Having suppressed the 'Boxer Society' in North China by 1 February 1901, twelve allied nations signed a Peace Accord on 29 May 1901 calling for punishment and compensation from the Chinese Government for supporting the 'Boxer Society' and the uprising to the effect of US\$ 700 million indemnification payable over forty years, occupation of North China until 30 June 1906, and with **FOREIGN GARRISONS REMAINING IN CHINA IN SELECTED AREAS IN PERPETUITY.**

**FOR THE GERMAN OCCUPATION BRIGADE, POSTAGE WAS NO LONGER FREE** but subject to German-Post-Office in China or Domestic Germany rates.

11 JUNE 1904

UPU view-card, written by "Lieutenant von Winckler of the German Legation Guard", sent to Nuremberg, Bavaria, Germany.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
 "2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, East Asiatic Occupation Brigade"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Nürnberg, ... July 1904"

5 Pfennig.. German Domestic Postcard-Rate



26 NOVEMBER 1906

Printed-matter cover, sent to Augsburg, Bavaria, Germany

Unit Validation Cachet:  
 "2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, East Asiatic Occupation Brigade"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Augsburg, 8 January 1907"

2 Cents.. German printed-matter rate for mail up to 100 grams.

# OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China  
East Asiatic Occupation Brigade

Peking

German Legation Guard



German Legation Mail Seal

**THE GERMAN LEGATION GUARD HAD ITS OWN MAIL VALIDATION CACHET MARKING, validating out-going mail.**

Until 30 April 1906, the guard consisted of soldiers of the 'East Asiatic Occupation Brigade' with marines from the naval detachment stationed at Peking replacing them until 30 June 1908.

1 APRIL 1908

UPU view-card, written by a guard member, routed 'Via Siberia', sent to Dellwig, Germany.

Validation Cachet: "Mail Validation Mark .. Legation Staff Guard"

2 Cents.. German Domestic Postcard-Rate equivalent (5 Pfg.)



6 MARCH 1907

View-card written by a guard member, sent to Bad Reichenhall, Bavaria, Germany

Validation Cachet: "Mail Validation Mark .. Legation Staff Guard"

Arrival Postmark: "Bad Reichenhall, 15 April 1907"

2 Cents.. German Domestic Postcard-Rate equivalent (5 Pfg.)

OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL

Mail Through the German Post Office in China  
'German Legation Mail'

MAIL SENT BETWEEN GERMAN CONSULATES OR LEGATION  
WITHIN CHINA WERE FREE-FRANK THROUGH THE  
GERMAN POST OFFICE NETWORK,

Einschreiben

Deutsche Post  
Peking  
Eingeschrieben  
№ 590

Kaiserlich Deutsches Ges

R 84

46.  
104  
175

Peking – Shanghai



Seal on Reverse



*Generalkonsulat*

*1741*

*Shanghai*

15 JANUARY 1902

Registered free-frank official German legation mail cover,  
postmarked at Peking,  
sent to the consulate at Shanghai.

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)

"Shanghai, Deutsche Post,  
22 January 1902"

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
**Shanhaikuan**  
 (Forerunner Supplementary Postmark)



Usage:  
 1 September –  
 30 November 1901

Located along the Yellow Sea Coast with a rail line from Tongku to Northeastern China, 'Shanhaikuan' had a short-lived German Post Office experiencing severe winter conditions in 1901-1902 resulting in the **POST OFFICE BEING TRANSFERRING SOUTHWARD BY TWENTY KILOMETERS TO 'TSCHINGWANGTAU', REOPENING IN MARCH 1901.**

9 SEPTEMBER 1901

Soldier's cover, non-acceptance of free-franking effective September 1, resulting in postage due of 20 Pfennig from recipient in St. Johann, Saar. 23-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
 "Tongku,  
 9 September 1901"  
 "St. Johann (Saar)  
 10 October 1901"

20 Pfennig  
 Postage Due..  
 10 Pfg Colonial  
 Letter Rate +  
 10 Pfg. Penalty



16 OCTOBER 1901

View-card  
 (Field Marshall's  
 Asbestos-Built Quarters)  
 postmarked  
 Schanhaikuan, transit  
 Tongku, sent to Leipzig,  
 47-day transit time.

Unit Validation  
 Endorsement:  
 "8<sup>th</sup> Company,  
 1<sup>st</sup> East Asiatic  
 Occupation Regiment"

Transit & Arrival  
 Postmarks:  
 "Tongku,  
 17 October 1901"  
 "Leipzig-Volkmarsdorf, 2  
 December 1901"

5 Pfennig..  
 Colonial  
 Postcard-Rate.



**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
**Shanhaikwan**  
 (1 March – 31 October 1902)



Usage:  
 1 March – 31 October 1901

After the severe winter of 1901-1902, the 'Shanhaikwan' Post Office reopened in March 1902, now using a dated postmark having the spelling "SchanhaikWAN" versus "SchanhaikUAN" used in the earlier forerunner postmark.

**THIS SHORT-LIVED POST OFFICE CLOSED AT THE END OF OCTOBER 1902.**

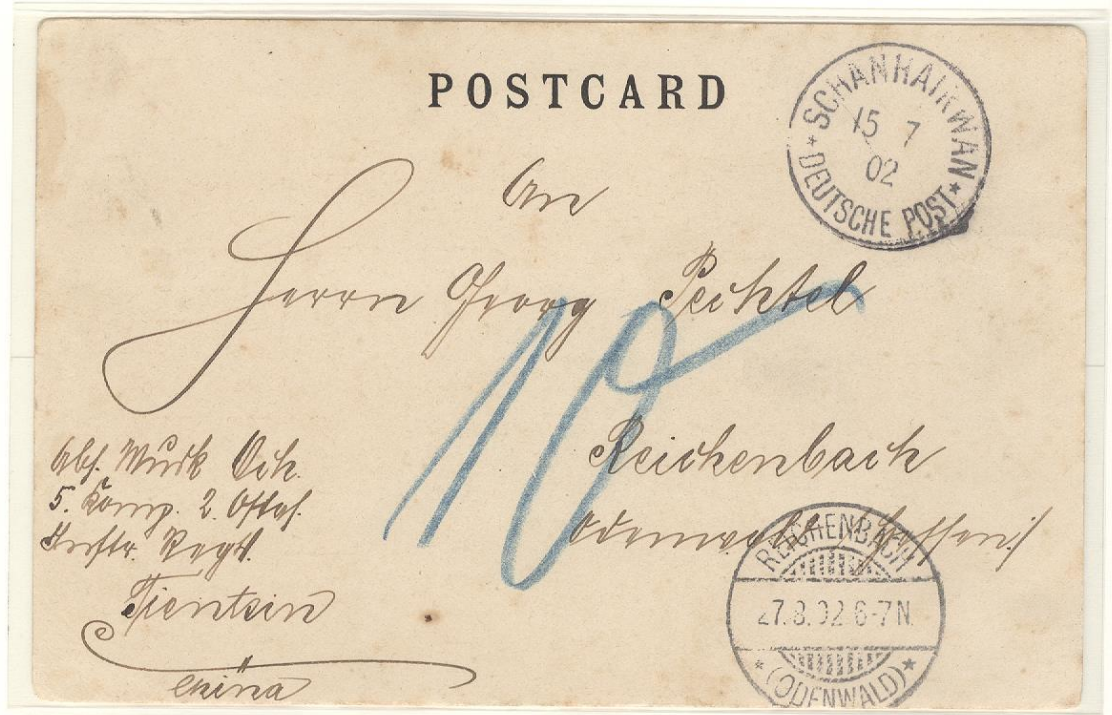
15 SEPTEMBER 1902

Unfranked postage-due view-card (Tientsin Fort), written at Peitaho, postmarked at Schanhaikwan, sent to Reichenbach, Germany.

Unit Validation Endorsement:  
 "5<sup>th</sup> Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> East Asiatic Occupation Regiment"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Reichenbach (Odenwald), 27 August 1902"

10 Pfennig Postage Due..  
 5 Pfg valid postcard-rate  
 + 5 Pfg. Penalty



Carl Steuer

22 JULY 1902

View-card (Chinese Soldiers) postmarked Schanhaikwan, sent to Montpellier, France,

Unit Validation Endorsement:  
 "Finance Office, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, East Asiatic Occupation Brigade"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Montpellier Herault, 31 September 1902"

10 Pfennig..  
 UPU International Postcard-Rate.





**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Shanghai

'31 August 1901' was the end of the "Boxer Uprising Intervention" by the allies, resulting in cessation of the "free franking" postal concession for military rank & file German Servicemen.

**EFFECTIVE '1 SEPTEMBER 1901', ALL SOLDIERS' MAIL WAS SUBJECT TO GERMAN COLONIAL = HOMELAND POSTAL RATES.**



**4 NOVEMBER 1901**

Cover postmarked at Shanghai, with routing endorsement "Through the Naval Post Office", sent to Hohenhausen, Germany.

Unit Validation Cachet: "1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment"

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse) "Hohenhausen, 9 December 1901"

**10 Pfennig.. German colonial letter-rate.**

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
 Shanghai

**COMMEMORATIVE SUPPLEMENTARY MARKING**  
*"Deutsches Lager .. Shanghai"*

**TO COMMEMORATE FORMATION OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EAST ASIATIC REGIMENT & ACTIVITY IN CHINA DURING THE PERIOD OF 16 JULY 1900 – 16 JULY 1902, A CELEBRATION TOOK PLACE AT THE REGIMENT'S SHANGHAI BASE.. "ZI-KA-WEI"**

Commemorative postcards illustrating the 'Kaiser' were donated by the German Printing Office for the event with a commemorative supplementary postmark applied to postcards sent through the mail.



Exp Mansfeld/Cerf. Bothe BPP

**16 JULY 1902**

**Local mail usage of the commemorative postcard with supplementary marking..**  
*"Deutsches Lager"*

**5 Pfennig..**  
**Postcard rate for mail sent through German Post Offices in China**



Reverse

OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL  
Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China  
East Asiatic Occupation Brigade  
Official Military Mail

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Tientsin



*Stu*  
*in*  
*Salvatore*  
*St. Josef. Exped. Post*  
*Militaria!*  
*Berlin. P.W.*  
*Postamt 13.*  
*Gollmannstr. 3-5*  
*J. No. 874/02.*

7 FEBRUARY 1902

**"Militaria"** endorsed  
free-frank official-mail  
cover,  
postmarked at Tientsin,  
sent to Military  
Headquarters at  
Berlin, Germany.  
46-day transit time.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
(Reverse)  
"Medical Office of the  
East Asiatic Occupation  
Brigade"

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Berlin,  
25 March 1902"

10 Pfennig..  
German colonial  
letter-rate.

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**  
**Registered Headquarters Mail**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
Tientsin



16 NOVEMBER 1901

Registered cover, sent through the Naval Post Office at Berlin,  
postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Hamburg, Germany.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
"Headquarters of the  
East Asiatic Occupation Brigade"

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Hamburg, 5 January 1902"

40 Pfennig..  
20 Pfg.. Single-Weight  
(15 grams)  
UPU International Letter-Rate +  
20 Pfg.. Registration Fee

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China  
East Asiatic Occupation Brigade

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
Tientsin

**MAIL SENT TO OTHER-THAN-GERMANY COUNTRIES WAS SUBJECT TO  
UPU INTERNATIONAL RATES**  
with postage due in the event mail was short-franked.



**27 NOVEMBER 1903**

**Short-franked cover, postmarked at Tientsin sent to Geneva, Switzerland, with postage due & penalty upon receipt to cover the 10 Pfennig short-franking. 23-day transit time.**

**Unit Validation Cachet:  
"East Asiatic Occupation Brigade,  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment"**

**Receival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Geneva Facteurs, 20 December 1903"**

**10 Pfennig..  
Should have been 20 Pfennig to cover the  
UPU International Single-Weight (20 grams) Letter-Rate,  
resulting in 25 Centimes Postage Due with Penalty  
paid by the recipient.**

**One of two postage due covers known.**

# OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL

Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China  
East Asiatic Occupation Brigade

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Tientsin

**SOLDIERS' MAIL DURING THE OCCUPATION PERIOD CONTINUED  
TO REQUIRE MILITARY UNIT VALIDATION IDENTIFICATION  
BY ENDORSEMENT OR BY CACHET MARKING.**

13 FEBRUARY 1902

Soldier's Cover,  
postmarked at *Tientsin*,  
sent to Frankfurt (Main),  
Germany.  
44-day transit time.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
"East Asiatic  
Occupation Brigade,  
Clothing Depot"

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Frankfurt (Main),  
29 March 1902"

10 Pfennig..  
Single-weight  
(20 grams)  
German Colonial  
Letter-Rate



Signed Hauenstein

24 NOVEMBER 1904

Soldier's mail using a  
Japanese-printed UPU  
postcard, postmarked  
at *Tientsin*, sent to  
Gotha, Germany.  
41-day transit time.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
"East Asiatic  
Occupation Brigade,  
Headquarters,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment"

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Gotha,  
4 January 1905"

5 Pfennig..  
German Colonial  
Postcard-Rate.



**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
 Tientsin

**'EAST ASIATIC OCCUPATION BRIGADE .. MOBILE ARTILLERY BATTERY' MAIL**

2 NOVEMBER 1901

Former 'Fieldpost Form Card', postmarked at Tientsin, endorsed "To be forwarded through the Naval Post Office", re-directed to Chemnitz, Germany. 56-day transit time.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
 "East Asiatic Occupation Brigade, Mobile Artillery"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Chemnitz, 28 December 1901"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial Postcard-Rate



Exp. Mansfeld BPP



24 FEBRUARY 1902

Japanese-printed UPU postcard, postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Berlin, Germany. 44-day transit time.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
 "East Asiatic Occupation Brigade, Mobile Artillery"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "(Berlin) 38, 9 April 1902"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial Postcard-Rate.

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
 Tientsin

**SOLDIERS' MAIL USING "CHINA" OVERPRINTED POSTAL STATIONERY CARDS**

10 APRIL 1902

Soldier's mail,  
 postmarked at  
 Tientsin, endorsed  
 sent to  
 "General von  
 Salzmann" at Wesel,  
 Germany.  
 47-day transit time.

Unit Validation  
 Cachet:  
 "East Asiatic  
 Occupation Brigade,  
 Medical Office"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Wesel,  
 27 May 1902"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial  
 Postcard-Rate



1 FEBRUARY 1904

Soldier's mail,  
 postmarked  
 at Tientsin, sent to  
 Breslau, Germany.  
 23-day transit time  
 ('Via Siberia' Routed Mail)

Unit Validation Cachet:  
 "East Asiatic  
 Occupation Brigade,  
 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry  
 Regiment"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Breslau,  
 24 February 1904"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial  
 Postcard-Rate.





**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**  
**Official Military Mail**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Tongku



"TONGKU",  
A PORT CITY,  
WAS THE PRIMARY  
SUPPLY ROUTE FOR  
THE OCCUPATION  
BRIGADE IN  
NORTHERN CHINA.



*Dr.*  
*Chin Fung*  
*Kanten*  
*Militaria*  
*675.*  
*170*

2 OCTOBER 1902

Free-frank "Militaria"  
Endorsed Official Mail,  
postmarked at Tongku,  
sent to headquarters  
at Tientsin.

Unit Validation Cachet:  
(Reverse)  
"East Asiatic  
Occupation Brigade,  
Headquarters"

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
 Tongku

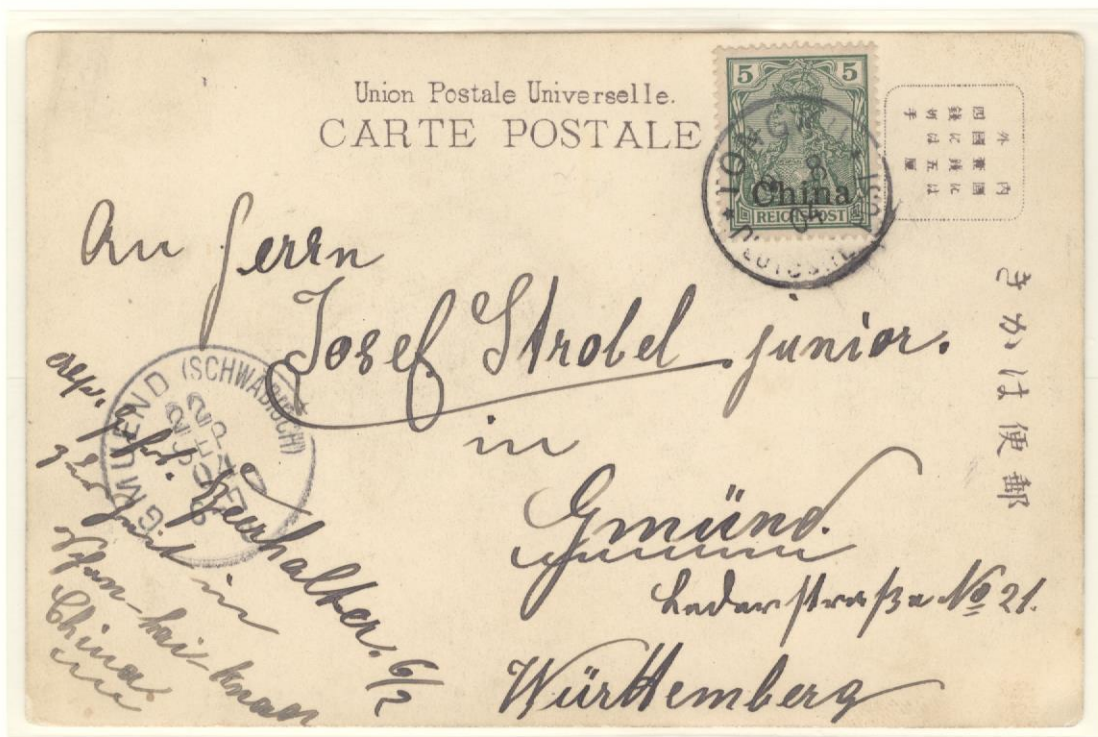
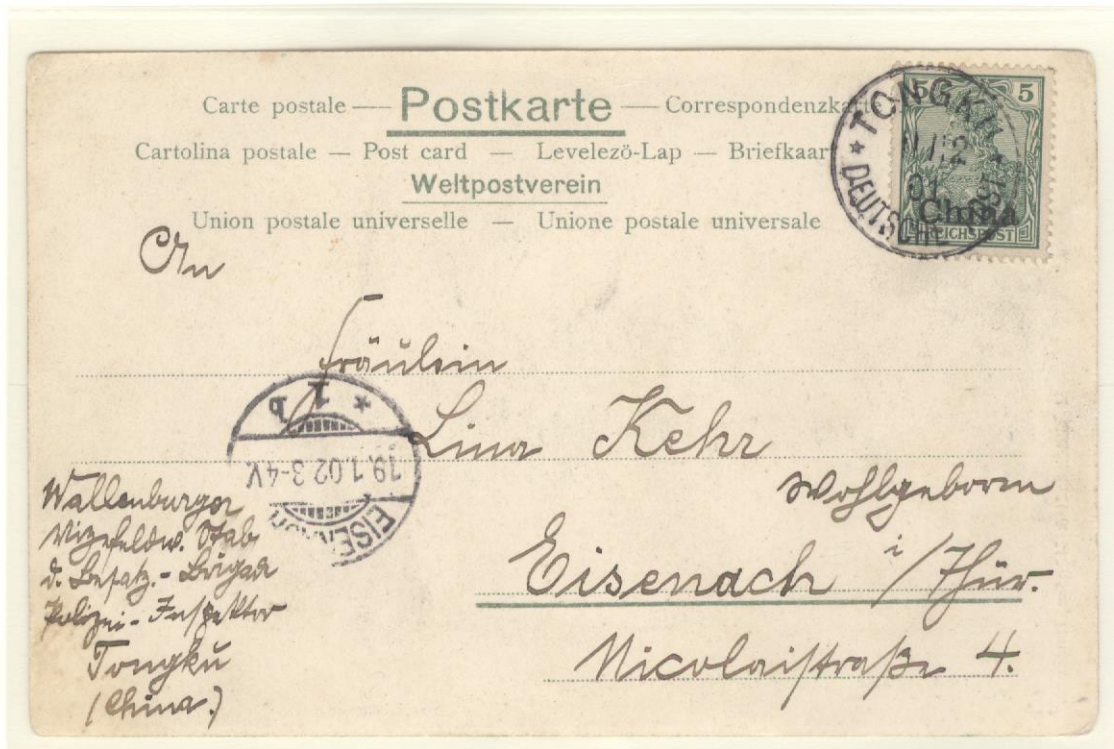
11 DECEMBER 1901

Soldier's view-card mail, postmarked at Tongku, sent to Eisenach, Germany. 39-day transit time.

Unit Validation Endorsement:  
 "East Asiatic Occupation Brigade, Police"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Eisenach, 19 January 1902"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial Postcard-Rate



8 AUGUST 1904

Soldier's view-card mail, postmarked at Tongku, sent to Gmünd, Württemberg, Germany.

Unit Validation Endorsement:  
 "6th Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment"

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Gmünd, 22 September 1904"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial Postcard-Rate.

# OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL

Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China  
East Asiatic Occupation Brigade

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Tschingwangtau  
(Chin Wang Tao)

Located about twenty kilometers south of Schanhaikwan, a railway junction, on the coast, Tschingwangtau's harbor was mostly ice-free during the winter ...

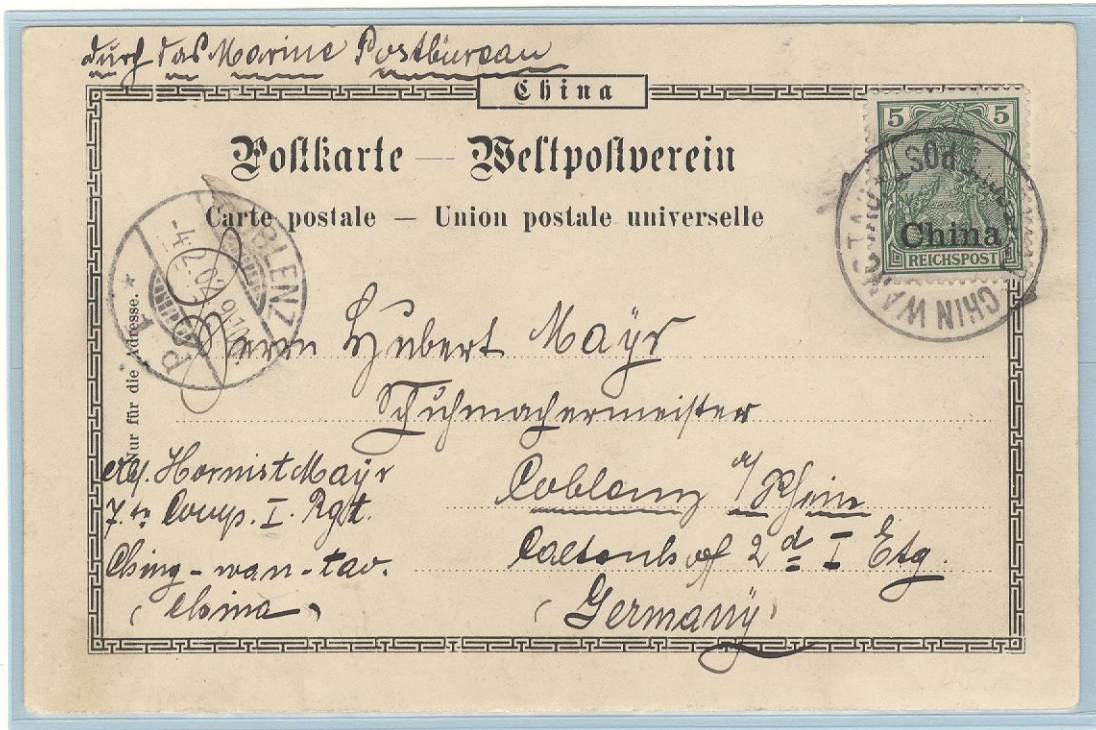
**AN IMPORTANT GERMAN-FORCES POST-BOXER-WAR & OCCUPATION-PERIOD LOCATION HAVING AN OPERATIONAL GERMAN POST OFFICE BETWEEN 1901-1906.**



USAGE: 1 December 1901–  
30 January 1902



Example used on a  
package card



27 DECEMBER 1901

View-card written by "Bugler Mayr" of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, 7<sup>th</sup> Company, German Occupation Force, postmarked at "Chin Wang Tao", sent to Coblenz, Germany, by way of the Naval Post Office at Berlin. 39-day transit time.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Coblenz,  
4 February 1902"

5 Pfennig..  
German Colonial Postcard-Rate.

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906

Tschinwangtau  
 (Chin Wang Tao)



USAGE: 15 January 1902 –  
 10 March 1906

30 DECEMBER 1902

Cover, postmarked at  
 Tschinwangtau,  
 sent to Colditz, Germany.  
 44-day transit time.

10 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial Single-Weight  
 (20 grams) Letter-Rate



22 JANUARY 1902

View-card, postmarked  
 at Tschinwangtau, sent  
 to Leipzig, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Leipzig,  
 1 March (1902)"

5 Pfennig..  
 German Colonial  
 Postcard-Rate

28 JANUARY 1906

View-card,  
 postmarked at  
 Tschinwangtau, sent to  
 Iburg, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Saarburg,  
 31 January 1906"

2 Cents. =  
 5 Pfennig...  
 German Colonial  
 Postcard-Rate



C. H. S.  
 Copyright.

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**"Imperial German Railway" Post Office Mail**

**Peking-Taku Railway**  
**(Tschili Province)**  
**1900-1901**

During the 'Boxer Revolt' hostilities (1900-1901), 'Tongku/Taku-Tientsin-Peking' Railway was mostly destroyed with limited use.

Because of its strategic military value, German Forces attempted to rebuild it as quickly as possible. By 15 September 1900, portions of the line between Yangtsun-Tongku/Taku operated again. By December 1900, most of the line to Peking became operational.

**A LOCALLY HANDCARVED WOODEN POSTMARK WAS PREPARED AND USED BETWEEN OCTOBER 1900 - MARCH 1901, PRIMARILY AS A SECURITY MARK FOR NON-MILITARY FRANKED MAIL.**



USAGE: 17 October 1900 –  
 25 March 1901



**MARCH 1901**

**Cover, undated postmark,**  
**"Imperial German Railway Mail .. Peking-Taku"**  
**sent to Wiesbaden, Germany**

**Arrival Postmark:**  
**"Wiesbaden, 18 April 1901"**

**10 Pfennig..**  
**Single-weight (15 grams) colonial**  
**letter-rate for non-military related-mail sent to Germany.**

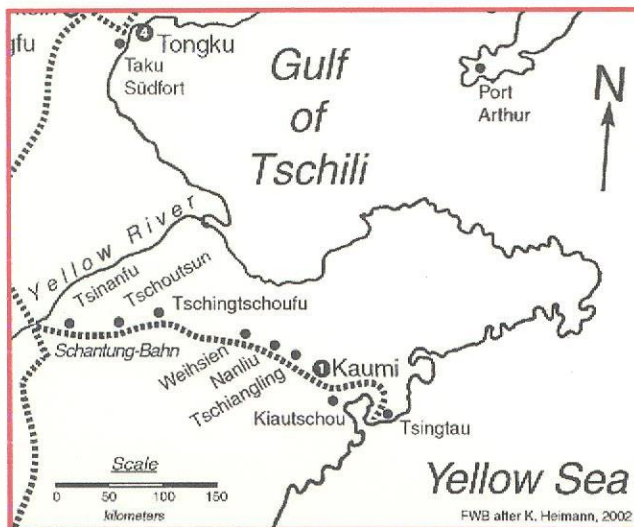
**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Railway Post Offices & Mail**

Shantung Railway  
 (Shantung Province)  
 1901-1902  
 Tschiangling

Considered by the German Government & Occupation Forces in China as strategically & commercially important, the German-financed- built "Shantung Railway" Line connected Tsingtau, Kiautschou, with the north-south Chinese railway line connecting with Tientsin & Peking.

**AS THE SHANTUNG RAILWAY ("Schantung Bahn") WAS BEING COMPLETED, SHORT-LIVED GERMAN POSTAL STATIONS AND POST OFFICES WERE OPENED ALONG THE ROUTE.**

**THE FIRST STAGE OF THE FUNCTIONAL "Schantung Bahn" WAS THE SECTION 'TSINGTAU-KAUMI', WHERE A TRAIN POSTMARK WAS APPLIED TO TRAIN MAIL ALONG WITH THE LOCAL GERMAN POSTAL STATION SUPPLEMENTARY POSTMARK.**



USAGE:  
 14 December 1901 -  
 21 March 1902



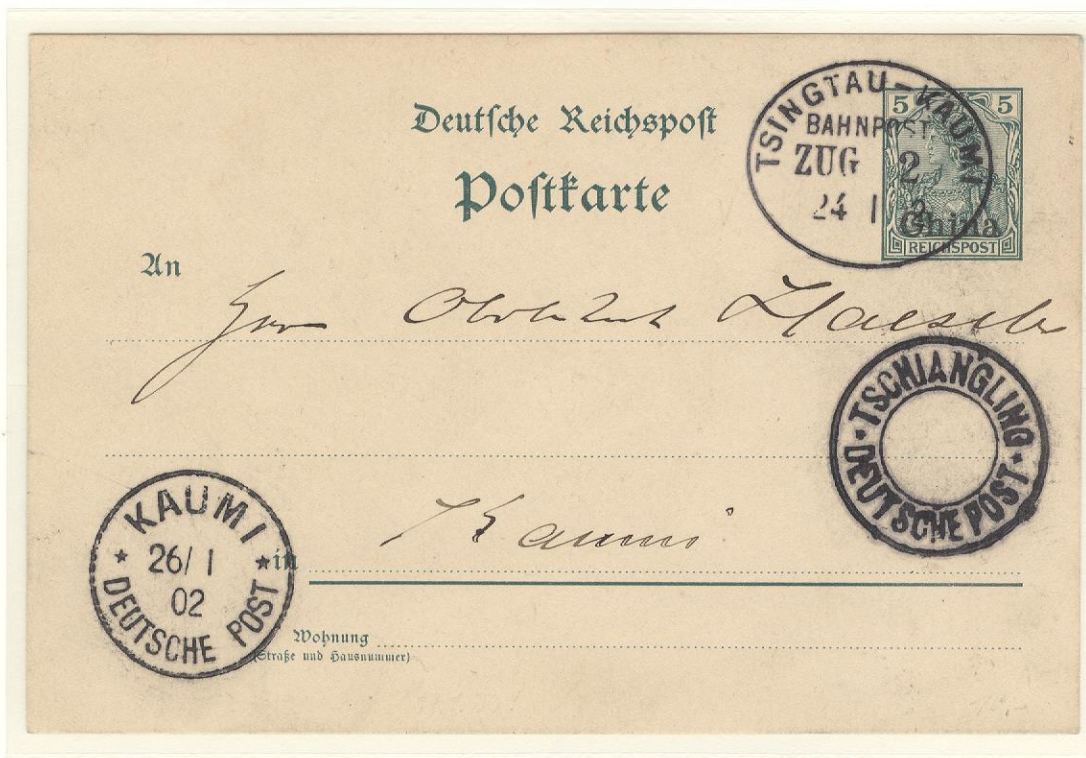
USAGE  
 24 January -  
 1 June 1902

**24 JANUARY 1902**

Postal stationery card mailed on-board "Train No. 2" on the Kaumi (eastward) direction route, with supplementary postmark "Tschiangling" and train postmark "Tsingtau-Kaumi" applied at Tschiangling, sent to recipient (general delivery) at Kaumi.

Arrival Postmark:  
 "Kaumi,  
 26 January 1902"

**5 Pfennig..**  
**Postcard-rate for inner-China mail sent between German post offices.**



First day usage of the "Tschiangling" Postmark together on train mail having the "Tsingtau-Kaumi" Train Postmark.

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
Railway Post Offices & Mail

Shantung Railway  
(Shantung Province)  
1902  
Nanliu

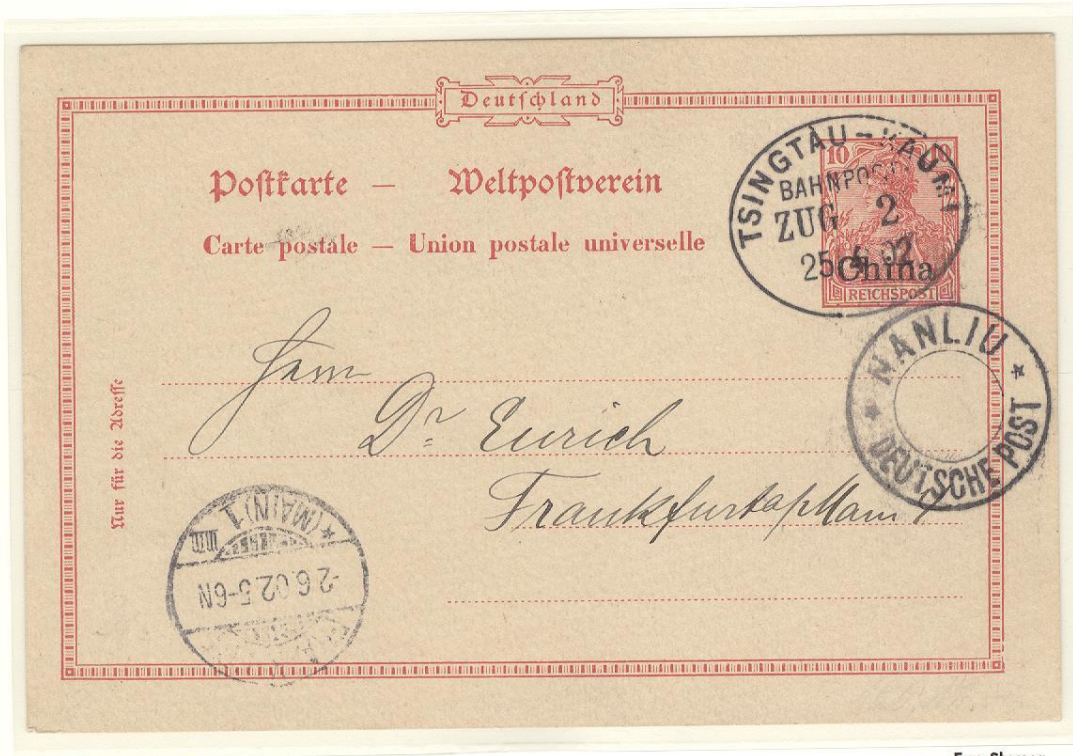
**'NANLIU' WAS THE NEXT POSTAL STATION TO BE OPENED ON THE SHANTUNG RAILWAY LINE AFTER "TSCHIANGLING" where its supplementary postmark was also applied to the train postmark for mail accepted at that German postal station.**



USAGE:  
21 March -  
1 June 1902



USAGE  
24 January -  
1 June 1902



Exp Steuer

25 APRIL 1902

Postal stationery card mailed on-board "Train No. 2" on the Kaumi (eastward) direction route, with supplementary postmark "Nanliu" and train postmark "Tsingtau-Kaumi" applied at Nanliu, sent to Frankfurt, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Frankfurt,  
2 June 1902"

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International Postcard-Rate.

OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL  
Railway Post Offices & Mail

Shantung Railway  
(Shantung Province)  
1903  
Tschingtschoufu

EAST-BOUND MAIL DIRECTION 'TSINGTAU'  
(KIAUTSCHOU PROTECTORATE TERRITORY)



USAGE:  
15 June -  
31 October 1903



USAGE  
2 June 1902-  
1 November 1904



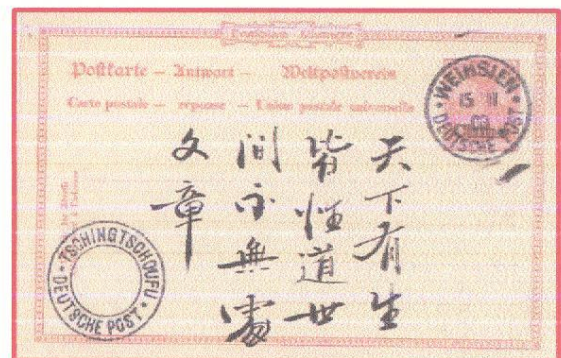
Ex Bothe

15 NOVEMBER 1903

Postal reply-card set, mailed on-board "Train No. 1" on the Weihsien (eastward) direction route, with supplementary "Tschingtschoufu" Postmark & train postmark "Tsingtau-Weihsien" applied at Tschingtschoufu, sent to Weihsien.

Arrival Postmark:  
"Weihsien, 15 November 1903"

10 Pfennig..  
UPU International Postcard-Rate



Response Card .. Weihsien to Tschingtschoufu



OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL  
Railway Post Offices & Mail

Shantung Railway  
(Shantung Province)  
1903  
Tschingtschoufu

EAST-BOUND MAIL TO TSINGTAU  
(KIAUTSCHOU PROTECTORATE TERRITORY)



USAGE:  
15 June -  
31 October 1903



USAGE  
2 June 1902-  
1 November 1904



Exp Kilian

3 SEPTEMBER 1903

Cover mailed on-board "Train No. 1"  
on the Tsingtau (eastward) direction route, with  
supplementary "Tschingtschoufu" Postmark  
and train postmark "Tsingtau-Weihsien"  
applied at Tschingtschoufu, sent to Tsingtau  
(general delivery).

Arrival Postmark:  
(Reverse)  
"Tsingtau, Kiautschou,  
4 September 1903"

10 Pfennig..  
Single-weight (20 grams) letter-rate sent  
between German Post Offices in China



**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Railway Post Offices & Mail**

**Shantung Railway**  
**(Shantung Province)**  
**1904-1914**  
**Tsinanfu**

**"TSINANFU" WAS THE CAPITAL OF THE SHANTUNG (SCHANTUNG) PROVINCE, AN IMPORTANT RAILWAY JUNCTION AT THE END OF THE SHANTUNG RAILWAY AND INTERSECTION WITH THE PUKOW-TIENTSIN RAILWAY, WITH AN ESTABLISHED GERMAN POST OFFICE.**

**On 1 October 1905, a monetary change from Marks/Pfennigs to Mexican Dollars/Cents took effect in China resulting in German postage being overprinted in "Dollars" or "Cents".**



**USAGE:**  
 1 November 1904 –  
 23 August 1914



27 February 1906



**USAGE:**  
 1 November 1904 –  
 23 August 1914



7 February 1906  
 Exp Bothe

**17 APRIL 1912**

Postal stationery card,  
 postmarked on  
 "Train 2" of the  
 Tsingtau-  
 Tsinanfu Line,  
 routed "Via  
 Siberia" to  
 Rastatt, Baden,  
 Germany.

**2 Cents...**  
**German**  
**domestic**  
**postcard-rate**  
**valid**  
**1 July 1908 –**  
**9. September**  
**1915.**



**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**German Seapost**

*Ost-Asiatische Linie*  
 (East Asiatic Line)

The German 'East-Asiatic Main Line' serviced routes to Germany using a variety of ships. After 1900, 'The East Asiatic Line' operated ...  
**EACH LINE HAVING DIFFERENT LETTER-INDICATORS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SHIP POSTMARKS DESIGNATING THE VESSEL APPLICABLE DURING A SPECIFIC TIME PERIOD.**



**EAST ASIATIC MAIN LINE**

**28 JUNE 1902**  
 (Postmark 'f' = "Prinzregent Luitpold")

Cover, mailed & postmarked aboard ship, sent to Berlin-Charlottenburg, Germany.

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse)  
 "Charlottenburg, 30 June 1902"

**20 Pfennig.. UPU International Single-Weight (15 grams) Letter-Rate.**



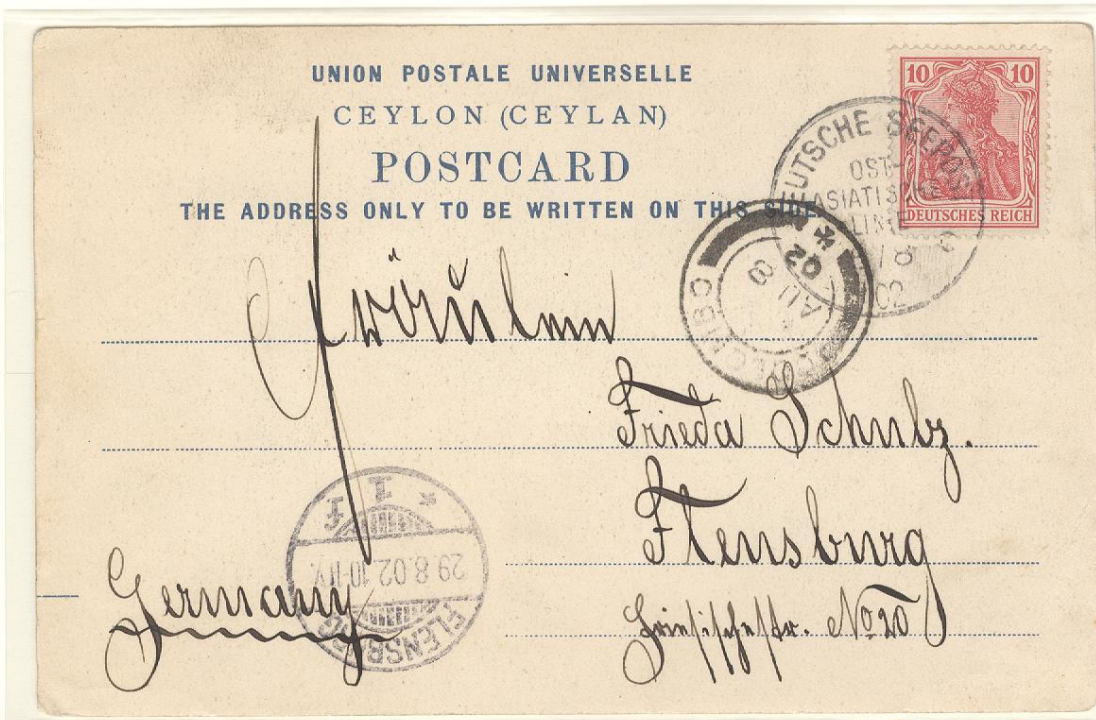
**EAST ASIATIC LINE**

**9 AUGUST 1902**  
 (Postmark 'c' = "Princess Irene")

View-card of Ceylon, postmarked & mailed aboard ship, sent to Flensburg, Germany.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
 "Columbo, 8 August 1902"  
 "Flensburg, 29 August 1902"

**10 Pfennig.. UPU International Postcard-Rate**



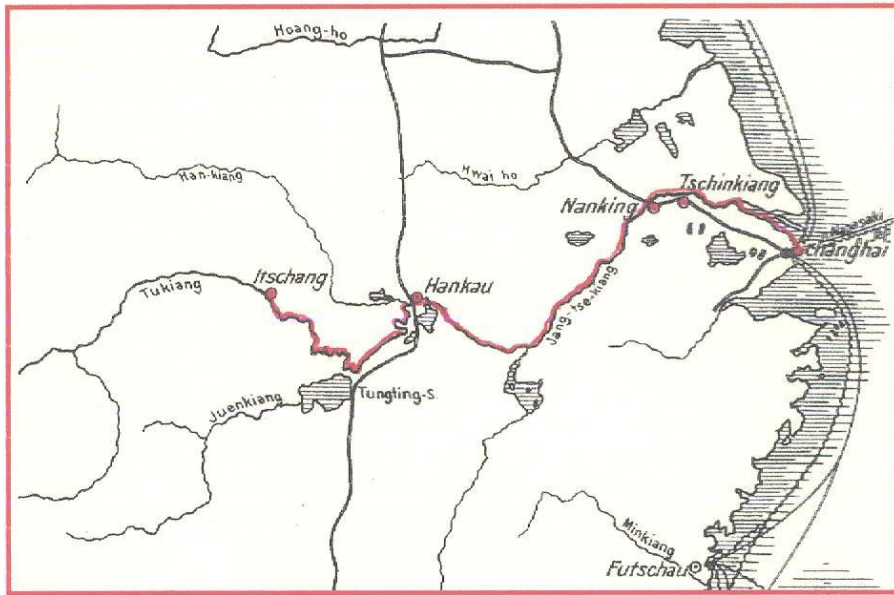
# OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL

## River Fleet Postmarks

### Yangtze River Line

Significant German commercial interests along the Yangtze River Valley motivated German investment to develop passenger & freight shipping on the river, China's largest, with river vessel service commencing in 1900 extending from Shanghai in the east to Itschang in the west.

**GERMAN POSTAL SERVICE WAS AVAILABLE ON EACH SHIP OF THE FIVE-VESSEL RIVER FLEET WITH POST OFFICES ALSO OPENING AT CITIES ALONG THE RIVER.**



THE YANGTZE RIVER FLEET CONSISTED OF FIVE VESSELS SERVICING MAIL BETWEEN 1903-1912 WITH EACH VESSEL HAVING ITS OWN DEDICATED POSTMARK.

VESSEL	POSTMARK	USAGE PERIOD
SUI-TAI	Un-coded	13 July 1903 - November 1906
MAI-DAH	"a"	19 October 1903 - 5 November 1912
SUI-AN	"b"	25 June 1903 - November 1906
MEI-SHUN	"c"	3 June 1903 - January 1912
MEI-LEE	"d"	29 September 1903 - November 1911



Un-coded 22 May 1906

'a' 16 December 1903

'c' 25 November 1903

'd' 5 May 1907

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Yangtze River Line**

Registered & Inner-China Mail

**REGISTERED MAIL WAS POSSIBLE**  
on any one of the five Yangtze River Line vessels, where vessel  
post offices affixed a registration label from a selected German  
post office on the route, as applicable,  
**WITH SUCH MAIL FIRST BEING PROCESSED AT A GERMAN POST**  
**OFFICE ON THE ROUTE,**  
where a transit postmark would be applied.



**MEI-LEE**  
29 September 1903 –  
November 1911

9 MAY 1910

Registered cover  
postmarked aboard the  
**MEI-LEE Steamer,**  
processed at the German  
Post Office at Hankau  
(transit postmark applied),  
sent to Berlin-  
Charlottenburg.  
20-day transit time ..  
'Via Siberia' Route.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
"Hankau, 12 May 1910"  
(Reverse)  
"Berlin-Charlottenburg,  
29 May 1910"

14 Cents..  
4 Cents.. Single-weight  
(20 grams) colonial letter-rate  
to Germany +  
10 Cents.. Registration fee



Ex Mizuhara

14 MAY 1904

View-card (Wuhu),  
postmarked  
aboard the **MEI-LEE**  
**Steamer,**  
processed at the  
German Post  
Office, sent to  
Shanghai.  
2-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival  
Postmark:  
"Shanghai,  
16 May 1904"

5 Pfennig ..  
Postcard-rate for  
mail sent between  
German Post  
Offices in China.



# OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL

Yangtze River Line

Un-coded Postmark

(Steamer: "Sui-Tai")

Postmarks for the Yangtze River Fleet consisted of (1) un-coded and (4) coded versions ... one dedicated to each vessel.



USAGE: 13 July 1903 – November 1906



Exp. Steuer

--- MARCH 1905

Cover postmarked aboard the **SUI-TAI Steamer**, sent to Leipzig-Neuschönfeld, Germany. Approx. 20-day transit time .. 'Via Siberia' Route.

Arrival & Delivery Postmarks:  
(Reverse)

"Leipzig-Neuschönfeld  
8 April 1905, 7-8 AM"

"(Leipzig) L13,  
8 April (1905), 4-5 AM"

20 Pfennig..

Single-weight (15 grams) UPU International Letter-Rate

**OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL**  
**Military Mail Through the German Post Office in China**  
**East Asiatic Occupation Brigade**

1 September 1901 – 30 June 1906  
 Coastal Seapost

**COASTAL VESSEL 'SECRETARY OF STATE KRAETKE'**  
 May 1901 – February 1914

**AN INCREASE IN MAIL VOLUME,**  
 shortly before and during the military  
 campaign of 1900-1901 in North China,  
**SUPPORTED THE NEED FOR AND**  
**INTRODUCTION OF SEA-POST MAIL .**

Ships sailed between the coastal cities  
 of *Shanghai* and *Tientsin* (Port at  
*Tongku*) by way of *Tsingtau*  
 (*Kiautschou*), *Tschifu* and,  
 occasionally, *Tschinwangtau*, &  
*Schanhaikwan*.

After cessation of the military  
 campaign of 1900-1901, service was  
 limited to *Shanghai-Tsingtau-Tschifu-*  
*Tongku (Tientsin)*.



USAGE:  
 May 1901 – February 1914



23 SEPTEMBER 1909

'Via Siberia' routed cover, sent by a naval lieutenant, based  
 at *Tsingtau, Kiautschou*, to his father, "General Danzer" at  
*Ulm, Württemberg, Germany*.

4 Cents ..  
 Single-weight (20 grams) colonial letter-rate for mail sent to Germany.



OCCUPATION PERIOD MAIL  
Shanghai-Tientsin Seapost Mail

Coastal Seapost

COASTAL VESSEL 'SIKIANG'  
June 1901 – 13 August 1913

Each coastal vessel having a post office,  
received a postmark with a dedicated code  
dedicated to that ship.

The postmark code for the '*Sikiang*' was '*c*',  
as illustrated.



USAGE:  
June 1901 – 13 August 1913



14 NOVEMBER 1906

So-called "Mandarin"  
cover, mailed aboard the '*Sikiang*', sent to  
*Tsingtau, Kiautschou*.  
2-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival  
Postmarks:  
(reverse)

"*Tsingtau, Kiautschou*,  
16 November 1906"

"*Tsingtau-Tapautau*,  
*Kiautschou*,  
16 November 1906"

8 Cents ..  
Second-weight level  
(20-250 grams) letter-rate  
for mail sent between  
German Post Offices  
in China.



END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

World War I Mail

1914 .. Tientsin, China

In-Transit Censored Mail

IN-TRANSIT MAIL SENT FROM TIENTSIN, CHINA, ON 29 JULY 1914, aboard 'Train XII', was scheduled to arrive at Moscow on 7 August but INTERCEPTED SOMEWHERE ON ROUTE ON/ABOUT 1 AUGUST, HELD, CENSORED BY RUSSIAN AUTHORITIES & EVENTUALLY RETURNED TO THE POST OFFICE OF ORIGIN, whereupon it was routed to America through the American Post Office at Shanghai (routing.. Pacific Mail Steamship Company .. Shanghai-San Francisco - overland to New York - Hamburg-America Line to Germany.



"Permitted by the Censor"



TIENTSIN-ORIGIN MAIL TO GERMANY

27 JULY 1914

Cover, postmarked at Tientsin, China, with route endorsement "Via Siberia"

to Berlin, Germany, with interception on 1 August, held, censored and returned to Tientsin by the Russian authorities, forwarded to Shanghai where "Marinebrief" = "Naval Mail" cachet hand-stamp was applied before routing through the American Post Office to America & Germany.

Route:

Tientsin-Changchun-Harbin-Irkutsk ... intercepted

4 Cents...

Single-weight (20 grams) colonial letter-rate for mail sent to Germany.

END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA  
World War I Mail

1914 .. Shanghai to Germany  
(by German-Flag Vessel)

With movement of mail over the trans-Siberian rail network no longer possible,  
**THE GERMAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION IN CHINA AT SHANGHAI ATTEMPTED TO  
MOVE ITS GERMANY-BOUND MAIL BY GERMAN-FLAG VESSELS**  
before establishment of British sea route blockades  
along with high-sea inspections of any & all vessels.



Cert. Steuer

1914 REGISTERED CHINA-ORIGIN GERMANY-BOUND MAIL

27 AUGUST 1914

Registered cover, postmarked at Shanghai, routed by sea aboard  
a German-flag vessel around the Cape of Africa  
(Suez Canal was closed for such vessels).  
57-day transit time.

Arrival in Germany:  
(Reverse)  
"Bad Münster, 23 October 1914"

14 Cents...  
4 Cents.. Single-weight (20 grams) German colonial letter-rate  
for mail sent to Germany  
+ 10 Cents... registration fee.

MAIL SENT BETWEEN GERMAN POST OFFICES



6 DECEMBER 1914

Cover,  
postmarked at Tsinanfu, sent to the  
"German School at the Imperial German Legation"  
at Peking.

Single-weight (20 grams) letter-rate  
for domestic mail sent in China  
(between German Post Offices) .

Arrival Postmark:  
"Peking,  
7 December 1914"

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
**World War I Mail**

**1915 .. China-Germany**  
**(by Neutral-Flag Vessel)**

Prior to completion of a fully effective British blockade of sea-routes regarding German & allied-country mail from China to Europe,  
**EARLY WARTIME MAIL FROM CHINA WAS ROUTED BY NEUTRAL-FLAG VESSEL TO EUROPE.**

**STANDARD LETTER MAIL**

**1 NOVEMBER 1915**

Cover, postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Munich, Germany.

**10 Cents.. UPU International Single-Weight (20 grams) letter-rate to Germany, effective September 1915.**



**REGISTERED COMMERCIAL MAIL**

**16 FEBRUARY 1915**

Registered cover, postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Lauban, Germany. 53-day wartime transit time.

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse)  
 "Lauban, 10 April 1915"

**14 Cents... 4 Cents.. Single-weight (20 grams) colonial letter-rate for mail sent to Germany, until September 1915. + 10 Cents.. Registration fee**

律師 貝薩德 天津

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
**World War I Mail**

**1915 .. China-Austria Hungary**  
**('Via America' Routed Mail)**

As long as the United States of America remained neutral during  
World War I,  
**EARLY WARTIME MAIL FROM CHINA TO AUSTRIA OR GERMANY WAS  
ROUTED 'VIA AMERICA'**  
by way of the American Post Office at Shanghai using the 'Pacific Mail  
Steamship Company' .. Shanghai-San Francisco, overland to New York,  
'Hamburg-America Line' to Germany.



**EARLY REGISTERED MAIL SENT FROM THE  
'ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATION FOR GERMAN & AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN PRISONERS-OF-WAR'**

**22 MAY 1915**

**Registered cover, postmarked at Tientsin, sent to  
Bochnanec, Austria-Hungary**

**Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Reverse)**

**"27 May 1915: United States Postal Agency Shanghai"**

**"25 June 1915: New York Registry Division Arrival"**

**Arrival Postmark at Destination Unreadable**

**20 Cents...  
10 Cents.. UPU Single-weight  
(20 grams) International Letter-Rate  
+ 10 Cents.. Registration fee**

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
**World War I Mail**

**1915 .. Internee Mail**  
**"S90 Incident"**

Upon outbreak of war in August 1914, German Torpedo Boat "S90" was located at Tsingtau, Kiautschou. Upon attack and naval blockade of the Kiautschou Territory by Japanese Forces in the summer of 1914, "S90" successfully broke through the blockade by sinking the Japanese Cruiser "Takachino" successfully fleeing to Chinese territory, where Captain Brunner of the "S90" ran the ship aground and scuttled her.

The ship's officers and crew of fifty-five were subsequently interned by the Chinese at Nanking on the Yangtze River.

**MAIL SENT BY THE "S90" INTERNEES WAS POSTMARKED BY THE GERMAN POST OFFICE AT NANKING BUT WAS ROUTED THROUGH THE NETHERLANDS' INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS.**



Exp. Willmann

**INTERNEE MAIL THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS**

**12 DECEMBER 1915**

**Free-frank Internee Mail, postmarked at Nanking, routed through the Netherlands' Red Cross, to Wilhelmshaven, Germany**

**Cachet Handstamp:**  
**"Service des Prisonniers de Guerre"**  
**("Service Mail for Prisoners-of-War")**



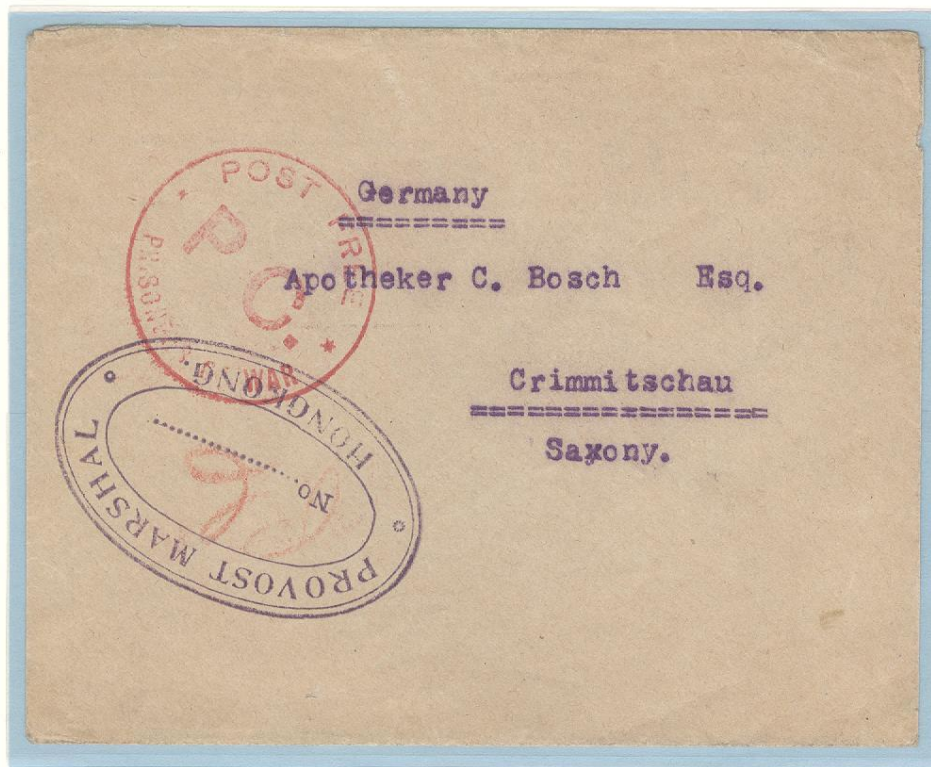
END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA  
World War I Mail

1915 .. Hong Kong-Germany  
(Prisoner-of-War Mail)

GERMAN PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL  
'HUNGHOM' CAMP  
HONG KONG

Upon the capitulation of Kiautschou to Japanese Forces on 7 November 1914, seventy-six heavily-wounded German & Austrian prisoners-of-war, not transferred to camps in Japan, were transferred by ship to the British P.O.W. Camp at *Hunghom* in Hong Kong mid-February 1915, where they remained with interned Hong-Kong-Germans and German sailors from commercial vessels until all were moved to camps in Australia on 17 January 1916.

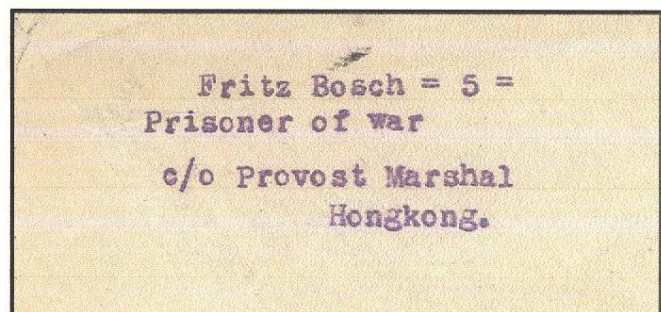
INCOMING AND OUTGOING MAIL TO/FROM THE HUNGHAM CAMP AT HONG KONG WAS  
CENSORED BY THE PROVOST MARCHAL'S OFFICE.



1915

Prisoner's cover, cachet-postmarked  
"Post Free .. Prisoner of War"  
and (purple-ink) censored  
"Provost Marshal Hong Kong",  
sent to  
Crimmitschau, Saxony, Germany.

One of two known examples.



Reverse

Fritz Bosch:  
German-national & garden landscape technician interned at Hong Kong  
and transferred to an Australian camp in 1916.

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
World War I Mail

1916 .. China-Germany  
(by Neutral-Flag Vessel)

Once the British blockade of the sea routes for German shipping was established, British naval vessels stopped & boarded neutral-flag ships and to confiscate any German or allied country mail found aboard.  
**CONFISCATED MAIL WAS CENSORED, SEALED AND RELEASED FOR LATER DELIVERY.**

**BRITISH CONFISCATED. CENSORED & RELEASED MAIL**

**RE-DIRECTED MAIL**

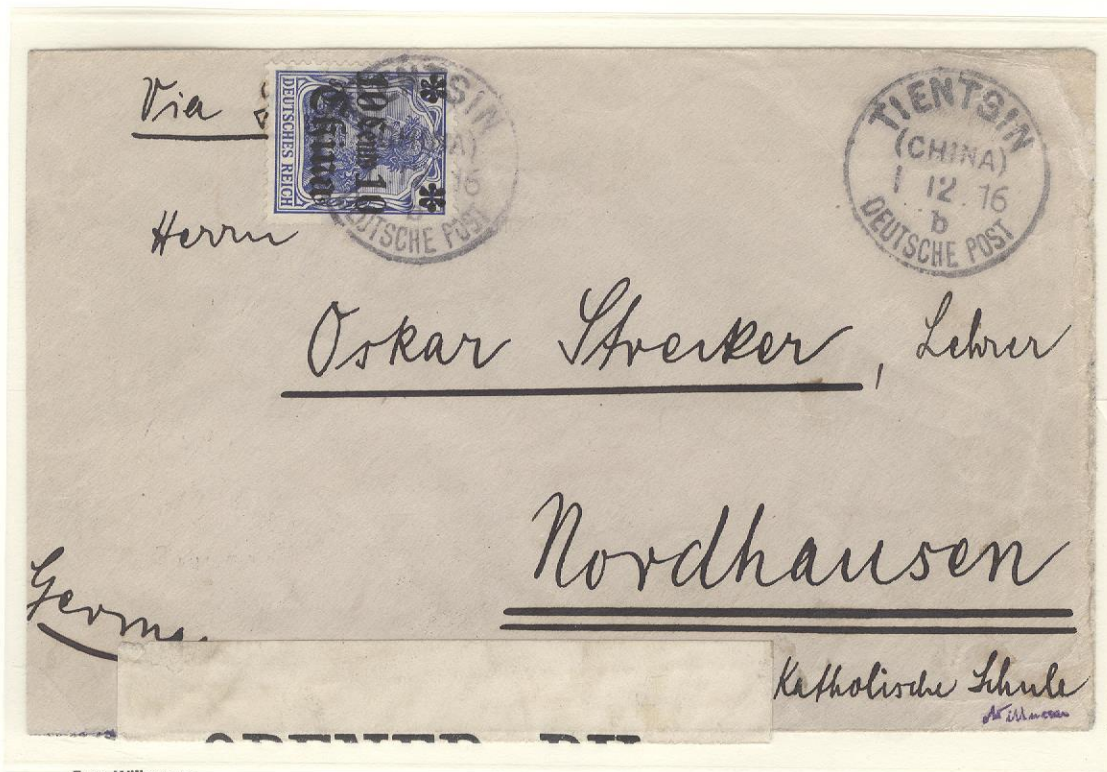
20 APRIL 1916

Cover, postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Hamburg and re-directed to Karwedel, Germany.

10 Cents..  
(4 Cents franking on reverse)  
UPU  
International Single-Weight Letter-Rate to Germany, effective September 1915.



Exp. Bothe / Cert. Steuer



Exp. Willmann

**EDUCATOR'S MAIL**

1 DECEMBER 1916

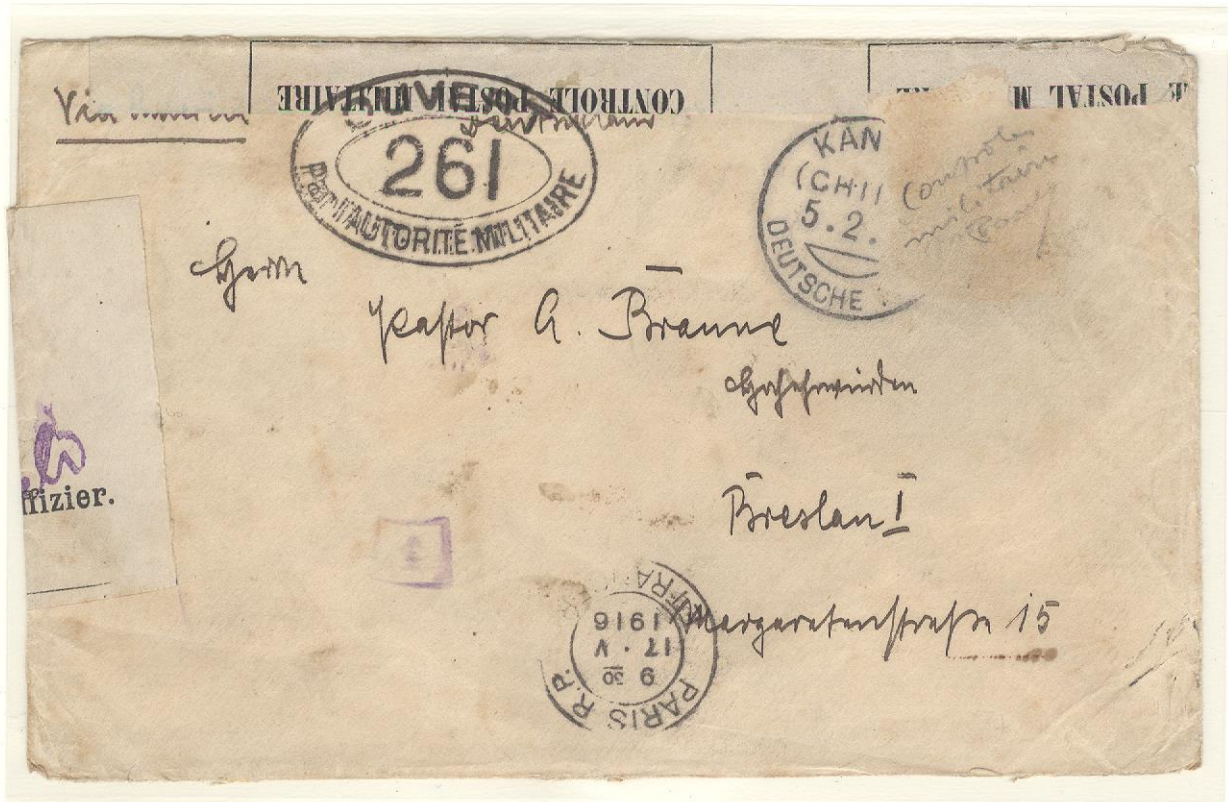
Cover, postmarked at Tientsin, sent to Nordhausen, Germany.

10 Cents...  
UPU International Single-Weight (20 grams) Letter-Rate to Germany, effective September 1915.

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
World War I Mail

**1916 .. China-America-France-  
Germany Mail**

**DOUBLE MILITARY CENSORED (FRENCH & GERMAN)  
MISSIONARY MAIL TO GERMANY**

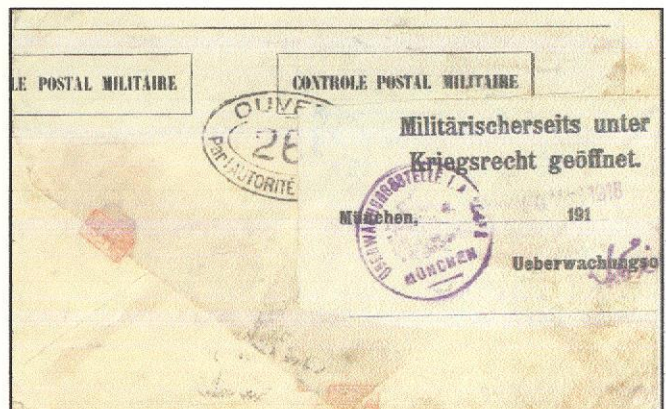


**5 FEBRUARY 1916**

Sealed missionary-mail cover,  
postmarked at Kanton, endorsed "Via America",  
sent to Breslau, Germany,  
arrival at Paris 17 May 1916,  
**inspected & sealed with removal by French Censor  
of postage stamp  
(censor-endorsed),  
inspection & resealing  
by German military censor at Munich,  
20 May 1916,  
with subsequent forwarding to Breslau.**

**106 day transit time & release at Munich.**

**10 Cents...  
10 Cents.. UPU Single-Weight (20 grams)  
International Letter-Rate**



Reverse

END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA  
World War I Mail

1916 .. China-America

COMMERCIAL MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



14 AUGUST 1916

Registered cover, from "Melchers & Company",  
postmarked at Tientsin, sent to  
New York City.

10 Cents...  
UPU Single-Weight (20 grams) International Letter-Rate

END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

World War I Mail

1916 .. Tientsin-Germany

P.O.W. Assistance Mail

("Via America" Route)

The German Community's welfare & support organization at Tientsin communicated information concerning a prisoner's name, physical-condition & location to newspapers in Germany and Austro-Hungary for publishing.

**SUCH MAIL WAS ROUTED 'VIA AMERICA' AS LONG AS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REMAINED NEUTRAL.**



PRISONER-OF-WAR INFORMATION FOR PUBLICATION IN GERMANY

10 FEBRUARY 1916

Registered free-frank mail,  
postmarked at Tientsin,  
routed 'Via America',  
sent to the "Wormser Zeitung"  
("City of Worms Newspaper"),  
with German-censorship at Emmerich.  
126-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Reverse)

"Shanghai, US Postal Agency, 16 February 1916"  
"New York, 16 March 1916"  
"Worms, 16 June 1916"

END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA  
World War I Mail

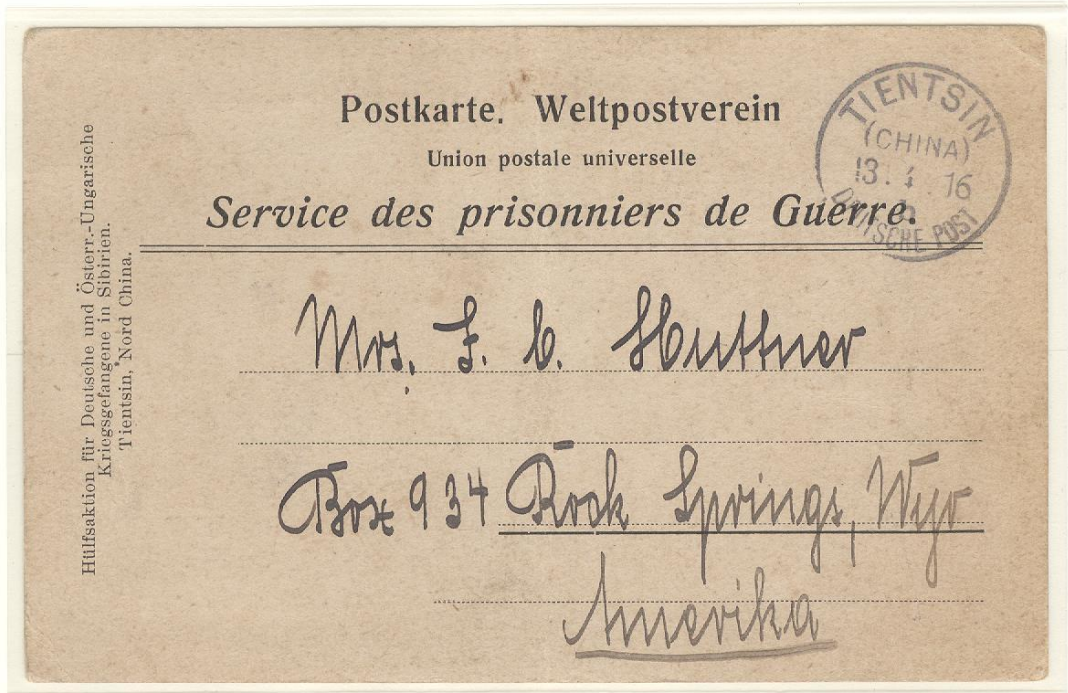
1916 .. Tientsin-Germany  
P.O.W. Assistance Mail

MAIL WAS SENT TO AMERICA  
AS LONG AS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REMAINED  
NEUTRAL .. UNTIL MARCH 1917.

DESTINATION 'UNITED STATES OF AMERICA' MAIL

13 APRIL 1916

Free-frank, UPU  
Acknowledgement-of-  
Receipt-of-Mail  
Postcard,  
postmarked at  
Tientsin,  
sent to  
Rock Springs,  
Wyoming.



2 DECEMBER  
1916

Registered  
(red marking)  
free-frank  
cover,  
postmarked at  
Tientsin,  
sent to  
New York City.  
41-day transit  
time.

Transit & Arrival  
Postmarks:  
(Reverse)

...  
"Shanghai,  
US Postal  
Agency,  
15 December  
1916"  
"New York,  
12 January  
1917"

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
**World War I Mail**

1916 .. Tientsin  
**P.O.W. Assistance Mail**

In support of German and Austro-Hungarian Prisoners-of-War in Siberia,  
**THE GERMAN COMMUNITY IN NORTH CHINA ESTABLISHED A WELFARE & SUPPORT ORGANIZATION**  
("Hilfsaktion für Deutsche und Österreich/Ungarische Gefangene in Sibirien")  
located at Tientsin, which **SENT WELFARE-ASSISTANCE**  
in form of money, mail, books, etc., to the prisoners  
**THROUGH THE RUSSIAN POST OFFICE IN CHINA.**



**MONEY TRANSFER MAIL TO A PRISONER-OF-WAR IN SIBERIA**

**24 NOVEMBER 1916**

(7 December 1916 – Gregorian Calendar)

Cover reverse of a registered insured money letter (18 grams),  
postmarked at the Russian Post Office at Tientsin,  
Forwarded through the Japanese Post Office to the Russian rail transfer point  
sent to a prisoner-of-war at Krasnoyarsk, Siberia. 15-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:

"Tientsin, I.J.P.O., 8 December 1916"

"Krasnoyarsk, 9 December 1916"

(21 December 1916 = Gregorian Calendar)

**36 Cents..**

**10 Cents.. Single weight (20 grams) letter-rate**

**+ 10 cents. Registration fee**

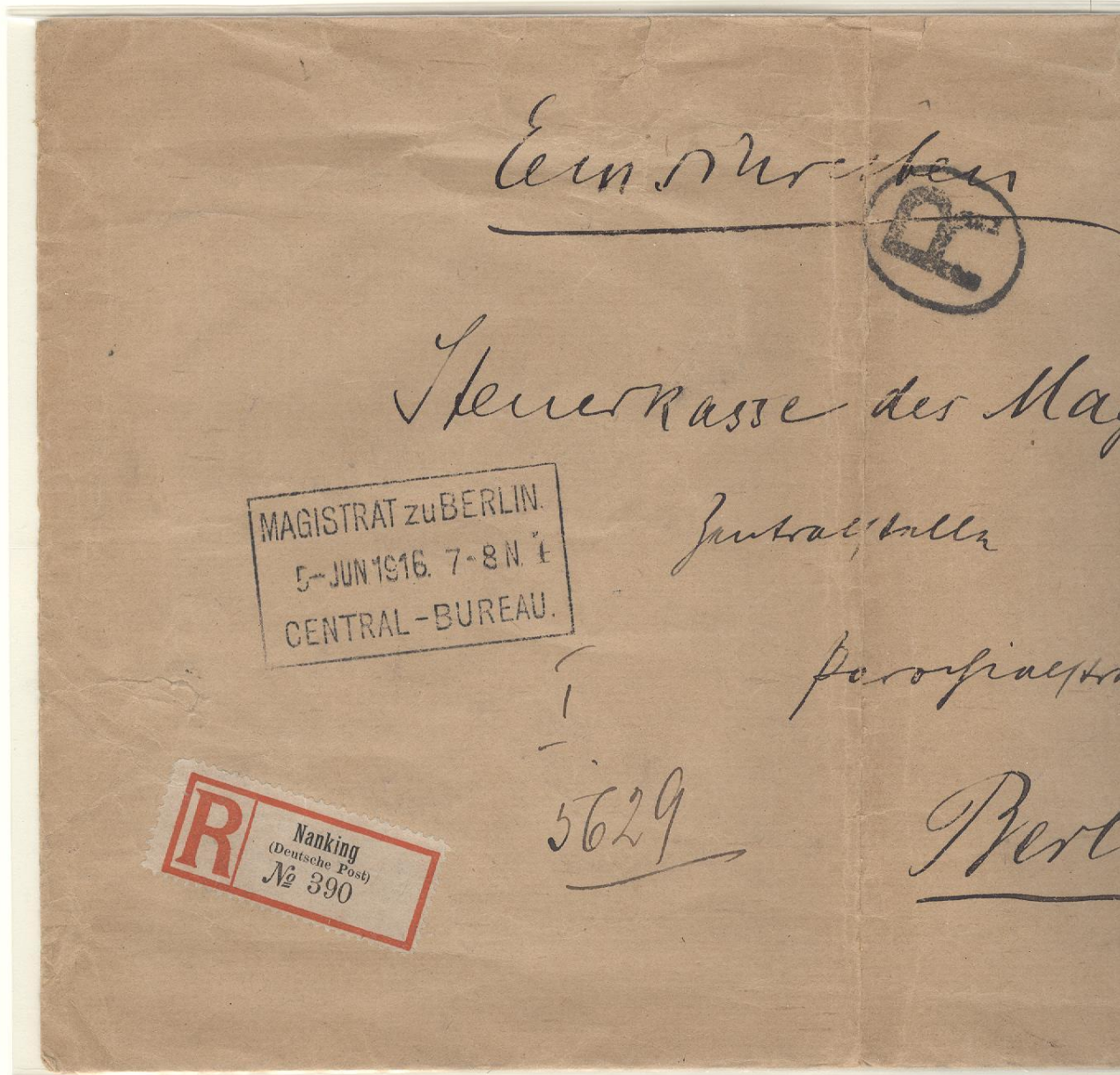
**+10 Cents.. Insured/10 Cents for each 112.50 Rubles**

**+ 6 Cents.. Unexplained Franking**

END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA

World War I Mail

AMERICAN-CENSORED REGISTERED WARTIME MAIL  
NANKING-BERLIN



16 FEBRUARY 1916

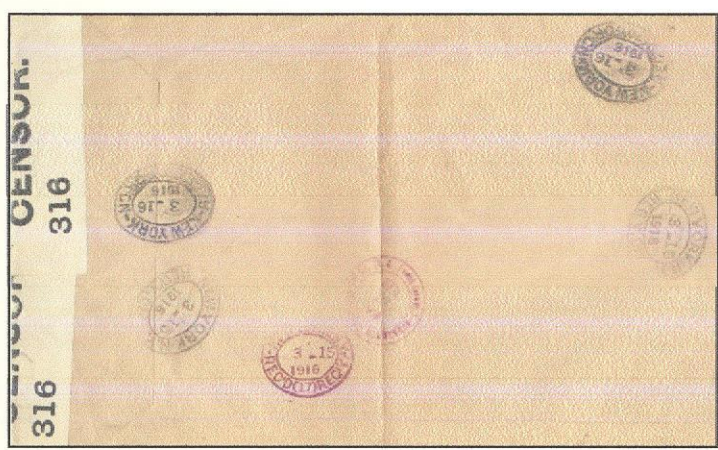
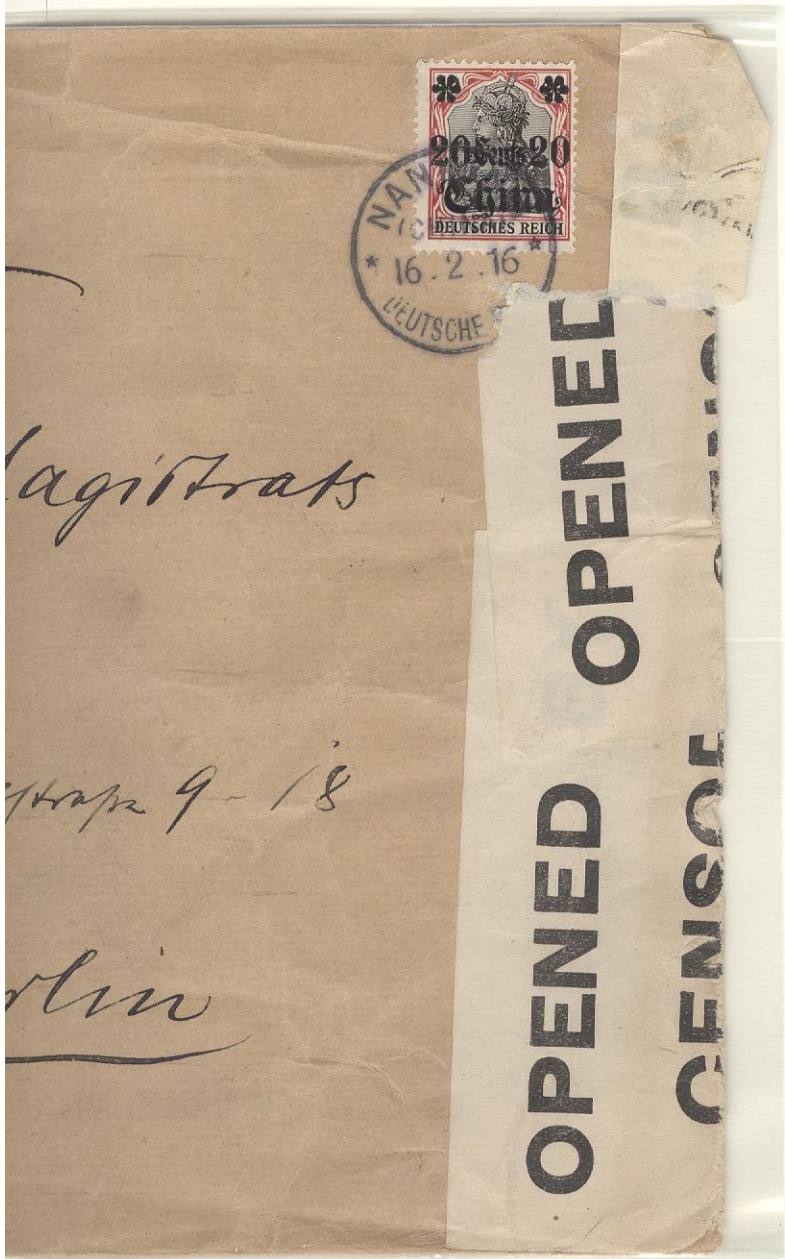
Registered cover, postmarked at Nanking,  
censored & re-sealed in America,  
sent to the City Tax Office, Berlin.  
109-day transit time.

Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Reverse)

- "17 February 1916: American Post Office at Shanghai"
- "15 March 1916: New York City Registry Office"
- "16 March 1916: New York City Foreign Mail Office"
- "5 June 1916: Berlin Magistrate's Office"



1916 .. Nanking-Germany  
"Via America" Censored Mail



Reverse

20 Cents...  
10 Cents.. UPU Single-Weight (20 grams) International Letter-Rate  
+ 10 Cents.. Registration fee

END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA  
World War I Mail

1917 .. Germany-China  
("Via Submarine" Mail)

In an effort to keep strategic commerce alive between Germany and the United States of America, on 8 November 1915 the 'German Ocean Navigation Company' (*Deutsche Ozean-Reederei*) was founded. Two submarines were built to carry cargo and mail: "*Deutschland*" & "*Bremen*".

The "*Deutschland*" had two successful voyages in 1916 with a third planned, but canceled because of the worsening political climate between Germany and the United States in early 1917.  
**ANY MAIL TO BE TRANSPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES WAS RETURNED TO SENDER.**

The "*Bremen*" was lost at sea on 26 August 1916 on her maiden voyage.



3 JANUARY 1917

Cover, postmarked at Hamburg, Germany, endorsed "*Tauchbootbrief*" (submarine letter) along with routing mark "*Via San Francisco*" sent to Shanghai.

Because of cancellation of the third voyage of the "*Deutschland*", the mail was returned to the sender.

Return Cachet Marking & Postmark:  
"ZURÜCK  
Wegen Einstellung des Tauchboot-  
briefverkehrs zurück an Absender"

"Bremen 1, T.B. D.O.R. 16 January 1917"

20 Pfennig..  
UPU Single-Weight (20 grams) International Letter-Rate.

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
**World War I Mail**

1917 .. China-Germany  
 ('Via America' Returned Mail)

Upon cessation of diplomatic relations between the United States of America & Germany on 3 February 1917, mail services to/from Germany were suspended with any transit mail **INSPECTED, SEALED AND "RETURNED TO SENDER"**



17 FEBRUARY 1917

Registered commercial cover, postmarked at Tientsin, routed "Via America", sent to Berlin.

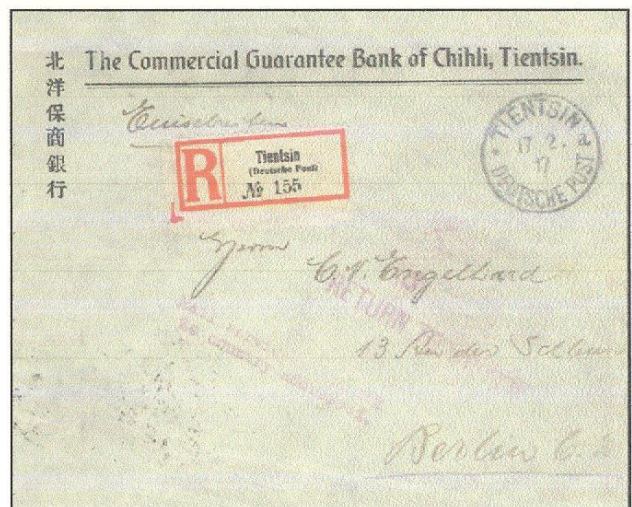
Upon arrival at New York, mail was inspected & returned to China (mail to Germany suspended), where, upon arrival at Tientsin/Chinese Post Office, China had already closed all German Post Offices with mail being opened, censored & resealed before being returned to the sender.

Transit & Arrival Postmark:  
 (Reverse)

- "21 February 1917, American Post Office at Shanghai"
- "30 March 1917, New York Registry Office"
- "14 November 1917, Tientsin" (Chinese Post Office)
- "19 November 1917, Tientsin" (Chinese Post Office)

20 Cents...

10 Cents.. UPU Single-weight (20 grams) International Letter-Rate + 10 Cents.. Registration fee



Front

Ex West

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
World War I Mail

1917 .. Sweden-China  
("Via Siberia" Neutral-Country Mail)

Despite Sweden being neutral in World War I,  
mail from/to China was Russian-censored &  
**DELAYED AS A RESULT OF THE RUSSIAN CIVIL CONDITIONS,**  
where a "Soviet Republic" was proclaimed by V. Lenin & L. Trotsky  
on 8 November 1917,  
**WITH SUBSEQUENT CIVIL HOSTILITIES.**



**1917-1918 RUSSIAN-CENSORED & DELAYED MAIL FROM SWEDEN TO CHINA**

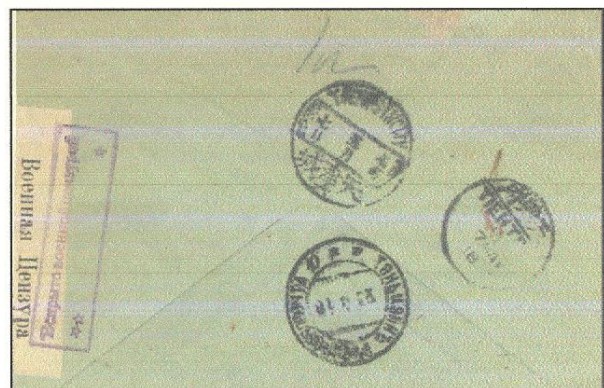
11 JUNE 1917

Registered cover, postmarked at Stockholm, Sweden,  
routing St. Petersburg & "Via Siberia",  
to Tientsin, by way of the  
Russian & Chinese Post Offices in China.

Origin, Transit & Arrival Postmarks:  
(Front & Reverse)

- "11 June 1917, Stockholm, Sweden"
- "23 April 1918, Tientsin" (Russian Post Office)
- "7 May 1918, Tientsin" (Chinese Post Office)

35 Ore...  
20 Ore.. UPU Single-Weight (20 grams) International  
Letter-Rate  
+ 15 Ore.. Registration fee



Reverse

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
**World War I Mail**

**16 March 1917**  
 (Closure of German Post Offices)

On 14 March 1917, China broke diplomatic relations with Germany,  
**RESULTING IN ALL GERMAN POST OFFICES IN CHINA**  
**HAVING TO CLOSE ON/BY 16 MARCH 1917.**  
 The German Post Office at Peking closed on 15 March 1917  
 while all others closed on 16 March 1917.



16 March 1917

Last Day Postmark



1917 RETURNED MAIL TO SENDER

26 JANUARY 1917

View-card, postmarked at Varel, Germany, sent to Tientsin.

Because of cessation of mail transit through the United States of America to China,  
 German-origin mail was cachet hand-stamped and returned to sender:

**"Zurück/Keine Verbindung"**  
 ("Return/No Connection")

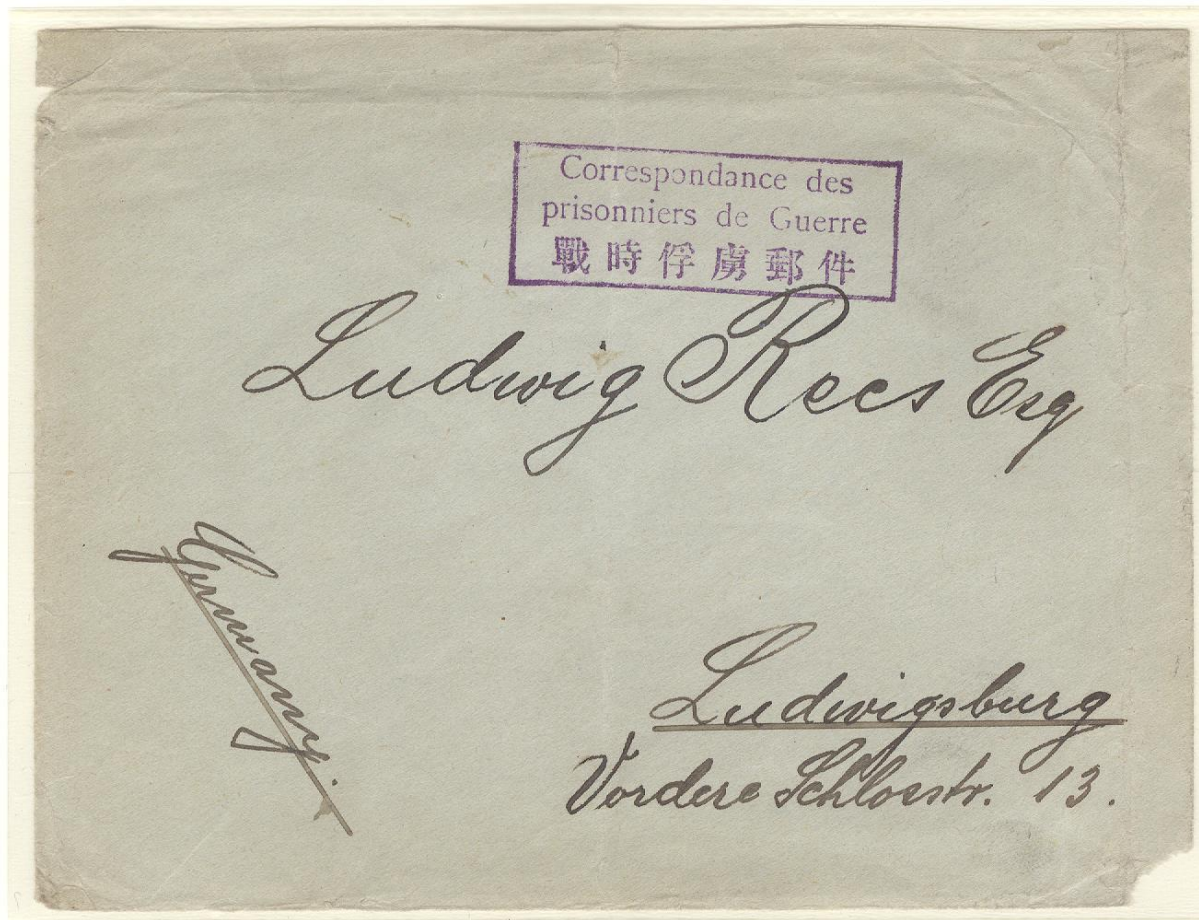
15 Pfennig...  
 10 Pfennig.. UPU International Postcard-Rate  
 + 5 Pfennig.. German Wartime Tax Surcharge

**END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA**  
World War I Mail

1917 .. China-Germany  
(Prisoner-of-War Mail)

Soon after the Chinese Government's closure of German Post Offices in China, a Chinese declaration of war against Germany & Austria-Hungary took effect on 14 August 1917, whereupon remaining military & naval personnel of those countries were interned. The alien population was not interned but was required to register with their local Chinese police, with travel restrictions.

**WITH GERMAN POST OFFICES CLOSED, ALL INTERNMENT-ORIGIN MAIL TO GERMANY OR AUSTRIA-HUNGARY WAS SENT THROUGH THE CHINESE &, NETHERLANDS RED CROSS POSTAL SERVICES.**



**'HAIDIEN INTERNMENT CAMP' (CHINA)**

Location of interned

German Marines & Guards from the Yangtze River Gunboats

1917

Free-frank interned prisoner's cover,  
cachet-postmarked and censor-sealed,  
sent to Ludwigsburg, Germany.

Front:

*"Correspondance des prisonniers de Guerre"*  
(Prisoner-of-War Mail)

Reverse/Censor Seal:

*"Internierungslager Haidien"*  
(Haidien Internment Camp)

Reverse Side Cachet Marking:

*"Netherlands Red Cross Information Office  
Princessegracht 27, The Hague"*



Reverse

END OF GERMAN PRESENCE IN CHINA  
World War I Mail

1917 .. China-Austria  
(Prisoner-of-War Mail)

Similar to German military & naval personnel internments, remaining marines and legation guards of Austria-Hungary were also interned.

ANY MAIL SENT BY THOSE AUSTRIAN-HUNGARIAN PRISONERS-OF-WAR TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY WAS CENSORED & FORWARDED THROUGH THE CHINESE & NETHERLANDS RED CROSS OFFICES.



AUSTRIAN-HUNGARIAN PRISONER-OF-WAR MAIL

1917

Free-frank interned prisoner's view-card mail,  
postmarked at Peking,  
cachet-marked (purple-ink), Chinese-censored,  
sent to Vienna, Austria.

Cachet Hand-Stamp Markings;  
"Correspondance des prisonniers de Guerre"  
(Prisoner-of-War Mail)

"Censored"

