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Netherlands Philately

Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately

Volume 40/5



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NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Magazine of the American Society for
Netherlands Philately; **Volume 40/5**

May 2016

Editor's message

In front of you is our latest magazine containing some important society news. As some of you have noticed the society is going through some transformations and for you as member it is almost time to vote. In this issue new proposed candidates for the elections are announced and we urge anybody else who want to stand for elections to let us know!

I have decided to resign as editor and an explanation for this action can be found later in this magazine. I understand that for some this will come as a shock. However, when you read my resignation letter you will understand why I decided to resign.

Also in this magazine we have several interesting articles and one book review about the Japanese Occupation of the Netherlands East Indies.

As I type this New York 2016 is in full swing and in magazine 40-6 we will look back at this event and our 40th anniversary celebration party.

Enjoy your magazine and all the best from Adelaide,

Alex

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by Paul van Reyen

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Magazine Notes

Our Magazine is the business card of our society. With modern technology available, a full color magazine is warranted.

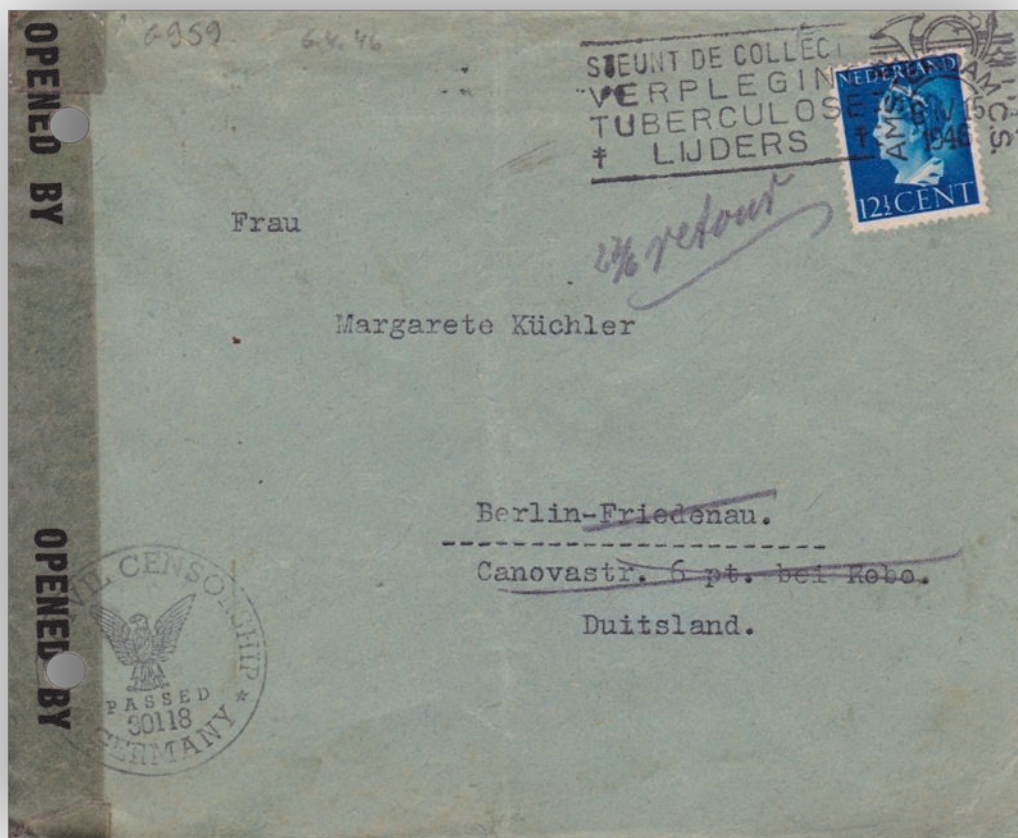
Potential authors are asked to send in full color scans (at 600 dpi) of their illustrations. I would like to receive the text in MS Word. Keep in mind that you clearly state where each illustration belongs in the article.

Contact the Magazine Editor in case of questions.

What a difference a year makes

by Hans Kremer

The cover shown below was described on Ebay as “Netherlands – Cover, 1945, to Germany”.



When I saw “1945” and the “U.S. Civil Censorship Germany” marker I wondered right away if this letter really was sent in 1945. If the date of the cancel was indeed April 6, 1945 it would have been sent to Berlin at the time that the city was under very heavy attack by the Russians. This then this was obviously also before there was a U.S Civil Censorship office in Berlin. So, 1945 did not make much sense.

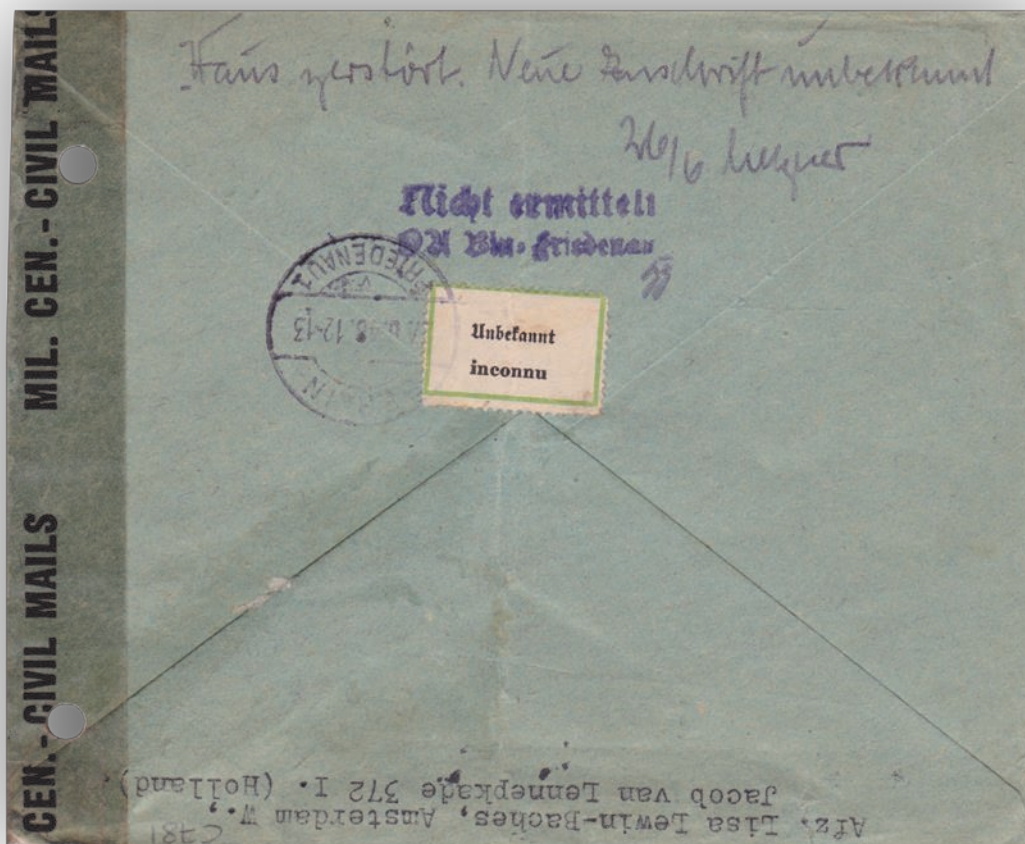
Once I received the cover I enlarged the date of the cancel on the stamp and now one can clearly see that it is 1946, not 1945.

Definite proof came also from the “STEUNT DE COLLECTE / VERPLEGING/ TUBERCULOSE / LIJDERS” part of the date cancel. This particular message was used at the Amsterdam C.S, ‘s Gravenhage, and Rotterdam C.S. postoffices in the Netherlands during the spring of 1946 only.

And what about the 12 ½ cent Wilhelmina stamp. The postal rate for a letter to Germany had been from 12 1/2 cent from November 1, 1928 until January 1, 1942 when it was lowered to 10 cent during WWII, to be raised to 12 ½ cent again on September 23, 1945, so from then on it would take 12 1/2 cent once again for a letter to Germany. If the letter shown here was sent on April 8, 1945 10 cent postage would have been sufficient.

So without a doubt we are dealing with a 1946 cover

Now let's take a look at the back of the envelope. The only clear date marker is the “Berlin Friedenau 1” cancel of June(!) 27, 1946. One can also see a handwritten, signed 26/6 note; “Haus gestört. Neue Anschrift unbekannt” (House destroyed. New address unknown). Not that any effort was put into finding the addressee,. Refer to the “Nicht ermittelt” (Not investigated) marker. A sticker “Unbekannt/inconnu” (unknown) was put on the back, then canceled the next day and sent back to Amsterdam (refer to hand written “27/6 retour” on the front).



You probably noticed the major delay between the day the letter was sent (April 6, 1946) and when it arrived at the Friedenau postoffice (June 26, 1946), or about 2 ½ month later. The reason is the censorship applied by the U.S Civil Censorship office in Berlin.

“Civil Censorship in Germany,

Civil Censorship was imposed on all forms of civilian communications—letters, books, maps, recordings, plans, etc. There were four phases in the control of communication in Germany. At first all communications were prohibited, all mail in the Reichspost was impounded, and all message service suspend. Later, communication facilities within Germany were reopened under strict regulations which permitted no communication with the rest of the world except through prisoner-of war, civilian-internee, or International Red-Cross messages. Still later, restrictions for internal communication were relaxed and limited external communication was permitted. Finally, only moderate control was exercised over internal and external communications.

The Civil Censorship Division was under the operational control of the Censorship Branch of the G-2 (Intelligence (HK)) Division. For operational purposes it was divided into four groups, located in Offenbach, Munich, Esslingen, and Berlin. Civilians were recruited in the United States, beginning as early as February 1945, for censorship duties in Germany. Those who left the United States in April and May received training in France before going into Germany.

When an intercepted communication revealed information of interest, the information was reported on a form called a submission and passed to what was known as a user agency, i.e.. One, which could make use of the information either for action or for information.....Censorship maintained a watch list of persons or firms whose communication was to be given special attention.

Postal Censorship

a. Resumption of postal communication with the United States Zone was authorized in October 1945; in December mail between the United States and displaced persons was authorized; international postal service, except between Germany and Spain or Japan and their dependencies, was resumed 1 April 1946. During June 1946, civil censorship examined 3,500,00 international postal communication and prepared 105,000 submissions on them.

b. On being received from the Reichspost, mail to be censored was checked against the watch list for both sender and addressee. If either name appeared on the list, the communication was examined in a special unit. Mail containing no reportable information seldom remained in the censorship station for more than twenty-four hours; that on which a report had to be prepared might remain almost fifty (hours (HK))... An impression of the examiner's stamp was placed on each communication before it was released to the Reichspost.”

In our case the examiner was Examiner # 30118. Refer to the marker at the lower left of the cover on page 1. Berlin examiners were assigned numbers between 30,000 and 30,325.

As can be seen, only five days after the Allied Forces allowed correspondence to Germany to resume (April 1, 1946), this letter was written (April 6, 1946).

Another notable event had taken place in the Netherlands a few weeks earlier on March 4, 1946 when the “Bijzondere Staat van Beleg” (Martial Law) was ended, which meant that the Dutch Government could no longer legally apply censorship to the mail. Accordingly you don't see any Dutch censorship marker(s) on this cover.

This ‘censorshipless period’ changed rather quickly because the Allies were overwhelmed with the task of censoring all the mail coming into Germany (3,500,000 pieces in April 1946). They would like the Dutch to do the censoring as they did before March 4, 1946. A rather unique solution was found to bypass the Dutch laws

by renting a place in Amsterdam (Stadhouderskade 12-20), then registering it to the British Embassy so it fell under British, not Dutch law. This was legally accomplished in mid-June of 1946, under the name of Allied Censorship (Netherlands). So, one can see that there was only a couple of months that no Dutch censorship was applied.

Censorship on mail to and from Germany ended on November, 1947

Note: One can only imagine what happened to the house and people living at Canovastrasse 6 in Berlin in 1945. What a difference a year made.

Refs:

<http://forum.axishistory.com/viewtopic.php?t=69515>

<http://www.Jaypex.com/Germany/> (then click on censorship.doc)

Drs. W.J. van Doorn, *Enkele postale problemen in Nederland en Nederlands Oost-Indië na de bevrijding*, Posthistorische Studies III, PO&PO, 1975

Drs. W.J. van Doorn, *De Nederlandse censuur in de periode maart- juni 1946*, De Postzak # 116, December 1977

Hans Kremer, *Allied Censorship (Neth.)*, Netherlands Philately, Vol.27/3

F.W. van der Wart, *De poststempels van Nederland, Machine stempels*, PO&PO, 1980(?)

NVPH, Speciale Catalogus 2014

Change of Editor

Five years ago I took over the editorship from Hans Kremer. With the backing of the ASNP board, I started the process of modernizing our magazine and website. From a printed black and white magazine only, we added a new full-color digital magazine as an option for our members. A lowered membership fee was introduced for those who opted for digital-only. This reduced membership fee was the result of the ASNP board returning the savings on the printing costs to the digital-only members. Something our digital only subscribers can be proud of as the ASNP is one of a very few societies in the world who have actually done this. Today over half of our members receive the magazine in digital form only.

Starting with magazine 41-1 there will be a new editor of the ASNP magazine. My resignation of the position has been accepted by the ASNP board and we have also found a new editor. He is no stranger as it is our own secretary and magazine publisher Ben Jansen.

My reason for stepping down is two-fold. First, the ASNP is still in the process of modernization and behind the screens Arno Kolster and I are working on the next version of the society's website. This will essentially be a complete overhaul of the existing website. This modernization consumes time and combining the website development, management and editorship together is almost an impossible juggling task.

The second reason for stepping down is the fact that I miss writing articles and publishing my philatelic research. I haven't been able to flesh out many ideas for articles, and with some ideas and concepts dating back to 2009, I think it is time to concentrate on publishing them at last.

My time as editor was a pleasant experience and also at times challenging. Over the years I have been in contact with some fantastic writers and members. I hope to meet all of you soon on the new ASNP website. I wish Ben all the best with being an editor and I'm looking forward to see his creativity.

Alex

The Netherlands East Indies 1939-1942

Part V: censorship in Palembang

by Saburo Masuyama

Palembang was the second largest town of Sumatra after Medan, a center of the distribution of farm products just like Medan. There were two big refineries, NKFM and BPM, and Palembang was among the biggest petroleum bases in the world. Many European and American engineers lived there. The airport provided connections to Batavia, Singapore and Medan. The military censorship started in May 1940.

1. “Militaire Censuur Palembang” in violet

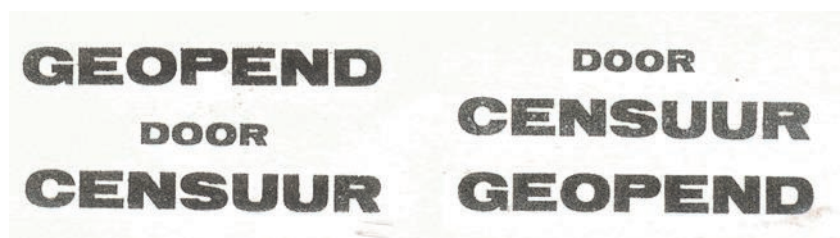


Fig. 93. Moeara Aman May 22, 1940 via Hong Kong, May 30 to Colorado U.S.A. The first Palembang censor mark “Militaire Censuur Palembang” in violet was applied. It is not clear whether a resealing label was prepared the same day. This sender affixed 70 cent to U.S.A. via Lisbon (15 cent + 55 cent / 10 gram). However, the route to be taken was not clear; the transpacific route would cost 15 cent + 180 cent (90 cent / 5 gram x 2) for a total of 195 cent. Finally 15 cent was added and “By air to Hong Kong only”.



Fig. 94. Soengei Gerong May 31, 1940. New white resealing label with "GEOPEND door CENSUUR" and censormark "Militaire Censuur Palembang" were applied. Carried by the K.N.I.L.M. to Sydney. June 14, "OPENED BY CENSOR" and "PASSED BY CENSOR S.76" were applied on the white resealing label. Because the recipient was not found, this letter was sent to New York, August 23 and finally was returned to sender. What an amazing journey!

2. First Palembang resealing label, Type I “GEOPENED door CENSUUR”



There are two types of this resealing label. Type I is shown in the image above left and Type II at the right. This resealing label is different with regard to print direction and has 1 mm perforation holes. However, every censor cut these labels with scissors. The width is not clear.

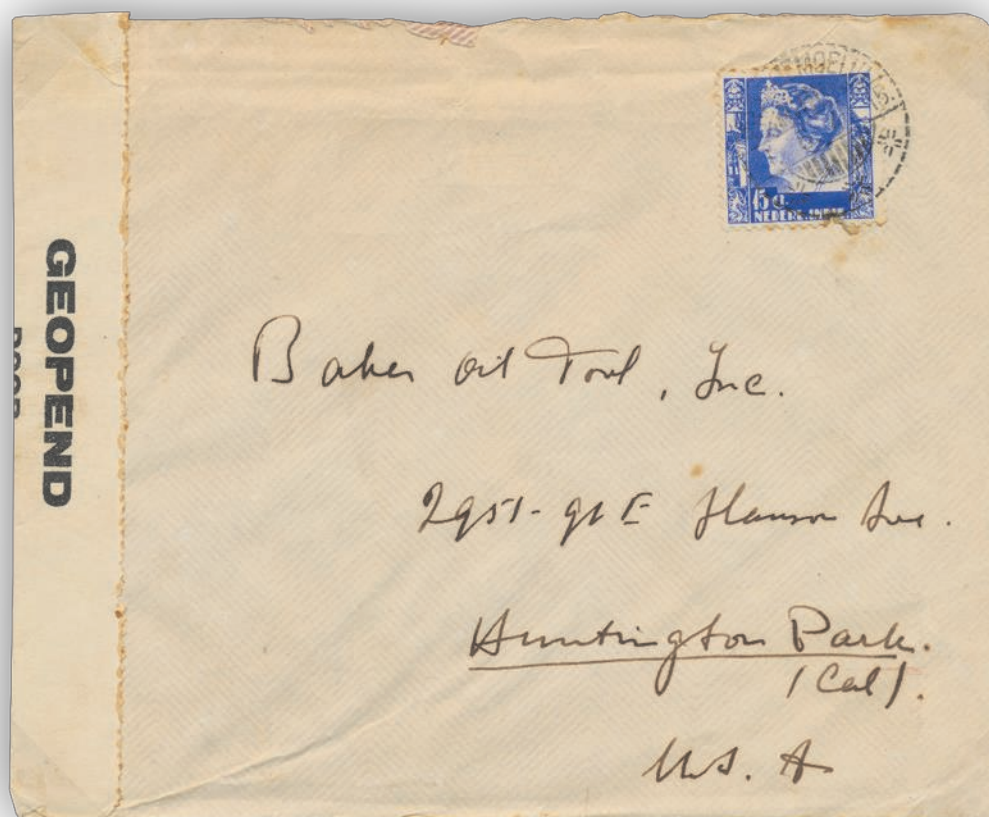


Fig 95. Praboemoelih June 1, 1940 to California U.S.A. This envelope has the longest label with 128mm = 5 inches. The white label without print was continued until August 1940.

Type II “door CENSUR GEOPENED”



Fig. 96. Palembang June 13, 1940 via Saigon June 18 and Hong Kong June 22 to U.S.A.



Fig. 97. Palembang July 14, 1940 via Batavia to Sydney.

3. “CENSUUR gepasseerd Palembang” double line mark in violet.



Fig 98. Pendopo June 22, 1940 via Singapore to Ohio U.S.A., August 5.



Fig. 99. Pagaralam July 30, 1940 via Sydney and Auckland to the U.S.A. 15 cent + 65 cent = 80 cent total. As of June 12, the censorship business was transferred from the military to the judicial office. New censor mark and plain resealing label were applied.



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4. “CENSUR PALEMBANG GEPASSEERD” double line mark in box in violet on white resealing label.



Fig. 100. New York July 1, 1940 via Hong Kong July 16 to Palembang.



Fig. 101. Palembang August 10, 1940 via Singapore and the U.S.A. to Manchester U.K. In Singapore a brown label was applied over the Palembang white resealing label. This brown label was removed to show the white label.

5. “CENSUUR PALEMBANG GEPASSEERD” double line mark in box in violet on brown resealing label.



Fig. 102. Palembang August 6, 1940 via Singapore to Tientsin China. A plain brown resealing label of 23mm width and a censor mark “CENSUUR PALEMBANG GEPASSEERD” in violet in a rectangular frame measuring 72mm x 17 mm were applied. In Singapore, a similar brown label and “PASSED BY CENSOR 72 SINGAPORE” were applied over the Palembang label. A plain brown resealing label was used until October in Palembang, however, in Singapore, it was used until February 1942.

6. “CENSUUR PALEMBANG GEPASSEERD” double line mark in box in red on brown resealing label.



Fig. 103. Soengei Gerong August 17, 1940 via Surabaya by first flight to Manokwari August 21. This First Flight Cover was very popular, but very few were submitted to censorship.

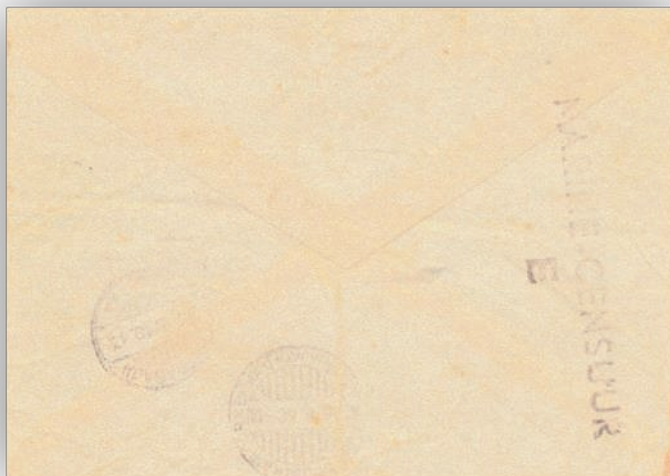


Fig. 104a. Reverse side of the cover shown in Fig. 104b. Manokwari August 19, Surabaya August 25. Because the recipient lived in the Navy camp, the Navy postmark August 26 and "MARINE-CENSUUR E" were applied.



Fig. 104b. The front side.



Fig.105. Babo August 23 via Makassar, August 25 to Batavia August 28. Only the post office in Babo placed the commemorative mark on stamps.

7. Palembang Currency institution.

The Palembang Currency institution began to use new censor marks “DEVIEZEN CENSUUR Palembang 1” or “DEVIEZEN CENSUUR Palembang 2”. However, they did not prepare a new resealing label at the same time.





Fig. 106. Peoria Ill. U.S.A. August 25, 1940 via Hong Kong September 4. In Penang the crown Em. 77 resealing label and rectangular frame "PASSED BY 28 CENSOR" were applied. Because there was little staff, the censorship took longer than usual. The letter arrived in Palembang around September 20th and a plain brown resealing label, rectangular frame mark and "DEVIEZEN CENSUR PALEMBANG 2" were applied. [See bottom of previous page for front of cover.]



Fig.107. Saigon September 24, 1940 via Singapore (censored) and Palembang to Medan.



Fig. 108. Saigon October 27, 1940 via Singapore and Palembang to Medan (censored).

8. New brown label same as Batavia with “CENSUUR PALEMBANG GEPASSEERD” in box, red.



Fig. 109. Soengei gerong November 25, 1940 to the U.S.A. New brown resealing label “DOOR CENSUUR GEOPENED” that was used in Batavia, the “CENSUUR PALEMBANG GEPASSEERD” red in box and “DE VRIJZEN CENSUUR PALEMBANG I” were applied.

9. Brown label with Palembang Currency institution mark.

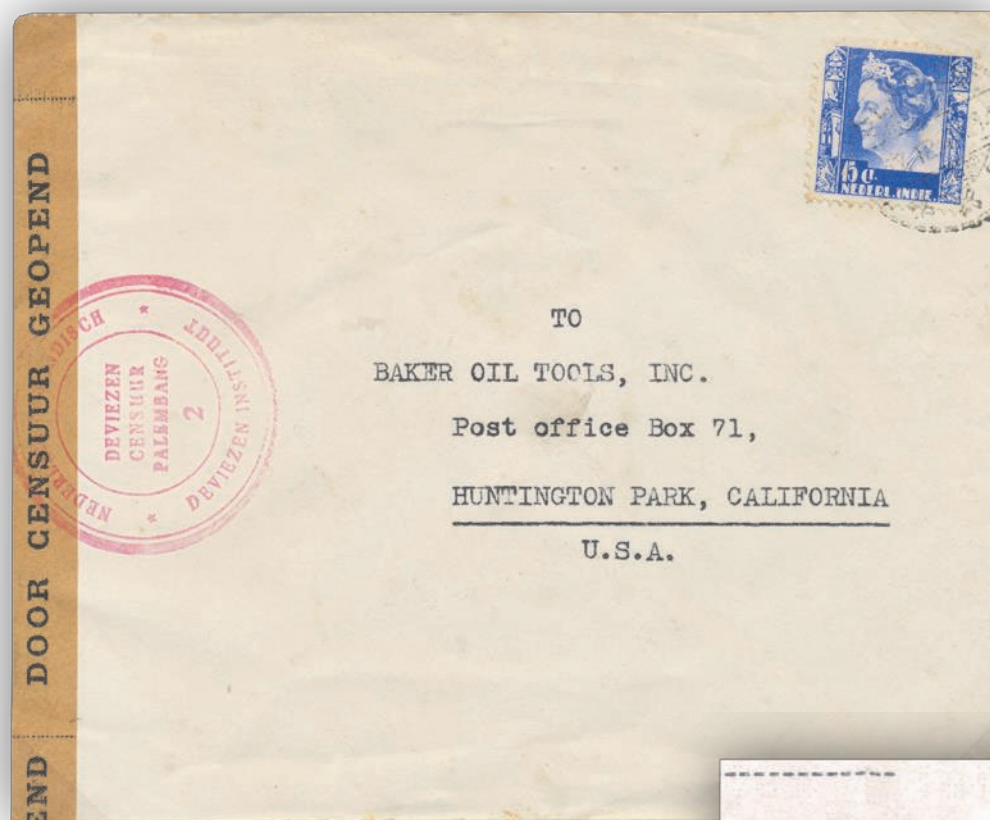


Fig. 110. Pladjoe December 17, 1940 to California, U.S.A. In Palembang, "DEVIEZEN CENSUR PALEMBANG 2" was applied on brown resealing label on both sides of the envelope. The advertising seal asking to help buying a British "SPITFIRE" was also attached.

Pre-paid reply postcard; a head-scratching issue for the postal clerk?

by Alex Nuyten

Pre-paid postcards were introduced almost simultaneously with postcards. In Circular 850, article 2 from 10 April 1872 the postal authorities made it clear that it was not allowed to return the post card attached to the pre-paid reply card to the original sender. This was repeated for all UPU members in 1886. That this would be a head-scratching item for postal clerks is clear and it would haunt them until pre-paid postcards were no longer allowed in the mail system as of 1 July 1971.



Above is a postcard send express from the Netherlands to Germany. The international rate was 20 cent for the postcard and 50 cent express rate, 1 April 1957-1 January 1964.

In Germany the correct 80 pfennig express rate, 1 March 1963 – 1 March 1966, was added to the reply card. Also, the postal clerk should have separated the postcard from the pre-paid response card before returning it. This shows that after 75 years the regulations still were not clear to postal.

One of my favorite covers: Large Round Cancel Amsterdam 12-2V

by Hans Kremer



As a result of the running of a night mail train Amsterdam- Rotterdam v.v. per April 1, 1905 a lot more mail was handled during the night at the larger postoffices along this route. To better track how long it took for the mail to get through, it was felt necessary to split up the usual 12-6V(oormiddag) (a.m) interval into two intervals, 12-2V and 2-6V.

Nine post offices are known to have received these new cancels (Amsterdam, Delft, Dordrecht, 's Gravenhage, Hillegom, Leiden, Lisse, Rotterdam, and Schiedam). Strangely enough Haarlem is not among them.

The most common, although still rare (especially on cover), is the Amsterdam 12-2V large round cancel. The earliest known date is July 21, 1905.

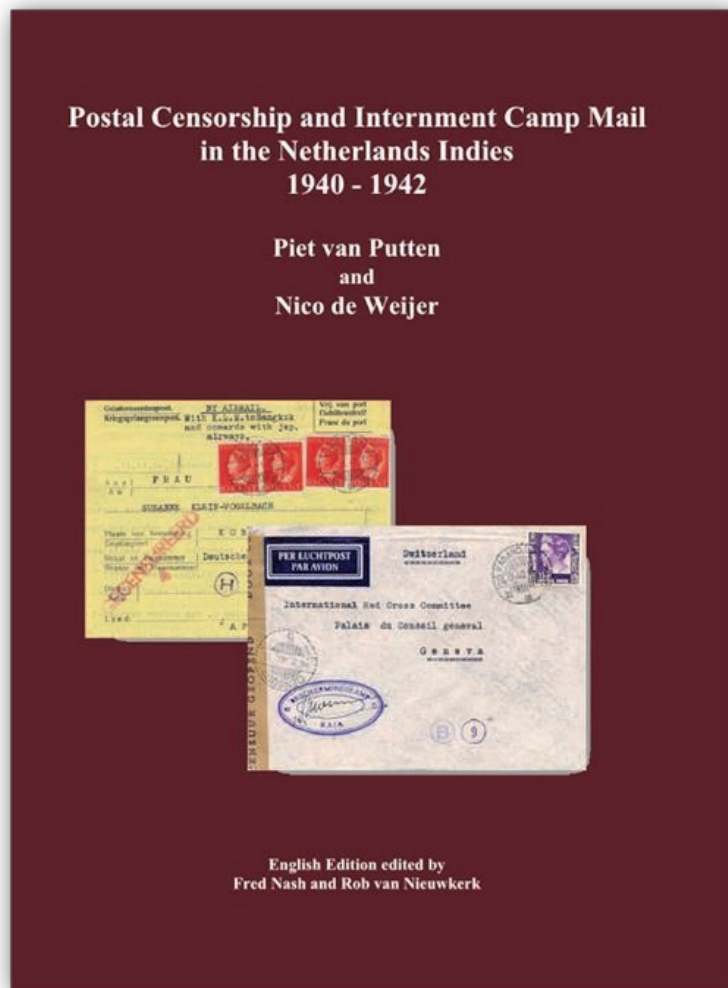
The post card shown here entered the mail stream on August 7, 1905.

Ref: Drs. A. P. de Goede and ir. H.P. Rozema, *Nachtuurkarakters*, Postmerken '86, PO&PO, 1986
H.P. Rozema and A. P. de Goede, *Nachtuurkarakters grootrondstempels*, De Postzak, Vol. 173, May 1993

Book review

Postal Censorship and Internment Camp Mail in the Netherlands Indies, 1940-1942

(A new 449-page publication)



In October 2015 a new book was published in the Netherlands by ZWP (Studiegroep Zuid-West Pacific) – an organization of philatelists specializing in the postal history of the (former) Dutch overseas territories and Australasia.

The authors are Dutch philatelists Piet van Putten and Nico de Weijer, both long-time specialists in Netherlands Indies postal history, with the translation into English and further editing by Fred Nash (APS, ASNP) and Rob van Nieuwkerk, also both ZWP members.

The book deals with the censorship era in the Netherlands Indies during World War II, from the early 1940s (the time of the German occupation of the Netherlands) until early 1942, when the Netherlands Indies were occupied by Japan. During this period, German residents of the Netherlands Indies and members of the NSB (National Socialist Movement) were interned in the Netherlands Indies. Residents of countries allied to the Axis cause were likewise interned.

Mail and messages sent by, or sent to inhabitants of the Netherlands Indies were censored, as was all local and overseas correspondence from and to internees. Local suspicious mail was also censored. The book provides a detailed description (with supporting documentation) of the background and of the procedures implemented by the censorship authorities, and is illustrated with hundreds of color photos of letters and documents.

All censorship labels and all types of censorship markings discovered thus far are illustrated by actual examples, and are tabulated with an indication of relative rarity, thereby creating a useful reference framework with a reference number. Additionally, all cancellations used by both the internment and protection camps are fully dealt with and illustrated.

The book is conveniently divided into eleven Chapters and eight Appendices, dealing with the historical background to censorship; the censorship offices and censorship procedures; general censorship; military censorship; economic censorship; currency censorship; internment and protection camp mail, camp locations and camp censorship procedures; and Red Cross involvement in facilitating overseas mail (to the Netherlands via Geneva involving German censorship). A separate chapter deals with censorship in Dutch New Guinea, a part of which remained unoccupied during the war.

The bound book has 449 size A4 pages and is a full-colour, hard-cover edition, with close to 500 full color philatelic illustrations. In addition, there are 164 footnotes referencing documents, 26 quotes from newspapers and photos of 57 historical documents.

This book will become the standard reference work about censorship in the Netherlands Indies, and is a must-have for all philatelists interested in this fascinating area.

The book is available at a price of €80 (about \$90) plus shipping costs, from the author at njde-weijer@telfort.nl or through the ZWP treasurer, P.O. Box 1206, 2280 CE Rijswijk, Netherlands. Additional information can also be obtained from Fred Nash in the USA, at fredjn@centurylink.net.

Message from the President

Dear fellow ASNP members,

Some of you might have noticed that we haven't had an election for the ASNP officers for some time although the current bylaws call for it to be held every two years. The elective officers are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of Governors consisting of three members.

The bylaws also state: "Elective officers shall serve for two years, or until their respective successors have been elected." We were fortunate to have had officers who were willing to serve more than two years. With no members requesting to have an election and all positions properly filled by elected officers it was felt that having an election would not be necessary.

Now things have changed. Recently we have seen the resignation of President Ed Matthews and Governor Jan Enthoven. I volunteered to take over for Ed and step in as acting President and Jan Verster was willing to take over for Jan Enthoven. To make a formal transition according to our by-laws it was felt that having an election would be necessary.

The list of officers submitted to our members for election would consist of:

President:	HansPaul Hager
Vice-President:	Franklin Ennik
Secretary:	Ben Jansen
Treasurer:	Hans Kremer
Board of Governors:	Benjamin Bump
	John Hornbeck
	Jan Verster

All candidates listed here have accepted their candidacy.

Of course we are open to adding any ASNP member who wants to be placed on our list of candidates to be nominated for any one of these positions. In order to be formally nominated, one needs the support of five members. The ballot will also accept write-ins. By setting a deadline of September 1, 2016 for adding nomination of officers not listed above, we can have an official election later this year.

In the meantime we should have another look at the bylaws and modify them to reflect the current situation of a declining membership and thus a limited number of members willing to serve as an ASNP officer or serve in another position.

HansPaul Hager, Acting President

New Member

We welcome as new member Pedro van Horssen from Salt Lake City, Utah. He collects Netherlands and Colonies plus FDCs, Revenues/Railroads and Coils..

Pedro, welcome to the club and hope you enjoy your magazines. Feel free to write an article or two in the future.

AMERICAN SOCIETY for NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Membership in the **American Society for Netherlands Philately** (ASNP), affiliate # 60 of the American Philately Society, will give you the following benefits: An illustrated **MAGAZINE** (containing philatelic articles as well as news items) published six times a year, access to the ASNP **LIBRARY** through borrowing privileges, and an **AUCTION**. This is the only auction in the USA that deals exclusively with Netherlands and Related Areas material.

Membership runs from September 1 through August 31. To join, fill out the form below. You can receive our magazine digitally in PDF format by email and/or in hardcopy sent by snailmail. Tab one of the boxes below to make your choice.

- ☐ **Digital magazine** sent by email (provide your email address!), dues are for members worldwide \$ 10,=
- ☐ **Hardcopy magazine** sent by snailmail, dues are \$ 20 per year for members living in the USA, \$ 25 for Canada, and \$ 30 for the rest of the world. You have the option of a six-months membership if you apply between March 1 and August 31 for one half of the above rates (\$ 10, \$ 12.50, \$ 15).
Your full membership will then start the following September 1.
- ☐ **Digital and hardcopy**, dues are the same as mentioned for the hardcopy version.

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☐ Mrs. _____
☐ Miss. **First Name:** _____
☐ Ms. _____
☐ Dr. **Email:** _____
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Netherlands Antilles | <input type="checkbox"/> Printing errors | <input type="checkbox"/> Rep. of Indonesia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Netherlands Indies | <input type="checkbox"/> Color variations | <input type="checkbox"/> Rep. of Surinam |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Netherlands New Guinea | <input type="checkbox"/> Stationery and covers | <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldpost |
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