



The Finnish Philatelist

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A newsletter published quarterly by the Finnish Study Group of the Scandinavian Collectors Club

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The Finnish Philatelist

The Finnish Philatelist is a newsletter published quarterly by the Finnish Study Group (FSG) of the Scandinavian Collectors Club (SCC).

The newsletter will be sent free of charge to all members of the FSG thru 2000. A \$5 contribution to cover printing/ mailing costs is appreciated. Contributions should be made payable to and sent directly to the Editor.

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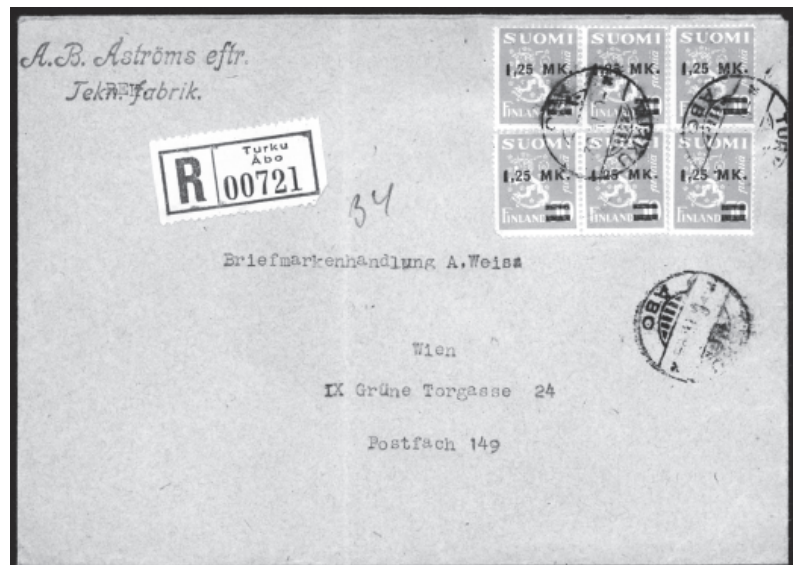
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Editor's Message

In the February issue of TPF we published an article on the paper used for the 5 penni Saarinen issue. Apparently the "2 penni" watermark paper from earlier issues are known in the selvage, but are not known on the stamp itself. We will print more on this subject in a later issue. It appears that some of the misunderstanding arises from the Finnish-English translations and the incomplete treatment of the edge watermarks in the *Handbook*.

A small contingent from the SCC attended NORDIA 2000 in Solluntuna, Sweden. Everyone had a great time. Ingvar Pettersson's exhibit, "Finland 1856 – 1872" received the Grand Prix Nordique. This is one of the finest classic Finland exhibits ever shown and it was a delight to feast my eyes on the pearls of Finnish philately, the 5 and 10 kopek tête-bêche in multiples and on cover.

In Tucson AZ, January 19-21, 2001, The Scandinavian Collectors Club in cooperation with ARIPEX and the APS are sponsoring and promoting the first ever NORDIA in North America. For all North American Nordic area collectors, this is the one show you don't want to miss. Plan your winter vacation to include NORDIA 2001. See the May 2000 *Posthorn* for details.



The m/30 overprint issues are an interesting sub-specialty of this long serving definitive series. This double weight (21-40 grams), 34 grams, registered letter to Wien (Vienna) was correctly franked with a nice block of six, 1.25 mk/50 penni, overprint issues. Surface rate, double weight = 5 Fmk + 2.50 Fmk registration = 7 Fmk rate.

Europa Stamp Tells About Building Europe



To celebrate the millennium, all 42 member countries of PostEurope, the joint organization of European postal administrations, will issue a Europa stamp with the same pictorial subject.

An international art contest was organized in order to find a suitable design for the stamp,

Post of France's candidate being the winner. The painting of the French artist Jean-Paul Cousin depicts a "vibrant, dynamic, wonderful Europe, at the same time proud of its past (sturdy tower), its present (construction work underway) and its future (young people participating)".

The stamp is priced at FIM 3.50 and was issued on May 9th.

The stamp features green and healthy ground with "E" for Europe and a tower of stars built on it. The stars symbolize the member countries of the European Union. The construction, every part of which has its own personal features, position and individuality, arises straight, supported by development. Europe, a construction already formed but not rigid, is open to additional stars from other cultures. Dark and fair children approach from the four cardinal points, symbolizing the future and carrying stars. The children are Europe's future builders. The tower, formed by colorful stars, is the symbol of common themes, dear to all Europeans: environment, work, economic development, education, and culture.

STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	May 9, 2000
Face value:	FIM 3.50
Issue:	3,000,000
Designer:	Päivi Vainionpää
Perforation:	13 x 13
Size of stamp	28.5 mm x 40 mm
Paper:	Stamp paper 110g
Printers:	Cartor Security, France
Printing method:	Offset 4/0 + silver
First day Cover & postmark:	Päivi Vainionpää
Price of FDC:	FIM 6

Modern Science Featured on New Miniature Sheet



DNA research and digital communication are the subjects of the new Science miniature sheet to be issued on 30 May. The sheet is also a tribute to the Science Center Heureka dedicated to introducing different disciplines and the new technology to the general public and to young people in particular. The hologram sheet contains three FIM 3.50 stamps and is priced at FIM 10.50.

As a specialty feature, the sheet is in the form of an ancient Chinese puzzle, the tangram. By reorganizing the pieces of the puzzle, you will be able to form two identical smaller squares. The stamps - a triangle, a parallelogram and a square - are also pieces of the puzzle. The solution is printed on the back of the sheet.

The miniature sheet contains two seals, one featuring the Sierpinski Triangle as a hologram, the other the emblem of the Science Center Heureka. The center with its cinema Verne also appears on the miniature sheet.

STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	May 30, 2000
Face value:	FIM 10.50
Issue:	500,000
Designers:	S. Rumpu & A. Lakaniemi
Perforation:	13 3/4 x 13 3/4
Size of sheet:	120 x 80 mm
Size of stamps:	Various
Paper:	Sopal stamp paper 110g
Printers:	Joh. Enschede Security
Printing method:	Color offset 6/1
First day Cover & postmark:	S. Rumpu & A. Lakaniemi

Spring Anemone on Class 1 Stamp Without Face Value



Spring anemone, the provincial flower of South Karelia is the subject of a self-adhesive Class I stamp without a printed face value, was issued on May 9th. Mr Paavo Huovinen has designed the impressive spring flower. “Spring anemone” was issued in a miniature sheet of ten. The sheet with Spring anemone decorations on its margins is priced at FIM 35.

The stamp is printed in the UK at Walsall Security Printers Ltd.

The “Spring anemone” stamp was issued together with a stationery set with the same motif, containing 10 envelopes, 10 sheets of writing paper and the new miniature sheet. The set is priced at FIM 45 and provides a bonus postcard detachable from the wrapper.

The provincial flowers series replaced the Lion Coat of Arms as a motif for definitive stamps in 1990. 15 of our provincial flowers have already been introduced. The two flowers still waiting for their turn are the pale pasque flower of Central Häme and the cornflower of Päijät-Häme

The Spring anemone with its large flower grows 10-30 cm tall and is a spreading anemone of the Ranunculaceae family. It grows in Southern Finland, particularly in the dry Salpausselka ridge moors. The rare plant is protected: it is not permitted to pick its flowers or move the rootstock.

The outer surface of the large white flower is tinged with red and its leaves winter green. The entire plant is covered with hair. The spring anemone

blossoms in April -June before its leaves reach their full size. The sole large flower stands up at first, later it hangs down. The Spring anemone may grow up to 20 centimeters (about 8 inches) during its blossom.



STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	May 9, 2000
Face value:	Letter Rate - Class 1
Issue:	Unlimited
Designer:	Paavo Huovinen
Perforation:	12.9 x 12.6
Sizes:	sheetlets: 140 x 90 mm Stamps: 4 at 43.05 x 24.5 mm, and 4 at 25 x 49 mm
Printers:	Walsall Security Printer, Ltd., England
Paper:	Stamp paper 110g/m2 Sopal
Printing method:	Offset 4/1
First Day Cover & Cancellation:	Paavo Huovinen
First Day Cover:	Two covers, one for each sheetlet at FIM 16.50 each.

Moominsummer Madness Booklet Continues Popular Moomin Stamp Series, Marsh Marigolds on March Stamp Novelty

The delightful Moomin family and their friends continue their adventures on a stamp booklet, issued on March 15th and included four Class 1 stamps without a printed face value.

Both the stamps and the booklet's cover pictures come from the book "Moominsummer Madness" (WSOY, 1957). The adaptation from the artist/writer Ms Tove Jansson's original pictures is by Ms Pirkko Vahtero.

The Moomin stamps were issued together with a Moomin package including four postcards as well as the new stamps. The package is priced at FIM 25.

"Moominsummer Madness" is a story about a great flood, which guides the Moomins to the mysterious world of the theatre. One of the stamps features Emma, the old theatre rat, and the entire Moomin family having dinner at the theatre, their temporary home, while two stamps depict Snufkin - one of them as surrounded by 24 forest children. ("They listened to the raindrops falling on the roof and the fire crackling in the stove.") A suddenly electrified park-keeper together with Hattifatteners growing from the gross are the subject of one stamp ("The park-keepers ears started to glow. Sparks flew from his hair and nose - and suddenly the park-keeper was ablaze with light!")

The Moomins were first introduced on stamps in 1992 and on postal stationery in 1988. They have been since, featured on stamps in 1994 and 1998 and on postal stationery in 1992 and 1993.

STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	March 15, 2000
Face value:	FIM 14.00 (4 x Class 1)
Issue:	600,000 booklets
Designer:	Ms Tove Jansson & Ms Pirkko Vahtero
Perforation:	13 x 13
Sizes:	Stamps: 30.76 x 35.65 mm Sheetlets: 153 x 54 mm Open booklet: 160 x 71.3 mm Closed b'klet: 80 x 71.3 mm
Printers:	Setec Oy
Paper:	Stamp paper CPL 1
Cover paper:	Multiart Silk 200g
Printing method:	Color offset 4/0
First Day Cover:	FIM 16.50 each.



Yellow Marsh marigolds are in bloom early this year on a FIM, 3.50 stamp issued on March 15th. Ms Pirkko Juvonen-Valtonen designed this bright and beautiful waterside plant. The stamp has been printed in the Netherlands by Joh. Enschedé Security Printers and the issue is 3 million.



The Marsh marigold belongs to the Ranunculus genus and is common in all parts of Finland. The genus includes 16 species growing in marshy areas of the northern hemisphere. The hardy plant begins its long flowering period in May. Its yellow flower can be spotted by river banks, ditches, wet fields and in the woods, assuring us that the spring is well on its way.

The Marsh marigold grows in tussocks. The flowers have five bright yellow perianth leaves and the dark green leaves are cordate-shaped, while the stem is thick, hollow and branched. The entire plant is poisonous.



Bull, Cow and Calf on New Finnish Red Cross Semi-Postal Stamps



An impressive horned bull, a land race cow and a calf are the pictorial subject of the new FRC stamps with additional fees, issued on March 15th. The stamps are priced at FIM 3.50 and 4.80, the additional fees being FIM 0.70 and 0.80 respectively. The additional fees support the activities of the Finnish Red Cross.

The stamps are designed by Ms Pirkko Juvonen-Valtonen and are part of a series begun in 1994 and introducing land racing animals. The first stamps in the series depicted the Finnish horse, while on the 1996 stamps we met a family of land race chickens: a rooster, hens and chicks, and on the 1998 stamps a boar, a sow and a litter of little pigs.

The handsome creature on the March stamp novelty is Limousine, a young beef cattle bull. The calf represents the breed of Western Finland, while the cow standing behind it comes from an Eastern Finnish breed. Both Western and Eastern Finnish cattle are old land racing breeds.

Land racing is becoming universally extinct in Finland; there are about 4,500 cows of Western Finnish breed. The number of genuine Northern Finnish cows, the so called Lapland cows, is limited to a little over one hundred, while the estimated number of Eastern Finnish cows is 150. The Eastern Finnish cattle is the oldest production breed in Finland. It was with this breed that Finnish cattle breeding began in 1898.

STAMP FACTS

Issue date:	March 15, 2000
Face value:	FIM 3.50 + FIM 0.70 FIM 4.80 + FIM 0.80
Issue:	500,000 each
Designers:	Ms Pirkko Juvonen-Valtonen
Paper:	Stamp paper 102g
Perforation:	13.25 x 13.75
Printing method:	Offset 5/0
Size of the stamp:	29 x 36 mm & 36 x 29 mm
Printers:	Joh. Enschede Security Printers, The Netherlands
First Day Cover & Cancellation:	Ms Pirkko Juvonen-Valtonen
Price of FDC:	FIM 9.70

Finnish Booklet Celebrates Christian Jubilee Year 2000



The year 2000 is the Jubilee Year - the Year of Hope for Finnish Christian churches and communities.

The subjects of the Jubilee Year stamps, issued on March 15th in the four-stamp sheet are: prayer, christening, a Cathedral altarpiece depicting the Transfiguration of Christ, and the church as a meeting

place for the Christian community. The sheet also honors the Turku Cathedral, celebrating its 700th anniversary in 2000.

The stamps are priced at FIM 3.50 and the entire booklet at FIM 14. The booklet is available from Jay Smith & Associates and other dealers.

Type m/1930 Initial Overprints

by Markku Vuorenmaa, translated by Carita Parker from *Abophil*, No. 6, 1995

OF THE 1930 LION STAMPS ONLY EIGHT MAIN TYPES WERE OVERPRINTED, AND OF THESE THE THREE FIRST VALUES, ISSUED PRIOR TO THE WARS, ARE INCLUDED HERE.



Figure 1. The issue date of the 50 penni overprint given by LAPE is December 2, 1931. The difference between printings becomes obvious by comparing the relation between the period and the two bars.



Figure 2. The two types of overprinted 1.25 Fmk's differ, as do the 50 penni stamps.

DECEMBER 1932 OVERPRINTS

In early December 1932, postal rates for both domestic and foreign mail had increased. The busy Christmas season was at hand and without proper stamps, the issuance of overprints became necessary, hence the 50/40 penni green and the 1.25 Fmk/50 penni yellow. The issuance happened right at the beginning of December, but the exact date (of issue) is uncertain.

There are two different overprint arrangements on each value. In composition (Type) I, the bars stop at the same vertical level as the period; whereas in composition (Type) II, the bars continue further to the right. Both arrangements are common on the 50/40p stamps. However, of the more than 4 million printings of the 1.25 Fmk/50 penni specimen only 25,000 carry composition II, which makes for

obtaining the object on mail rather difficult. There are overprint shifts sideways and vertically on both values, though generally minor. Overprinting that slants to the right, pointing upwards is seen on the 1.25 Fmk/50 penni

stamps. Occasional offsets occur, but generally weak and more common on the 50/40 penni stamps.



Figure 3. The Type II overprint is very elusive on cover; however used copies do show up now and then at Finnish auctions.

OVERPRINTED 1937 ISSUE TO MEET POSTCARD RATE TO ABROAD

The stamp next overprinted was issued on February 2, 1937. The red 2 Fmk/1 1/2Fmk was the only lion stamp issued that year. The reason for this was, that the 1 1/2 Fmk stamp had to be removed from circulation because of the issuance, in December 1936, of the red 2 Fmk value to correspond with the foreign postcard rate. Thus, the final printing of the 1 1/2Fmk stamp received an overprinting.

Both the base stamp and the overprinting were quite carefully prepared and printed, and therefore very few irregularities occurred.

Obtaining postal mail franked with the stamp(s) is not an easy task. An especially difficult object is the postcard to abroad.



Figure 4. According to LAPE, the 2 Fmk overprint date of issue was February 27, 1937. The most sought after and elusive use is on a postcard to abroad.

Type m/1930 Final Overprints

by Markku Vuorenmaa, translated by Carita Parker
from *Abophil*, No. 10, 1996

TYPE 1930 FINAL OVERPRINTS



ALL OF THE 1940-1948 OVERPRINTS CAME ABOUT FOR THE SAME REASON. AS POSTAL RATES INCREASED, STAMPS WITH THE OLD RATE WERE OVERPRINTED TO REFLECT THE NEW RATE. SUCH FRUGALITY HAS NOT BEEN PRACTICED SINCE EXCEPT IN SOME SPECIAL CASES. ALL OVERPRINTED ISSUES WERE LARGE. THE SMALLEST CONSISTED OF 2 MILLION AND THE LARGEST OF 10 MILLION SPECIMENS.

THE 1940 OVERPRINTS



The urgency to have new lion stamp values in circulation was the reason for the issuance of the 1940 overprints. The domestic postal rates increased on June 16, 1940, and that same day, the new overprinted orange-yellow 1.75/1.25 Fmk stamps for postcards and the 2.75/2 Fmk red for letters were issued. Domestic mail franked with one or the other value is common. Seen also are some objects to other Scandinavian countries. On individual mail abroad, the 2.75/2 Fmk was valid to Germany at a special rate until August 31, 1942. Uneven perforation is common on both values, as are perforation shifts. And on the 2.75/2 Fmk's there are slight shifts in the overprinting.

THE 1943 OVERPRINTS



The violet 3.5/2.75 Fmk overprinted stamp was issued on January 1, 1943, and was suitable as postage on domestic letters, and thus commonly encountered. With the rate change of September 1, 1942, the stamps of the old rate had been overprinted with the new. Uneven perforation is rather common on the stamps. Other peculiarities include a shift in the overprint and perforation, as well as a rarely occurring extra print mark caused by equipment. It is prudent to carefully examine the overprint offsets, since these could have been caused by printing ink seepage through the paper.

THE 1946 OVERPRINTS



With the postal rate increase on January 16, 1946, there arose the need to issue new lion stamps, and among these appeared also the violet 8/5 Fmk overprint. Again, stamps with the old rate were overprinted with the new. The stamps are common on domestic letters, and there are some specimens mailed to other Scandinavian countries. The peculiarities of this stamp is the base stamp offset and overprint shifts - sometimes rather large. The overprint offsets are questionable, because the given impression could have been caused by printing ink seepage through the paper.

THE 1948 FINAL OVERPRINT



The type 1930 final overprinted stamp was the violet 12/10 Fmk issued on February 9, 1948. The reason again was the January 1st rate change. The stamp is common on domestic letters, occasional to (other) Scandinavian countries and difficult on mail abroad. One peculiarity worth mentioning is the stamp offset. Here again the overprint offsets should be viewed with reservation, since once more, this could be printing ink seepage through the paper.

The Postal Stationery of Finland - Part 10

Still One More Time on Finnish Postal Stationery

by Juhani Pietilä, translated by Kauko Aro

reprinted from *Abophil*, No. 1, 1996

THE FINAL RECEIPTS

Whenever the design of the stamp changed for the adhesive stamp, the value stamp on the return receipt was also changed accordingly. The return receipts of 1889 with a new value stamp were first printed in June 1890. The return receipts printed now were identical to the prior ones except for the value stamp which thus had numerals only in upper comers. The color of the value stamp continues red, although occasionally it has hints of light carmine. This time some 20,000 copies of the return receipts were printed, all of which also went into circulation. In spite of the small printing quantity when compared with the stamp, an adequate supply has survived for future generations.

Return receipts with numeral in upper comers were still printed one more time in 1892 when the form itself was revised slightly. The instructions at the bottom of the form were removed, but otherwise there were no meaningful differences from the prior issue. The color of the value stamp continues red. This time the printing was larger, a total of 46,100 copies; however, more than one half of the printing was later returned and destroyed. Therefore, less than 20,000 receipts were used. The use of return receipts did not increase in line with expectations as their consumption remained basically flat even in the 1890's. The earlier return receipts were ordered returned from Post Offices already in 1891; thus, only the latest issue with numerals in upper comers was available afterwards.

A printing of 5,000 copies of the latest issue with numerals in upper comers was prepared for the Supreme Postal Administration in St. Petersburg with a 'Specimen' overprint.



Figure 1. A nicely and correctly postmarked specimen of the final issue with numerals in upper comers. The dispatching cancellation is the double-ring ÅBO cancellation dated 25. 5. 92 (May 25, 1892) which was often used as an arrival postmark. The recipient has received the mailed item in Tavastehus on its arrival date of 28. 5. 92, from where it was returned next day to Åbo. The Åbo arrival strike is from the same date of 29. 5.

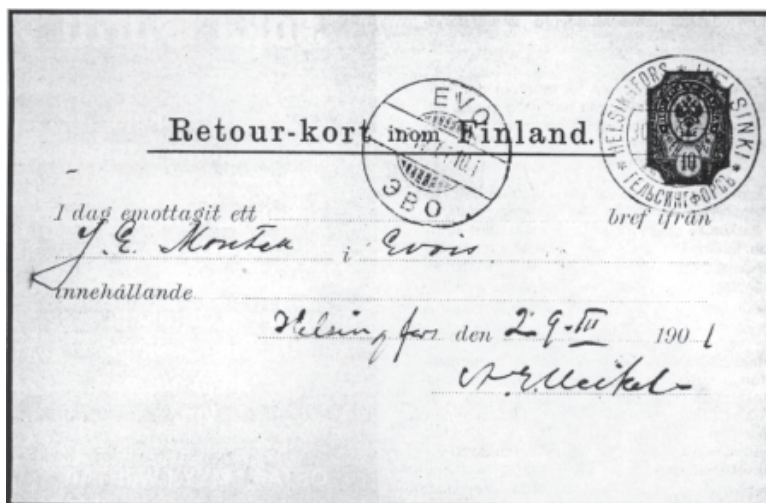


Figure 2. An early and attractively cancelled example of Finland's final return receipt. It has a departing cancellation from Helsinki 30. 3. 1901, and it arrived in Evo on April Fool's Day. The quality of the example here is without faults.

1901 VALUE STAMP WITH EAGLE DESIGN

Again, a new return receipt was printed in 1901, when the designs of the stamps were changed. The value stamp was 10 penni, similar to the adhesive

stamp, and the form was identical with that of the prior issue except for the type of lettering. The printing was over 40,000 copies, in several batches. The validity of the receipt ended simultaneously with that of the stamps, namely May 15, 1911. Even after this, plans were made for a new design of return receipts with a value stamp identical to the 1911 stamps, but it was never issued; thus, the return receipt of 1901 design remained the final one.

The return receipts are an integral part of the postal stationery family. Thus, they belong to a

collection for the period which is being covered. They also add their own difficulties to a collection as the printings of the early issues were small. The paper stock of the return receipts has been uniformly thin, which has posed a problem from the point of view of preservation. Return receipts of good quality without any tears and with good cancellations are sought-after specimens. It is not always possible to hold onto this standard when collecting the first issues of receipts.

K.P.X.P. Departure and Arrival Stations Listed

The following article is based on several sources, both published and unpublished, and list has been compiled by Ms. Soila Siltala of the Post Museum Library from a series of articles written by Y. Tielinens which appeared in *Suomen Postimerkkilehti*, from 1972-1975.

While the K.P.X.P. railway cds (circular date stamp) is the most common Finnish TPO cancellation, it is not always easy to find a list identifying the routes of each of the 20 K.P.X.P. mail coaches. This list is intended to fill that information gap.

Most of the 20 K.P.X.P. cds and the numerous varieties (there are about 70) are fairly common, but a few are rather scarce including: K.P.X.P. No. 1 (Helsinki-Pietari) and K.P.X.P. No. 2 (Pietari-Helsinki) because it was in use only in 1894. Coach Nos. 13, 17, and 19 are also somewhat elusive.

For several reasons more than one cds was manufactured for several of the coaches, most notably, K.P.X.P. No. 8. Initially, two cds were made because the first departing train on the route could not return to the departure station before the second train had already left. In 1906 new cds were made to replace the originals, which by that time were completely worn. The numerous varieties or sub-types show the progressive wear and tear of these cds over time. In June, 1918 the Post Office ordered the removal of the Russian text from all postal cancels, however, not every K.P.X.P. cds still in use in 1918 has been found with the Russian text removed. This is an interesting area for further study and one which will be revisited in this newsletter in future issues.

Roger P. Quinby

- K.P.X.P. 1: Helsinki-Pietari (St. Petersburg) 1894
- K.P.X.P. 2: Pietari-Helsinki 1894
- K.P.X.P. 3: Helsinki-Toijala-Turku 1894-1903
- K.P.X.P. 3: Helsinki-Turku 1903-1918
(new coastal route)
- K.P.X.P. 4: Turku-Toijala- Helsinki 1894-1903
- K.P.X.P. 4: Turku-Helsinki 1903-1918
- K.P.X.P. 5: Toijala-Tampere-Vaasa 1894-1918
- K.P.X.P. 6: Vaasa-Tampere-Toijala 1894-1918
- K.P.X.P. 7: Vaasa-Seinäjoki-Oulu-Kemi 1894-1918
- K.P.X.P. 8: Kemi-Oulu-Seinäjoki-Vaasa 1894-1918
- K.P.X.P. 9: Kouvola-Kuopio 1894-1915
- K.P.X.P. 10: Kuopio-Kouvola 1894-1916
- K.P.X.P. 11: Helsinki-Pietari 1894
- K.P.X.P. 11: Tampere-Pori 1895-1900
- K.P.X.P. 11: Helsinki-Pori 1900-1912
- K.P.X.P. 12: Helsinki-Pietari 1894
- K.P.X.P. 12: Pori-Tampere 1895-1900
- K.P.X.P. 12: Pori-Helsinki 1900-1916
- K.P.X.P. 13: Viipuri-Joensuu 1894-1918
- K.P.X.P. 14: Viipuri-Joensuu 1894-1918
- K.P.X.P. 15: Hanko-Hyvinkää 1900-1908
- K.P.X.P. 16: Hanko-Hyvinkää 1899-1913
- K.P.X.P. 17: Turku-Helsinki 1900-1917
- K.P.X.P. 18: Turku-Helsinki 1900-1918
- K.P.X.P. 19: Helsinki-Turku 1900-1914
- K.P.X.P. 20: Turku-Helsinki 1900-1918



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.

On the first K.P.X.P. No. 8 cds, the upper and lower bridge lines were complete; by 1895 the upper line had partially vanished, Figure 1. By 1904, both bridge lines, above and below the bars, had worn off, Figure 2. Figures 3 & 4 illustrate another variety, three stars on the bridge. On Figure 4, the Russian text was removed.

The 1892 Sample/Specimen Stamps, Reprints & Afterprints

by Jukka Sarkki, from *Abophil*, No. 1, 2000

translated by Carita Parker



The 1889 stamps with "SPECIMEN" overprint

THE TYPE 1860 AND 1866 AFTERPRINTS

The stamps that have gained the least attention in Finnish philately are the Finnish sample stamps, reprints and afterprints. They were made from the 1856, 1860, 1866, 1875, 1885, 1889, and 1891 issues, and also from several stationery envelopes of that time. The first reprints were made as early as 1862, and the final afterprints in 1956, when oval stamps appeared in the appendix of the then published book on Finnish oval stamps. The largest quantity, however, were printed in 1892. Next, a closer analysis of how these stamps were made. Stationery envelopes have for the most part been excluded from this text.

Samples of Type 1889 "SPECIMEN" Overprints.

Terminology: A reprint is one made with original plates, printed (officially) after the stamp period of use. Whereas an afterprint is a stamp officially printed on plates different from the original plates. The one thing these have in common is that stamps thus made have been used in situations where sample stamps were required of previously issued postage stamps. It may be emphasized that unofficial afterprints or reprints are considered bogus.

A sample stamp, on the other hand, is a model of a postage stamp often overprinted with the word "SPECIMEN" or similar in order to prevent its use as postage.

St. Petersburg Order

On July 3, 1891, the main Russian Post & Telegraph Administration placed an order for sample stamps of all the postage stamps and stationeries used

in Finland. An order was placed for 500 series each of the stamps and stationery no longer in use, as well as an order for 5000 series each of the type 1889 in use.

On September 24, 1891, the Finnish Senate Office Committee authorized the Finnish Postal Administration to deliver the stamps ordered marked with the word "SPECIMEN." At the same time, the Postal Administration was also authorized to print a sufficient quantity of those values that were lacking, in addition to printing 500 of each of these values for the Postal Administration's future needs. The type 1889 stamps were ordered on October 13, 1891, from the Sigillata Printing Office then in charge of the making of postage stamps and stationery. Because inventory of some of the older stamp values was insufficient, the Finnish Postal Administration placed an order for these on November 5, 1891. In a letter dated January 20, 1892, the order to mark the stamps with the word "SPECIMEN" was revoked, as was the printing of certain other values. Judging from the material at hand it appears, however, that the stamps sent to St. Petersburg were anyhow marked with the aforementioned text.

Apparently stamps and stationery were printed in somewhat larger quantities than ordered, since there is reason to suspect that the printing office manager, Wilhelm Brandstake, made additional specimens for himself and several high-ranking philatelists. According to the bookkeeping records of that time, all in all reprints and afterprints were made of 15 postage stamps and 17-20 items of stationery. The remainder of the sample series order was gathered from existing stock.



“SPECIMEN” Marks and Prints

The 1892 type 1856-1885 sample stamps appeared with two different “SPECIMEN” marks, i.e., with and without a border or frame. Of these, the rubber mark without a frame is apparently older than the newer metal mark with a frame, which most likely was made in 1891/92 expressly for this order. For some unknown reason, in addition to marking the stamps with the metal stamper, the borderless rubber type was also used.

The type 1889 stamps were marked with the word “SPECIMEN” because whole sheets (of the stamps) were available and the quantity of the series ordered larger. The printing of the word “SPECIMEN” on the older stamps was revoked on January 20, 1892, but regardless, some stamps delivered after this date have been discovered with the aforementioned mark. Thus it can be assumed, that for some reason the order to stop imprinting “SPECIMEN” was not heeded. This writer has not discovered any additional information on the matter.

Type 1856

With no stamps in stock, the afterprint was made from copies of imprints of the original plates using typography. The sheets consisted of 4 x 5 stamps

and the official printed quantity was 1000 specimens. The stamps were delivered to the Finnish Postal Administration on Dec. 29, 1892, of which 500 examples were forwarded to St. Petersburg, apparently marked with the “SPECIMEN” text. The stamps are distinguishable from the genuine by their smooth paper and pale, even gum.

Types 1860 and 1866

The afterprint (of these types) were made from imprints originally printed by using the photogravure method. The exception here is, that the same colored 5 kopek and 20 penni, as well as the 10 kopek and 40 penni specimens were apparently printed at the same time. The sheet size is 2 x 5 stamps. Perforation type is IV (see *Facit* or *Norma*) and gum even and pale colored. The official printed quantity was 1000 sets, delivered to the Finnish Postal Administration on December 29, 1892, of which 500 sets were forwarded to St. Petersburg apparently marked with the “SPECIMEN” text.

Type 1875/1882

As far as this type goes, the stamps are divided into three groups. The order for afterprints of values 2 and 5 penni and 1 Fmk was canceled on January 20, 1892, because of apparently sufficient stock. The inventory of these, as well as that of the 10, 20 and 25 penni values was sufficient enough so that the St. Petersburg order of 500 sets could be filled by marking the original stamps with the “SPECIMEN” marks. The stamps were delivered to the Finnish Postal Administration on January 15, 1892. In keeping with the order, reprints were however made of the 10, 20 and 25 penni stamps. The official printed quantity of these consisted of 500 sets. The stamps were made at the printing office, with the same imprints used for the 1885 type, except the colors were that of type 1875/1882. These were delivered to the Finnish Postal Administration on January 15, 1892, and remained at the administration’s own disposal, and thus not supposed to be seen marked “SPECIMEN.”

The 8 and 32 penni values were no longer in stock, and since none was among the 1885 type either, entirely new imprints had to be made in order to do the reprints. Lithography was used to print the stamps and the official quantity made consisted of 1000 series. The stamps were delivered on December 29, 1892, of which 500 sets were forwarded to St.

Petersburg apparently marked with the “SPECIMEN” text.

All of the stamps were 12 1/2 line perforated and the size of the printed sheet was 5 x 5 stamps. Thus, the 8 and 32 penni values are easily distinguished from the genuine by perforation type.

Type 1885

There was enough of this type in stock, eliminating the need for additional reprints to be made. The ordered 500 sets with the “SPECIMEN” mark was delivered from the printer on January 15, 1892. The exceptions here apparently are the 5 and 10 Fmk stamps of which only 100 sets of each was delivered according to the shipping list.

Type 1889

This type was then in use and stamps thus plentiful. The ordered 5000 sets were made by printing whole sheets with the “SPECIMEN” text. The order was delivered from the printer on January 15, 1892.

Type 1891



There is no mention of the type 1891 stamps in the available Postal Administration sample stamp shipping lists. However, stamps listed have been seen marked both with a small “SPECIMEN” text as well as with the corresponding “OBRAZETS” mark. The latter text reaches across the entire sheet, so that a single stamp might only show part of the mark. In earlier literature these stamps have not been included together with the aforementioned sample stamps. The reason for this might be, that the stamps were made in Russia and therefore would have been ordered from the printing office directly to the St. Petersburg

main Post- and Telegraph Administration instead of through the Finnish Postal Administration.

Stationery

The majority of the stationery types were not sent until the third shipment on October 16, 1893. On October 30, 1893, St. Petersburg informed as having received all of the ordered stamps. According to the shipping list, the 1845 “Porto Stempel” envelopes were not officially made and likewise no other stationery envelopes in use prior to 1860. The oldest delivered types, according to the (aforementioned) list, are the 1860, 5 and 10 kopek stationery envelopes. On the other hand, according to the Granberg stationery catalogue such were in fact made. Furthermore, also discovered are afterprints of stationery never officially issued. Thus the situation concerning the stationery types is somewhat “unresolved.” Further information about the 1892/1893 stationery types can be found in the “LAPE” 2000 catalogue on pages 64-68 and the Granberg catalogue on stationery.

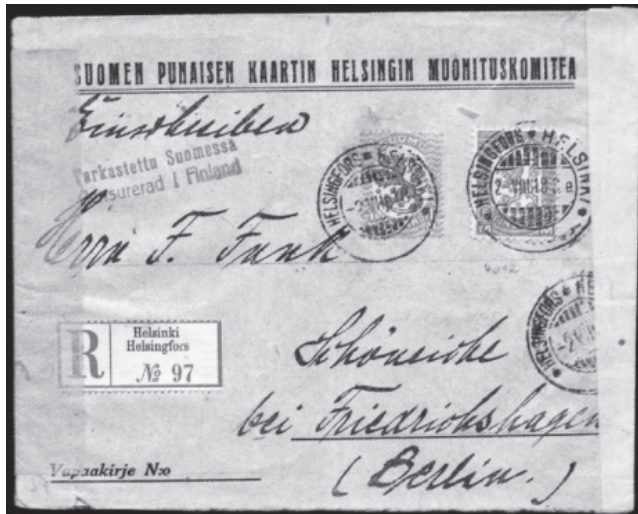
Rarity of Stamps

For most part, all “SPECIMEN” marked stamps are difficult objects, because they were sent to St. Petersburg and apparently from there mostly as stamp exchanges abroad. The unmarked reprints and afterprints stayed in Finland and thus sufficient quantities have remained with collectors. There seems to be more of the (aforementioned) type 1891 sample stamps offered at auctions than those marked “SPECIMEN.” The most common, however, are the type 1889 “SPECIMEN” marked sets, since their printed quantity was at least 5000 each. Objects from this set are reasonably easy to come by and the price, in most instances, is also reasonable.

It is well to remember, that besides the 1892 “SPECIMEN” stamps, sample stamps have, since 1878, been delivered to the UPU and other foreign post offices. The older “SPECIMEN” rubber mark with the frame is believed to have been included in these deliveries. Consequently, this mark might be found on stamps mentioned in this text.

Bogus 5 Fmk Vaasa/Wasa Cover Offered at Recent Auction

by Jussi Touri, from *Filatelisti*, No. 1, 2000
translated by Carita Parker



In conjunction with the October Merkki-Albert auction, there was introduced a supposedly



In this close-up, the right cds is obviously larger than the mark on the left used to cancel the 1 Fmk Saarinen issue.

interesting cover addressed to Germany. Besides a Vaasa 5 Fmk, there is also a reddish-black Saarinen 1 Fmk on the cover; the stamps were cancelled with different Helsinki marks. The cover is registered. The envelope is one that was used by the Finnish Red Guard Helsinki food procurement committee. Regrettably the cover is totally bogus. Neither a Red Guard, nor even less, a procurement committee existed in the summer of 1918, and was certainly disbanded long before this cover was cancelled in Helsinki on August 2, 1918. Furthermore, validity for the Vaasa type issues was prohibited on mail to abroad effective June 14, 1918. However, the 1 Fmk for registration adheres to the correct postal rate. This is the reason why the cover is franked with the reddish-black 1 Fmk issue. The Vaasa 5 Fmk has only a decorative value. I (writer) have never seen it (Vaasa 5 Fmk) correctly used on mail to abroad. If such a specimen is discovered it would be a philatelic sensation.

Hopefully, the buyer of this object knew what he had purchased. I (writer) would estimate the value of this item to be only that of a beautifully cancelled Vaasa 5 Fmk stamp. The auctioneer was told that the object was bogus prior to the auction, and hopefully this information was retold also during the proceedings. The object starting price indicates that the item might have come under suspicion by the auction house. The fault in my (writer's) opinion is, that this matter received no mention in the catalogue.

20 Kopek Romanov Money Stamp on Parcel Card



Postal parcel card from a Helsinki railway station with 8. II. 1915 cds, to Ruokolahti. 20 kopek money stamp and 40 penni + 20 penni + 5 penni + 2 penni 1911 New Russian Eagle Types. The rate is: 20 kopek = 53 penni + 67 penni = 120 penni (franked value) Parcel weight = 2.5 kg. First 500 g = 40 penni; following 500 g units = 20 penni each; 4 x 20 penni = 80 penni + 40 penni = total 120 penni. (From the collection of Jorma Keturi.)

Bi-lingual Tornio Resealing Tape Used February-May, 1918 White Government Censorship of Foreign Mail During War of Independence

Over the last several years we have published several articles on postal censorship in Finland during World War I. All the censor offices were closed by November 26, 1917, except the Helsinki office which remained open until January 28, 1918. During my visit to NORDIA 2000 in Solluntuna, Sweden in March, I was fortunate to pick up several covers from the Civil War period. Jorma Keturi has provided some comments about the “Tornion sotasensuurin avaama” label that was used to reseal envelopes by the Tornio censor office from February to May, 1918.

Post Office circular No. 113471, dated March 26th 1917, directed all mail from foreign countries or addressed to abroad, be sent to the Helsinki Censor Office. The Tornio office was not to be used.

Just a few days later another Post Office circular, No. 113577 dated March 29, 1917, directed the cessation of the Tornio censorship activities. Only 5 censors stayed on duty as the shipping companies' foreign mail was directed to the Tornio office. This was done to speed up handling of their mail.

The last known mark from the Tornio censor office is April 19, 1917. For more details on the office during the WW I period see, T. Termone & J. Keturi, *Postisensuuri Suomessa, 1914-1918*, Part 2, pages 59-79.

During the Finnish War of Independence (also referred to as the “War of Liberation”), there was no postal censorship activities by the White Government between January 29, 1918 and February 14, 1918; only outgoing telegrams were censored. On February 14, 1918, the chief commander of the Finnish White Army ordered the commandant of the city of Tornio to establish postal censorship function for outgoing mail. One of the covers I purchased at NORDIA 2000 turns out to have been resealed with the earliest known usage of the new type of Tornio bilingual censor tape. The Tornio censor office continued to censor foreign letters after the War of Independence using a tri-lingual Finnish-Swedish-German mark. In the summer of 1918, the German text was removed.



Figure 1. This cover, franked with a 50 penni Saarinen issue and postmarked with a TPO cds “Postiljoonivaunu” Type, Postilj.v. T-O (Tornio-Oulu), 23. II. 18, is of particular interest for two reasons: it is addressed to Sweden and mailed during the period prior to UPU recognition of the Finnish penni stamps on mail to abroad. Until March 11, the kopek franking was still required on mail to all foreign destinations. There are several plausible explanations for the early use of the Saarinen issue: the supply of kopek issues was exhausted and resupply impossible due to wartime conditions or postal clerks sympathetic to the White government simply ignored the improper franking. Second, this cover was opened and inspected by the war censor at Tornio and resealed with the new bi-lingual “Tornion sotasensuurin avaama” tape. According to Jorma Keturi, this is the earliest reported use of this resealing tape. The cover bears an arrival cds, 26. 2. 18.

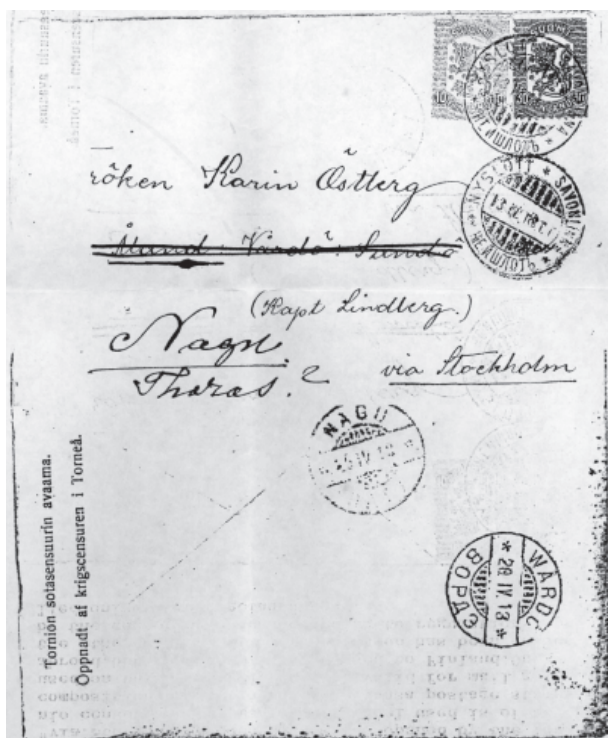


Figure 2. At the time this cover was posted on April 13, 1918 in Savonlinna, Southern Finland was still partly under the control of the Red Guards. The cover was addressed to Värdo, Åland Islands and marked "via Stockholm." The cover was directed to Tornio and opened by one of the censors who inspected mail sent to abroad. The cover was opened, inspected and resealed with the "Tornion sotasensuurin avaama" tape in use by the White government censors in Tornio. The cover is franked with the temporary wartime Vaasa issues at the 40 penni inland rate. The Vaasa issues were not valid on mail to abroad, but then this cover is addressed to a destination in Finland. On the other hand additional confusion has been caused by the censoring, which according to regulations, applied only to mail going to abroad. Unfortunately, there are no Stockholm transit marks, so it is impossible to be certain that the cover went to Stockholm and then back to Finland. From the collection of Jorma Keturi.

Figure 3, Right. Letter sent by a Swedish volunteer soldier from Lempäälä, 15. IV. 18, to Stockholm, backstamped May 2, 1918. Censored in Tornio according to the new regulations, opened, inspected and resealed with the Tornio bi-lingual censor tape. From the collection of Jorma Keturi.

This article was written by Roger P. Quinby based on information provided by Jorma Keturi.

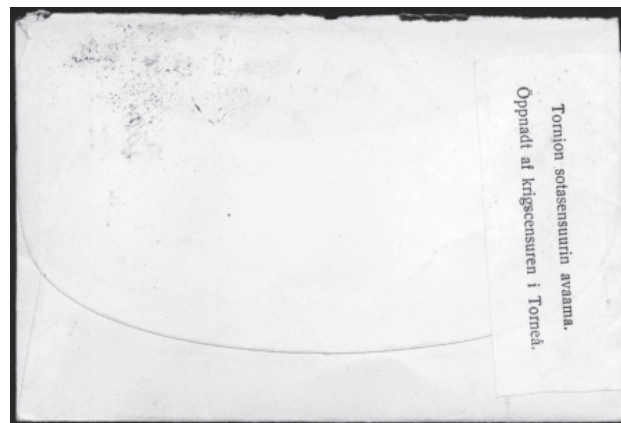


Figure 4. There is surprisingly little mail from White Finland to abroad during the civil war period and it seems that most of the surviving covers were addressed to Sweden. It should also be noted that many of these covers are without a transit or departure mark from Tornio or an arrival cds at Stockholm. This cover was cancelled at Pudas, 25. V. 18. This is a late use of the Tornio resealing tape. There are no transit or arrival marks. More information about the censoring procedures at the Tornio office during this period would be appreciated.

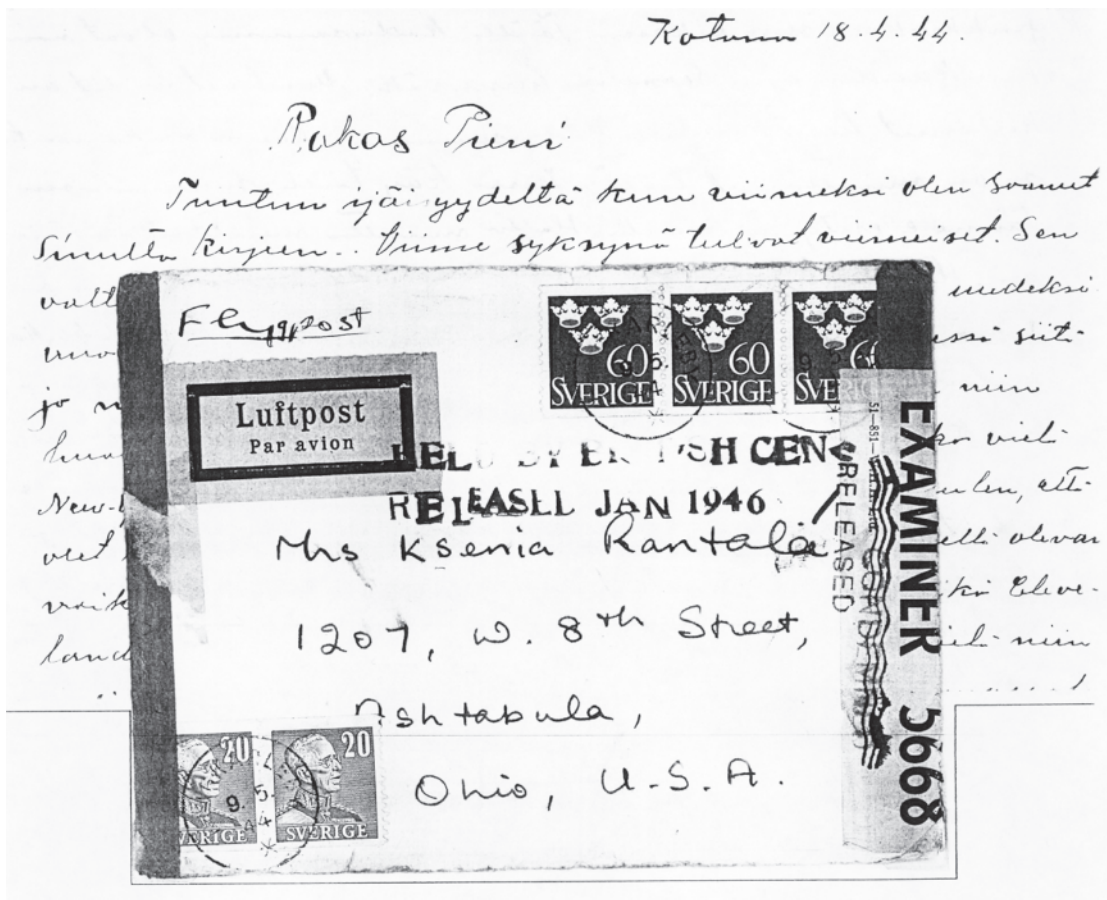


Seitsonen Exhibit Pages: Part 3 - Air Mail via Sweden, London and Scotland to & from the Americas, 1942-1946

Air mail via Sweden and England from March 31, 1942 to March 5, 1945

After the transport of mail became uncertain from Finland to the Americas and was interrupted in the summer of 1944, the Finns tried to keep letter communications with United States correspondents via third parties in Sweden using mail connections between Sweden and the USA.

Direction: From Finland to friends in Sweden and from there on the air route, Stockholm, to Scotland, and then to London, and from there by air to New York



Cover with letter written in Finland and sent to Sweden for remailing to the USA; from Ringkarleby, 9. 5. 1944, containing the Finnish reply letter, 18. 4. 44 (April 18, 1944). The fate of these letters was to be examined and held by English censors because of the Finnish origin.

Air mail rate: 2.20 Skr

Captured by English censor No. 5668 and released in January, 1946.

Mail traffic from Finland to the Americas suspended from August 21, 1944 to March 5, 1945

The invasion in Provence in the southern part of France on August 15, 1944 interrupted postal connection from Finland to Spain and to all of the Americas. Berlin informed Finland of the matter on August 19th and the post office refused to accept letters addressed to any American country from August 21st.

Direction: The mail addressed from Finland to the Americas was returned from the **Turku** and **Helsinki** exchange post offices to sender with a notice of the interruption of traffic.



Letter to the Dominican republic: Eurajoki, 23. II. 45 - returned with the stamp
 “RETURNED TO SENDER, SERVICE SUSPENDED”
 (“Palautetaan lähettäjälle. Postiyhteys toistaiseksi keskeytynyt”)

Letter rate: October 1, 1942 to June 30, 1945: -20 grams = 4.50 Fmk
 The air mail rates from Finland to the Americas were announced on March 5, 1945

Air mail via the Finnish Embassy in Stockholm from August 21, 1944 to March 5, 1945

When the mail was interrupted from Finland to the USA it was possible to send letters through the Finnish Embassy in Stockholm in limited number to America.

Direction: to the Finnish Embassy in Stockholm, where the letters were franked with Swedish postage to be conveyed on the route Stockholm to Scotland, and from there through London to New York.

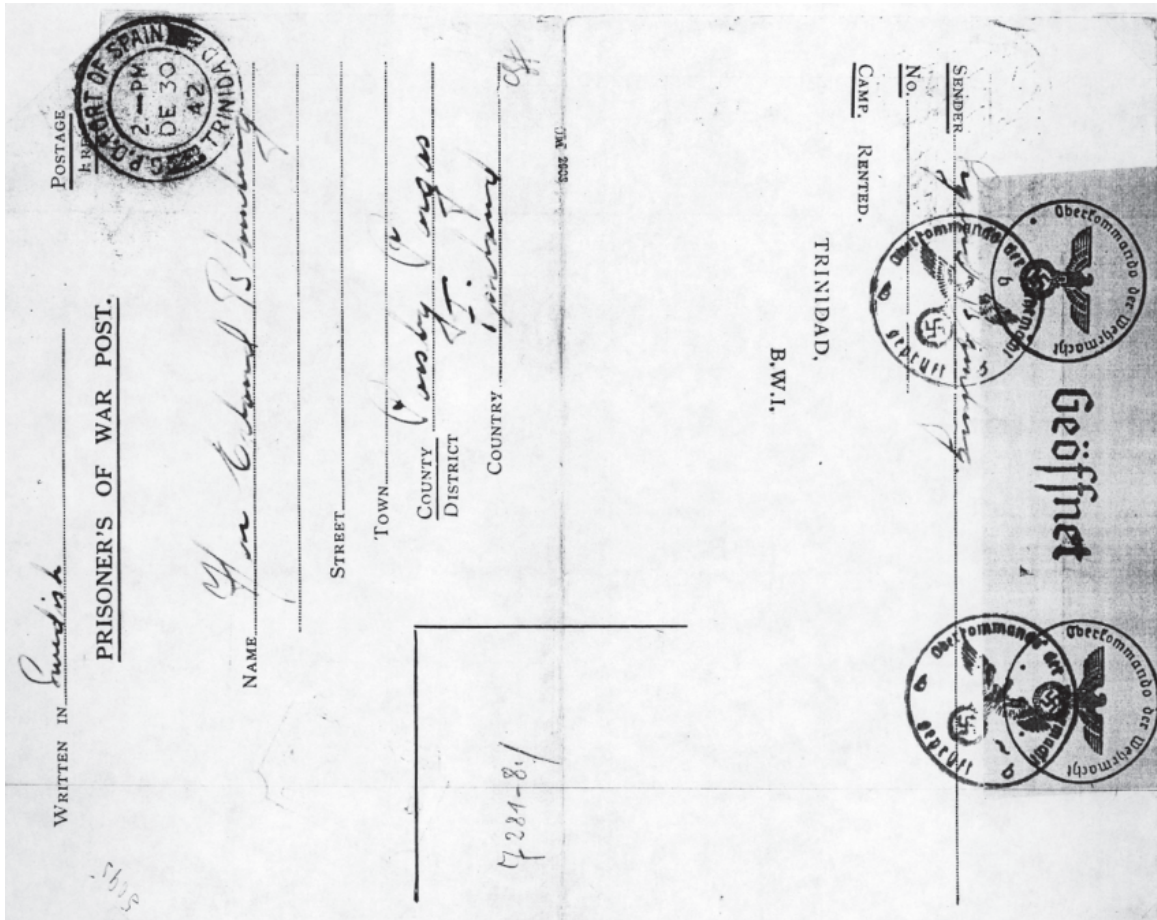


A letter to the USA: Lejos Oy, Helsinki to Stockholm, January 26, 1945
 The reply is asked to be addressed: Finska Legation, Stockholm, Sweden - Lejos Oy, Helsinki
 Rate: 0. 95 Skr
 Censor No. 61186 in the USA

Surface mail of the civilians interned in Trinidad to Finland from February, 1942 to December, 1943

When England and Canada declared war on Finland in December 1941, Finnish citizens, mainly seamen became internees of these countries in America

Direction: From **Port of Spain** by the ships of “Ybarro” company to Portugal or Spain, and from there via Berlin and Stockholm to **Helsinki**. The mail to Finland was not directed through the International Red Cross.



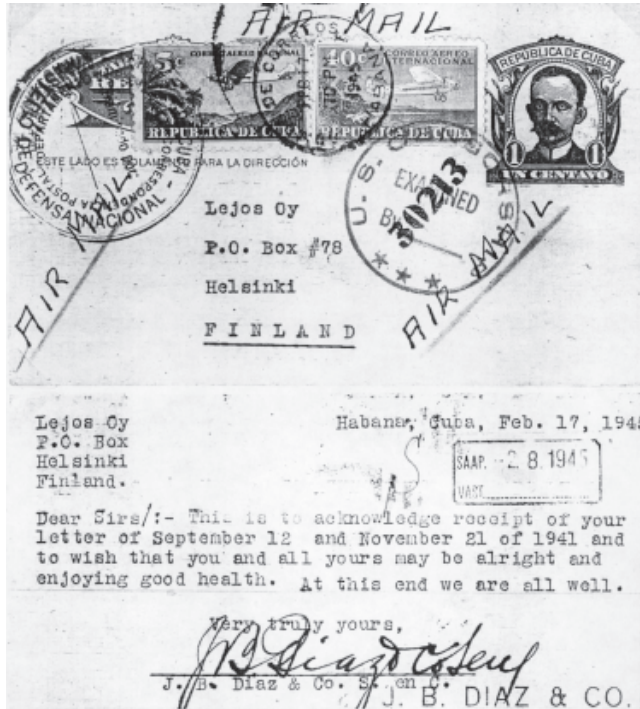
Letter from Trinidad, where there were 64 Finnish sailors interned: Port of Spain, DE 30, 42.

English censor in Trinidad
German censor in Berlin

Air mail from the Americas to Finland from February 27 to September 7, 1945

When the USA was releasing mail addressed to Finland, air mail was held because of high surcharges. This mail was kept in the New York Post Office. The first air mail letters arrived in Finland in the beginning of August, 1945

Direction: From **New York** by air via **London** to **Stockholm** and from there by ship to Turku and Helsinki.



The USA allowed only cards without any pictures from the Americas to Finland until September 16, 1945.

A printed matter card without picture from Cuba: Havana, 17 FEB, 1945 to Helsinki, 2.8. 1945

Rate for printed matter: = 1 Centavo
Air mail: = 45 Centavos

Censored in Cuba and in the USA, Censor No. 30213

Air mail to New York via Scotland and from March 6, 1945, to July 4, 1945

The postal traffic from Finland to the Americas was opened at first as air mail. In the beginning the air route had about two flights a week with no regular timetable and from May 21 to July 3, 1945 there was one flight each weekday. After July 3, mail via Prestwick was halted. On the first flight to the American continent there were about 500 letters weighing about 3.3. kg. They were addressed mainly to the USA, but some 20 letters were addressed to other destinations in the Americas.

Direction: From **Helsinki** and **Turku** by ship to Stockholm, from there by air through Prestwick and London to **New York**.



From March 6, 1945, only ordinary letters with a weight less than one ounce (28.5 g) could be sent to the USA.

From March 14 to October 3, 1945, only ordinary letters weighing less than one ounce (28.5 g) could be sent to the Americas.

A letter to New York: Helsinki, 6. 3(March). 45.

Rate: letter October 1, 1942 to June 30, 1945 = for less than 20 g, 4.50 Fmk.

Air mail: March 6, 1945 to July 31, 1945 for 6-10 g = 18 Fmk.

Censored in the USA by Censor No. 8073, No. 49 in Helsinki.

Air mail to Brazil via Scotland and New York from March 6, 1945, to July 4, 1945

Direction: From **Helsinki** and **Turku**, by ship to **Stockholm**, from there by air through Prestwick and London, to **New York**, and from there the air mail connection five times a week through the West Indies to South America.



From March 6-13, 1945, ordinary and registered letters with a weight less than 2 ounces (56.5 g) could be sent to the Americas, except to the USA.

From March 14 to October 3, 1945, only ordinary letters weighing less than one ounce (28.5 g) could be sent to the Americas.

A letter to Brazil: Helsinki, 28. 5. 45.

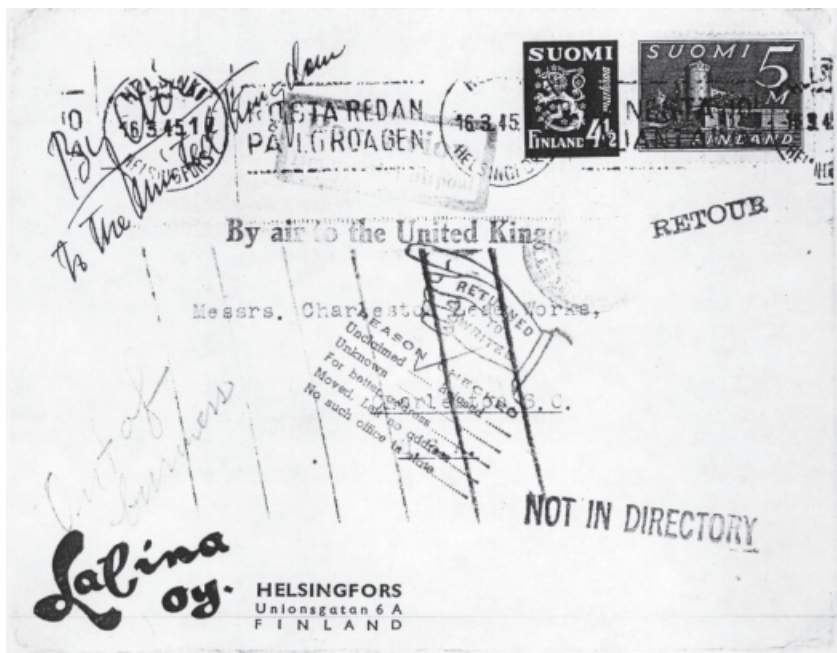
Rate: letter October 1, 1942 to June 30, 1945 =
for less than 20 g, 4.50 Fmk.
Air mail: March 6, 1945 to July 31, 1945 for less than 5g = 19 Fmk.

Censor No. 5626 in the USA

Air mail to London and from there on a surface route to all American countries from March 6, 1945 to November 5, 1948

The mail was conveyed this way only from Finland to the Americas.

Direction: From **Helsinki** and **Turku** through Stockholm by air connections to **London**, and from there by ship to New York.



The marking indicating the way of conveying "BY AIR TO THE UNITED KINGDOM" was obligatory in the airmail from Finland only to England

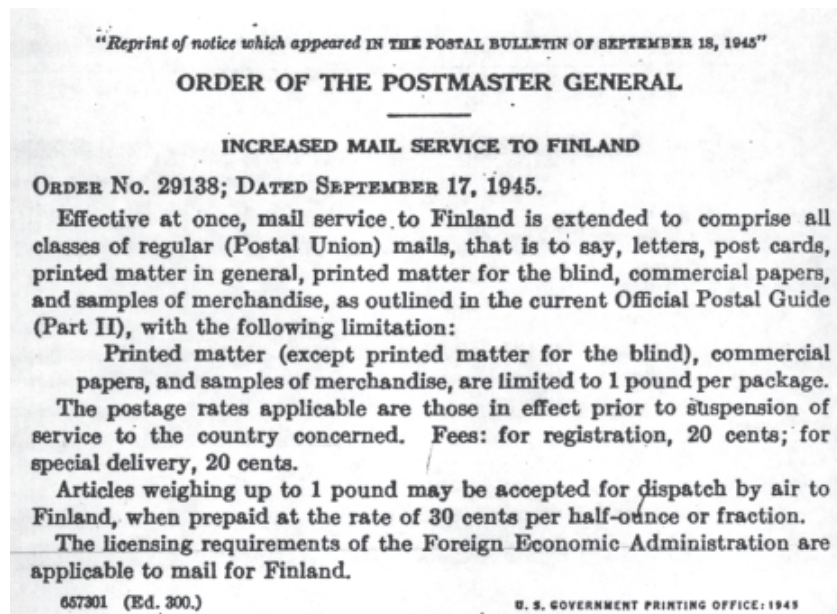
A letter to the USA: Helsinki, 16. 3. 45, to Charleston, SC, 2 MAY 1945

Letter rate from October 1, 1942 to June 30, 1945: -20 grams = 4.50 Fmk
Air Mail rate from March 6, 1945 to October 23, 1945
6-10 grams = 5 Fmk

Censored in Helsinki: Censor No. 31

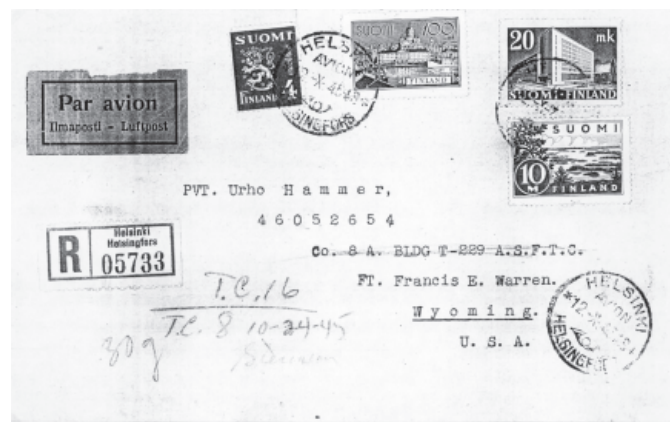
The mail traffic restrictions were withdrawn

On September 17, 1945, by order of the Postmaster General, the US Postal Administration announced the resumption of normal postal communications with Finland except for insured letters and printed matter parcels weighing more than 1 pound (500 grams). In Finland the decision became valid on October 4, 1945.



A direct air route was opened from Sweden to New York via Iceland to all American countries. Air mail via Reykjavik from July 5, 1945 to December 31, 1945

Direction: From **Helsinki** and **Turku** to Stockholm, and from there on the route of S.I.L.A. company, Stockholm to Reykjavik, to Goose Bay, to **New York**.



The weight restriction of 1 ounce (28.5 g) for letters was lifted in Finland on October 4, 1945 and letters up to 2 kg were allowed according to international weight restrictions. In order to save foreign currency the weight limit for air mail letters outside Europe was 30 g until October 7, 1948.

Registered letters could be sent from Finland to America from October 4, 1945, however, the letter had to be sealed in the presence of a postal clerk after proving that it did not contain any money or valuables.

A registered 30 g letter to the USA: Helsinki, 12. X. 45, to New York, then to Wyoming.
 Letter rate from September 1, 1945 to December 31, 1945 21-40 grams = 16 Fmk
 Air mail rate from August 1, 1945 to October 24, 1945: 26-30 grams = 108 Fmk
 Registration from September 1, 1945 to December 31, 1946 = 10 Fmk

Air mail via London and New York from January 1, 1946 to July 2, 1946 all American countries, except South America when service commenced March 22, 1946

Because of the expensive transit charge Finland discontinued the route through Reykjavik and redirected the air connection through London.

Direction: From **Helsinki** and **Turku**, from there by air through Gothenburg, London and **New York**.



A reply letter to a German infantry soldier transferred to Texas; from Helsinki, 18. 4. 46.

POW correspondence was controlled by officials. Directions given POW's were to be followed re contents, and frequency of correspondence. The franking of the reply letters were in accordance with the postage of international mail. US Censor No. 60582.

Letter rate: from September 1, 1945 to December 31, 1946; less than 20 g = 10 Fmk.
Air mail rate: from October 24, 1945 to December 31, 1946; less than 5 g = 22 Fmk.

Air mail via London and Natal from March 22, 1946 to April 15, 1946 to all South American countries.

Direction: from **Helsinki** and **Turku** by ship to Stockholm and from there by air to **London** with direct connections on Tuesday and Friday to Natal, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires.

General comment: During 1946 air mail to the Americas was changed on April 16th to be routed through **New York** and on July 3rd, the frequency was increased to three times a week on a route from Copenhagen to **New York**.



Air mail letter weighing more than 30 g addressed to abroad. An exception could be made for important business correspondence. A Letter to Argentina from Lahti, 22. III. 46.

Letter rate: from September 1, 1945 to December 31, 1946; 41-60 g = 22 Fmk.

Air mail rate: from October 24, 1945 to March 31, 1946; 41-45 g = 315 Fmk.

The missing 20 Fmk was charged on March 27 at the exchange office in Turku.

Air mail via London and New York to all American countries except South America from March 22, 1946 to July 2, 1946

Direction: From **Helsinki** and **Turku** by ship to Stockholm and from there by air through London to **New York**.



Articles liable to a customs duty were under certain conditions allowed in letters from Finland to the USA.

A letter containing photographs was liable to duty. These items were accepted by the Finnish and US customs officials. Helsinki, 26. III. 46 to New York.

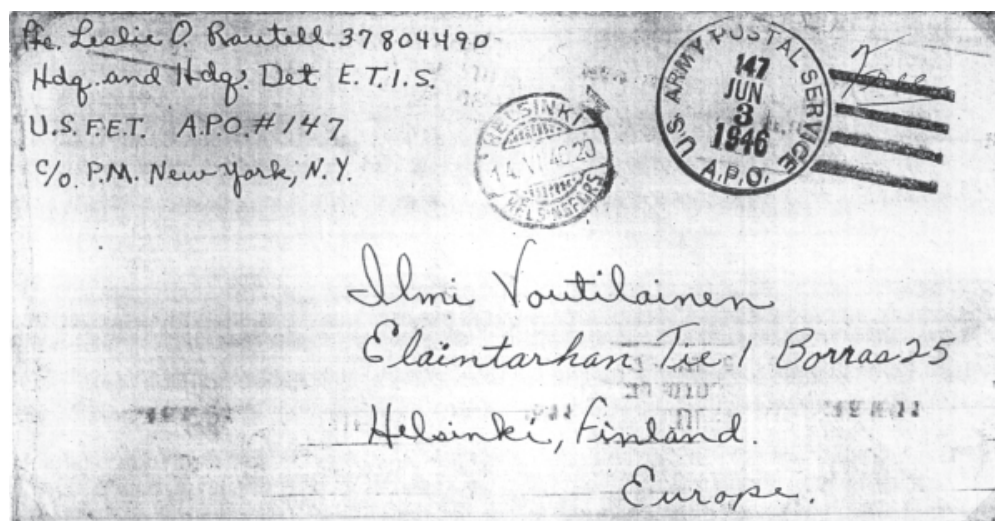
Letter rate: from September 1, 1945 to December 31, 1946; less than 20 g = 10 Fmk.

Air mail rate: from October 24, 1945 to December 31, 1946; 16-20 g = 88 Fmk.

Registration fee from September 1, 1945 to December 31, 1946 = 10 Fmk.

Military mail from the US Army to Finland from August 2, 1945

Direction: From **New York** by ship through London and Gothenburg and from there via Stockholm to **Helsinki**.



A letter from a US Army private to Finland: A.P.O. # 147, JUN 3, 1946, to helsinki, 14. VI. 46

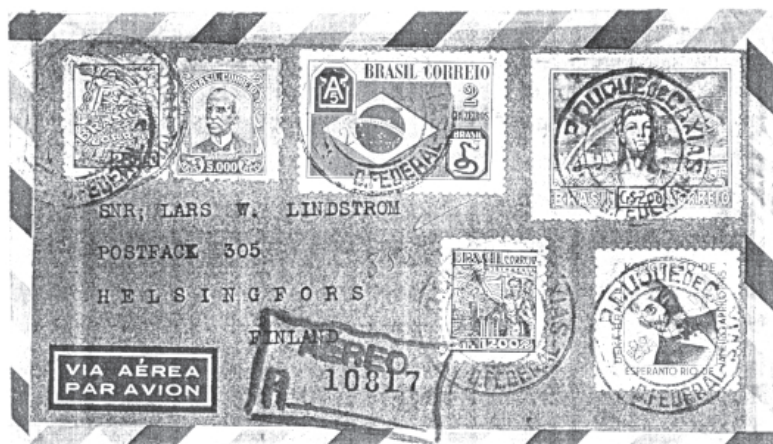
Rate: free of charge.

The exchange office in New York commenced to send air mail from American countries via London when necessary from September 8, 1945 to March 21, 1946

Direction: From **New York** by air via London to **Stockholm**, from there to Turku and Helsinki.

Air traffic between Finland and Sweden was suspended from March 5, 1945 to November 21, 1946 except for a few postal flights to Finland by the Swedish company, ABA.

All postal traffic between Finland and the American countries was conveyed via the New York exchange post office. The USA set all the terms on the letter mail regarding weight or sort and these applied to all American countries. There was much less postal correspondence from the American countries to Finland than from Finland to the Americas.



Registered mail from the American countries to Finland was again permitted on September 17, 1945.

Registered letter from Brazil: Rio de Janeiro, 20 Feb 46, via New York, March 3, to Helsinki, 11. III. 46

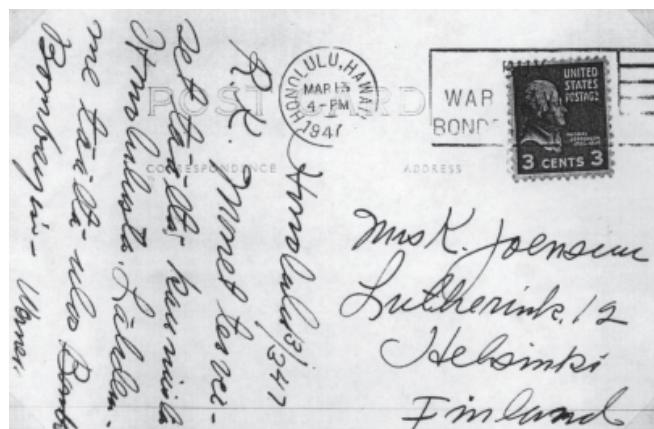
Letter rate: 4 cr, 6200 reis

The mail between Finland and the US remote possessions from December 6, 1941 to April 4, 1946

Although mail connections from Finland to the USA were kept open to the summer of 1944, they were broken off to the remote possessions effective December 6, 1941:

- Hawaii until March 26, 1942
- Guam & Samoa until February 26, 1945
- The Philippines until April 4, 1946

When the connection was reopened all exchange of mail was handled at the New York exchange office.



Illustrated cards from the USA to Finland were allowed on September 17, 1945.

Illustrated card from Honolulu, Hawaii, MAR 13, 1947.

Rate: 3 cents