

THE TEXAS POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

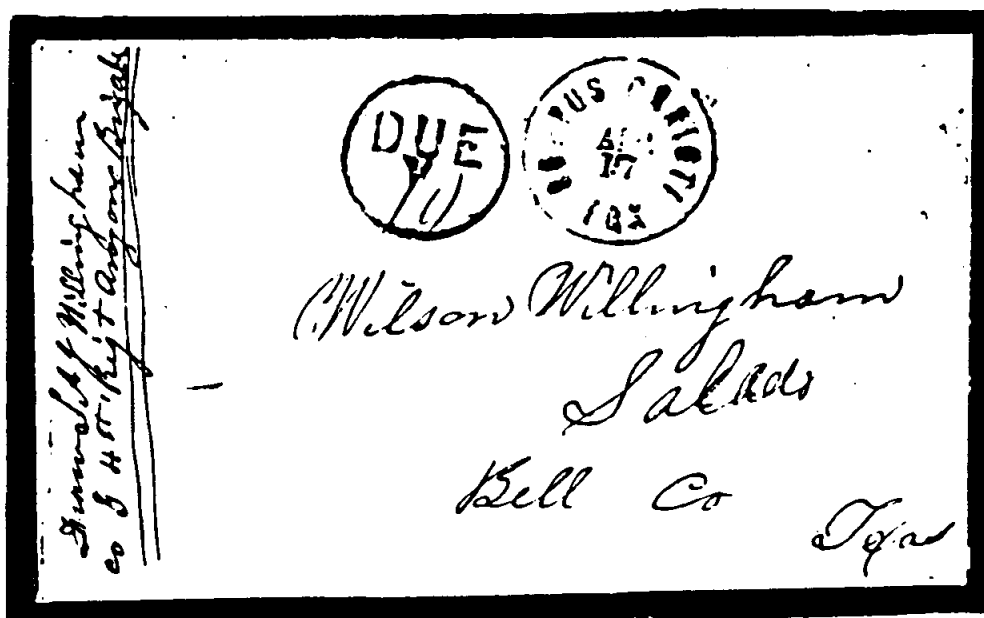


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Illustrated on the front page is a Confederate cover bearing a 25mm., circular, Corpus Christi postmark, dated Apr. 17, (1865). Since the cover was sent postpaid, there is a 21mm., circular DUE stamp, with ms. 10¢ within. For more information relating to this cover, see the article by R.H. Stever on the Arizona Brigade.

THE TEXAS POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Dues \$10 per year payable to Secretary-Treasurer

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



In case you missed the request for more articles in the last issue of the Journal, I want to again repeat my plea for your help. We can use most anything from scholarly studies to amusing anecdotes, or even your personal pleas for help in securing added information. We need a range of articles, so that something in each issue sparks the imagination of every member, and makes them glad they renewed their subscription. Let us all attempt to make Vol. 15 better than all the issues that have preceded it.

ANNUAL SPRING MEETING - The annual spring meeting of the Texas Postal History Society was held on Saturday, March 3rd, at 1 P.M. Facilities were provided by the TEXANEX -90 Show Committee. This was a fine local show, and the site at the San Antonio Municipal Auditorium was outstanding. Our meeting drew a small but enthusiastic group of participants. The main topic discussed concerned publication of a treatise on postal history that was too long for incorporation in the Journal. We reviewed the potential demand, the method of production, the cost, and finally the necessity of obtaining copyright releases in writing from the authors. Currently we have a 150 page manuscript under consideration, but as yet the required permission has not been obtained. The estimated cost of production is from five to seven dollars, plus a dollar U.S. postage for delivery. It would be deeply appreciated if members who have an interest in purchasing such a publication would drop a post card to your president.

TEXPEX - 90 On June 1-3, 1990 the Texas Philatelic Association will sponsor its 94th Annual Exhibition and Convention, in Palmer Auditorium, 400 South 1st Street, Austin, Texas. The show is now qualified in the A.P.S. World Series of Philately Competition, which means lots and lots of high quality exhibits. Come show your material and meet with exhibitors from all over the country. Its great fun; and with your eyes and ears properly attuned, you might pickup the "hint" that will spell "success" in all your future exhibits.

AUCTION SALE #3 - This issue contains our third auction sale. It appears that many of our members are highly enthusiastic over this new addition to the Journal. We plan to continue it on the same schedule as long as we have the material to offer and the members willing to send in their bids. Mr. Ed Leissner our Sales Manager has done an outstanding job in my opinion. Why not enclose your own congratulations to him when you send in your next set of bids?

ARIZONA BRIGADE

by
R.H. Stever

The folded letter shown in Figure 1 was posted at Corpus Christi on April 17, 1865. It was written by Confederate soldier Stirling A.J. Willingham to his family in Salado, Bell County, Texas. Perhaps soldier Willingham decided to let the family, probably old Dad, pick up the tab (as young people do today) because the letter was sent unpaid as shown by the Confederate "Due" in circle handstamp with manuscript "10" for the CSA postage rate.

But the story of this letter doesn't stop here. The contents prove that news of Lee's surrender at Appomatox on April 9th had not yet reached every corner of the collapsed Confederacy. Written from a hospital in Corpus Christi, soldier Willingham penned his family: ..."I thought as I had nothing to do this evening (April 16) that I would drop you a few lines to let you know how I am getting along. Well me and Captain McMillin is still at the hospital at this place. The captain is very low yet. He does not seem to mend any but the weather has gotten warm. I expect that he will soon begin to mend. He has been very sick, and is still very low yet.

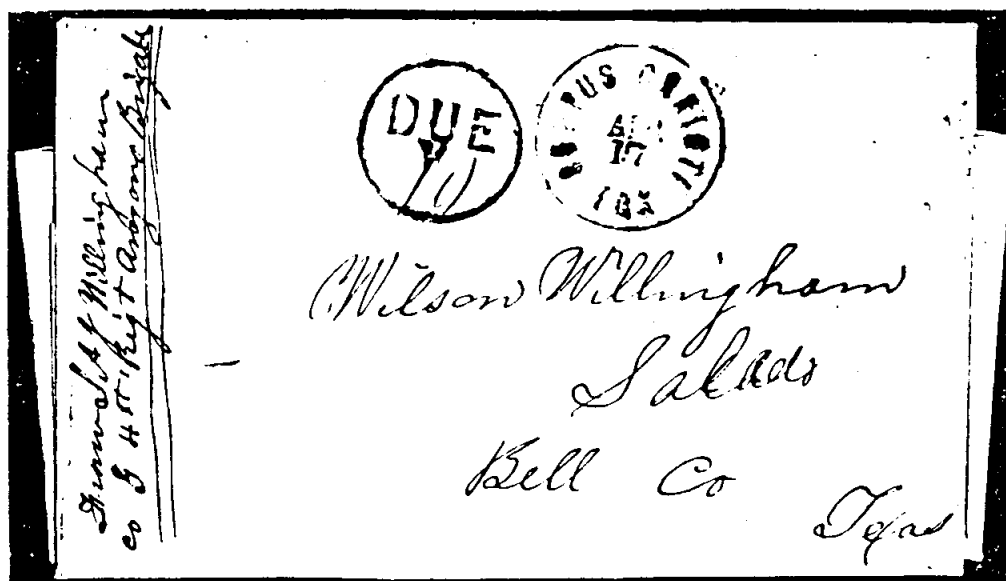


Figure 1

"I cannot get anything that is suitable for him to eat in this country. In fact there is but very little to eat out here of any kind of provisions. The soldiers get plenty to do them but the citizens is very scarce of provisions and a good many family are doing without bread now.

"I think we will have to stay here some time yet before the captain gets able to travel. Let him mend ever so fast as he is very weak and cant use but one of his legs. Yet I have not heard from any of the company since they past hear going to Houston.

"I have almost come to the conclusion that there be no fighting on the side of the Mississippi River this spring though there is no telling what a month will bring. I cannot see any prospects for Peace soon. I hope we will have Peace soon but if there is a chance for it I cant see it. I am afraid that the war will have to go on for some time yet..."

Poor communications and the presence of rumors are evident by Willingham's mention that "we heard the other day that Johnson and Beauregard had whipped Sherman but we dont know whether it is so or not. I hope it is so."

However, the really interesting postal history fact about this letter is the return address written vertically at left. It reads "From S.A.J. Willingham Co G., 4th Regt., Arizona Brigade." In other words, soldier Willingham belonged to a unit that was part of Confederate General Henry Hopkins Sibley's army that invaded New Mexico early in the war. The Arizona Brigade was in actuality the Fourth Texas Cavalry. Company "G" was recruited in San Antonio and consisted mostly of Texans. Stirling Willingham could have been one of the original recruits, having come down to San Antonio from his home at Salado to enlist. While serving in the Territories, the unit was joined by a small number of men from Arizona and southern California. This may be the reason it became known as the "Arizona Brigade". The regiment served in the Trans-Mississippi Department during its entire career.

Like most Civil War units, the Fourth Texas (Arizona Brigade) Cavalry was often known by the names of its commanding officer, i.e., Spruce M. Baird's Cavalry, Edward Riordan's Cavalry, Daniel Schowalter's Cavalry or John Thompson's Cavalry.

Command assignments of the regiment are listed below:

Jan. 1, 1862 Attached, Army of New Mexico. Sibley began evacuation of the Territories in the spring of 1862 and the regiment served exclusively in the State of Texas thereafter.

- Nov. 1, 1862 Attached, Sub-District of the Rio Grande, District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, Trans-Mississippi Department
- Nov. 1, 1863 Attached, Northern Sub-District, District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, Trans-Mississippi Department
- Dec. 17, 1863 Third Cavalry Brigade, First Division, District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, Trans-Mississippi Department
- Jan. 29, 1864 Garrison, San Antonio, Western Sub-District, District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, Trans-Mississippi Department
- April 9, 1864 Garrison, Rio Grande City, Sub-Military, District of the Rio Grande, District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, Trans-Mississippi Department
- May 25, 1864 Garrison, Ringgold Barracks, District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, Trans-Mississippi Department
- Sept. 30, 1864 Seventh Texas Cavalry Brigade, Third Texas Cavalry Division, Third Corps, Army of Trans-Mississippi

The Fourth Texas (Arizona Brigade) Cavalry participated in the following engagements but it is not established as to whether soldier Willingham and/or Captain McMillin were members of the brigade during these battles:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Skirmish near Ft. Craig, N. Mex. Terr. | Feb. 13, 1862 |
| Skirmish, Ft. Craig, N. Mex. Terr. | Feb. 19, 1862 |
| Engagement, Valverde, N. Mex. Terr. | Feb. 21, 1862 |
| Skirmish, Apache Canyon near Santa Fe, N. Mex. Terr. | March 26, 1862 |
| Engagement, Glorietta Pass (Pigeon Ranch) N. Mex. Terr. | March 28, 1862 |
| Skirmish, Commanche Canyon, N. Mex. Terr. | March 31, 1862 |
| Skirmish, Albuquerque, N. Mex. Terr. | April 8, 1862 |
| Skirmish, Fort Gillmore, N. Mex. Terr. | Aug. 7, 1862 |
| Engagement, Galveston, Texas | Jan. 1, 1863 |

Probably the greatest part of the Fourth Texas's career was spent doing garrison duty at various Rio Grande locations. The brigade was among Confederate forces surrendered at Galveston on June 2, 1865. Actually, many Confederate units disbanded prior to this date when news of the war's end in the east reached Texas. One wonders if soldier Willingham made it to Galveston,

stayed in the hospital at Corpus Christi with his captain or just went home to Salado.

During the Civil War there were two buildings in Corpus Christi that were used as hospitals. One was the Forbes Britton house on Upper Broadway, now called Centennial House, and the oldest remaining structure in the city. The other hospital, the second oldest existing structure in Corpus Christi, is probably where Stirling Willingham wrote his letter. Figure 2 shows that house as restored today. Dr. Eli Merriman used the house as a hospital during the Civil War. Historians think it was the more important of the two hospitals. The only three doctors in Corpus Christi, one of which was Dr. Merriman, died in this house during the great yellow fever epidemic of 1867.

Finally, it had been known through historical studies that an Arizona Brigade existed in the Confederate Army but no philatelic proof had turned up until Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr. "discovered" this letter early in 1967 while preparing an accumulation of Confederate covers for auction. It is truly a significant piece of Texas postal history.

References:

Walter, John F. Personal letter enclosing a Capsule
History of the Fourth Texas (Arizona
Brigade) Cavalry

Chemi, Jim Stamp column in the Phoenix (Ariz.)
Gazette, Monday, February 27, 1967

City of Corpus Christi, Heritage Park, A Walking Tour, 1986.

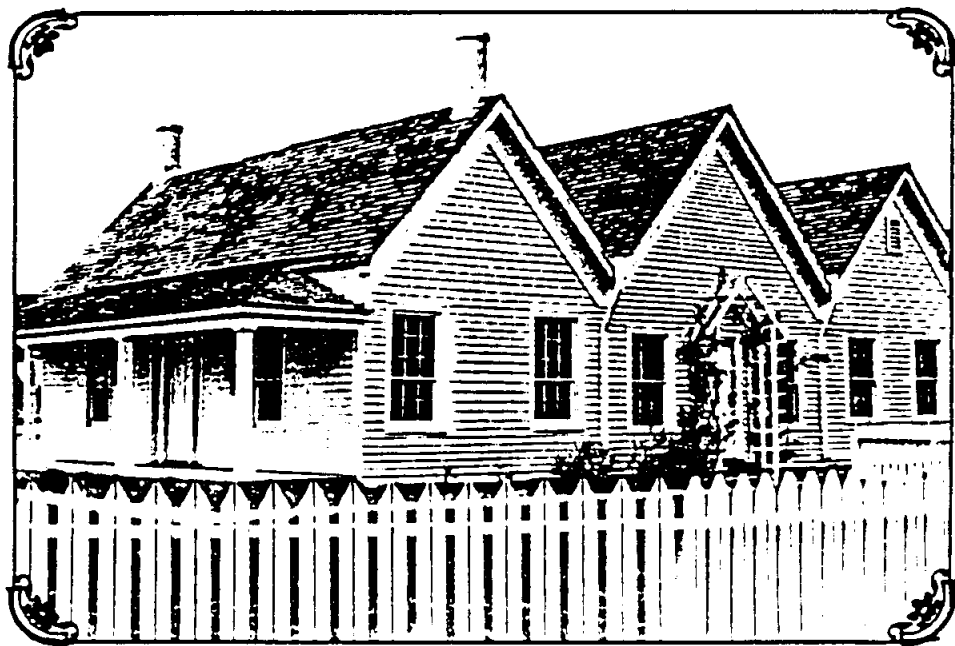
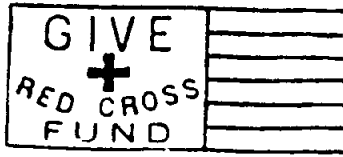


Figure 2

EP-74

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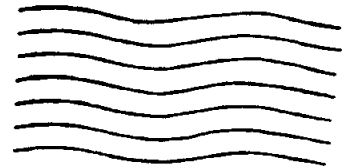


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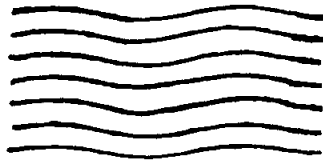


Feb. 1947-
Jun. 1948

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EP-76

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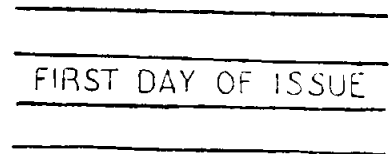


Apr. 1947-
Jun. 1948

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EP-77

Blk.



Nov. 1948-
First Day

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EP-78

Blk.

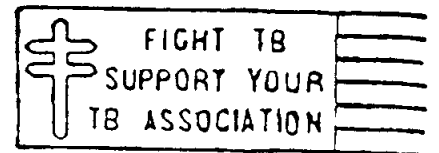


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Nov. 1953

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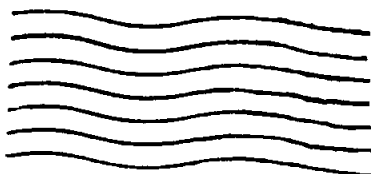


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EP-80

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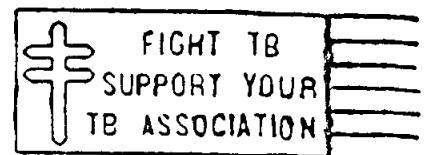


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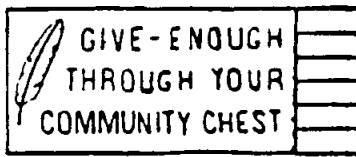


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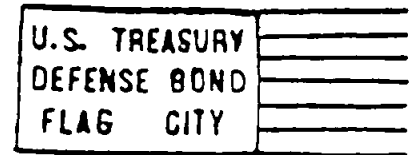


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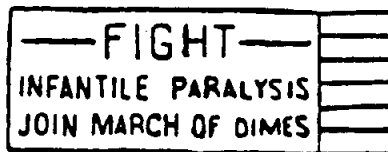


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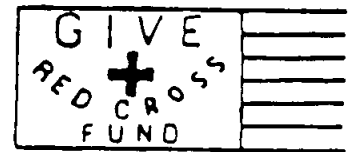


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EP-85

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EP-86

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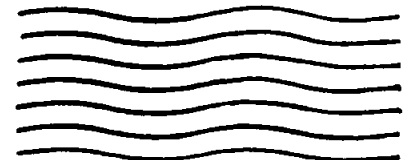
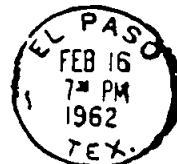


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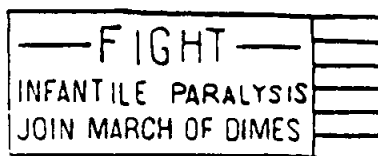


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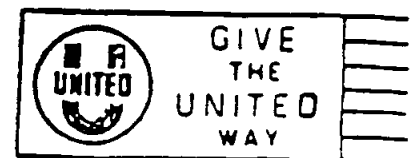


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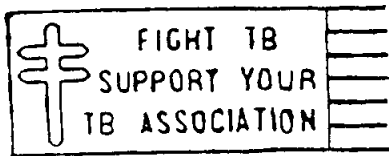


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Nov. 1959

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EP-90

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Nov. 1958-
Dec. 1958

22mm.

EP-91

Blk.



May 1959-
Sep. 1964

21.5mm

EP-92

Blk.

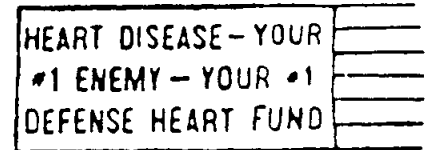


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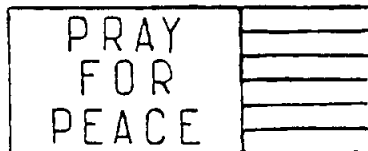


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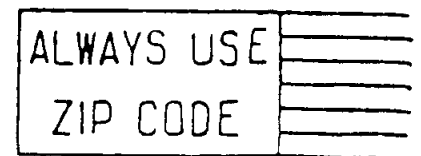


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EP-95

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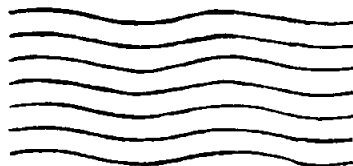


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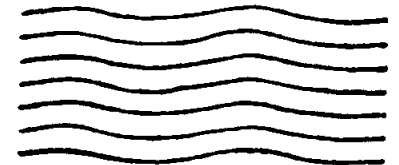


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EP-97

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EP-98

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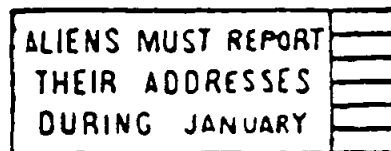


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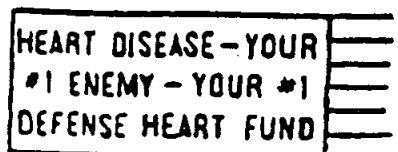


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EP-100

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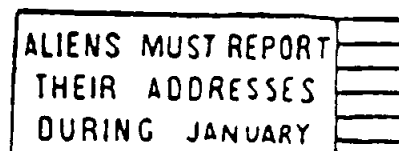


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EP-101

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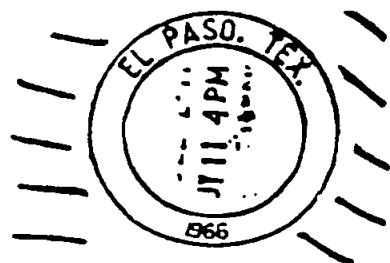


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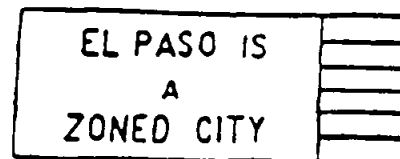


Jul. 1966-
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32mm.

EP-103

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Apr. 1967
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EP-104

Blk.

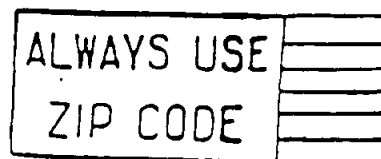


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EP-105

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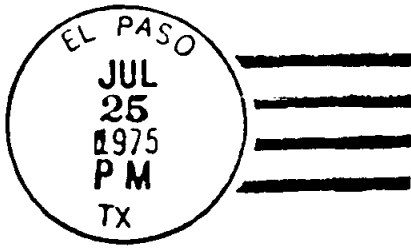


Oct. 1967-
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EP-106

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Sep. 1969-
Jul. 1975

32.5mm.

EP-107

Blk.



May 1970-
Unknown



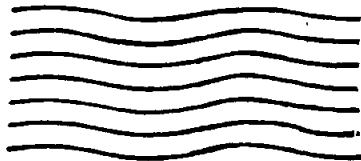
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EP-108

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Jul. 1971
Jan. 1972



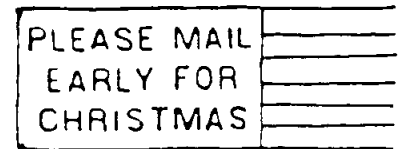
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EP-109

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Dec. 1974
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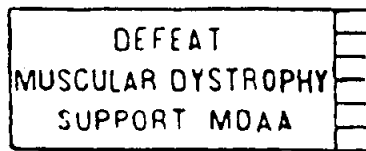
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EP-110

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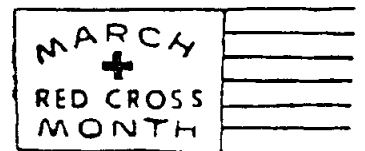
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EP-111

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Mar. 1977-
Unknown



23mm.

EP-112

Blk.



Feb. 1978-
Unknown



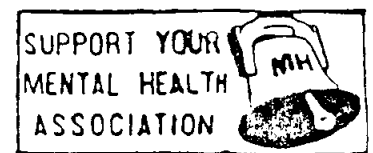
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EP-113

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May 1978-
Unknown



22mm.

EP-114

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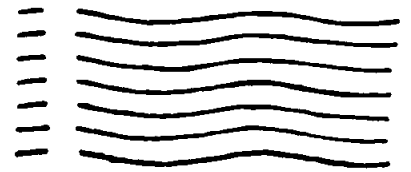


May 1978-
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EP-115

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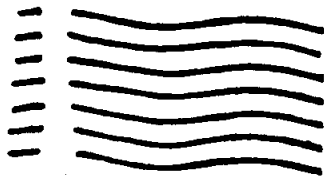


May 1978
Unknown

23mm.

EP-116

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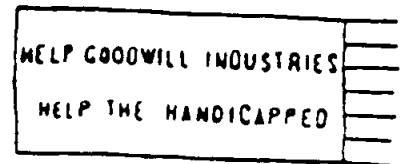


Jun. 1978-
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23mm.

EP-117

Blk.



Jun. 1978-
Unknown

23.5mm.

EP-118

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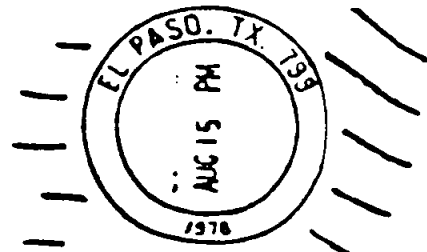


Aug. 1978-
Unknown

31mm.

EP-119

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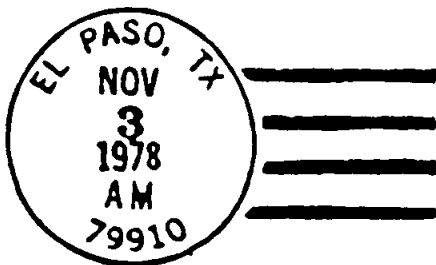


Aug. 1978-
Unknown

32mm.

EP-120

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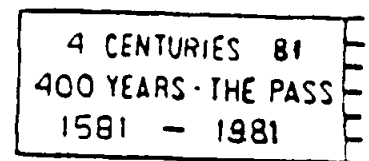


Nov. 1978-
Unknown

32.5mm.

EP-121

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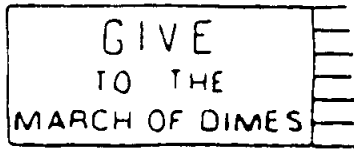


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EP-122

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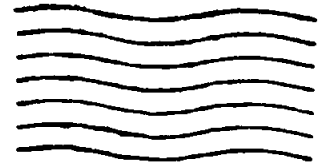


Oct. 1982-

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EP-123

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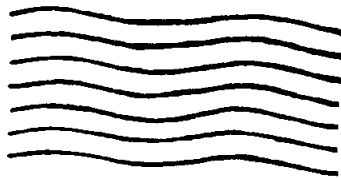


Apr. 1983-

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EP-124

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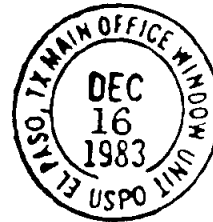


Dec. 1983-
Aug. 1986

23mm.

EP-125

Blk.



Dec. 1983-
Jul. 1984

29mm.

EP-126

Blk.

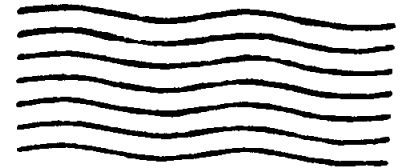


Aug. 1984-
Unknown

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EP-127

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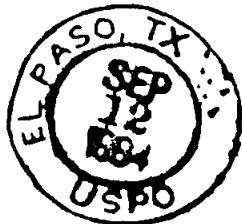


Aug. 1984-
May 1987

23mm.

EP-128

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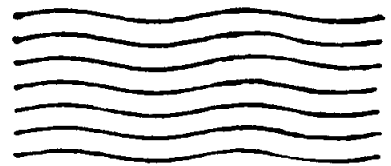


Sep. 1984-
Unknown

30mm.

EP-129

Blk.



Mar. 1987-
Nov. 1987

23.5mm

EP-130

Blk.

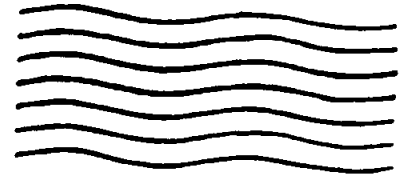


Aug. 1987-
Nov. 1987

23.5mm.

EP-131

Blk.



Dec. 1987-
Unknown.

23.5mm

* * * * *

DEAD LETTER OFFICE COVER

By Thomas R. Wegner

Quartermaster General's Office,

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

J. E. Johnston
Quartermaster General



Lieut. G. A. Cunningham
2d Cavalry U.S.A.

Via Fort Belknap & St. Louis } Camp Cooper
& California Overland Mail } Texas

Figure 1

Figure 1 shows an interesting Dead Letter Office cover sent from Washington, D.C. Feb. 20, 1861, addressed to Lt. G.A. Cunningham 2nd Cavalry, U.S.A., Camp Cooper, Texas. Routing instructions on the cover, indicate it should be sent via St. Louis, to Fort Belknap, Texas using the California Overland Mail.

It seems obvious that this cover entered Texas during the period known as the "Texas Independent Statehood" (Feb. 1, 1861 - Mar. 6, 1861). Since the United States Post Office Department contracts were still in force it appears that the letter should have been delivered. It was not until May 31, 1861 that Postmaster General Montgomery Blair suspended mail service to the rebel states and ordered all undelivered mail to be sent to the D.L.O.

One possible reason the letter was not delivered may lie in the fact that on Feb. 27, 1861, George Alfred Cunningham of Georgia, resigned his commission in the U.S. Army and accepted one as Lieutenant of Artillery in the Confederate States Army.

Meanwhile the writer of the letter, General Joseph E. Johnston also resigned his commission in the U.S. Army to become a Brigadier General in the Confederate Army.

T.T.P.H.S. NO. 3 SALE

Sale No. 2 was very successful. We offer No. 3 with lots of strength in scarce early covers from all over the state, especially one of the truly rare West Texas post markings, TRYCILLO in far OLDHAM County. The same rules apply as in Sale NO. 2. The sale will be closed 45 days after issue of the Journal. Your bid must be signed. Price to Buyer will be 5% over gross purchase price. You will pay mailing. Your purchase price will be a SMALL increase over the second highest bid. Sales are restricted to members. The sales manager reserves the right to withdraw any lot. If you would like to see the material, give the manager a call, 512-826-1522. For guidance, review our last sale as to offering and prices.

1. ATASCOSA CO. PLEASANTON w/SHAVANO, dpo rec. pm on front, type U311 1888 w/enclos., VG.....EV \$8.00
2. BEXAR CO. FT. SAM HOUSTON, dpo #267, 2 tied w/bcs 1901 on small mourning cover..(P)...EV \$5.00
3. BEXAR CO. KIRBY dpo reg. cover cds 1915 w/F-1 and 425 not tied, rare use..(P)...EV \$50.00
4. BEXAR CO. SAN ANTONIO, type 402, 1915, w/illus. Gunter Hotel, attractive..... \$7.00
5. BEXAR CO. SAN ANTONIO, type 402, 1916, w/St. Anthony, cc w/illus. front of hotel on reverse, nice interesting cover.....EV \$8.00
6. BEXAR CO. SOUTHSAN, dpo 499 on ppc, tied w/1919 bcs w/bars, picture of Brackenridge Park, tiny nick, scarce strike....EV \$8.00
7. BORDEN CO. GAIL 319 bcs 1906 w/illus. cc Gen Merchant.....EV \$3.00
8. CAMERON CO. BROWNSVILLE 65 tied w/bcs, 1866 w/encl. and byline "Leanche La Pinitas", interesting letter..(P)...EV \$30.00
9. CASS CO. JEFFERSON, stampless folded letter w/manuscrip and 10c rate. Letter mentions trip up Red River, circ 1850's..(P)...EV \$35.00
10. CAMP CO. PITTSBURG, U349 Columbian Entire 1893 bcs w/cork, cc, F-VF.....EV \$4.00
11. GALVESTON CO. GALVESTON, 207, 1880, w/bcs and circular cross roads cork w/purple oval "Have your letters addressed to St. & No.".....EV \$12.00
12. GALVESTON unused envelope w/illus. of the Tremont Hotel and description, circa 1900, F.V.....EV \$1.00

13. GRAYSON CO DENISON CITY, 207 Tied w/blk circular lines cork, circa 1880, flap on back gone w/slt. tear.....EV \$8.00
14. HARRIS CO HOUSTON, 1903 Barry Machine on Type U358 w/red heart & arrow, and shoe factory on rev., one flap missing on back, nice.....EV \$12.00
15. GUADALUPE CO. YORK CREEK, dpo UX8 w/manuscript canc., 1888.....\$25.00
16. HOUSTON CO. UDSTON, dpo U317, bcs 1889, F.....EV \$17.50
17. KINNEY CO. BRACKETTVILLE 207, 3c green w/1881 bcs w/Ft. Clark return on reverse, F-VF.....\$10.00
18. JACKSON CO. TEXANA, dpo 1882, U163 w/dbl circ. and 7 bar circ. Killer, slt. reduced @ Rt., disirable cover....EV \$30.00
19. MATAGORDA CO. MATAGORDA, bcs w/circ. bars (1867) U-58 w/interesting encl., F.....EV \$12.00
20. McLENNAN CO. WACO type 463, 2c red, early Columbia machine #19, 1917, scarce.....EV \$5.00
21. MILAM CO. LILAC, dpo UX14, w/bcs 1894, card folded.....EV \$9.00
22. WALKER CO. HUNTSVILLE, 2 covers, 1 w/pr. #300 tied w/bcs 1909, 2nd entire U311, slt. reduced w/bcs 1893 and cork.....EV \$4.00
23. WALKER CO. HUNTSVILLE, 2 covers, 1. U362 bcs 1902 w/grocery store cc, VF. 2nd 634 w/flag canc. 1928 slt. reduced w/grocery store cc.....EV \$4.00
24. NEWTON CO. BURKEVILLE, U10 circa 1850's, canc. w/manuscript pm, VF.....EV \$22.00
25. NEWTON CO. LAUREL, dpo U313 and 2 copies #257 on reg. cover, attractive..(P)...EV \$25.00
26. NUECES CO. CORPUS CHRISTI, 210 brown bcs 1886, neat cover, F.....EV \$8.00
27. OLDHAM CO. TRYCILLO, dpo 210 tied w/cork oval blk. county canc. w/encl., scarce desirable item, canc. is on front of Vol. #3 of Journal of IPHS..(P)...EV \$100.00
28. ORANGE CO. ORANGE, type U313, bcs w/cork 1894, F.....EV \$5.00
29. PALO PINTO CO. MINERAL WELLS, 319 tied w/bcs, large cc The Crazy Well Water Co., on front and back, cover slt. foxed.....EV \$4.00
30. PALO PINTO CO. STRAWN & LYRA, rec. marks 1901 on UX12, to the Strawn Coal Mining Co., F.....EV \$3.00
31. PARKER CO. WEATHERFORD, type UB17, 1891 bcs w/cork, cc, F.....EV \$3.00
32. PARKER CO. WEATHERFORD, 319 tied w/1908 machine flag, large bell illus, nice..(9)...EV \$18.00
33. PARKER CO. FARWELL, type 406 2c red, tied w/bcs and cc "El Kay El Ranch", F.....EV \$4.00
34. POLK CO. LIVINGSTON, U349 2c Columbian entire bcs 1893 w/blk cork, minor tear.....EV \$4.00
35. POTTER CO. AMARILLO, type 406 2c red, 1912, early Columbian machine w/cc, F.....EV \$5.00
36. RED RIVER CO. DETROIT, 1897, 267, bcs w/cork to Mary Nash College, F.....EV \$5.00
37. REEVES CO. PECOS, type U317, bcs 1891 w/target cork and cc, early use, F.....EV \$5.00
38. ROBERTSON CO. OWENSVILLE, dpo #65, 2 copies black rimless large letters, F..(P)...EV \$32.00
39. RUNNELS CO. MAVERICK, dpo, type U317, bcs 1894, F.....EV \$5.00
40. SABINE CO. HEMP HILL (2 words) bcs circa 1859, reduced and expertly repaired..(P)...EV \$12.00
41. SAN AUGUSTINE CO. SAN AUGUSTINE, U59, w/bcs 17mm diam. w/black star, striking cover, VG.....EV \$50.00
42. TRAVIS CO. AUSTIN, 2 items, 1. cover w/267 tied w/machine 1902, University of Tex. cc, stp. slt. faulty, 2. pc PR4 machine strike 1929..(P)...EV \$2.00
43. TRAVIS CO. AUSTIN, 2 covers, 1 w/301 tied w/bcs 1903 w/Univ. of Tex. cc, 2. #301 tied w/machine 1904 U. of Tex. cc, few minor tears.....EV \$3.00
44. TRAVIS CO. AUSTIN, type 464, 1918 bc machine, engraved illustration of The Driskill, attractive..(P)...EV \$18.00
45. WALKER CO. HUNTSVILLE, (see lots 22 & 23 for other Walker Co.), cds #65 tied w/circ. line cork, w/encl., F-VF..(P)...EV \$20.00
46. SHELBY CO. WILLALUCE, dpo ppc #300, tied w/1908, bcs, F.....EV \$10.00
47. WEBB CO. LAREDO, type U317 bcs 1894, small tear, rec. strike on rear.....EV \$6.00
48. WILBARGER CO. DOANS, dpo pc, UX9, 1890, bcs, F-VF.....EV \$12.50
49. WISE CO. BOONEVILLE, dpo (front) 2c Columbian, large circ. strike.....EV \$2.00
50. WOOD CO. QUITMAN, type U59 cds, ink stain & 2 tiny holes, nice.....EV \$7.00
51. WOOD CO. QUITMAN, U231, 1886, w/dbl. circ. & line in circ. cork, VG-F..(P)...EV \$22.00
52. YOUNG CO. GRAHAM, 1893, U349 2c Columbian, purple circular strike w/star in circle, nice, attractive w/cc, VF.....EV \$8.00
53. RRPO, NEWTON & FT. WORTH, RPO Tr. 17, #319, 1906 cover w/tear, corresp. priceless "I want my ring back".....EV \$6.00
54. RRPO TEXAS & LAREDO RPO TR. 4, 1899, type U364, rear flap missing.....EV \$8.00
55. Literature. "Galvestons' Cork Artists", by Frank H. Watt, discussion and illustrations of 60 corks from 1866 to 1890 period, 80 pages, interesting and scarce.....EV \$30.00

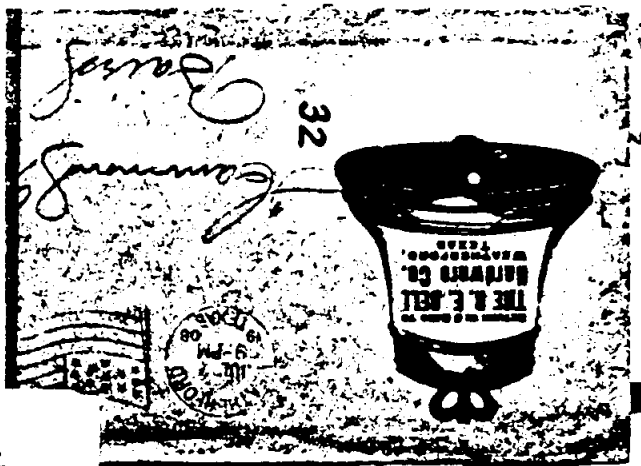
SALE

manager

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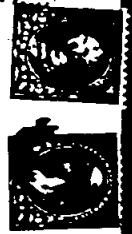
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3



*James
Cammery*

32



45

*James
Cammery*



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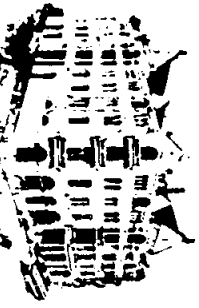
Wm. B. Davidson's



27

Wm. B.

Wm. B.



44

*THE DRISKILL
AUSTIN TEXAS*

A. T. Jefferson Hotel



Wm. B.

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51



Wm. B.