

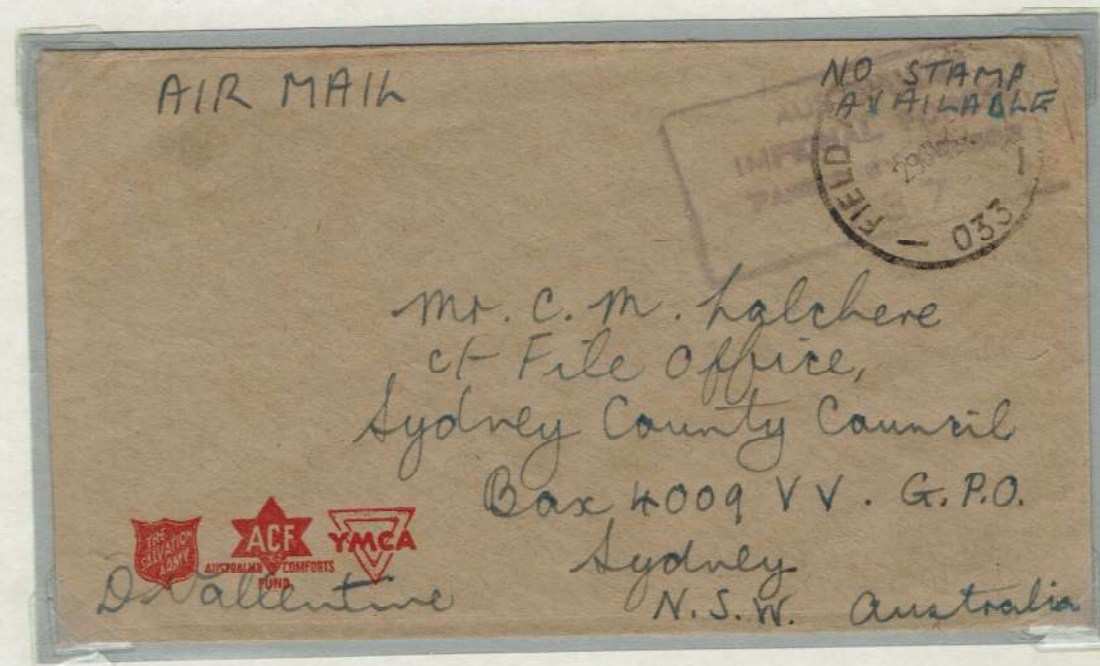
**BRUNEI: FPO 033**

The FPO 033 datestamp was attached to one of the battalions in 20 Brigade Which landed in Brunei on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 1945, and had subsequent use in Sarawak extending until February 1946. The examples below are dated the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1945 addressed to Balgowlah, in New South Wales. Postage paid 4d instead of the 3d military air mail rate. The second cover is dated the 5<sup>th</sup> September 1945 to Mrs Richardson at Berrima District Hospital, Bowral in New South Wales from her husband. Both covers have the rectangular Australian Military Forces Passed by Censor 347 applied.



**BRUNEI: FPO 033**

This FPO was in use from 10<sup>th</sup> June 1945 and the first example below is dated the 29<sup>th</sup> July addressed to Sydney. Censored with the rectangular Australian Imperial Forces Passed by Censor 737 cachet applied. The second cover was written on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 1945y SX26907 Cpl. Bayne R.J., 2/118 Bde. W/S addressed to Toowoomba in Queensland. Postage is paid with 1d Australian stamp and the violet rectangular Australian Military Forces Passed by Censor 543 has been applied to the front.



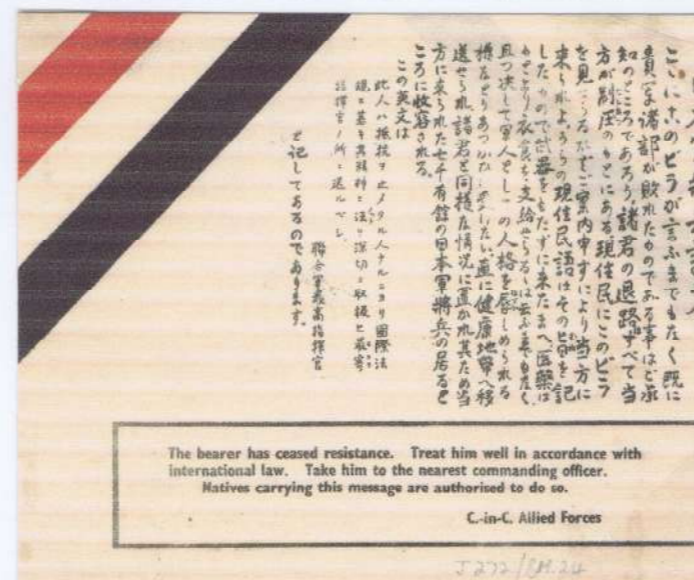


# PEACE

An airdropped leaflet indicating that the Japanese have lost the war and that any bearer of this notice should be treated with respect and taken to the nearest Officer. YOU WILL GET A GOOD REWARD



Photocopy [reduced] of the reverse printed in Japanese, Chinese and English. The translation is by no means exact.



## AUSTRALIAN MILITARY POSTAL SERVICES

Australian Army troops landed on Labuan and other points on the West coast on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1945 and rapidly established communications using their Field Post Offices and Base Offices. The Royal Australian Air Force set up a base on Labuan Island.

Australian stamps were used and rates were as in Australia at the time,

This cover from Field Post Office 035 was registered and posted on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1945 at Beaufort where the FPO was stationed from 11<sup>th</sup> August until 6<sup>th</sup> November attached to 24th Brigade.

The Registered Cachet in purple ink  
F.P.O. 35 - No. 3878

It is back stamped No 6 AUST P.O. stationed at Labuan. With Hobart arrival 28<sup>th</sup> September. 5 days in wartime by RAAF. An excellent service!

Rate 3d Australian for airmail postage and 3d for registration fee



AIR FORCE P.O. 234  
5<sup>th</sup> September 1945

A registered airmail letter from Air Force P.O. 234 which was stationed on Labuan Island from 12<sup>th</sup> June 1945 until 1<sup>st</sup> April 1946.

Franked 3d airmail rate and 3d registration fee to Hobart Tasmania.

Back stamped in transit at Melbourne 10<sup>th</sup> September 45 and Registered Hobart 11 September 1945..

Passed by RAAF Censor 46

## AUSTRALIAN ARMY POSTAL SERVICES

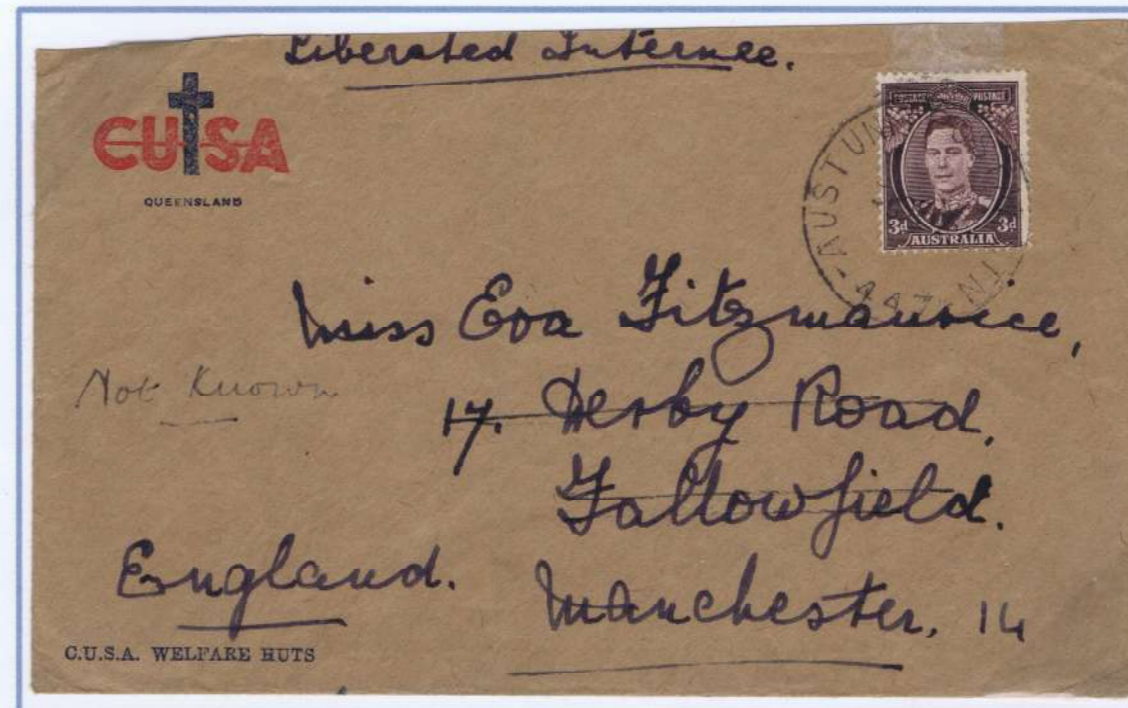
The Australian Army provided a postal service for liberated internees and other civilians until the Post Office could be re-established.

6<sup>th</sup> December 1945

► Letter from Jesselton using Australian Unit Postal Station 447 of the 2/15 Field Company.

Franked Australian 3d and delivered to Manchester on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1945 where the addressee was unknown.

Ex Watterson 2017



AUST UNIT POSTAL STN 447

27<sup>th</sup> November 1945

◄ From Jesselton To Manchester

Franked 6d in Australian stamps but AIR MAIL has been deleted officially in blue crayon.

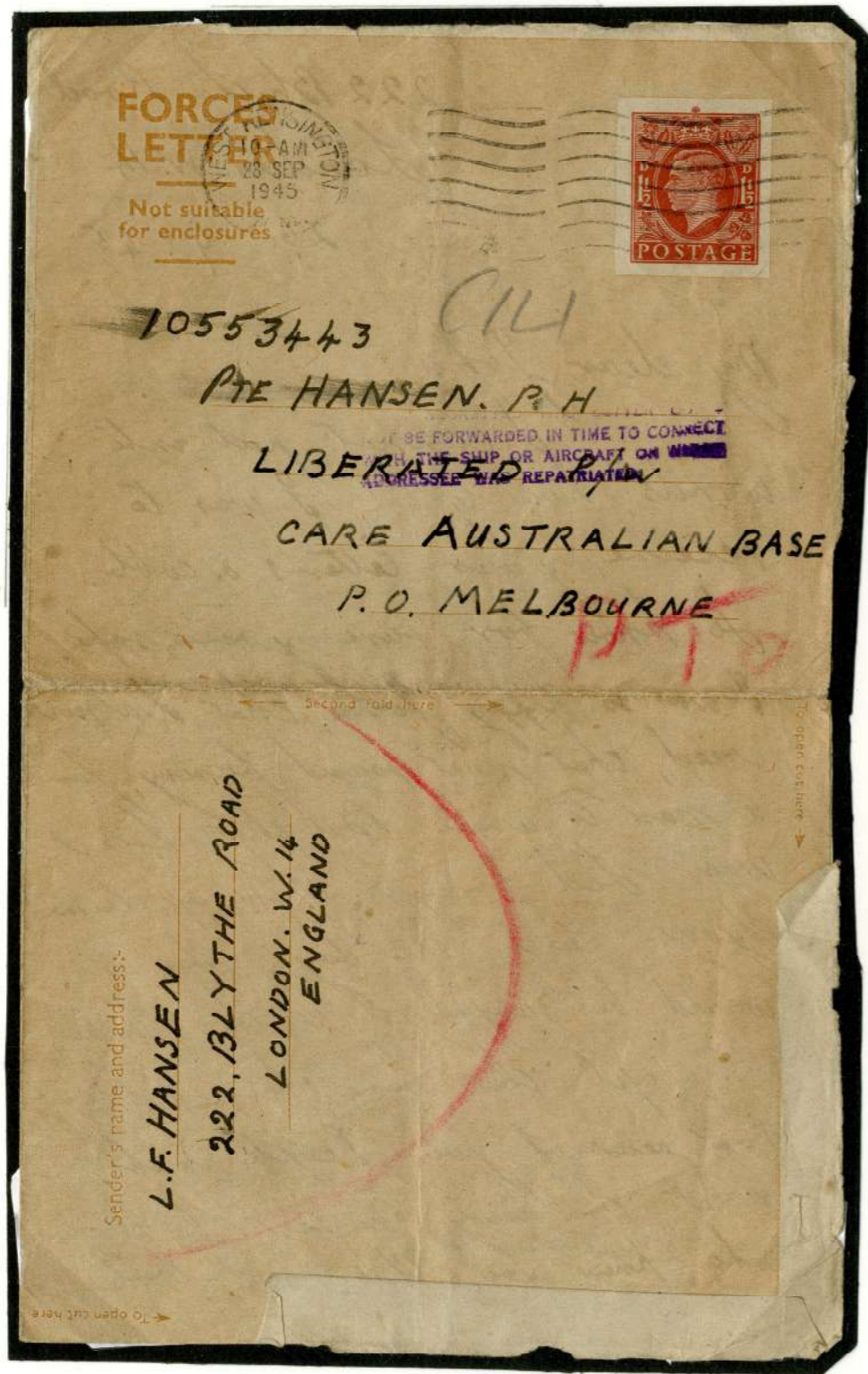
Civilian Use

Ex Watterson 2017

Undelivered Mail to Liberated P.O.W—Returned to Sender Part One

Three letter sheets to Philip Hansen. Undelivered and returned to sender for the reasons given in the cachets below:-

28<sup>th</sup> September 1945  
Postmarked West Kensington



Without the first cachet  
From Philip's brother Leslie

UNDELIVERED FOR REASON STATED  
RETURN TO SENDER  
&

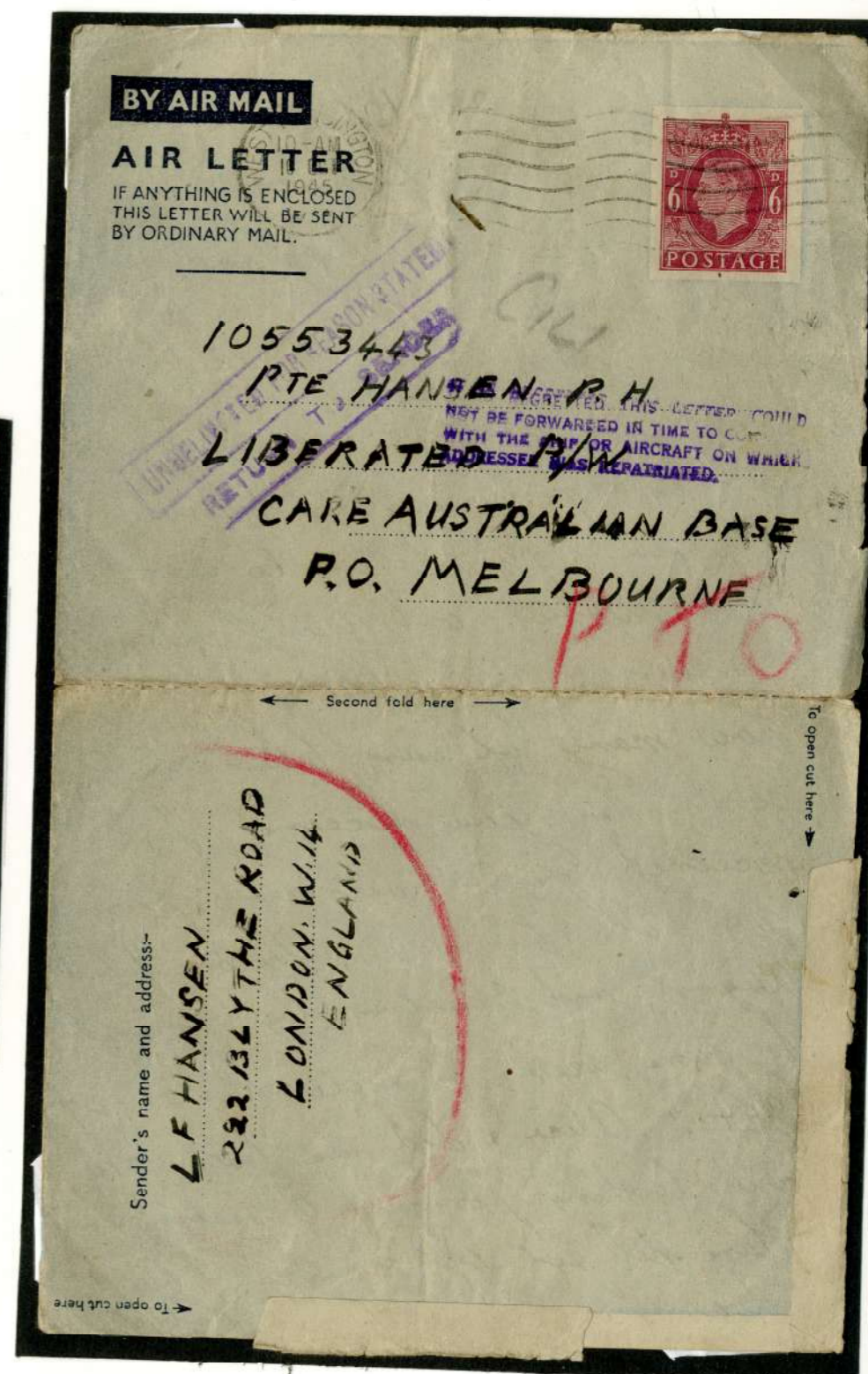
IT IS REGRETTED THIS LETTER COULD  
NOT BE FORWARDED IN TIME TO CONNECT  
WITH THE SHIP OR AIRCRAFT ON WHICH  
ADDRESSEE WAS REPATRIATED

29<sup>th</sup> September 1945  
Postmarked Beeston, Nottinghamshire



Kathleen, Philip's pre war girlfriend  
used a 2½d definitive adhesive,  
rather than having the pre printed  
air mail letter sheet.

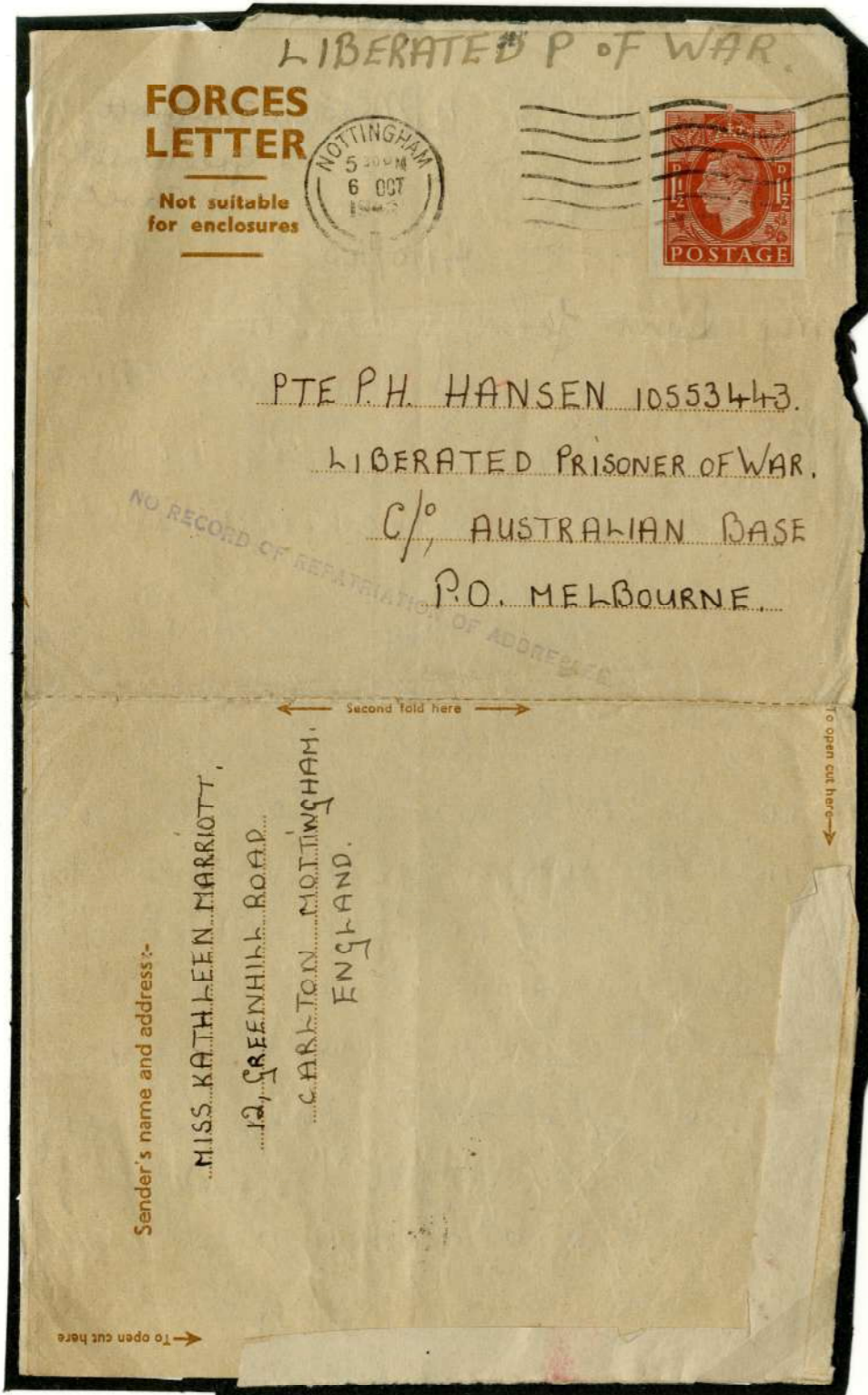
10<sup>th</sup> October 1945  
Postmarked West Kensington



Sender's name and address-

Undelivered Mail to Liberated P.O.W.—Returned to Sender Part Two

6th October 1945  
Postmarked, Nottingham



Two air mail letter sheets, both from Kathleen Marriott, bearing the cachet:-

NO RECORD OF REPATRIATION OF ADDRESSEE

Both have the preprinted 1 1/2d purple KGVI stamp. This was the correct rate for air mail letters to P.O.W.s at the time, having replaced the 3d rate on March 27th 1944.

8th October 1945  
Postmarked, Carlton, Nottinghamshire

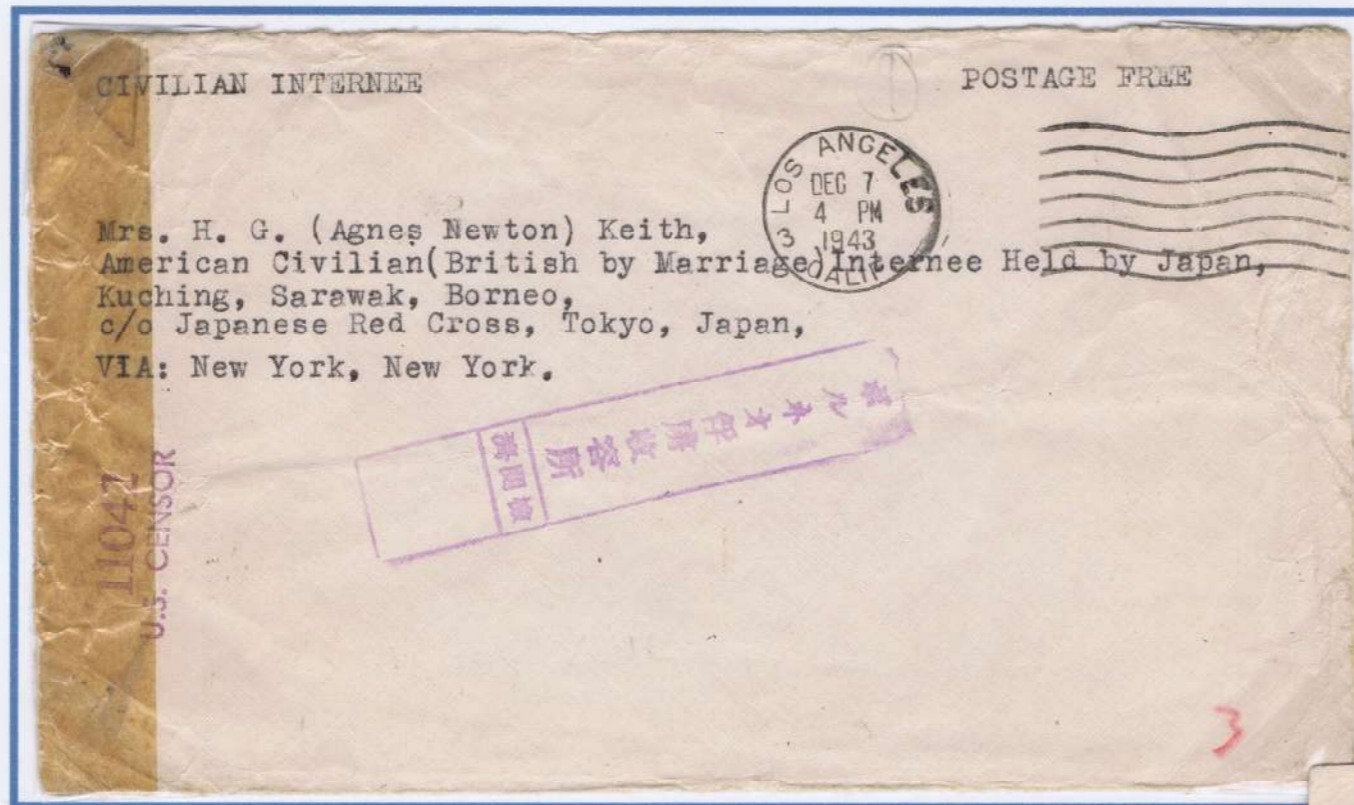


Telegram from Liverpool to Leslie Hansen announcing Philip's safe return to England.

"ARRIVED SAFELY, SEE YOU SOON"

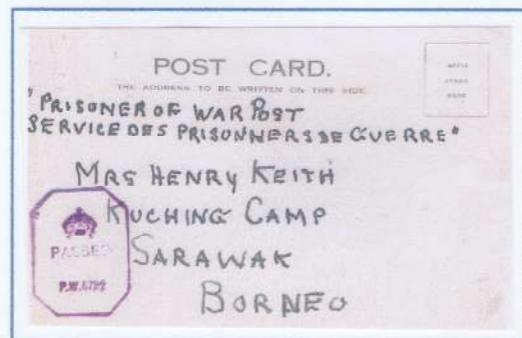
# CIVILIAN INTERNEE MAIL

Civilian internees and some prisoners of war were moved from Sandakan North Borneo to camps in Kuching. Mail into Kuching is scarce but some survives addressed to Agnes Keith a well known author who was interned with her son George, who was born in 1940



7<sup>th</sup> December 1943

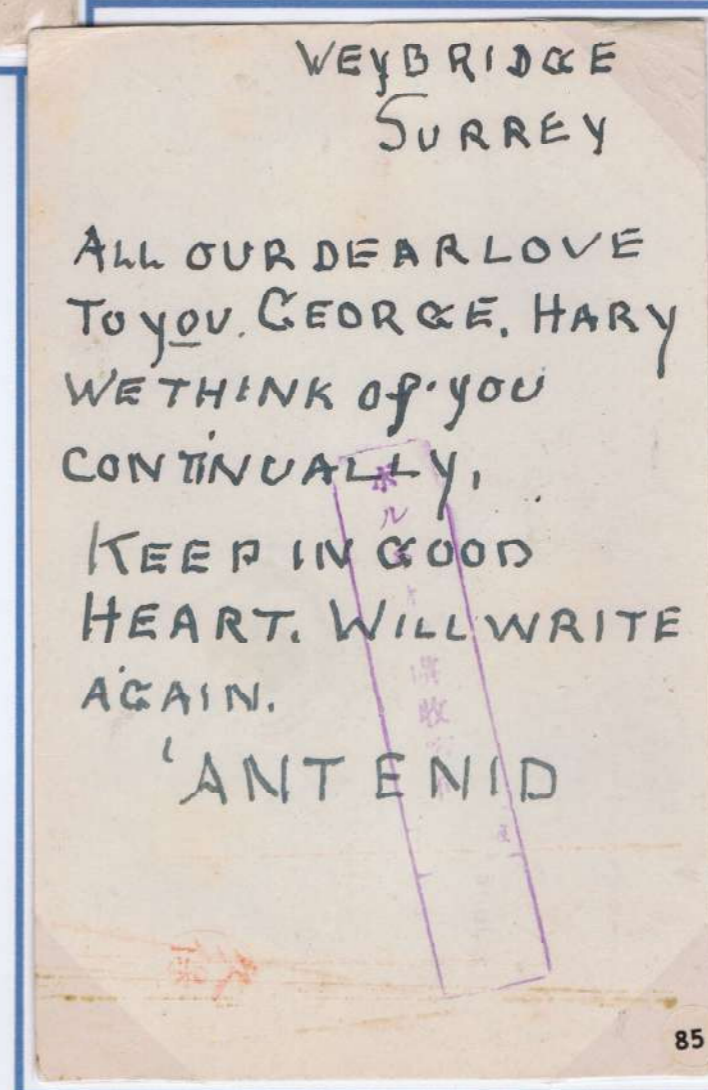
This free post cover from Los Angeles was censored by the US Censor and taped up using plastic tape and eventually arrived in Borneo obtaining the Japanese military censor



47% Copy

A post card from England without post mark but with a standard UK Censor mark P.W.6782 addressed to Mrs Keith but for her son George. This card arrived and was censored by the Japanese military censor

The red oval personal seal of Suga the Censor is to the left of the box where it should have been.▶



29.12.1945 Cancel of Bangkok S.P.O  
to Canadian P.O.W. Mission. R.A.F. Don Muang  
Contains all Siam/Thai Definitive Stamps of the time 2.3.10 Baht  
on reverse.



I am unable to find out details of W.I. Crampton.  
It was thought at first, it was another "Crampton" RAF.  
Canadian WWII records are still not available.

RAF supplied Douglas C47 Dakota to take allied P.O.W.s  
to Burma and thence by ship to their home countries.

## AUSTRALIAN MILITARY POSTAL SERVICES

Following liberation a postal service came into operation using Australian military facilities. On October 29<sup>th</sup> 1945 official authorisation was given to sell Australian stamps to civilians to pay for air mail overseas.

An envelope from JESSELTON sent through Australian Military Post Office in LABUAN

This cover postmarked 25<sup>th</sup> October 1945 precedes the authorisation but the rate is civilian being 23 cents ( 2 x 3d =16c +3c and 4c ) The letter was registered at APO 239 No 8059

It is back stamped AAPO 239 No 6 AUST BASE P.O. D – 25 OC 45 and Leederville 30 OC 45.

Use of pre-war North Borneo stamps in this period is otherwise unrecorded.

Ex Hubbard



Earliest commercial usage of BMA stamps seen.  
Australian stamps were withdrawn from civilian use the same day.

AUST ARMY P.O. 239  
18<sup>th</sup> December 1945

A registered airmail letter from AAPO 239 which was stationed on Labuan Island from 18<sup>th</sup> June 1945 until 26<sup>th</sup> June 1946.

Franked 3d airmail rate and 3d registration fee to Croydon, Sydney with an additional 2c North Borneo stamp over printed BMA issued only the day before 17<sup>th</sup> December 1945.

2c was about a halfpenny and rates of 6½d or 7d have been noted .

Back stamped in transit No 6 AUST BASE P.O. latest date known 18 DE 45. and at GPO Sydney 22 DE 45.