

V-MAIL... - AIRGRAPH: COMUNICAÇÃO POSTAL NA SEGUNDA GUERRA

PLANO DA COLEÇÃO

- O que são?
 - Breve História
- Por que foram adotados?
 - Redução de volume e peso
 - Necessidades de notícias e Certeza da comunicação
- Como funcionava o sistema?
 - Formulários padronizados
 - Microfilmes e envelopes
 - Mudanças de endereço
 - Porte gratuito ou pago?
- Formulários ilustrados para Ocasões Especiais:
 - Natal e Ano Novo
 - Dia das Mães e Dia dos Pais
 - Páscoa
 - Dia dos Namorados
 - Aniversários
- Final da Guerra e do Serviço



Tira de 6 Negativos de V-Mails - Mar. 1943

Durante a 2ª. Guerra Mundial, iniciada em 1939, a troca de correspondência entre os soldados que estavam nos teatros da guerra e seus familiares estava se tornando um problema complicado em virtude do grande número de cartas, o que significava um considerável peso e espaço precioso nos aviões, além da perda irrecoverável quando os aviões eram abatidos. A ausência de notícias influenciava diretamente no ânimo das tropas.

Para resolver o problema, em 1940 o Tenente-Coronel John Moore Brabazon teve a ideia de que o Airgraph, inventado no início da década de 1930 pela Kodak em conjunto com a Imperial Airways (atual British Airways) para diminuir o peso e o volume da correspondência transportada via aérea, pudesse ser usado para a correspondência dos soldados. A 1ª mala foi entre a Inglaterra e o Egito em 1.1.1941. As cartas eram microfilmadas e os microfilmes eram enviados ao destino onde eram revelados e entregues aos destinatários. Uma vez que se confirmava a chegada da mala postal ao destino os originais eram destruídos. Com o sucesso do serviço, o uso do Airgraph foi estendido ao Canadá e África Oriental (1941); Burma, Índia e África do Sul (1942); Austrália e Nova Zelândia (1943) e Ceilão e Itália (1944).

Com a entrada dos Estados Unidos na Guerra, os americanos também adotaram o serviço a partir de 15.6.1942 e deram-lhe o nome de V-Mail (forma reduzida de Victory Mail) ou Seabees (nome próprio que vem das iniciais CB – Batalhão de Construções – da Marinha dos Estados Unidos) e o utilizou para todos os locais onde tinha tropas. 150 mil cartas (1168 kg), que ocupavam 37 Malas Postais e um grande espaço, passaram a usar somente 1 Mala Postal de 20,4 kg. Foi usado até 1945 quando, com o término da Guerra, deixou de ser necessário.

Write Address
in large BLOCK
letters wholly
within this panel



THE ADDRESS
MUST NOT BE
TYPEWRITTEN

Como informei na 1ª página, um dos motivos principais do uso do AIRGRAPH era a redução do volume e peso nos aviões.

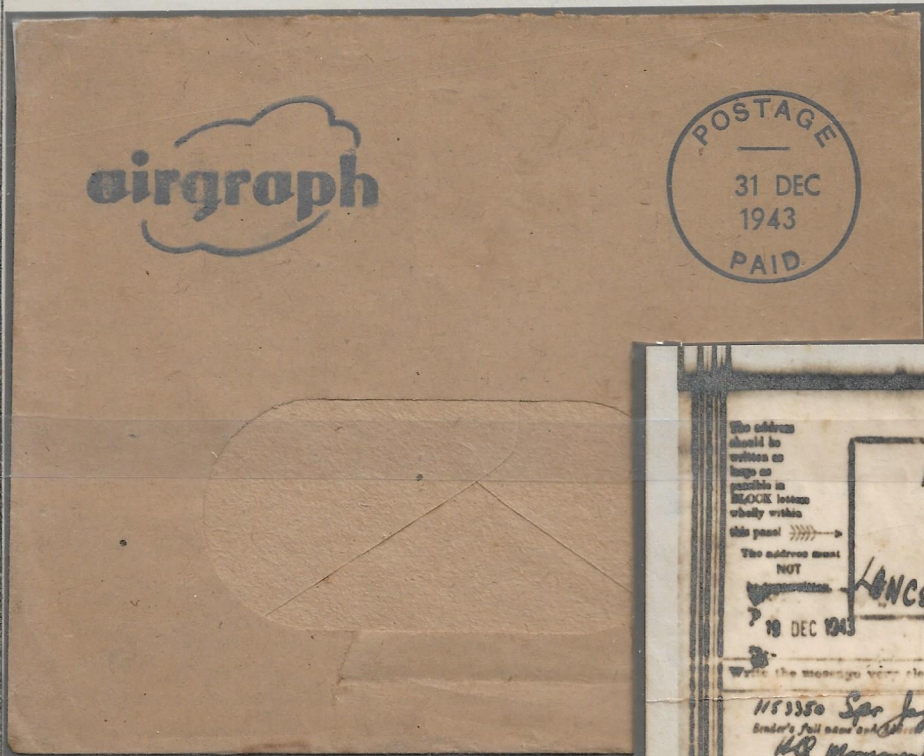
Aqui vocês podem ter noção da redução e vêem um Formulário Original e o Microfilme...

Franking Officer's
Signature and
Unit Censor Stamp
Impression

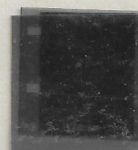


Military Airgraph Service authorized by Egyptian Postal Administration

Write the message very plainly below this line



Date



Microfilme - Mar. 1943

The address should be written in large or small BLOCK letters wholly within this panel. The address must NOT be typewritten.

18 DEC 1943

MRS JAGGER
3 SPENCER ST
HOLLINWOOD
LANCS OLDHAM ENGL

18 Dec/43

153550 Spc Jagger
149 Movement Along. det. det. 153550

Dear Mother,

It is just a week from now, as we have been having sunny weather & blue skies until today when it clouded over & then the rain started to fall making the high red dirt into mud. I wish you had been up at every club, perhaps it is a good job that it doesn't rain so often. I received 7 hours' arguments today including Jesus, slaves & illness. pleased to hear that you are keeping well at present, take good care of yourself & don't be getting into any draughts & colds. We are looking to have some turkey for Xmas so we have been following some of the good for weeks, so that we shall be able to have a good time then. Miss looking that by this time next year we shall be at home again. Fondest love to you all

Your ever-loving son
Raymond

Envelope para entrega - 31.Dez.1943

... ao chegar ao destino a foto era revelada e entregue ao destinatário num envelope padrão.

Airgraph processado - censurado em 7.Dez.1943

Formulário Original de Airgraph

THIS SPACE SHOULD NOT BE USED

POR QUE FORAM ADOTADOS?

- Necessidades de notícias e Certeza da comunicação

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

ADDRESS SHOULD BE COMPLETE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|--|--|
| No. PVT. JOHN DOE ASN 23456789 BTRY. 8, 227 TH F.A. BN. A.P.O. 29 7/8 PostMASTER NEW YORK, N.Y. | MRS. J.C. DOE (Sender's name) 286 SANDERSON ST. (Sender's address) COLUMBUS, OHIO SEPT. 9, 1943 (Date) |
|--|--|

"BACK THE ATTACK"
 WASHINGTON, D. C. SEPTEMBER 9 TO 27
 MORE LETTERS FROM HOME MEANS HIGHER MORALE "OVER THERE"
 USE V-MAIL

Here are the advantages of using V-Mail for all correspondence to our men and women in military service overseas.

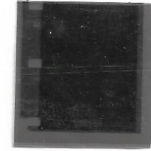
1. Requires only a small fraction of the shipping space necessary for ordinary mail.
2. V-Mail has a priority over all except official mail for ship mail overseas.
3. Your letter gets there - If the V-Mail film is lost in transit, the original letters are re-photographed and the new film is dispatched immediately.
4. More war supplies can be shipped in the space saved by using V-Mail.
5. Strict privacy is assured - V-Mail letters are photographed in a semi automatic machine at the rate of 1500 per hour.

IT'S PATRIOTIC TO USE V-MAIL

V-MAIL

V-Mail de 1943 mostrando as vantagens e incentivando o uso

A necessidade da troca de notícias entre os soldados e seus familiares fez com que o sistema fosse amplamente divulgado, pois não havia risco da correspondência se perder já que os originais eram guardados até a confirmação da chegada do microfilme ao destino.



Microfilme do V-Mail abaixo

WAR & NAVY DEPARTMENTS
 V-MAIL SERVICE
 OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PAYMENT OF
 WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 7943
 APR 28 4 30 PM

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Pencil or small writing is not suitable for photographing.

TO: A. LONELY SAILOR
 U.S.S. IWANNA LETTER
 FLEET POST OFFICE
 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

FROM: MISS V. MAIL
 U.S.S. ON THE BEAM
 EVERYWHERE

(CENSOR'S STAMP) SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2 (Sender's complete address above)

HELLO:

I'M SO GLAD THAT YOU STOPPED TO EXAMINE ME MORE CLOSELY. I RECEIVE A-1 PRIORITY ON MY WAY TO THE BOYS "OVER THERE".

WHEN YOU USE A TYPEWRITER, DOUBLE SPACE THE LINES AND I AM MORE EASILY READ.

If you try to crowd too much on the page and write in the margins like this those WAVES in the Fleet Post Office have no other choice than to mark me "UNSUITABLE FOR FILMING" and send me on as an ordinary letter. This only defeats my main purpose which is to conserve valuable space on those precious planes. In January users of V-Mail helped to save 25 tons of plane space.

When you desire to write a long letter, use several V-Mail forms and number each form. To avoid any delay be sure and put the COMPLETE address on the INSIDE and OUTSIDE of each form. If you have pictures and clippings save them for your airmail letters, as they cannot be photographed.

Do not hesitate to use me when a typewriter is not available, as I am still easy to read if you write clearly, space the lines evenly and use dark ink. But please don't make my readers strain their eyes so be using such a hard pencil.

Write many notes often. All Navy and Marine V-Mail films are flown to and from Overseas destinations by the fastest means of air transportation available.

Write V-Mail as often as possible to help conserve vital air cargo space.

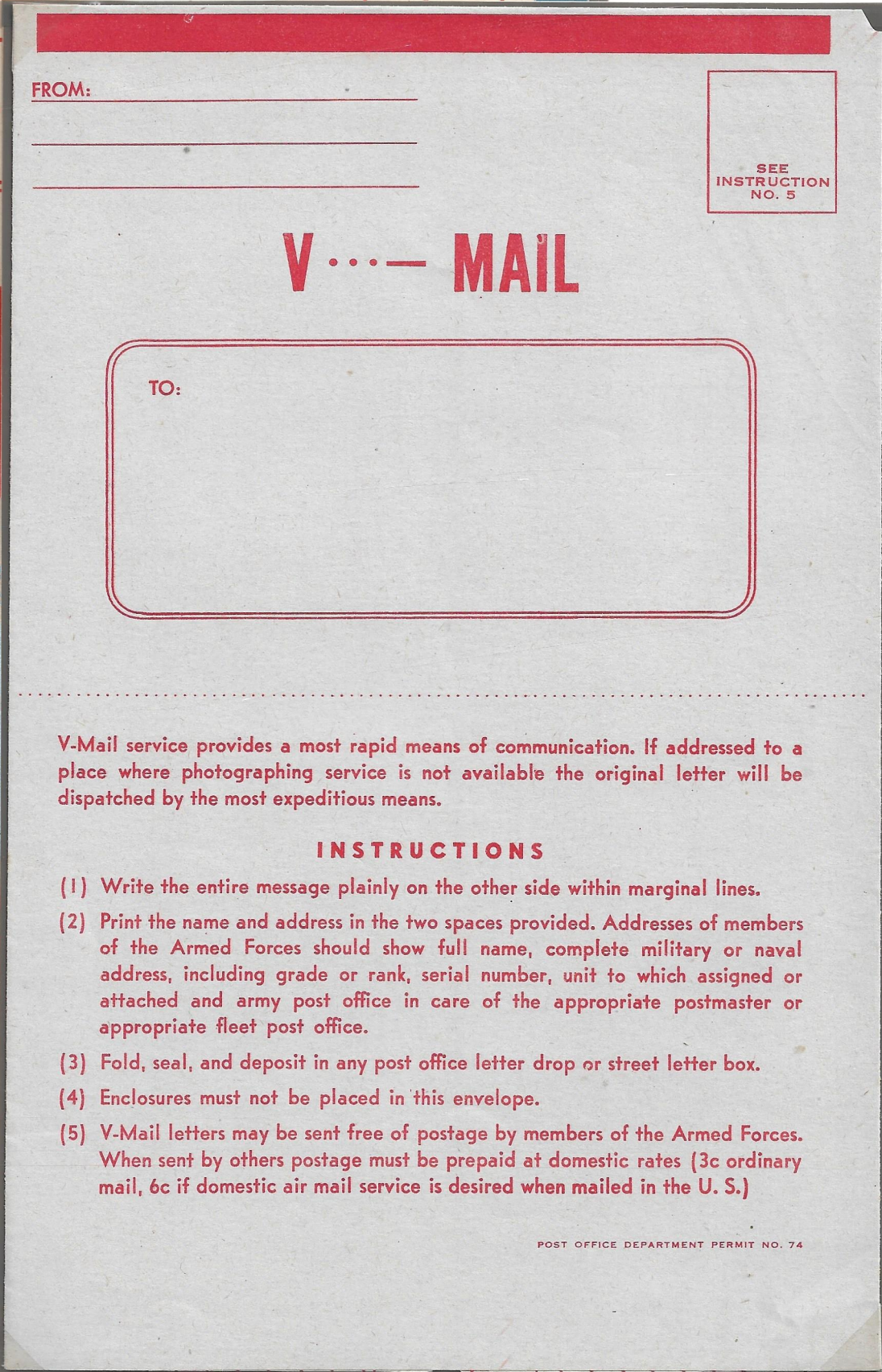
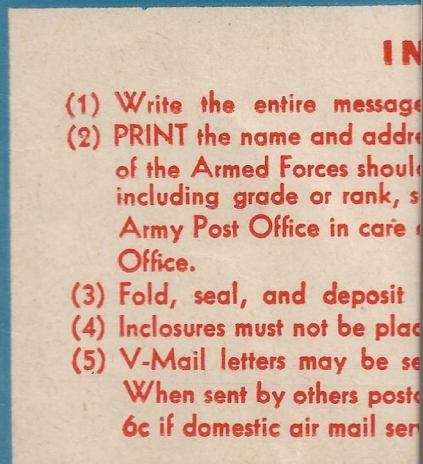
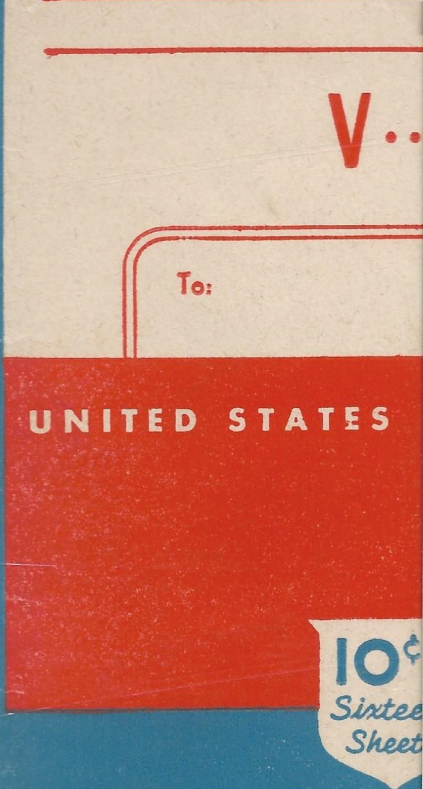
Sincerely,
 Miss V-Mail

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP? **V-MAIL** HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

COMO FUNCIONAVA O SISTEMA?

- Formulários padronizados

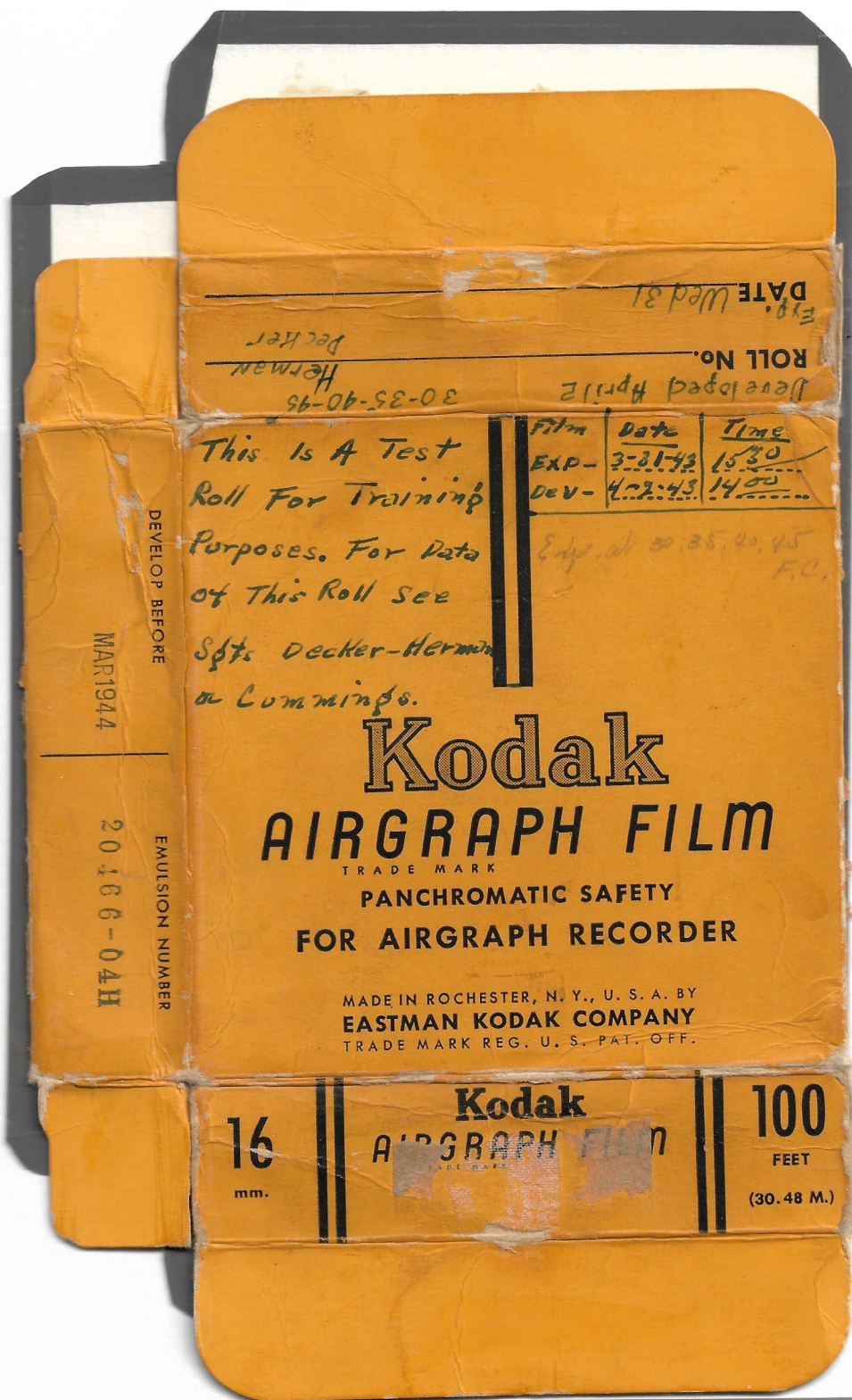
Os formulários eram disponibilizados em pacotes com até 20 folhas. Os usuários escreviam suas cartas que passavam pela censura antes de serem microfilmadas numa das centrais deste serviço.



COMO FUNCIONAVA O SISTEMA?

- Microfilmes e Envelopes

Após microfilmados em rolos que continham entre 1500 e 1800 cartas, os mesmos eram enviados ao destino onde eram revelados e as reproduções eram entregues, em envelopes próprios, aos destinatários. Os originais eram guardados até a confirmação da chegada dos microfilmes ao destino e, então, eram destruídos. Em caso de abate do avião, todo o processo era refeito.



PRO

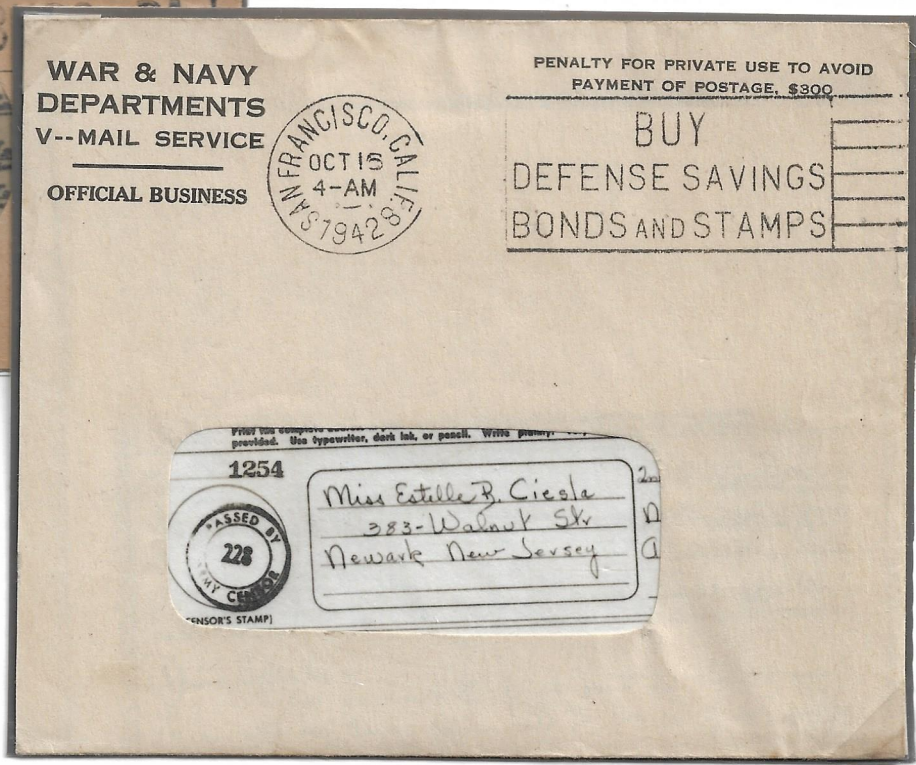
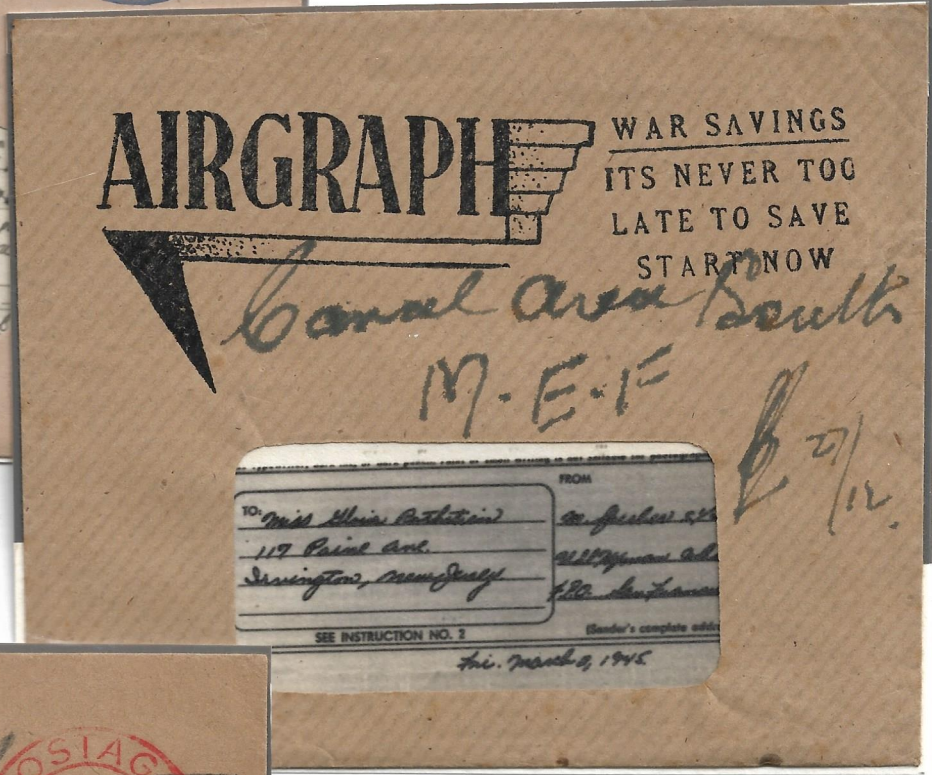
PROCESSED BY **Kodak**

Caixa Original de Microfilmes da Kodak, co-inventora do processo, de 31.3.1943, revelada em 2.4.1943, e Microfilmes originais, inclusive os primeiros do rolo, ainda com a identificação da Kodak. Peça extremamente RARA!!!

COMO FUNCIONAVA O SISTEMA?

- Microfilmes e Envelopes

Os envelopes, apesar de padronizados quanto ao tamanho, eram bastante variados na cor e no formato das janelas.



Envelopes diversos de Airgraph e V-Mail

COMO FUNCIONAVA O SISTEMA? - Mudanças de endereço

PREPARE BY TYPEWRITER IF POSSIBLE OR PRINT IN PLAIN LETTERS USING BLACK INK
DO NOT PREPARE CARBON COPIES

FROM—

Apesar de não existir computador, o sistema era muito organizado e o usuário podia pedir suspensão do serviço até comunicar o novo endereço, conforme especificado nestes formulários.

FOLD HERE

Effective immediately and until further notice please do not send any more mail to me at the address given below. I will advise you promptly when mail should be resumed and will give you my proper address. I cannot do so now for military reasons.

PLEASE ADDRESS ME AS SHOWN BELOW UNTIL OTHERWISE ADVISED

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| GRADE LT. | FIRST NAME—INITIAL—LAST NAME (CAPITAL LETTERS) H. M. HATLEY | ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 0 2065761 |
| COMPANY OR SIMILAR UNIT 6th Bomb SQ. | REGIMENT, GROUP, OR SIMILAR ORGANIZATION 297th Bomb. Gr. | |
| APO NUMBER 334 | POSTMASTER | NAME OF POST OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. |

THE ABOVE COMPLETE ADDRESS SHOULD BE PLACED ON ALL MAIL SENT TO ME

MY CODE (CABLE ADDRESS (NIX LETTER WORD) IS

DATE

NORMAL SIGNATURE

NOTE—Publishers of newspapers and magazines must have former mailing address. When this form is sent to Publishers complete the following:

MY OLD ADDRESS WAS: **LT. H. M. HATLEY 0 2065761
6th Bomb SQ. 297th Bomb Gr.
APO 334 San Francisco, Calif.**

INSTRUCTIONS

(1) W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 971 (V-Mail change of address) will be prepared by troops alerted for overseas movement, at home station or staging area. Do not complete as to overseas APO address until arrival outside continental United States. There, insert permanent APO number. Postmaster through which mail will be received, date, and cable address. MAIL PROMPTLY to the following:

- Emergency Addressee shown on W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 43.
- The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington 25, D. C.
- Postal Officer at last home station (not staging area) in United States. One form may cover all personnel of a permanent organization.
- Each individual with whom you correspond.
- Publisher of each newspaper or magazine received.

W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 971
1 July 1944

V - MAIL

(Normal Signature)

de)

(Name)

(Serial No.)

(Company or similar unit)

(Regiment, group or similar organization)

O. No. _____ % POSTMASTER

(City)

(State)

NS

order to discontinue mailings

correspond.

or magazine received.

1.

W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 971-1
18 August 1944

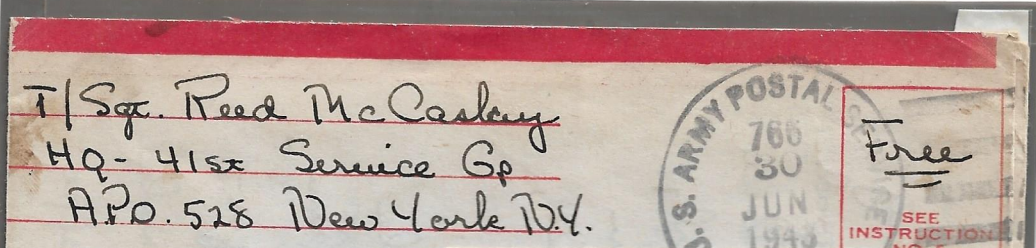
V...-MAIL

This form supersedes W. D., A. G. O. Form 971-1, 9 October 1943, which may be used until existing stocks are exhausted.

COMO FUNCIONAVA O SISTEMA?

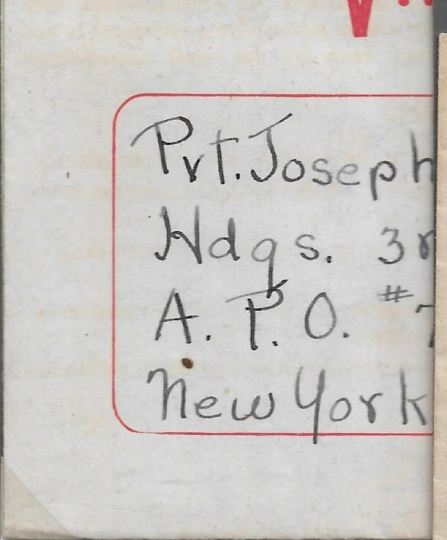
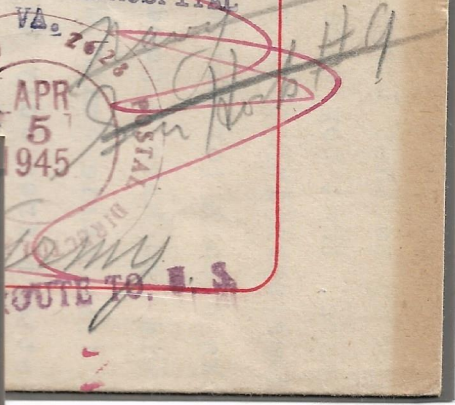
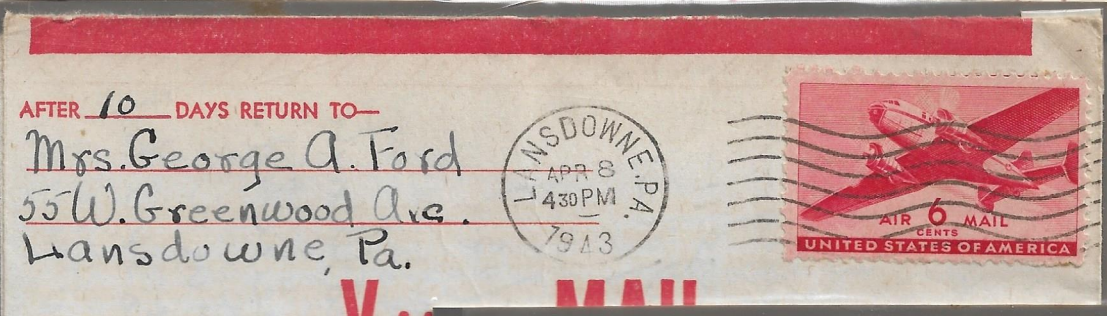
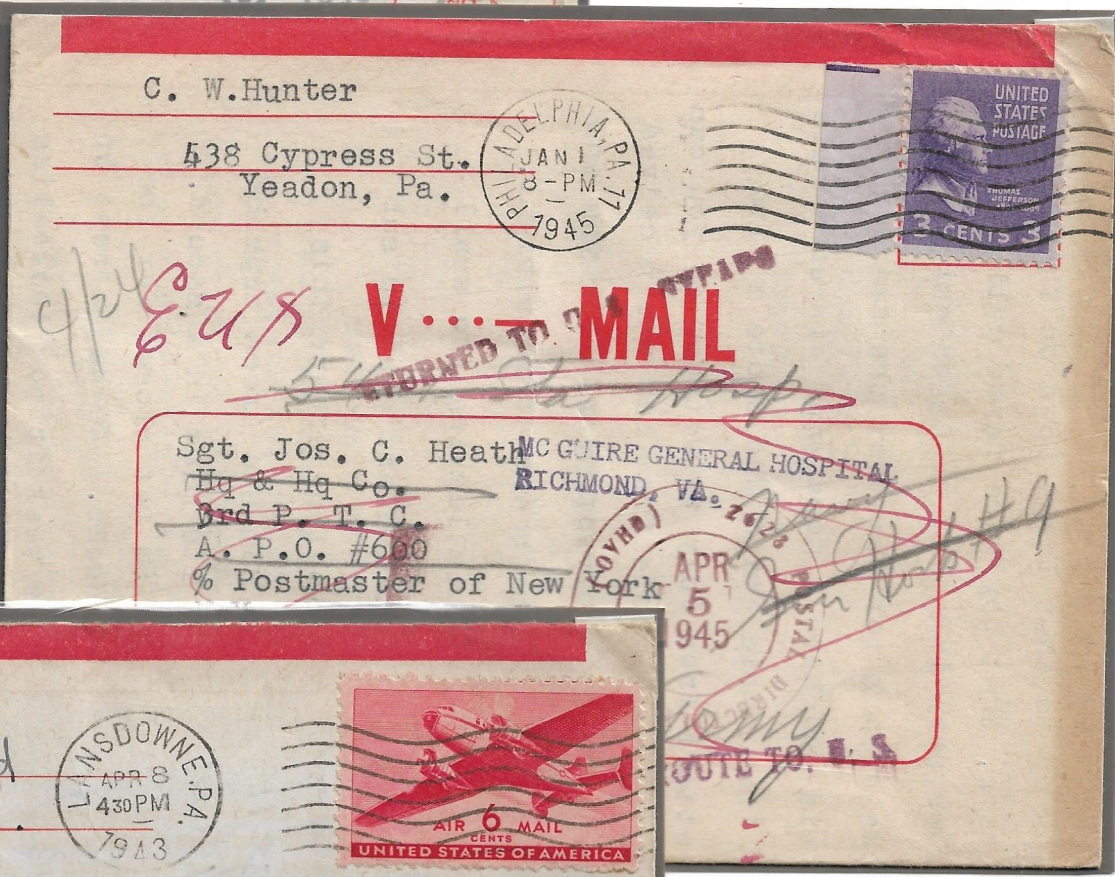
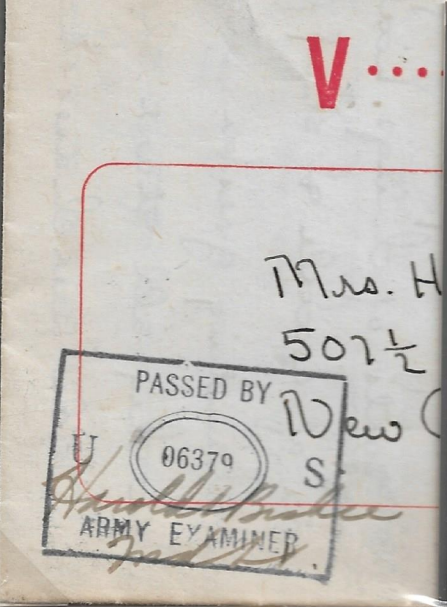
- Porte gratuito ou pago?

As regras eram claras. A n. 5 dizia: Se forem enviados por membros das Forças Armadas são livres de porte. Outros usuários deverão pagar tarifa doméstica: 3C para cartas simples ou 6C para cartas por via aérea



← Remessa de Militar. Grátis

Remessa de civil. Simples: 3C ↓



Remessa de civil. Aérea: 6C ↗

Regras de uso →

V-Mail Service provides the most expeditious dispatch and reduces the weight of mail to and from personnel of our Armed Forces outside the continental United States. When addressed to points where micro-film equipment is operated, a miniature photographic negative of the message will be made and sent by the most expeditious transportation available for reproduction and delivery. The original message will be destroyed after the reproduction has been delivered. Messages addressed to or from points where micro-film equipment is not operated will be transmitted in their original form by the most expeditious means available.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Write the entire message plainly on the other side within marginal lines.
- (2) PRINT the name and address in the two panels provided. Addresses to members of the Armed Forces should include rank or rating of the addressee, unit to which attached, and APO or Naval address.
- (3) Fold, seal, and deposit in any post office letter drop or street letter box.
- (4) Enclosures must not be placed in this envelope and a separate V-Mail letter must be sent if you desire to write more than one sheet.
- (5) V-Mail letters may be sent free of postage by members of the Armed Forces. When sent by others postage must be prepaid at domestic rates (3c ordinary mail, 6c if air mail is desired).

FORMULÁRIOS ILUSTRADOS PARA OCASIÕES ESPECIAIS

- Natal e Ano Novo

As ilustrações eram as mais diversas e variavam de acordo com a procedência. Nesta página temos Airgraphs da Índia, de 1944 e 1942 e V-Mails do Norte da África e do Hawaii, de 1943.

The address should be written in large BLOCK letters, measuring AT LEAST A QUARTER OF AN INCH IN HEIGHT and wholly within this panel. The address MUST NOT be typewritten.

To *MRS. SOMERS*
65 SEFTON ROAD
MORECAMBE
ENGLAND.

364634

INDIA

Christmas Greetings to all at Home
 MY THOUGHTS WILL BE WITH YOU + MY LITTLE SISTER + FAMILY

Sender's full name and address: *Edw. P. Henson, 176178, India.*

The address should be written as large as possible in BLOCK letters wholly within this panel. The address must NOT be typewritten.

MESSRS. MARK NUTTER LTD,
 SKIPTON,
 YORKSHIRE,
 ENGLAND.

371364

Write the message very clearly below this line. Please see instructions below.

Sender's full name and Address: *1360360, A.C.I. HENSON AA - 370 WU - R.A.F. INDIA.*

SEASON'S GREETINGS
 From *Allen*

No. _____

To *HUB OIL CO.*
 HUBBARD RD.
 ROCHESTER, N.Y.

From *DAVID AS*
 SOUTH GENERAL
 APO 740 9/0 43
 NEW YORK, N.Y.
 DECEMBER 20, 1943

The Season's Greetings
 FOR CHRISTMAS
 AND THE
 New Year

Asava
Alve

V-MAIL

FROM AND COMPLETE ADDRESS ON FRONT MUST APPEAR ON THE FRONT COVER, AND YOUR OWN ADDRESS ON THE REVERSE PROVIDED. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. _____

To *Miss Elyse Knaf*
 Universal Pictures Inc.
 Hollywood, Calif.

From *Edw. P. Henson, 176178, India.*
 (Sender's name)
Club # 6, Nov 17 43
 (Sender's address)
1/2 Kelly Pl.
San Francisco, Calif.
 18-7-43
 (Date)

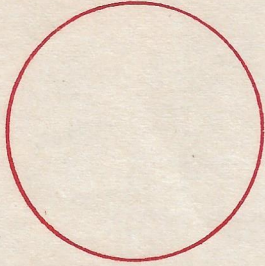
Best Wishes for
 Christmas
 and the
 New Year

The beauty that we have lost for the duration can be had only in pictures here overseas - You jai!
 Sincerely, *Edw.*

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. _____

From _____



To

Para ocasiões especiais eram preparados Formulários ilustrados, ou os remetentes faziam seus próprios desenhos.

Aqui temos um original de 1943 e o mesmo processado.

(Sender's name)

(Sender's address)

(Date)

(CENSOR'S STAMP)



A
Merry
Christmas

Prepared by Naval Censor. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. _____

From _____



To MRS MARY VALINTINO
99 LUNDY LANE
SAN FRANCISCO, "10"
CALIFORNIA

John SIGNORELLO MONTANA
USS GURNARD
% FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
Nov. 10, 1943

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

(Date)



A
Merry
Christmas

FORMULÁRIOS ILUSTRADOS PARA OCASIÕES ESPECIAIS

- Dia das Mães e Dia dos Pais

Para o Dias das Mães prevaleciam as flores e as imagens de casa, como estes de 1944 e 1945.

PRINT THE COMPLETE ADDRESS IN PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS IN THE PANEL BELOW, AND YOUR RETURN ADDRESS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED. USE TYPEWRITER, DARK INK OR PENCIL. WRITE PLAINLY. VERY SMALL WRITING IS NOT SUITABLE.

No. *1044*

SENDERS NAME
Mrs VERA SULLIVAN

SENDERS ADDRESS
Box 445
DANES, TEXAS

DATE
SPR 11 1945

CENSORS STAMP
1-11-45

Mother's DAY Greetings

TO THE
DEAREST MOM IN
THE WORLD
YOUR LOVING SON,
Ben

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Print or small writing is not suitable for photographing.

TO: Mrs Mary Scanlon
5175 Brown Way
Pittsburgh 24, Pa.

FROM: E.E. John Scanlon
48, 20 36th 135th
A.P.O. 34, 20th Regt

REPLY BY V-MAIL

Greetings to MOTHER

Love John
on Mother's Day
your son
John

MOTHER'S DAY GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC

DEAR MOM - I am thinking of you on Mother's Day and hope you are well and very happy. Everything is coming along fine out here. Love Son

MRS FRED RESCOTT
WEST TOWNSEND
MASS.

FROM: JOHN A. WALTER
1453 W. PLEASANT ST.
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

TO: MRS. JOHN A. WALTER
1453 W. PLEASANT ST.
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

FROM: JOHN A. WALTER
DIV CN-255 BOLIVIA
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
MARCH 26, 1945

LOVE AND BEST WISHES On Mother's Day

THERE IS FAITH AND HOPE AND COURAGE IN THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU - AND I LOVE YOU, MOTHER DARLING, FOR YOUR HEART, SO WARM AND TRUE - MAY THIS MESSAGE OF AFFECTION BRING YOU JOY ON MOTHER'S DAY - I'LL BE HAPPY, THINKING OF YOU, EVEN THOUGH I'M FAR AWAY!

My Love Always Jerome

V-MAIL

Imagem invertida em relação ao Formulário. ↑

FORMULÁRIOS ILUSTRADOS PARA OCASIÕES ESPECIAIS

- Dia das Mães e Dia dos Pais

Os pais, claro, também recebiam homenagens em seu dia. Aqui temos V-Mails de 1944 e 1945.

From: **WILLIAM S. WOOLEY**
(Sender's name)
 1164th Naval Center
(Sender's address)
 San Francisco


To: **MR. HARRY HERBERT WOOLEY**
(Receiver's name)
 231 NORTH EASTHAVEN AVENUE
 RICHMOND, INDIANA

37 MAY 1944
(Date)

PARCEL BY MAIL
 13
 10
(CENSOR'S STAMP)


Dear Dad,

FATHERS DAY GREETINGS from the SEABEES



AS A TOT UPON YOUR KNEES, YOU TAUGHT ME OF THE BUGS AND BEES...

BUT Who let this louse loose.



Love,
 Bill

2 BRIGADE

No. _____

From: **Mr. J. Flynn**
(Sender's name)
 Navy 140
 76 E. 19th St., New York
(Sender's address)
 May 30, '45
(Date)

To: **Mr. J. Flynn**
 1731 66th Street
 Brooklyn, N.Y.

PARCEL BY MAIL
 SR
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

FATHER

While you may be back there, your job is just as important as ours. You are heir to the great tradition of keeping our beloved land intact.

Our job is to keep the enemy away from the shores of our Native Land. To beat the dirty little sons of- into submission until peace reigns.

This job is being well done with due credit going to you and thousands of other Fathers for developing an All American Team.

Love, Bill

V-MAIL

From: **T/Sgt. Wood McCaskey**
(Sender's name)
 Ho. & No. 1st Sor
(Sender's address)
 A.F.O. 650 New York
 Monday, 5th June, 1945
(Date)

To: **Mr. Harry E. McCaskey**
(Receiver's name)
 507 1/2 Whisco St.
 New Castle, Penna.

ARMY EXAMINER
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Dear Pop,



PERHAPS ONE MORE FATHER'S DAY WE'LL MEET IN JUST THIS WAY

V-MAIL

From: **SGT B. MESSENGER 3200A557**
(Sender's name)
 Hq. 94D 11th AIR DEPOT GP
 AFOP 528, NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.
(Sender's complete address above)


To: **MR F.R. MESSENGER**
 43 MURDER AVENUE
 HAVERTHUR, NEW YORK
 5 HALEY
(Sender's complete address above)

PARCEL BY MAIL
 U
 10199
 ARMY EXAMINER
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

Fathers Day Greetings

FROM YOUR SON IN ITALY



Have you filled in complete address at top?

V-MAIL

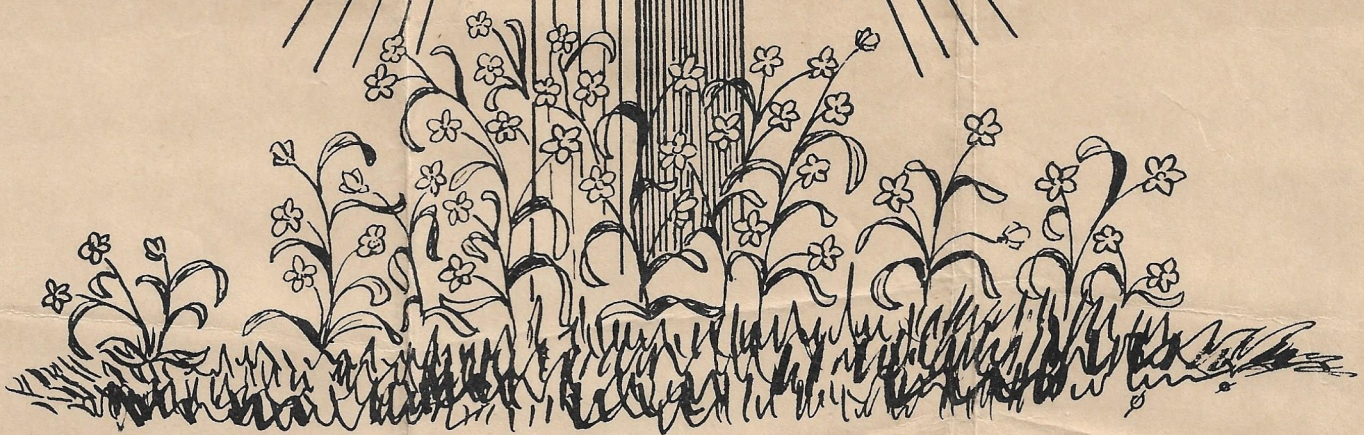
Have you filled in complete address at top?

Apesar de inúmeros motivos religiosos para a Páscoa - (aqui temos um Formulário Original de 1945 e sua reprodução) ...

(CENSOR'S STAMP)



EAS
GREETINGS

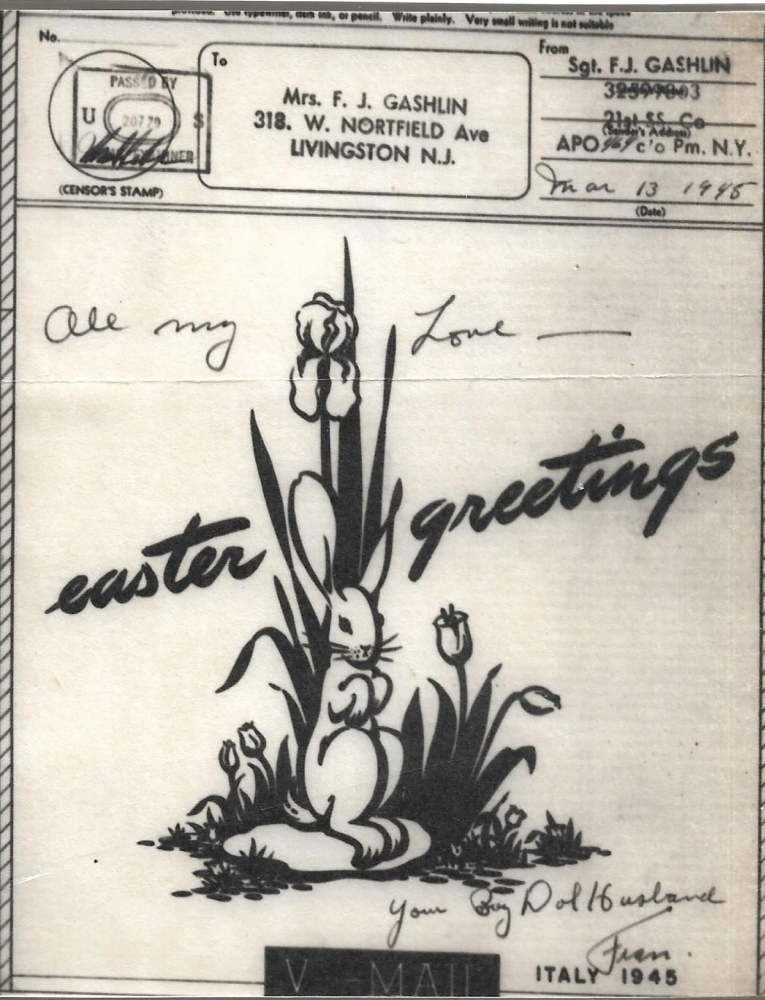


Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified... is risen Mark 16: 6

REPLY BY
V...-MAIL

FORMULÁRIOS ILUSTRADOS PARA OCASIÕES ESPECIAIS - Páscoa

... a preferência era sempre pelos coelhos, conforme estes V-Mails de 1944 e 1945.



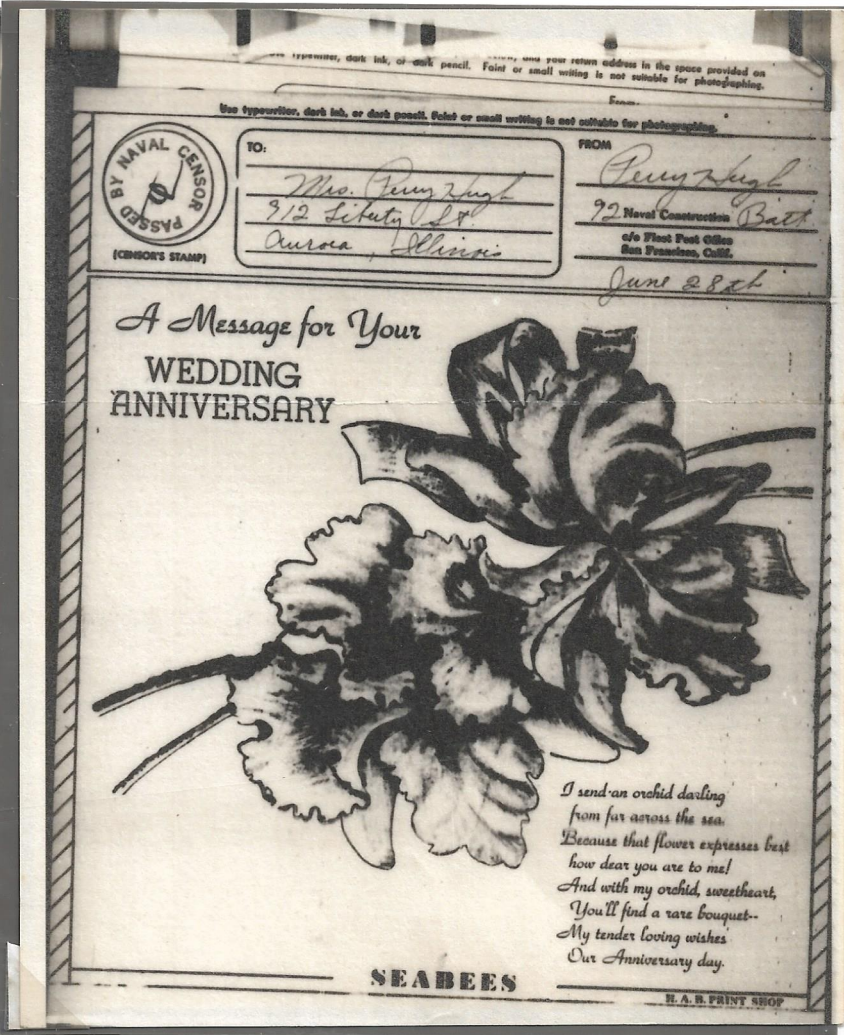
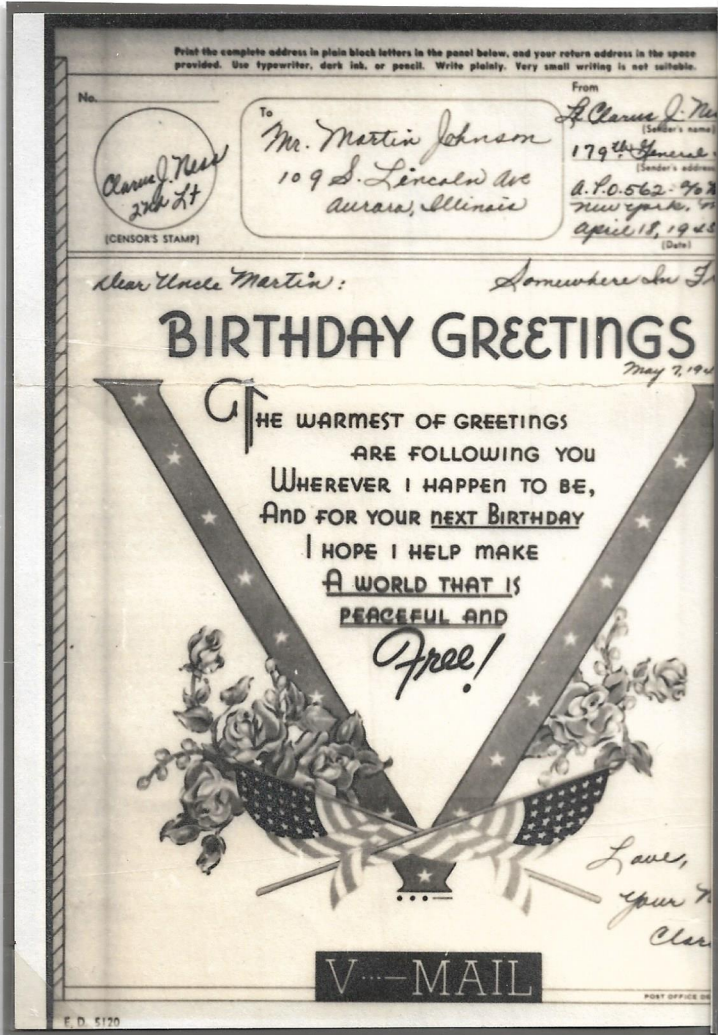
FORMULÁRIOS ILUSTRADOS PARA OCASIÕES ESPECIAIS - Dia dos Namorados

Os desenhos românticos predominavam nas mensagens do Dia dos Namorados, que nos Estados Unidos e outros países se chama Dia de São Valentim (Valentine's Day) em homenagem ao protetor dos namorados.



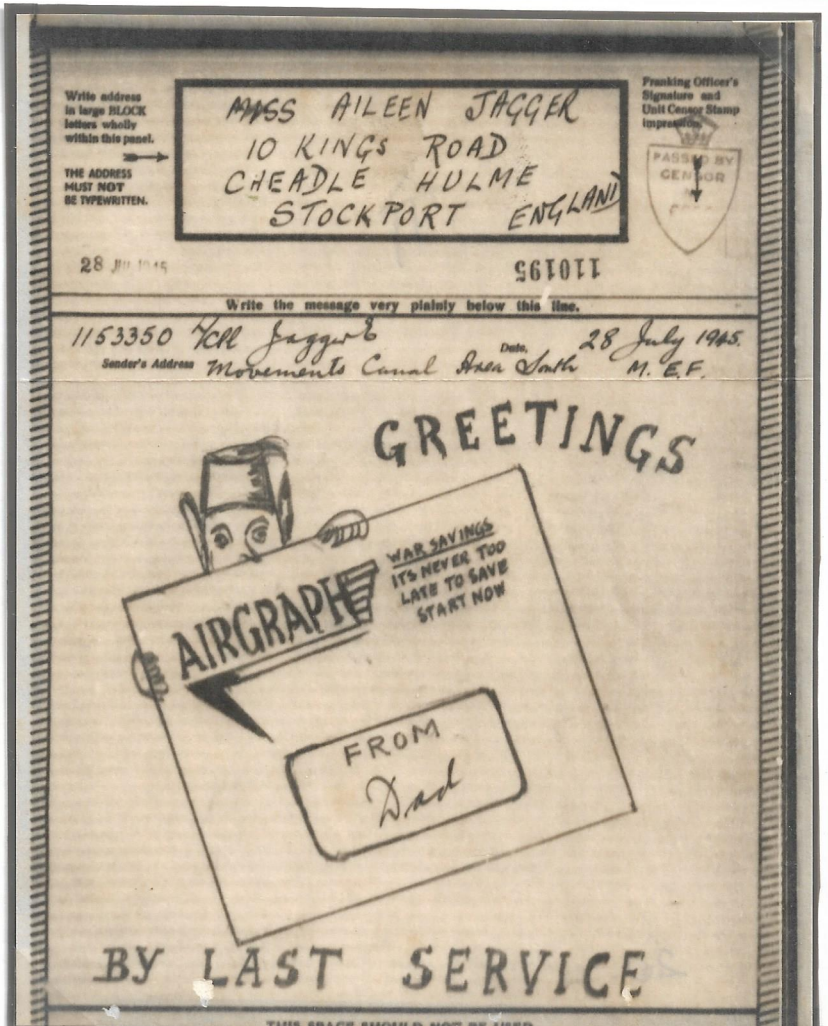
FORMULÁRIOS ILUSTRADOS PARA OCASIÕES ESPECIAIS - Aniversários

Nos formulários de Aniversários estavam sempre presentes as Rosas e, claro, as Orquídeas.



FINAL DA GUERRA E DO SERVIÇO

Os AIRGRAPHS foram usados do dia 01.1.1941 a 31.7.1945 e os V-MAILS circularam do dia 15.6.1942 a 01.11.1945



AIRGRAPH da última Mala Postal, do Oriente Médio (MEF - Middle East Force) para a Inglaterra. →