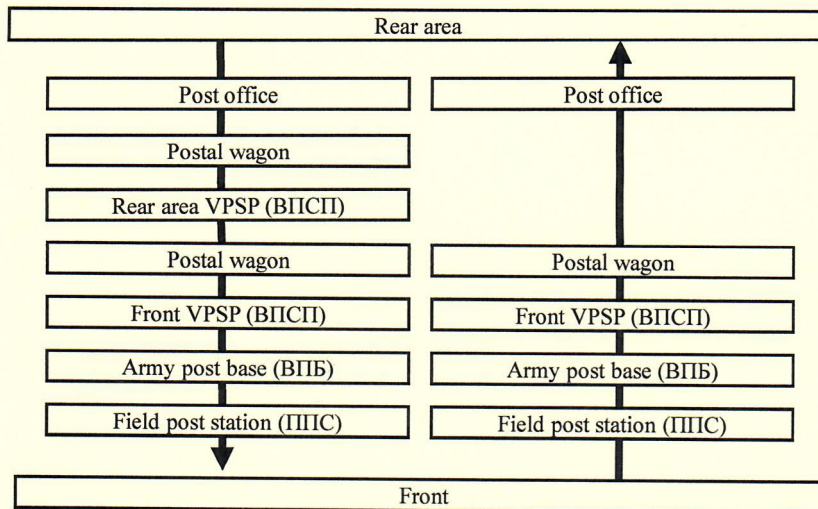


### 3.0 Censorship at ВПСЦ, ВМПС and ВПБ



The postal route between the home and the front was as following; after the letter was posted it was transferred from the local post office to a ВПСЦ (field post sorting point).

A ВПСЦ could have a fixed localisation, e.g. ВПСЦ # 1 to Moscow and ВПСЦ # 2 to Leningrad, or it could follow the front, e.g. ВПСЦ #15 to Donskoy Front and ВПСЦ #28 to Northwestern Front ("Front" is the military organization). There were 43 fronts during the war, and they had a number as id. The ВПСЦ sent the mail to the ВПБ (field post base).

A ВПБ was attached to an Army, e.g. ВПБ litera BE was 62<sup>nd</sup> Army. The ВПБ followed the front, and had a litera made out of one or two letters, as id. The ВПБ sent the mail to the ППС (field post station).

A ППС transferred the letter to the frontline where the soldier was. After the summer 1943, field post number (ППН) was used instead for the mail addresses.

A similar mail route was used for mail sent from the front to the home.

The navy had a similar organization, but instead of field post station, it was navel post stations (ВМПО or ВМПС). In October 1942 the naval post station was renamed to field post station with the same numbers.

The field post service was reorganized February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1943, the field post station was changed to a 5-digit field post number. The censor cancels for ВПСЦ and ВПБ was made mute (removing the location) in spring 1943 and changed with a 5-digit censor number in the summer of 1943.



Field post station (ППС) 1575, 27.1.1943 (wrong year in cancel) to Kazan, Russian republic, censored at ВПОП № 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППС 1575 belongs to 364<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 61<sup>st</sup> Army, at this period participating in the battle of Stalingrad.

Usage is August 1942 to February 1943, with 5 numbers in the range 2 to 12.

The usage of ВПОП is unclear, but it is associated to ВПСЦ #26 (Stalingrad Front) as a subordinate exchange point. Censorship from the ВПОП are very rare.

3.1 Censor at ВПСИ

1 – Moscow  
2 – Leningrad



Moscow, Russian republic 26.12.1944 to ППС 3220/C, censored at ВПСИ #1 (main VPSP) (located in Moscow), 3<sup>rd</sup> period. The letter has been returned due to wrong field post number (it should have been 5 digits). Red cancels says "RETURNED / not correct showing / number field post / Main VPSP"  
Usage is August 1943 to December 1945, with:  
5 numbers in the range 01460 to 01492, 9 numbers in the range 10541 to 10570, and 11 numbers in the range 10801 to 10844. Mail to/from soldiers was free of charge.



Leningrad, Russian republic 3.12.1942 to ППС 8539, censored at ВПСИ #2 (located in Leningrad), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. The letter has been returned (blue cross and the Cyrillic "B"), without any stated reason, but this field post number does not exist.  
Usage is May 1942 to May 1943, with 57 numbers in the two ranges 5 to 127, and 201 to 239.



ППС 2039 (Staff North Caucasian Front) 1.11.1942 to Dzhambul oblast, Kazakhstan republic, censored at ВПСП #6 (assigned to the North Caucasian Front), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. Usage is April 1942 to April 1943, with 11 numbers in the range 352 to 435.



Field post number (ППН) #15530, 5.4.1943 to Saratov, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #7 (Kuibyshev), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППН 15530 belongs to 586<sup>th</sup> Fighter Aviation Regiment, at this time located at Pridatcha near Voronezh. It is two different cancel types, usage is May 1942 to July 1943, with 18 numbers in the range 17 to 123.



Tashkent, Uzbekistan republic 14.6.1942 to Moscow, Russian republic, censored at ВПСИ #9 (Tashkent), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. Usage is April 1942 to June 1943, with 12 numbers in the range 4 to 174. It is seldom civil mail goes through the ВПСИ censorship.



Tashkent, Uzbekistan republic 18.8.1944 to ППИ 81038 (therapeutic field mobile hospital 3561), censored at ВПСИ #9 (Tashkent), 3<sup>rd</sup> period. Usage is July 1943 to March 1945, with 3 numbers in the range 02545 to 02573.



Uncancelled, dated 25.4.1943 to Moscow oblast, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #10 (Chita), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. Usage is March to April 1943, with 2 numbers in the range 74 to 88.



Chita, uncanceled, then canceled ВПСП #10 30.12.1943 to field post number (ППН 36604), censored at ВПСП #10 (Chita), 3<sup>rd</sup> period.

Usage is rare, so no period or range has been possible to decide.



Gorky, Russian republic 26.10.1943 to ППН 03049 (97<sup>th</sup> Guard Infantry Division) censored at ВПСП #13 (Gorky), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППН 03049 belongs to 97<sup>th</sup> Guard Infantry Division under 5<sup>th</sup> Guard Army.

Usage is July 1942 to October 1943, with 16 numbers in the range 10 to 150.

This postcard documents the location of ВПСП #13 to Gorky, with the cancelation of both Gorky and ВПСП #13 on the same date. Such documentation are rare and hard to find, and very important for the research of the locations.



Molotov oblast 13.4.1942 to field post station (ППС) 370, censored at ВПСП #14 (Karelian Front), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППС 370 belongs to 10<sup>th</sup> Aviation Technical Division.

It is two different cancel types, usage is April 1942 to March 1943, with 13 numbers in the range 3 to 60.

Letter is also canceled at the backside with the date stamp from ВПСП #14 on the 16.4.42.

ВПСП #14 was formed in October 1941 and moved to the frontline in end of May 1942.



Field post number (ППП) 36250, 28.5.1943 to Sverdlovsk oblast, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #15 (Central Front), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППП 36250 belongs to 8<sup>th</sup> Railway Brigade.  
Usage is November 1941 to May 1943, with 27 numbers in the range 5 to 143.  
The Don Front was transformed into Central Front on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 1943, and was renamed 1<sup>st</sup> Belorussian Front on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1943.



Molotov, Russian republic, 11.5.1943 to field post number (ППП) 28711, censored at ВПСП #17 (Yaroslavl), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППП 28711 belongs to 699<sup>th</sup> Fighting Antitank Artillery Regiment, 22<sup>nd</sup> Army.  
It is four different cancel types, usage is March 1942 to July 1943, with 24 numbers in the range 5 to 146.



ППС 127 (staff Bryansk Front) 22.9.1941 to Rostav na Don, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #16 (Bryansk Front), 1<sup>st</sup> period. Usage is September 1941 to January 1942, sometimes it is with a handwritten numeral (censor id). This cancel has been a mystery where it belongs too but based on all the recorded usages shows that it must be ВПСП #16 (Bryansk Front). This is new knowledge and not documented in any literature, and one of the few identified censor cancels for ВПСП censorship in the 1<sup>st</sup> period. This is a very rare censor cancel with a very short period of usage.



ППС 127 (staff Bryansk Front) 12.1.1942 to Rostav na Don, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #16 (Bryansk Front), 1<sup>st</sup> period. Usage is unknown due to difficulties in identifying censor cancel, but due to the high censor id it must be assigned to a ВПСП.



3.1 Censor at ВПСЦ

18 – Chkalov, 19 – Southern Front  
21 – Western Front



Chkalov, Russian republic, cancelled at a ВПСЦ #18 to ВПСЦ #19, censored at ВПСЦ #18, 2<sup>nd</sup> period. Location of ВПСЦ #18 is unknown, but it is likely in Chkalov after ВПСЦ #19 was transferred to Southern Front. Usage is July 1942 to June 1943, with 13 numbers in the range 4 to 197.

Field post number (ППН) 17206 23.4.1943 to Saratov, Russian republic, censored at ВПСЦ #19, 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППН 17206 belongs to 83<sup>rd</sup> Separate Infantry Brigade. ВПСЦ #19 was first located in Chkalov, later it was transferred to the Southern Front. It is three different cancel types, usage is April 1942 to April 1943, with 11 numbers in the range 14 to 111.



Field post number (ППН) 15236, dated 29.5.1943 to Leningrad, Russian republic, censored at ВПСЦ #21 (Western Front), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. ППН 15236 belongs to 87<sup>th</sup> Border Regiment (Western Front). It is two different cancel types, usage is June 1942 to April 1943, with 25 numbers in the range 1 to 67.

### 3.1 Censor at ВПСП

24 – Novosibirsk, 22 – Sverdlovsk  
23 – Kalinin Front

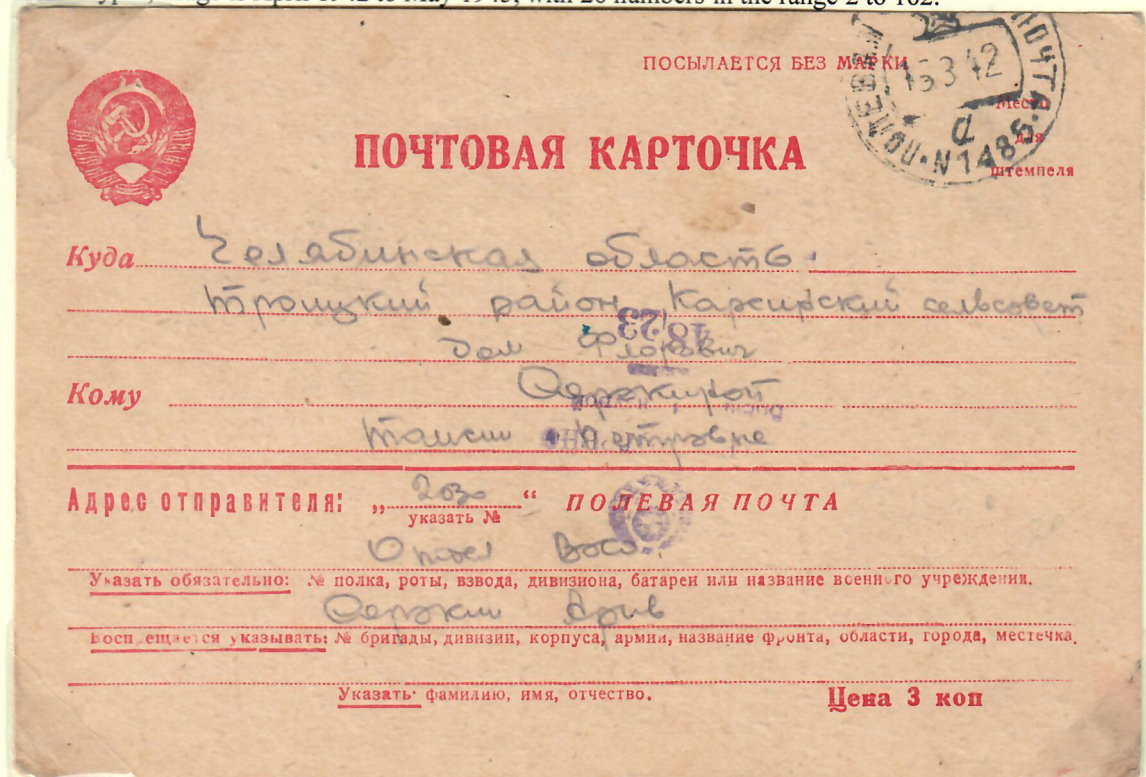


Kransoyarsk, Russian republic, 10.11.1942 to naval post station 1111 (Baltic Fleet in Leningrad), censored at ВПСП #24 (Novosibirsk), 2<sup>nd</sup> period.

It is two different cancel types, usage is November 1942 to February 1943, with 5 numbers in the range 15 to 171.

Sverdlovsk oblast, Russian republic, 31.5.1943 to field post number 42715 (6<sup>th</sup> Separate Hydraulic Engineering Company), censored at ВПСП #22 (initially Omsk, then moved to Sverdlovsk), 2<sup>nd</sup> period.

It is two different cancel types, usage is April 1942 to May 1943, with 26 numbers in the range 2 to 162.



Field post station (ППС) 1485 (staff Kalinin Front) 15.3.1942 to Chelyabinsk oblast, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #23 (Chelyabinsk), 2<sup>nd</sup> period.

It is two different cancel types, usage is July 1942 to June 1943, with 25 numbers in the range 1 to 86.

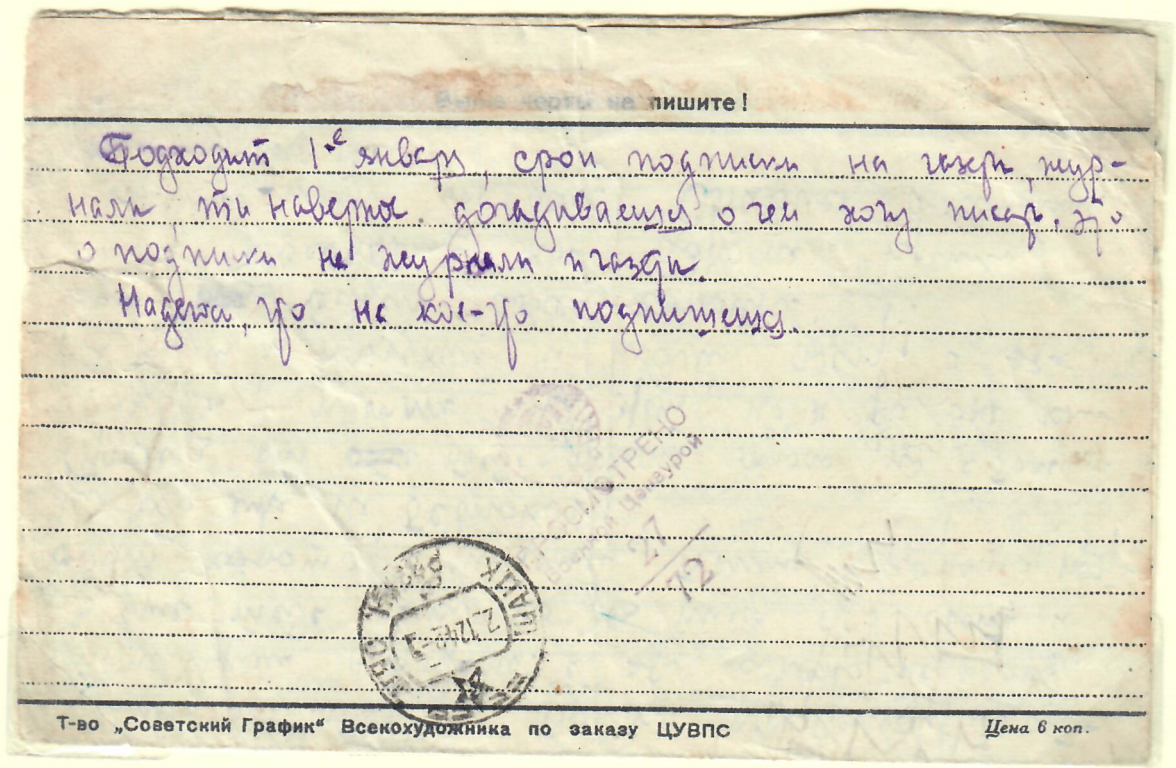
The ВПСП number and censor id have changed places from the normal standard (48/23 instead of  $\frac{23}{48}$ ).

It is also interesting to note that the layout and form of the cancel is identical to the cancel in Chelyabinsk in the two first periods.



Rostov na Don, Russian republic dated 2.3.1943 to Moscow, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #26 (Stalingrad Front), 2<sup>nd</sup> period.

It is two different cancel types, usage is July 1942 to March 1943, with 18 numbers in the range 11 to 60. Based on own research this cancel was made mute between March and May 1943.



ППС 2026 (staff 24<sup>th</sup> Army) dated 5.12.1942 to Ryazan, Russian republic, censored at ВПСП #27 (Ryazan), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. It is two different cancel types, usage is August 1942 to June 1943, with 8 numbers in the range 2 to 86.



ППС 10 (staff 4<sup>th</sup> Army) 16.10.1941 to Kalinin oblast, Russian republic, censored at ВПСЦ #29 (Southwestern Front), 1<sup>st</sup> period. Usage is October 1941 to December 1941, with 4 numbers in the range 3 to 49.

This cancel has been a mystery where it belongs too but based on all the recorded usages shows that it must be ВПСЦ #29 (Southwestern Front). This is new knowledge and not documented in any literature, and one of the few identified censor cancels for ВПСЦ censorship in the 1<sup>st</sup> period. This is a very rare censor cancel with a very short period of usage.

Triangular cancel is postage free for soldiers.



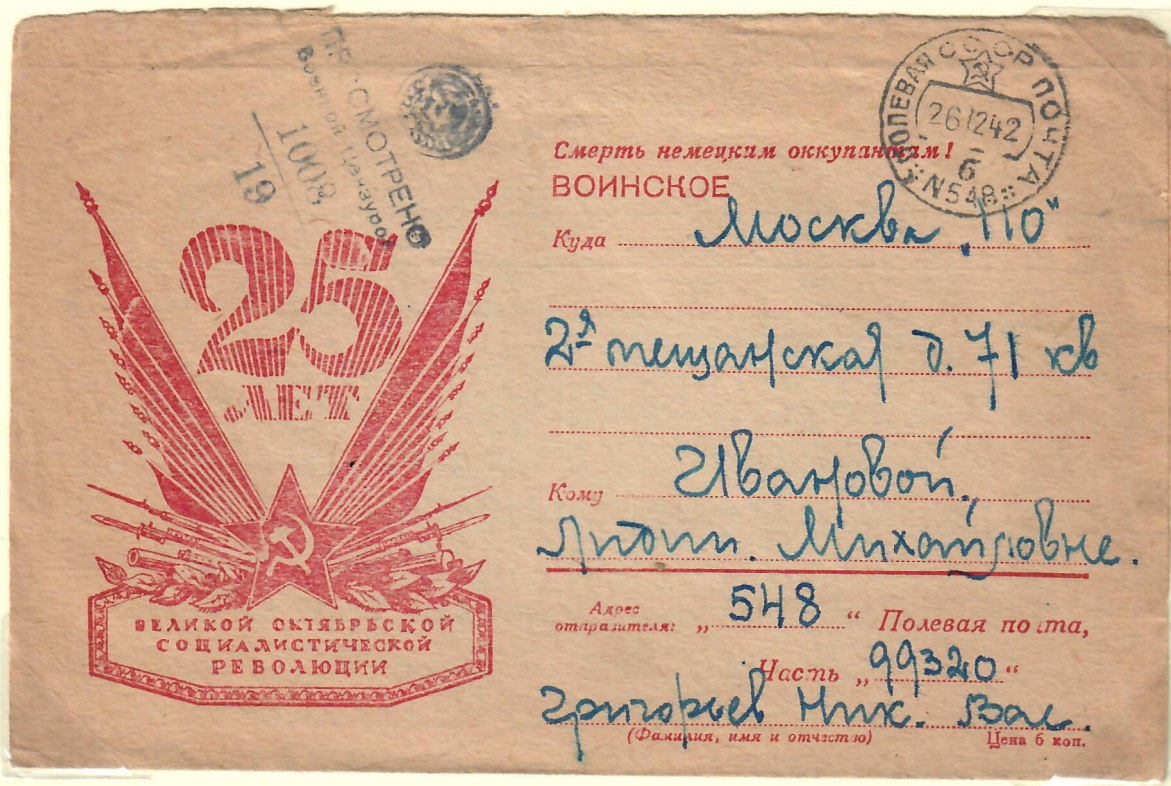
ВПСЦ #29 28.2.1945 to Moscow, Russian republic, censored at ВПСЦ #29 (2<sup>nd</sup> Baltic Front), 3<sup>rd</sup> period.

ППН 30210 assignment is not published. On November 19<sup>th</sup> 1943, Southwestern Front was renamed to 2<sup>nd</sup> Baltic Front.

Very few of the censor cancels used by the army or navy is identified and known.

At this date ВПСЦ #29 was located in the Northwest of Lithuania.

Usage of the ВПСЦ cancel as date cancel and not a transit cancel is rare.



Field post station 548, 26.12.1942 to Moscow censored at ВМПС #1008 (Polarny, Murmansk), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. Field post station 548 was subordinated to 23<sup>rd</sup> Strengthen Region (Murmansk Strengthen Region) which was transferred to the Northern Fleet 24.7.1942. It is two different cancel types, usage April 1942 to March 1943, with 7 numbers in the range 4 to 23.



Naval post station 1008, 20.5.1942 to Murmansk censored at ВМПС #1008 (Polarny, Murmansk), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. Naval post station 1008 was assigned to the Northern Fleet and was located in Polarny not far away from Murmansk. It is two different cancel types, usage April 1942 to March 1943, with 7 numbers in the range 4 to 23.



Naval post station 1009, 8.6.1942 to Moscow censored at ВМПС #1009 (Archangelsk), 1<sup>st</sup> period.  
Naval post station 1009 was assigned to the Northern Fleet and was located in Archangelsk.  
It is two different cancel types, usage May to December 1942, with 3 numbers in the range 2 to 43.



Naval post station 1141, 25.4.1942 to Gorky censored at ВМПС #1141 (Murmansk), 2<sup>nd</sup> period.  
Naval post station 1141 was assigned to the Northern Fleet and was located in Murmansk. The sender's address was naval post station 1008 (Polarny outside Murmansk).  
Usage April 1942 to October 1942, with 8 numbers in the range 11 to 27.



Naval post station 1148, 3.6.1942 to Kirov oblast, censored at ВМПС #1148 (Solovetsky, Archangelsk), 1<sup>st</sup> period.  
Naval post station 1148 was assigned to the Northern Fleet and was located in Solovetsky outside Archangelsk and Belomorsk.  
Usage February to June 1942, with 2 numbers in the range 49 to 51.



Naval post station 1161, 10.8. 1942 to Borovichi, Leningrad oblast censored at ВМПС #1161 (Molotovsk, Archangelsk), 1<sup>st</sup> period.  
Naval post station 1161 was assigned to the Northern Fleet and was located in Molotovsk outside of Archangelsk.  
Usage only recorded in August 1942, with the single number 42.



Naval post station 1107, 4.2.1942 to Kazan, Russian republic, censored at naval base Kronstadt, 1<sup>st</sup> period. Kronstadt is the Red Army Baltic Fleet main base outside Leningrad. Usage is October 1941 to September 1942, often with an additional numeric cancel but not always.



Naval post station 1101, 16.10.1942 to Kalinin oblast, Russian republic censored at ВМПС КБФ (Kronstadt, Leningrad), 2<sup>nd</sup> period. КБФ stands for Red Army Baltic Fleet (Краснознамённый Балтийский флот) It is two different types (letters КБФ or Б), usage May to October 1942 for the КБФ variant, with 3 numbers in the range 2 to 12. In October 1942 the letters К and Ф was removed from the cancel.