

1.2 Invasion and the Unoccupied Norway

Norwegian Censorship in the North 1940
Svolvær and Bodø / Tromsø



Letter censored in Svolvær (Torstad: label 2 usage mid April to early June 1940). The censor office in Svolvær was established 13th April 1940 and closed 14th June 1940.



Letter censored in Bodø (Torstad: cancel 2 usage April to May 1940) and in Tromsø (Torstad: cancel 2 usage April to June 1940). Both of the censor cancels says "passed," and there is no sign of opening the letter. Double Norwegian censorship is rare. The censor office in Bodø was established 12th April 1940 and closed 27th May 1940 because the post and censor office was bombed and totally destroyed this day. Postage is 60 øre (40 øre (weight < 500 gr.) + 20 øre (registered) + 0 øre (insurance) (period: 1.1.1921 - 30.9.1946)).

1.2 Invasion and the Unoccupied Norway

Norwegian Censorship in the North 1940 Honningsvåg and Tromsø

M. P. K.
Ho.

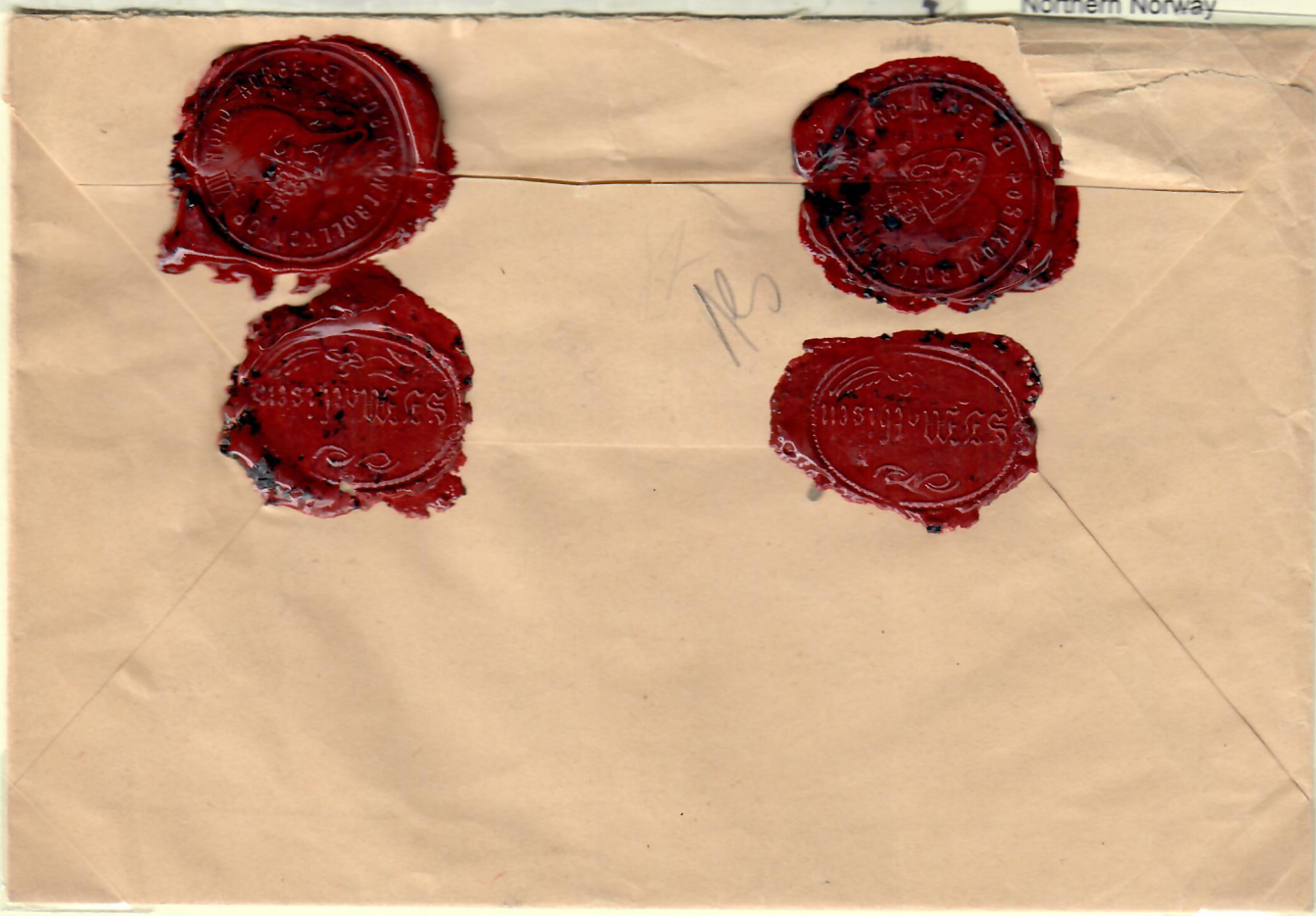


Frøken Gertrude Henriette Tomsen,
pt. Husøy.
i Helgeland.

Letter censored in
Honningsvåg
(Torstad: label 2
usage two weeks in
May -40).
The censor office in
Honningsvåg was
established 7th May
1940 and closed 26th
June 1940.
Three letters have
been recorded with
this censor label.



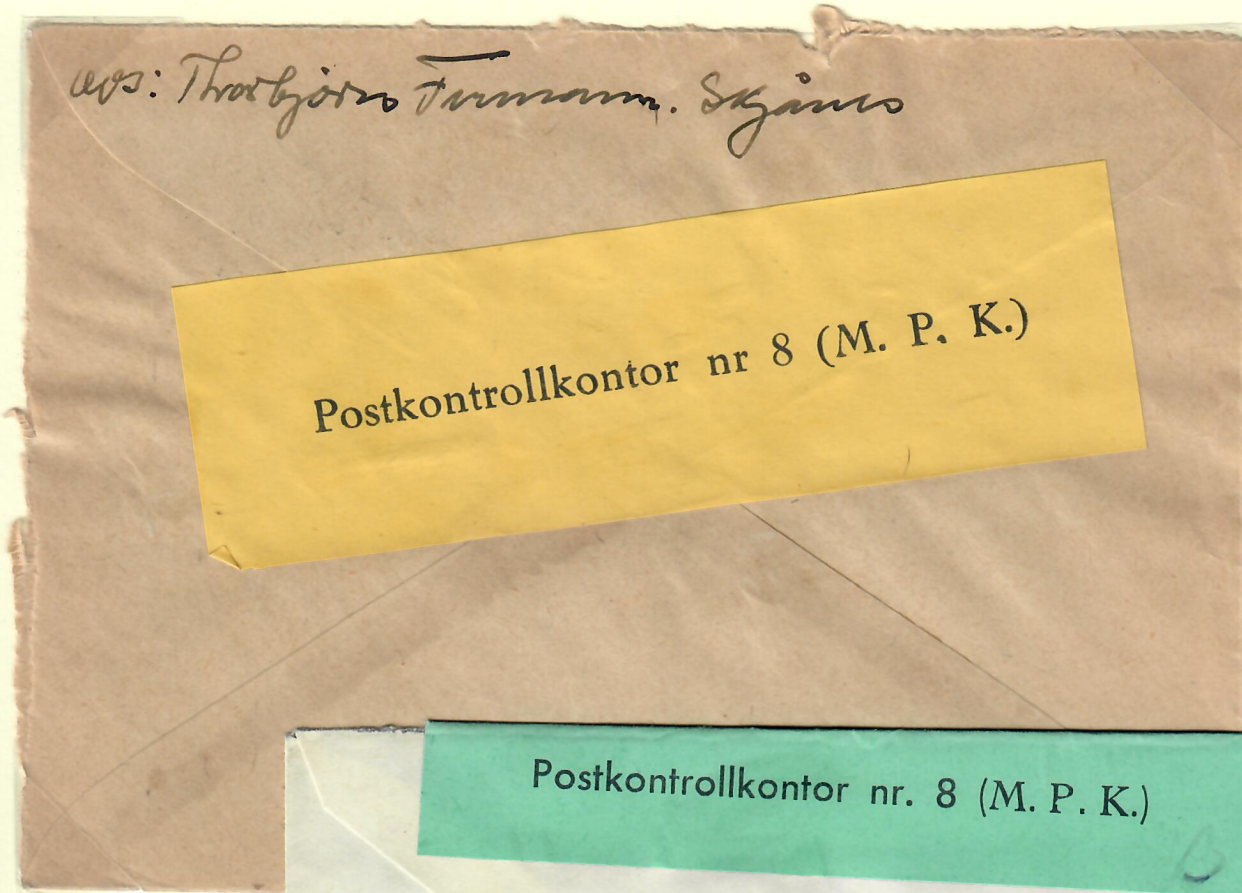
Northern Norway



Value letter censored in Tromsø (Torstad: seal litera B usage: April to June 1940).

For value letters it was required that two controllers opened and controlled the letter in case of missing money in the letter. Two signatures from the controllers between the seals. Censored value letters are rare.

Postage is 60 øre (40 øre (weight < 500 gr.) + 20 øre (registered) + 0 øre (insurance) (period: 1.1.1921 – 30.9.1946)). Letter is sent from Hemmestad 8.5.1940 to Tromsø.



Registered letter censored in Tromsø (Torstad: label 1 usage: Apr. to May 1940). This label exists in white, red, yellow, and green color. Letter is sent from Skjånes 10.4.1940 to Tromsø.

Letter censored in Tromsø (Torstad: label 2 usage May to June 1940). The censor office in Tromsø was established 14th April 1940 and closed 14th June 1940. This label exists in white, brown, yellow, and green color. Letter is sent from Melbu 14.5.1940 to Tromsø.

1.2 Invasion and the Unoccupied Norway

Norwegian Censorship in the North 1940 Vadsø and Hammerfest

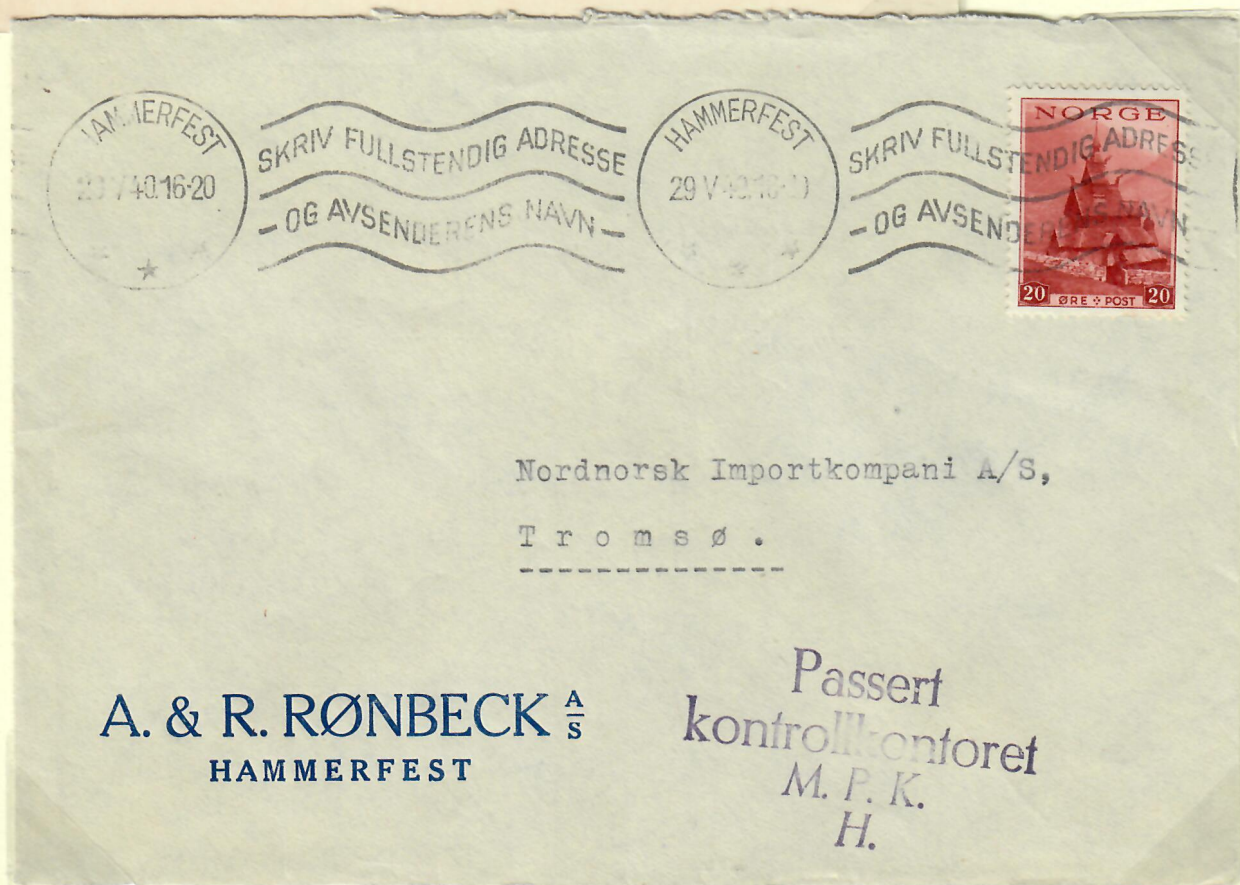


Post card censored in Vadsø (Torstad: label 3 (new naming) usage May and June 1940).

The censor office in Vadsø was established 16th April 1940 and closed 26th June 1940.

Controller number 4 was Mrs. county commissioner Mosse Norvik.

In the period the office was in work it censored 9531 normal letters, 594 value letters, 301 packages, and 552 money transfers.



Letter censored in Hammerfest (Torstad: cancel 1 usage April to June 1940).

The censor office in Hammerfest was established 13th April 1940 and closed 26th June 1940.

SØR-VARANGER SPAREBANK - KIRKENES

9 April 1940

Det indlagte brev
var datert
9 April 1940

S Løwener Mohn

s l o

KONTROLLKONTOR
NR. 12

Letter censored in Kirkenes (Torstad: cancel 1 usage April to June 1940). Letter arrived 28th June, and added note on letter saying it was dated 9th April 1940. The censor office in Kirkenes was established 16th April 1940 and closed 26th June 1940.



KONTROLLERT
Kontroller nr. 293 Kontrollkontor nr. 12.



Value letter censored in Kirkenes (Torstad: seal and label 1 usage April to May 1940). Value letters are controlled by two controllers, in this case #2 was postal worker Andreas Andersen and #3 was teacher Olav Øvstedal. Letter is sent from Kirkenes 18.5.1940 to Tromsø. Censored value letters are rare. Postage is 60 øre + 20 øre (counting fee) (40 øre (weight < 500 gr.) + 20 øre (registered) + 0 øre (insurance) (period: 1.1.1921 – 30.9.1946)).

2.0 The German Occupation



German Occupation Period

Germany's attack on Norway the 9th of April 1940, resulted in censorship on all mail abroad and sometimes on domestic mail.

The German censor offices in Norway was in Oslo and Trondheim, as well as in Stavanger and Voss for a very short period. These offices served mail going to Sweden, Denmark, and Finland.

The German censor offices in Germany controlled the mail going to the rest of the world.

After the mail left the German occupied territories, it usually got censored by an office from the Allied.

The war also affected the postal routes or resulted in mail being returned for different reasons caused by the war.

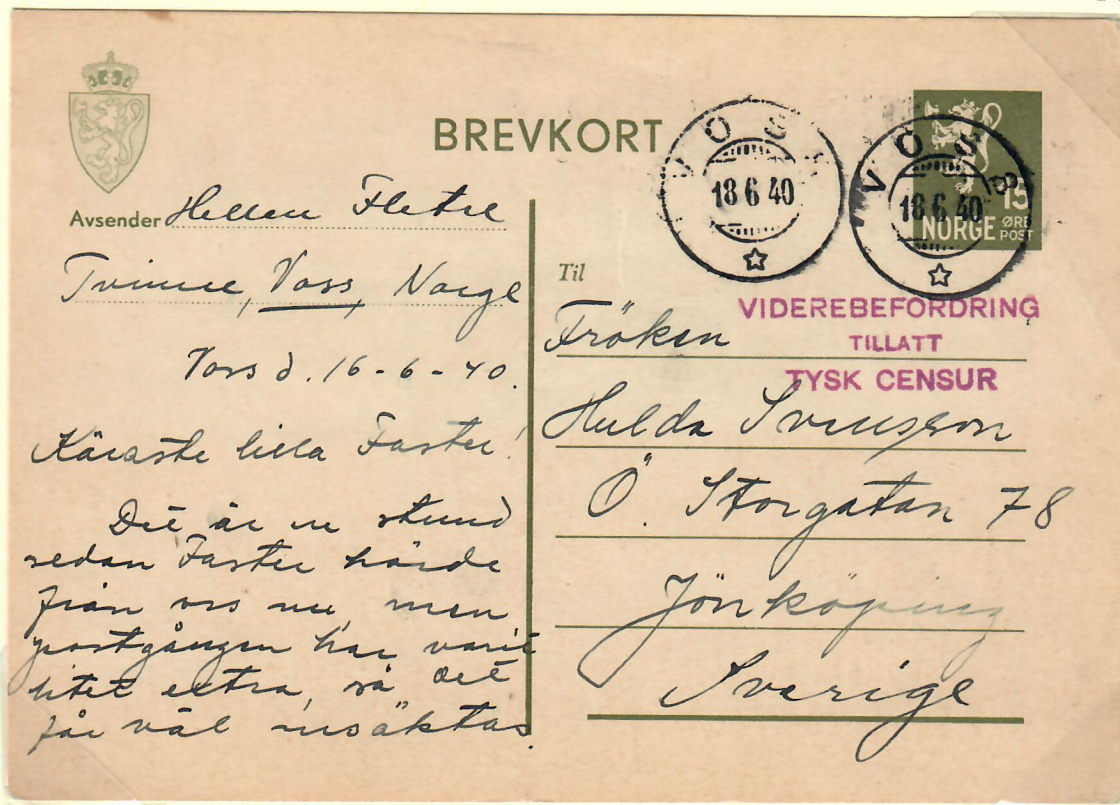


Domestic value letter censored in Oslo with a Norwegian postal seal (not recorded in Lindwald) and cancel DO-2 (usage: April to July 1940). Unique usage of a postage seal used as censor seal.

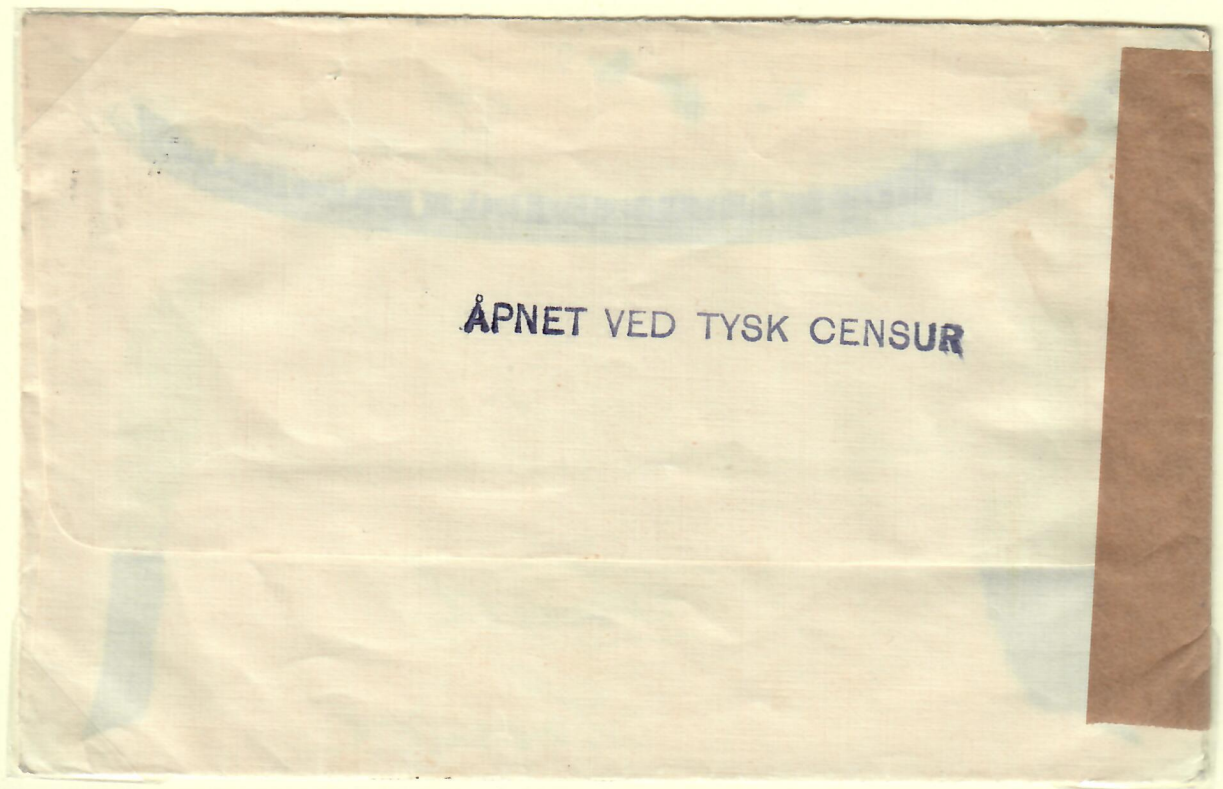
Postage is 60 øre (40 øre (weight < 500 gr.) + 20 øre (registered) + 0 øre (insurance) (period: 1.1.1921 – 30.9.1946)).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo
Period 0 (Apr. to Jul. -40)



Censored post card
(Lindwald: DO-30d
usage: April to July
1940) (red color is
most scare).
Provisional censor
cancel with text in
Norwegian from
censor period 0 in
Oslo. Characteristics
for period 0: line
cancels as censor
cancel, and usage
April to July 1940.



Letter sent from Oslo 5.6.1940 to Sweden, censored in Oslo (Lindwald: DO-2a+50 usage: April to July 1940).
Provisional censor cancel with text in Norwegian from period 0.
The letter "Å" has the circle above the other letters in the censor cancel.
Correctly franked with 20 øre (Scandinavia period: 1.7.1921 – 30.9.1946).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo

Period 1 (Jun. to Nov. -40) / Period 2 (Nov. -40 to Dec. -41)



Censored letter (Lindwald: DO-31 usage: June to November 1940). Pass by cancel striken on the front of the envelope. Censor period 1 in Oslo. Characteristics for period 1: round cancels with eagle and swastika in cancel, and usage July to November 1940.

→
Censor
code 1



Letter sent from Oslo 20.10.1941 to Sweden censored in Oslo (Lindwald: DO-5+50 (label 36 mm width) (usage: 2.5 week in October 1941).

Censor period 2 in Oslo. Characteristics for period 2: round cancels and letter opened on the backside, and usage November 1940 to December 1941. In the middle with pencil on the back censor code 1 (sorting code). Correctly franked with 20 øre (Scandinavia period: 1.7.1920 – 30.9.1946).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo
Period 2 (Nov. -40 to Dec. -40)



Letter sent
18.8.1941 from
Oslo censored
with DO-5+53
(Hamburg label)
(usage: 18th of
August 1941 (only
one day)).
Censor period 2 in
Oslo. In the
middle with pencil
on the back
censor code 1
(sorting code).
Postage 40 øre
(Nordic < 125
gram).
Used as
illustration in
Lindewald's book,
page 111.

→
Censor
code 1



Letter sent 6.10.1941 from Vettakollen to Denmark censored in Oslo (Lindwald: DO-5+FELD (field post label) usage: mid-September to early October 1941).
Censor period 2 in Oslo. In the middle with pencil on the back censor code 1 (sorting code).
Correctly franked with 20 øre (Scandinavia period: 1.7.1920 – 30.9.1946).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo
Censor Messages

Notification DO-104 used by censor, plus cancel DO-3. Censor memo notifying the receiver that "Attachment mentioned in the letter / / was not present when the letter was opened". In this case it has been notated that the "letter" was not there, indicating it was used in a FDC? Usage of DO-3 is June to November 1940. Usage of DO-104 is difficult to decide due to the rareness.

Bilag som nevnes i brevet



brevet

var ikke til stede ved brevets åpning.



MATAU
GAGN
LAND OG HEIM



Her skuespiller G. Lauring,

Anicisvej 4,

København.

Danmark.

Forsinkelse i videreforsendelsen
på grunn av manglende avsen-
deradresse.

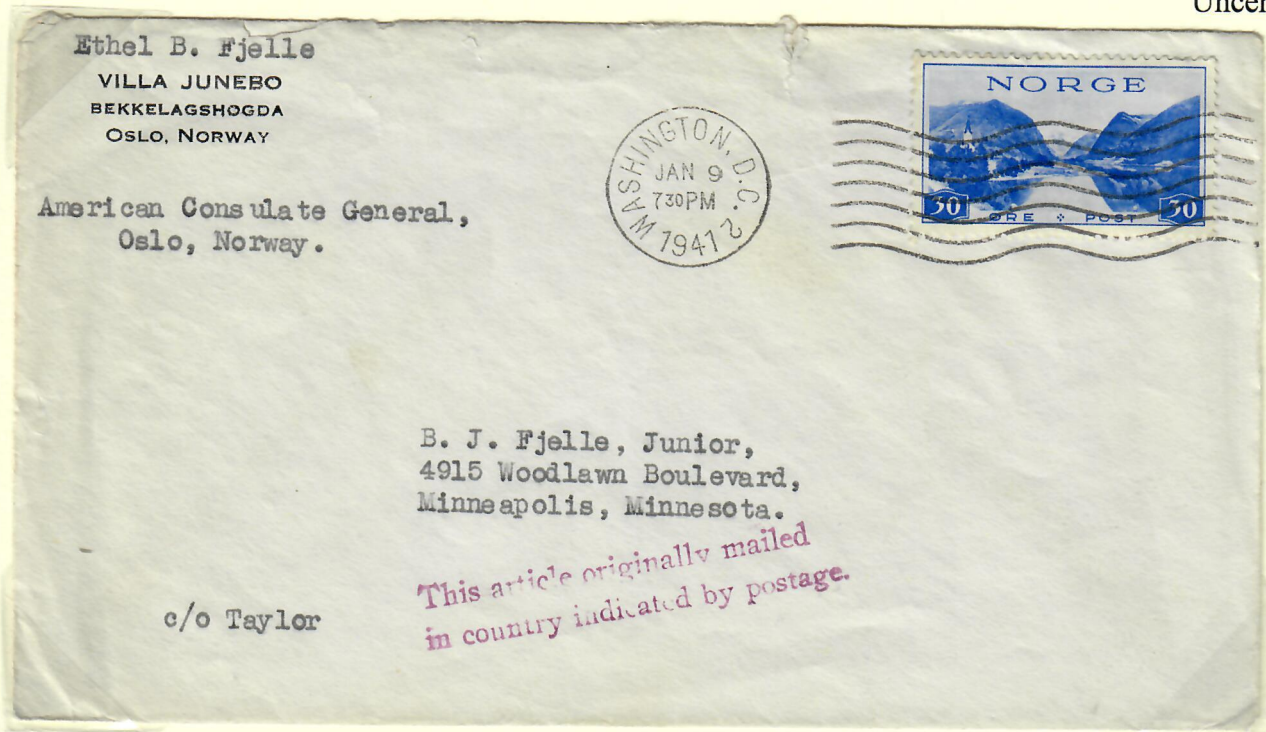
Censor
code 2B



Letter with censor cancel DO-75 (Forsinkelse i ...), is usually placed on the backside of the envelope. The text is in Norwegian and can be translated to "Delayed in forwarding / due to missing sender / address". All mail should have a sender address on the envelope, until 10.2.1941 it was forbidden to send such items but after this date the mail should be forwarded to the censor office that should decide. Often it was delayed for a long time before forwarding the item. Censor code 2B (pencil 489/1) on the front, where the number 1 indicates one page letter (usage: May -42 to May -45).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo
Uncensored



All international letters should be censored. Uncensored letters are more unusual than censored ones.

Postage 30 øre until 20 gram in the period: 1.1.1927 – 30.9.1946.

Diplomatic mail passed the censor, because it was sent in a diplomatic pouches. Sent further from Washington D.C.



There is no senders address on the envelope, which was against the censorship rules.

Neither is there any German or British censorship from postal route, uncensored letters are rarer than censored.

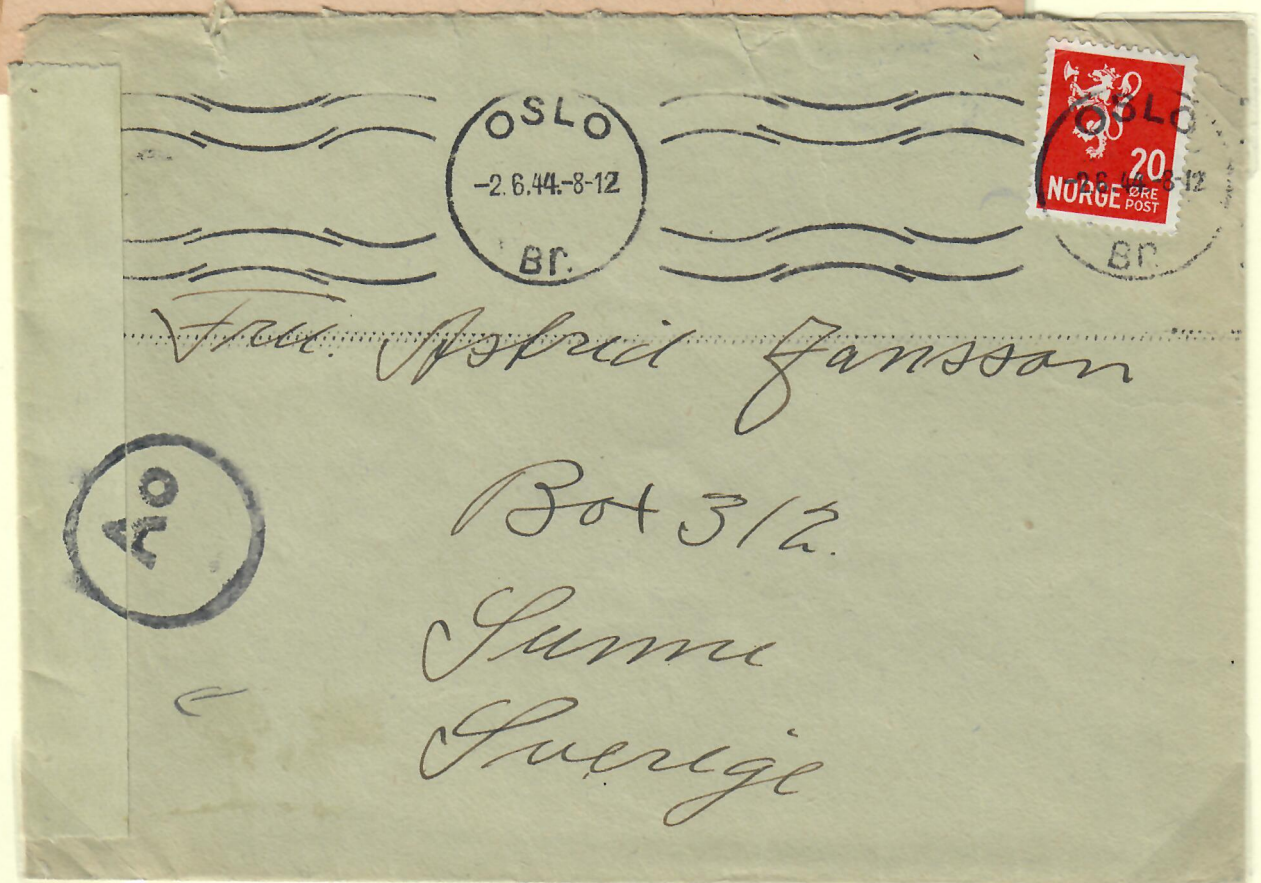
Airmail postage to the USA is 85 øre (30 øre (world)(period: 1.1.1927 – 30.9.1946) + 55 øre (airmail fee for 5 gr. to USA (period: 24.4.1939 – 15.5.1945))).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo Simplified Censorship

Characteristics of the simplified censorship is a pastel or brown colored label with the Ao cancel, none or only censor code 1 on the backside, and no censor code 2, 3, or 4 on the front.

The simplified censorship was not a proper censorship, but checked for photos, padded envelopes, etc. that where forbidden to send.



Letters censored with DO-35+61 (usage: December 1943 to July 1944). The label occurs in different colors, blue and green are the most scarce colors. It is also existing with the brown, beige and orange color.

The letter to Finland also has Finnish censor from Helsinki on the front, this censor cancel was introduced in July 1940 and lasted until the end of the war.

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo Censor Label Interruptions



For a short time, the censorship office had no standard censor labels, so they used neutral labels.

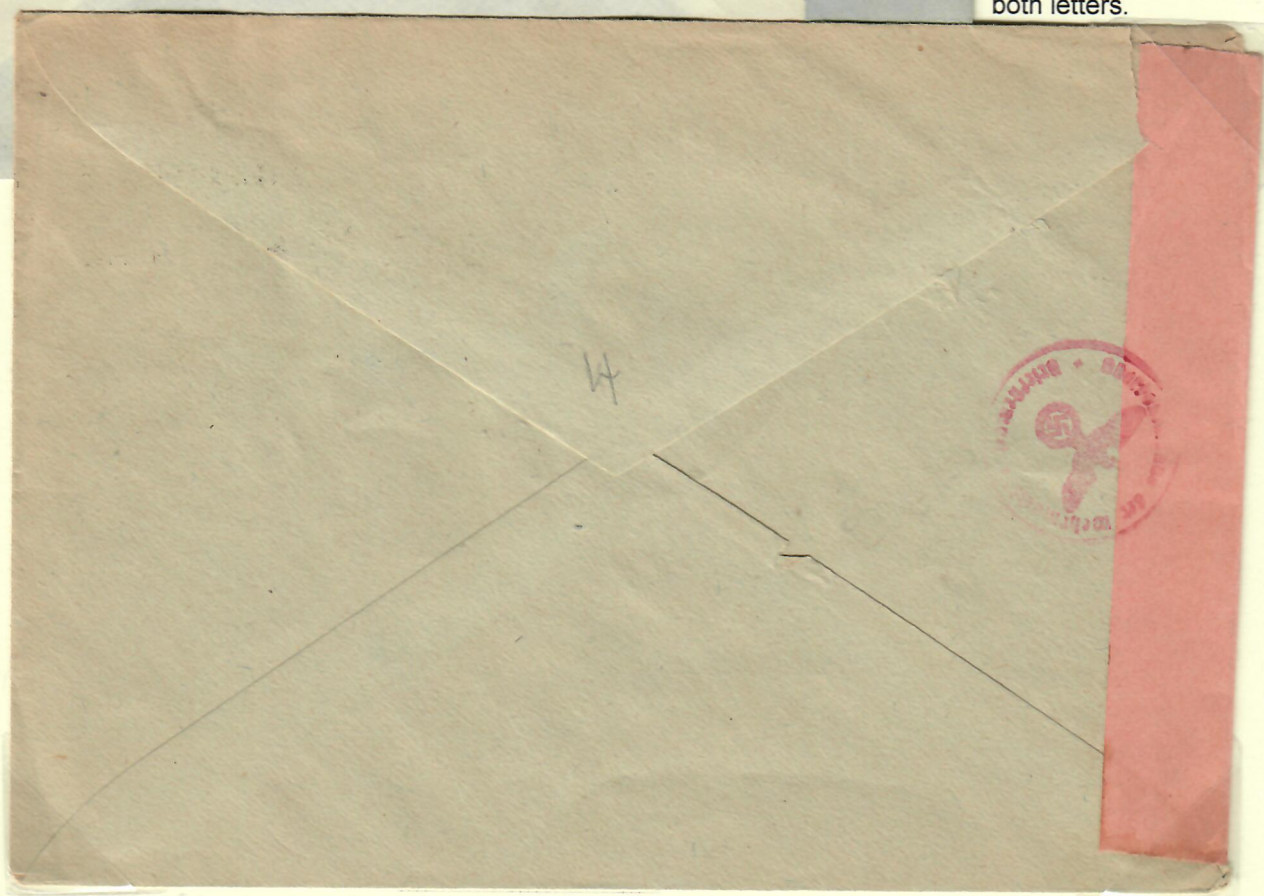
Censored with DO-4+54 (usage: less than a week in mid-October 1943).

Censor period 3 in Oslo. Characteristics for period 3: letter opened on left side (seen from the front) round cancels, and usage December 1941 to November 1944.

Letter is sent from Oslo 22.10.1943 to Sweden.

Postage is 20 øre for both letters.

→
Censor
code 1



Letters censored in Oslo (Lindwald: DO-6+54 usage: less than a week in mid-October 1943). In the middle with pencil on the back censor code 1 (sorting code). Censor period 3 in Oslo. Letter is sent from Oslo 22.10.1943 to Denmark.

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo
Censor Deviations



Letter censored with DO-6+7+54 (single recorded letter with two different censor cancels on same label). Wrong color for the censor cancel (it should have been red). The wrong color lasted for only a few days, and it coincides with the censor labels interruptions. Letter is sent from Bergen 23.10.1943 to Sweden.



→
Censor
code 1

The purple colored censor cancels (red is the "correct" color) lasted for another day after the censor label interruptions. Airmail letter is sent from Oslo 26.10.1943 to Denmark. Airmail postage to Denmark is 35 øre (letter Scandinavia, until 20 gr. (1.7.1921 – 30.9.1946) and airmail fee Europe (1.4.1932 – 31.5.1945)).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo
Special Cases



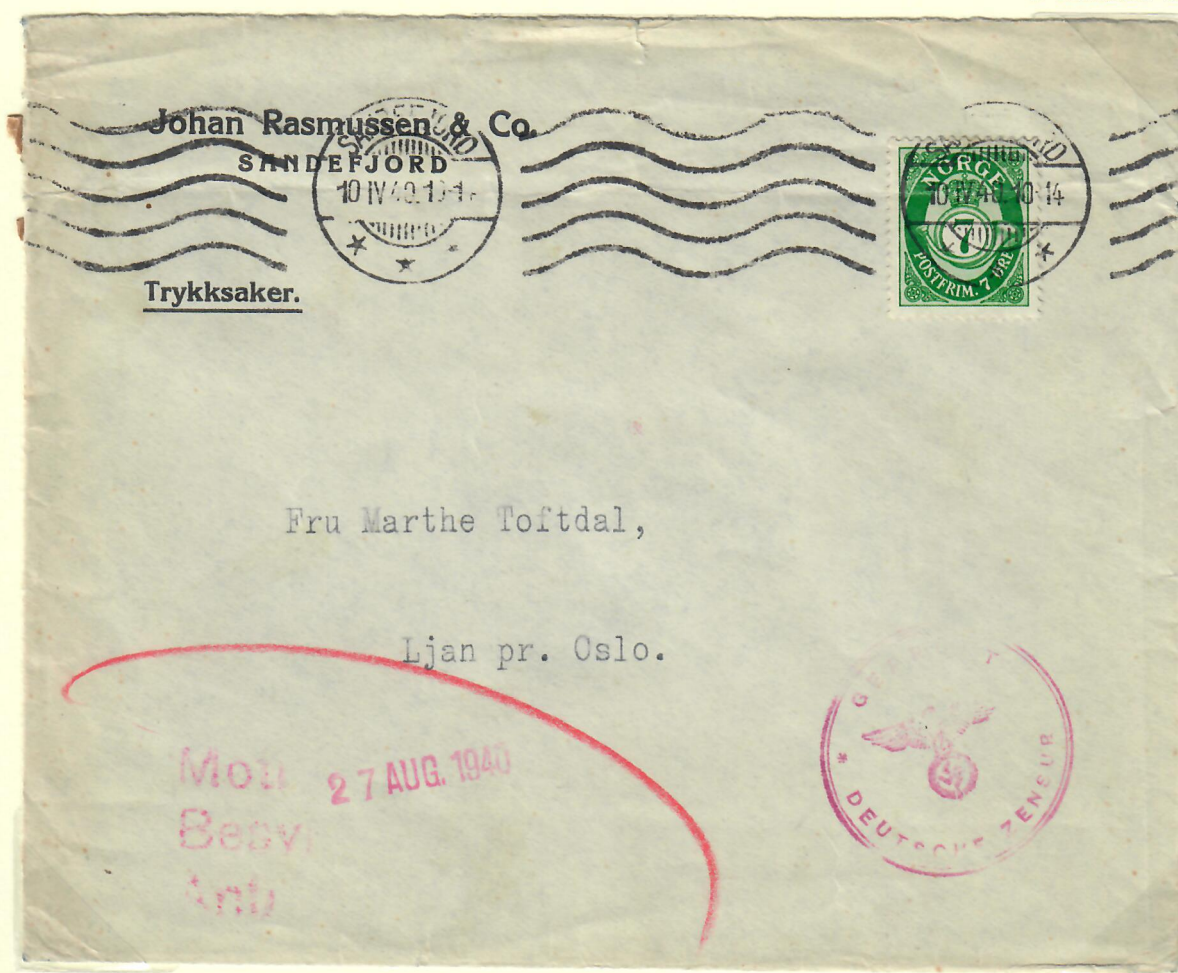
Airmail letter to Brazil censored in Oslo. Should have been censored in Berlin, but due to missing sender address, censored in Oslo with DO-4+52 (usage: Feb. -41 to May -41) and censor code 1 and 2A.

Postage is 260 øre (30 øre (world (period: 1.1.1927 – 30.9.1946)) + 230 øre per 5 grams (airmail South-America (south) (period: 1.5.1937 – 1.3.1941))).

Postal route is: Oslo – Berlin – Rome, further with the LATI line (Rome – Rio de Janeiro).

2.1 German Censorship

Oslo
Domestic Censorship



Reduced
copy 70 %

Domestic letter censored in Oslo (Lindwald: DO-3+50 (brown 29 mm label), this was not recorded in Lindwald for domestic letters. Letter is sent April 10th, 1940 (the day after the invasion of Norway) but it is not received before August 27th, evidently held by the censorship. The earliest usage of censor cancel DO-3 was in the end of June 1940. Censor period 1 in Oslo.