

Postal History

Resourceful information for the collector and seller of the world's 19th and 20th century mail communications, manuscripts and historic documents

Treasures

Issue
No. 2

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This Issue's
Special Treasure...

Asleep in a showbox for over 50 years...

Turk Use of U.S. Mails



As you can see, this 50-year old cover does not appear to be anything unusual. The original recipient (who kept it for all this time), therefore, never thought that it could be anything of value. It was originally in a bunch of old 1950s covers from Turkey.

Here is a wonderful example of how a seemingly-worthless piece of mail just might be valuable. Even better: an example of a cover sent through the mails during wartime that could, if stored long enough, become especially prized by collectors. And it all helps to point out that never should anyone discard (or even improperly store) old correspondences.

During the Korean war, the stamps being used by our forces were in the 1938 "Presidential Series"—a set of stamps that were very common in the 1950s, and still common (in appearance) to many collectors today. So military mails to/from Korea during this conflict sometimes appear to be nothing special. Well, nothing could be further from the truth than that when it comes to the cover illustrated above. [...continued on page 3]



The APO 25 Postmark on the cover in the accompanying story. It could be an important "find."

American
History On
Old Envelopes

Fred Schmitt's

PERSPECTIVE



One of Stephen A. Douglas's campaign covers from his 1860 race against arch rival Abraham Lincoln.

The old envelope shown above was once in the drawer of an old desk in a New York City apartment. For nearly 130 years it was nothing more than a curiosity to its owners and, since it was originally sent from one of their ancestors in Montana to another ancestor in New York, it was nothing more than a keepsake. And after all, no one in the present-day family knew who this "Stephen A. Douglas" was.

[...continued on page 2]



An occasional bulletin from...

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