

# Fred Schmitt's Postal History

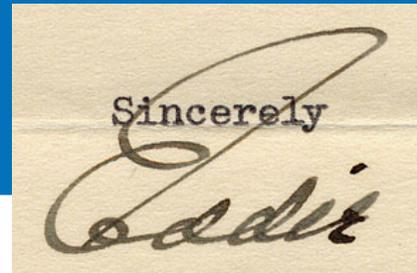
## Treasures

Summer 2004

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

This Issue's  
Special Treasure...



Many average citizens over the years have, for one reason or another, received a letter from a famous person. Shown above is the signature of Eddie Rickenbacker who commanded the first aerial attack on the Japanese islands ("30 Seconds Over Tokyo") in 1942. It's from a find of WW II mail in a midwest farmer's attic!

The mails and correspondence related to our "Day of Infamy"

## Pearl Harbor & Postal History

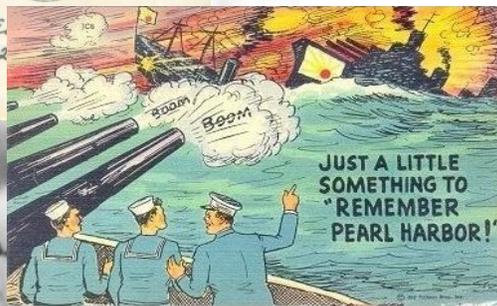


Gold cloisonné lapel pin from 1942 with "Remember Harbor" in letters and an actual pearl in the center.



Pre-Pearl Harbor cover from sailor aboard the *USS Pennsylvania*, flagship of the fleet.

Post-Pearl Harbor patriotic postcard.



The *USS Maryland* (left) and the capsized *USS Oklahoma*, 7 Dec., 1941.



Considering how many thousands of American families have kept covers, old soldier/sailor correspondences and memorabilia from the World War II era, one would think that some of that material would include mail from the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

But Pearl Harbor-related mail is scarce—and there's one reason why: on December 7, 1941, fewer than 300,000 Americans were in uniform. And less than 10,000 of them were in Naval or Army service related to the Pacific theater or the Hawaiian Islands. Fewer military equals fewer pieces of mail.

Today, all Pearl Harbor Attack-related mail and memorabilia is dramatically rising in value. If you have any of it in your attic or storage locker, now's the time to get it appraised.

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Most of us know someone who is a veteran of World War II. A veteran's mail can be valuable.



Fred Schmitt's  
**PERSPECTIVE**



A censored cover with a Naval ship cancel dated December 7, 1941. Although there's no indication where the cover originated, it is still valuable.

Every now and then, an authentic cover cancelled in Honolulu, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, will turn up. Were postal clerks actually cancelling mail on this historic Sunday?

Actually, they were. And a true usage from Honolulu on that date is one of the rarest pieces of 20th century postal history. [Continued on p. 2...]

An occasional bulletin from...



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