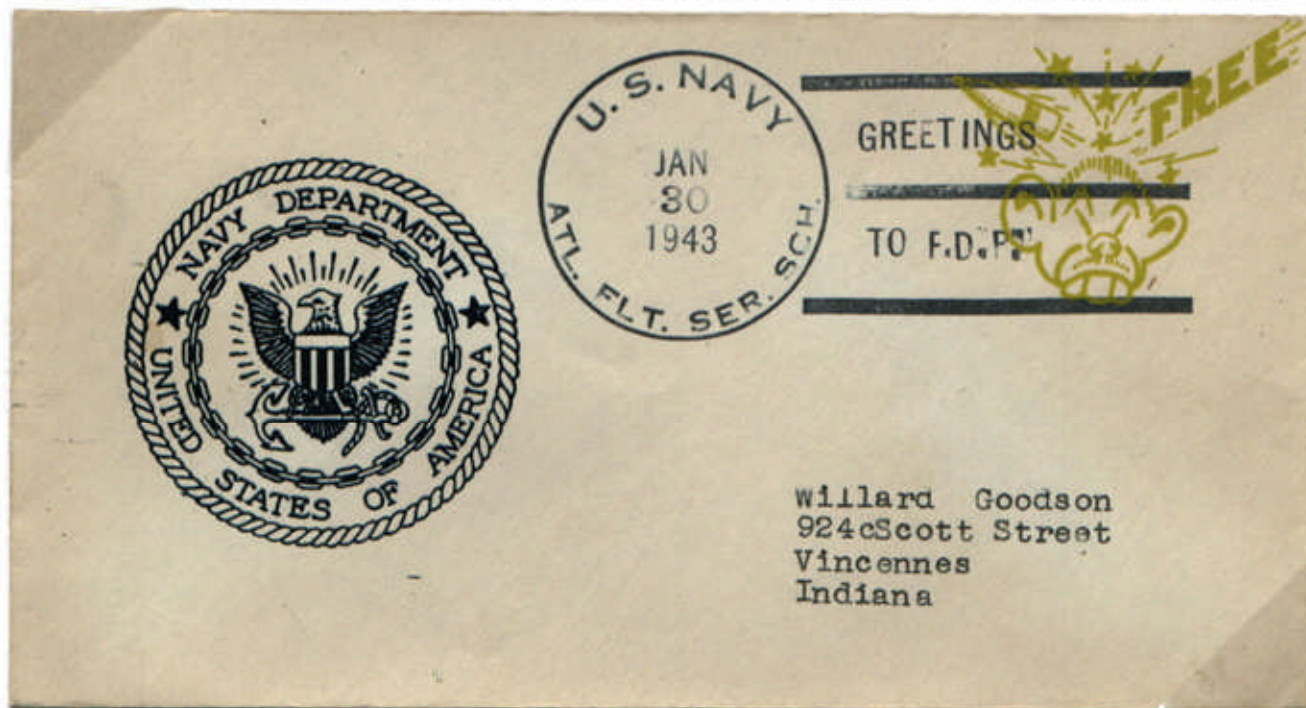


U.S. MILITARY FREE MAIL: CIVIL WAR TO THE PRESENT



THIS EXHIBIT SHOWS THE USAGE OF FREE FRANKING BY THE U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL DURING WAR TIME. THIS PRIVILEGE WAS ORIGINALLY GRANTED TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO MAIL LETTERS WITHOUT PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE(UNDER THE ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879). IT WAS MODIFIED UNDER THE ACT OF OCTOBER 3, 1917, SO THAT SERVICEMEN OVERSEAS COULD SEND THEIR LETTERS FREE OF ALL POSTAGE. ARMED FORCES FREE MAIL WAS ENACTED AND RESCINDED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES PRIOR TO 1986. UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12556, PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN DELEGATED THE FUNCTION OF DESIGNATING AN AREA FOR FREE MAILING PRIVILEGES TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE DIVIDED INTO TEN SECTIONS BY THE SPECIFIC WAR, AND ARE IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER.

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