Collecting Postcards of The Great War

The Western Front Association

East Coast Branch

12th May 2012

York County Heritage Trust

Paul Petersen

The Centennial is Coming...



WWI on New U.S. Stamps

Citizen's Stamp Advisory
Committee
c/o Stamp Development
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300
Washington, DC 20260-3501

- □ No emails or phone calls; only written requests
- □ A post card with name and topic recommendation
- □ Like in Chicago...

Vote early & Vote often

Let's Have WWI Topics on U.S. Stamps

Contact the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC)

- □ Only written requests are accepted
- □ No email or phone calls

A postcard will do. Give topic(s) and your name and contact information

Please take copies of submission information nearby.

Share this information with friends and family

Write regularly, as it is an issue of quantity over quality!









Today's Goals

- Enjoy viewing a sampling of WWI postcards
- Consider your own WWI collection
- Use postcards to promote the topic (Vs. email)
- Own a piece of the war (Mostly at low cost)
- Understand the challenges/ABCs of collecting
- Answer speaker's questions re: some PCs
- Are there any collectors here today?

It is more than a postcard

- Historical documents; written notes
- Interesting stamps & postmarks (towns & dates)
- Postal & military history; locations, units, etc.
 - Markers of people, place, and time
- Auxiliary markings
 - Soldier's mail, Feldpost
 - Censor stamps and officer signatures
 - POW Notifications

What you can do with WWI PCs

- Collect & Enjoy
- Illustrate teachings about the War
- Send to friends-They are cheap enough!
- Engage in some new research (Google it!)
- Use as bookmarks in your WWI texts
- Explore family genealogy

Tidbits-Paying for the War



Questions and Answers

28

What is the difference between a Thrift Stamp and a War Savings Certificate Stamp?

The 25-cent Thrift Stamps are issued to help you to save and exchange for a \$5 War Savings Certificate Stamp. The Thrift Stamps bear no interest; the War Savings Certificate Stamps earn Interest.

Why do I get a \$5 War Savings Certificate Stamp for from \$4.12 to \$4.23?

The \$5 is payable January 1, 1923. It includes the return to you of your money with the compound interest that the Government will pay you. The sooner you fill up and exchange your Thrift Card for a War Savings Certificate Stamp, the more interest you will receive.

Why should I exchange my full card of Thrift Stamps for a War Savings Certificate Stamp?

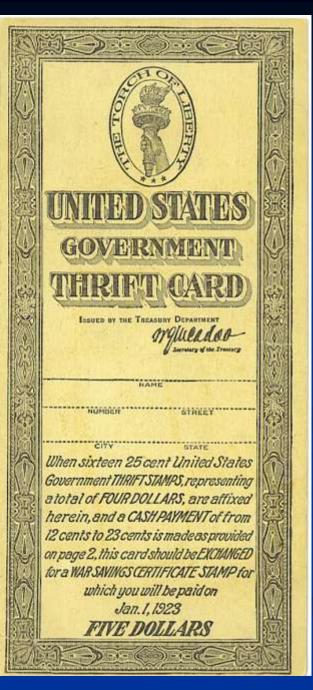
Because the War Savings Certificate Stamp bears interest and the Thrift Stamps do not.

What becomes of the money I pay for a stamp?

It is a loan to the United States Government.

How can my 25 cents really help?

A loan of only 25 cents by every person in the Nation will provide the United States Government with 25 million dollars.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THRIFT CARD

Take good care of your Thrift Card. If your Thrift Card is lost the money paid for stamps can not be recovered. Thrift Stamps are on sale at post offices, banks, trust companies, and other authorized agencies.

Affix only 25-cent U. S. Government Thrift Stamps in spaces below. Do not use Postage Stamps.

THRIPTSTAMP 25	5 The first principle of money-making is money saving.
2	6
Your second stamp here.	Doe't put off 'till to-monow.
3	7
If you want to succeed, save.	A penny saved is a penny gained.
4	8
Thrift is the power to save.	All fortunes have their foundations laid in thrift.

Save and have.
14
ent oaks from little acoma grow.
15
Waste not:
want not.
16
m economy and you

Important.—When you have affixed the sixteen 25-cent U. S. Government Thrift Stamps representing \$4, take this card to a post office, bank, or other authorized agent, pay the number of cents indicated below the month in which the exchange is made, and you will receive a War Savings Certificate Stamp for which you will be paid \$5 on January 1, 1923. Such payment and exchange must be made during the year 1918.

MONTH	JAN.	FEB.	MAR	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Cents	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Innovative U.S. War Bond Program Offset Cost of World War I

Seldom-seen War Savings stamps are momentos of an eye-opening phenomenon in American history – the mass mobilization of citizens from all walks of life to finance the World War I effort. And they're handsomely engraved – a perfect complement to your U.S. stamp collection!

Taxation paid one third of the \$35 billion war budget. Average Americans paid the rest with war bonds. An intense marketing campaign was used to introduce everyday citizens to the new concept of interest-bearing bonds.

War Savings stamps were issued by the Treasury Department and sold in post offices WARSAVINGS

THERIT STAMP

A S 5 A STAMP

WS1

In 1917, \$5 was equal to \$271 in today's wages!

WS2

and banks. The 25c Thrift Stamps were marketed to children while their parents were encouraged to purchase the \$5 War Savings Certificate stamp. The program was so successful it was used again during World War II. A neat piece of the past you'll be proud to own!

		USEU
WS1.X 1917 25c Deep Green War Savings, U.S.	\$16.00	\$3.00
WS2.X 1917 S5 Deep Green War Savings, U.S.	100.00	25.00

Scarce WW I War Savings Stamp is History You Can Hold!

Own mint World War I War Savings Stamps – a neat piece of American history unknown to most collectors!

Issued in 1919 to pay debts incurred during World War I, this stamp was sold at every Post Office and by every clerk and carrier. Millions of dollars were raised to help offset the war effort. War Savings Certificates were redeemable for U.S. Treasury War Certificates, Defense Bonds or War Bonds. The face shows how much the cost of investment was during each month of 1920 and that its value would be \$5 in 1925.

History you can hold in your hands - order yours now.

fint Used

\$325.00

WS5 1919 \$5 War Savings Certificate, Mint, U.S. ... \$795.00



WS5 – War Savings Certificate Missing From Most Collections

Mystic's Stamp Showcase Copyright ©2007 Mystic Stamp Company

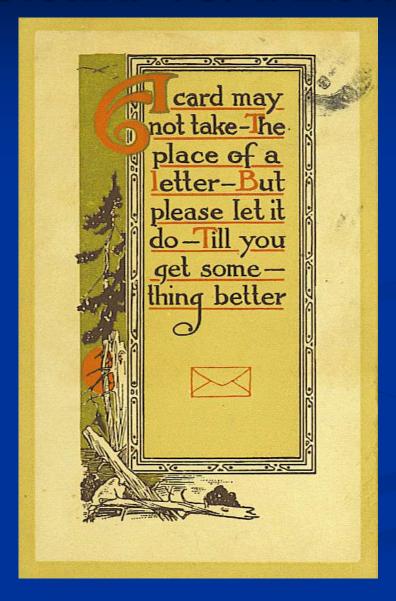
And don't forget the Liberty Loan

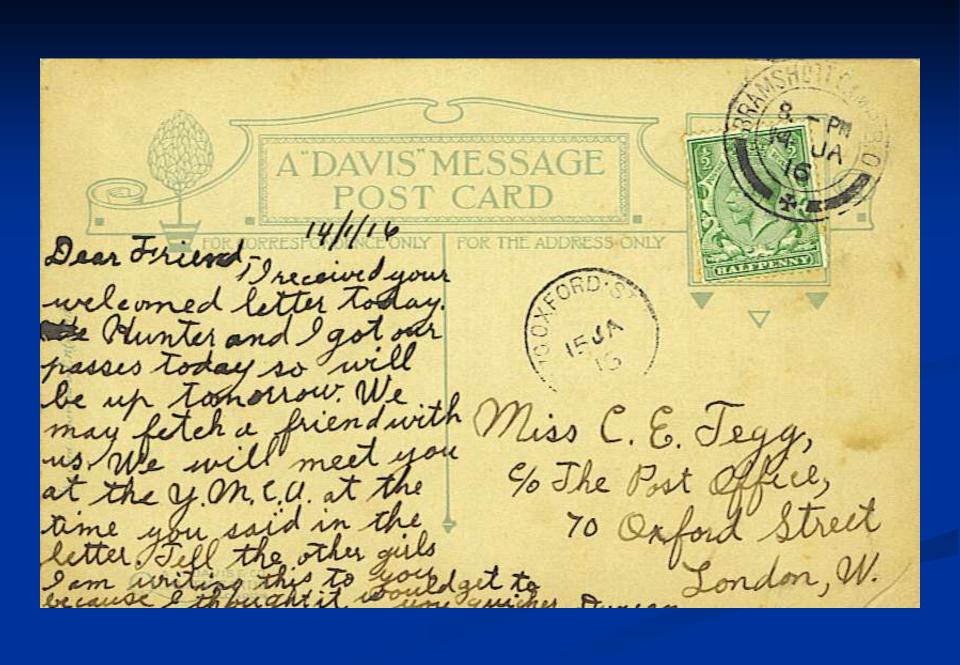
Deixion

Soldiers Mail/Feldpost



Postcard Vs. a Letter?





Yesteryear's Postcards

- Think of them as today's email & texting
 - There was expedient mail delivery in the olden days
- □ Golden age (Late 1890s into early 20th Century)
- Inexpensive for the sender, special postage rate
- Gazillians available, mint or used, WWI or other topics
- Free postage from (and sometimes to) the front
- Limited time → limited message
 - Some PCs promised a letter to come
- PCs were encouraged-easier to censor than letters
- Postcard blasts by unit (Ariving home on...)

Organizing a Collection

- It goes back to Carl Linnaeus-It's my problem!
 - Only when it got interesting
- 1000s of ways to conceptualize-Skin a cat?
- Specialty collections
 - Equipment, tanks, flame throwers, & home front
- The good news...No rules...collect what you want
- Generalized approaches
 - Chronological: Tell the story with postcards
 - Players, countries, armies...

Topical Vs. Thematic

- Sopwith Pups
- Ferdinand Foch
- Edith Cavell

- Trench life
- Trench foot
- Belleau Wood

- The air war
- Allied War Leaders
- War atrocities, propaganda
- Ypres salient; Verdun
- Nursing care in the war
- U.S. Marines

Topical-Thematic Collecting

- Theaters
 - Eastern Front, Africa, Mesopotamia,
- By country
 - AEF, France, the home front
- Battle site/Area
 - Somme, Marne, Tannenberg, Jutland, Falklands
- Postcard documents; i.e. POW (Guess where I am?); Red cross (I'm OK, but...)
- Postcard Books (Usually a sector *i.e.* Ypres, Fismes)
- Related: Plebiscites, Propaganda, Post-war memorials, WWI Art,

Search beyond the war ...

- History of Germany, RF, (1914-1919)...
- Authors (i.e. Graves, Sassoon, Remarque)
- People (i.e. Kaiser, Clemenceau, Wilson)
- Plebiscites → WWII
- The Ruhr, der Rhein
- Town names
- Hyperinflation
- Art, architecture

Where does Pershing go?



General Pershing at Camp Dix, N. J. Feb. 28, 1920

- Allied leaders?
- The AEF?
- Post war life of JJP?
- The Armistice?
- American heroes?

Where can one get WWI PCs?

- Postcard and stamp shows (Google your area)
- Flea markets, Postcard box in antique shops
- Trading with other collectors
- Internet (For the special stuff)
 - Postcard websites
 - Auctions such as eBay
- Postcard Stores *i.e.* Northeast, MD
- Museum Shops (Reproductions, paintings)
- Modern Publishers *i.e.* Dover for repro PCs
- Auctions/Catalogs (Listed under deltiology.)

What determines a PC's Cost?

- Condition, condition, & condition
 - "It's all relative, as it depends who is buying."
 - P²'s collection
- Topic, Message, postal history, signature, et. al.
- Rarity (*i.e.* the postmark, the card itself...)
- Source of sale
- Caveat emptor ...
- Initial stock is cheap. Filling holes can be \$\$\$

Etiologies of Collecting

- A gene?
- The devil!
- Like original sin, it's just there
- A virus, something we catch or catches us
- A quirk up to a personality disorder
 - "You know Bill, he just can't help himself."
- "I do it for stress relief."
 - (FDR's stamp collection. "I owe my life...")

Collector Behaviors I

- Start: A Collector Vs. an Accumulator
- Some are very serious, others are compulsive
- Travel to attend shows and exhibits
- Read and own reference literature on topic
 - Many into research regarding their collection
 - Paul Von Lettow-Vorbeck exhibit
- Enter their material into competitions
- Keep records and lists

Collector Behaviors II

- Tend to be orderly and organized
- Own from a shoebox full of ___ Vs. a ___ room
 - Or more!!!
- Very generous with sharing material and info
- Belong to collecting organizations
- Can overspend

Is collecting a primal drive?



Postmark Date Mystery



The Solution

Dudelange, Lux. Dec. 16, 1918. Dear Miss Chapman, I have your Christmas letter & card both of which I enjoyed very much. Very likely I will spend Christmas in this town + in the house marked. Of course we would not mind spending it on the hite if we were heading ! Miss. P. B. Chapen for the coast. This is a real pleasent town The alden 4The people are friendly Too. There is a steel mill here that I think I will visit. heurburgh I was in the church Sunday and it was jam full, Every one is Catholic so there is only 3.4. one church assuguently the crowd. Good night now + a happy fulure 4.8.0. Last FA William

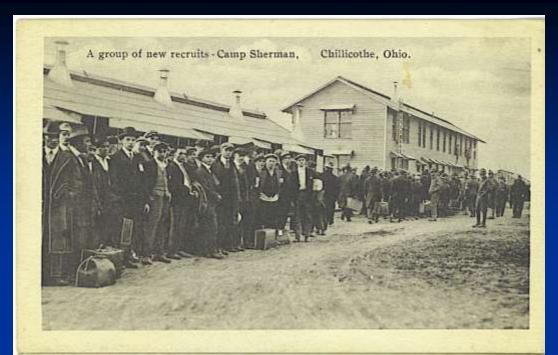
The Place



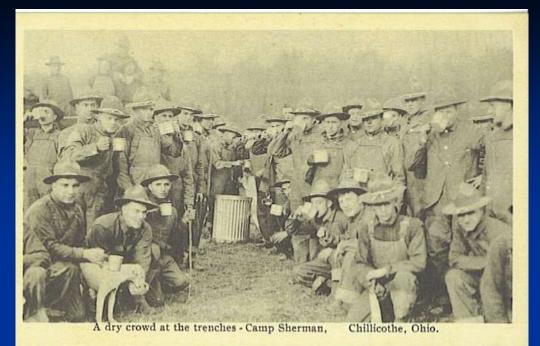
The AEF













Dear Sister: the the grown Slate, dentogy 1998 guilde Doe have aluminum elisher, leaving tomorrow hope you are all with I are just feel fine arould like to see you I am so were your Brother

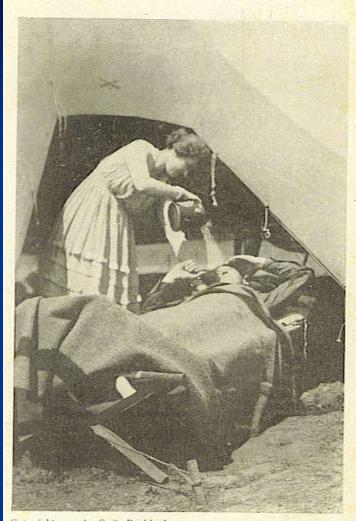
Postmarked the 13th
August 1918,
Newport News, VA,
Stuart Branch to his
sister in West
Milton, OH



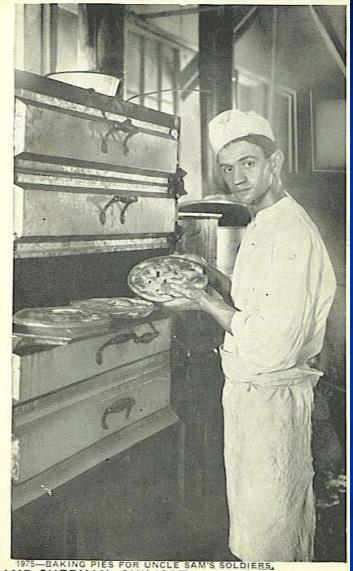
LIFE AT CAMP DIX, N. J.

LIFE AT CAMP DIX.

On the left are bundles of civilian clothto be sent home by the new soldiers. On right are soldiers sending home letters purchasing postcards at the Y. M. C. A. library well stocked with good books.



Copyright 1917 by C. O. Buckingham "REVEILLE"



1975—BAKING PIES FOR UNCLE SAM'S SOLDIERS.
CAMP SHERMAN, CHILICOTHE, O.

Postmark: 6SEP17 Ft. Sheridan

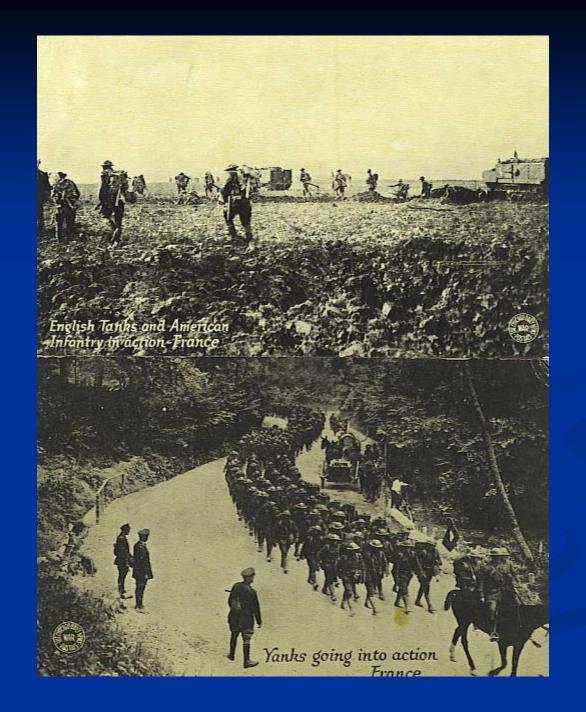
Received your letter and clippings and sure was pleased. We do not get any time to write letters but will try to get one to you in a few days. After a long hike with heavy packs today several fellows fainted. It sure was a march. Will ...? To Miss Caroline Young, 103 E. Wilson St. Madison, Wisc.

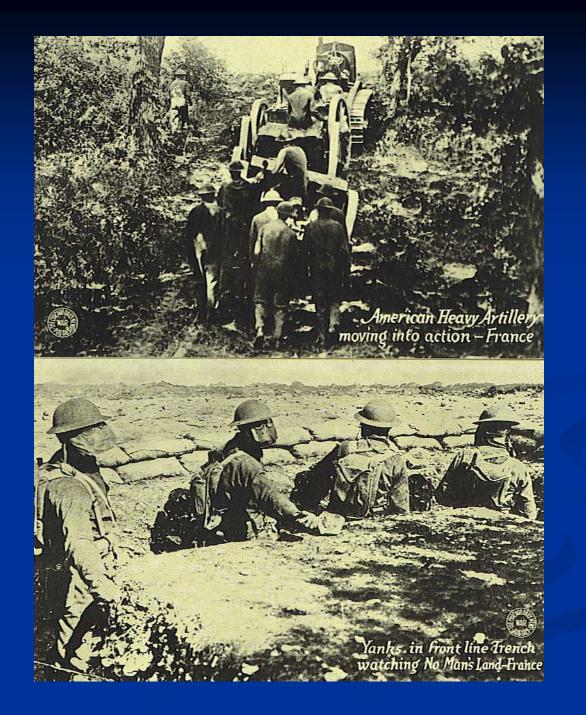




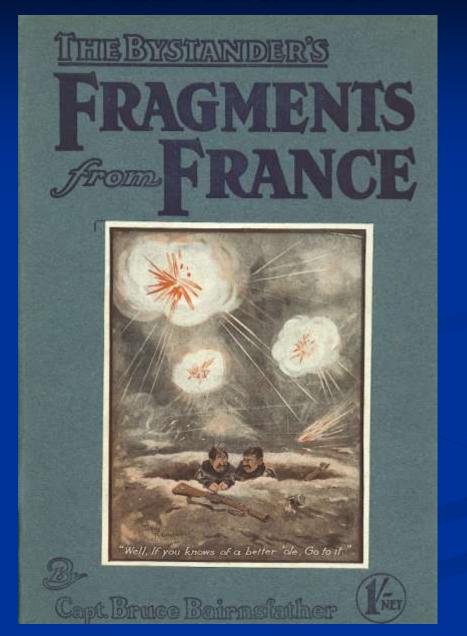
Postmarked the 19th May 1918, Merritt Branch, Jersey City, NJ To: Mr. William Lewis of Carthage, NY.

Dear Friend: Well, I have just got back to God's country and will be home soon to see you. Will tell you more about it when I see you than I can write. Maynard





BEF Humor



PART SIX

FRAGMENTS FRANCE



B

Capt. Bruce Bairnsfather

FRAGMENTS FRANCE FRANCE

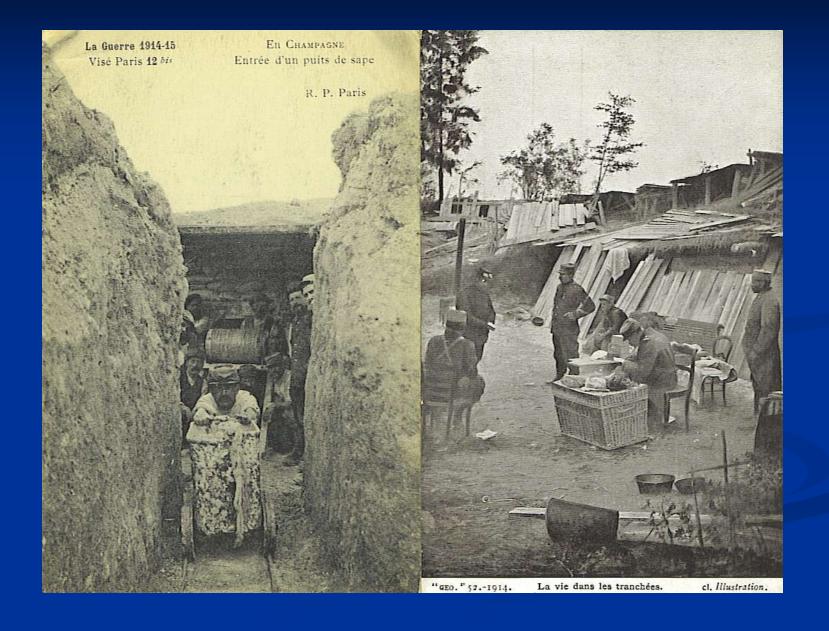


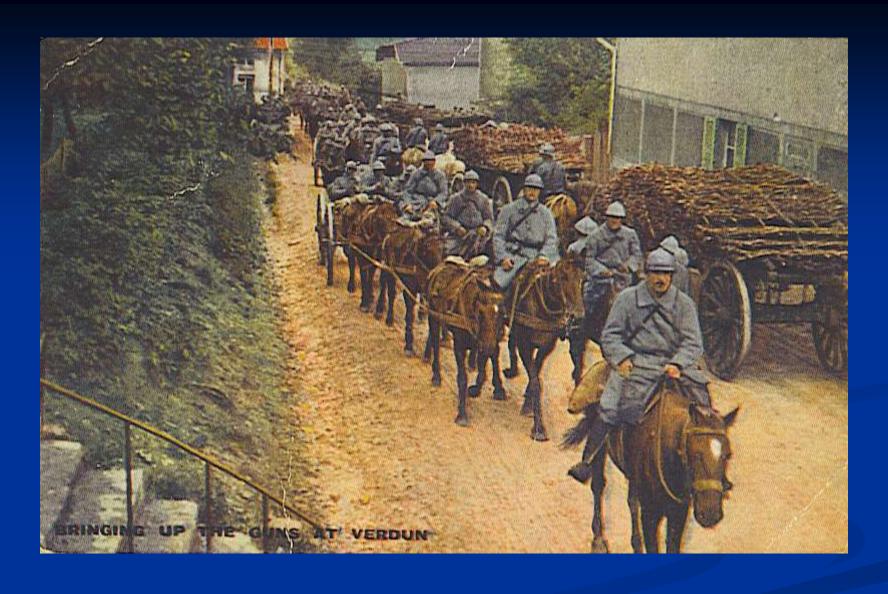
B

Capt. Bruce Bairmsfather



RF Trench Life





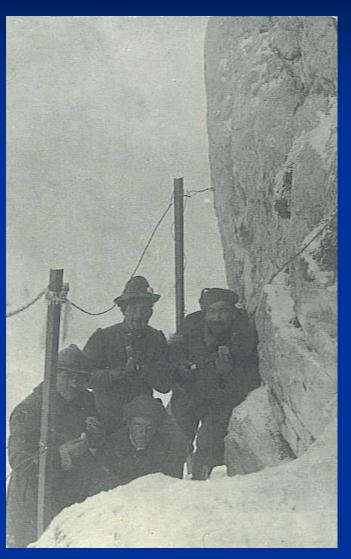
Who said it was a black & white war?

new york, 2. 1917 POST Official Photograph of La Section Photographique de l'Armée Française issued by NEWSPAPER ILLUSTRATIONS Ltd., 161a, Strand, W.C. Mrs. 9. Chevillot Ma chere Lina. Esperant que vous vous allez tous him, West Cornwall Low un Jouvenn de the guerre; more meils teurs voeux four en Conn. Spennens Noel, From Louise an Patricka Ro. F. D. Bringing up a Reserve Battery of Guns at Verdun .- Nothing the Kalser can organize now will be able to combat the output of the French Munition Factories.

Eastern Front



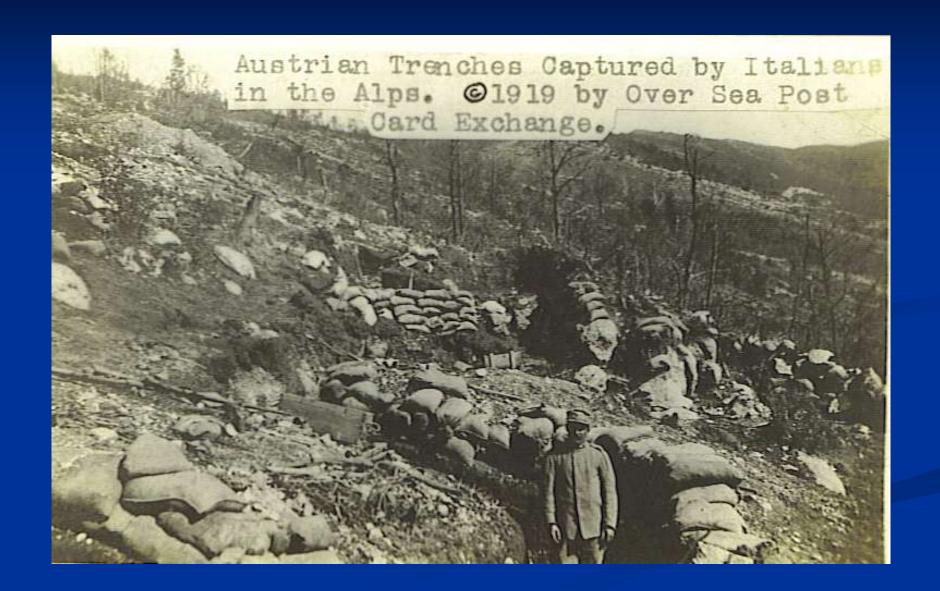
Italian Front (facsimile)



Italijanski vojaki na Batognici

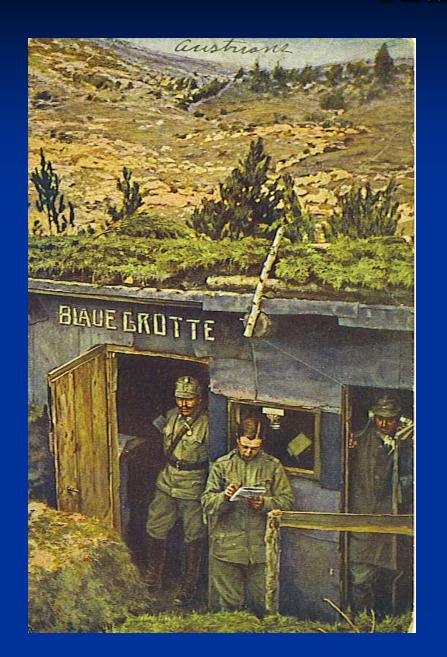
Izdal in založil KOBARIŠKI MLIŽEJ tla Tisk: Grafika Soča, Nova Gorica 2009

Postcard purchased at the Caporetto Museum In Slovenia





Austria



31st January 1919 Here is three of them in a little shack where they give orders to the arter where to shoot you see the camouflage roof that is to fool the airoplanes (sic) Good luck to all from Al (This is not postmarked. May have been enclosed in a letter.

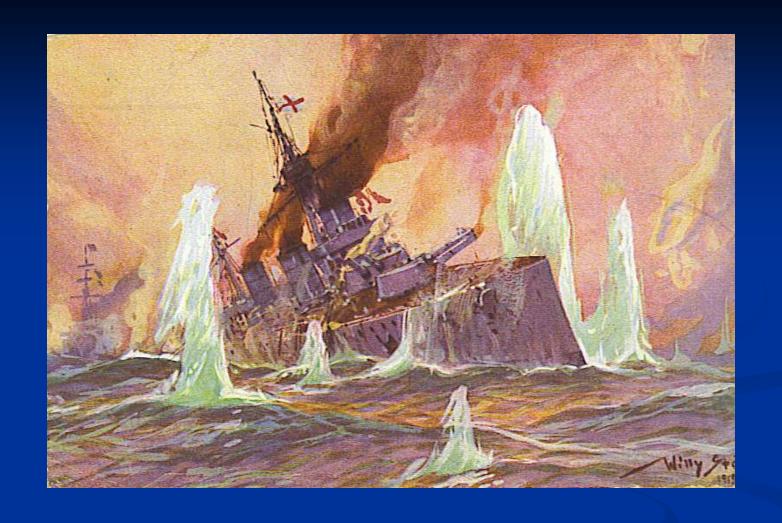
Tunisia



POSTKARTE POST CARD Carle Postale CARTOLINA POSTALE - OTKPLITTE MICHMO TARJETA POSTAL I Loyd Shulls e.c.c. 41/7 Lancaster Co.

German Navy





Dogger Bank, 24th January 1915. Postcard is dated the 28th Feb 1916 from Achen, Germany



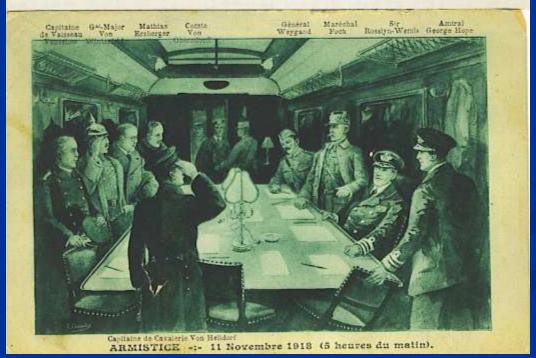
Armistice

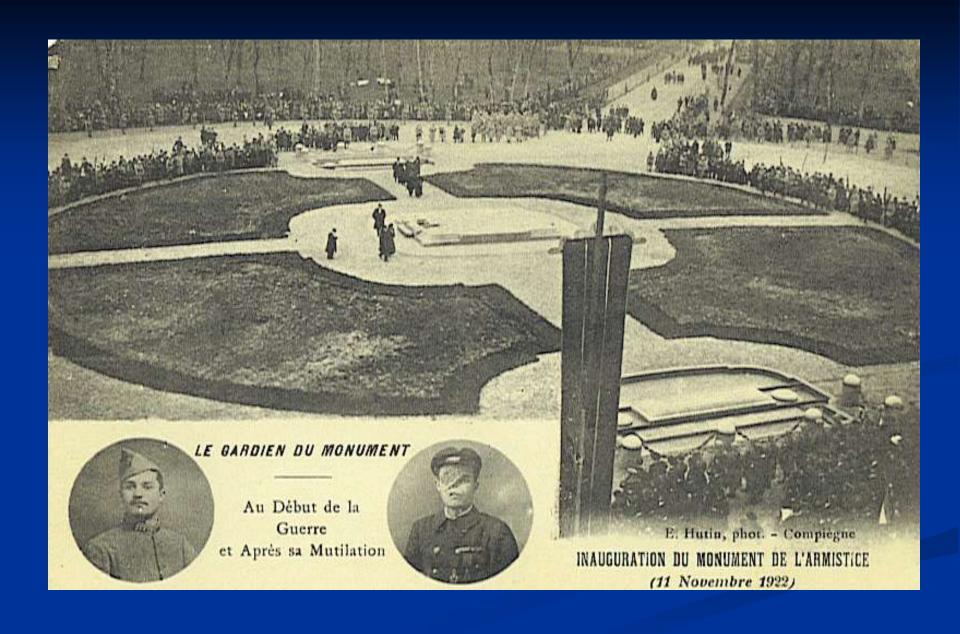


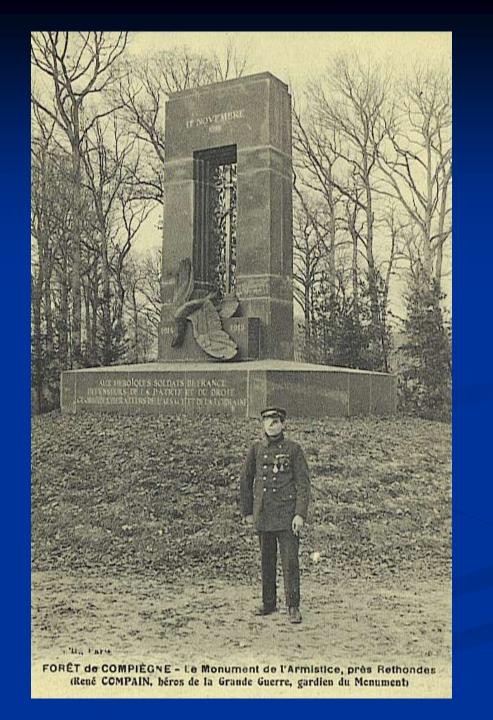
CARTE POSTALE PAT de L'AR Adresse

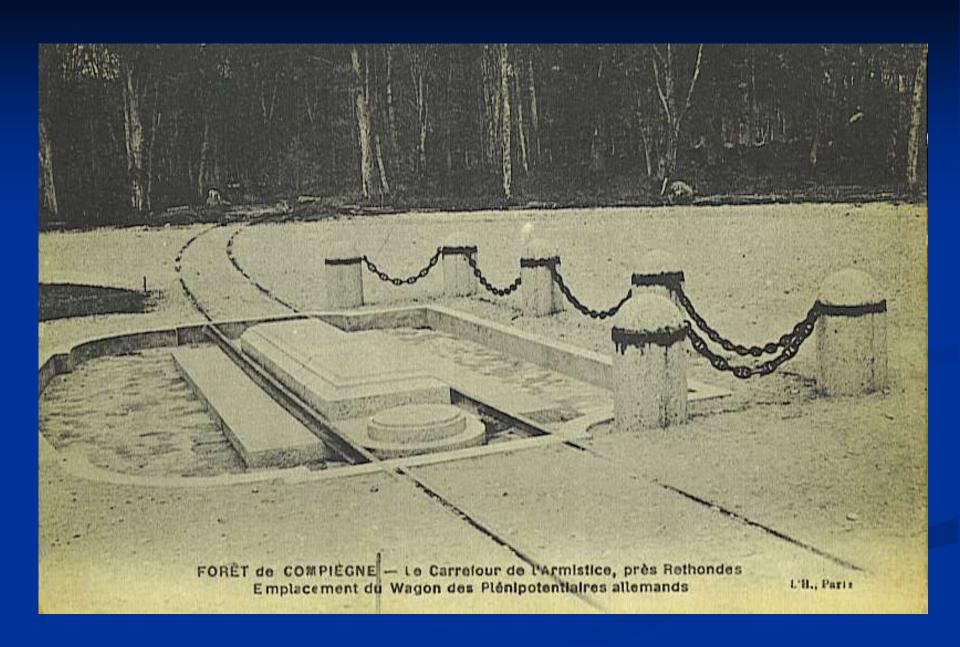
Souvenirs abound











Post-War Liberty: 3 & 4/1919



"This is where the YMCA is located at."

A PC to Miss Anna Haas of Stettlersville, Lehigh Co., PA



"Am on a leave just now. Best of eats finest hotels, and if I had a few million francs, would like to stay here. The prettiest town I ever seen. Will write to you later. Pvt. AE Wagner 316 Inf. Supply Co. APO 771 (To Sunbury, PA)



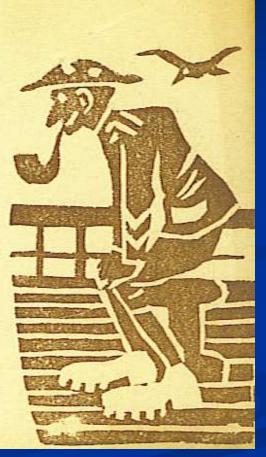
LAND 'HO!!

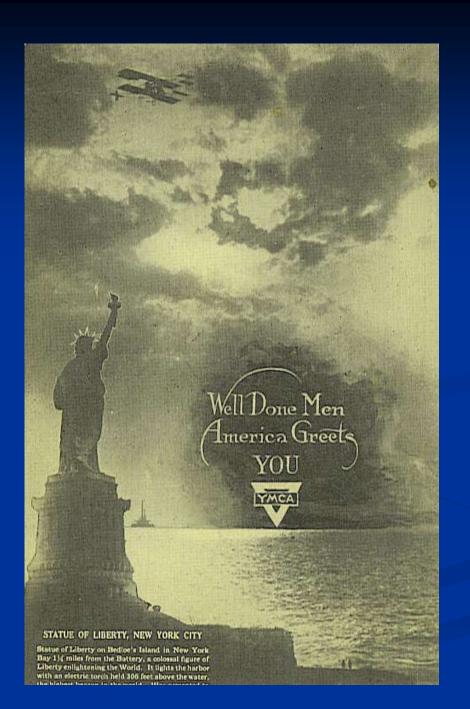
I'm Home Again

Sailed from St. Nazaire, France, May 18, 1919

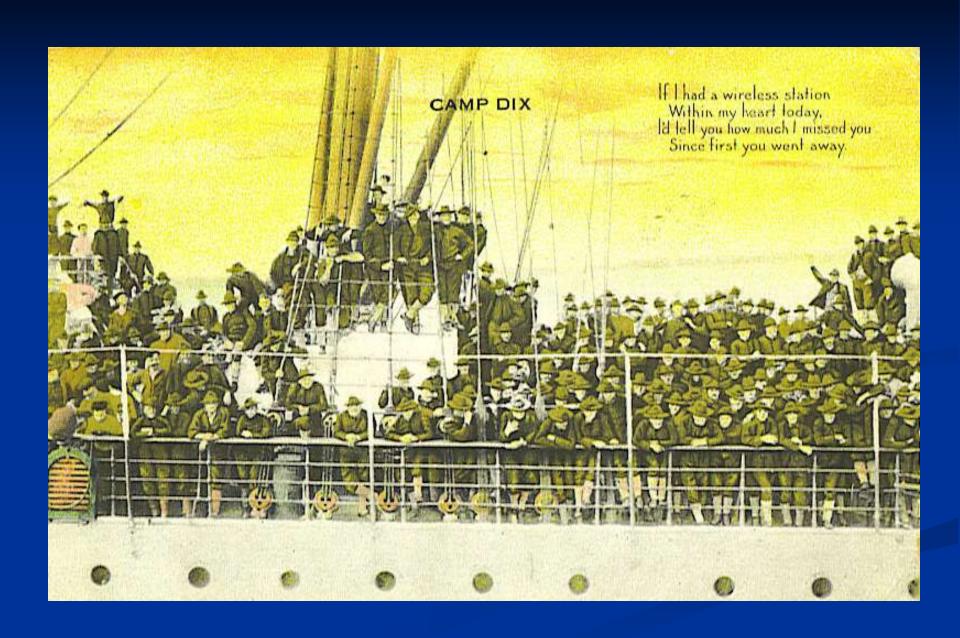
Arrived at______

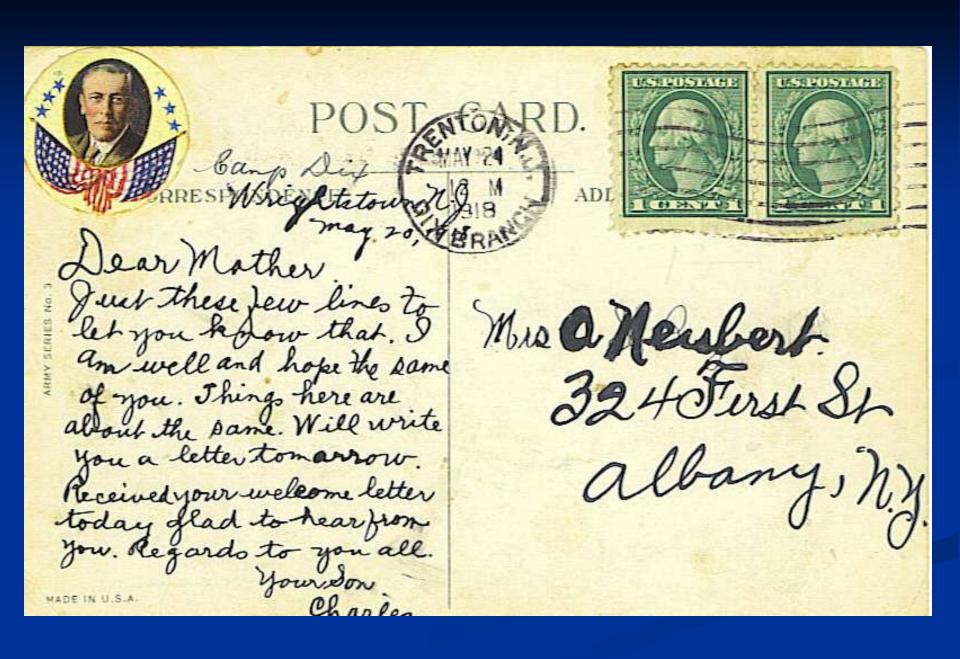
on Board U S. S. ANTIGONE





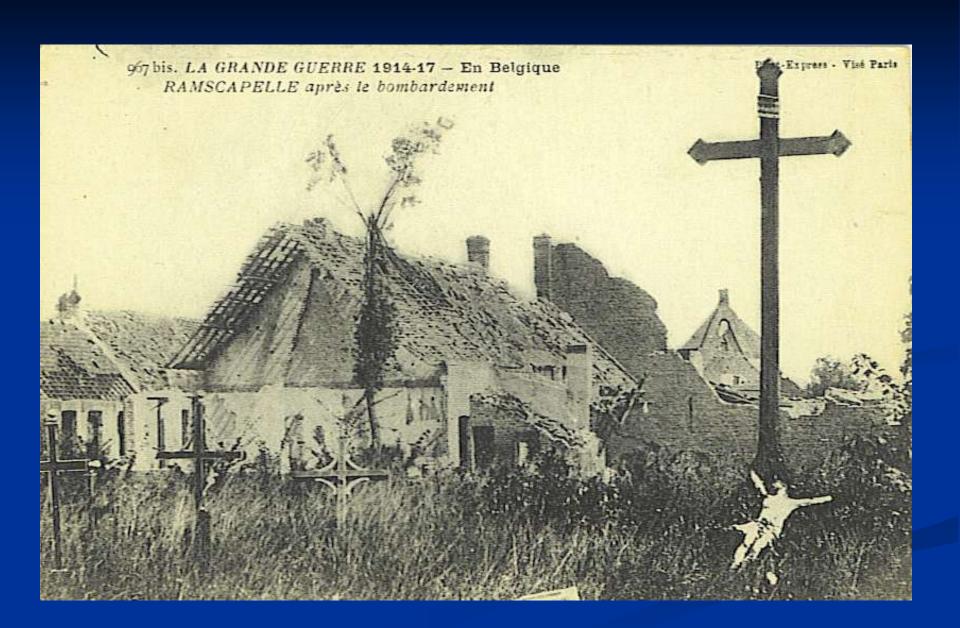
DEPARTMENT FOR RECEPTION S'ILDIER'S MAIL NO POSTAGE IF OF RETURNING TROOPS Post Card MAILED ON BOAT OR DOCK. OTHERWISE For Address Only 2c POSTAGE REQUIRED. Arrived to-day Transport Going to Camp_ Will write from there as soon as possible.

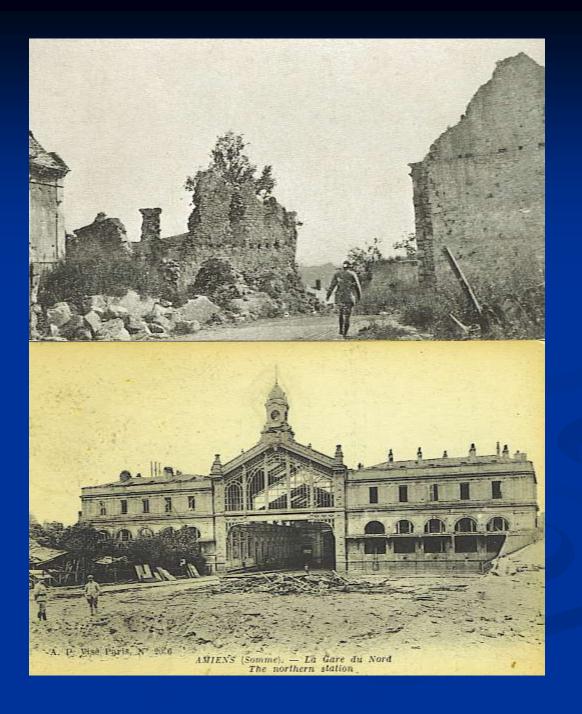


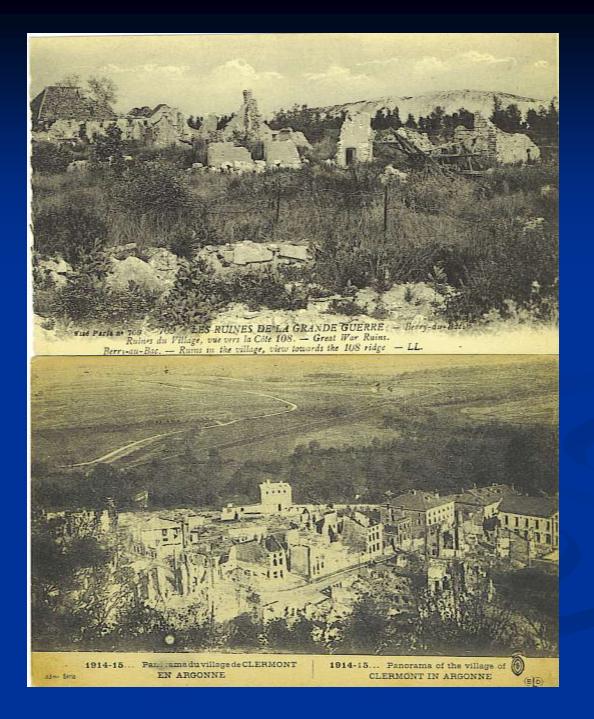


Ruins, ruins, and more ruins









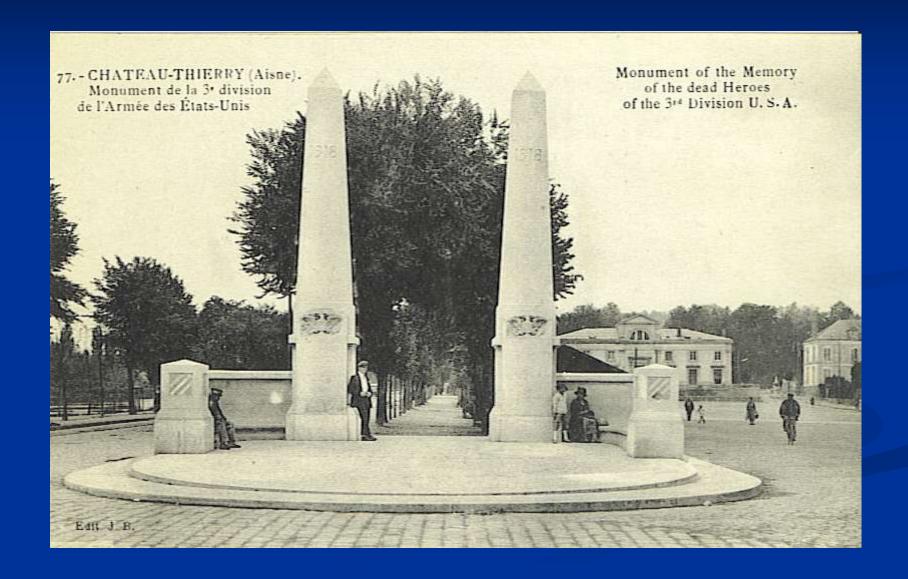
Coup. W. E. Dobbius.

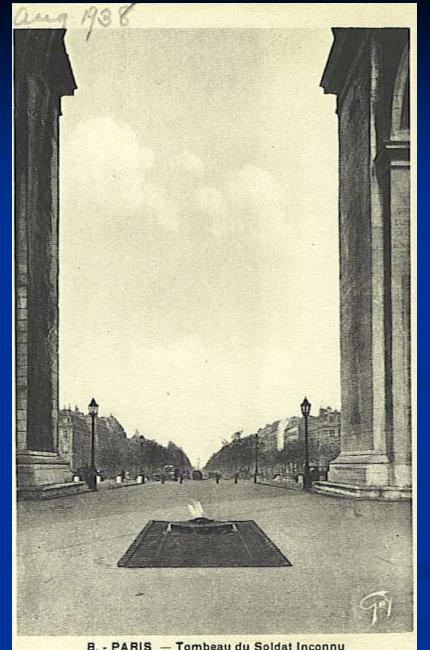
Hogen's Co. 115 !! INSY:

CARTE POSTALE

MARIE - MARIE -Mus. Win H. Doblins. W scene of german # 182 Elm Strut. brightfulness. This Hagustaurs. Maryland. is just one of the many French lums that were distruyed. Lovingly Codward .

Memorials





8. - PARIS — Tombeau du Soldat Inconnu The Unknown Soldier's Tumb

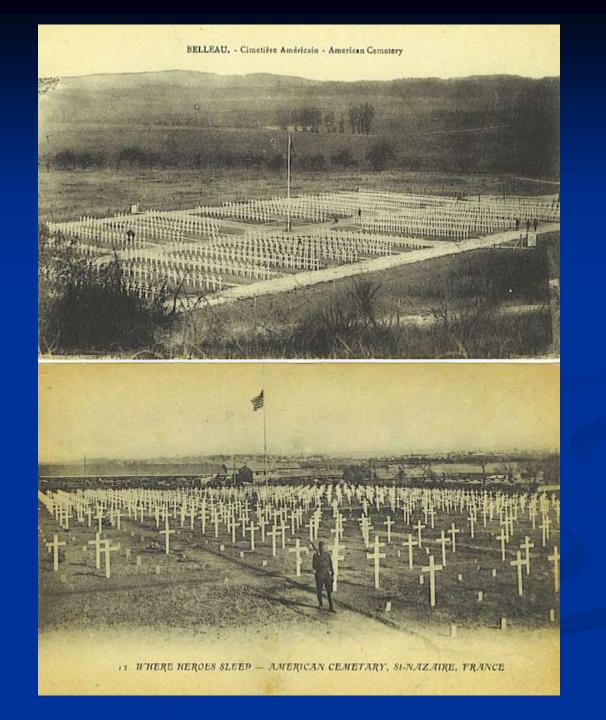


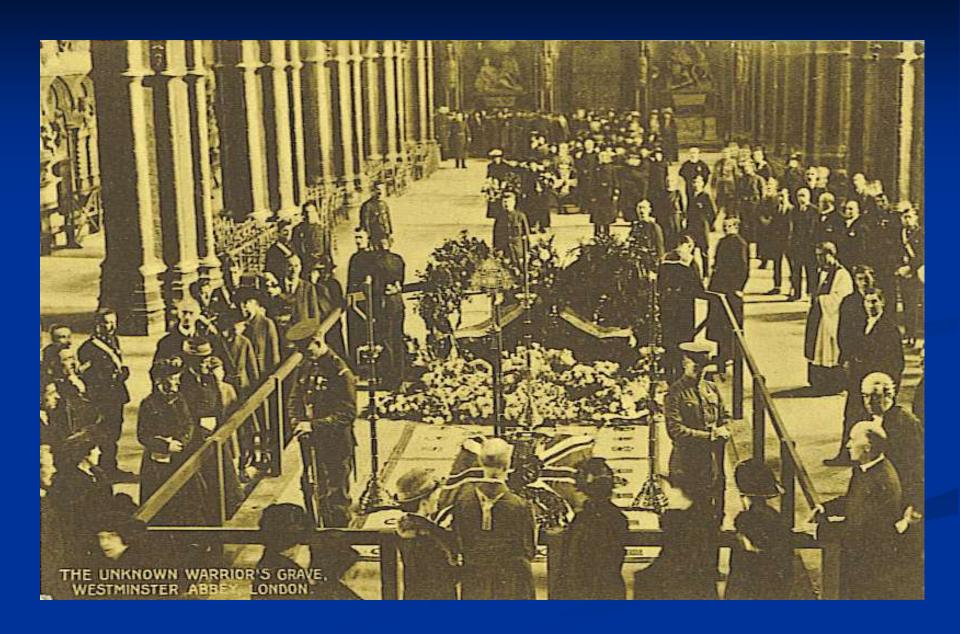
1

Dinant Mur Tschoffen (23 août 1914).

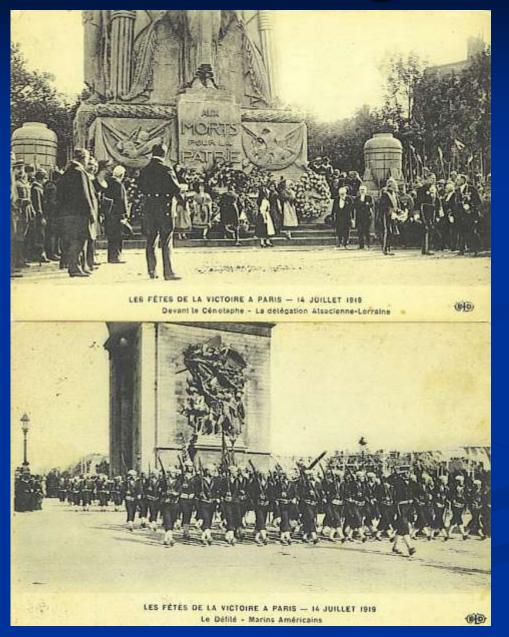


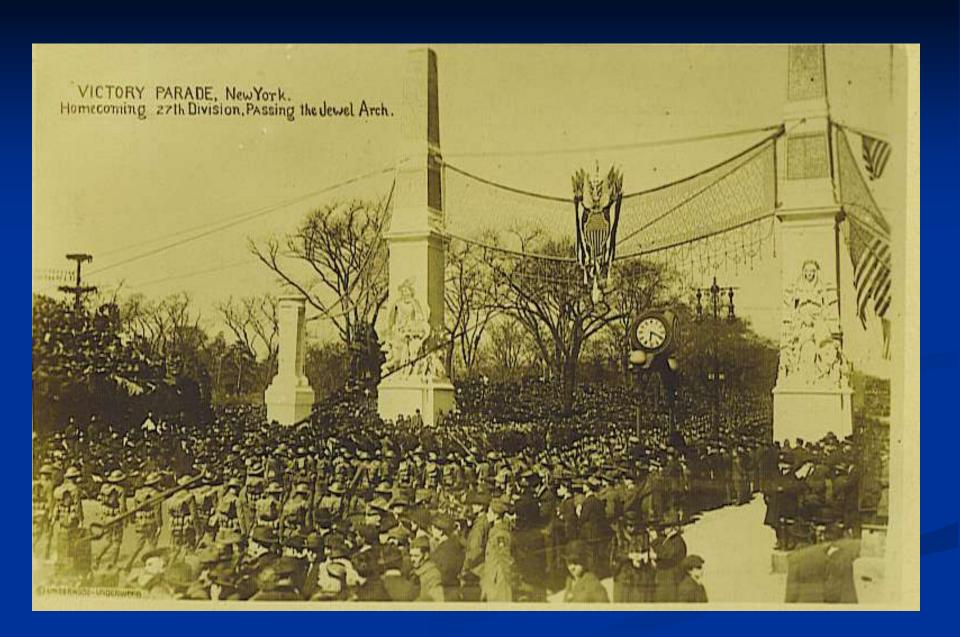
Massengräber in Pfastatt b. Mülhausen i, Els. Gefecht vom 9. August 1914



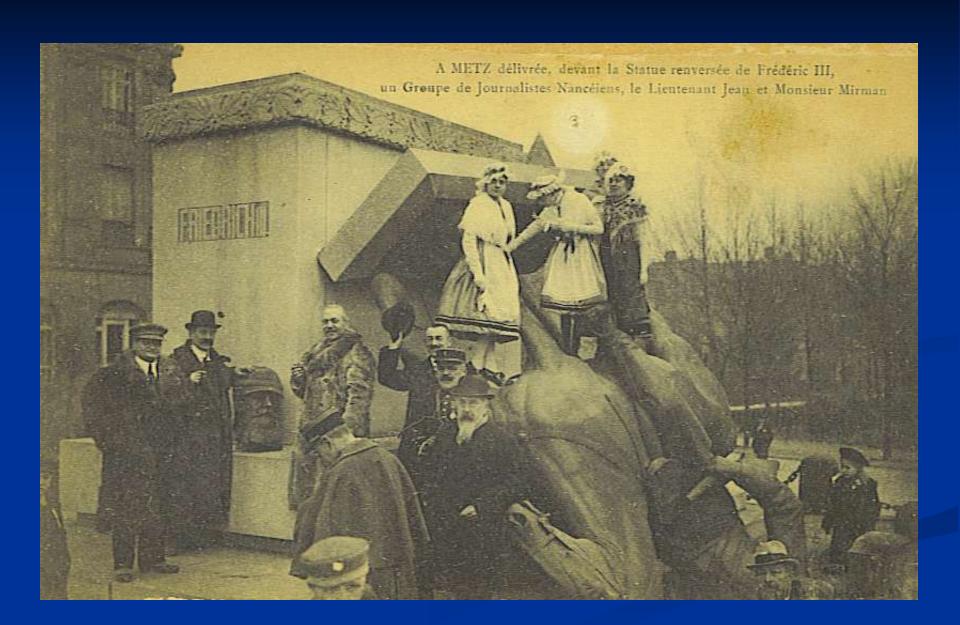


Celebrating

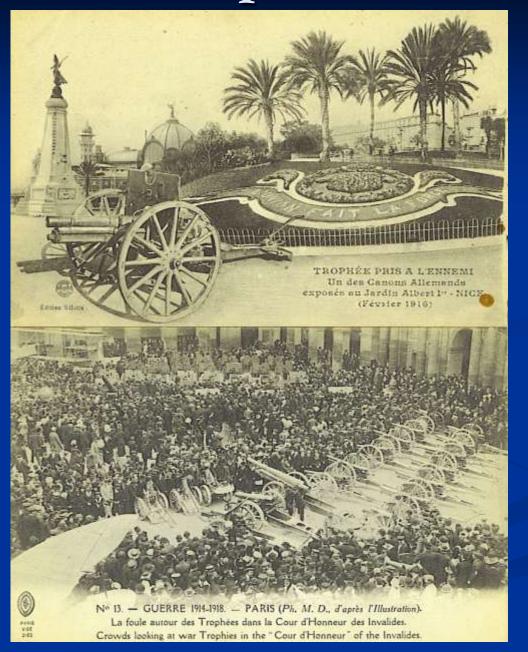




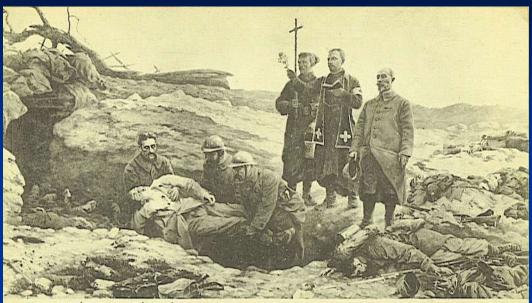




Trophies



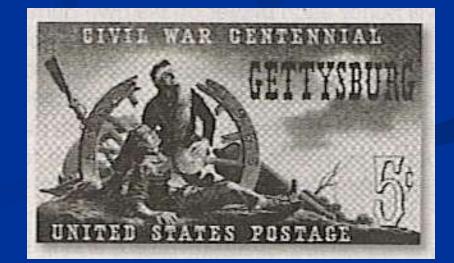
Mourning

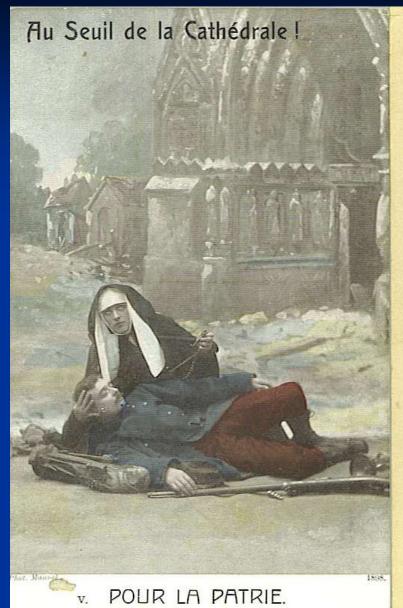


MUSÉE DE L'ARMÉE — Église des Invalides — « NOS MARTYRS pour le Droit et la Liberté »

Par Joseph Aubert (1916)

ARMY MUSEUM — Invalid Church — « OUR MARTYRS for Right and Freedom », by Joseph Aubert (1916)







Weckruf.

Gemalde von 21. v. Roefler.

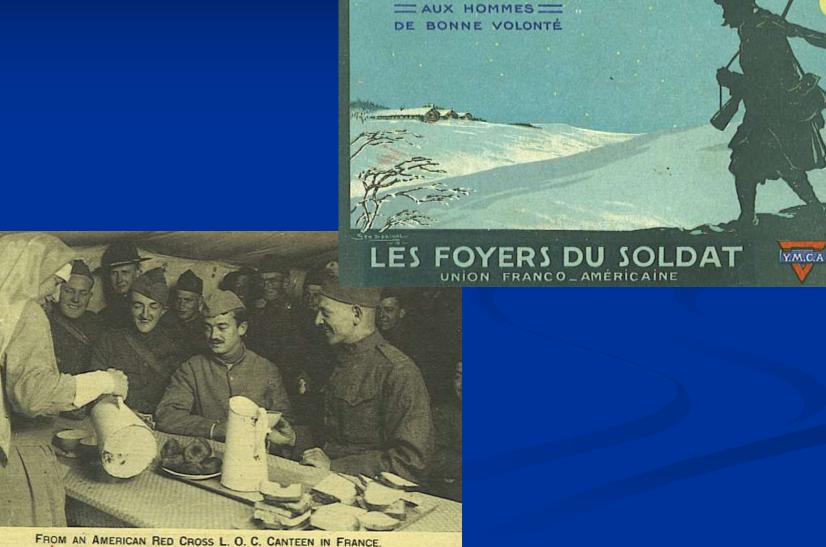
Self-made Postcards



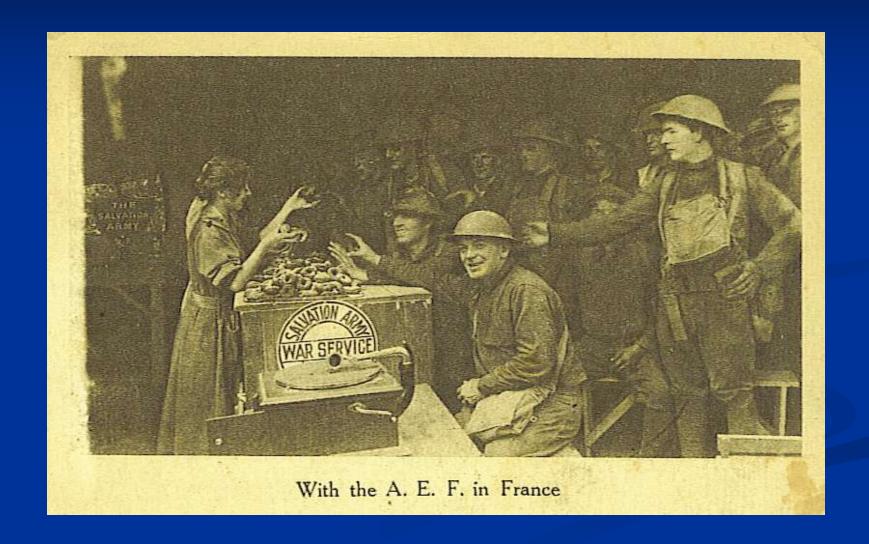


Red Cross & WMCA

PAIX SUR LA TERRE



Salvation Army



6/15/19

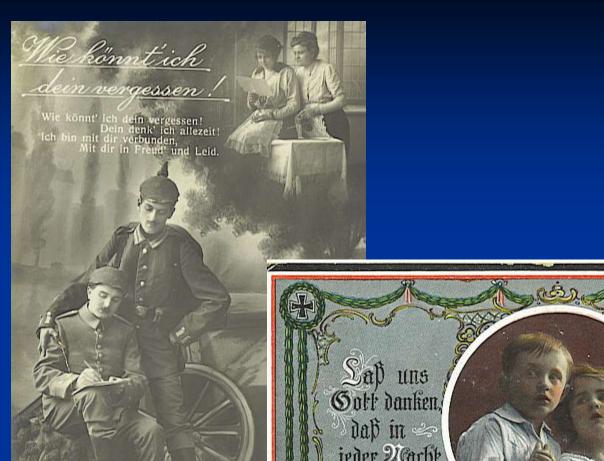
Dear Aunt Eva, I came across Ralph and Hubert today and they are both looking fine and guess shall get along alright in good shape and get a great experience. They are here in Brest and I am on my way home and I was very glad to see them both. Hope you are all well. Hope to be home soon and can talk to you all.

Sgt 1/c WH. Upham, AEF Brest



Home Fires

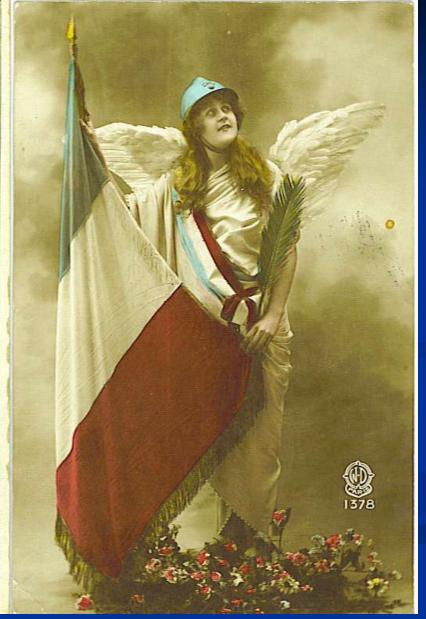






· Jabronilar 10. Linbow Forgor! oln In armiver Split Gir fill dir Ollbart Almbyn ton 1 borgviffn Loundonfor División 3 Forme Inn formilin Din Gnigliffm arming Lorlion Junison mud Biff Vninn Allratin Serie 2635/1 Elfer. No 49.

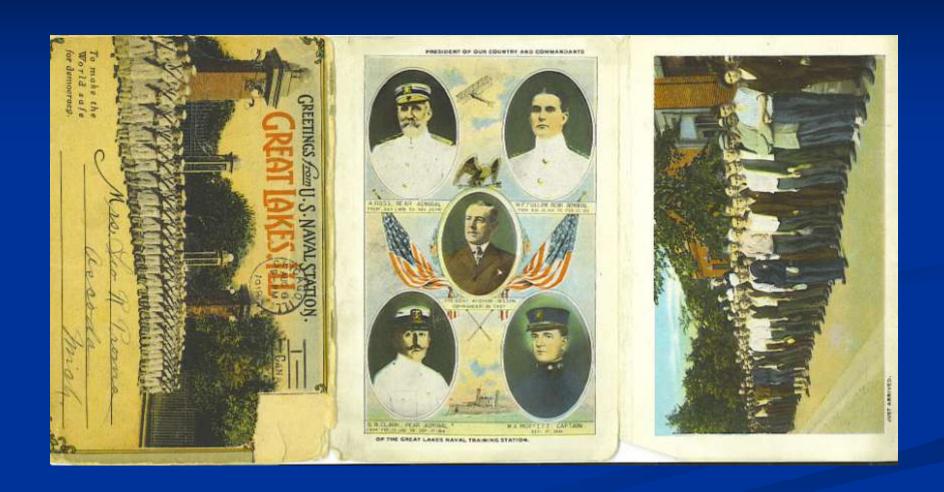


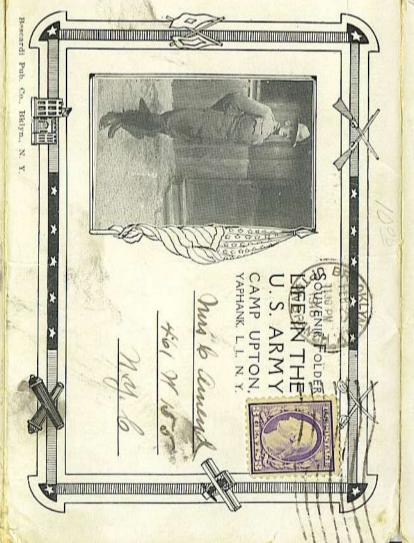


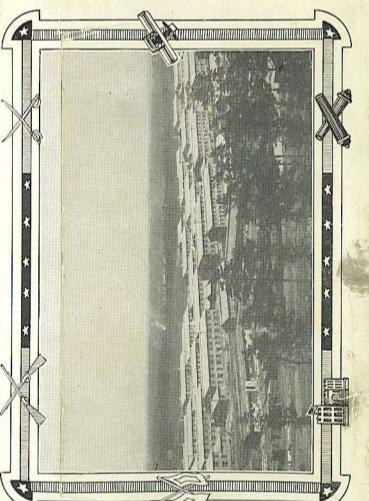
But W. R. do Pat Goldiers Mail Co.C. 102 M. S. Bru. a. E. F. Clear Friends: -Mr. & Mrs. Horse in best of health. hope to heave the + Mr. De Brock same from you. 59 Bleecker St Well Sail aftr. 195 aterson ! Gera U. S. d.

Posted from Upton Branch, Brooklyn, NY the 21st June 1918 (Friday) Dear Sister, The box came today and many thanks. I will be glad to have you come Sunday and bring Helen. If I should be called in the meantime, I will telephone you but be early as we may be sent out Sunday afternoon. With best wishes to all. I am Bring some candy and my watch.

Picture card Booklets

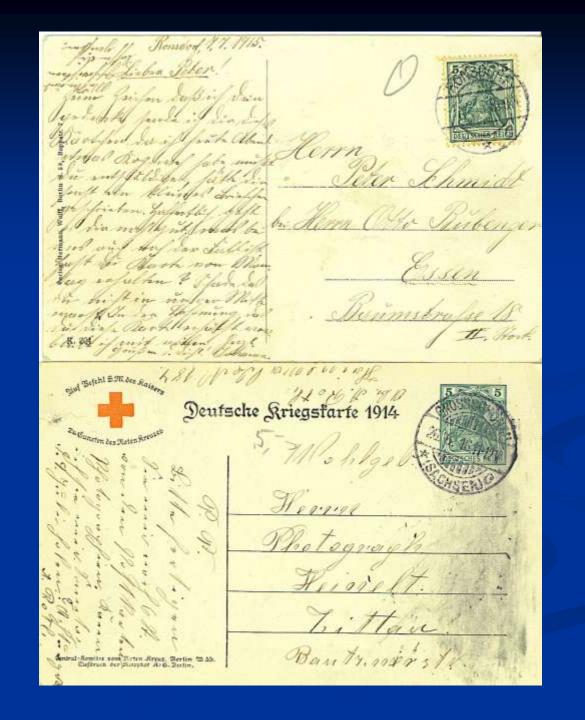


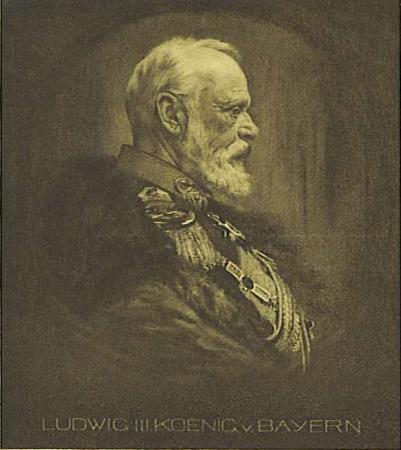




Personalities







Aufgenommen von Jhrer Majestät der Kaiserin und Königin im Juli 1915



BRENDAMOUR, SIMHART & CR. MCHN.

PROF. WALTHER FIRLE, PINX

Mil Fried Mil Effer. Lindmig.





General GALLIENI, Gouverneur Militaire de Paris.

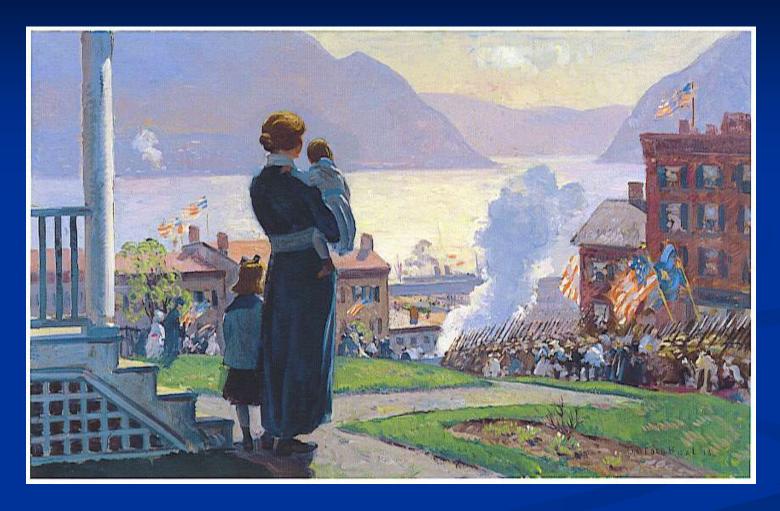
_Prit une large part à la Victoire de la Marne par la merveilleuse organisation de sa Vaillante garnison de Paris.

For those with an inquiring mind



Roylers Panorama of chaysade de Monin. Thronigan Krinkan Pouren. Ty fortu fint true Viponiumit State Nellepsen bent Booken out i'm mightun afaire tobe grationaffere for its bell Varietits Venturoffs bui sur practing to finiture semplimentaria bropololer Thing Bireins North in Raules. This waymorligan young

Hudson River School



Clifford Beal (1879-1956) On the Hudson at Newburgh, 1918

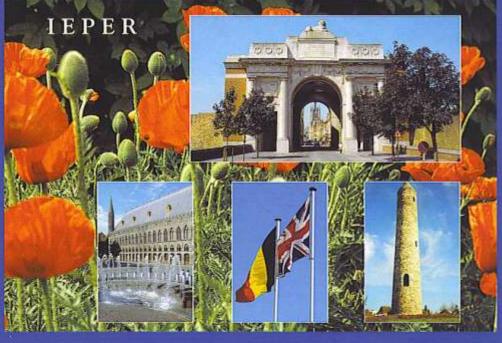
Of Local Club Interest



VAR MEMORIAL AND PLAZA, BALTIMORE, MD.

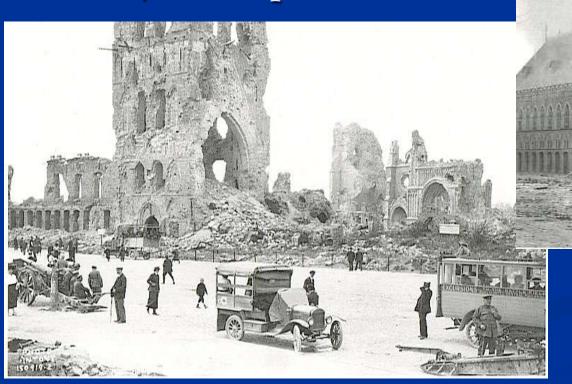
Ypres-Contemporary



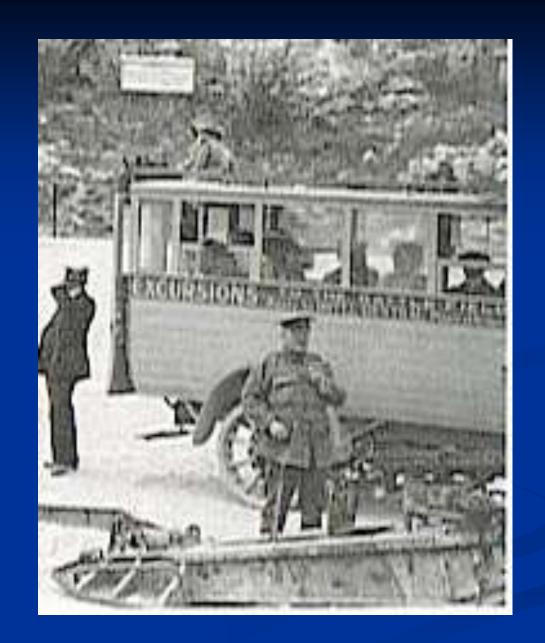


Retrospective PCs from In Flanders Fields Museum Ypres, BE

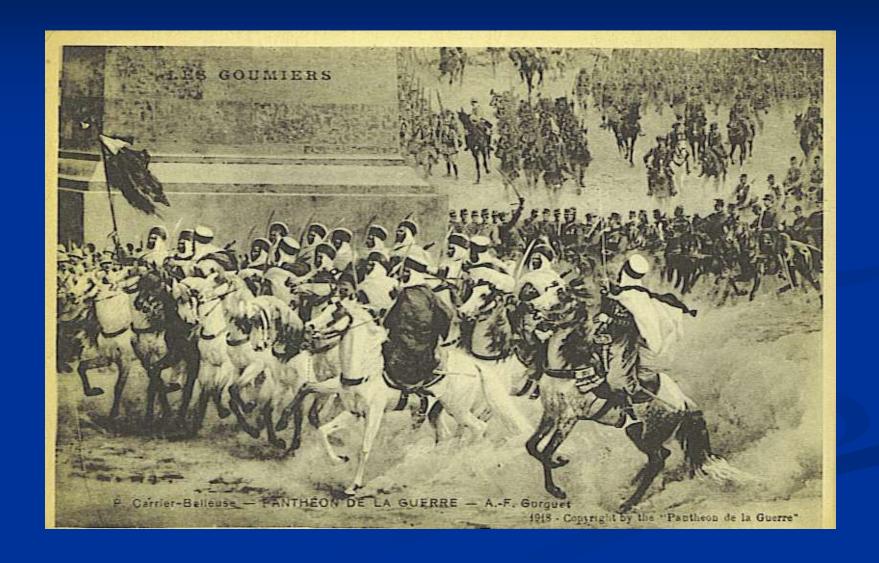
↓ 15th Sep 1919

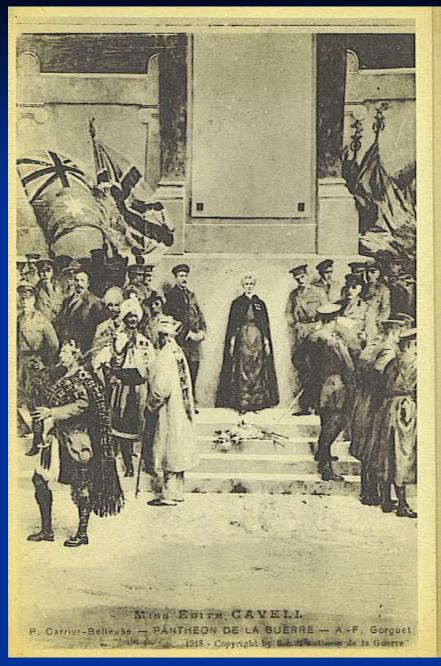


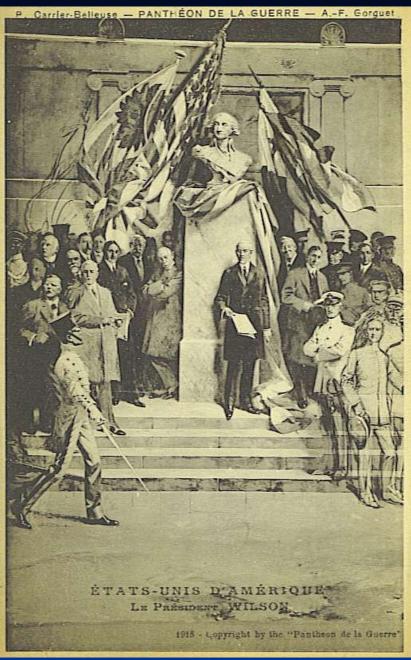
21st Nov 1914



Pantheon de la Guerre-1918











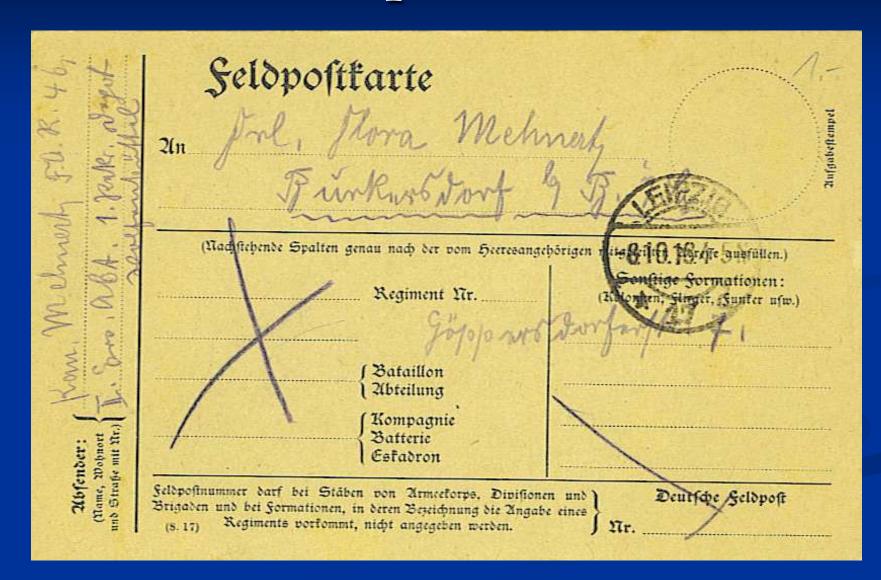




Occupation Postcard & Stamps



Feldpostkarte



Postcard Souvenir Books









Textes Français et Anglais

CE QU'ILS ONT FAIT

DE SOISSONS

24 Cartes postales détachables avec vues phototypiques

Avant et Après

WHAT THEY HAVE DONE OF SOISSONS

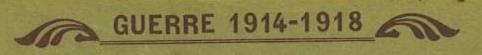
24 Detachable Post-Cards with photolypical views

Before and After

Édition G. Nougarada

ND. Phot.





Reims bombardé

12 Cartes Postales Artistiques



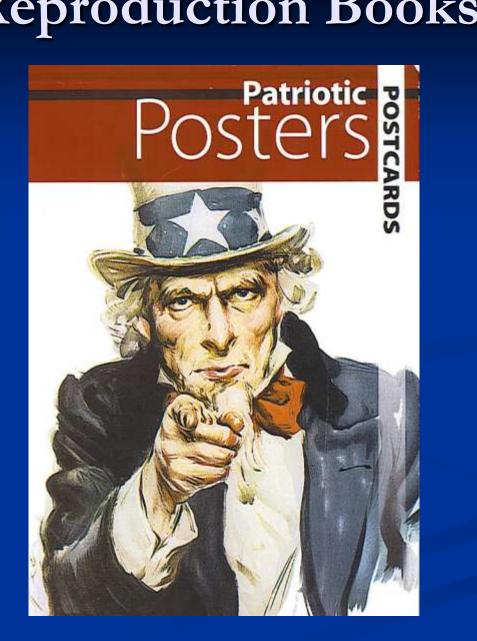
L'H. Paris

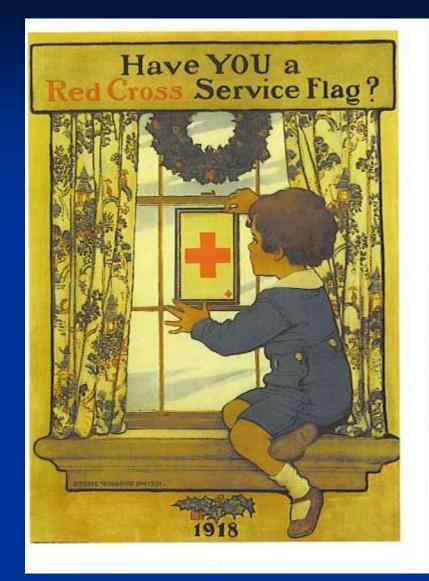
M. D. Bordeaux

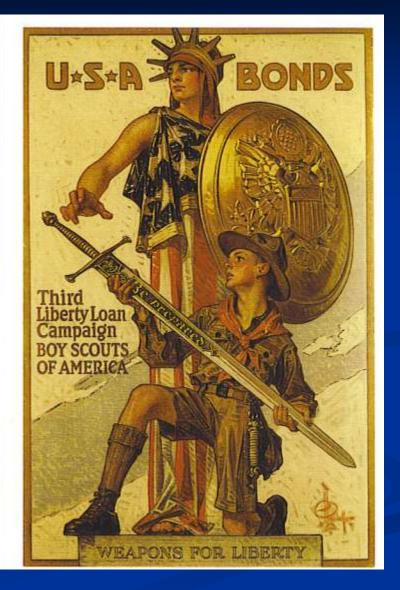
ypres

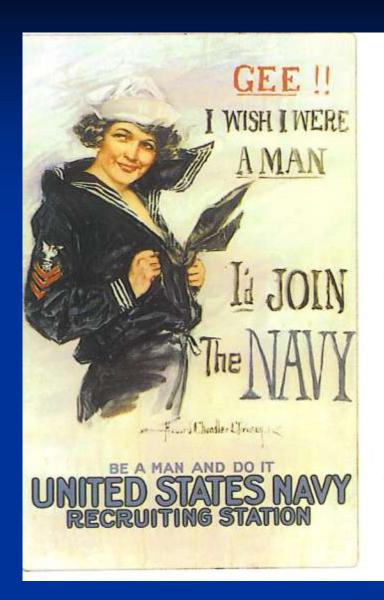
British War Memorials

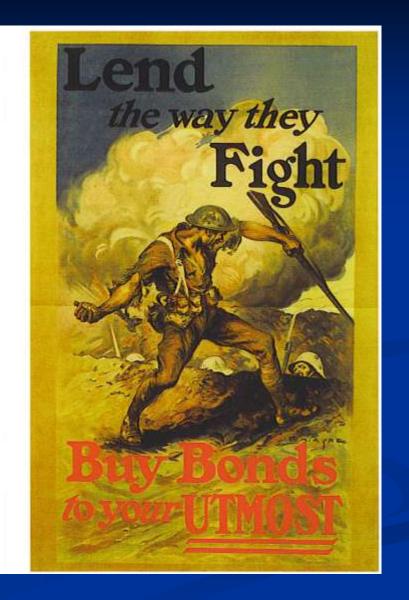
Reproduction Books











SOUVENIR POSTCARD BOOKLET



WORLD WAR I

POSTCARD BOOKLET

















Made exclusively for National World War I Museum www.theworldwar.org

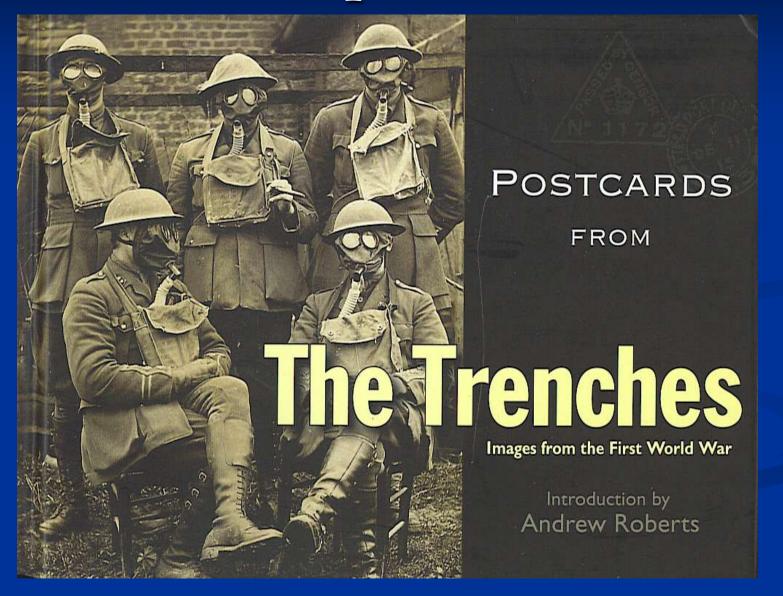
FOUNDIMAGE.COM ISBN:1-60150-145-1

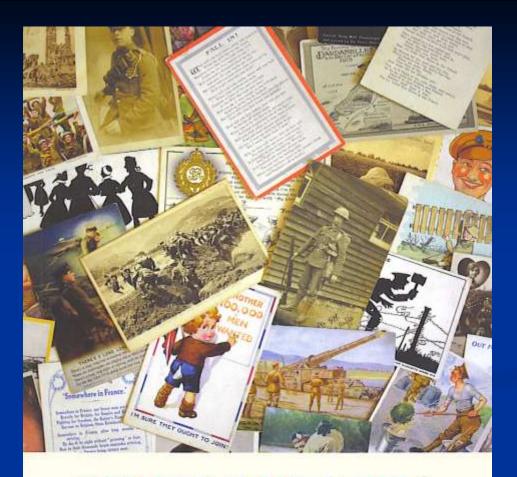


CUSTOM MADE IN THE USA

8 POSTCARDS US \$8.95

Compilations





BRITISH POSTCARDS OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

PETER DOYLE

SHIRE EIBRARY

Contact Info

Paul Petersen
717.299.5640
pcpetersen@comcast.net