

## BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OCCUPATION FORCES JAPAN

The Aussies had not been in Japan long before they found it was profitable to deal with the Japanese in scarce goods. The profits were large and one easy way to send the profits back to Australia was to purchase large quantities of stamps in panes and send them home where they could be cashed in at any post office for a 5% discount. To deter this, the British command ordered the postage stamps be overprinted B.C.O.F. JAPAN This was eventually stopped since the Army had no authority in postal matters.







ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Weaver Mfg. Co.,  
Springfield, Ill.  
U.S.A.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.  
IF NOT DELIVERED WITHIN 7 DAYS, RETURN TO

NO TRADE REPAIR SEC.



*Air mail*



Miss M.A. Barkley.  
C/- D/- A.O. Barkley.  
Best Str.  
Devonport.  
Tasmania

## JAPAN

The note enclosed in this letter from a sailor  
aboard the Battleship, USS Wisconsin best  
explains this cover:

"This is the first letter I could send  
my wife uncensored. It was from Tokyo, Sept 17, 1945.  
The Imperial Hotel Post Office was the only  
P.O. open at that time."





JAPAN

Naval Post Cards

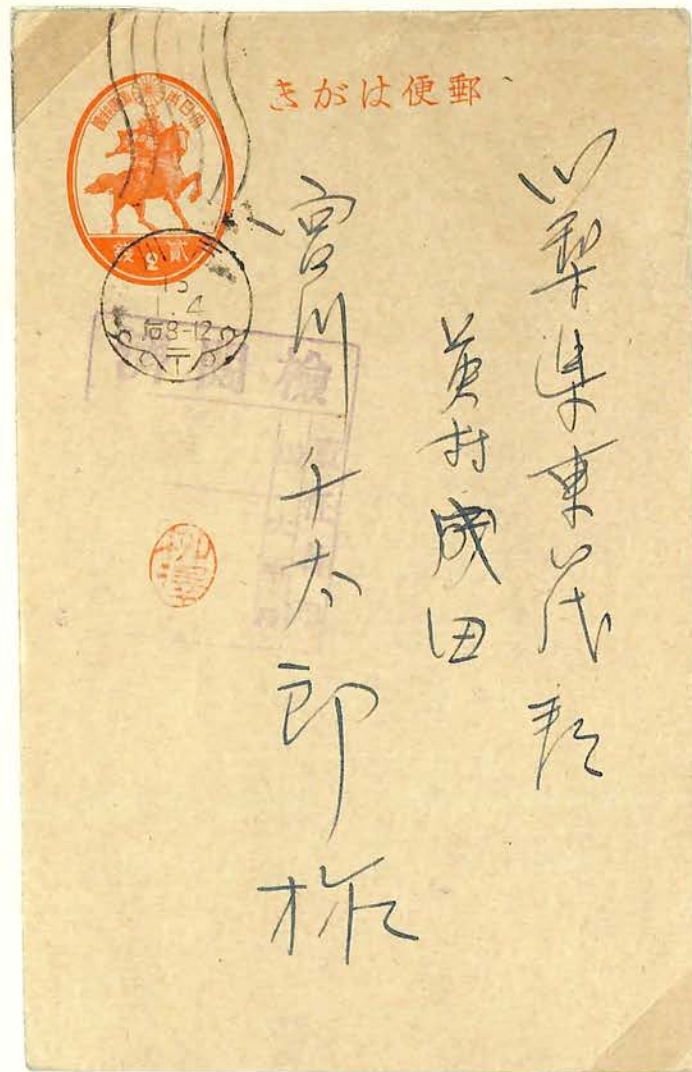


JAPAN

Domestic Military Postal card

No return address or name. Postmarked Ichikawa, Jan 4, 1941

To: Sentaro Miyakaw, Yamanashi-ken [Pref]. Has Censor's indicia and chop.

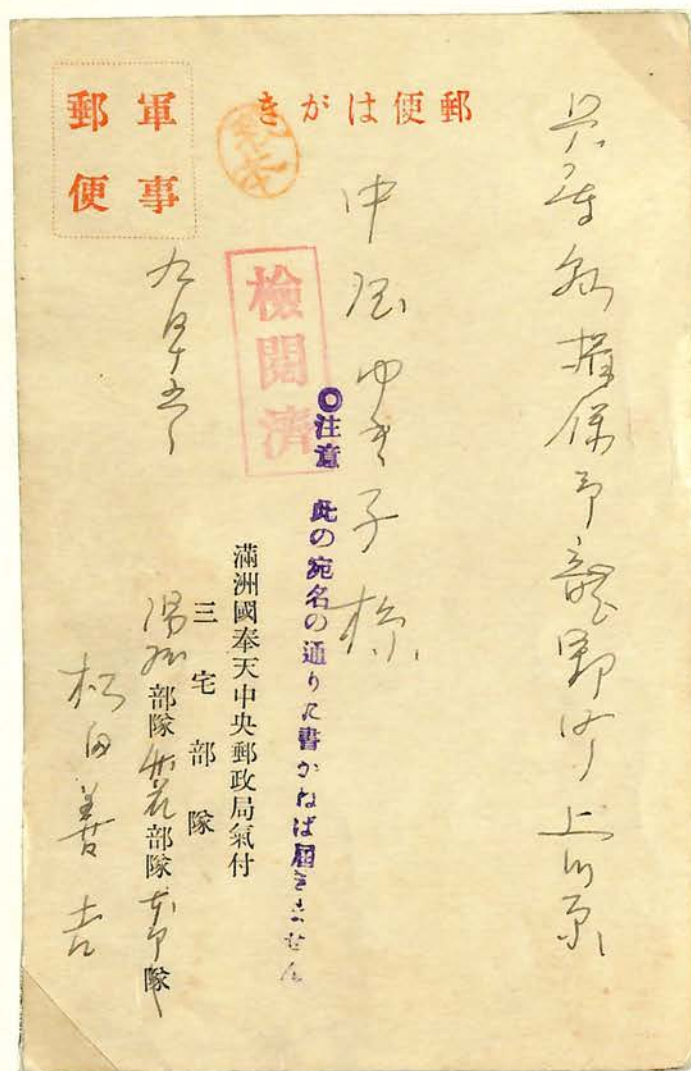


## JAPAN

## Military Post Card

From: Manshu-koku [Manchuria]  
C/O Hoten Central Post Office  
Miake Butai, Yuhara Butai, Masuhana Butai [The military unit]  
Honbu [Headquarters]  
Matsuda Yoshikichi [No rank given]

To: Miss Yukiko Nakaya, Hyogo, Japan [Kobe area]



[No date . Has the Censor's Indicia and personal chop]



JAPAN

Commercial Post Card

Upper left: Red imprint, "Gunji Yubin" [Military Mail]

Cancel: #3 Gun

Meiji 38 [1906] December 16

#4 Field Post Office

Bottom right: Red Seal, No. 2 Artillery Soldier Cannon Fuse, \_\_\_\_\_ Butai



[The 4th Field P.O. was probably located in Korea or Manchuria at this time]



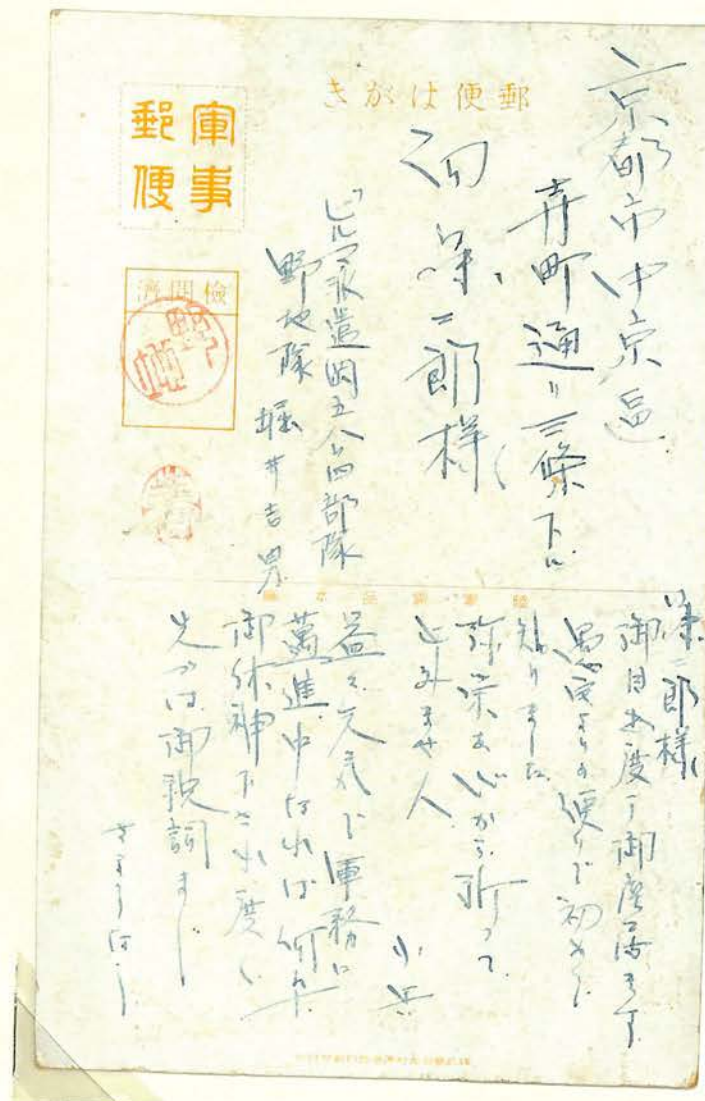
# JAPAN

Commercial Card

To: Nakajo-ku, [Ward], Kyoto City

From: Burma, Oka 5804 Butai, Noji Tai [Oka was the code name for the Southern Army]

Censors : Nochi and Shibata



Oka 5804 was the 5th Rgt Rgt

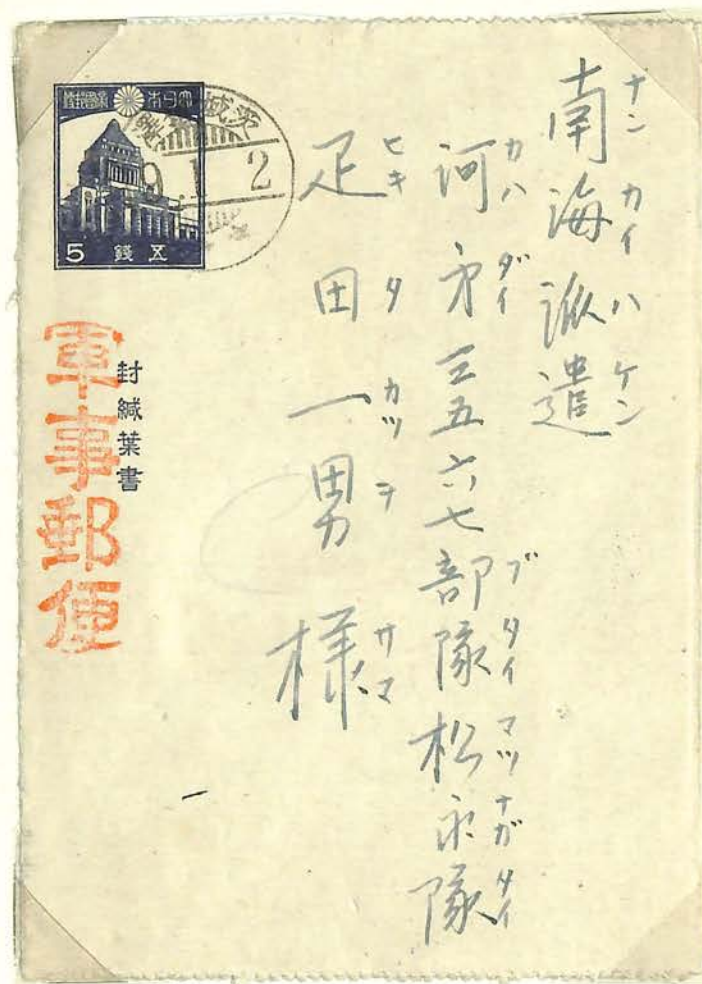
# JAPAN

Domestic Letter Sheet

Sent to: South Seas Detachment, Kawa 3567 Butai, Matsunaga Tai  
[41st Artillery Regiment (Mountain), 41st Infantry Division]

From: Ibaraki-ken, Naka-gun

Cancel: Ibaraki Hizawa, Showa 19.1.2 [January 2, 1943]



At the time of mailing, this unit was still in Shansi Province, China. By May, it had staged through Tsingtao, China and Palau to Wewak, New Guinea. In Wewak it received its mail from Field P.O. 244.

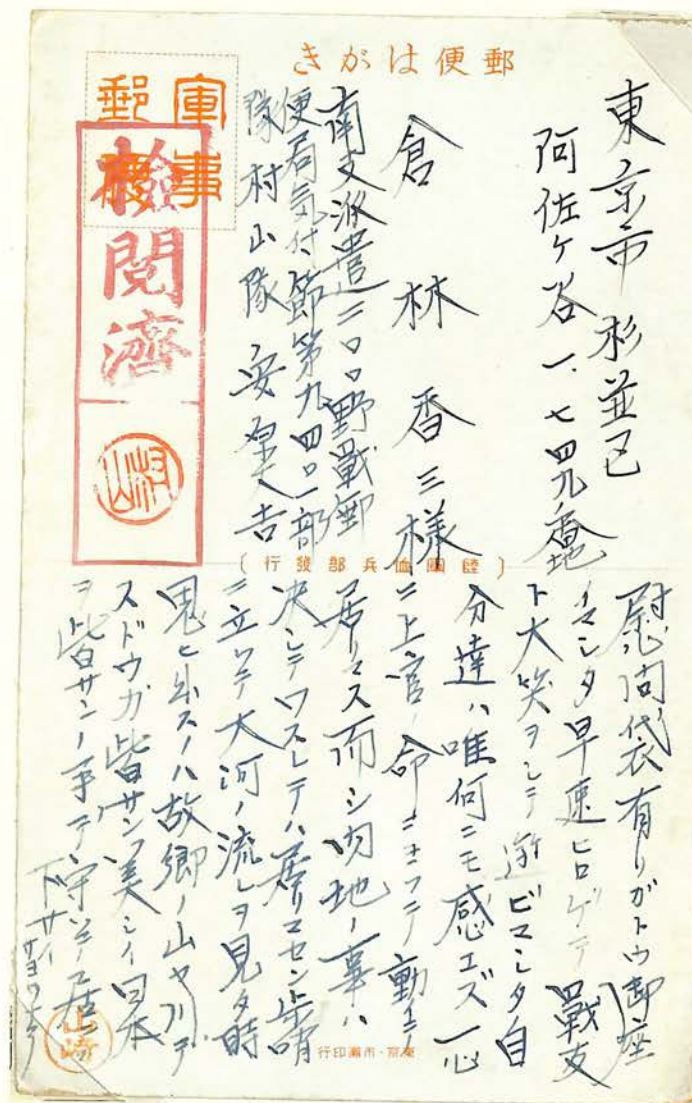


JAPAN

Commercial Post Card

To: Kazo Kuabayashi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo

From: Daikichi Yasuhara, Setzu 9401 Butai, Murayama Tai  
[22nd Independent Mixed Brigade, 66th Independent Infantry Battalion]  
c/o Yasen 200 [Field P.O.], Nanshi [South China], Kweiping ara,  
Kwangsi Province



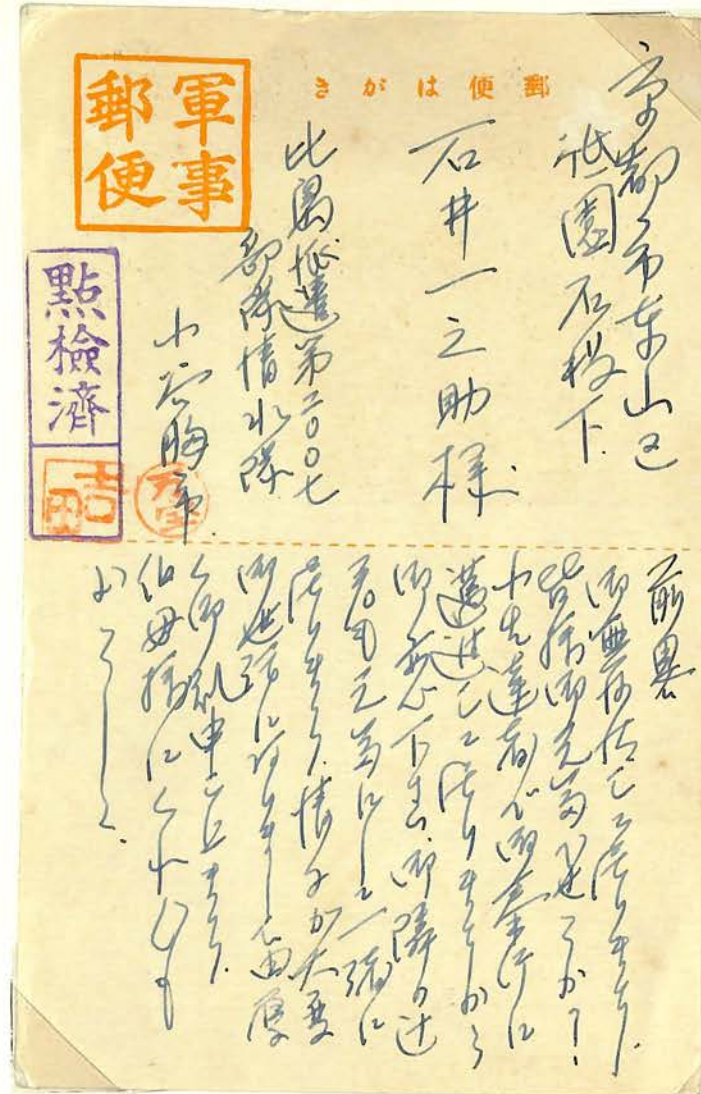
# JAPAN

Commercial Post Card printed in the Philippines

To: Ichinosuke Ishii, Higashiyama-ku, Gion, Kyoto City

From: Muneichi Kotani, <sup>WATARI</sup> 2007 Butai, Shimizu Tai [Philippines]

Censor Mark: Yoshida



at the start of the war

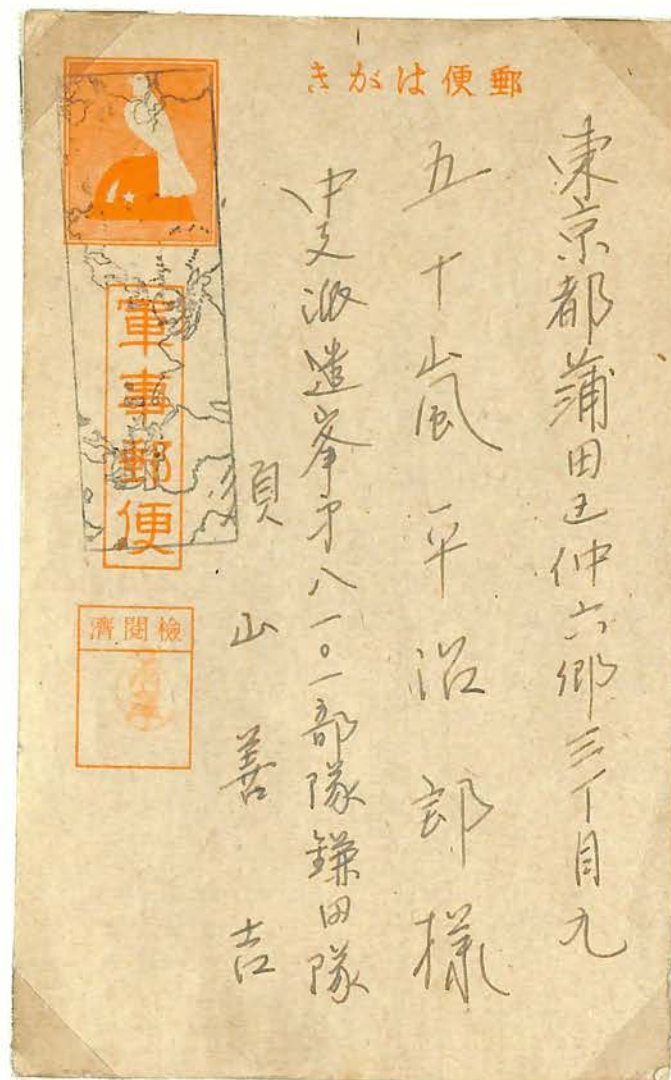
~~In November 1942~~, this unit was in Harbin, Manchuria, ~~code name Watari~~ and received its mail at Army P.O. 78. In march it moved to the P.I. + received its mail at Army P.O. 322



MILITARY POSTAL CARD

To: Heijiro Igarashi, Kamata-ku, Tokyo

From: Chushi [Central China] HUNAN  
Mine 8101 Butai, Kamata Tai [87 IIB, 17 IMB]  
Yoshikichi Suyama

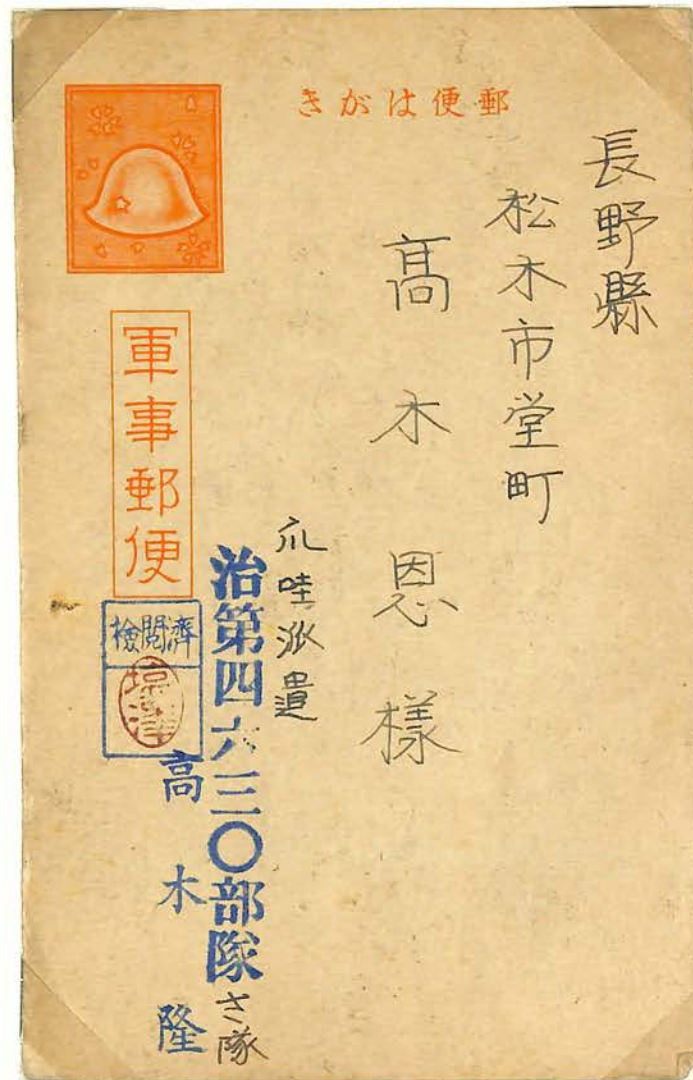


Note the map cancel showing a strip map from Brazil , across Africa, Asia to the west coast of the United States

MILITARY POSTAL CARD

To: Nagano Takagi

From: Rabaul  
Ji 4630 Butai, Sa Tai  
Takashi Takagi



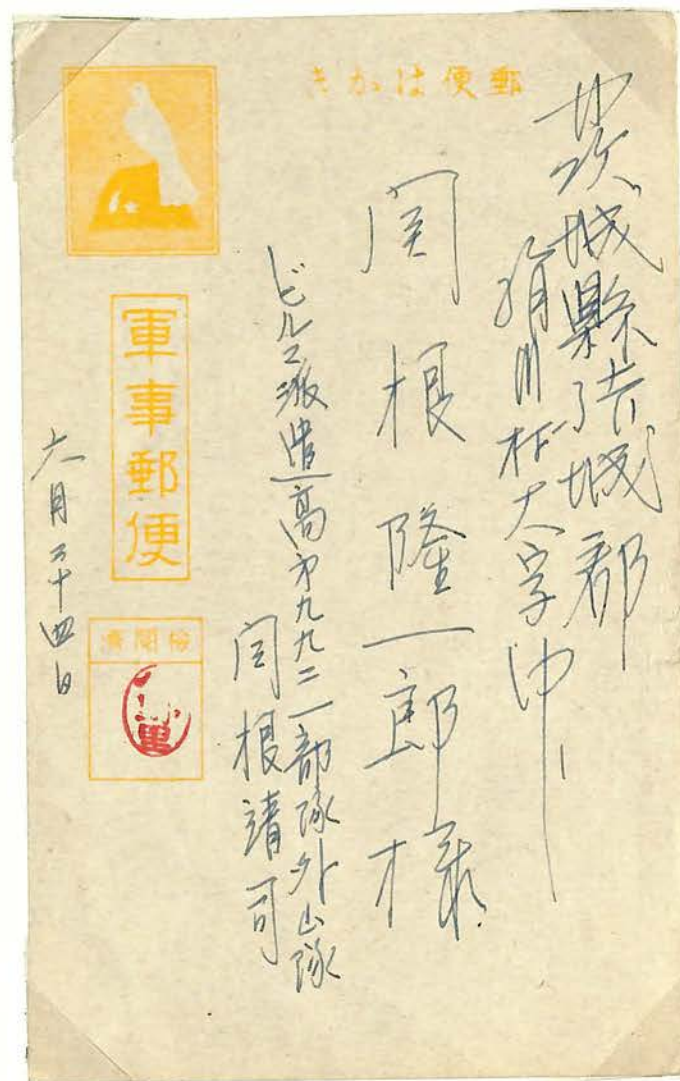
This was a New Year's greeting card with a mimeographed message that was apparently sent to many of his friends



MILITARY POSTAL CARD

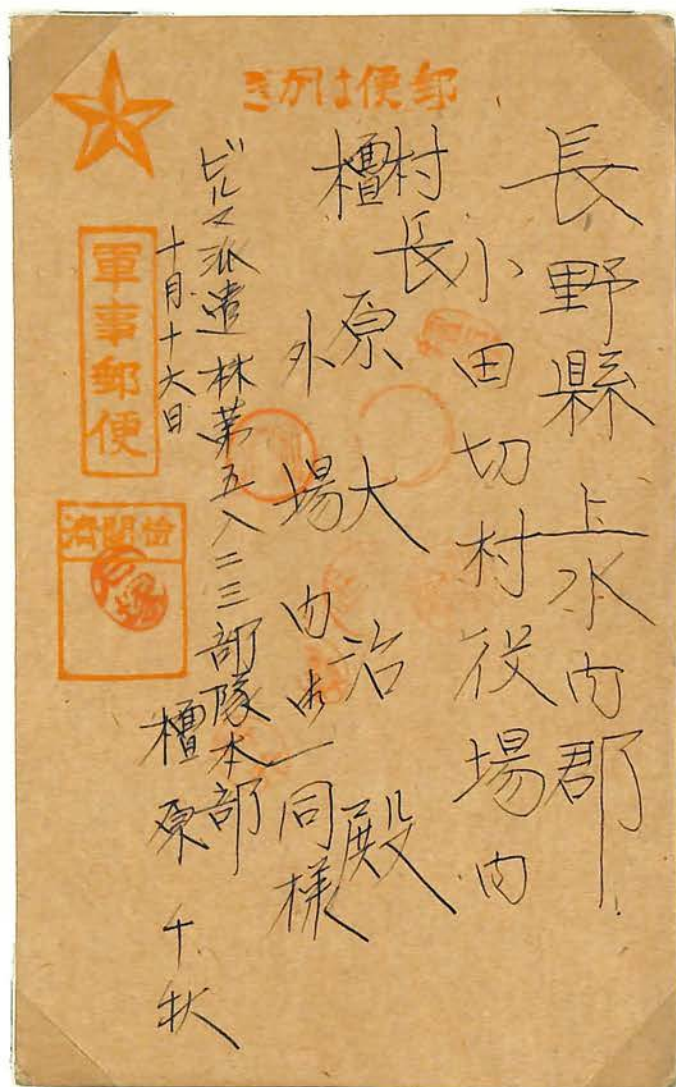
To: Ryuichiro Sekine, Ibaraki-ken

From: Burma Expeditionary Force  
Ko 9921 Butai, Toyama Tai  
Seiji Sekine  
[Dated:] June 24



To: Daichi Danbara, Mayor, Odagiri-mura, Nagano [ken]

From: Burma Expeditionary Force  
Rin 5823 Butai, Honbu [Headquarters]  
Chiaki Danbara  
[Dated October 16]



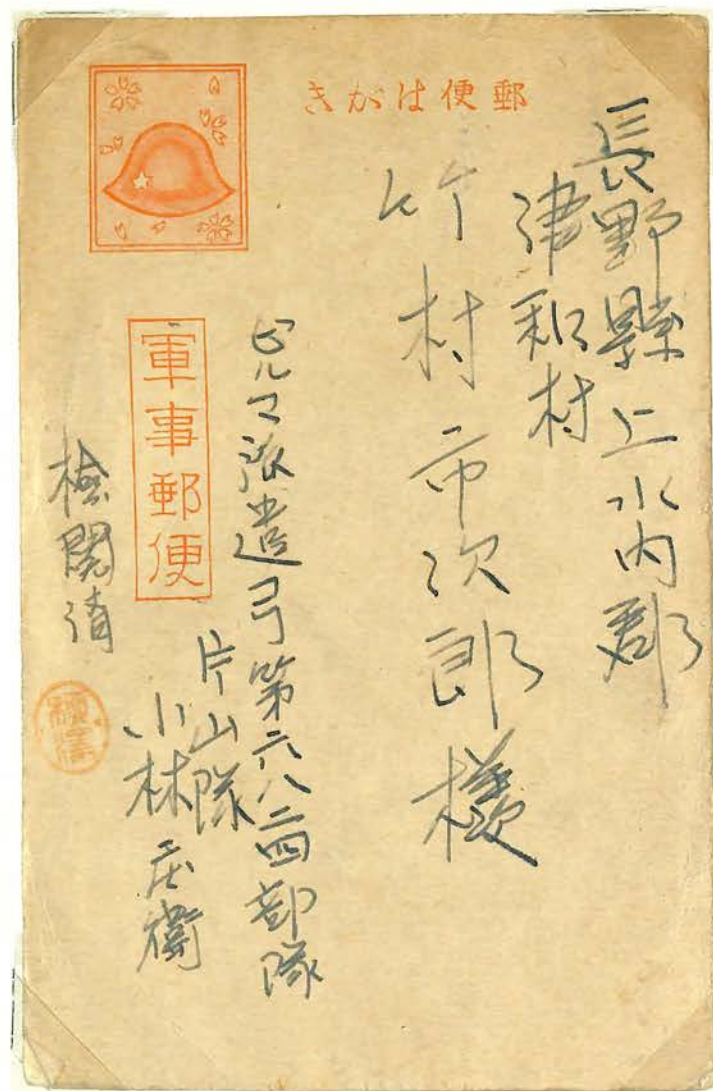
Note the multiple censor marks



MILITARY POSTAL CARD

To: Ichijiro Takemura, Nagano-ken

From: Burma Expeditionary Force  
Yumi 6824 Butai, Katayama Tai [215th Infantry Regiment, 33rd Division]  
Shoei Kobayashi

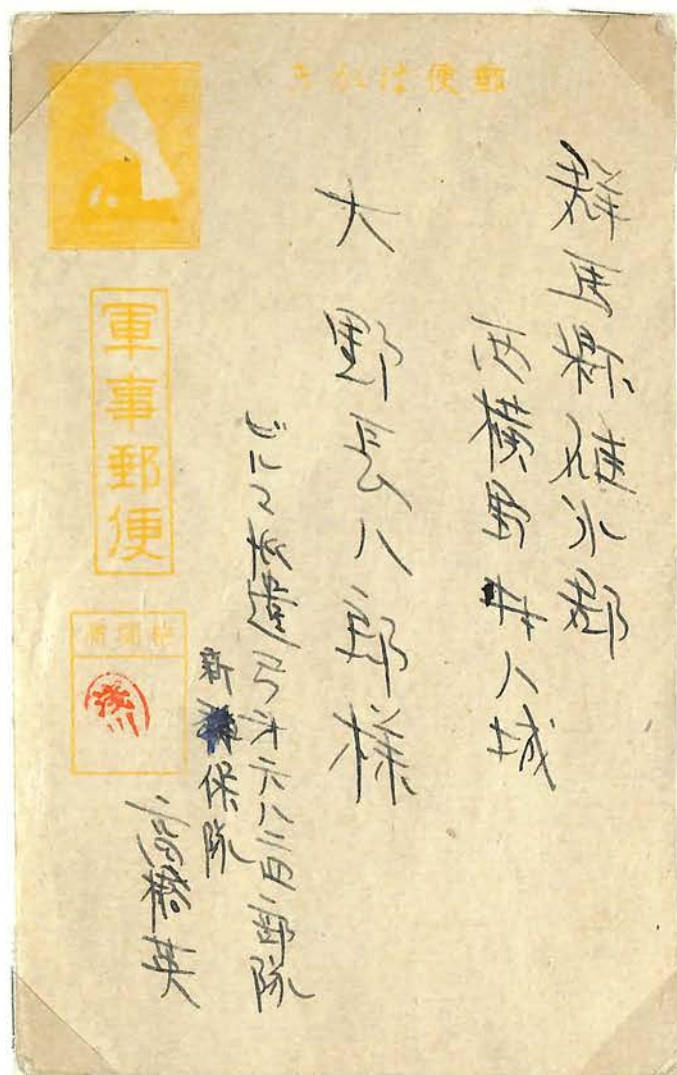


This unit staged from south China through Singapore in December 1941;  
arrived at Rangoon in March 1942

MILITARY POSTAL CARD

To: Chohachiro Ono, Gumma [ken]

From: Burma Expeditionary Force  
Yumi 6824 Butai, Niiho Tai [215th Infantry Regiment, 33rd Division]  
Ei Takahashi



This unit moved from Singapore in December 1941; arrived at Rangoon, in March 1942

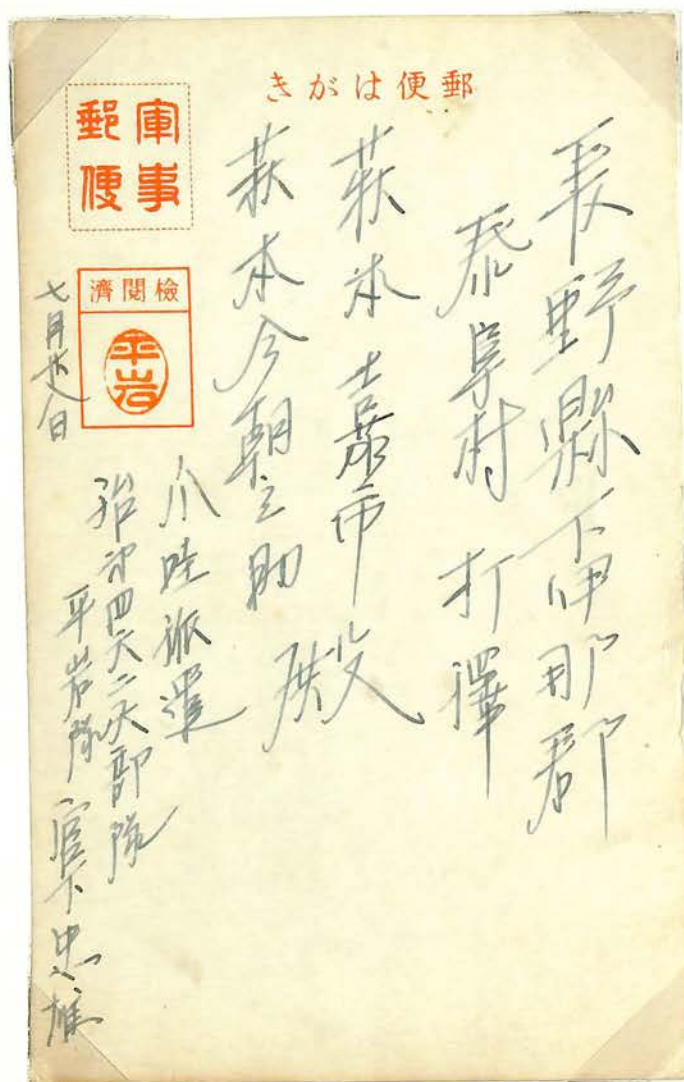


MILITARY POST CARD

A commercially produced card

To: Kaichi Hagimoto, Nagano [ken]

From: Rabaul  
4626 Butai, Hiraiwa Tai  
Tadaom Sugashita



Next to the censor's chop is the date July 8

MILITARY POSTAL CARD

Presumably printed by a commercial printer under military contract

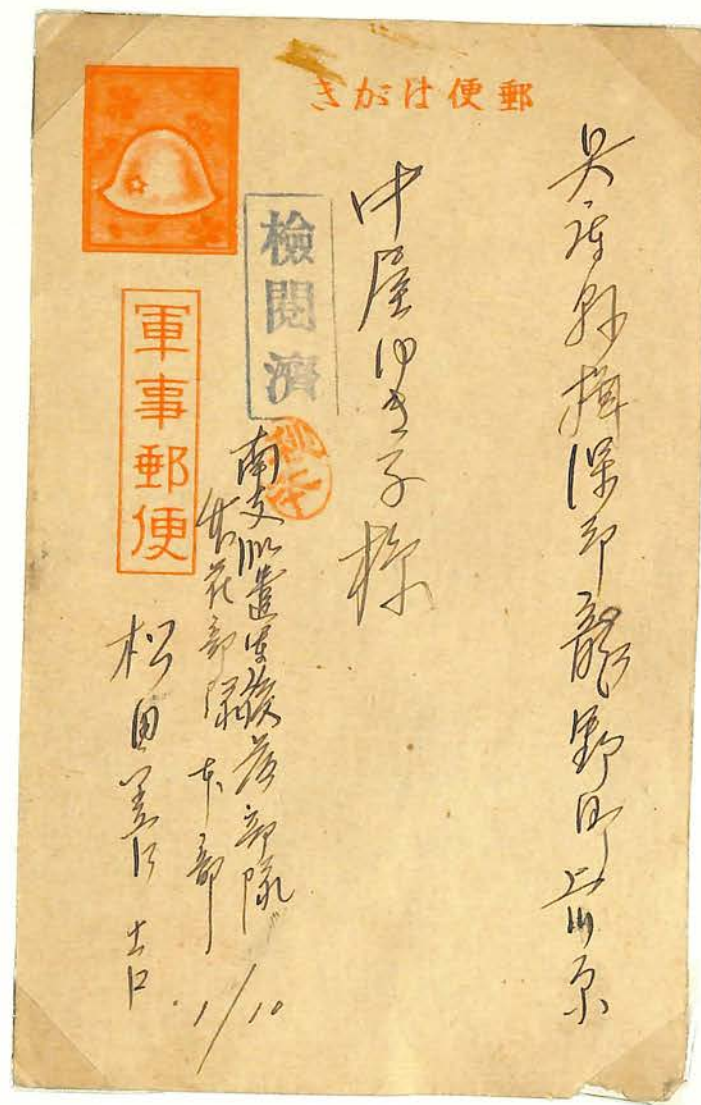
To: Yukiko Nakaya, Hyogo [Kobe area]

From: Nanshi [South China]

\_\_\_\_? Butai, Masuhana Butai Honbu [Headquarters]

Yoshi Matsuda

January 10



[On the back is a small photo of presumably the sender standing outside a building]

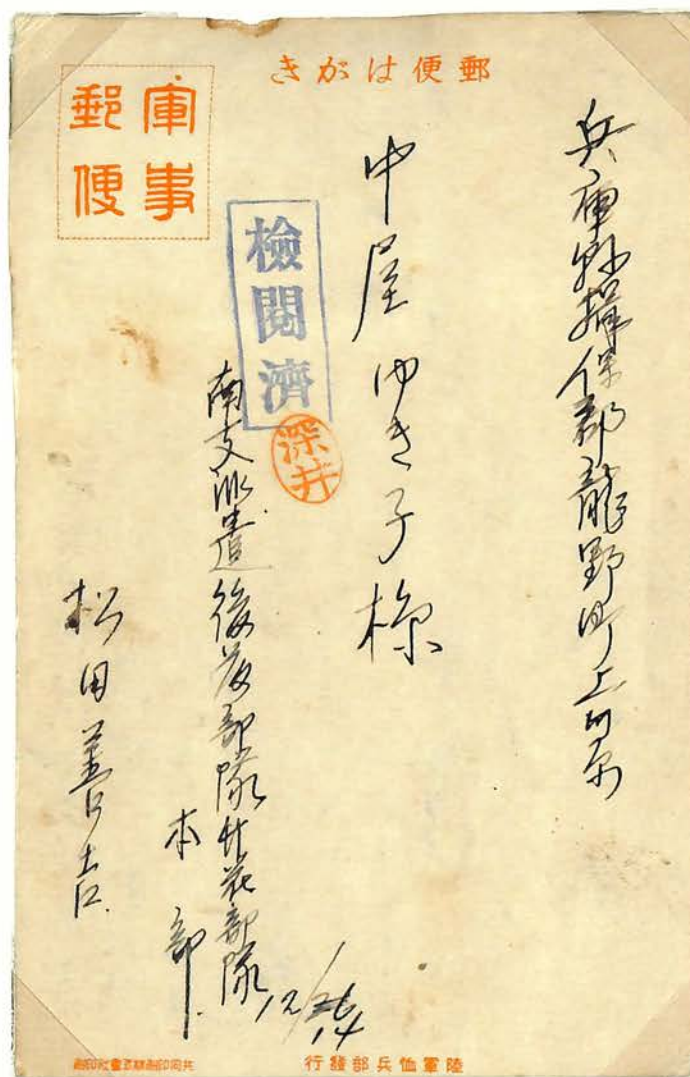


MILITARY POST CARD

A commercially produced card with a rubber stamped censor's indicia

To: Yukiko Nakaya, Hyogo [Kobe area]

From: Goto Butai, Masuhana Butai, Honbu [Headquarters]  
Yoshikichi Matsuda



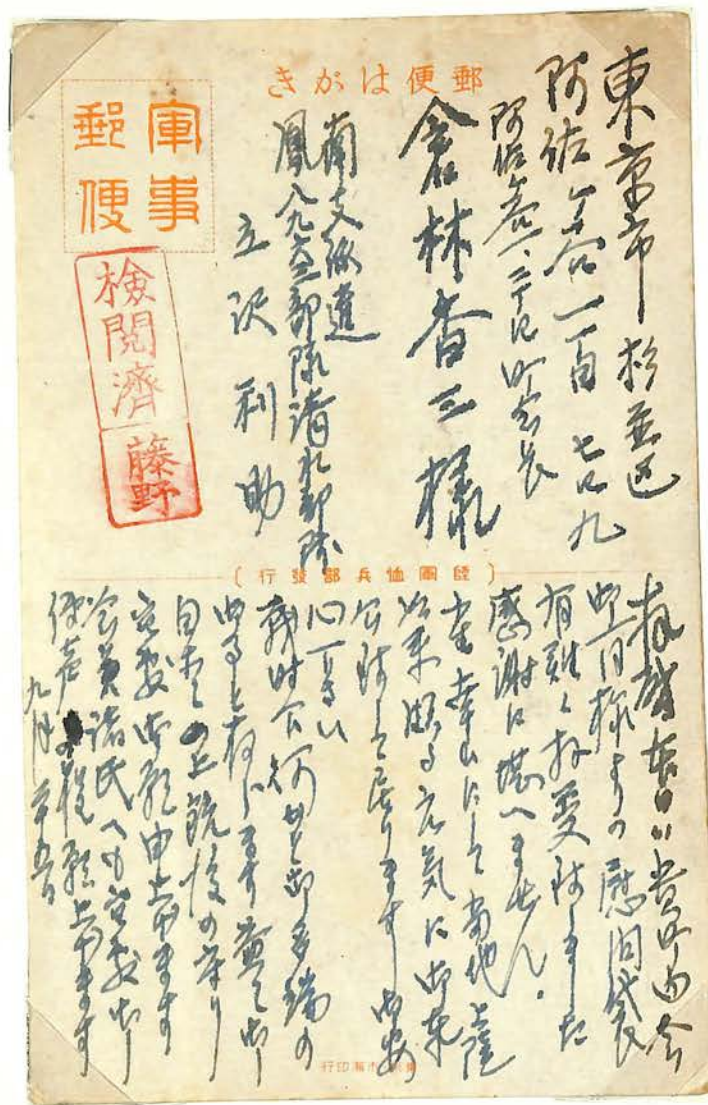
[On the back is a small photo of presumably the sender in a public park]

MILITARY POST CARD

A commercially produced card with a rubber stamped censor's indicia

To: Kozo Kurabayashi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo

From: Nanshi [South China]  
Otori 8963 Butai, Shimizu Butai  
Toshisuke Tatezawa



161 Inf Rgt 104 Inf Div  
Canton area



MILITARY POST CARD

A commercially produced card with a rubber stamped censor's indicia

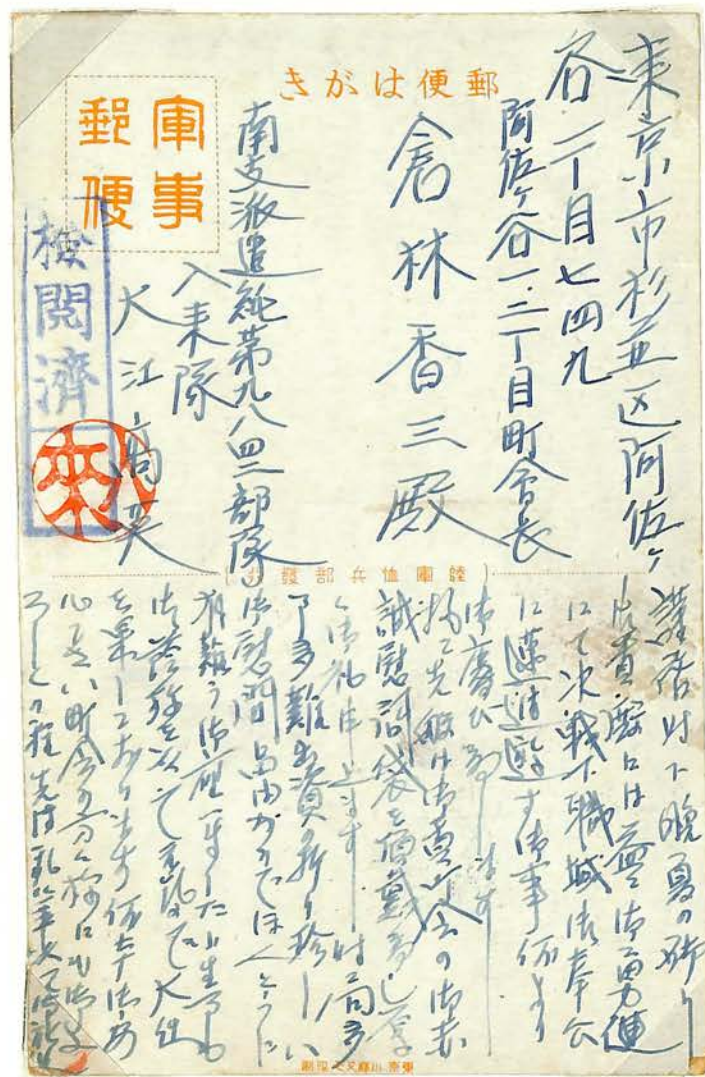
To: Kozo Kurabayashi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo [Cho-kaicho]

From: Nanshi [South China]

Jun 9842 Butai, Iriki-Tai

[ 128th Independent Inf. Bn, 23rd Independent Mixed Brigade]

Takahide Oe

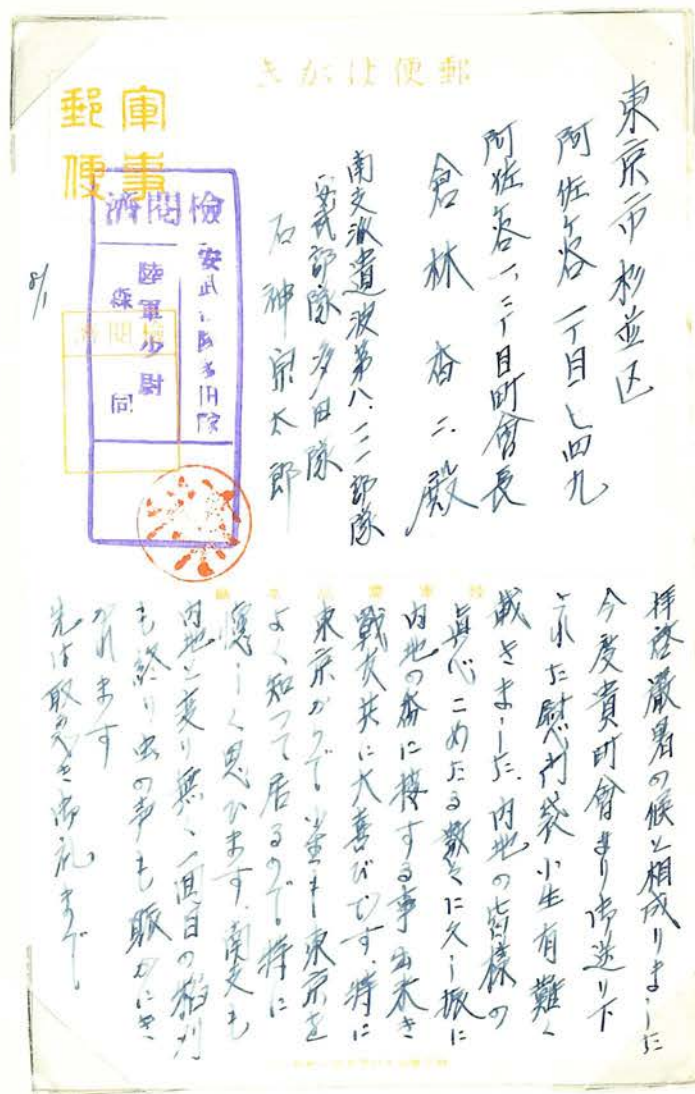


MILITARY POST CARD

A commercially produced card with a rubber stamped censor's indicia

To: Kozo Kurabayashi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo

From: Nanshi [South China]  
Nami 8111 Butai, Yasutake Butai, Tada Tai  
Sotaro Ishigami



23 army, Canton area

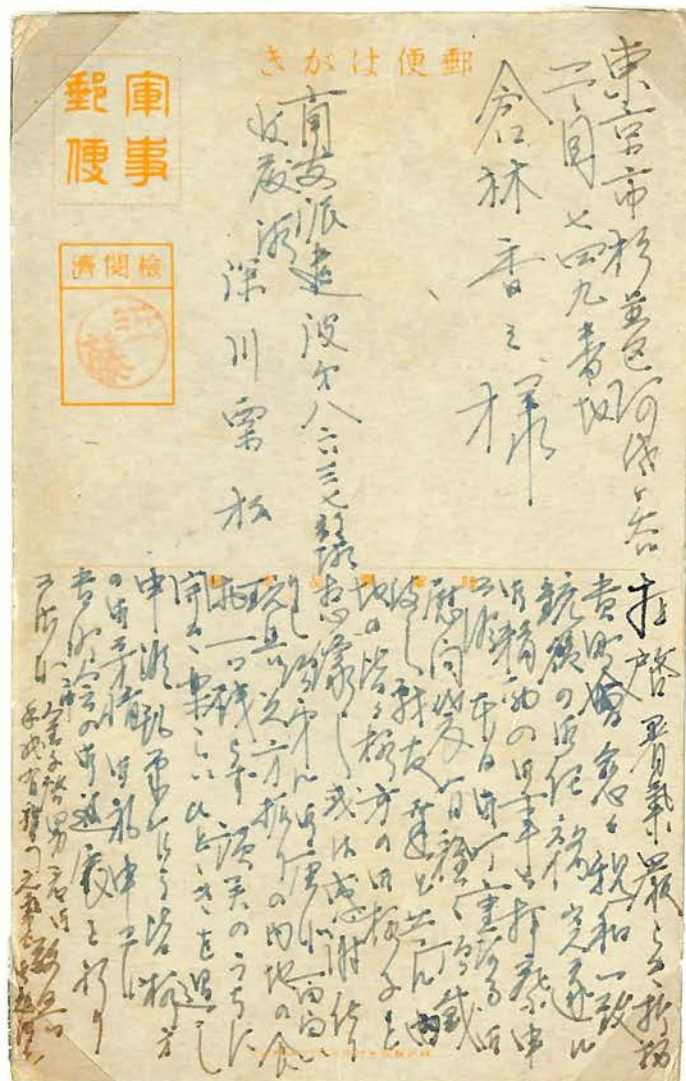


MILITARY POST CARD

A commercially produced card with a farm scene in China

To: Kozo Kurabayashi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo

From: Nanshi [South China], Nami 8637 Butai, Kondo Tai  
? Fukawa-san



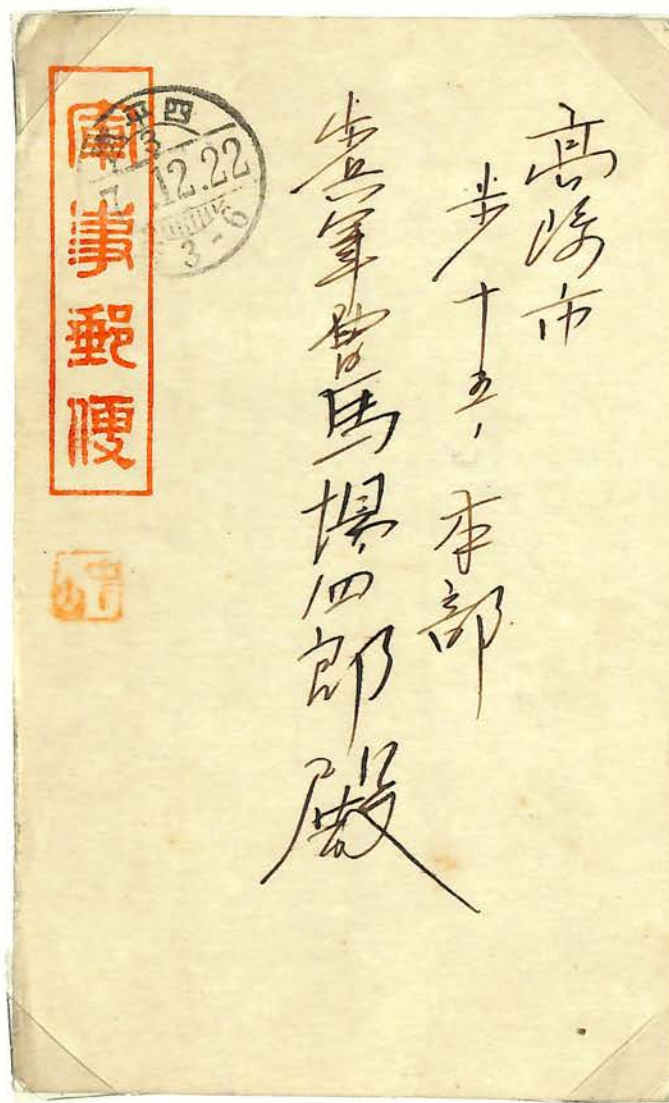
DOMESTIC MILITARY CARD

This was locally produced with a rubber stamp

Note the censor' chop with no censor indicia

To: Shiro Baba, Gumma-ken, Takasaki City  
Hohei Gunso [Infantry Sergeant]  
Ho 15 Honbu [Headquarters]

From: [No return address but the cancel reads: Shi Daira Machi,  
Showa 7 [1932], December 22





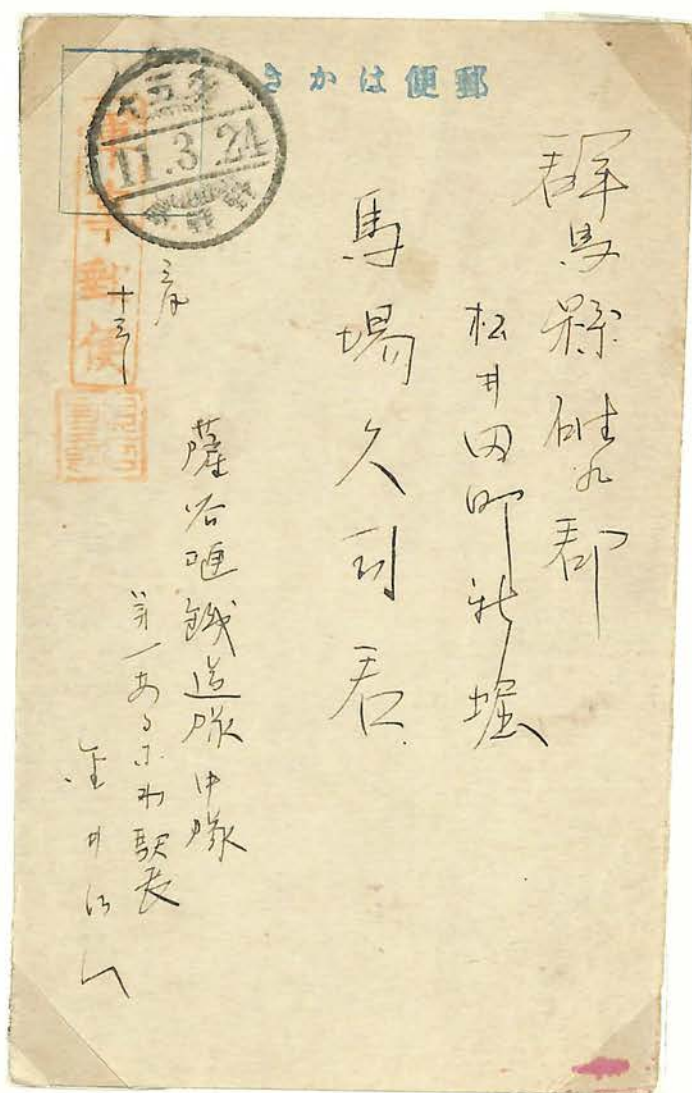
DOMESTIC MILITARY CARD

This was a locally produced by a print shop. There is no censor's indicia but it does have a censor's seal.

To: Hisashi Baba, Gumma-ken

From: Kanai \_\_\_\_\_?

[Cancel: 50 Yasen-koku (Field P.O.), Showa 11 (1936), March 24]

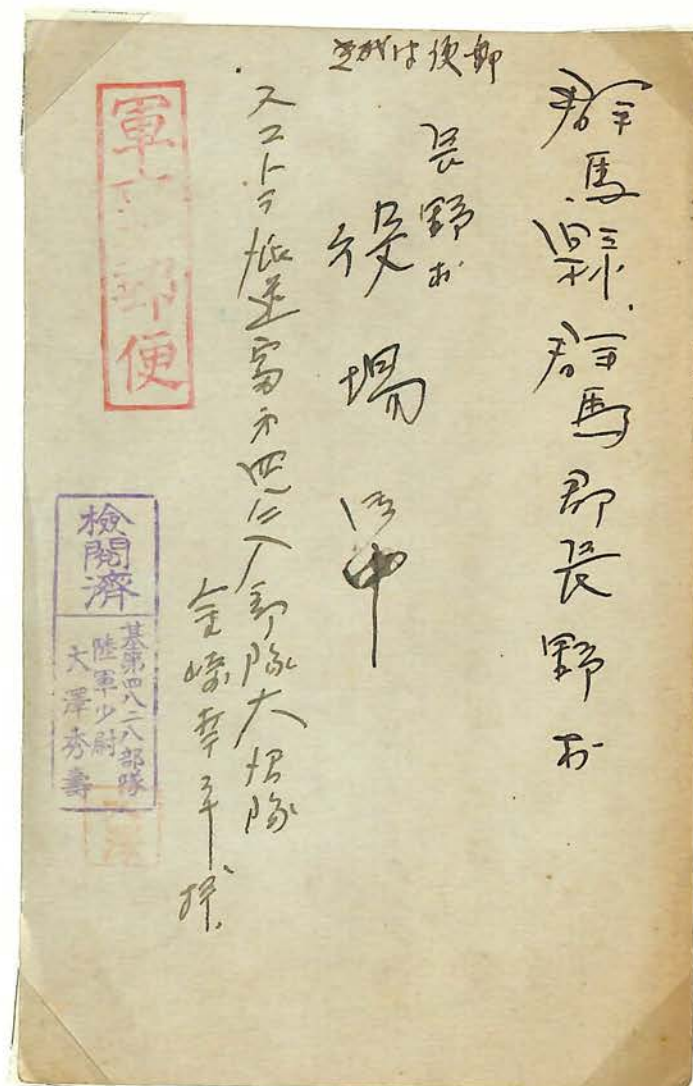


MILITARY POST CARD

A locally produced card, probably by the local military authorities in Sumatra

To: Gumma-ken, City Office

From: Sumatra, Tomi 4828 Butai, Osawa Tai  
Yukuhide Kanesaki





軍事郵便

きかは郵便

安田利一君

滋賀縣大津市  
多賀村  
敵満

北澤州改所不詳  
年根因直59年

200-



軍事郵便

