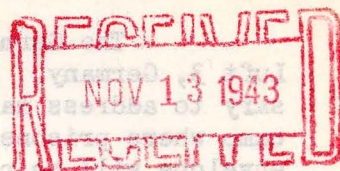


REVISED MAILING INSTRUCTIONS - GERMANY  
(25 October 1943)

PRISONER OF WAR INFORMATION BUREAU  
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, 25, D. C.



The Provost Marshal General is charged with the responsibility of furnishing next of kin and other interested persons with information relative to all Americans held as prisoners of war. The following instructions will govern the dispatch of letters and parcels to Germany.

Do not attempt to send letters or parcels to an individual believed to be a prisoner of war in Germany until you have been officially notified of the fact that he is a prisoner. The Postal Censor passes mail only to those who have been reported officially as prisoners.

Upon receipt of an official notification from the War or Navy Departments, the Marine Corps, Coast Guard, War Shipping Administration where address of camp and prisoner of war number is known, relatives and friends may dispatch letter mail, postage free, through ordinary postal channels. Do not send letters to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau for forwarding. If mail has been received direct from a prisoner and official notification has not been received by the emergency addressee or next of kin, send the communication received to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, Washington, D. C., so that the name of the prisoner may be placed on the official prisoners list.

LETTER MAIL TO GERMANY

Use thin paper to save weight and space. To facilitate censoring, letters should be typewritten or printed, brief and pertain to personal or family affairs. Avoid including information of a political or military nature. Unmounted photographs and snap shots may be inclosed.

While there is no limit as to the number of letters that may be written, the number should be kept to a minimum to avoid overburdening censorship facilities and the limited international transportation facilities available for mail to Germany. In addressing mail give: Rank, complete name including middle initial, prisoner of war serial number, if known, and address using last one furnished by Prisoner of War Information Bureau.

SAMPLES

To prisoners of war, except members of Air Force, the face of the envelope will be prepared as follows:

Prisoner of War Mail

Postage Free

(Insert Rank and Name here)

American Prisoner of War No. (Insert POW number here)

(Insert Name of Camp here)

Via: New York, New York.

Sender's name and address should appear on the back of the envelope.

TO AIR FORCE PRISONERS OF WAR:

The German Government requires that their mail be censored at Stalag Luft 3, Germany. Regardless of where the prisoners are interned, it is necessary to address mail for the Air Force personnel to Stalag Luft 3, with the camp where prisoner is actually interned shown in brackets. The face of the envelope will be prepared as follows:

---

Prisoner of War Mail

Postage Free

(Insert Rank and Name here)

American Prisoner of War No. (Insert POW Number here)

Stalag Luft 3, Germany,

(Insert Name and Camp Number where

actually interned here)

Via: New York, New York.

---

Sender's name and address should appear on the back of the envelope.

PARCELS TO GERMANY

Existing agreements do not permit the sending of parcels to a prisoner of war interned in a transit camp.

Parcels may be sent to a prisoner of war interned in a permanent camp. When his permanent internment address has been officially reported to this Bureau, one package label and two tobacco labels will be forwarded every sixty days to the next of kin without application on their part. These labels will permit the sending of one personal parcel and two tobacco parcels.

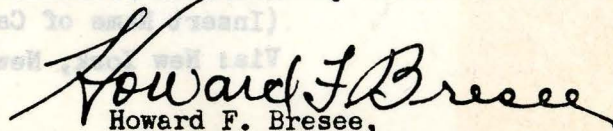
Next of kin parcels to American Air Force personnel should be addressed to the camp where they are actually interned. The procedure explained above regarding the addressing of letter mail to American aviators does not apply to next of kin parcels. When American aviators are actually interned at Stalag Luft 3, however, next of kin parcels will be addressed to that camp.

Labels are issued to the person officially listed in the records of the appropriate Department as having been designated as the next of kin by the prisoner of war. They are transferable. Parcels will not be forwarded unless they bear the official label.

Facilities for sending "V" Mail are not available for prisoners of war interned by the enemy. There is no assurance that Air Mail will facilitate delivery in any case.

It is vitally important that the next of kin keep the Prisoner of War Information Bureau advised of any change of address.

Following the above instructions will materially assist in the delivery of mail to prisoners of war.



Howard F. Bresee,  
Colonel, C. M. P.,  
Assistant Director,

Prisoner of War Division.