



BULL'S EYES

Journal of The
BRAZIL PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1968

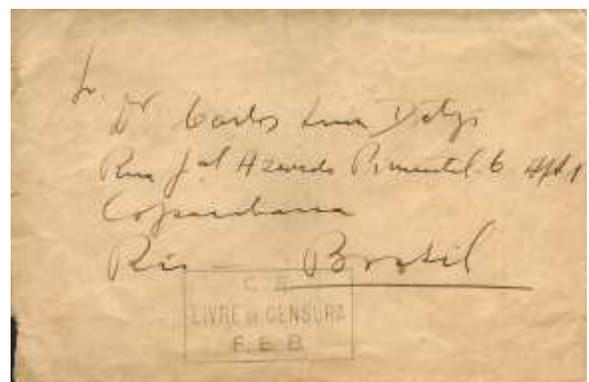
Unit 32 of the American Philatelic Society

SECOND SEMESTER 2025

Volume 51

Number 01

Whole Number 201



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EDITOR'S NOTES

Hello to all our friends in the Brazil Philatelic Association. It is with great satisfaction, but also with high expectations, that we are reviving our association's journal, *Bull's Eyes*.

The task of editing newsletters, texts, and philatelic magazines is not new to me. I Have been doing it for some time.

I was editor of the magazine and newsletter of the Clube Filatélico do Brasil (Brazil Philatelic Club) for about 15 years. Recently, I also became editor of *O CRIVO* magazine, which focuses on postal censorship.

The success achieved was based on the help of many colleagues who contributed in various ways, but mainly with articles, notes, and comments. Obviously, this experience took place in my native language, Portuguese! Now, I am venturing into the production of a newsletter in a second language, which is a great challenge.

Finally, I would like to remind you that any magazine or newsletter like ours is based on the interest that must be created in each of the members so that they participate in its construction by sending their studies, notes, descriptions and comments.

An association's journal is a collective project. I'm counting on everyone's help so we can put together a great publication.

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BULL'S EYES is the semestral Journal of the Brazilian Philatelic Association (BPA), an organization devoted to the study and exchange of information on Brazilian Postal and Revenue issues and Postal History. The BPA is a Unit 32 of the American Philatelic Society. In this new stage of the Journal, it will be produced twice per year and will be sent directly to the member's email in a PDF file. As we rebuild our membership roster, BPA is waiving membership dues for 2025 and 2026. New members joining during the year will receive all the issues for that year. The content of this publication may be used under the provision that full credit of the source is given and that a copy of the reprint publication is provided to the Editor.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By John Hawkins, President

WELCOME TO A REBOOTED BRAZIL PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

The last time I penned a President's Column for Bull's Eyes was in late 2019. So much has happened since then! I titled that column "New Year, New Beginnings," reflecting on the events of the 2010s and the challenges that marked that decade—the Great Recession among them. I wrote then that time would be needed to make sense of it all, but I felt hopeful that the new decade would usher in brighter days.

Little did any of us know what the 2020s would bring. The world we knew changed almost overnight, and we have all come through some harrowing times. Our Association, like many organizations, entered a period of hibernation. Along the way, we lost one of our greats—Bill Kriebel, who for many years almost single-handedly kept our community active and vibrant. His absence is deeply felt. Most of us now speak in terms of the "pre-pandemic" and "post-pandemic" worlds. It was a defining moment—one our grandchildren will surely hear about as we recall life "back during COVID-19." It changed us as people, as a society, and even as philatelists.

Fewer in-person shows and meetups are taking place, but in their place we've mastered new technologies that connect us virtually through meetings, webinars, and online learning. Many collectors found more time to dedicate to their hobby, and stamp dealers saw online activity surge. Personally, I discovered new collecting interests and moved on from others—I suspect I'm not alone. Change, after all, is the only constant. So it's with genuine excitement that I write this column marking the relaunch of the Brazil Philatelic Association and the beginning of a new chapter in our storied history. This isn't the first time we've reawakened from a period of quiet—our journal archives attest to that—but each revival brings fresh energy and new ideas.

My thanks go first to Don Jacobson, our webmaster, whose initiative sparked this reboot. Don has done the heavy lifting — refreshing our membership roster, organizing meetings, and coordinating early activities. Rubem Porto Jr. has taken on the not-so-small task of editing this journal — thank you, Rubem. I also want to acknowledge the APS staff for their invaluable help in guiding us toward becoming a truly 21st-century association.

In the months ahead, you can look forward to more virtual initiatives—monthly online meetings, digital editions of Bull's Eyes, and increased online engagement among members. And I hope we'll also see a wave of fresh ideas that keep our community lively and connected. I invite each of you to get involved—join our meetings, share your knowledge, and spread the word that the Brazil Philatelic Association is back in business. Brazilian philately is one of the most fascinating and underappreciated areas of collecting, and together we can continue to champion it. As we say in Portuguese, *avante!*

If I may loosely borrow from President Kennedy: "Let the word go forth from this time and place... that the torch has been passed." As we move forward, may we honor the legacy of my friend Bill Kriebel and all those on whose shoulders we stand. What will our contribution be to that legacy? What challenges and discoveries await us? Only God knows—so let's get busy.

Abraços, John

The Earliest Brazilian Empire Postal Money Order

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Currently, through PIX, a term coined by the Central Bank of Brazil to name the Instant Payment method, funds can be transferred within Brazil in seconds, 24 hours a day, between any bank.

However, in the mid-19th century, things were a little different; payments sometimes took weeks, months, or even years to process. The exchange of funds through Postal Money Orders issued by duly authorized postal offices was a good option.

The Postal Money Order (Vale Postal) is a tax-free draft, issued by a postal office, where the deposit of an amount is made in one office to be paid in another.

The first regulation of Postal Money Orders was through Decree No. 3,443 of April 12, 1865 (Approves the Regulation for the Imperial Postal Service), Chapter V - Movement of Funds - Articles 25 to 31.

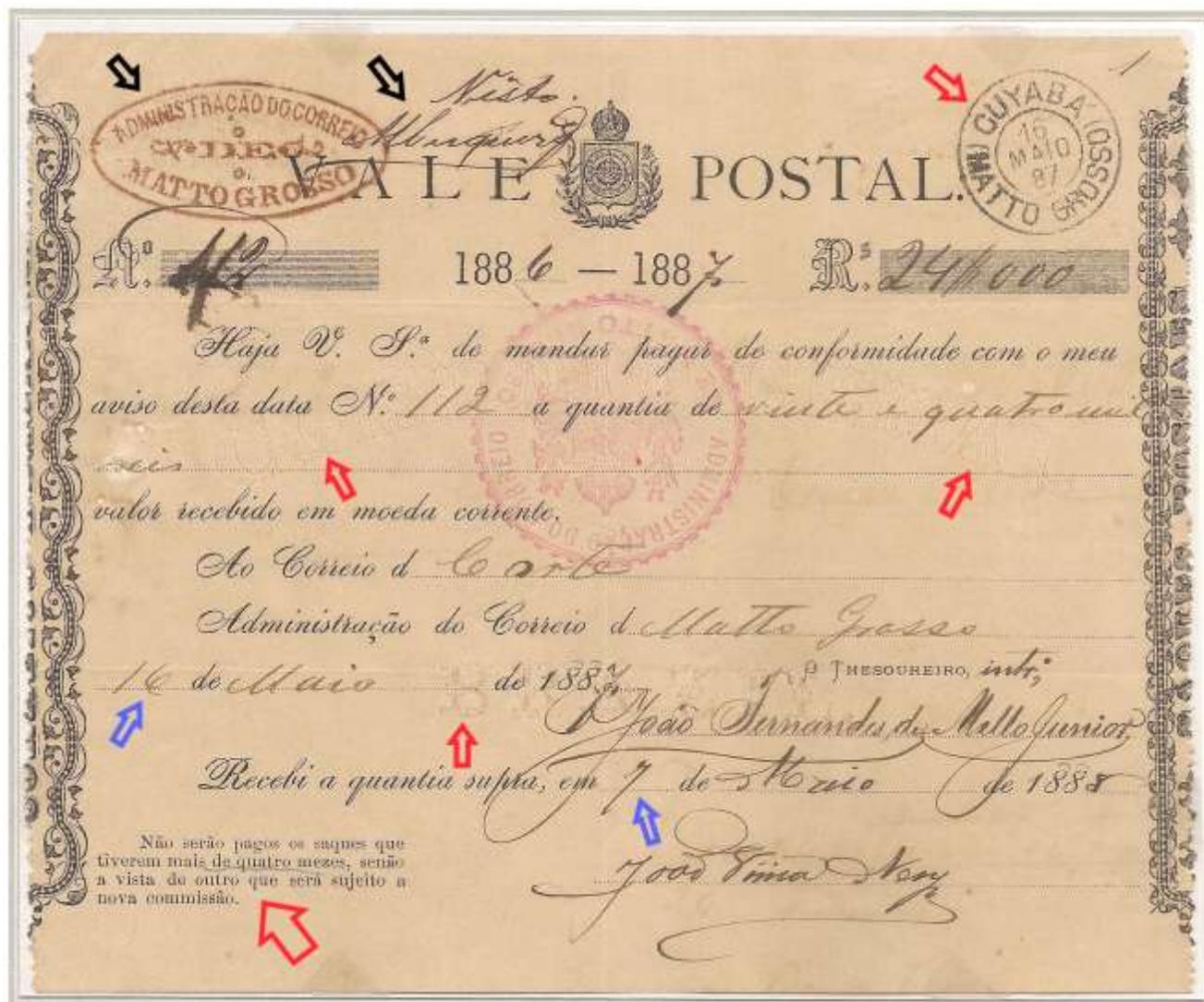
Art. 25. To facilitate the public's ability to send money by mail, the General Directorate and the administrations shall issue drafts among themselves for payment of amounts not exceeding \$100,000 each, charging a two percent commission for this service. Drafts shall be paid within 24 hours of their presentation and must be sent by the sender by registered mail.

Local agencies whose collection offices have an annual income of more than 5,000\$000 (5 million Reís) will have the same right.

For the timely payment of these withdrawals, the mail authorized by the tax offices will be used when there are insufficient funds.

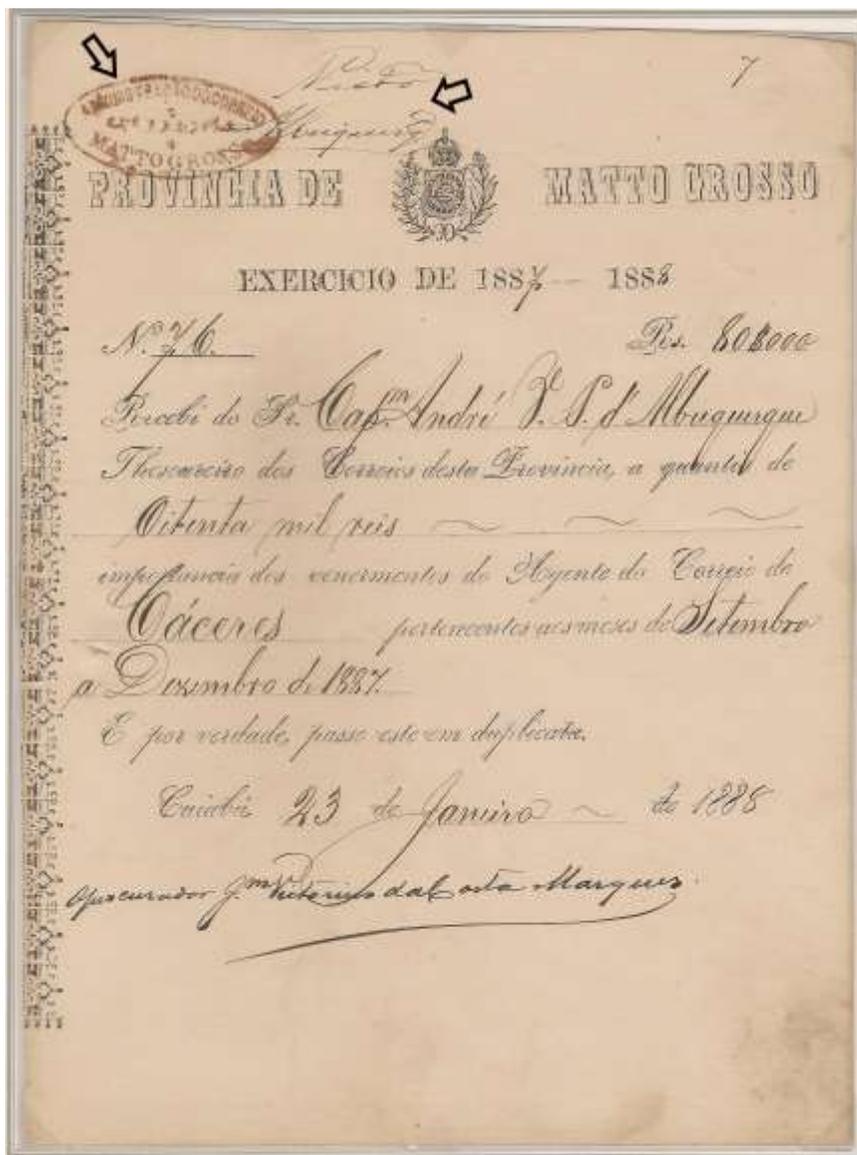
Contribute to our Newsletter by sending us questions, studies, articles and comments!

For guidelines on article submission, please go to <https://brazilphilatelic.org/bulls-eyes-article-guidelines.htm>



Nominal Postal Money Order (Matto Grosso Precursor Model), on thin brown paper, "VALE POSTAL." Measuring 10.3 cm with the coat of arms of the empire between the words, "CORREIO GERAL / BRASIL" in hollow letters with an ochre outline, issued by the Treasurer of the Post Office "André Albuquerque." Shipment of 24\$000 réis, No. 112, with oval postmark "ADMINISTRAÇÃO DO CORREIO DE MATTO GROSSO" in reddish brown, circular postmark "CUIABÁ (MATTO GROSSO)" in black and circular postmark adorned "ADMINISTRAÇÃO DO CORREIO / MATTO GROSSO" with the empire's coat of arms in pink, sent from the "Administração dos Correios do Mato Grosso" by João Fernandes de Mello Junior to the "Correio da Corte," on **May 16, 1887**. Amount received by João S. Nery on **May 7, 1888**, almost a year after issuance, contrary to what was determined by *Article 26 and the description on the Postal Money Order itself as indicated in the image shown.

***Art. 26. Withdrawals older than four months will not be paid unless they are paid in full by another person, who will be subject to a new commission.**



Receipt of “Payment of Salaries”, No. 76, for the salaries of the Postal Agent of Cáceres, to the months of September to December 1887, Municipality of Mato Grosso - MT, paid in the City of Cuiabá, in the same State (possible Service Postal Money Order sent from Cáceres to Cuiabá), in the amount of 80\$000 Réis, received by Procurator Victorino da Costa Marques on January 23, 1888. Precursor Model of Receipt, from the Province of Matto Grosso, found next to the Postal Money Order mentioned above, issued by the same Postal Treasurer “André Albuquerque” who issued the order already presented. It has an oval postmark “ADMINISTRAÇÃO DO CORREIO DE MATTO GROSSO” in reddish brown.

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**The images used in this article are part of the Traditional Class exhibition: “National and Regional Brazilian Postal Money Orders with Deposit Stamps (1913 - 1941)”, Exhibited at XII EXPO SPP 2020 (virtual exhibition), at EXFILIMA 2021 (virtual exhibition) in Peru and at BRAPEX 2024, where obtaining the Large Gold Medal.*

Letters from the Brazilian Expeditionary Force (FEB) free from censorship

Author: Rubem Porto Jr - e-mail: rubempjr@gmail.com

Brazil participated actively in World War II. Between September 6, 1944, and May 2, 1945, members of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force (FEB) participated in combat operations against German and Italian forces on the western Italian front, in a region located between the Arno (south) and Po (north) rivers and crossed by the Apennine Mountains. According to its commander, Marshal Mascarenhas de Moraes, there were 239 days of continuous action against the enemy, to which a contingent of 25,334 Brazilian citizens was sent. Although Brazil joined the Allied forces in World War I (1914–1918), this was the first time that a Brazilian ground force was organized and sent to fight in Europe.

To support the Brazilian contingent in Italy, a Special Postal Service was created, which was military in nature and had its own traits and characteristics. The history of this postal service was recently the subject of an extensive study that resulted in the book: *O SERVIÇO POSTAL DA FORÇA EXPEDICIONÁRIA BRASILEIRA - FEB - (1944–1945)* (The Postal Service of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force - FEB - (1944–1945)), written by the author of this note and co-authored by Wilson de O. Neto. The book was published by the Filigrana project, supported by Editora BYM in 2023, with sponsorship from Brazilian Philatelic Federation (FEBRAF).

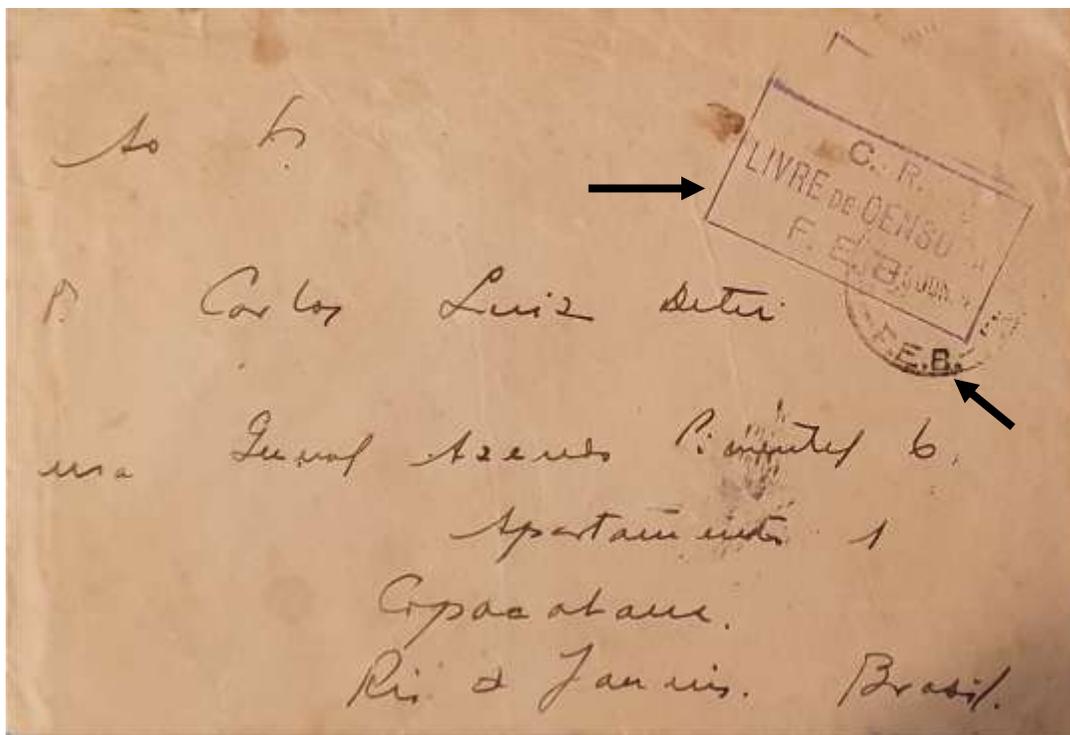
Among the very particular characteristics of this postal service was postal censorship. A huge functional apparatus was created to ensure that all correspondence sent to the troops (and by them to Brazil) was censored. However, there were exceptions. Letters from generals were exempt from censorship, whether they were sent from Brazil to Italy or vice versa. To date, fewer than 10 letters exempt from censorship have been identified.

Except for errors in handling the material, the only correspondence exempt from censorship was that sent by and/or addressed to generals of the combatant corps. The Brazilian Expeditionary Force had four generals in its ranks: Generals Olympio Falconière (non-divisional bodies), Zenóbio da Costa (Infantry), Mascarenhas de Moraes (commander of the FEB), and Cordeiro de Farias (artillery).

Two of these letters with these characteristics will be presented here. Both are in this author's collection "Correio Militar da Força Expedicionária Brasileira" (Military Mail of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force). The first is a letter sent from Italy to Brazil by General Cordeiro de Farias (Figures 1 and 2), who had traveled to Italy in September 1944 to command the FEB divisional artillery units. The letter is addressed to the city of Rio de Janeiro (Copacabana), DF. On the front, we can see a mark indicating that it was handled by the FEB mail service, attesting to its exemption from censorship: a rectangular purple mark (4.5 x 2.5 cm) with three lines reading "**C. R. – LIVRE DE CENSURA – F.E.B..**" This mark was stamped over the circular mark (2.7 cm in diameter), black and with a central date stamp "CORREIO REGULADOR Nº1 – F.E.B – 5 JUN 45." On the back, we see the personalization of the envelope, with the symbol of the troops printed in color (smoking snake), in addition to the general's name printed in black.

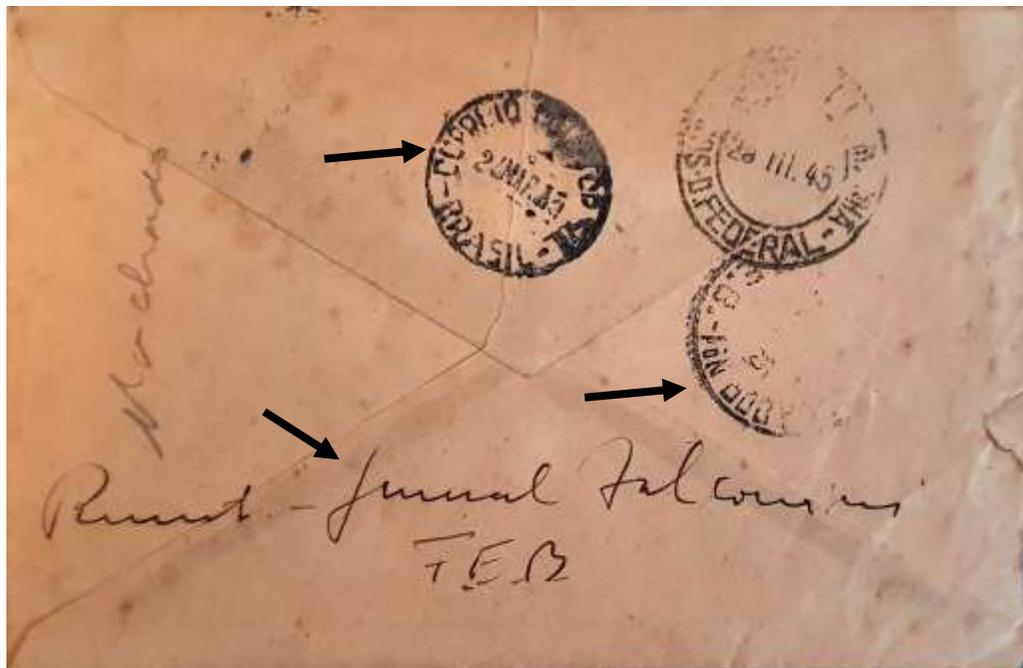
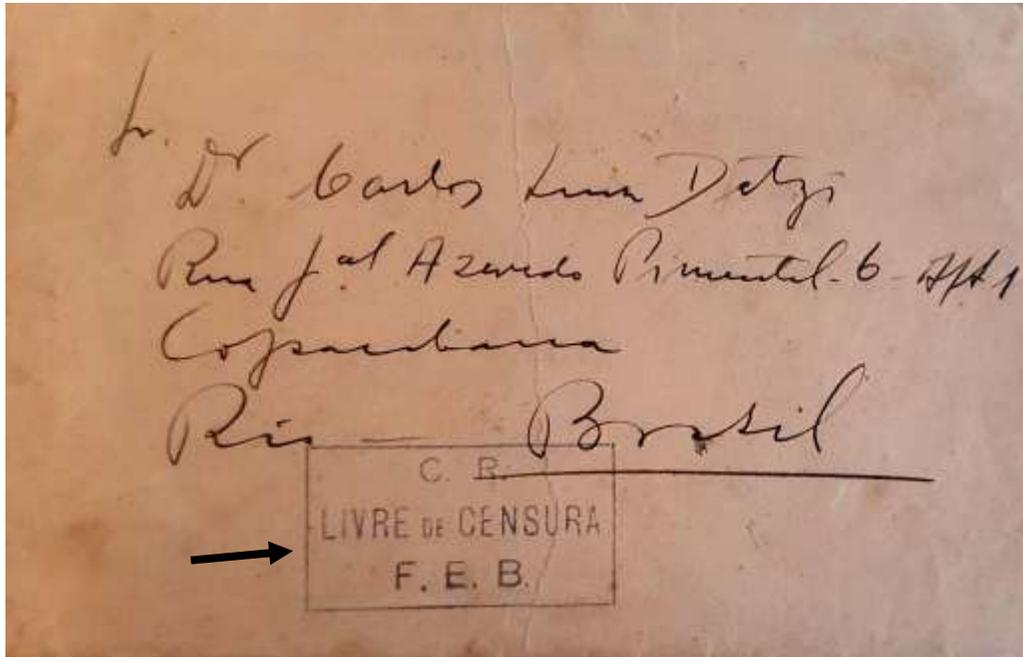
Four postal marks can be analyzed:

- 1) Censorship release mark "C. R. – CENSORSHIP-FREE – F.E.B" in purple (Meiffert 1.2.53.0). This is one of the rarest censorship marks in Brazilian postal history.
- 2) Circular mark (2.7 cm in diameter), black with central date stamp "CORREIO REGULADOR N°1 – F.E.B – 9 JUN 45."
- 3) Circular mark (3.0 cm in diameter), black with central date stamp "CORREIO COLETOR SUL – BRASIL – 19 JUN 45" (SOUTH COLLECTOR MAIL – BRAZIL – 19 JUN 45).
- 4) Circular mark (3 cm in diameter), black with central date stamp "COPACABANA – TARDE – D. FEDERAL – 20 VI 45."



Figures 1 and 2

The second letter, also circulated by the FEB Military Mail and exempt from censorship, was also sent from Italy to Brazil, and was sent by General Olympio Falconiére (Figures 3 and 4), who was responsible for the non-divisional bodies of the FEB in Italian territory. The letter is also addressed to the city of Rio de Janeiro (Copacabana), DF. On the front, you can see the mark certifying that it was exempt from censorship: a rectangular mark (4.5 x 2.5 cm), purple, trilinear “C. R. – LIVRE DE CENSURA – F.E.B” (C. R. – FREE FROM CENSORSHIP – F.E.B), which is the only mark on the front of the letter. On the back, we can see three postmarks: 1) Circular mark (2.7 cm in diameter), black with a central date stamp “CORREIO REGULADOR Nº1 – F.E.B – ?? MAR 45;” 2) Uncommon circular mark, smaller in diameter (2.7 cm), black with central date stamp “CORREIO COLETOR SUL – BRASIL – 21 MAR 45;” and 3) Circular mark (3 cm in diameter), black with central date stamp “SUC. COPACABANA – MANHÃ – D. FEDERAL – 29 III 45.”



Figures 3 and 4

Two questions. Two definitions.

Recently, BPA member Jack Burlin reported via email that he had identified a color variation associated with the Centennial Souvenir Sheet (RHM A048; Scott C53).

He reported:

“Here are two photos of the C53 (Scott number) souvenir sheet from 1943. One has a blue (grayish blue, in my opinion), in my opinion), while the other has a sort of buff background color. Only the buff version is recognized in either the Scott or RHMeyer (number B-9) catalogs, as there is no mention of a blue version anywhere.

The copy I own has perforations along the bottom and right edges, which means its placement in the sheet of six for printing would be upper left corner. There would seem to be at least five more copies of this floating around somewhere, but of course I have never seen them. Neither do I know that anyone else has ever reported on this color variety.

Maybe the membership can supply additional information about how this sheet came to be and what kind of rarity I might be looking at.”



Souvenir Sheet: on the left, the normal pattern, and on the right, in green.

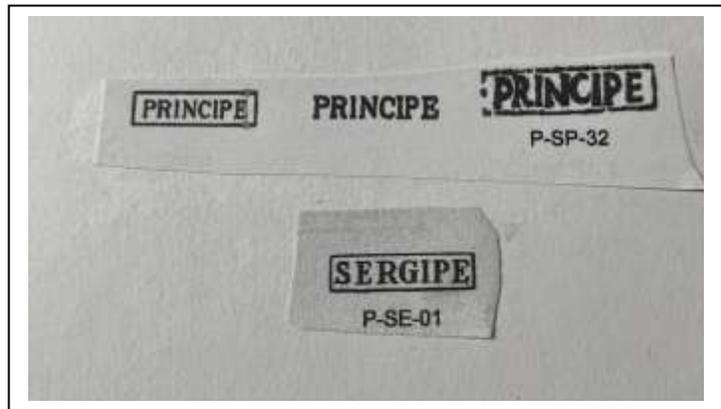
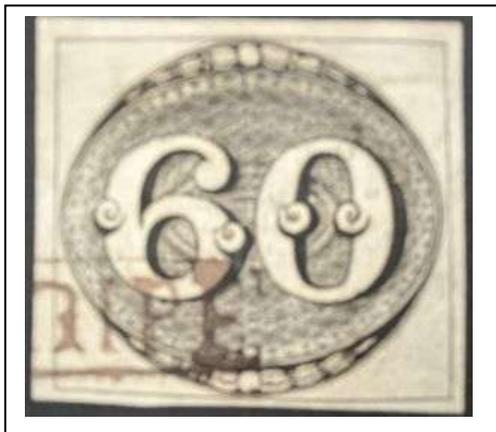
After consulting with experts in the Brazilian postal philatelic trade, it was concluded that this is not a color variety (and therefore is not cataloged). The differently colored material is a **COLOR PROOF**. According to the professional consulted, the item would be valued at around US\$ 200.

A second issue raised by Jack Burlin concerned a stamp affixed to a 60 Réis Bulls Eye. The email states:

“The attached photos show a copy of the 60-reis Bulls Eye stamp with a legible cancelation ending in “IPE”. There is a frame around the letters. According to the RHM catalog, there are only two possibilities for a stamp ending in IPE. It is either PRINCIPE or SERGIPE. See the attached photo of the stamp for reference.

My problem is that the letter immediately before IPE does not appear to be an N or a G. In fact, I cannot identify that letter. Therefore, I cannot say what this postmark actually is, and I would appreciate it if any of the members could identify it. It would also help to know about what the mysterious letter is and how it ended up on this postmark.

I suspect that someone knows the answer to this. If so, perhaps the answer to the mystery could mention resources other than RHM for finding examples of Brazilian stamps?”



Based on consultations with many collectors of Imperial postage stamps, carried out in a specific study group on Brazilian Imperial postal material, the following conclusion was reached:

This is the Sergipe mark. It is possible to compare the situation described in this other image with an Olho de Boi canceled by the Sergipe mark, where we can see that the “cut” of the letter G is in the same position. It is possible that the ink may have “slipped” and closed the letter.

<https://www.brazilphilatelic.org/>

Join Us!

One postmark. Two provinces.

Author: Rubem Porto Jr – rubempjr@gmail.com

The pre-philatelic postmark Vila de Areias (RHM P-SP-02) is listed in the catalog as belonging to the province of São Paulo (now the State of São Paulo).



However, for a brief period of time, this village - and therefore its post offices - were under the administration of the province of Rio de Janeiro.

Let's look at the history. Until the 18th century, the region was inhabited by the Puris and Botocudos Indians, who then began to suffer harassment from European explorers. Located on the edge of the old imperial road that connected São Paulo to Rio de Janeiro, Areias was established in the 18th century as a stopover for *tropeiros* (mule drivers) who, from there, traveled to the port of Mambucaba. Among its first known residents were Colonel Simeão da Cunha Gago, explorer Máximo Barbosa, and Father Felipe Teixeira. On January 26, 1784, the parish of Areias was created in the municipality of Lorena.

Originally named Sant'ana da Paraíba Nova, the settlement became a village on November 16, 1816, under the name of São Miguel de Areias, in honor of Prince Dom Miguel, son of Dom João VI. In 1822, the city (more specifically, the Hotel Santana) served as a stopover for the then Prince Dom Pedro on the trip in which he would proclaim Brazil's independence. It became a city in 1857. Areias was the first municipality to grow coffee in the São Paulo region of the Paraíba Valley. Its production was so great that, in the mid-19th century, it accounted for one-tenth of the total agricultural production of the province of São Paulo. The houses and townhouses with architecture typical of the coffee civilization date from this period.

But when did it come under the administration of the Province of Rio de Janeiro? This happened during the Liberal Revolution of 1842.

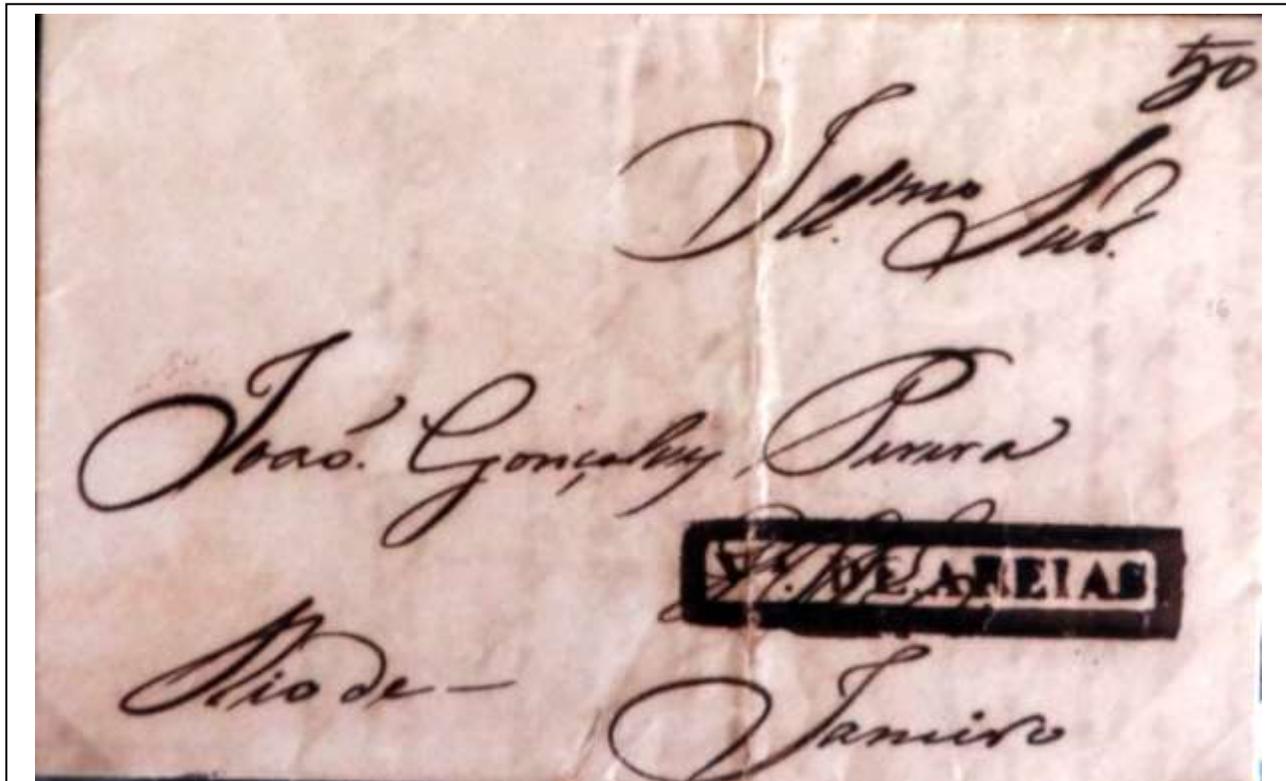
In 1840, when the new Emperor (Dom Pedro II) assumed the throne, the Army was engaged in pacifying armed movements in the provinces of Pará (Cabanagem) and Maranhão (Balaiada), and fighting to quell the Farroupilha Revolution in Rio Grande do Sul. These rebellions reflected the political instability generated by the dispute between liberals and conservatives, which dragged on throughout the regency period. The Liberal Party brought together advocates of innovative ideas, emphasizing greater autonomy for the provinces and opposing the Conservative Party. The situation reached a critical point when, in the city of Sorocaba, São Paulo, Brigadier Rafael Tobias de Aguiar (1795-1857), who had presided over the province of São Paulo on two occasions (1831-1835 and 1840-1841) and was highly popular, began a revolutionary movement on the morning of May 17, 1842, which quickly spread to other cities in the province and also to Minas Gerais.

The rebel forces headed for the capital to depose the President of the State of São Paulo, the Baron of Monte Alegre. The reaction of the imperial forces was swift, and after the defeat of the revolutionary forces at the Battle of Venda Grande, the movement was brought under control.

Because the court was located in Rio de Janeiro, and Areias (and other villages and cities Cunha, Bananal, Areias, Queluz, Silveiras, Lorena, and Guaratinguetá) was an important trading post, the imperial forces chose to annex the city to the province of Rio de Janeiro to establish a place of defense in case the rebel

troops advanced through the Paraíba do Sul River valley. The annexation lasted a few months (May to August 1842, according to Decree No. 216).

Below is a letter circulated during the brief period when the town of Vila de Areias was under the control of the Province of Rio de Janeiro rather than the Province of São Paulo. The letter is in the author's collection: Early Pre-adhesive Postal Marks of the Rio de Janeiro Province



Entire letter from Vila de Areias (during the period of annexation by the Province of Rio de Janeiro) to Rio de Janeiro (Court). Dated of the August 8, 1842. Manuscript 50 Réis rate for pay the rate for terrestrial transportation for letters weighting up to 4/8 oz. And transported up to 45 leagues, according to the Ordinance of March 5, 1829. Departure boxed postmark "Va. DE AREIAS" in brown. The only piece reported to date with this characteristic.

Decree number 216 of August, 29, 1842. (DECRETO Nº 216, DE 29 DE AGOSTO DE 1842)

EMENTA: Revoga o Decreto numero cento e oitenta de dezoito de Junho do corrente anno, e ordena que os Municipios das Villas de Cunha, Bananal, Aréas, Queluz, Silveiras, Lorena, e Guaratinguetá fiquem outra vez pertencendo á Provincia de São Paulo.

- Coleção de Leis do Império do Brasil - 1842, Página 418 Vol. 1 pt. II (Publicação Original)

Revokes Decree Number One Hundred and Eighty of June 18 of this year, and orders that the municipalities of Cunha, Bananal, Aréas, Queluz, Silveiras, Lorena, and Guaratinguetá once again belong to the Province of São Paulo.

Therefore, it is understood that the aforementioned localities were under the control of the Province of Rio de Janeiro between June 18 and August 29, 1842.