

THE PAPER TRAIL

WORLD WAR II IN HOLLAND AND ITS COLONIES

AS SEEN THROUGH MAIL

All the News That's Fit to Print.

The New York Times.

Copyright, 1941, by The New York Times Company.

VOL. LXXXIX, No. 30,057. Printed at World-City Bldg., Franklin Ave. Cor. E. St., New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1940.

THREE CENTS NEW YORK CITY. OTHER CITIES: COUNTRY BROAD-CAST AND MAIL.

LATE CITY EDITION POSTSCRIPT Fair, but much change in temperature today. Tomorrow cloudy. Temperature today—New York, 47.

NAZIS INVADE HOLLAND, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG BY LAND AND AIR; DIKES OPENED; ALLIES RUSH AID

U. S. FREEZES CREDIT

President Acts to Guard Funds Here of Three Invaded Nations

SHIP RULING TODAY

Envoys Reports to Hull on Germany's Attacks by Air and Land

WASHINGTON, Friday, May 10.—President Roosevelt today ordered the freezing of all credits held by Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg in this country. He called a conference at 10 A. M. of heads of the State, War and Navy Departments to consider freezing provisions of neutrality. The President acted swiftly after news of Germany's invasion of the three European neutral countries reached Washington and panicked high officials into action. The order with regard to the freezing of all the invaded countries' credits and cash balances here was a natural part of the action taken after Germany invaded Norway and Denmark. Congress this week completed action on legislation that specifically authorizes the President to freeze the assets of all such countries or any individual. This right is in general. When action is taken, the President is authorized to freeze the assets of the individual.

By the way, the President's order directed the Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., to freeze all the assets of the three invaded nations.

The International Situation

In the midst of Britain's Cabinet crisis Germany struck an other powerful blow early this morning by invading the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.

After swarms of planes had engaged in air fights over Amsterdam, parachute troops, some of them clad in Netherlands uniforms, descended at strategic points while planes bombed air fields. The Netherlands resisted the invasion and promptly opened the dikes that are part of her water defense system. (Page 1.)

Parachute troops likewise made surprise landings in Belgium and hauled from 100 planes landed the Brussels airport. (Page 1.)

Agencies for help were dispatched to the Allies by the invaded countries and it was understood that machinery of assistance was being set in motion. Queen Wilhelmina is a presidential issue of The Nation declared, "I and my government will do our duty." (Page 1.)

As in the case of Norway, Britain explained that the German action had been taken to force the Allies; an announcement that an attack on Germany had been planned through the territory of the Low Countries. What the Dutch was doing, it was declared, was safeguarding the neutrality of those countries. (Page 1.)

President Roosevelt lost no time in acting on the new situation. After eight conferences he ordered the freezing of credits of the three invaded countries. Further measures are to be taken today. (Page 1.)

London, meanwhile, announced that British troops had stopped in Belgium to prevent a possible German advance of the French frontier. (Page 1.)

Belgium, all three happened to be in the way of the French frontier. But today it was reported that new developments might arise. (Page 1.)

ALLIED HELP SPED

Netherlands and Belgium Appeals Answered by British and French

TACTICS ARE WATCHED

London Thinks Move an Effort to Get Bases to Attack Britain

ITALIANS REPORTED MISSING

By the United Press. BRUSSELS, Belgium, Friday, May 10.—The army staff announced today that foreign airplanes had dropped bombs in the Benne Jura Alpine district between Belgium, near the frontier, and Mount Terv, damaging a railroad.

Traffic continued over the road, the army staff said. It added that other foreign planes were flying over Dutch territory near Breda but that no details had been received.

Plans will be taken by the great Foreign Secretary, Viscount Halifax, with Winston Churchill sitting as government spokesman in the Commons, from the hour of which the war would by tradition be barred. (Page 1.)

A new effort to the Norwegian revenue was a London announcement that British submarines had attacked three German supply and forced down torpedo boats in addition to the damaged ships. (Page 1.)

Moreover, the Allies thought that the German navy was making progress. From that for North Atlantic it was reported that a British submarine was in the North Atlantic and that the German navy was in the North Atlantic. (Page 1.)

Reports from the German navy were that the German navy was in the North Atlantic. (Page 1.)

BRUSSELS IS RAIDED

400 Reported Killed—Troops Cross Border at Four Points

PARACHUTE INVASION

Mobilization Is Ordered and Allied Aid Asked—Luxembourg Attacked

By the United Press. BRUSSELS, Belgium, Friday, May 10.—The invasion of Belgium had been since the outbreak of the European war came before dawn this morning. About a hundred German planes flew over the city and bombed the airport.

The attack at Antwerp also was reported. Parachute troops were landed at Breda in Eastern Belgium. Artillery fire was reported heard along the German and Luxembourg frontiers.

The British and French reply to the Netherlands-Belgium appeals was prompt. Representatives of the respective governments were sent by ship to Antwerp. (Page 1.)

Reports from the German navy were that the German navy was in the North Atlantic. (Page 1.)



NAZIS SWOOP ON THE LOW COUNTRIES

By land and air German troops descended this morning upon the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. The principal land invasion into the Netherlands was at Breda.

Ribbentrop Charges Allies Plotted With the Lowlands

By GEORGE AXELSSON

BERLIN, Friday, May 10.—Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop at 9 o'clock this morning announced that Reich forces had launched military operations against Holland, Belgium and

AIR FIELDS BOMBED

Nazi Parachute Troops Land at Key Centers as Flooding Starts

RIVER MAAS CROSSED

Defenders Battle Fo in Sky, Claim 6 Planes as War Is Proclaimed

First Bombing in France

By the United Press. PARIS, France, Friday, May 10.—The French government today announced that German forces had invaded the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. The French government also announced that it had declared war on Germany.

CATEGORIES

PRELUDE TO WAR IN HOLLAND

DOMESTIC MAIL

SEVERED INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS

DELAYED DELIVERY

MAIL AFFECTED BY REGULATIONS

CAMPS

ROLE OF THE RED CROSS

LIBERATION



**DANZIG POST OFFICE PERSONNEL
BEING LED AWAY**

**KÖNIGSBERG:
GERMANY'S EARLIEST CENSORSHIP OFFICE OF
WORLD WAR II**



HOLLAND TO POLAND: AUGUST 31, 1939

RETURN (TO) SENDER/MAIL CONNECTION WITH
POLAND TEMPORARILY/NOT POSSIBLE

BECAUSE OF GERMANY'S ATTACK ON SEPTEMBER 1

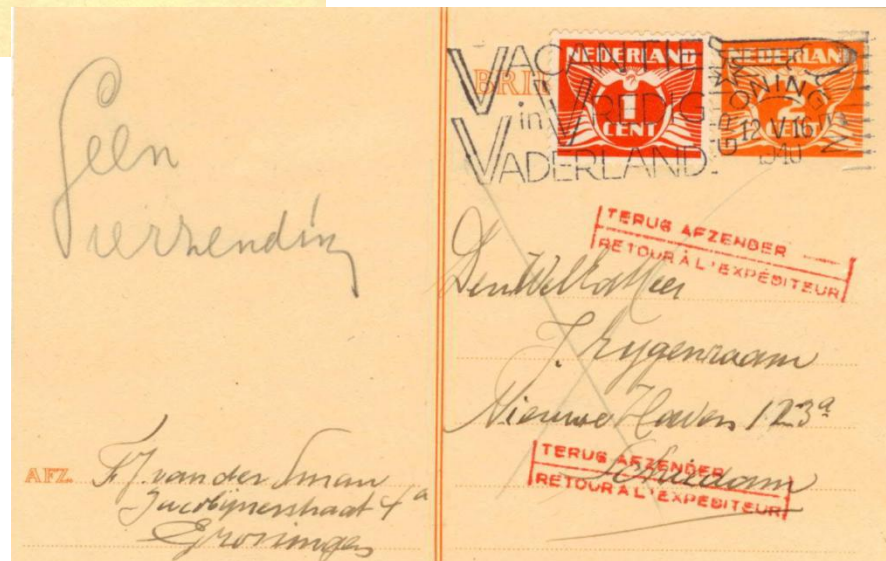


“VACATION IN PEACEFUL FATHERLAND”



**MAY 10, 1940 – 10 AM
STILL DELIVERED**

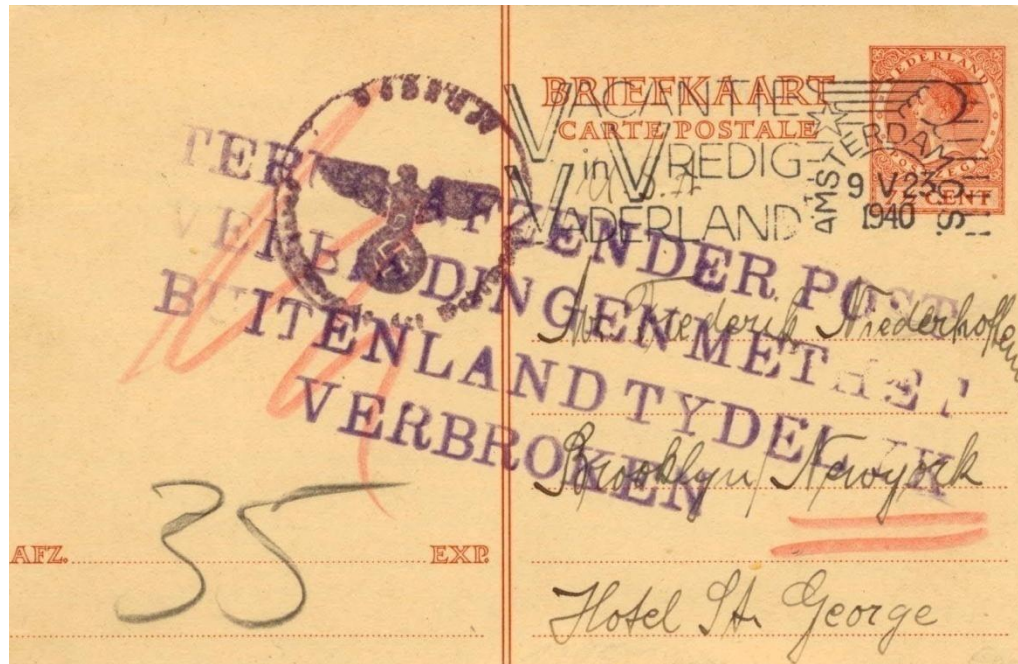
**MAY 12, 1940 – 4 PM
RETURNED TO SENDER**



**ROTTERDAM POST OFFICE
AFTER THE BOMBING ON MAY 14, 1940**



SEVERED CONNECTION TO USA



AMSTERDAM TO NEW YORK: MAY 9, 11 PM, 1940
RETURN SENDER/POSTAL CONNECTION WITH/FOREIGN
COUNTRIES TEMPORARILY/SEVERED

JERUSALEM TO AMSTERDAM
MAY 10, 1940



CHINA – THE HAGUE

ARRIVAL NAPLES BY PLANE
MAY 10, 1940 -
INVASION HALTS TRAIN
DELIVERY TO HOLLAND -
FORWARDED TO ENGLAND
BY AIR -
RETURNED TO CHINA BY
SURFACE MAIL



LAST PRE *FALL GELB* FLIGHT FROM THE INDIES TO NAPLES
DC 3 EMOE

BANDUNG - LEIDEN
APRIL 29, 1940



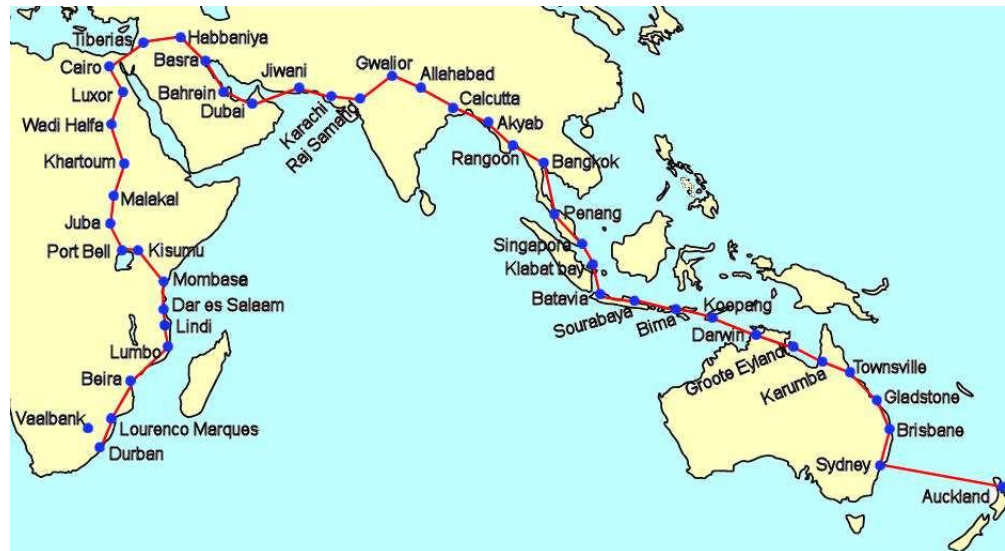
MAY 4, 1940:
ARRIVAL NAPLES POST *FALL GELB*
MAIL RETURNED TO SENDER



MOSCOW – MEDAN/SUMATRA: MAY 5, 1940
VIA HAMIATA AIRLINES
ALMA ATA/USSR – HAMI/CHINA



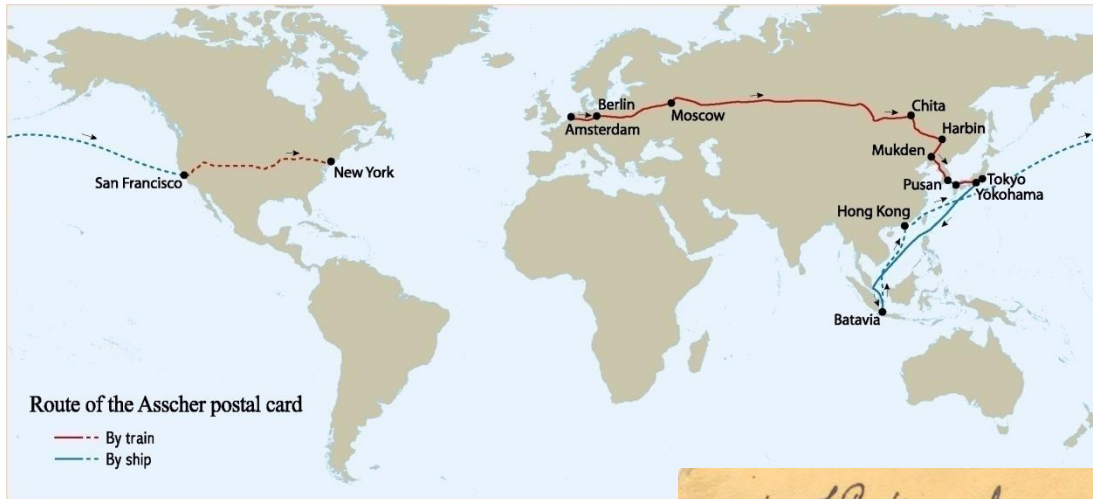
HORSESHOE ROUTE CREATED JUNE 19, 1940



SHIP DURBAN – U.K.



JUNE 28, 1940
BATAVIA – U.K.
VIA DURBAN



TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILROAD CONNECTION

AMSTERDAM: JUNE 22, 1940
BATAVIA: MAY 25, 1941
THEN ROUTED TO NEW YORK



**PAN AM'S LAST COMPLETED TRANS-PACIFIC ROUND TRIP
'CHINA CLIPPER'**

NEW YORK: NOVEMBER 13, 1941

SAN FRANCISCO: NOVEMBER 19

SINGAPORE: NOVEMBER 29

BATAVIA: DECEMBER 4

SAN FRANCISCO: DECEMBER 6



**MORNING OF DECEMBER 7, 1941
BREAKFAST ON THE 'ANZAC CLIPPER'
ENROUTE TO A STOP IN HONOLULU**



40 MINUTES TO PEARL



**COOK UNDERCOVER POSTBOX 264 LONDON:
FREE DUTCH AIR FORCE**



**LONDON APRIL 28, 1941
SHIP-CENSORED U.K.
ARRIVAL SURABAYA JULY 7, 1941**





THE HAGUE – BANDUNG/N.E.I. VIA UNDERCOVER ADDRESS SWITZERLAND

- The Hague: September 12, 1941
- to undercover address Basel by train via Frankfurt censor
- re-addressed/re-franked for airmail to Bandung/Dutch East Indies
 - to Lisbon by train
- Pan Am transatlantic clipper to New York
- Pan Am to San Francisco
- transpacific clipper Honolulu/Singapore
- KNILM service Singapore – Batavia (arrival October 28, 1941)

censored in Frankfurt, Singapore and Batavia



SEPTEMBER 5, 1944: MAD TUESDAY (DOLLE DINSDAG) MAIL FROM THE NORTH STRANDED IN THE SOUTH



September 4, 1944

delivery permitted from December 18, 1944

British censorship label in use November 1-15, 1944





September 6, 1944

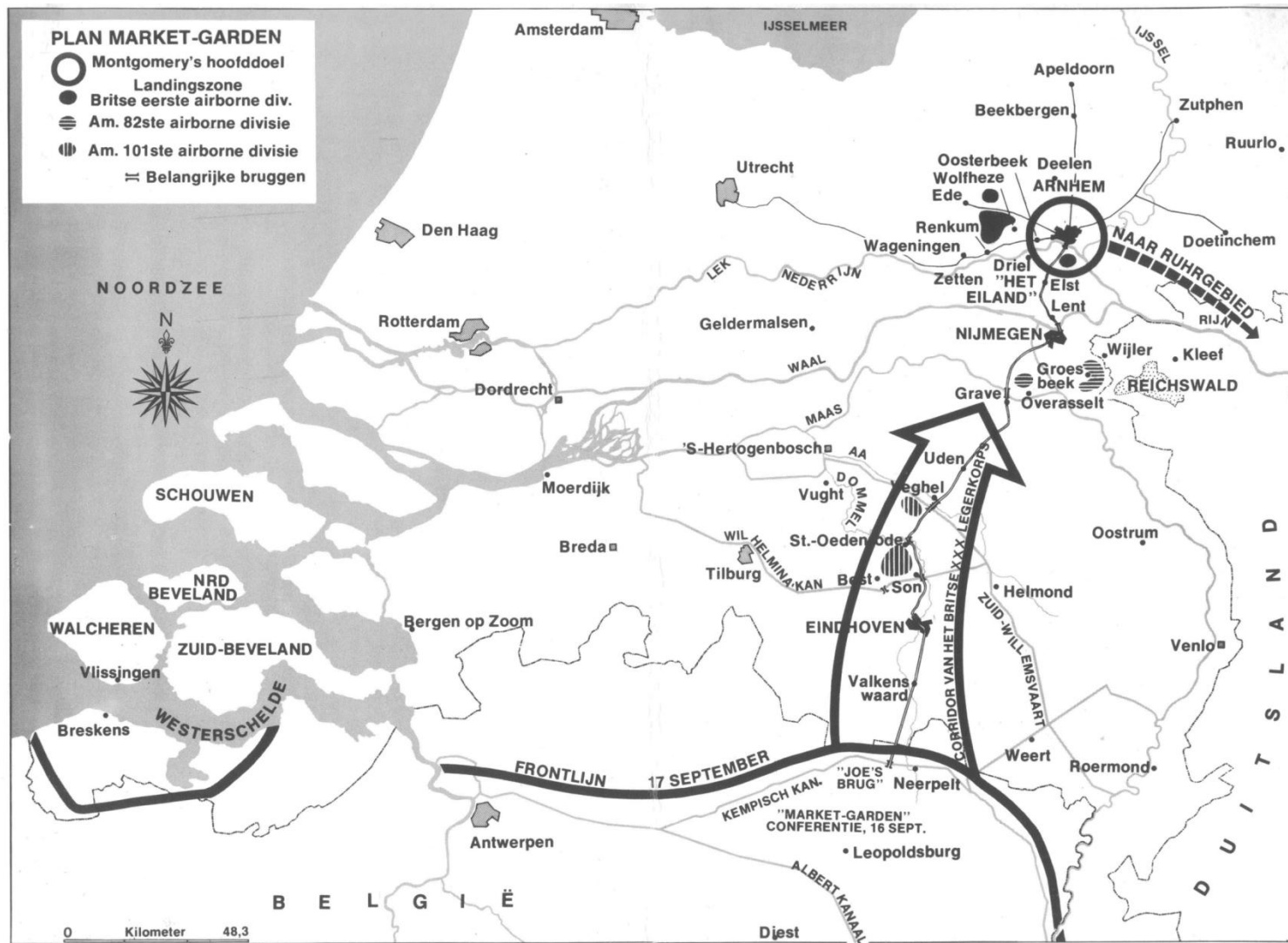
delivery permitted from December 18, 1944

Dutch censorship stamp in use after November 15, 1944

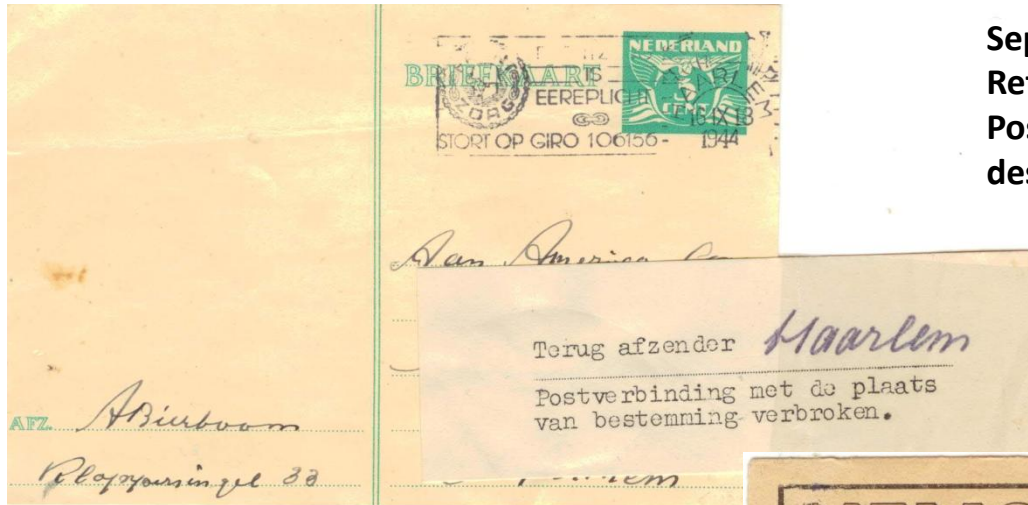


PLAN MARKET-GARDEN

-  Montgomery's hoofddoel
-  Landingszone
-  Britse eerste airborne div.
-  Am. 82ste airborne divisie
-  Am. 101ste airborne divisie
-  Belangrijke bruggen

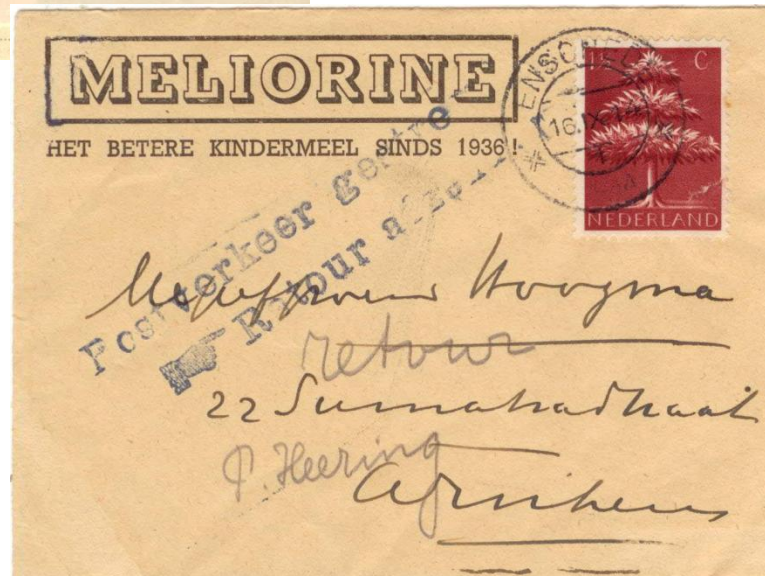


SEPTEMBER 17, 1944: OPERATION MARKET GARDEN A COUNTRY DIVIDED AFTER THE ALLIED DEFEAT



September 16, 1944:
Return to sender *Haarlem*/
Postal connection with/
destination severed

September 16, 1944:
Postal traffic obstructed
Return (to) sender



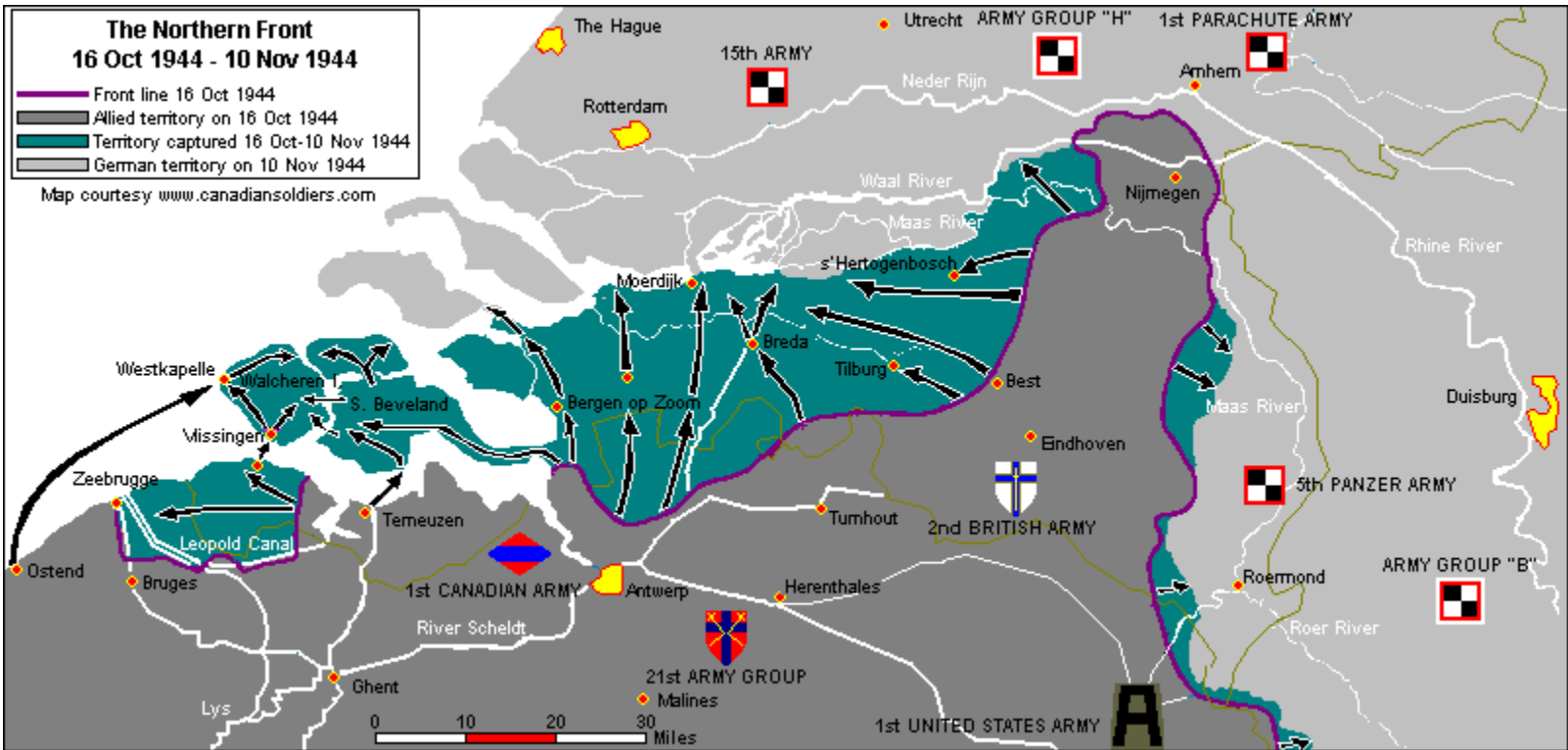
ARNHEM ÜBERROLLER

mailed Arnhem:
September 15, 1944

delivered Maurik:
June 14, 1945



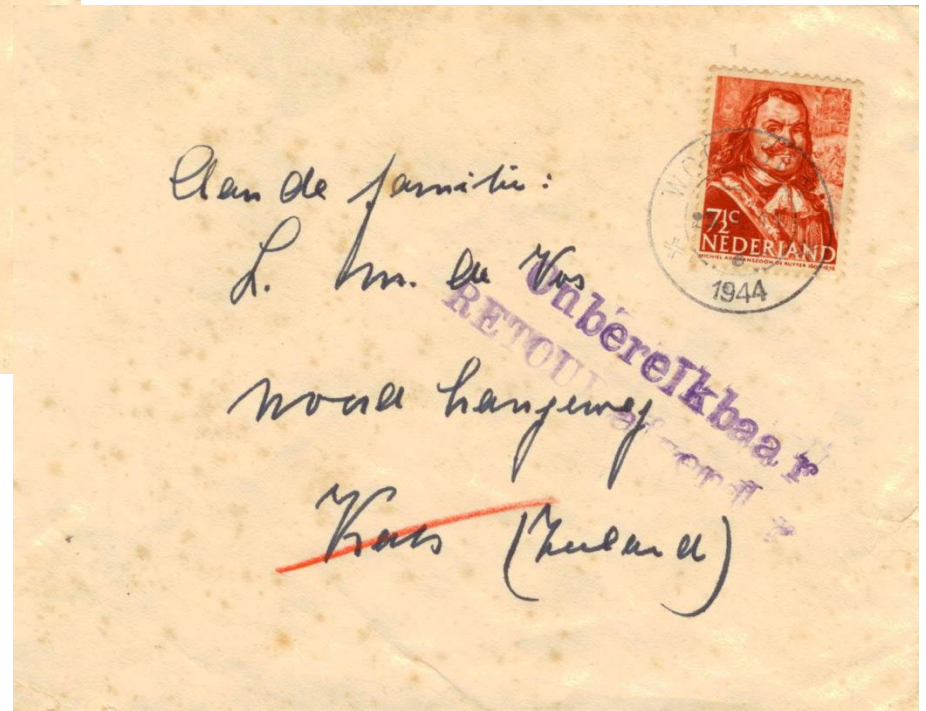
SEPTEMBER 4 – NOVEMBER 28, 1944



FIGHTING IN ZEELAND - SEVERED CONNECTIONS
HOW ARE THE PLANS TO INUNDATE?
IN THE AIR IT MUST ALSO BE ATROCIOUS



WOERDEN – KATS (Zeeland)
OCTOBER 8, 1944:
CONNECTION BROKEN/RETURN TO SENDER



WOERDEN – KATS (Zeeland)
OCTOBER 23 1944:
INACCESSIBLE/RETURN TO SENDER

DIENST
Departement van Justisie



ben Weled. Kurgel. Heer

W. F. Plummer

Kerkplein 102

Kapelle.

No. 449

Chef v. d. Gen. en Gen. Dienst
van de Ned. Politie
UTRECHT

RAILROAD STRIKE: DELIVERY BY RED CROSS

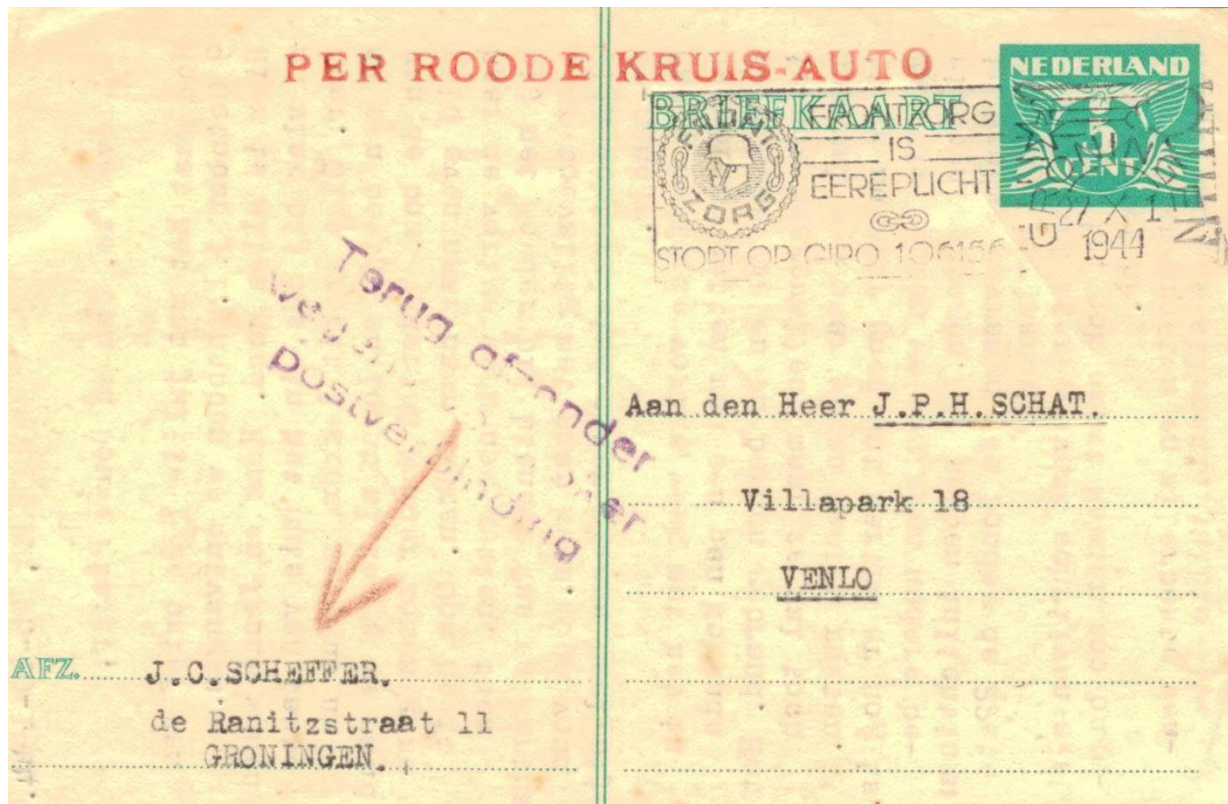


Middelburg – Utrecht
September 23, 1944:
We are sending you this card
via the Red Cross

Meppel – Haarlem
October 10, 1944

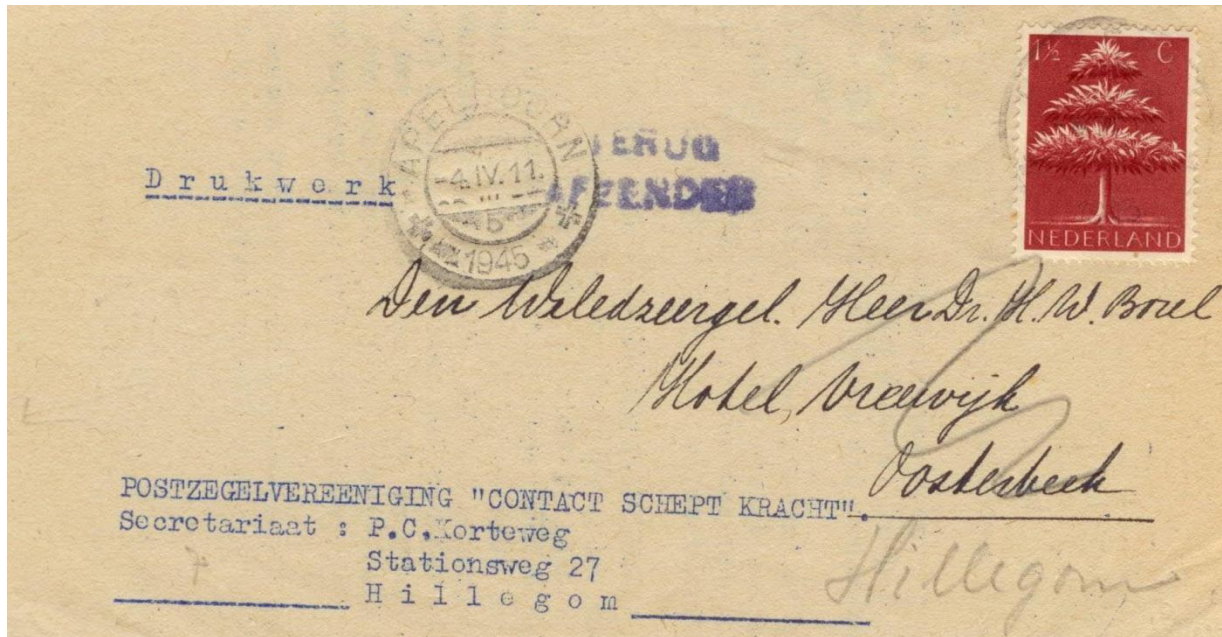


OCTOBER 14, 1944
MAIL BY RED CROSS VANS PROHIBITED
MAIL BACK TO SENDER



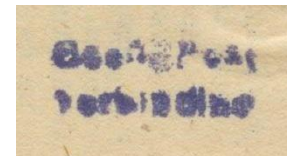
RED CROSS LABELS SOLD FOR 50 CENTS
TO MAIL FOOD PACKAGES
FROM THE LIBERATED SOUTH
TO THE OCCUPIED NORTH
IN ANTICIPATION OF ITS LIBERATION





return sender

No Postal
Connection (back)



P.C. Korteweg (April 4, 1945): *The leadership is much handicapped by having lost all contact with its president after the events of September 17.*

BURMA RAILWAY



BURMA RAILWAY POW CAMP - HOLLAND

SERVICE DES PRISONERS DE GUERRE.

FROM P. O. W. No. 7600.

NAME H.N.P. KROEZE

NATIONALITY DUTCH

RANK 2^e LIEUTENANT.

Camps War Prisoners Camp,
Moulmein, BURMA.

To Mr C. A. J. KROEZE.

THOR BECKE PLEIN 20

AMERSFOORT

NEDERLAND.

俘虜郵便

昭和十八年五月三十一日

Yamada censor chop

Showa date 18.5.31
(May 31, 1943)

The Japanese commander sincerely endeavours to treat prisoners kindly.

IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY.

I am still in a P. O. W. Camp near Moulmein, Burma, There are 20,000 Prisoners, being Australian, Dutch, English, and American. There are several camps of 2/3000 prisoners who work at settled labour daily.

We are quartered in very plain huts. The climate is good. Our life is now easier with regard to food, medicine and clothes. The Japanese Commander sincerely endeavours to treat prisoners kindly.

Officers' salary is based on salary of Japanese. Officers of the same rank and every prisoner who performs labour or duty is given daily wages from 25 cents (minimum) to 45 cents, according to rank and work.

Canteens are established where we can buy some extra foods and smokes. By courtesy of the Japanese Commander we conduct concerts in the camps, and a limited number go to a picture show about once per month.

AM IN GOOD HEALTH, JUST BECAME TALLER, BEST WISHES ESPECIALLY TO MOTHER, GOOD HEALTH TO YOU, OTHER FAMILY AND FRIENDS YOUR *Amun*

Auszug aus der Lagerordnung:

Jeder Häftling darf im Monat 2 Briefe oder Postkarten empfangen und absenden. Eingehende Briefe dürfen nicht mehr als 4 Seiten & 15 Zeilen enthalten und müssen übersichtlich und gut lesbar sein. Geldsendungen sind nur durch Postanweisung zulässig, deren Abschnitt nur Vor-, Suname, Geburtstag, Häftlingsnummer trägt, jedoch keinerlei Mitteilungen. Geld, Fotos und Bildereinschlagen in Briefen sind verboten. Die Annahme von Postsendungen, die den gestellten Anforderungen nicht entsprechen, wird verweigert. Unübersichtliche, schlecht lesbare Briefe werden vernichtet. Im Lager kann alles gekauft werden, Nationalsozialistische Zeitungen sind zugelassen, müssen aber vom Häftling selbst im Konzentrationslager bestellt werden. Lebensmittelpakete dürfen zu jeder Zeit und in jeder Menge empfangen werden.

Der Lagerkommandant

"Excerpt from the Camp Regulation:

Every inmate may receive and send 2 letters or postcards per month. Incoming letters cannot have more than 4 pages with 15 lines and must be easily readable. ...no messages, money, photos and pictures in letters are allowed. Receipt of mail which does not conform will be refused... Disorganized letters and those difficult to decipher will be destroyed."



LAGER WESTERBORK
CANNOT BE DELIVERED – RETURN TO SENDER

SEPTEMBER 8, 1943



VIOLINIST SALOMON DWINGER

b. Groningen January 29, 1906 – d. Auschwitz, March 1945

NEUBRANDENBURG MAY 1, 1945:
UNFORGETTABLE – WE HAVE BEEN LIBERATED BY THE RUSSIANS

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Kriegsgefangenenpost
 Correspondance des prisonniers de guerre

Handwritten: 20-9-45

Besetztes Gebiet
 Territoire occupé

Südfrankreich
 Franco méridionale

Nicht zu öffnendes
 streichen
 Biffer les mentions
 Inutiles

Postkarte Carte postale

Paul Gabriels

Mevrouw R. MEERSHOEK-de Rooij
Ma fam. R.J. Beraam

Gebührenfrei Franc de port!

Absenden
 Expéditeur:

Vor- und Zunamen
 Nom et prénom
Jac. P. Meershoek
H.v. ADMIE. K.M.

Gefangenennummer
 No. du prisonnier
32304

Lager-Bezeichnung siehe Rückseite
 Nom du camp voir au dos
Camp. Schinkel
Opflag 67

Deutschland (Allemagne)

Empfangsort
 Lieu de destination
SOESTDIJK

Straße
 Rue
Stadhouderslaan 35

Land
 Landsteil (Provincie) Département
NEDERLAND (UTRECHT)
Haag

41 / M



RUSSIAN POSTAL MARKING MAY 15, 1945

POST LIBERATION: MAIL CARRIED BY AIR FORCE



May 12, 1945
letter sent against regulations

May 20, 1945



MAY 11, 1945: POSTCARD TRAFFIC RESTORED

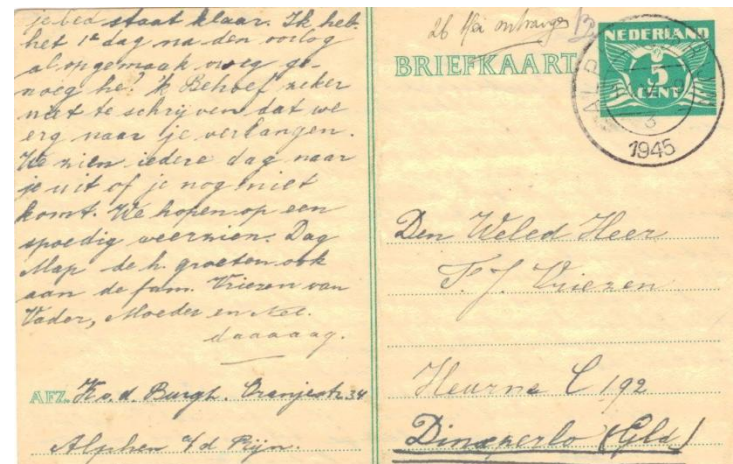
Now that all sections of the country can be reached by postcard once again ...



I wrote as soon as we heard that one can send postcards again



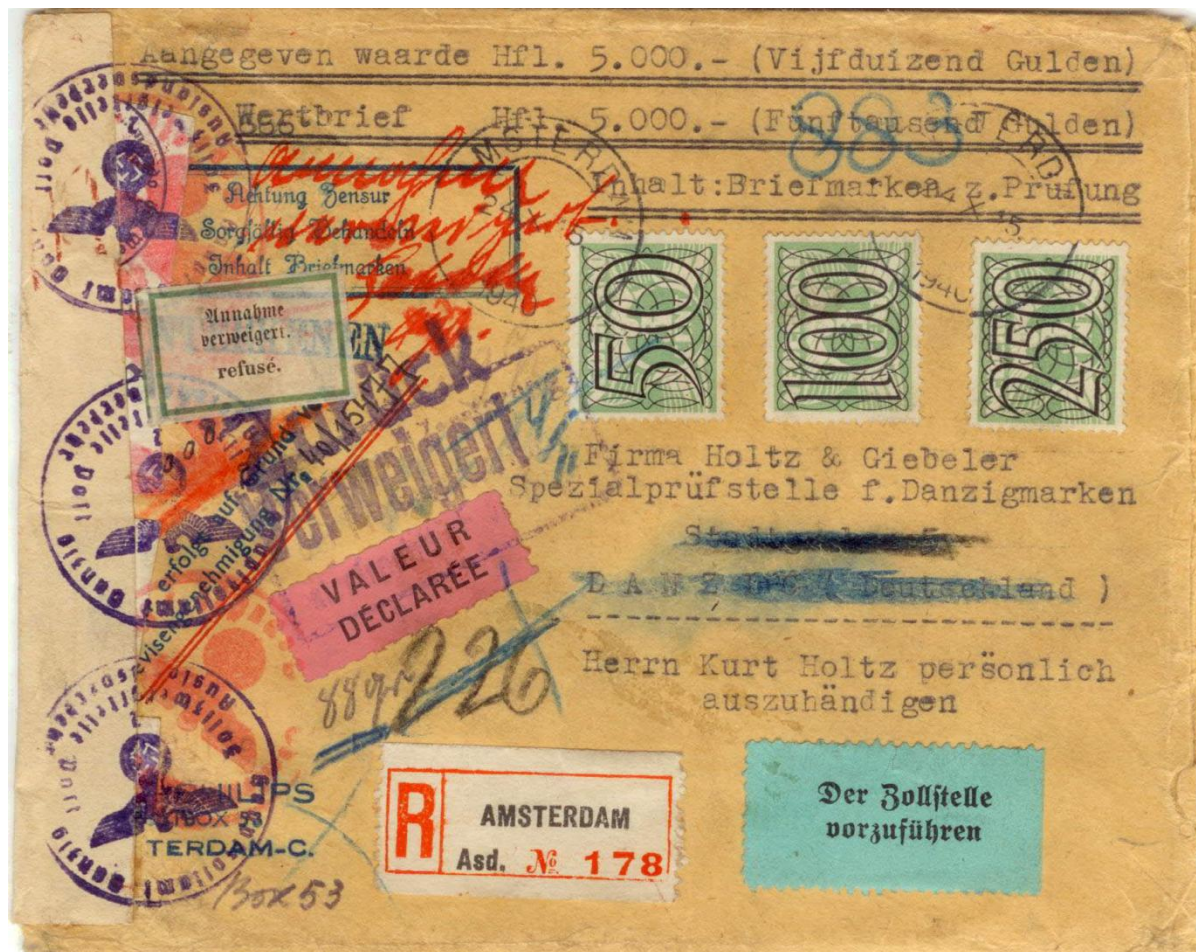
Stamps issued during German occupation remained valid (face)



April 21, 1945:
carried by commercial barge service to Amsterdam for 25 cents
plus 5 cents for local delivery

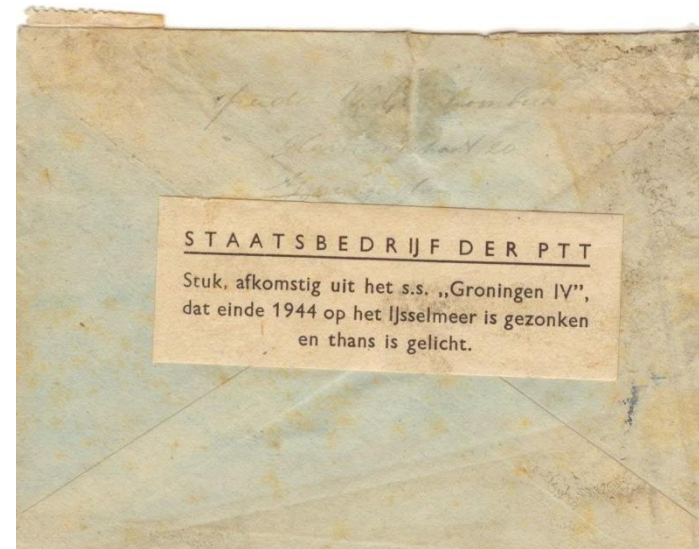


AMSTERDAM – DANZIG, OCTOBER 24, 1940
CONTENTS WORTH EQUIVALENT OF ABOUT US\$ 2,000.-





January 7/8, 1945: mailboat *S.S. Groningen IV* sinks en route to Amsterdam after a collision on the IJsselmeer with a loss of 13 on board; September 4, 1946: wreck recovered, letters dried and delivered December 1946



BRaille PRINTED MATTER
FROM MADEIRA: MAY 13, 1940
ARRIVAL HOLLAND: MARCH 4, 1948



**MAY 5, 1945
CHILDREN IN AMSTERDAM
CELEBRATING THE LIBERATION**

