WWI - The Pow Camp of Angra do Heroísmo - Açores

On May 1, 1916, an internment camp for German and Austrian internees was established at the Fort of São João Baptista in the city of Angra do Heroismo, Açores. In this camp, there were interned 678 prisoners (the official number on April 4, 1918). The first 80 to be interned were those German and Austrians sent from Portugal, transported in the Portuguese ship S.S. Sagres (ex. German ship S.S.Taygetos) arrived to Angra on April 30. Prisoners coming from the other Islands of Açores, Madeira and Cabo Verde were interned on August of 1916. Those from Portuguese India, Angola, Moçambique, and the rest of the colonies were added on 1917. The great majority of the internees was made up of crew members of German ships seized in Portuguese ports, and businessmen and their families. In the Açores, as well as in Portuguese India, Postal Censorship is only known from this group of interned Germans and Austrians.

COMMANDO MILITAR DOS AÇORES

First handstamp used by the military authority in the Camp.

May 30, 1916 postcard sent from Angra do Heroísmo to Pernambuco, Brasil (4-1-18) soon after the Camp was settled. There was a delay of over eighteen months to the delivery of the mail.

Karl Schunck commercial employee, and his wife Isaura Schunk were arrested in Lisboa and transferred to Angra on May 1, 1916. On August 30, 1916 they return to Lisboa and then were deported to Spain.

COMANDO MILITAR DOS AÇORES

2nd handstamp used by the military authority in the Camp.

Portuguese Red Cross postal stationary freely obtained by the prisoners since June 1916.

Free franking Red Cross postal stationary sent from Angra on September 16, 1916 by Josef Froilete to Germany.

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A free franked cover with Red Cross Porte Franco stamp sent from Angra by Otto Eduard Leichsenring to Hamburg.
O. Leichsenring was a book keeper in the city of Porto.
Transferred to Angra on May 1, 1916 and on August 30, 1916 to Funhal, Madeira as he become ill with tuberculosis.

First cancel clearly used to identify the Angra POW Camp mail

Free franked cover from Peter Jacob Christian Dühr, 2nd engineer of the SS "Colmar" interned in Funchal, Madeira on April 20, 1916 and transferred to the Angra POW Camp on August 8, 1916.

A December 22, 1917, Red Cross postal stationary from Walter Rudolf Carl to his father in Dresden, with printed address of the addressee.

Printed address of the addressee

KRIEGSGEFANGENEN - SENDUNG
Internationales Friedensbureau

A December 19, 1916 postal stationary sent by Ernst Johannes Heinnemann, to Bremen, in Germany. He was 3th officer of the SS "Schwarzburg", interned in Lagoa-S.Miguel Island and transferred to Angra on June 26, 1916.

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2nd mark used on the mail of the Camp until the end. It can be found on red, violet and green
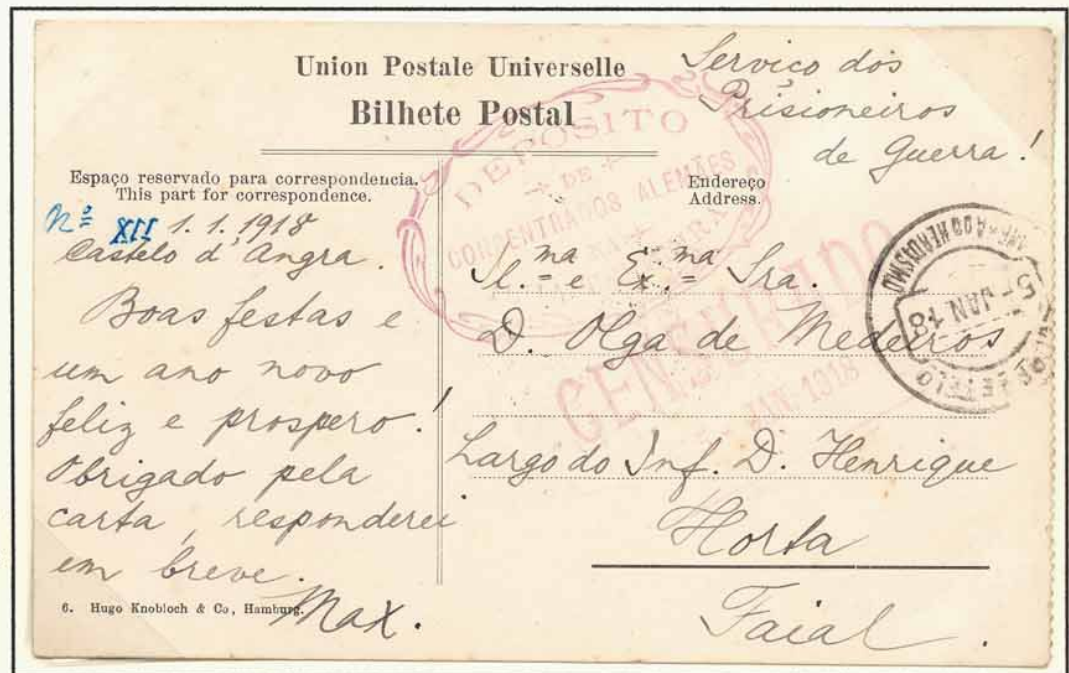

May 12, 1918 free franked cover sent by Hans Denker to the High Safety Authority
in Lübeck, Germany. A red German cancel of free transit of the Foreign Mail
Department in Cologne was applied. Hans Joachim Angelo Denker, born in Lübeck
was a sailor of the SS "Adelaide" seized in Luanda. Interned in Angra on October
26, 1917.

Opened under Martial Law. Authorized
to be forwarded by the Army Surveillance
Department of the 8th Army Corps,
Koln, Germany.

Serviço dos
Prisioneiros
de Guerra

January 1, 1918 postcard from the POW
Camp in Angra, Terceira to Horta in the
Fayal Island.

Inter Islands Mail

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A 10 reis postal stationary with 1 ctv over stamp from Companhia de Moçambique sent from Angra by a German internee on July 27, 1918 to Franz Wilhelm Hager interned in the Peniche POW Camp.

D.C.A. (Depósito de Concentrados Alemães / German Internee Camp)

D.C.A.

Angra July 27, 1918 sent by a German internee to an Humanitarian Organization in Stockholm, Sweden.

A free franking cover with content censored by scissor sent from Germany to Ernst Sieckmann 24 years old, a merchant captured in Funchal, Madeira on April 20, 1916 and transferred to Angra on August 6, 1916.

A free franking Red Cross postal stationary sent from Lisboa January 22, 1917 to the German prisoner Erich Kramer, in Angra.

Konrad Wissmann was born in Niederrinsingen, Germany on March 20, 1889, was an hotel owner in Lisboa, interned in Angra in May 1, 1916.
Transferred to the Military Hospital in Lisboa from where he escaped to Spain on April 29, 1919.

Incoming mail is rare

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From Angra to Angola

Postal stationary sent on January 18, 1918 by M.R. Baericke interned in the Angra Camp to David Pitzer interned N.º 9 in the 2nd Internee Camp in "Andala Tando" near Luanda (3-5-18). Forwarded via Lisboa.

As not found it was returned to sender via Funchal Jun 10, 1918.

From Angra to Lourenço Marques

Postal stationary sent on October 25, 1917, to Hans Rosendorf a German internee in Lourenço Marques Camp January 1, 1918.

As this prisoner was transferred to Portugal on October 21, 1917 and later to Spain the postcard was readdressed on June 1, 1918 to the German Consulate in Madrid.

Via New York pelo Vapor "Roma"

NO CHARGE FOR POSTAGE
PRISONER OF WAR MAIL
NEW YORK N. Y.

REPUBLICA DE CUBA
ESTADO MAYOR GENERAL DEL EJERCITO
DEPARTAMENTO DE DIRECCION
SECCION DE INFORMACION

A July 14, 1917 postal stationary sent from Angra by Captain O. Langer to the Captain of the SS "Bavaria" forwarded by Heilbut & Co in Havana (14-8-17), Cuba. Otto Langer was captured in Horta-Fayal and interned in Angra on August 30, 1916.
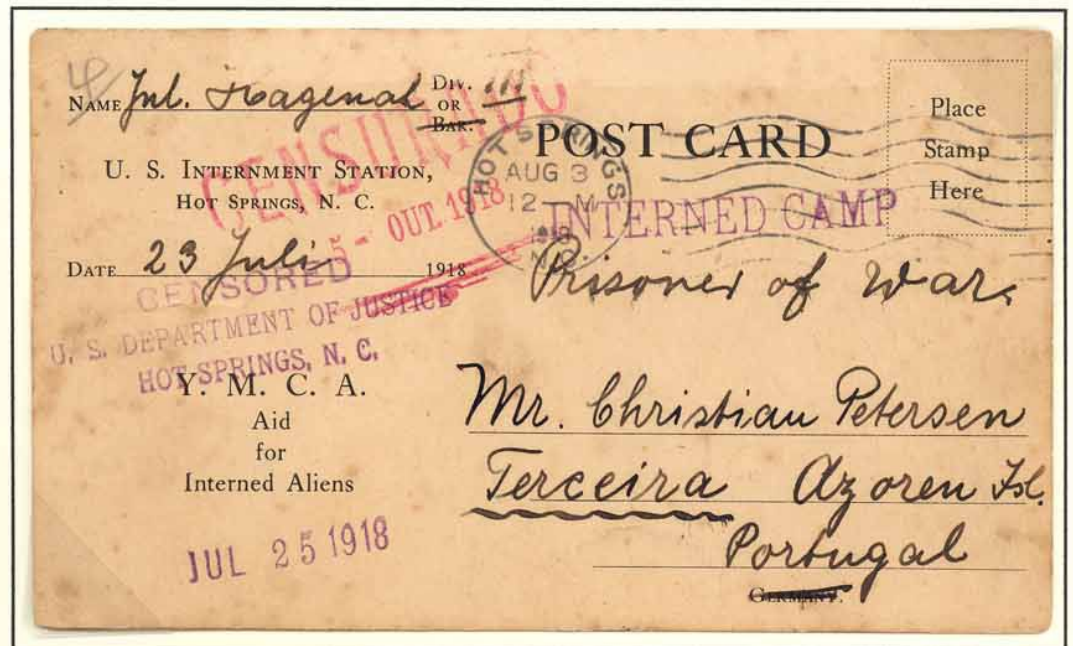
Incoming mail

CENSORED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
HOT SPRINGS, N. C.

INTERNED CAMP

An August 3, 1918 postcard sent by Jul Hagenal in the USA Internment Station, in Hot Springs, to Christian Petersen in the Angra Camp. C. Petersen aged 28, 3th Officer of the SS "Brisbane", was captured in the Mormugão Port, interned in Bicholim (28-2-16), and latter transferred to the Angra Camp on October 6, 1917.

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From Angra to Madeira

Picture postcard sent by Carl Ernst Hempel from Angra on December 29, 1917 to Funchal, Madeira whishing a friend a Merry Christmas.

Carl Hempel was born in Funchal on April 27, 1889 a telegraphist of the British Western Telegraph Company.

Interned in Funchal on August 22, 1916 was transferred to Angra Camp on August 26, 1916.

He was sent free to Funchal at the end of the War.

From Angra to Portuguese Red Cross in Lisboa

1 centavo "Ceres" type postal stationary with "réponse payé" sent on February 21, 1919 by Paul Otto Eifrig interned in Angra to the Portuguese Red Cross in Lisboa asking for a bank transfer.

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Ao Cuidado da Cruz Vermelha de Lisboa
Au Bureaux International de la Paix, Berne

Arrested in São Miguel Island

A free franking Red Cross postal stationary printed on back sent by Hermann Geiger on August 15, 1916 to Germany.

Hermann Rudolf Geiger was born in Elberfeld, a servant on board the ship "Chiffbeck". Interned in S. Miguel, Açores on April 20, 1916 and transferred to Angra on June 26, 1916.

Ao Cuidado da Cruz Vermelha de Lisboa
Comité International de la Croix Rouge, Agence des Prisoniers de Guerre, Genève

Arrested in Horta, Fayal Island

A free franking Red Cross postal stationary not printed on back sent by Carl Parrow on June 19, 1916 to Hamburg.
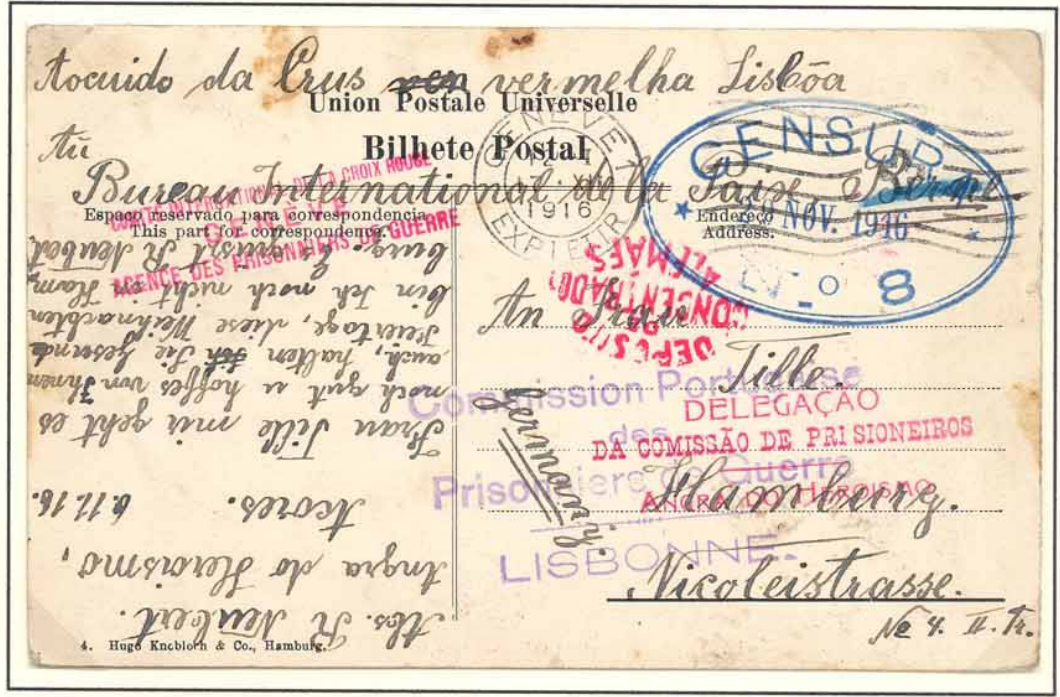
Carl Heinrich Parrow, 37 years old, born in Zingat, Germany, was the paymaster of the ship "Sardinia". Interned in Horta-Fayal, on May 1, 1916.

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Mail from Angra sent by German POW interned in Cape Verde Islands

A free franked picture postcard sent by R. Neubert on November 6, 1916 to Hamburg. Forward by Portuguese Red Cross in Angra and Lisboa. December 17, 1916 Geneva date stamp.

Richard Bruno Neubert, was born on May 15, 1887 a carpenter on board the ship "Togo" seized in São Vicente, Cape Verde on April 20, 1916, transferred to Angra on August 6, 1916 and sent back home to Hamburg on October 29, 1919.

A free franking Red Cross postal stationary sent by Willy Seiz on December 3, 1917 to Bremen, in Germany.

Willy Seiz, a merchant of 30 years of old was born in Planen-Saxónia.

Was interned in Lisboa on April 22, 1916, transferred to the Angra Camp on May 1, 1916. He was placed at liberty on October 21, 1919 and returned on board the ship "Funchal" to reside in Porto.

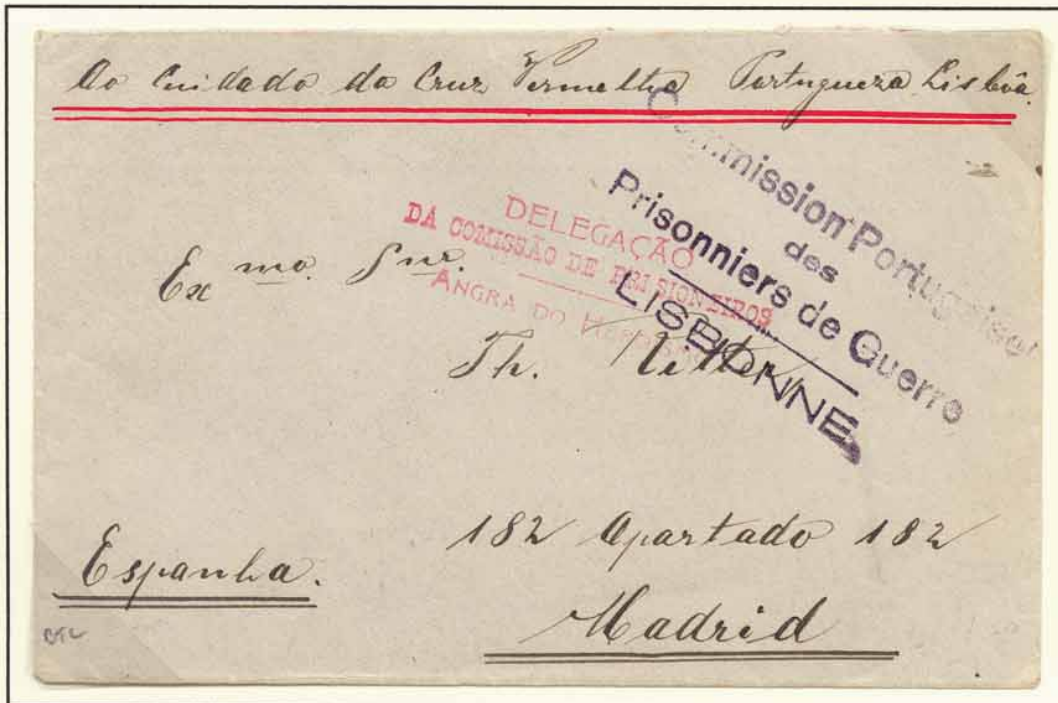# WWI - The Pow Camp of Angra do Heroísmo - Açores

From Angra to South Africa

Free franking Red Cross postal stationary sent from Angra (19-6-17) by Karl Zierkler, to the German citizen H. Schenck interned in Vindoek, South Africa (30-8-17) and readdressed to Okahandja.

Karl Zierkler, was a engineer interned in S. Vicente of Cape Verde on April 20, 1916, transferred to Angra on 6-8-16 and sent back home to Hamburg on board the ship "Lothar Bohlen" (29-10-19).

From Angra to Madrid

A free franking cover sent by W. Dechow to Madrid, Spain on April 5, 1918. Wilhelm Dechow was born in "Viendorf" on November 12, 1883 a merchant interned in Luanda on April 20, 1916. Transferred to Lisboa and to Angra (26-10-17). Repatriated to Hamburg on board the ship "Lohtar Bohlen" on October 29, 1919.

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Postage Paid sent by Karl Georg Oeser

May 20, 1 ctv (top) and August 14, 1918 2 ctv Ceres (bottom) type postal stationary, with additional stamps with overprint Açores pertaining a total of 3 ctv, sent by Karl Georg Oeser a German internee in Angra, to Chemnitz, Germany.
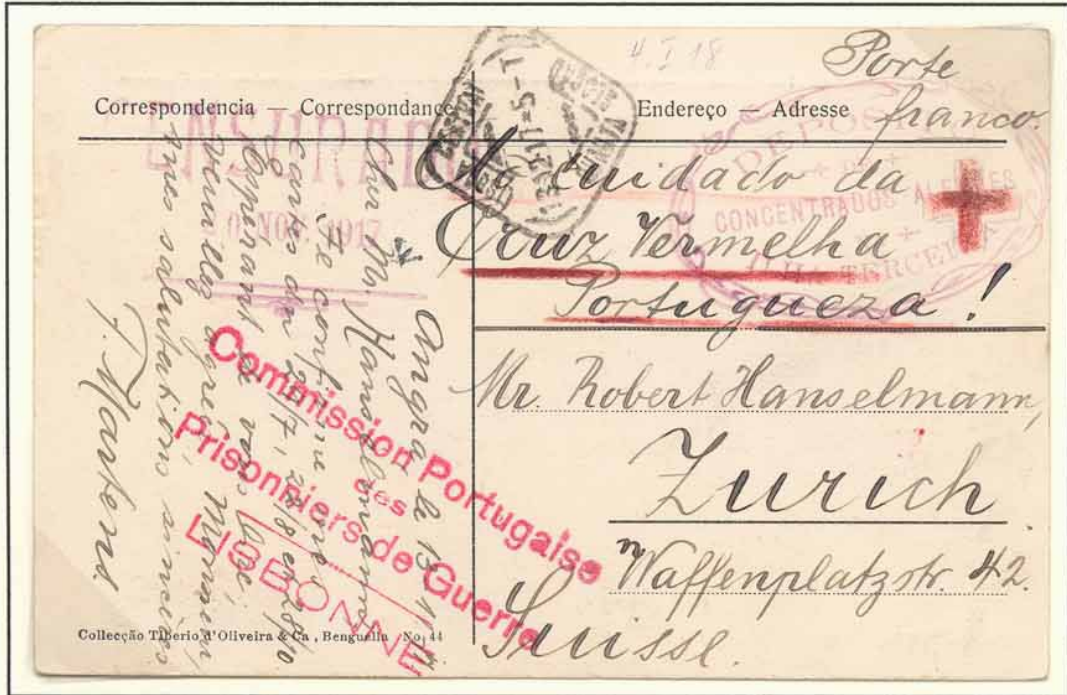
Karl Oeser was a merchant, captured in Lisboa and sent to the Angra Camp on May 1, 1916. Transferred to Peniche (24-1-1919) and Caldas da Rainha (21-3-19). He was sent free on October 25, 1919 and returned to reside in Lisboa.

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Mail from Friedrich Martens

F. Martens, 25 years old was a merchant interned in Luanda on March 10, 1916 and later transferred to Angra on October 26, 1917.

A free franked postal stationary sent from Angra on November 13, 1917 by Friedrich Martens shortly after his arrival from Luanda.

August 2, 1919 a late usage of 1 ctv Ceres type postal stationary sent by F. Martens to Hamburg.

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Mail sent after the end of the war.
Postal Censorship was ended only on August 1, 1919.

January 29, 1919 1 c "Ceres" type postal stationary, overprinted Açores sent by S. Krull from Angra to Güstrow-Germany. Siegfried Julius Otto Elias Krull, 26 years, commercial employee interned in L. Marques on April 30, 1916 transferred on November 30, 1917.

June 5, 1919 1 c "Ceres" type postal stationary, overprinted Açores sent by Hans Nellessen a merchant interned in Loanda on March 11, 1916 and transferred to Angra on October 26, 1917.

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1 centavo "Ceres" type postal stationary used in the Angra Camp

These postal stationary were used in domestic mail till March 10, 1918 when the 2 ctvs were used instead. So they were given free to the prisoners as the free franking Red Cross Postal stationary were then drained.

1 ctv. "Ceres" type postal stationary overprinted Açores written by L. Kasch from Angra on August 4, 1918 to Flushburg (22-8-18) in Germany.

Lorenz Kasch, born on June 17, 1874 was the Captain of the steam ship "Kommodore", interned in Bicholim Camp (Portuguese India) on February 28, 1916. As a diabetic he was transferred to Portugal (26-4-17) and to Angra on October 6, 1917. He died in Angra on August 7, 1919.

Used after the end of the war with the Camp mark but no censorship

Postal stationary sent after the end of the war, on February 28, 1919 by Alfred Heymann to Frankfurt.

Alfred Heymann, born on May 2, 1886, steward on board the ship "Dora Horn", interned in S. Vicente of Cape Verde on 24-2-16 and transferred to Angra on August 6, 1916.