

DODECANESE – THE ITALIAN CENSORSHIP MARKS 1915-1943

After the start of **WW I** with the n° 689 Royal Decree of 23 May 1915 provided the exercise of censorship “in case of emergency”. Based on this, General G. Croce, commander of the occupation force in the Dodecanese, issued an order on 10 June 1915, by which all civilian mail from/to the islands should be inspected. Censored military correspondence is very rare. The examination lasted until 1920 and was carried out on the Italian and French posts.

During **WW II** censorship was imposed at 08.00 hours of 18 June 1940 throughout the whole country, its possessions and Albania. It was put into effect on every means of communication, including ground and sea services.

With the Treaty of Lausanne signed on 24/07/1923, the Dodecanese was now part of the *Italian Territory*. The Decree of 12 October 1939 of the Italian Ministry of Internal Affairs regulated the censorship of the media in times of war. It censored the correspondence of the citizens but also with the operation of the Italian military post office "POSTA MILITARE No 550" the military was also censored.

The term “correspondence” included letters, cards, printed matter, manuscripts, and staples. Censors with code numbers settled on all the islands. The mailed envelopes were delivered openly to the post office and after being approved, were sealed with paper tape with the inscription “Verificato per Censura” printed locally and cancelled with a censorship marking or markings. The marks were made locally and varied in shapes and types.

The most important postal items in the exhibit are indicated with a **green arrow**.



PLAN

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- M.CARLONI & V.CERCEVA : Storia postale del Dodecaneso. vol. I le postale civile (2006).
- M.PETRADAKIS : Postal history of Aegean island, Italian military post offices (1897 – 1943), Athens 1991.

1. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR I

Civilian Correspondence Censorship. Censored military correspondence is very rare.
The examination lasted until 1920 and was carried out on the Italian and French posts offices.

10.05.1919

35%



Rhodes - Library

International rate: (1907-1921)
Rome Agreements of 1906
PPC 10c.

Franked with correct postage
of 10c. overprinted **Rodi**
Italian stamp (type Leoni).
Destination Nice (France).

Cds **RODI*(EGEO)*10.5.19.**

Type A: 2-line boxed censor mark in olive **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA / CENSORE N I --- RODI (EGEO).**

19.05.1919

The cover was sent by the
military censorship office
of Rhodes to the Head of
Ministry of Post Section
in Roma.

Cds **POSTE ITALNE RACCIE**
ASSIE RODI (EGEO) 19.5.19
Registration pmk
and registration 2-line mark.

Arrival mark on reverse in Roma
On 26.05.1920

Domestic rate: (1919-1920)
ROYAL DECREE (R.D)
26.1.1919 – n° 68
Letter 25c., Registration 30c.
Return payment 25c.
Franked with correct postage
of 5c. stamp overprinted
Rodi (type Leoni),
25c. and 50c. overprinted
Rodi stamps (type Michetti).
Total rate 80c.

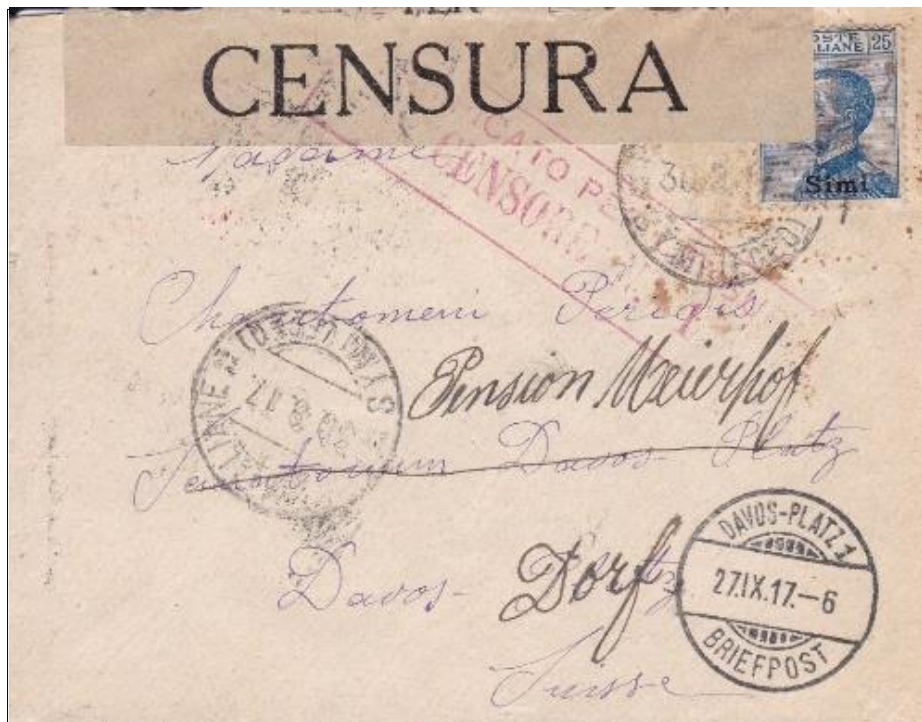


Type A: 2-line boxed censor mark in olive **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA / CENSORE N I --- RODI (EGEO).**

-This envelope can also be considered like military correspondence, although it is sealed with the civilian censor mark, since military censor marks were not issued in the Dodecanese during WW I.

1. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR I

30.08.1917



38%

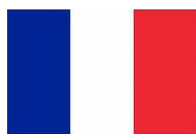


Arrival in Davos-Dorf on 28.09.1917
from Symi (Dodecanese Island)
cds **POSTE ITALIANE*SYMI (EGEO) 30.8.17.**

International rate: 1907-1921
Letter 25c. franked with correct postage
of 25c. overprinted **Simi** Italian stamp
(type Michetti).

The cover was sealed with censor tape and
was printed with
VERIFICATO / PER / CENSURA
"Verified for Censorship"

Type A/a 2- line boxed censor mark in red without the inscription RODI(EGEO).
VERIFICATO PER CENSURA / CENSORE N. 1.



The French P.O.
closed in 1924.

Arrival mark on reverse
in Piraeus on 03.09.18
There was a chronological
difference between Greece
and Italy
(Greece used the Julian
Calendar until 1923).
Correct arrival date
19.08.1918.

Franked with a 50c.
Overprinted **2 PIASTRES**
French Levant stamp
(issue 1902).

French P.O. followed
the Italian postage.
International rate:
(Period 1907-14921)
Letter 25c., registration 25c.

Cds **RHODES TURQUIE-
D' ASIE 24-7.**



24.07.1918

Type A/b 2- line boxed censor mark in red-lilac without the inscription RODI(EGEO).
VERIFICATO PER CENSURA / CENSORE N. 1

The censor marks **A/a** and **A/b** are the same with variation in lettering and color.

1. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR I

09.10.1916

35%



Cds **RODI*(EGEO)*-9.10.16**

Arrival in Venice on 21.10.1916

Domestic Rate: (1916-1920)

R.D. 9.11.1916 – n° 1525

Letter 20c.

Franked with correct postage of 15c. stamp (type Michetti) overprinted with **CENT. 20** (New rate).

Type B/1 1-line censor mark with number in violet **CENSORE N.1** applied along the **B/a** 2-line censor mark inside the rectangular in the same color on the reverse side of the cover **VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA**.

Sealed with censor tape and printed with **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA** in black

Censor mark Type B/1 & Ba were used only in Rhodes P.O.

09.01.1917

cds **POSTE ITALIANE RACCE**
ASSISTENTE RODI (EGEO) -9.1.17.

Arrival mark on reverse
In Roma on 14.01.1917

Domestic Rate: 1916-1920
Letter 20c., Registration 25c.,
Espresso 25c.

Franked with correct postage
with 15c. overprinted **CENT.20**
new rate (type Michetti).
Horizontal pair of 10c. and
a single 5c. overprinted **Rodi**
stamps (type Leoni) and a
25c. espresso Italian stamp.



Type B/1 1-line in red **CENSORE N.1** in pair with the
B/a 2-line inside the rectangular in the same color **VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA**.

1. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR I

25.07.1916

29%



Arrival in Tanta (Egypt)
on 8.8.1916
Via Alexandria on 7.8.1916

International rate: 1916-1920
Letter 25c.
Franked at the correct rate of
of 25c. Italian stamp
(type Michetti)
overprinted **Rodi**.

cds **RODI** * (**EGEO**) * 25.7.16

Sealed with censor tape and
printed with
VERIFICATO PER CENSURA
in black



Type **B/2** 1-line censor mark in violet **CENSORE N.2**
B/a 2-line inside the rectangular at the same color **VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA**.

22.05.1918



Destination island Cos

Domestic rate: 1916-1918
PPC within the district 5c.
and franked at the correct rate
with a 5c. stamp (type Leoni)

B/a 2-line censor mark inside the rectangular in olive **VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA**

1. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR I

17.04.1918



From Kalymnos
Cds **POSTE ITALIANE * KALYMNOS (EGEO) * 17.4.18**
Arrival pmk on reverse
in Milano on 25.04.1918

Domestic rate: 1916-1918
Letter 20c.
Franked at the correct
25c. overprinted **Calimno**
stamp (type Michetti)
(sale price 20c.)

Type B/2 1-line censor mark in red **CENSORE N. 2** followed by the strange
Type A/a 2-line boxed censor mark in unusual lilac color **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA / CENSORE N. 1**
Censor mark Type B/2 were used also in Kalymnos

11.07.1917



The shipment was made from
Nisiros island with
cgs **RR. POSTE ITALIANE**
***NISEROS (EGEO)* 11.7.17**

Arrival mark on reverse
In Rhodes on 14.07.1917.

Domestic rate: 1916-1918
Letter within the district 5c.

Franked with correct postage
of 5c. overprinted **Nisiros**
Italian stamp.

Type B/4 1-line censor mark in red **CENSORE N. 4**
followed by the same color censor mark 1-line
Type C/a 1-line **VERIFICATO per CENSURA** (**PER** is not in block letters 1st type).
Censor mark Type B/4 were used in Nisiros..

1. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR I

30.05.1915



30%



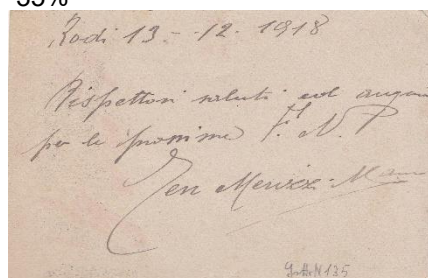
From Antimakia
(village of Cos) to USA
cds RR. POSTE ITALIANE
ANTIMAKIA (KOS EGEO) 30.5.15
Arrived in Philadelphia
on 11.06.1915
via Rhodes 03.06.1915.

International rate:
(Period 1.10.1907-1921):
Letter 25 c., Registration 25 c.
Franked at the correct rate of
two 25c. overprinted
with Cos Italian stamps.

Registration 2-line marking
R: ANTIMAKIA / ISOLA DI COS
on label n° 301

The cover is sealed with censorship tape and was printed with 3-line mark **VERIFICATO / PER / CENSURA** 2nd type (Verified for Censorship) on the tape there is manuscript in blue n° 5 of the censor. They were used in Cos.

35%



Postage free military post-card from a Rhodian military unit to Parma.
Cds RODI * (EGEO) * 13.12.18

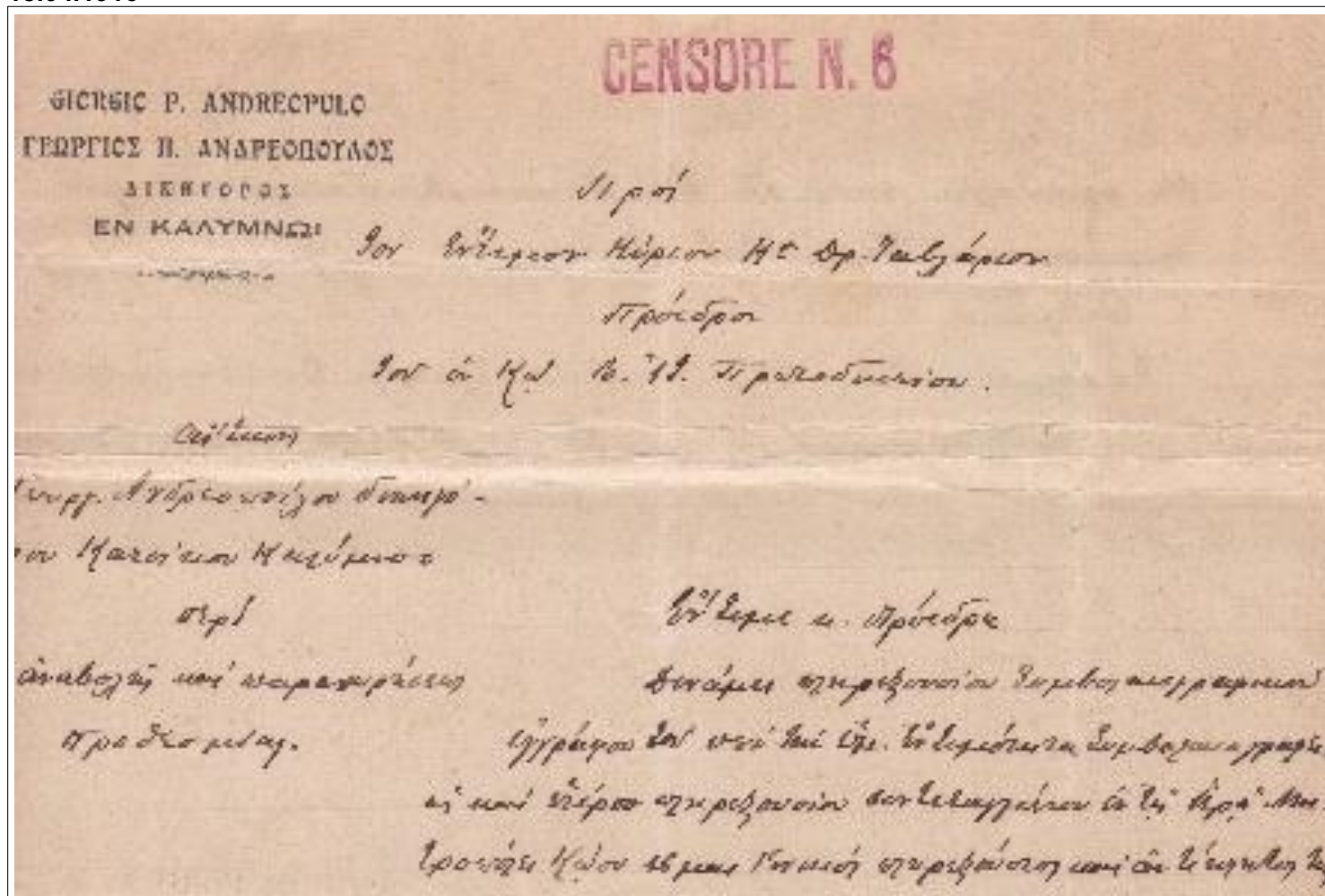
13.12.1918



Type C/b 1-line **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA** lilac (block letters 2nd type).

1. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR I

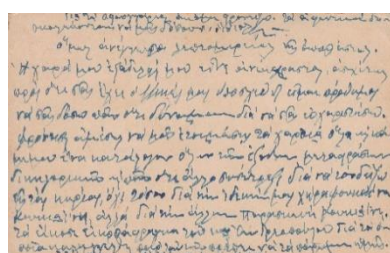
18.04.1916



Type B/6 1-line censor mark with number in red **CENSORE N.6** (Court document from Kalymnos to Cos).

33%

07.02.1920



PS card from Kalymnos with
Cds **POSTE ITALIANE *KALYMNO***
(EGEO) -7.2.20
Arrival in Rhodes on 16.2.1920.

Domestic rate: 1919-1920
PPC within the district 10c.
Card with overprinted stamp
of 10c. (type Leoni)
correct postage,



Type B/6 1-line censor mark in violet **CENSORE N. 6**

followed by the same color censor mark 1-line

Type C/b 1-line **VERIFICATO PER CENSURA** (block letters 2nd type).

Censor mark Type B/6 were used in Kalymnos island.

2. CENSORSHIP DURING WORLD WAR II

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

We may sort these markings according to their text:

Group A Linear, rubber-made censor marks with variations in color, type and lettering size.

A/- featuring **Verificato per censura (...)** without further indications. Found in use from 1940 to 1942.

35%



View of the Archangel Michael Monastery.

Cds

POSTA AEREA*RODI(EGEO)12.12.40

Arrival in Ancona on 19.12.1940

Domestic rate: (1940-1943)

R.D. 23.5.1940 – n° 756.

PPC 25c. franked with the correct Stamp of 25c. (type Pittorica).



Censorship marking

Group Aa/- (1st type in blue).

07.03.1939

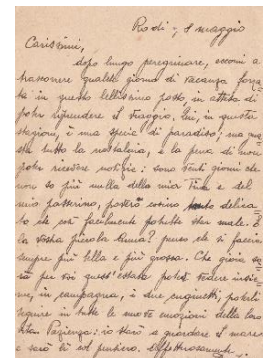


Censorship marking

Group Aa/- (2nd type lilac).

12.12.1940

32%



Postal Stationery card
Cds **POSTA AEREA*
RODI(EGEO)7.3.39**
Destination Milan

Domestic rate:(1933-1940)
R.D. 20.12.1932– n° 1814.
PC 30c., Air mail 50c.

Franked at the correct rate
30c printed stamp
and 50c. air stamp.
Total rate 80c.

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group A/- Verificato per censura (...) without further indications

03.10.1940

From Cos island
With cds
**UFFICIO POSTALE
TELEGRAFICO**
*COO*3.10.40.

Arrival mark
on reverse
In Palermo
on 07.10.1940.

Domestic rate:
1.9.1940-1943
Letter 60c.,
Air mail 50c.

Franked at the
correct rate with
a horizontal pair
of 30c. stamps
(type Pittorica)
and a single
of 50c.



Censorship marking

Group Aa/- (3rd type lilac).

21.08.1940



From Campociaro
(village of Rhodes)
Cds **CAMPOCHIARO**
RODI *EGEO*
21.8.40XXI.

Arrival mark on
reverse in Florence
on 25.08.1940

Domestic rate:
1933-30.8.1940
Letter 50c.,
Air mail 50c.

Franked at the
correct rate of 1L
air stamp.

Censorship marking

Group Aa/- (4th type lilac).Sealed with censor tape and printed mark **Verificato per Censura**

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group A/n° Verificato per censura (...) followed by a number.

18.09.1940

Cover from Cos island
Cds **COO*(EGEO)*18.9.40**
Registration 1-line mark
COO (EGEO) on label.

Arrival mark on reverse
in Rhodes on 20.09.1940.

25%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Letter 50c.,
Registration 1,25L.
Franked at the correct rate
of a single 25c. and a
strip of three 50c.
stamps (type Pittorica)
Total rate 1,75L.



Censorship marking

Group A/1 lilac

18.07.1940



Cover from Rhodes
Air mail cds
POSTA AEREA*RODI (EGEO) 18.7.40.

Arrival mark on reverse
in Taranto (Apulia)
on 21.07.1940.

Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Letter 50c.,
Air mail 50c.
Franked at the correct rate
of a single air stamp 1L.

Censorship marking

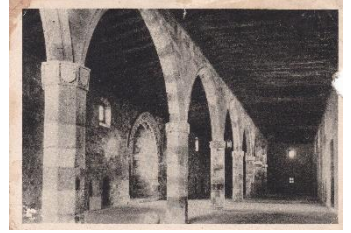
Group A/2 lilac

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group A/n° Verificato per censura (...) followed by a number.

19.04.1941

29%



Knights' hospital

PPC from Concentration Camp (Campo di Concentramento) on 19.04.1941 to Rhodes Town.

Domestic rate: 1940-1943
PPC within the district 20c.
Franked at the correct rate of 20c. stamp (type Pittorica).

Censorship marking

Group A/4 Lilac

01.10.1941

Postage free cover from
(Concentration camp San Giovanni)
To Geneva. The sender was a
Jewish prisoner.

Cancelled with the air pmk
Cds **POSTA AEREA *RODI(EGEO) *1.10.41**

The military camp
CAMPO DEI NAUFRAGHI
was in service until 1942.
It was established by the
Jewish survivors of the Bulgarian
ship wreck "Pentcho" in 25/10/40.
It is said that the ship was
deliberately thrown onto the
rocks of "Camiloni" islet close
to Casos Island. For them a
2-line handstamp was used
INTERNATI CIVILI DI GUERRA /
FRANCHIGIA POSTALE.



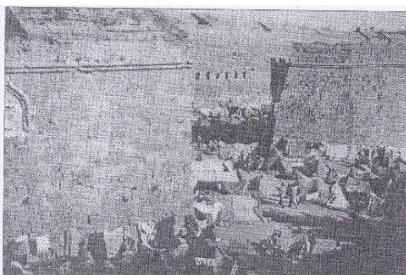
Censorship marking

Group A/5 Lilac

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

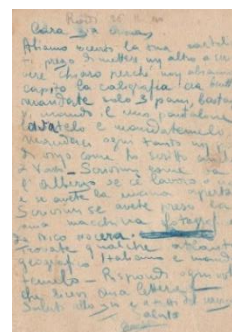
Group A/n° Verificato per censura (...) followed by a number.

PS card to Rhodes town. from
Campo Concentramento Ellenico
(Hellenic Concentration Camp)



26.11.1940

33%



(The photo is from N. Nikolaou
"The chronical of Rhodes Town"
edition 1998).

In this camp there were about
300 people of Greek origin
called "Stranieri" in Italian.

The postman was also a prisoner
(Azariades, from Lindos) who was
appointed for the handling and
delivery of mail and the censorship
was done at the civil P.O.
of Rhodes-Town. Their mails
were not postage free.

Sender's name is Ger. Zisimatos
(Prisoner) one of
first men who dealt with the
postal history of Rhodes.



Domestic rate: 1940-1943

Franked with correct rate of a overprinted 30c.
stamp (type Vittorio Emanuele).



Censorship marking

Group A/6 Lilac

08.05.1941



Propaganda Postcard writing
VINCERE-DUCE WIN-DUCE
from Rhodes
Cds **RODI * EGEO * -8.5.41XIX**
Arrival pmk in Bari on 14.5.1941.

33%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943
PC within the district 20c.
Franked at the correct rate
of 20c. stamp (type Pittorica).

Censorship marking

Group A/7 Black.

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group A/D **Verificato per censura (...)** followed by the letter "D". Found in use from 1940 to 1942.

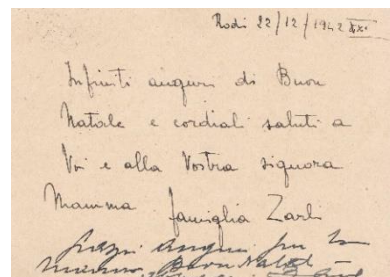
24.12.1942



Postal Stationery Card from Rhodes
Cds **DIREZ. SERVIZI POSTALI ED ELETTRICI DELL'EGEO**
-- **RODI 24.12.42 XXI**
Destination Trieste.

Sender was the director of the Central P.O of Rhodes
Dante Zarli.

35%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Post card 30c.
Correct printed stamp of 30c.

Censorship marking

Group A/D (1st type "Censura" with capital letter in lilac).

05.01.1941

Air mail cover from Rhodes on 05.01 1941 to Roma, arrival mark on reverse on 10.01.1941.

Domestic rate:
(Period 1.7.1940-9.9.1943)
Letter 50c, Air mail 50c.

Franked with correct rate of 50c. stamp (type Pittorica) and 50c. (type Airpost)
Total rate 1L.



Censorship marking

Group A/D (2nd type **censura** with small letter lilac).
Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per Censura**.

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group D 28mm metallic double circle handstamp. Text reading **UFFICIO CENSURA * RODI (EGEO)** with the Royal badge in the center. Regularly found in black Chinese ink, rarely in lilac color.



15.07.1942

Cover from Leros island
cds **RR.POSTE ITALIANE**
LERO (EGEO) 15.7.42.
To Rhodes.

Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Letter 50c.
franked at the correct rate
of a 20c. and a 30c. stamps
(Type Pittorica).

Censorship marking

Group D.

Group G 73x50mm boxed metallic dated markings. Found in pairs

Ga PRELEVATA PER LA CENSURA – receipt of the item to be censored

Gb RESTITUITA ALLE POSTE PER L'INOLTRO – To be returned to the Postal Service

Group P The sender's obligation was to give his identity to the P.O., where a boxed handstamp was applied on the item's reverse side to be filled.

19.07.1942

Espresso cover from Rhodes
Cds **POSTA AEREA ***
*** RODI (EGEO) 19.7.42.**
Arrival pmk on reverse in
Berlin on 22.07.1942

38%



International rate: 1940-1943
Letter 1.25L., Espresso 2,50L.

Censorship marking

Group G & P

*Group G & P are always canceled
on reverse of the cover.*



2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group B 15 mm circle with the capital letter "C" and number. It appeared at the end of 1942.

08.01.1942



Register air mail and Insurance cover from Rhodes cds **POSTA AERA RODI (EGEO)** -8.1.42

Arrival pmk on Reverse in Trieste on 15.01.1942.

20%



Domestic rate:
1940-1943
Letter 50c.,
2nd weight 50c.
Registration 1,25L
Insurance (300L.) 1,50L.
Air mail 50c.
Franked at the correct rate
strip of four
on reverse
vertical pair of 50c.
& a single of 1,25L.
Stamps
(All, type Pittorica).
(Total rate 4,25L.)

Censorship markings

1. **Group B/1**
2. **Group D**
3. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per Censura**.

20.08.1942

Air mail cover from Rhodes
Cds **POSTA AERA
RODI (EGEO)*20.8.42**

Arrival pmk on reverse
In Messereola (Naples)
on 26.08.1942

26%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Letter 50c., Air mail 50c.
Franked at the correct
Rate of 50c. Italian stamp
(type Vittorio Emanuele)
And 50c. Italian air stamp
(Total rate 1L.)



Censorship markings

1. **Group B/2**
2. **Group G** Reverse pair of metallic dated marks
Ga. handstamp for the receipt of the item **PRELEVATA PER CENSURA 21.AGO.1942**
Gb. for return to the P.O. **RESTITUITA ALLE POSTE PER L'INOLTRO 21.AGO.1942**.

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group B 15 mm circle with the capital letter "C" and number. It appeared at the end of 1942.

14.11.1944



Postage-free municipal document from the village Afando cancelled with the official violet mark **MUNICIPIO DI AFANDO*RODI (Egeo)**.

Arrival pmk in Rhodes
Cds **RODI*EGEO*14.11.44**
(PERIOD III: 1943 -1945
Italian-German occupation).

Censorship marking

Group B/3 Black

20.03.1943

Commercial air mail cover
From Rhodes
Cds **POSTA AEREA**
***RODI (EGEO)*20.3.43.**

Arrival in
Frankfurt (Germany)

28%



International rate:
(1939-1943)
R.D. 28.2.1935 - n° 185
Letter 1,25L.
Air mail 1L.
Franked at the correct rate
pair of 20c. single 10c., 50c.
and 1,25L. stamps
(all, type Pittorica).
(Total rate 2,25L.).



- Group B/4** Black
- Group D** Circle handstamp **UFFICIO CENSURA RODI (EGEO)**.
- Group G** Reverse pair of metallic dated marks
Ga handstamp for the receipt of the item **PRELEVATA PER CENSURA 20.MAR.1943**
Gb for return to the P.O. **RESTITUITA ALLE POSTE PER L'INOLTRO 21.MAR.1943**.
- Group P** The sender is obligation was to give his identity to the P.O., where a boxed handstamp was applied on the item's reverse side to be filled.
- Sealed with two censor tapes, one time in Rhodes printed **Verificato per Censura**. and one in Germany.

Censorship markings

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group B 15 mm circle with the capital letter "C" and number. It appeared at the end of 1942.

19.02.1943



Register air mail cover from Rhodes on 19.02.1943 to the village Balıkesir (Turkey) on 08.03.1943 via Sofia (Bulgaria) on 02.03.1943 and via Istanbul on 05.03.1943.

34%



International rate: 1940-1943
Letter 1,25L.,
Registration 1,50L.
Special tariff for countries like Bulgaria 1L.
Franked at the correct rate of a pair of 1,75L and a single of 25c.
Italian stamps (type Imperial).
(Total rate 3,75L.).

1. **Group B/5** Black
2. **Group D** Circle handstamp **UFFICIO CENSURA RODI (EGEO)**.
3. **Group P** The sender's obligation was to give his identity to the P.O., where a boxed handstamp was applied on the item's reverse side to be filled.
4. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per censura**.

Censorship markings

Air mail espresso cover from Cos island
Cds **COO*EGEO*26.10.42XXI**.
to Athens on 28.10.1942

30%



International rate: 1940-1943
Letter 1,25L., Espresso 2,50L.
Air mail 1L.
Franked at the correct rate
Of a pair 50c. single 25c.
Italian stamps
single 1L. air stamp
and vertical pair of 1,25L.
Italian espresso stamps.
(Total rate 4,75L.).

26.10.1942



1. **Group B/6** Lilac
2. **Group P** The sender's obligation was to give his identity to the P.O., where a boxed handstamp was applied on the item's reverse side to be filled.
3. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per censura**.

Censorship markings

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group B 15 mm circle with the capital letter "C" and number. It appeared at the end of 1942.

16.03.1943



Air mail cover from Kalymnos
Cds **CALINO*EGEO*16.3.43**
to Paros island (Cyclades).

33%



Domestic rate: (1940-1943)

R.D. 23.5.1940 – n° 759

Letter 50c.,

Registration 1,25L.

Air mail 1L.

Franked at the correct rate of a pair 1L., a single 50c. air stamps and a single 25c. stamp (Type Pittorica). Total rate 2,75L. The transport was by seaplane.

1. **Group B/7** Black

2. **Group P** The sender's obligation was to give his identity to the P.O., where a boxed handstamp was applied on the item's reverse side to be filled.

3. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per Censura**.

Censorship markings

18.08.1943

Air mail cover from Rhodes
Cds

POSTA AEREA*RODI*(EGEO)18.8.43

Arrival pmk on reverse
in Rieti Rivodutri (Italy)
on 27.08.1943

40%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943

Letter 50c., Air mail 50c.

Franked with vertical pair of 50c.
Italian stamps. (Total rate L.).



Censorship markings

1. **Group B/8** Lilac

2. **Group G** Reverse pair of metallic dated marks

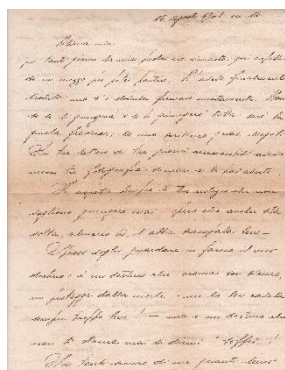
Ga handstamp for the receipt of the item **PRELEVATA PER CENSURA 18.AGO.1943**

Gb for return to the P.O. **RESTITUITA ALLE POSTE PER L'INOLTRO 18.AGO.1943**.

3. Military censor mark **CENSURA MILITARE**. The sender was military.

4. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per Censura**.

The letter was found inside the folder.



2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group B 15 mm circle with the capital letter "C" and number. It appeared at the end of 1942.

26.09.1942



Air mail cover from Rhodes
Cds **POSTA AEREA*RODI**
(EGEO)26.9.42
to Roma.

34%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Letter 50c., Air mail 50c.
Franked at the correct rate
with 1L. Italian air stamp.

Censorship markings

1. **Group B/10** Black
2. **Group G** Reverse, pair of metallic dated marks
 - Ga** handstamp for the receipt of the item **PRELEVATA PER CENSURA 26.SET.1942**
 - Gb** for return to the P.O. **RESTITUITA ALLE POSTE PER L'INOLTRO 26.SET.1942.**
3. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per censura**



Informative document of Rhodes Tax Office cancelled with the black censor mark, **Group B/14** Black

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group C 48 x 20mm boxed capital letter "C" and number. Known numbers 1 to 6, always in lilac.
Used in 1940 - 1941 on mail from Rhodes.

07.05.1941



Air mail cover from a camp of Rhodes
Cds **RODI * (EGEO) * -7.5.41.**
Destination Roma.

40%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Letter 50c., Air mail 50c.
Franked at the correct postage
of 50c stamp (type Pittorica)
and 50c. air stamp (Total rate 1L.).

Censorship markings

1. **Group C/1** 2. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per censura**.

04.03.1941

Air cover from Rhodes
cgs **RODI*(EGEO)*-4.3.41**
Arrival pmk on reverse
In Naples on 16.03.1941

23%



Domestic rate:
1940-1943
Letter 50c., Air mail 50c.
Franked at the
correct postage
of a vertical pair
of 50c stamps
(type Pittorica)
(Total rate 1L.).



Censorship markings

1. **Group C/2** 2. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per censura**

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group C 48 x 20mm boxed capital letter "C" and number. Known numbers 1 to 6, always in lilac.
Used in 1940 - 1941 on mail from Rhodes.

10.07.1941



Air mail cover from Nisyros
Cds **NISIRO*** (EGEO) 10.7.41,
pmk of Period II and
was the **last postmark type**
of the Italian Era.
Arrival mark on reverse
in U.S.A on 22.7.1941.

International rate to America:
Period 1939-1943)
Letter 1.²⁵ L, Air mail 2.⁵⁰ L

Franked with a horizontal strip
of 3 x 1,25 Lire
stamps (type Pittorica).
Correct postage.
(Total rate 3,75L.).

Censorship markings

1. Group **C/3**
2. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per Censura**.

Air mail cover from island Cos
cds **COO***(EGEO) 27.7.41
Arrival pmk on reverse
in Athens on 03.08.1941

33%



International rate:
1940-1941
Letter 1,25L., Air mail 1L.
Franked at the correct rate
a horizontal pair of 50c.
and a single of 1,25L.
stamps (type Pittorica).
Total rate 2,25L.

27.07.1941



Censorship markings

1. Group **C/4**
2. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per Censura**.

2.1 Civilian Correspondence Censorship

Group C 48 x 20mm boxed capital letter "C" and number. Known numbers 1 to 6, always in lilac.
Used in 1940 - 1941 on mail from Rhodes.



Postage free cover from (Concentration camp San Giovanni) which was in service until 1942. It was established by the Jewish survivors of the Bulgarian ship wreck "Pentcho" in 25/10/40. It is said that the ship was deliberately thrown onto the rocks of "Camiloni" islet close to Casos Island. For them a 2-line handstamp was used like a censor mark **INTERNATI CIVILI DI GUERRA FRANCHIGIA POSTALE.**

29%



Arrival pmk on reverse to in Grado Trieste (Italy) on 21.04.1941

Censorship marking

Group C/5

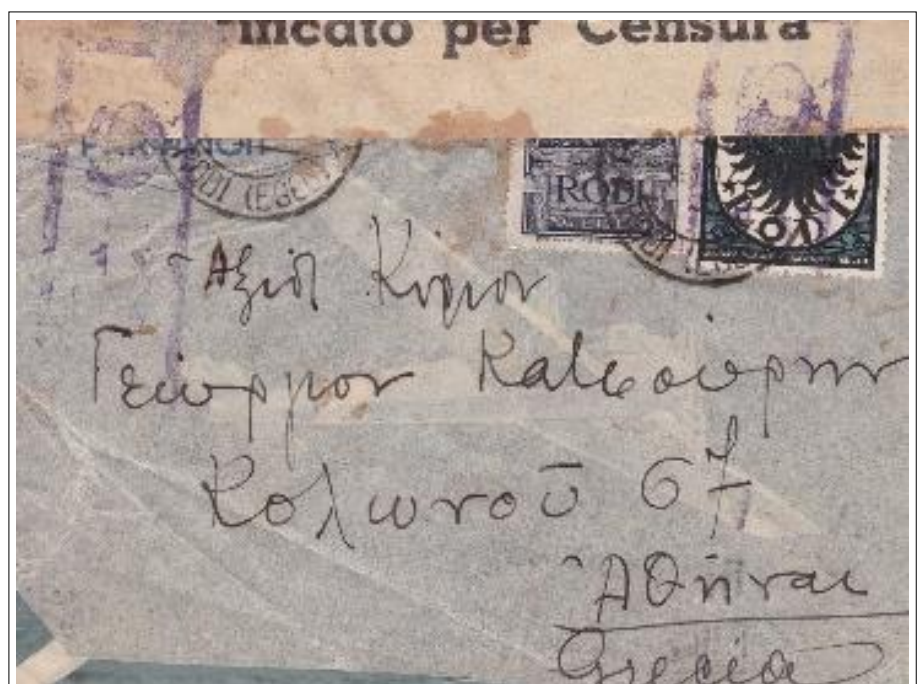
Air mail cover from Rhodes
cds **POSTA AEREA RODI**
***(EGEO)*-4.10.40.**
arrival pmk on reverse
in Athens on 08.10.1940

04.10.1940

45%



International rate: 1940-1943
Letter 1,25L., Air mail 1L.
Franked at the correct rate of
a 1,25L. stamp (Type Pittorica)
and a 1L. air stamp.
(Total rate 2,25L.).



Censorship markings

- Group C/6**
- Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per censura.**

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550

Group M Various rubber handstamps with or without date block, quickly deformed by the use of Chinese ink. Appeared from 1942 onwards on military mail.

24.05.1943



Register air mail cover from M.P.O. 550

Cds **POSTA MILITARE N° 550 24.5.43 XXI**.
Arrival military pmk on reverse in Udine on 28.05.1943.

41%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943

Letter 50c., Registration 1,25L.

Air mail 50c. Franked at the correct rate of 4 x 50c. Italian air stamps and a single 25c. stamp (type Imperial).

Total rate 2,25L.

Registration 1-line mark P.M.550 on label n° 2825.

Censorship markings

- Group M/a.a** 37 mm circular rubber censor mark **COMMISSIONE CENSURA POSTALE MILITARE 550**
- Military censor n° (12) (Various numbers in parenthesis was found on military mail in Dodecanese).
- Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato per censura**.

10.05.1943

Propaganda PC from PM 550 on 10.05.1943 to Pavia.

30%



Domestic rate: 1940-1943

Letter 50c., Air mail 50c.

Franked with two 50c.

Italian stamps (type Imperial).

Total rate 1L.

Censorship markings



- Group M/a.b** 32 mm circular rubber censor mark on lilac **COMMISSIONE CENSURA POSTALE MILITARE 550**
- Group M/c.a** Two-line rubber mark on lilac **Verificato / per censura** (small letters)
- Group F/1** (Rectangular with various numbers in parenthesis belong to P.M.550).

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550



12.11.1942

Postage free military card
from Rhodes M.P.O.550
Cds **POSTA MILITARE N^{RO} 550**
12.11.42-XXI.
To Bologna.

35%

11-12-56-XX
ad 5000000

Caro Alberto

oggi come presidente mi è venuto
molto forte da lettere in fatto che avessero parlato
il loro caso venuto in ritardo, potrei da data
14-10-56 per favore di altre del 3 e 7, dunque non
venute tutte in ordine mi è quanto pure un telegram
ma che dice (copiati) mi ha scritto pure Cesare
Bonzaninchi. Dovrei in risposta più a lungo e ti
risponderò alla prima tua data. Ho il vostro caso
al Dipartimento come finito, ed ascato una allega
mentale della prima da te che mi perviene a me.
Se hanno a te e a me tutti i più il tuo

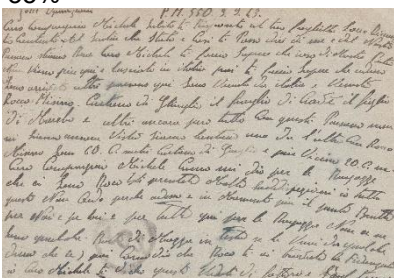
Censorship markings

- Group M/b.a** Rubber circle dated censor mark with **A** at the Bottom, belonging to Dodecanese **PRELEVATA PER LA CENSURA ***A IL/GIORNO/15 NOV 1942XX** To be censored **M/b.b** on the reverse side **RESTITUITA ALLE POSTE PER L'INOLTRO *A IL/GIORNO/15.NOV 1942XX**. To be returned to the Postal Service. *These two censor marks M/b.a and M/b.b are found in pairs.*
- Rectangular with a number in the center **17** (Various numbers were found on military mail in Dodecanese).
- Civilian one-line mark **Verificato per censura.**

04.09.1943

Postage free military card
from Rhodes M.P.O.550
Cds
POSTA MILITARE N^{RO} 550 -4.9.43 XX.
to Udine

35%



Censorship markings

1. **Group M/a.a** 37 mm circular rubber censor mark **COMMISSIONE CENSURA POSTALE MILITARE 550.**
2. **Group M/c.b** Two-line rubber mark on black **Verificato / per censura** (big letters)
3. Military censor number **(6)** (*Various numbers in parenthesis were found on military mail in Dodecanese*).

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550

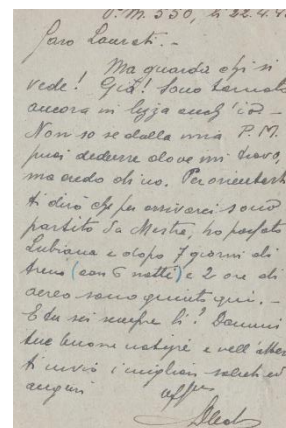
Group R Boxed metallic dated handstamps on pair **R/a**: handstamp for the receipt of the item.
R/b: for return to the M.P.O.

23.04.1943



Postage-free military card from Rhodes M.P.O.
 cds **SERV.VOLANTE N.1-POSTA MILITARE N.550 23.4.43XXI.**
 to another military unit.

36%



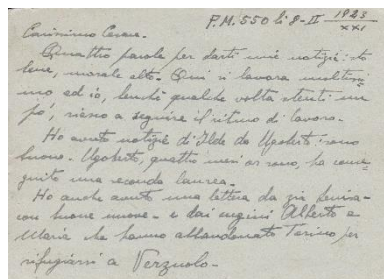
Censorship markings

- Group R/a.a** PRELEVATA IL / 26 APR 1943 / CENSURA P.M.550 - To be censored
R/b.a RESTITUITA IL / 30 APR 1943 / CENSURA P.M.550 - To be returned to the Postal Service.
 These two censor marks **R/a** and **R/b** are found in pairs.
- Group F/10** (Rectangular with various numbers in parenthesis belong to P.M.550).

23.02.1943

Postage-free military card from Rhodes M.P.O.
 cds **SERV.VOLANTE N.2-POSTA MILITARE N.550 23.2.43XXI.**
 to another military unit.

35%



Censorship markings

- Group R/a.b** PRELEVATA / 11 FEB 1943 / PER LA CENSURA - To be censored
R/b.b RESTITUITA IL / 11 FEB 1943 / ALLA POSTA - To be returned to the Postal Service.
- Group F/14** (Rectangular with various numbers in parenthesis belong to P.M.550).
- Group M/a.a** and **Group M/c.a.**

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550

Group R Boxed metallic dated handstamps on pair **R/a**: handstamp for the receipt of the item.
R/b: for return to the M.P.O.

12.02.1943



Postage-free propaganda military card from Rhodes M.P.O. cds **POSTA MILITARE N. 550 12.2.43XXI** Addressed to a military unit.

32%



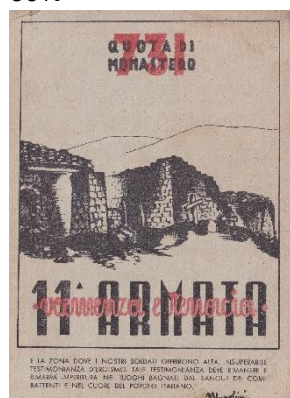
Censorship mark

1. **Group R/c** **PRELEVATA / 14 FEB 1943 / PER LA CENSURA** - To be censored
(This type of card was censored with a single mark not in pair).

25.02.1943

Postage-free propaganda military card from Rhodes M.P.O. cds **POSTA MILITARE N. 550 25.2.43XXI** Addressed to a military unit.

36%



Censorship mark

1. **Group R/d** **PRELEVATO / 27 FEB 1943 / PER LA CENSURA** – after the completion of censorship
(This type of card was censored with a single mark not in pair).

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550

Censor mark **LIBERO CORSO** which means “free transmission” concerned people who were above suspicion and were not censored. This censorship mark has two variations Type 1, Type2.

12.11.1942



Official air mail cover from Information Bureau of Supreme court from Rhodes

Cds DIREZ. SERVIZI POSTALI ED ELETTRICI DELL' EGEO - RODI 12.11.42 XXI.

Arrival pmk on reverse in Florence on 14.11.1942.

Domestic rate: 1940-1943
Letter 50c., Air mail 50c.
Franked at the correct rate of a 20c., 30c. and a 50c. air stamp
Italian stamps.

Censorship mark on violet **LIBERO CORSO** (Type 1 Bold letters).

22.09.1942

Register commercial
Air mail espresso cover from Rhodes
cbs POSTA AEREA *
RODI (EGEO) * 22.9.42.
Arrival pmk on reverse
In Milano on 24.09.1942.

Domestic rate: 1940-1942
Letter 50c.,
Registration 1,25L.
Espresso mail 1,25L.
Air mail 50c.
Franked at the correct rate of a 1,75L. Italian stamp 1,25L. Espresso stamp, 50c. Air stamp.
Total rate 3,50L.

Propaganda marking
VINCERE which means “WE WIN”.

Registration 1-line marking
RODI (EGEO) on label n°4693



Censorship mark on black **LIBERO CORSO** (Type 2, Fine letters).

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550

Group F Various rubber handstamps, rectangular with a number in parenthesis in the center.

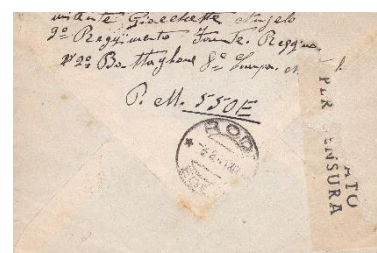
Each censor had his own censorship numbers which did not reveal his name for obvious reasons.

31.07.1941



Military cover from M.P.O 550
Mute cds **31.LUG.41.**
to another military unit
via civilian P.O. on 02.08.1941

34%



Domestic rate: 1940-1942
Letter 50c.
Franked at the correct rate
of 50c. stamp (type Pittorica).

Censorship markings

1. **Group F/2**
2. Sealed with censor tape printed **VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA**.

20.06.1941

Military cover from M.P.O 550
cds **POSTA MILITARE**
NRO 550 20-6.41XIX
to another military unit in Roma

34%



Domestic rate: 1940-1942
Letter 50c.
Franked at the correct rate
of 10c. and two 20c. stamps
(type Pittorica).



Censorship markings

1. **Group F/5**
2. Sealed with censor tape printed **VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA**.

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550

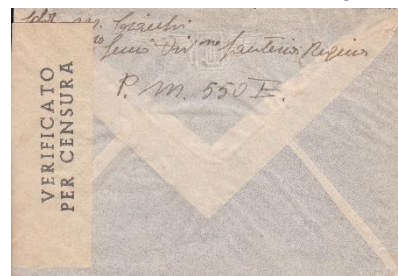
Group F Various rubber handstamps, rectangular with a number in parenthesis in the center.

01.05.1941



Military cover from M.P.O 550
Mute cds -1.5.41.
to Florence

37%



Domestic rate: 1940-1942
Letter 50c.
Franked at the correct stamps
of 10c. and two 20c.
(type Pittorica).

Censorship markings

1. **Group F/6**
2. Sealed with censor tape printed VERIFICATO / PER CENSURA.

08.01.1941

Military cover from M.P.O 550
Mute cds -8.1.41.
to Parma

34%



Domestic rate: 1940-1942
Letter 50c.
Franked at the correct stamp
of 50c. (type Pittorica).



Censorship markings

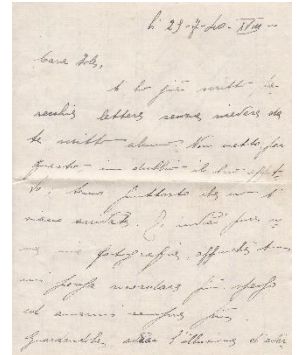
1. **Group F/7**
2. Sealed with censor tape printed Verificato / per Censura.

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.1 Censorship markings by the Military Post Office of Rhodes P.M.550

Group F Various rubber handstamps, rectangular with a number in parenthesis in the center.

06.08.1940



The letter was found inside the folder.
The sender was a soldier from a camp in Kalymnos.
The cover reached its destination with the civil P.O.

Arrival mark on reverse in S. Secondo (Parma) on 11.8.1942

Domestic rate:
Period 1940-1943
Letter 50c.

Censorship markings

1. **Group F/8** on arrival by the M.P.O 550 of Rhodes.
2. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato / per Censura**.

28.10.1940

Military cover from M.P.O 550
Mute cds **28.10.40**.

Arrival pmk on reverse
In Florence on 06.11.1940

36%



Domestic rate: 1940-1942
Letter 50c.

Franked at the correct stamps
of two 25c. (type Pittorica).



Censorship markings

1. **Group F/11**.
2. Sealed with censor tape printed **Verificato / per Censura**.

2.2 Military Correspondence Censorship

2.2.2 Censorship marking on military mail in the Dodecanese.

Common double circle military handstamp 37mm for all Dodecanese. Text reading **CENSURA MILITARE** in the belt around the Royal badge. Although purely military, it is often found on civilian mail, too.

12.04.1943



Military cover from Kalymnos
Cds **CALINO * EGEO * 12.4.43**
arrival pmk on reverse in Athens
on 20.04.1943.



International rate: 1939-1943
Letter 1,25L. Air mail 1,50L.
Franked at the correct rate
of 3 x 50c. air stamps and a
single 1,25L stamp (type Pittorica)
Total rate 2,75L.

Censorship markings

1. Military handstamp **CENSURA MILITARE** found in the island Kalymnos
2. A selection of civilian censorship markings.

05.05.1943

Commercial military
Cover from
Rhodes
Cds **POSTA AEREA**
*** RODI (EGEO)**
-5.5.43
Arrival pmk on
Reverse in Roma
07.05.1943

Domestic rate:
1940-1943
Letter 50c.,
Registration 1,25L.,
Espresso 1,25L.,
Air mail 50c.
Franked at the
correct rate of 80c.
and 1L. air stamps,
1,25 espresso stamp
50c. Imperial stamp
Total rate 3,55L.



Censorship marking

1. Military handstamp **CENSURA MILITARE** from Rhodes.