

Finmark postal history up to 1945

World war II 1940-1945

Norwegian forces in Finmark

After the liberation of Eastern Finmark in winter 1944-45, the Americans pledged 10 Douglas C-45 transporters to the Norwegian Government's disposal under the command of Colonel Bernt Balchen. The American Air Transport Command was based in Kallax, near Luleå in Sweden. An air transport was set up between Kallax and Kirkenes from January to May 1945



Field post letter from Norwegian soldier in no. 2, Mountain Coy, Norwegian Forces, A.P.O. 7140 (the military address for the Norw. Forces under the transport to Murmansk and Finmark in November 1944), dated "Finmark February 22nd 1945" (inside) and self-censored in the field with the British shield handstamp "Passed by Censor, no. 11347" (brought by the Brig. company to Finmark); sent with the American Air Transport from Kirkenes to Kallax in Sweden (Operation Balchen); via the Swedish inland routes to Stockholm; here franked (2 x 10 øre) at the Norw. Legation and cancelled at "Postcentralen" "STOCKHOLM A 11 20-3-1945" and forwarded to a sergeant in the Norwegian Brig. in Scotland; sent via the Swedish route to London and here censored with British censor strip "P.C. 90" (type 2) (for foreign mail) and stamped "Norwegian Army, Field Post Office 7 - Apr, 1945" on arrival