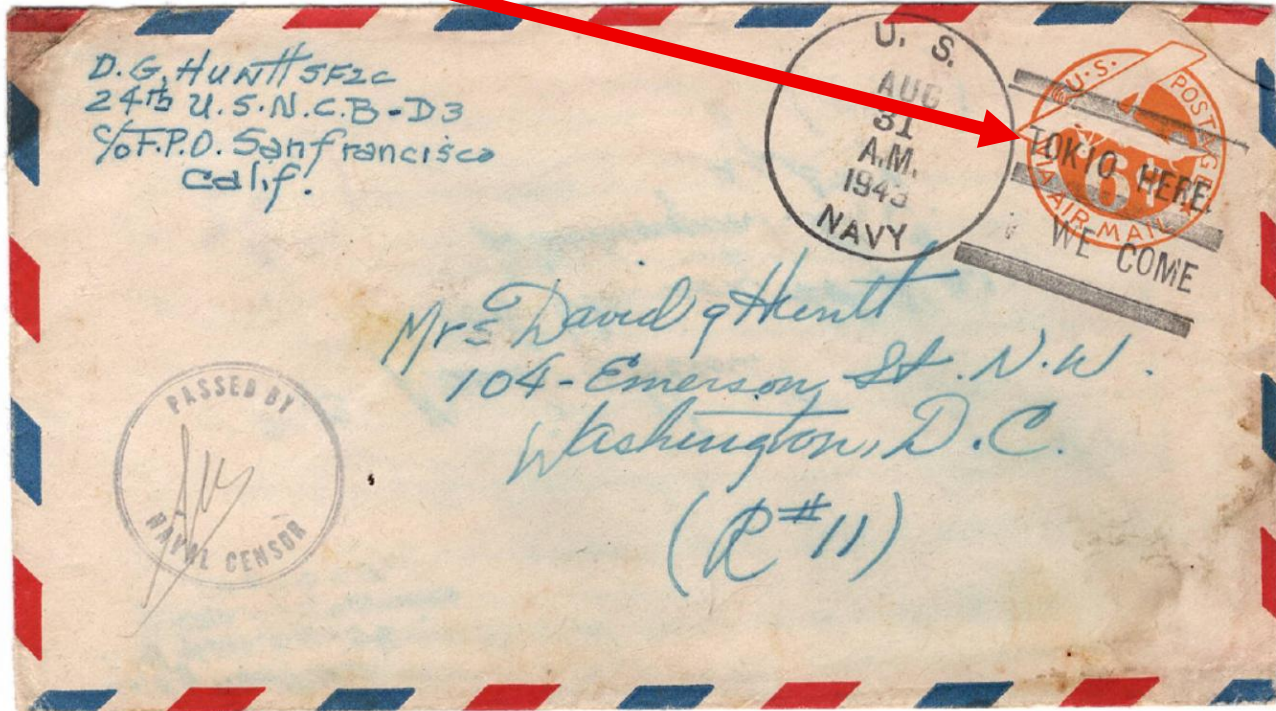


Error or Not??

By Rick Cohen

A recently discovered cover caught my attention. It was NOT the censor, nor the addressee or sender. It was NOT the envelope or the embossed postage. It was the unique cancellation, especially the spelling of "TOKIO."



I have never seen this unique spelling before so I did a little research and found this explanation:

AI Summary

To understand the difference between "Tokyo" and "Tokio," consider the following points:

- "Tokyo" is the English name for Japan's capital city.
- "Tokio" is the Spanish and German spelling of the same city.
- Both refer to the same location but are used in different languages.
- "Tokyo" is derived from Japanese, meaning "Eastern Capital."
- The name reflects the city's historical significance and geographical position.
- Usage of "Tokio" is common in non-English contexts, especially in Europe and Latin America.

[I have a couple of these in my Transport cover collection and I agree they do seem strange.]

Questionable eBay, #44

Just Strange by Francis Ferguson



The listing reads: “*ERROR 1945 WARM SPRINGS GA FIRST DAY COVER WITH DEFECTIVE MACHINE CANCEL*”. Starting bid of \$102.47, with free shipping and no returns are allowed. Because I was following the listing I receive an extra special offer to buy the item for \$51.23. The offer was ignored.

The seller who has been around for more than a

decade and has a high approval score – they are seeing something about this cover I do not. It is a uncacheted FDC with a penciled address.

What attracted my attention to this item was the address. I was “hatched” in Utica – and thankfully escaped. A brief attempt to find anything out about the receiver of the FDC discovered nothing. Oddly enough I know the location of Grant St in Utica, even after a lot of years have passed. Assuming that Miss B. Hatfield was in her early years of life in 1945, that would make her well into her 90s today. I wonder if she is still a collector?

The “defective” machine cancel is just that -- a faulty mess that adds zero value to the cover. Most likely caused by the temporary fold/crease that can be seen on the back of the cover. In my humble opinion it is not worth even a nickel. Cut the stamps off and throw them into the youth pile.

What do you think?