

Naval Cover Fakes, Forgeries and Frauds, Part X

John Young (L-8219)
146 North Lincoln Street
Pearl River, NY 10965-1709
rkhooligan@aol.com

Glenn Dye Covers Continued

Glenn Dye's fourth cover (Figure 1) was a patriotic "Keep 'Em Flying!" cachet with "Free" franking, posted at Cape May Naval Air Station on August 20, 1943 (type 2z* and type 9 cancels.) His penned corner card to Deane Bartley indicates that he was aboard YP 334 assigned to the Naval Air Station. Dye used the same post office to have Navy Day 1943 covers (Figure 2) cancelled. Here, he used a battleship printer's cut which appears on other Dye covers postmarked in CALIFORNIA (GCS #126) and two NEW YORK (not back-stamped). The latter covers have a type 3z cancel that show no thin lines, either above or below the bars. The battleship's 1945 cancel is listed as a type 3z (TTT) cancel. These NEW YORK covers have another Dye unlisted fake cancel.

Cachets by USCS-2254			RCD-328
GCS#	Name	Date	Type
108	PHOENIX	27 OCT 1945	3 (A-BOT)
	Reverse has Fake (P-23) 1945		
111	LANDER (APA 178)	2 MAR 1946	2(n) FDPS name cancel
113	MISSISSIPPI	22 FEB 1946	2(n)
	<i>USCS catalog has notation that type 2(n) cancel has a slightly flattened bottom and side of the dial may be a forgery.</i>		
117	TUSCALOOSA	17 MAR 1946	2(n)
	LDC 13 FEB 1946		POD 1 APR 1946
118	MISSISSIPPI	17 MAR 1946	2(n)
	<i>same as above</i>		
123	SAN FRANCISCO	27 OCT 1945	6
126	CALIFORNIA	27 OCT 1945	3 (A-BTB) NAVY/ DAY
127	CALIFORNIA	14 NOV 1945	CAPE TOWN/ S. AFRICA
136	WILKES-BARRE	6 JAN 1946	2(n)FDPS
142	PRINCETON	18 NOV 1945	Unlisted

(Figure 3)

USCS catalog lists commissioning covers with type 2(n) and type 9ef(nu) cancels.

A cover (Figure 4) has type 9 cancel. Has an error, the N appears to be X in PRINCETON



Figure 1: Deane Bartley sponsored Dye's USCS membership shortly after receiving this cover.



Figure 3: GCS#142 was done sometime after Dye's discharge, using Type 9 cancel with killer bars.

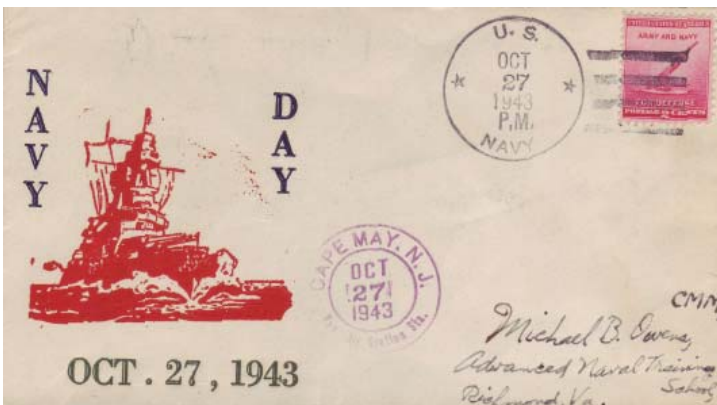


Figure 2: Dye produced 47 Navy Day covers, postmarked at Cape May Air Station.

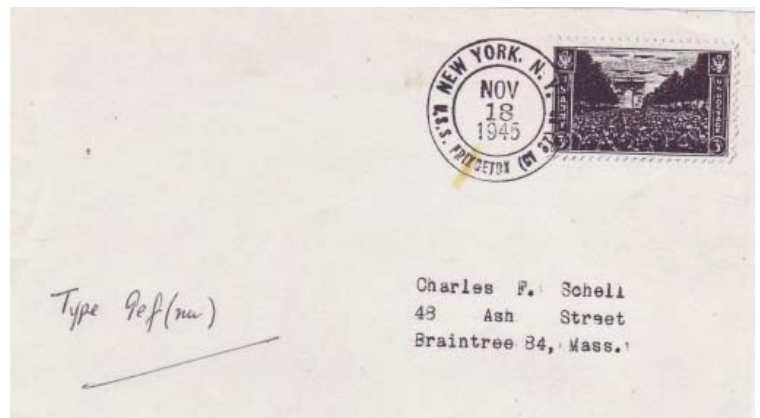


Figure 4: Photocopy of Type 9ef (nu) cancel used on genuine commissioning covers.

In the beginning, Dye back-stamped his cover with a boxed Grey Cover Service (GCS) cachet. It contained dotted lines that recorded Cover No., Covers Issued and its Serial No. Only one problem, his series has no a particular order.

GCS#	Name	Date	Type
145	WILKES-BARRE	14 MAR 1946	2(n) & 9efu Enroute to East Coast- Panama Canal
149	PRINCETON	27 OCT 1946	2(n)
152A	YANCEY (AKA 93)	29 MAR 1946	P (Y-1), 9efu
154	TENNESSEE	4 NOV 1945	Fake (T-38)
156	PRINZ EUGEN	15 MAR 1946	Fake type 3z Cachet by ANCS 2208RCD 328
148	PRINCETON	19 APR 1946	2(n) Nat'l Aviation Day
161	PASSUMPSIC	4 APR 1946	Unlisted (Figure 5)
162	PASSUMPSIC	10 APR 1946	2(n)
167	ST. LOUIS	14 APR 1946	2(n) <i>USCS Catalog mentions covers with cancel after 23 May 1946 are fakes</i>
168	AUGUSTA	18 APR 1946	2(n)
175	PURDY	25 JUL 1946	Fake P (P-86)
176	MISSISSIPPI	10 APR 1946	3 ANCS/ 1935-1946 <i>Notation in USCS catalog this cancel is a fake and other 1946 dates may be fake</i>
177	CALIFORNIA	7 AUG 1946	2(n)
181	NEW YORK	30 JUN 1946	Unlisted (Figure 6) <i>Smartercraft's Operation Crossroads covers has type 3 (A) cancel with wording BIKINI/ ATOLL in killers, dated JUN 30 P.M. 1946 in dial.</i>

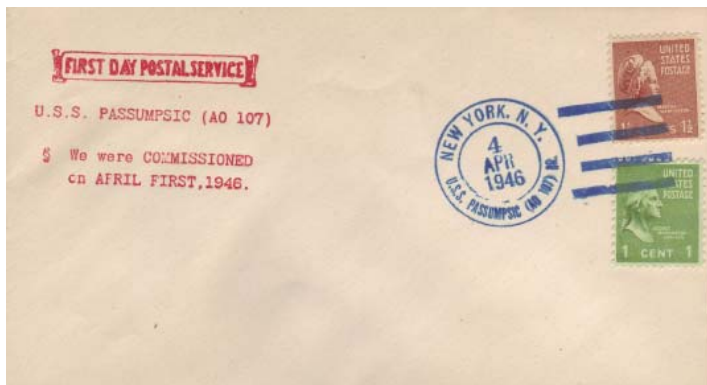


Figure 5: GCS #161 was done by Dye with another Type 9 cancel with killer bars.



Figure 6: GCS #181 documenting battleship's last day of postal service with a fake cancel.

What is interesting about Dye is that after his discharge from the Navy, he immediately renewed his membership in

the ANCS and then placed an advertisement announcing his appointment as cachet director for the Grey Cover Service (*Navigator*, April 1946).

In the same issue, its editor (Harlan Miller) announced receiving several covers from the Grey Cover Service: TENNESSEE 4 NOV 1945 (#154), Crossing the Equator; AUGUSTA 29 MAR 1946, Death of John Tyler; CHANDELEUX 28 MAR 1946, Flag, 16th Fleet and WILKES BARRE 12 MAR 1946 (#145), Arrive Balboa, CZ. ANCS Secretary Selima Quilliams wrote that she received four covers from Glenn Dye, including ROI (CVE 103) commissioning covers (6 JUL 1944).

The couple of issues of the *Navigator* have an advertisement for Grey Cover Service (Dye) selling covers 15 cents each or seven for a dollar. Available are covers from carriers, cruisers and other ships having some connection with the Philadelphia Navy Yard. The list included: LAKE CHAMPLAIN, WILKES BARRE, FARGO, PRINCETON, ARCTIC, ROI, MISSISSIPPI, ex-PRINZ EUGEN, SOLOMONS, SAN FRANCISCO, SOUTH DAKOTA, TUSCALOOSA, YANCEY, CALIFORNIA, TENNESSEE and CLAXTON.

Dye announced his intention to run for the ANCS Presidency which appeared in Marshall Hall's column in *Our Navy* magazine (July 1946). Columns were written at least two months in advance. The next month, Hall acknowledged receipt of several Dye covers: namely known fakes type 3z cancels denoting the return of USS STEWART from Japanese captivity and fake unofficial of first day of the Tennessee stamp (Scott #941) aboard TENNESSEE. A comparison of two covers (Czubay vs. Dye) reveal differences in the date, time group in the dial of both cancels and thinner killer bars in the Dye cover.

A search of the *Navigator* reveals that the Brooklyn Crew met at the home of Mike Sanders (5/18/46) and that Dye was a guest at the meeting. He took the floor and declared himself a candidate for ANCS Presidency. Dye was nominated by the Crew and presented the Brooklyn Crew with a very rare cover (1 of 35) that was put up for auction with the proceeds to be turned over to the crew's treasury. The penalty envelope cover (**Figure 7**) was won by Wesley Dreher for \$2.50. A similar cover brought \$3.50 at a New Haven's USCS Chapter#48 meeting (4/28/46). It mentions that 35 such penalty covers were cancelled on 7 December 1941.

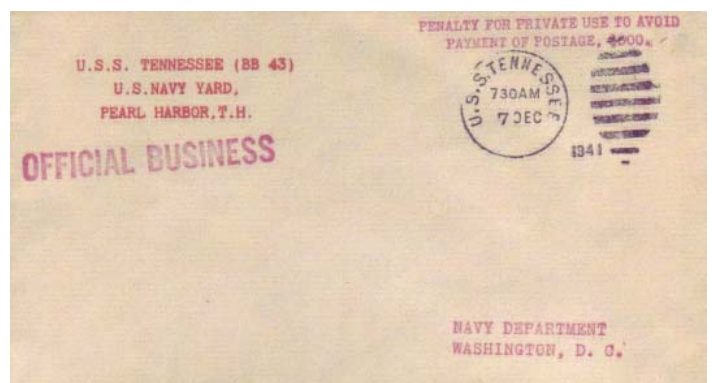


Figure 7: Courtesy of Carl Ganong.

The Type 6 cancel was probably stolen from the battleship while she was at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. She arrived there (12/7/45) after spending decades in the Pacific.

What else is wrong with the cover? It has a three-line corner card denoting Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii. Most pre-war mailing addresses for ships at Pearl were routed via Fleet Post Office, San Francisco or San Diego. Even regular printed penalty envelopes had both locations.

The two-line cachet penalty warning against private use was used by Dye on two other covers: BENNION (DD 662) commissioning cover, type 3z cancel (12/14/43) and LAKE CHAMPLAIN (Figure 8), posted with the carrier's type 2 (n) and type 9 BR #15552 cancels on 4 DEC 1945. The latter has Dye's corner card and carrier's embossed seal.



Figure 8: Dye used the same "penalty" franking that appears on TENNESSEE 7 December 1941 cover.

Another duplicate usage by Dye was the two-line cachet NAVY DEPARTMENT/ WASHINGTON, D.C. appears on a Grey Cover Service cover (Figure 9) documenting the launch of USS YFB 26 (3/17/44) at Cape May, NJ. The reverse has Dye's 4LK/ NAVY DEPARTMENT/ U.S.S. YMS 111/ c/o POSTMASTER/ NEW YORK, N.Y. I wonder who was Helen Ryan?

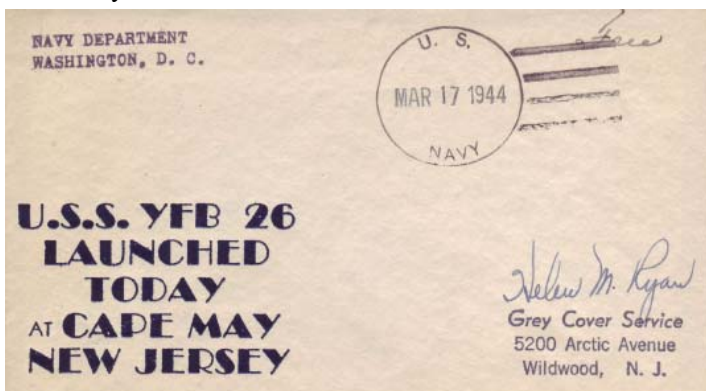


Figure 9: Dye documents launching of a ferry boat or launch (YFB 29) on St. Patrick's Day.

This is the same Motor Minesweeper (YMS) that Dye produced the fake cancel (Y-6) which have been used on covers documenting Independence Day 1944 (GCG #66), launch of destroyer escort CROSS (7/4/44) and D-Day

(6/6/44) aboard the USS YMS 111 (GCS #57). The reverse has markings indicating that Glenn Dye produced the covers.

Dye failed to back-stamp some event covers with his "boxed" identification cachet documenting the launching of BON HOMME RICHARD (4/29/44), RANDOLPH (10/9/44) and FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (4/29/45). What's the difference between Dye covers and other cachet sponsors? Well, Czabay and Mike Sanders are machine canceled because of prohibition set by the Chief of Naval Operations (May 1942). Mail clerks were forbidden to cancel covers for philatelists. Dye's covers lack postage stamps and have variety of "Z" cancels, some known to be fake i.e. LAKE CHAMPLAIN (Dye's last ship).

A cover (Figure 10) documenting the launching of HAYNESWORTH (DD 700) at Kearny, NJ was sent by Glenn Dye (aboard YMS 111) to Ray Milling (aboard YMS 110), posted at Cape May, NJ (4/15/44) with Cape May Naval Frontier Base's type 2z* cancel. The cancel was identified in Dye's own handwriting. The reverse has the Grey Cover Service's corner card and appears to be genuine, as it has free franking with the sender's identity.

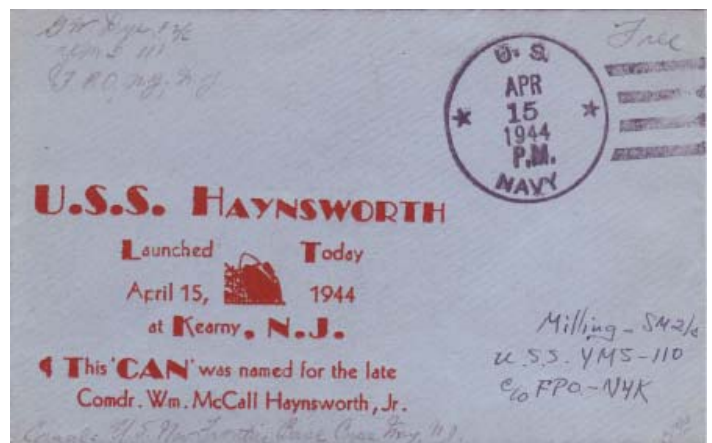


Figure 10: Dye sends destroyer event cover to fellow collector, Ray Milling.

Dick Morain was kind enough to send along scan's of Dye covers in his collection which helped identify missing numbers in the Grey Cover series. Dick informed me that he did some research on the fake PURDY cancel (P-86) used on Dye's Bikini Test covers. Dick found that the destroyer PURDY (DD 734) was undergoing overhaul in the Boston Navy Yard (June- December 1946). The cancel appears to be another type 2 cancel with ship's name in lettering from "Grip-Line" rubber type kit. In fact, the lettering is similar to the letters found in fake cancels of ROI (R-53), SEER (S-92) and FARGO (F-47, F-47a). A cover (Figure 11) that is back-dated (9/9/43) with fake cancel (A-29a) is franked with Italian Social Republic stamps. The stamps were overprinted in 1944.

Another piece of evidence provided by Dick was a copy of Dye's newsletter *The Wagon Wheel* that depicts strikes of Type 2# and Type 9# 15839. It is dated 12 DEC 1946. Dye was trying to compete with John Gill in the numbering of different new type cancels, Type 22 and Type 29 respectively.

Both cancels are from USS PROVIDENCE (CL 82) and are believed to be given to Dye by the cruiser's mail clerk. Cancels were used on Christmas 1946 cachet, sponsored jointly by Grey Cover Service (Dye) and ANCS Cleveland Crew (Selima Quillams). Another interesting observance in Dick's three 1946 Christmas covers is that all three are franked with the same "Win the War" stamp. Dye liked using three-cent stamps. Guess, it legalized the covers!



Figure 11: Dye's attempt to deceive collectors with another fake cancel that is franked with foreign stamps.

After winning the ANCS presidency, Dye got into an argument with Navigator publisher, Harlan Miller over Dye's referring to ANCS members as comrades, rather than mates. Miller quit publishing in December 1946. Then a fancy MOHAWK (M-38) cancel caused a controversy, as whether it came through the mails. Marshall Hall's last column (May 1947) wrote that he received his MOHAWK cancel in the open mail, but later Dye wrote that he co-sponsored the fake cancel. (see Hooligan News, October 2008).

Marshall Hall passed away in April 1947 (Figure 12) and Dye was appointed the Our Navy columnist. His first "Cancel & Cachets" column appeared in July 1947. A reading of his articles reveals that Dye knew many a mail clerk aboard ships in Philadelphia Navy Yard. Just like his father, a Navy Yard electrician during the war- Dye had a "Press Pass" that helped to get access to ship and cancels. Some probably gave him cancels, as the ships were being placed in the 16th Reserve Fleet. Remember cancelling devices came in sets of four. Who would miss a cancel? Even, if one was stolen!

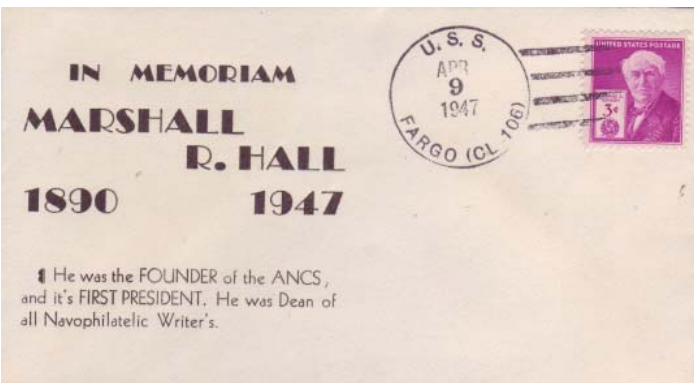


Figure 12: Notice the break in the top of the dial above 'U'. Dye used this stolen/r fake Type 2 cancel (1946-50).

Dye used the Our Navy column to inform readers on cancels and cachets. The monthly column started to educate readers on the "Locy" system of cancel classification. The column (8/47) depicts two cancels- EAGLE ONE (Type 3) and SOLOMONS (Type 2n). One problem! The escort carrier (CVE 67) was decommissioned 15 MAY 1946 and had her post office discontinued 7 MAY 1946.

Dye had a working relationship with many of the mail clerks who were mentioned by name in his column. Many of his holiday (Navy Day and Christmas) covers appear to have genuine cancels, but many have been identified as fakes. One wonders why he did so many. I can't believe it was money! Dye sold them, seven for a dollar or fifteen cents each. His writings denote some jealousy of the rival USCS and their recognition of John Gill's fancy cancel (1945-46). He constantly refers to the cancels as "Boston" products. Whatever the reason, Dye left evidence both in his articles and his advertisement (Figure 13) which appeared on the back page of the Navigator (August 1946). The list includes fake cancels i.e. N-1 NIOBRARA (N-36, N-36a), T-2 TENNESSEE (T-38), M-7 MAURY (M-105) and Y-2 USS YMS 111 (Y-6).

Figure 13: ANCS Navigator page.

If you look at some fake cancels i.e. NIOBRABA, WILLIAMSBURG (W-54), MATTABESSET (M-86) and CGC McCULLOCH (M-88) there's a similarity in the type of lettering used by the maker. Dye mentions the yacht's provisional cancel (W-54) was used to commemorate President Truman's birthday (5/8/46) in his column (May 1948) and Marshall Hall acknowledged receiving the provisional cancel. The next month, Dye discussed the NIOBRARA cancel and its usage at Tokyo Bay and Navy Day - where the location was replaced with ship's classification and number. He provided a copy of the Toyko Bay strike (2 SEP 1945) for the column.

Dye's thermo-printed 1946 Navy Day cachet (**Figure 14**) depicts a destroyer within boxed chain border and King Neptune (upper-right), posted with a remake of HONOLULU 1940 fancy (H-77b) cancel. The original cancel has wording FLAGSHIP- CRUISERS (above) and BATTLEFORCE- U.S. FLEET (below) of the bamboo-type killer bars. Note: HONOLULU had her post office discontinued 1 JUN 1946. Dye used an addressograph machine on covers to his subscribers. Apparently, Tracy Porter was Grey Cover Service subscriber No. 93! Any other Dye cover collectors out there?



Figure 14: One of two printed cachets used by Dye for Navy Day 1946.

As we get deeper into the study of fake cancels, we wonder why anyone would take the time and energy to dupe unsuspected collectors. After the war, both the Navy and Coast Guard started to down-size with ships and personnel. The naval cover collector had just started to get new Type 2(n) cancels with the ship's name - then the ships were being decommissioned or placed in reserve.

Back in 1995, I mentioned Dye in my column "**Hooligan News**" concerning a fancy STORIS (S-67) cancel. Weeks later, I received a penned response from Glenn Dye:

10 JUN 1995

Greetings,

I note you mention of me, which was highly inaccurate, in a recent column. STORIS, the Coastie Cutter was planned to go out on date given by the Navy Mai Clerk, himself.

Since those columns were written two months in advance- we could not take it back afterwards! About the other, you had some officers (USCS) that hated my guts because I got the job in "Our Navy"

*when Marshall Hall died- so they cut my throat!
But, wow, Dye is alive.*

*Sincerely,
Glenn Dye*

Along with the note were several pages of then recent first day covers. It appears that Dye still had one of his fancy cancels-five decades later. He used it on NORMANDY first day cover (6 JUN 1994) with the date 6 JUN 1944 as a cachet. I just obtained a cover (**Figure 15**) that has a cancel on his "free" mail which is unaddressed and has incomplete address in his penned corner card. The same 22 FEB 1945 strike appeared in Dye's March 1948 *Our Navy* column where he said it was used by LCI Flotilla One or LCI (L) 36.



Figure 15: Dye had possession of this Fancy cancel for nearly five decades.

Dye continued to produce covers i.e. first day of issue, historical and naval events into the 1950s. Some covers had other fake cancels including: SHANGRI LA (S-37a), MINDORO (M-31f and M-31g), SAIPAN (S-115) and WRIGHT (W-44d and W-44h). Guess Dye liked carriers! As Bob Rawlins wrote, "...the real problem is determining which cancel is valid and which are bogus." Remember, as a columnist, Dye became friendly with mail clerks and had access to the ships. This could have led to acquisition of old and new cancels.

I wish to thank Dick Morain, Carl Ganong and Ned Harris for sharing Dye covers in their collection. Just as a point of interest, Dick informed me that Glenn Dye was still alive and living in Newark, OH. A name-check on the web reveals an 87-year old Glenn Dye still resides there. Mr. Dye, if you happen to read this column, kindly contact me at the above address. I would gladly write your explanation!

References

USCS Catalog of US Naval Postmarks 5th Ed. 1997

Catalog of US Naval Postmarks 5th Ed. 1997-Reprinted. 550+ pages, illustrated with 18-page addenda updates to 2001. 8½x11, loose leaf. \$31.50 media mail North America, \$55.00 overseas to members, non-members add \$7.50. CD version updated to 2005 - \$30 by First Class or Air Mail, non-members add \$7.50. Send check or money order payable to USCS to Treasurer, PO Box 981, Healdsburg, CA 95448 or via PayPal to Treasurer@USCS.ORG