

TYPE C8 POSTMARKS.

Type C8 Postmarks have so far been reported from the following towns & villages other than LHASA.

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>EARLIEST DATE</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>EARLIEST DATE</u>
CHAMDO	3 ✓	4 3 56	TOBA	✓	17 8 56
	5 ✓	14 8 56	TSOSON	✓	✓ 5 3 56
	8 ✓	4 3 56	TSUNG JONG		22 1 56
	10	4 3 56		1	6 57
CHAYA	1 ✓	✓ 23 5 56		2 ✓	✓ 2 3 56
CHAYU	1 ✓	✓ 26 3 56	TUNG MEH	1 ✓	✓ 8 3 56
CHITAN	✓	18 3 56	YAN WU	✓	8 12 56
DZAMU	3 ✓	30 3 56	YEN TSING		9 4 56
	5	30 3 56		1 ✓	9 4 56
SON HSEIN		14 3 56		2	1 57
	1 ✓	5 56	TUNG PU	✓	28 9 56
	2 ✓	✓ 23 4 56			
LHATO		28 3 56			
KOLUNG	1 ✓	✓ 11 3 56			
	2	28 1 56			
NEIWUTSI	✓	7 5 56			
NING TSIN	1 ✓	✓ 22 8 56			
PAHSU	✓	✓ 7 3 56			
PANGTU	2 ✓	✓ 3 3 56			
SANYEN	✓	✓ 2 11 56			
SHIMTU	✓	16 3 56			
SUJONG	1 ✓	14 1 56			
TAICHI		19 1 56			
	3 ✓	1 56			
TAICHU	1	19 1 56			
	2 ✓	✓ 25 2 56			
TING CHEN	1 ✓	16 3 56			
	2	13 5 57			

TYPE C8

Type C8 is the most widely used of any Chinese postmarks in Tibet. It has a continuous circumference with a diameter of 25 mm and the same central bridge for the date. The inscriptions at top and bottom are the same as in type C6.

Many of the type C8 postmarks have English numbers in the lower arc. For example LHASA has most numbers from 6 to 20, CHAMDO has 3, 5, 8 and 10, and TAICHU 1, 2 and 3.

A Registered cover from LHASA addressed to NEPAL cancelled with the type C8 postmark with number (14) dated 7 SEPT 1958.

Note that the time appears at the left hand end, instead of the more usual right hand end, of the date bridge.

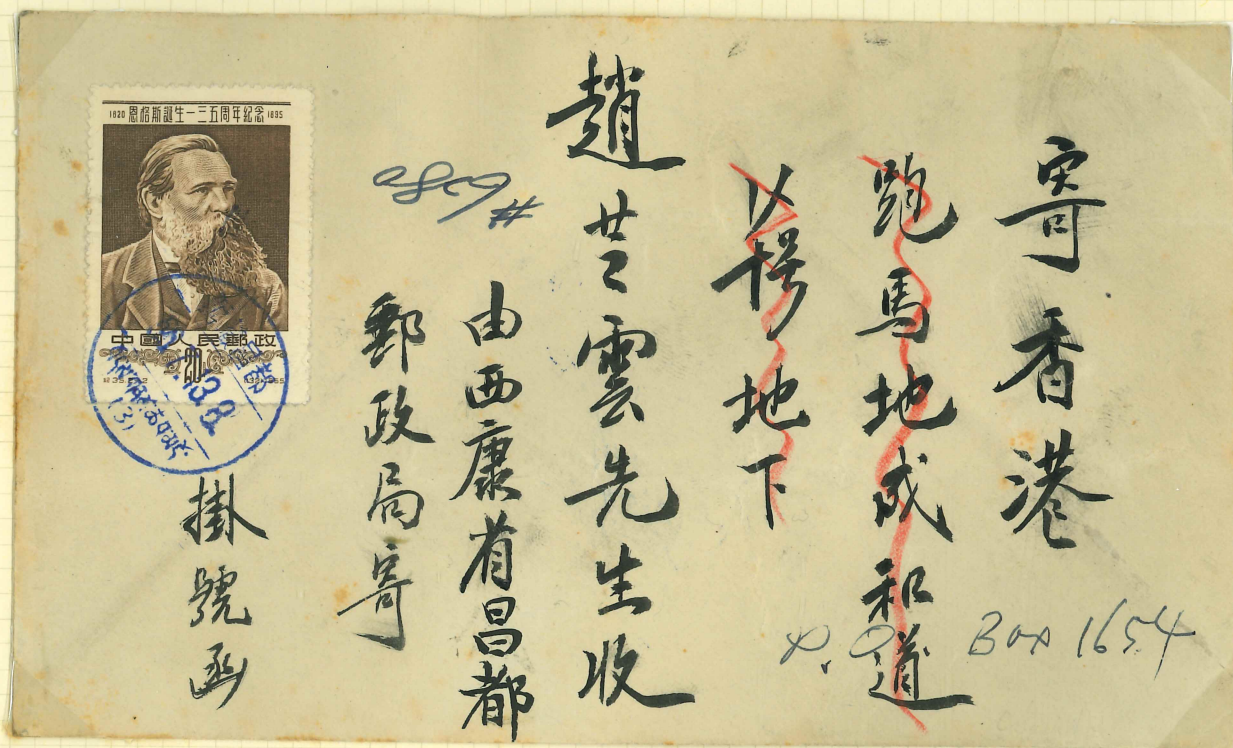
This letter took 14 days to reach NEPAL.



Apost from LHASA type C8 is found used from the town of CHAMDO and about 25 villages. In some cases it is struck in blue or violet.

CHAMDO C-8 blue

A registered letter from CHAMDO addressed to Hong Kong.



This letter is cancelled with the type C8 postmark of CHAMDO, dated 13 JULY 1956, with number (3). There is a transit mark of CANTON dated 30 JULY 1956 on reverse.

The only indication of registration is the manuscript marking "#680" on front and the remains of an acknowledgement of receipt label on reverse.

CHAMDO C-8 VARIETIES

A major junction town in the North East of TIBET where the old Silk Road and new Lorry Route meet. There was also a Chinese Post Office here during the 1910-1912 period.



An interesting cover from CHAMDO cancelled with several different strikes of a type C8 postmark. Four strikes have the number (5) in the bottom arc and the date of 14 OCT 1956 with the time shown as 11. Two further strikes have an indistinguishable number but times of, apparently, 13 and 19. On reverse is a further strike of CHAMDO (5) and also a CHAMDO (8) timed 18.

The CHAMDO type C8 postmark is also known with numbers (3) and (10), the latter usually found as a transit mark on mail from small villages in the area.

CHAYA

CHAYA is a small village on the old silk road about midway between CHAMDO and BATANG. From CHAYA a track branches off to the East to SON HSEIN and on to SANYEN in the Yangtze valley.



This cover from CHAYA is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 23 MAY 1956 and with the time indicated as 17-5 p.m. There is the number (1) in the bottom arc.

There is a similar CHAYA strike on reverse and a transit mark of CHAMDO (type C8 number (10)) with an indistinct date, and a Chinese arrival mark dated 5 JUNE 1956 CHENGDU.

CHITAN

CHITAN is a small village on the new lorry route, about 40 miles South of CHAMDO and half way between CHAMDO and YAN WU where the road turns West towards GTANDIE (TAICHI) and LHASA.

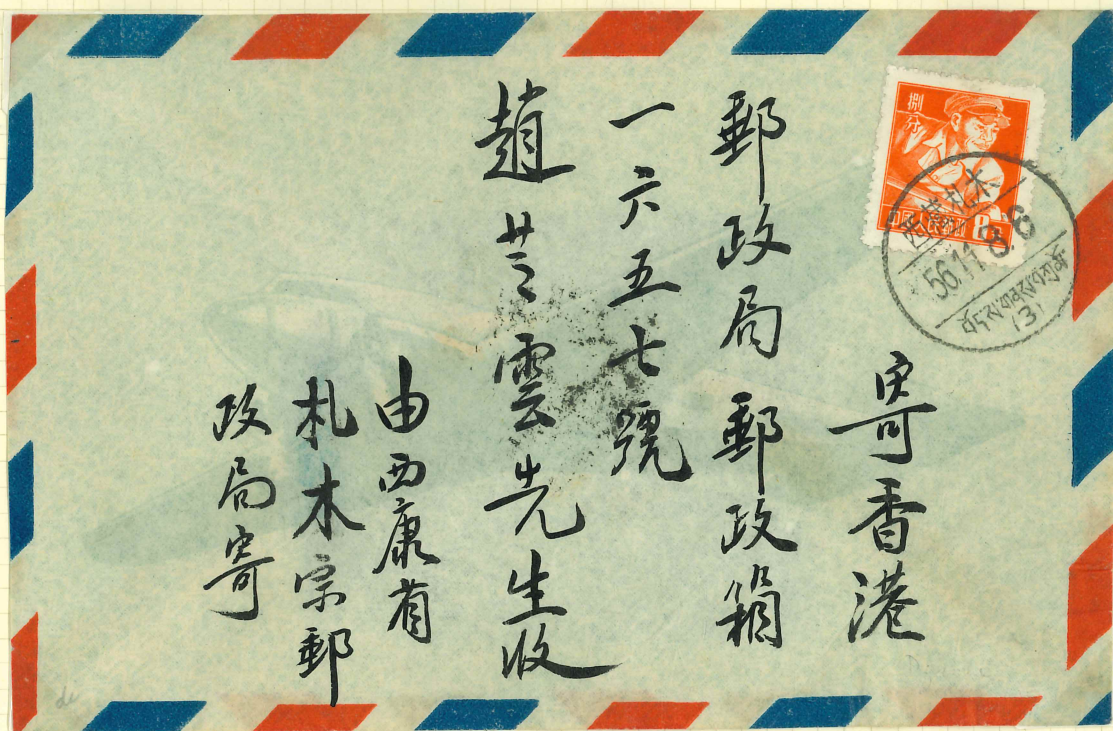


This cover is cancelled with the type C8 postmark of CHITAN dated 26 SEPT 1956. Note that the hour - 14 - is separated from the remainder of the date by a vertical line. The postmark was struck in this slate-grey ink until about MAY 1957 after which date they are found in black.

On reverse there is a Chinese arrival mark dated 7 OCT 1956 Chengdu.

DZAMU

The village of DZAMU is on the new motor road between TUNGMEH and TSUNG SONG.



This cover is cancelled with the type C8 postmark of DZAMU with the number (3) in the bottom arc: number (5) is also known from about MAY 1959. Note the two different types of figure 6 in the date bridge, a wide one for the hour and a narrow one for the year. The cover is dated 8 NOV 1956.

On reverse is a Chinese arrival marking dated 20 NOV 56

GON HSEIN

The village of GON HSEIN lies south of CHAMDO midway along a track from CHAYA to SANYEN; from SANYEN a track goes North up the YANGTZE valley to TUNG PU. Mail going North from GON HSEIN may go either through CHAMDO or TUNG PU.



This cover from GON HSEIN is cancelled with the type C8 postmark with figure (2) in the bottom arc; the postmark is also known with figure (1). The postmark is dated 23 APRIL 1956.

In the lower right corner is a rather indistinct type C8 transit mark of TAICHU (NEW GYANDIE) dated 28 APRIL 1956. TAICHU is the last village before the junction town of TUNG PU.

GON HSEIN

The village of GON HSEIN lies to the South of CHAMDO midway along a track from CHAYA to SIANYEN

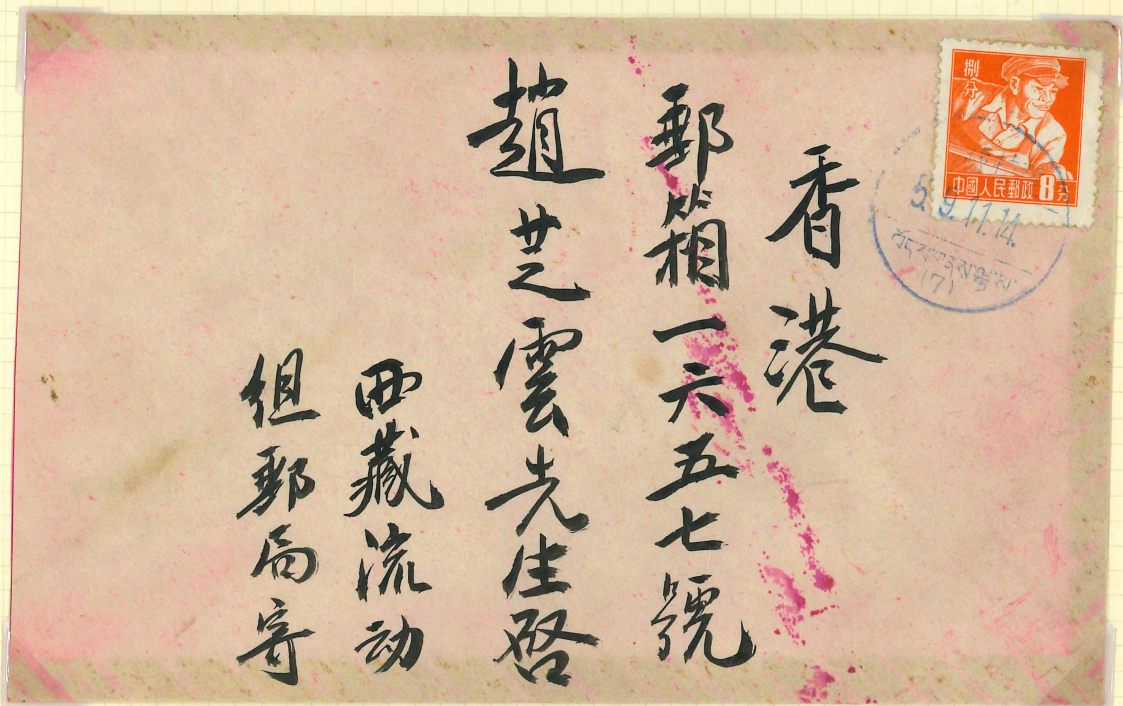


This cover from GON HSEIN is addressed to a prominent Tibetan stamp collector in GERMANY. Note that there are 2 different type C8 postmarks, those cancelling the pictorial stamps are dated 12 OCT 1956 and bear the number (2) in the bottom arc and that cancelling the 2 Fen definitive stamp is dated 18 OCT 1956 and bears the number (1) in the bottom arc.

There is a Chinese transit mark dated 2 NOV 1956 on reverse but no FULDA arrival mark. It would appear that both Registration and Air Mail were refused.

LHASA C 8 (7)

The lowest numbered of the type C 8 postmarks of LHASA, number (7).
It has only been recorded struck in blue.



A cover with the LHASA type C 8 (7) postmark dated 14 NOVEMBER 1959.
Note the date is given as "5. 9. 11. 14."

LHASA C 8 (8)

There is reason to believe that the LHASA type C8 (8) postmark was used only as an arrival or transit mark. No copies have so far been recorded cancelling stamps.



This registered cover from PHARISONG to LHASA has the stamps cancelled with the type C6 postmark of PHARISONG dated 24 JUNE 1956 and a strike of the LHASA type C8 (8) postmark as an arrival mark dated 7 JULY 1956.

LHASA C8 (9)

A registered cover from LHASA to LALITPUR, Nepal, cancelled with the type C8 (9) postmark in blue. This postmark is also recorded struck in black or violet.



This cover is dated 2 JANUARY 1961 and bears an indistinct Nepalese arrival marking on reverse.

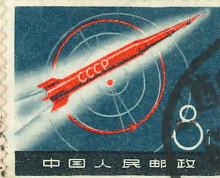
CORREO AEREO
AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

To: Farmice - Bishag
RADIO NEPAL
Shingha Darbaar
P.O. Katmandu
Nepal



Three variations of the LHASA type CB(14) postmark in 1957, 1958 and 1962.

From: Patsa Kagy
c/o. Sharmukapur
Lhasa



To: TOYABAHADUR DHAKHWA
c/o SAHU HARKHABIR SHAKYA
TENTH MILE ROAD
KALIMPONG
INDIA

The top cover, dated 18 DEC 1957 has a Chinese character for "hour" at the left, the bottom cover, dated 26 JAN 1958 has an English number, but again at the left. The centre cover, dated 25 DEC 1962 has an English figure for the hour at right and separated by a bar.

LHASA CB (17)

A registered cover from LHASA to KALIM PONS, India, cancelled with the type CB (17) postmark, dated 7 AUGUST 1956. The Registration label can be seen protruding over the top of the cover! Note that in the date there is no stop between the 7 and the 8, and that the 8 appears to be inverted as well as having its stop at the top instead of the bottom.



This cover was posted at LHASA on 7 AUGUST 1956, has a YATUNG type C11 transit mark dated 13 AUGUST 1956 and a KALIM PONS arrival mark dated 15 AUGUST 1956.

LHASA C8(18)

An interesting turned cover cancelled with the type C8(18) postmark of LHASA dated 15AN 1962. Although this envelope has not been used before it is a printed addressed envelope turned inside out



On reverse there is a manuscript Tibetan registration marking of the type used during the operation of the native post offices. The letter appears to be addressed to PEATI and it is unlikely that it was accepted for registration as there are no Chinese registration markings and the cover only bears the 8 fen ordinary postage rate.

LHASA C 8 (19)

A letter from LHASA to NEPAK cancelled with the type C 8 (19) postmark dated 1 MARCH 1958. Instead of the "hour" in the date bridge there would appear to be an indistinct Chinese character.



Unusually this letter to Nepal bears no transit or arrival markings.

LHASA C8(20)

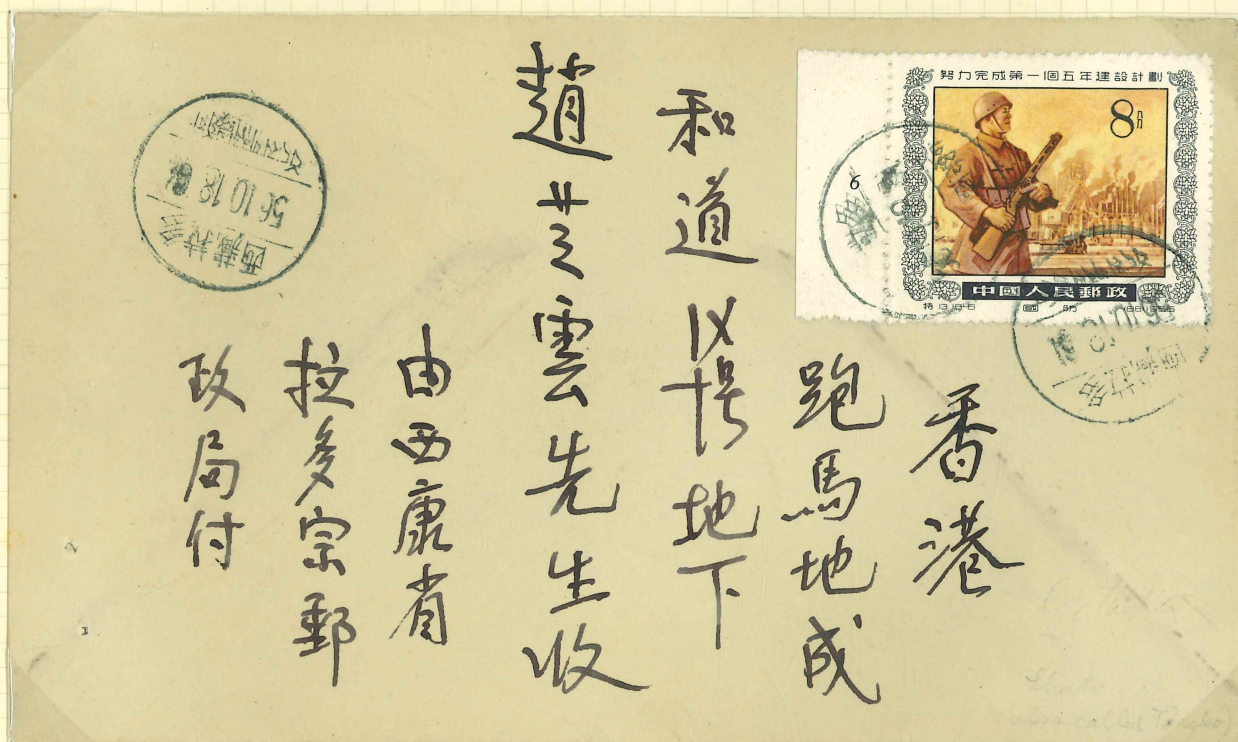


A commercial cover from KATHMANDU addressed to the "Office of the Consul General of Nepal in Lhasa" which has an arrival mark at LHASA of a post strike, but fortunately clear enough to be easily decipherable, of the LHASA type C8(20) postmark. The KATHMANDU postmark is dated 7 JULY 1960.

(20) is the highest number so far recorded of the LHASA C8 postmarks.

LHATO

LHATO is a village on the river Yangtze in the very East of Tibet. It is on the road going North into TSINGHAI Province, to the North and East of CHAMDO. This is probably the most northerly postmark from Eastern Tibet.



This cover from LHATO is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 18 OCT 1956. Note that the time -19- is inverted. There is a Chinese arrival mark dated 2 NOV 1956 on reverse.

LOLUNG

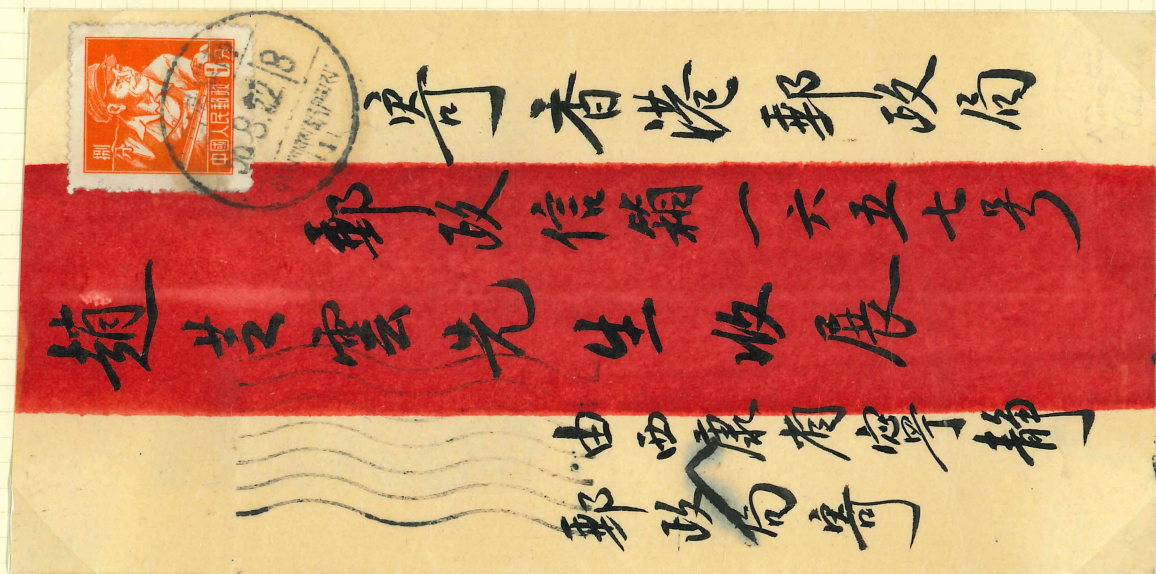
Between the old Silk Road to the North and the modern motor road to the South lies a little travelled area known as the Pomi District. To the North centre of this District lies the small village of LOLUNG.



This cover from LOLUNG is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 11 MARCH 1956; the time slug is indecipherable. In the bottom one is the number (1). The LOLUNG postmark is also known with number (2). There is a Chinese arrival mark, dated, in Chinese, on reverse.

NINGTSIN

The old Silk Road goes South East from CHAMDO, through CHAYA on to BATANG. AT CHAYA a track leads South to NINGTSIN, from where a further track leads off South West to KOMEN and YANWU.



This cover from NINGTSIN is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 22 AUGUST 1956. Note the vertical line between the hour and the date. In the bottom one is the number (1).

On reverse is a type C8 transit strike of CHAMDO (10), dated 6 SEPT 1956; it apparently took this letter 15 days to travel from NINGTSIN to CHAMDO, a distance of about 100 miles.

PANGTU

Just south of CHITAN, on the main lorry route from CHAMDO to YANWU & AHASA, a road branches off to the South East towards NINGTSIN. The first village along this road is PANGTU.

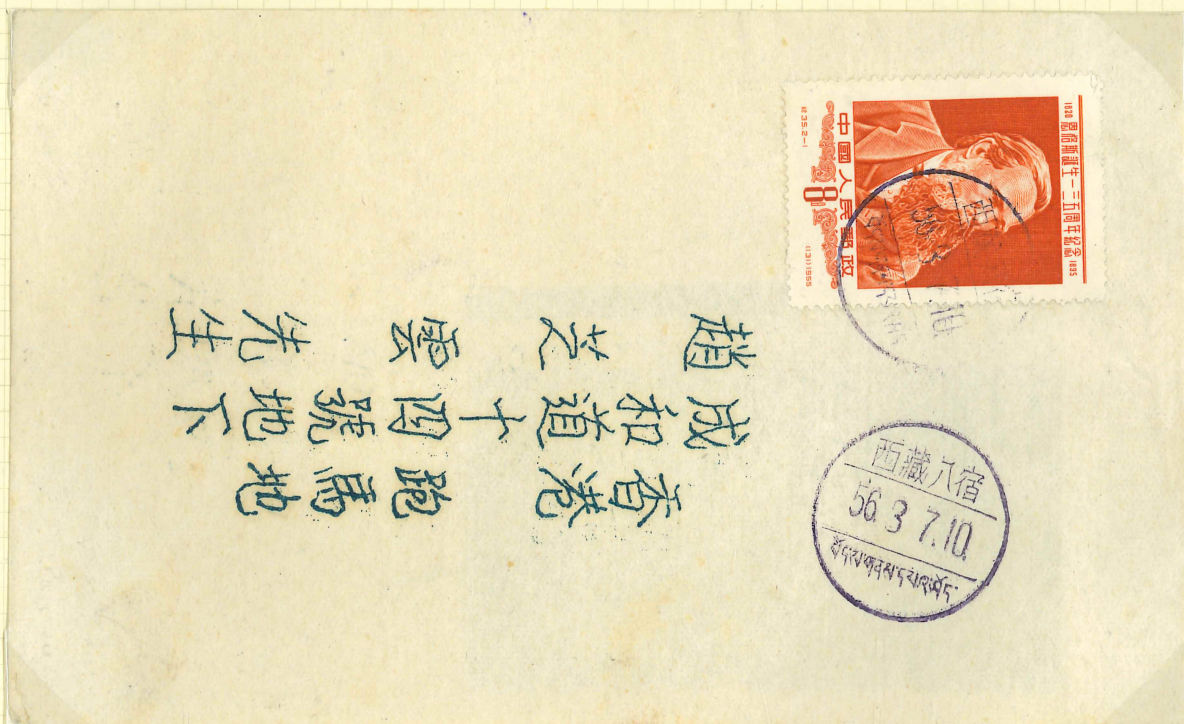


This cover from PANGTU is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 3 MARCH 1956 with the number (2) in the bottom arc. Note the different font numerals in the date, a large wide 2, two different 3's and a small, narrow 56.

On reverse is a type C8 transit mark of CHAMDO (10) dated 4 MARCH 1956, only one day later. The date on this postmark is spaced "5 6 3 4".

PAMSU

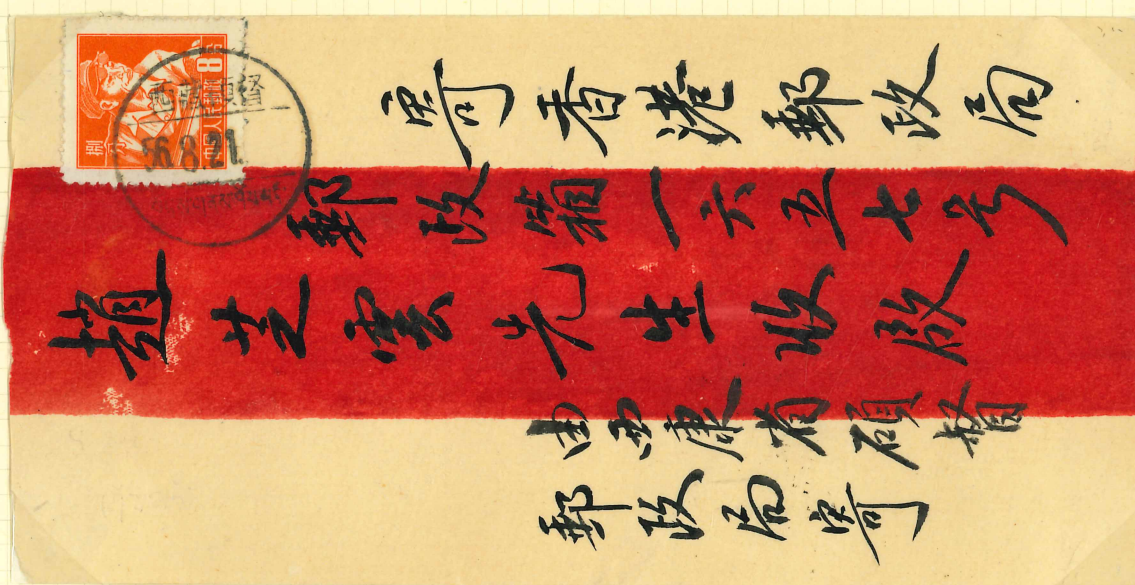
The new lorry route goes in a Southerly direction from CHAMDO, through CHITAN to YANWU where it turns westwards towards LHASA. The village of PAMSU lies to the west of this route, roughly opposite CHITAN, on the Eastern edge of the Pomi District.



This cover from PAMSU is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 7 MARCH 1956 struck in violet. On reverse are two strikes of the type C8 transit mark of CHAMDO (10) dated 12 MARCH 1956. Instead of reading "56.3.12" the date on this strike reads "5 6.3.12".

SHIHU C-8

On the old Silk Road from GYANDIE to CHAMDO, rather more than half way to CHAMDO, lies the village of SHIHU.



This cover is cancelled with the type C8 postmark of SHIHU dated 21 AUG 1956; there is no hour of posting indicated. Note that the figures '56' are in a much smaller type than the remainder. On reverse is a Chinese arrival mark dated 15 SEPT 1956

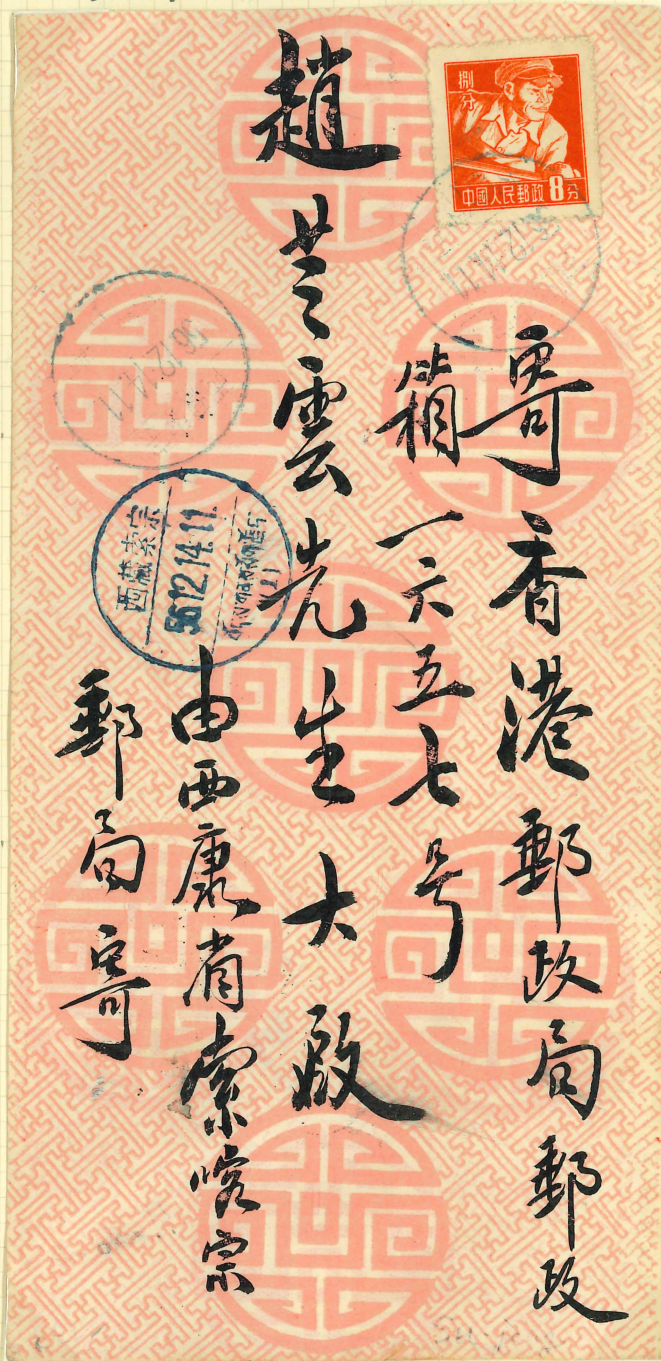
SHOZAN DO

SUJONG C-8 blue

North of the old Silk Road, in the District known as the 39 Tribes District, is an area of grazing lands and salt deposits. In the middle of this area is the village of SUJONG.

This cover from SUJONG is cancelled with the type C8 postmark, struck in blue, dated 14 Dec 1956. There is the number (1) in the lower arc.

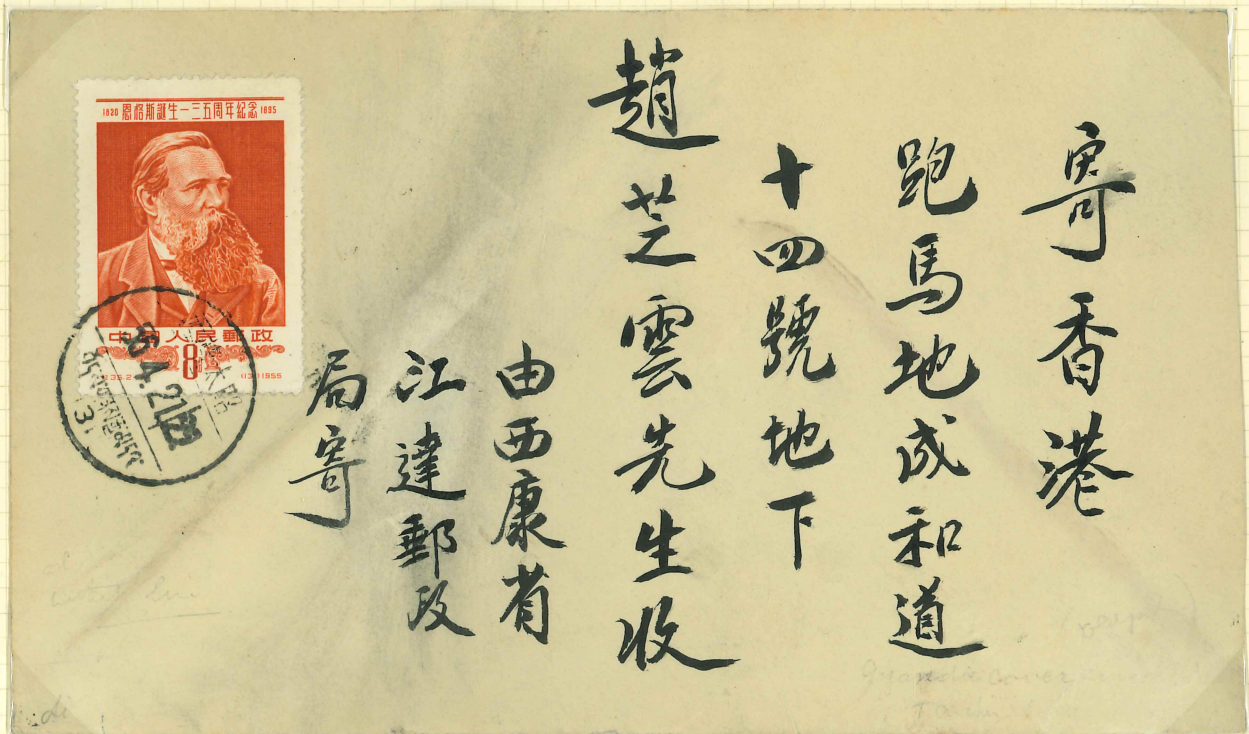
On reverse is a Chinese arrival mark dated 14 JAN 1957



OSA 2209

TAICHI C-8

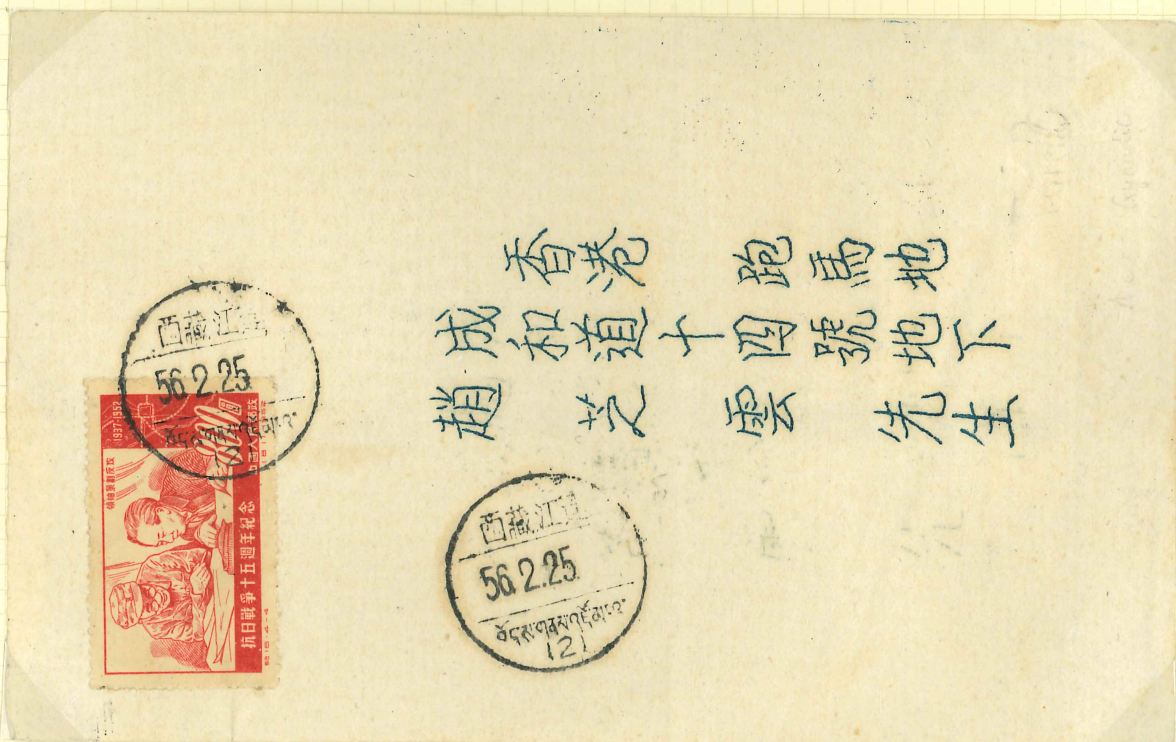
120 miles East of LHASA lies the town of SYANDIE, now renamed by the Chinese as TAICHI. From here the old Silk Route turns North, before turning East to CHAMDO, and the new hony Road branches off to the South East before it turns North to CHAMDO.



This cover from TAICHI is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 21 APRIL 1956. There is the number (3) in the lower arc. Note the line separating the time from the date. On reverse is a Chinese annival marking dated 7 MAY 1956

TAICHU C-8

At CHAMDO the old Silk Road turns South through CHAYA to
 BATANG, whilst the new Lorry route strikes East towards the
 Yangtze River. Along this stretch of road are the villages of
 PAIKI, TAICHU, and TUNG PO on the banks of the Yangtze.

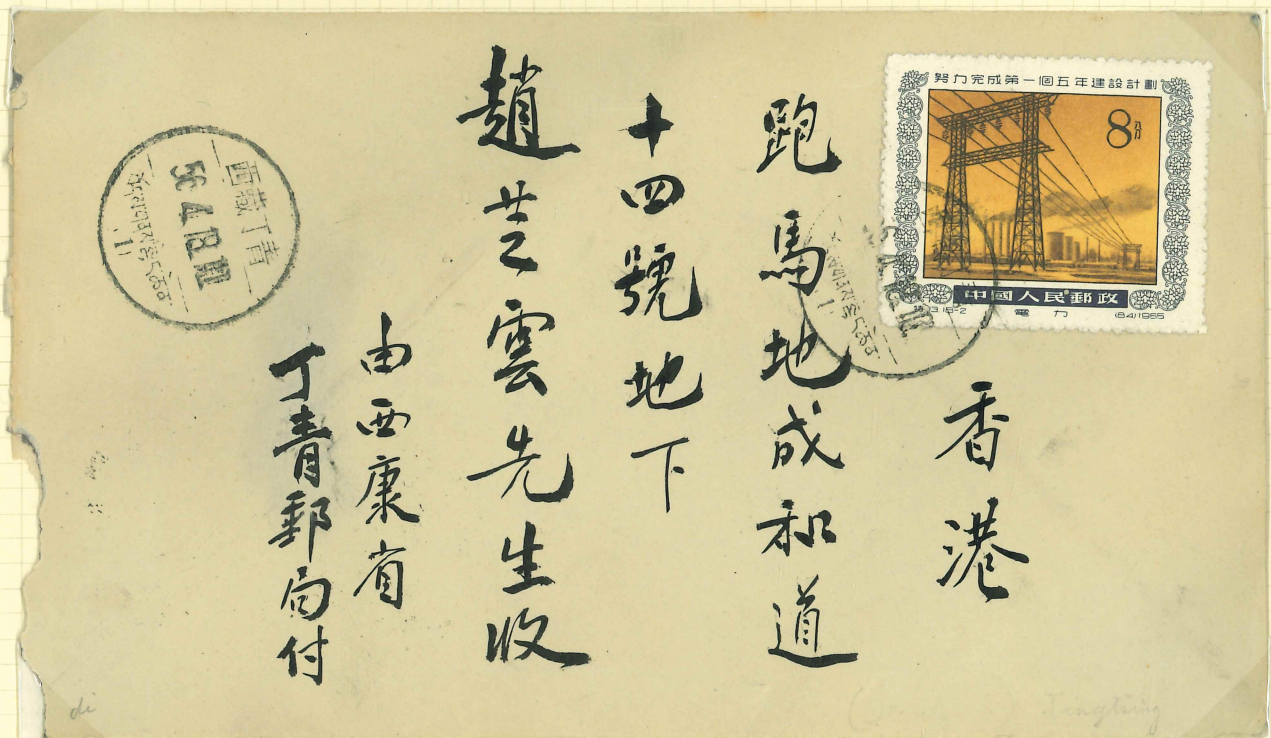


This cover from TAICHU is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated
 25 FEB 1956. There is no time indicator. In the bottom one is
 the number (2). This postmark is also known with numbers (1) and (3).

The Tibetan lettering in this postmark is very similar to that in the
 TAICHI postmark, the first 3 letters (from the right) being the same and
 only the next 2 being different. However the two right hand Chinese
 letters are completely different and make identification fairly simple.

TINGCHEN C-8

North of the old Silk Road, in the 39 tribes District, lie three villages, SUSONG, TING CHEN and NEIWUTSI. There is a road South from TINGCHEN joining the Silk Road just East of SHIHU, and a track leading South East from TINGCHEN leading to NEIWUTSI



This cover from TINGCHEN is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 18 APRIL 1956. The time of posting is indistinct but could be 11 or a Chinese numeral. In the bottom arc is the number (1). This postmark is also known with number (2) from about MAY 1957.

On reverse is a Chinese arrival marking dated 3 MAY 1956

TOBA C-8

North of the new hony Route to the East of CHAMDO lies the village of TOBA. The post office is reported to have been closed in 1960 after repeated sackings by Tibetan guerillas.

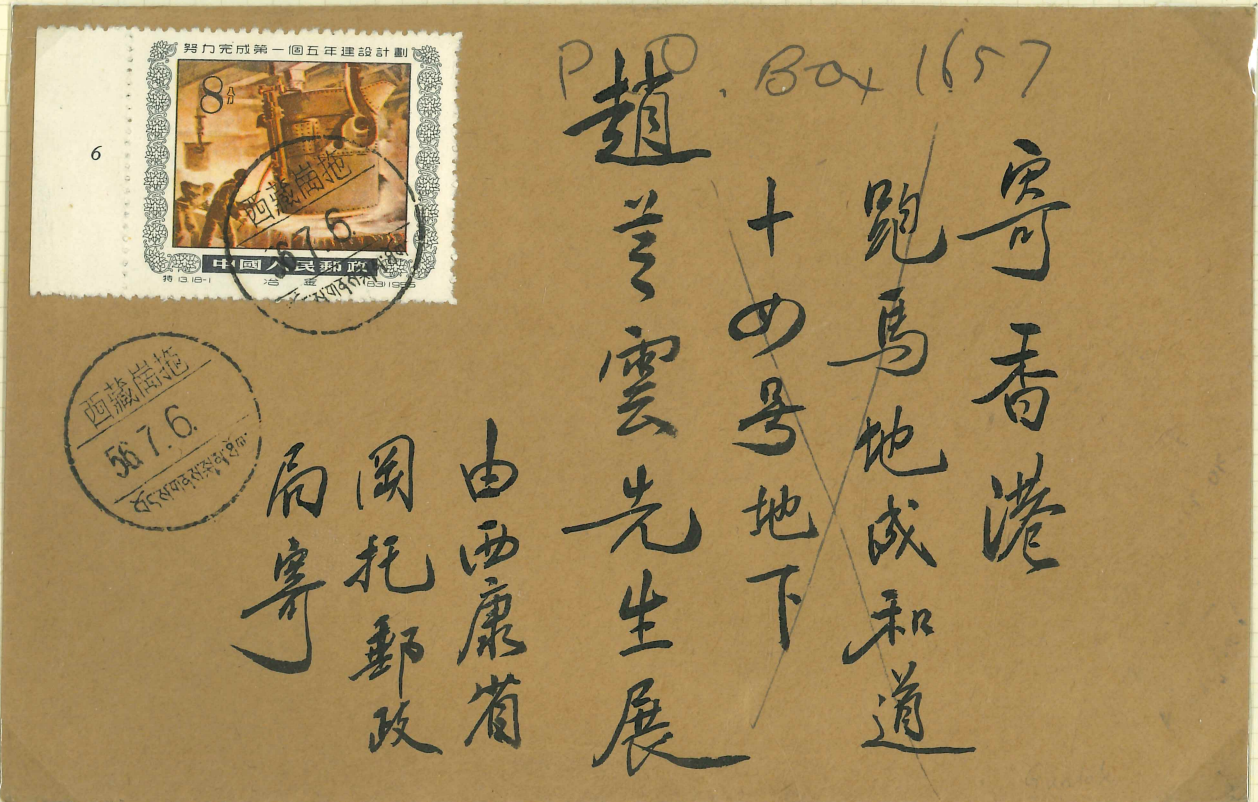


This cover from TOBA is cancelled with the G/pe C8 postmark dated 10 SEPT 1956. Note that the date bridge is inverted in relation to the remainder of the postmark.

On reverse is a further strike of the TOBA postmark and a Chinese carnival marking dated 22 SEPT 1956

TUNG PU C-8

Coming into Eastern TIBET from CHINA on the new Lorry Route TUNG PU is the first village reached. It is to the North East of CHAMDO on the banks of the Yangtze River.



This cover from TUNG PU, addressed to HONG KONG is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 6 JULY 1956. Note that no time of despatch is given in the date bridge.

On reverse is a Chinese transit mark with indecipherable date.

YAN WU C-8

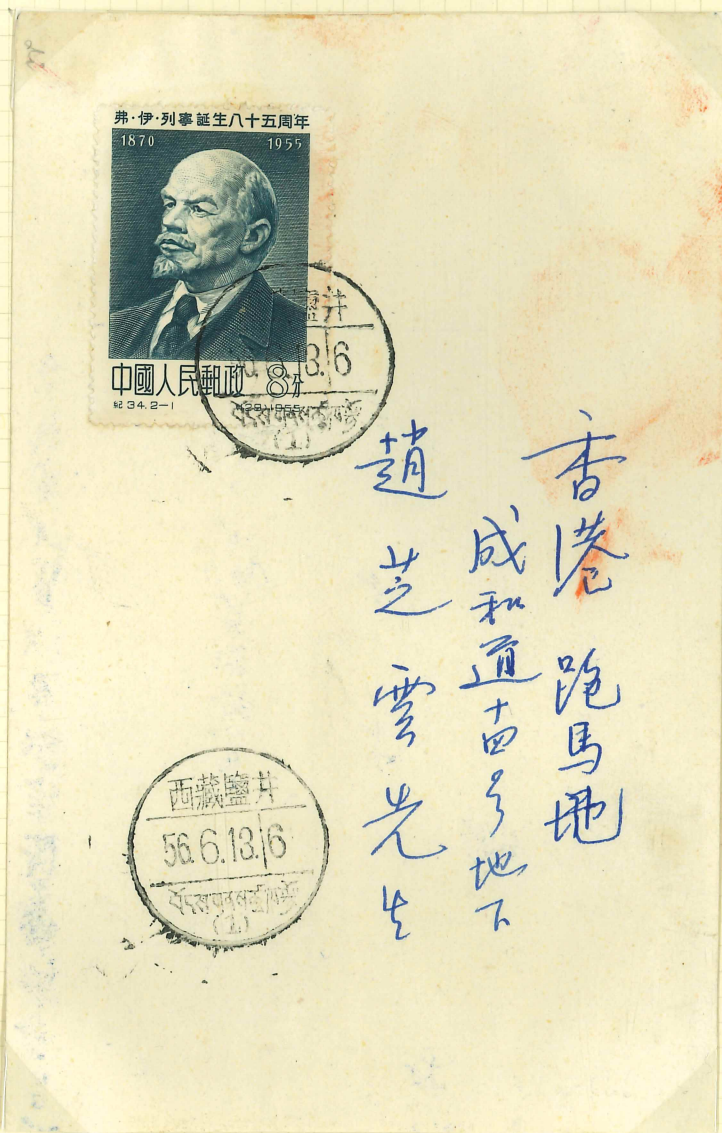
Having come South West from CHAMDO the new heavy Route turns West at YAN WU. A road also branches off to the South East towards BATANG.



A cover from YAN WU cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 20 MAY 1956. On reverse is a type C8 transit strike of CHAMDO(10) dated 23 MAY 56 (with the date shown as "5.6.5.23") and a Chinese arrival mark dated 31 MAY 1956

YENTSING C-8

South of NING TSIN, not far from the BURMESE border, on the road from BATANG through CHAYU to BURMA, lies the village of YENTSING



This cover from YENTSING is cancelled with the type C8 postmark dated 13 JUNE 1956. Note the three different types of figure 6 in the date bridge.

In the bottom one is the number (1). This postmark is also known, struck in either black or blue, with the number (2).