

## PATRIOTIC COVERS

### THE STORIES THEY TELL

One day I came across an interesting box of covers, mainly illustrated with flags and crests. Most had been mailed during the 1940s. With questions asked of postal collectors, I discovered that they were Patriotic Covers. Thus began another collection.

The main purpose of this project is two-fold. First: What are Patriotic Covers? And secondly, Why? Do they tell a story?

PATRIOTIC COVERS have been around since before the American Civil War. They were mailable envelopes, bearing patriotic pictures and designs printed privately during wartime. Printers on both sides of a conflict created illustrated envelopes to promote their ideals or to poke fun at and mock the other side. The covers in this collection are of the Allied Forces (Canada and the US supporting Great Britain). In 1939 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, knowing war was on the horizon, had visited Canada and the US seeking support. This Patriotic Cover mailed in 1943 displays the support for His Majesty THE KING.

