

The Military Mystery

I love Military covers! And I have a pretty good collection, but I've noticed that there's an unusual dearth of Pre-War issues. Oh, there's some, but not anywhere near what I would expect when comparing them to all the Post-War issues. Why?

Certainly most of those soldiers, sailors, and airmen smoked! And, as far as I know, there were no such things prohibitions against smoking on base.

Of course, military personnel weren't as numerous as they were after December 7th, 1941. And there were certainly fewer bases, posts, etc. in the country before World War II. Still, there should be far more than what I've seen over the years.

And, I know that there were more reasons for matchbooks after America's entry into World War II. Just think of all those Universal Military 40-strikes that functioned as post cards for all those service people.

Again, though, I would think there should *still* be more Pre-war issues. If you look at Navy Ships, you'll see a more balanced ration of Pre-War to Post-War issues...but not in Military. Apparently, they're just not there.

Can anyone explain it?