

Collecting Military Logos

by
Mike Prero

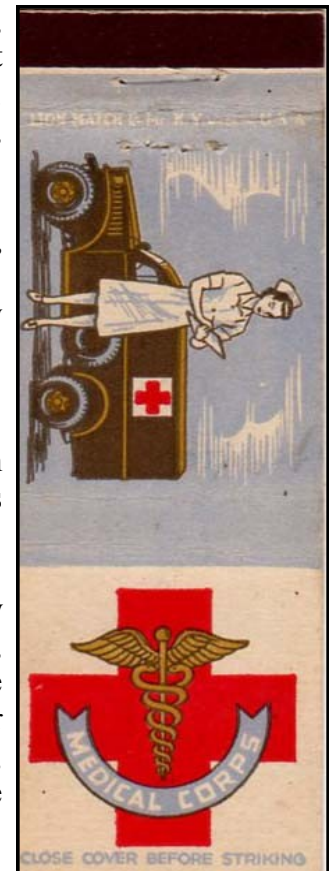
You may not be into collecting Military as a category in itself, but here's a related category that you might wish to consider. It has a lot to offer. Military logos are usually quite colorful and attractive; there is a lot of history connected with each unit represented; and logo "formats" run from crests to cartoon characters and everything in between.

You've certainly got a wide variety of covers to work with here. You'll run across logos for individual units ranging in size from companies to entire armies, individual ships to naval groups, squadrons, air wings, and more. Then there are the logos for the different branches within branches. For example, within the Army, you'd find logos for Army Air Corps, Military Police, Infantry, Armor, Rangers, etc...even bands!

Then there are the logos for the various bases, forts, arsenals, air stations, naval stations, and the list goes on. Of course, you'll find basic branch logos for Army, Navy Air Force, Marines, and the like.

And...you're certainly not limited to just the U.S. Military. You can find a very nice selection within Canadian Military covers, as well, and the Armed Forces of other countries around the world are fair game, too!

Realistically, however, most collectors would really only have access to to U.S. and Canadian covers....with, perhaps, an occasional foreign entry appearing every once and a great while. There's nothing stopping a collector from aggressively going after such foreign covers, though. The main obstacles are postage and finding the right contacts overseas.



It should be obvious by now that, although we're talking about a "small category" [in the sense that it's not one of the well-known, widely collected topics, we *are* talking about sizeable numbers! Just a guess, but looking at my own Military collection, I'd say you could put together a collection of 2000+ Military Logos fairly easily. Putting together such a collection would be a nice challenge in itself, but searching for a complete set of the covers such as the Disney Pepsi Set to include with it would add even more zest to the hunt!

You'll find that 20-strikes are the most common size for Military Logo covers, although the other sizes are represented, as well. And, don't forget to make room for an unusually large number of 40-strikes here, since those Universal 40's were abundant during World War II, and many will qualify for your Logo collection. As noted above, there are some sets to be found and some Fancies, although very few of the latter.

Also, if you wanted to, you wouldn't have to s-t-r-e-t-c-h the definition of "logo" too far to also include covers which show Military rank insignia—and there are several nice old World War II sets of just that very thing [also quite challenging to acquire].

How you organize such a collection would, of course, be entirely up to you. You could divide everything up by countries, then branches, then forts, bases, etc, and finally units. Or, if you're artistically inclined, you might devise some format based on the logo design—say, separating the cartoons from the crests, etc. You could even then separate out the Disney-designed cartoon logos.

You know, if you *are* a Military collector, this might be an interesting method of dealing with your dupes—building them into a second collection!



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