

## Tornio - Torneå - Торнео Censorship

### Stamps & Resealing Tapes

15 August 1914 to 28 January 1918



*Here is a photo dated 1915, with the censors from the Tornio Censor office and probably also all other employees. The photo is from the collection of the [Finnish Postal Museum](#).*

Revised 09 Apr. 2026  
Russian Postal Censorship in Finland  
<https://censor.jiv.dk>  
Jon Iversen

## Tornio Censor Stamp - Overview

[CS. 1](#) Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Рюхяненъ*

[CS. 2](#) Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Ярвиненъ*

[CS. 3](#) ВОЕННЫЙ ЦЕНЗОРЪ  
въ городъ  
ТОРНЕО.  
— — — — —

[CS. 4](#) Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ гор. Торнео  
Военный цензоръ  
*Jaakkola*

[CS. 5](#) Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
8

[CS. 6](#) TARK 9

[CS. 7](#) Вскрыто Военной Цензурой ..... 191  
Торнеоский военный цензоръ № 8

[CS. 8](#) 

[CS. 9](#) 

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1

Type: Personal  
 Shape: Straight Line  
 Size: 15 x 74 mm  
 Description: Three lines of text including the censor's name in Russian  
 Text: Opened by War Censor in Tornio  
*censor's name*  
 Ink: Red, violet-red, violet  
 Subtypes: There are 30 Marks with the censor's signature and one Mark with the No. 6, cataloged as CS No. 1b.

Comment:  
 The stamp impression may be indistinct. Several of these marks have been assigned a rarity level of (4, R). Marks are seen on all types of mail, solo on passively censored mail, and with resealing tapes.

Dates of Use: Range of use for all marks  
 13 Apr. 1915 to 15 Sep. 1916

Dates of Use and Rarity:  
 Dates of Use for individual marks are shown with the illustration of the mark, the name of the censor as well as the rarity level.

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Алапохя*

Mark No. 1, Censor: Alapohja,  
 (Name not known from CS 2)  
 20 Aug. 1915 to 06 Mar. 1916 2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Алексьевъ*

Mark No. 4, Censor: Aleksejev  
 (Name not known from CS 2, but CS mark 24 is the same censor)  
 17 May 1915 to 25 Jun. 1915 2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Ахтола*

Mark No. 2, Censor: Ahtola,  
 (same name as CS 2 mark 1)  
 29. Aug 1915 to 24 Jan. 1916 2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Ярвиненъ*

Mark No. 5, Censor: Järvinen  
 (same name as CS 2 mark 8 )  
 19 May 1915 to 25 Feb. 1916 2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Алапотти*

Mark No. 3, Censor: Alapoti,  
 (Name not known from CS 2)  
 19 Apr. 1915 5, RR

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Кайяненъ*

Mark No. 6, Censor: Kaijanen  
 (same name as CS 2 mark 5 )  
 18 Apr. 1915 to 26 Nov. 1915 2

The name of the Censor is not correct, as shown above. It is weak and unclear and therefore also difficult to copy. The font is more like the following *Алапотти*

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1, continued

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**М. Кайяненъ**

Mark No. 7, Censor: M. Kaijanen  
(same name as CS 2 mark 6)  
28 Oct. 1915 to 20 Nov. 1915

2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Рюхяненъ**

Mark No. 12, Censor: Ryhänen  
(same name as CS 2 mark 13)  
28 May 1915 to 2 Feb. 1916

2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Койвумаа**

Mark No. 8, Censor: Koivumaa  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
18 Apr. 1915 to 11 Jun. 1916

2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Савола**

Mark No. 13, Censor: Savola  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
24 Apr. 1915 to 25 Nov. 1915

2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Монкала**

Mark No. 9, Censor: Monkala  
(same name as CS 2 mark 9)  
13. Apr 1915 to 20 Nov 1915

4

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Тамсъ**

Mark No. 14, Censor: Tams  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
14 May 1915

5 or RR

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Рейтеръ**

Mark No. 10, Censor: Reuter  
(same name as CS 2 mark 10)  
22 Apr 1915 to 25 Aug 1915

2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Ванханенъ**

Mark No. 15, Censor: Vanhanen  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
26 Apr. 1915 to 05 Aug. 1915

2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**У.Рейтеръ**

Mark No. 11, Censor: U. Reuter  
(same name as CS 2 mark 11)  
1 May 1915 to 1 Feb. 1916

3

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

**Ванамо**

Mark No. 16, Censor: Vanamo  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
17 May 1915 to 03 Oct. 1915

4, R

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1, continued

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Вienoла*

Mark No. 17, Censor: Vienola  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
04 Jun. 1915 to 02 Dec. 1915

3

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Ярвелäinen*

Mark No. 18, Censor: Järveläinen  
(same name as CS 2 mark 4)  
04 Jun. 1915 to 26 Nov. 1915

4 or R

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Кайяненъ*

Mark No. 19, Censor: Kaijanen  
Se note to illustrations on page To-6  
07 Sep. 1915

3

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Koivumma*

Mark No. 20, Censor: Koivumma  
(same name as CS 2 mark 12)  
10 Aug. 1915 to 11 Nov. 1915

2

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Vehmanen*

Mark No. 21, Censor: Vehmanen  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
21 Aug. 1915 to 24 Aug. 1916

1

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ

*Сам*

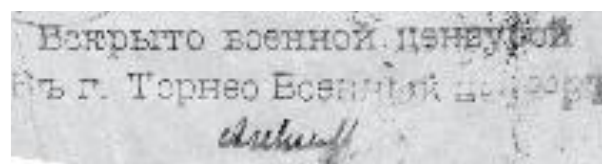
Mark No. 22, Censor: Unidentified,  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
8 Aug. 1915 to 24 Aug. 1916

3

Въ г. Торнео Воен  
*Кочерегина*

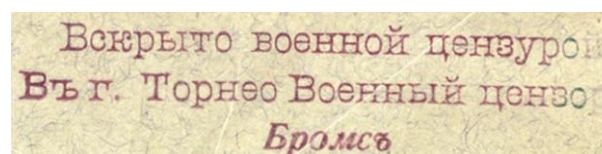
Mark No. 23, Censor: L. Kocheregina,  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
19 May 1915

5, RR



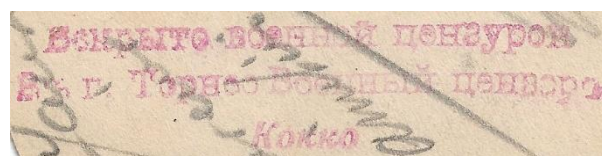
Mark No. 24, Censor: Aleksejeff  
(Mark No. 4 is the same censor,  
same name as CS 2, Mark 15)  
27 Aug. 1915 to 24 Nov. 1915

2



Mark No. 25, Censor: Broms  
(same name as CS 2, Mark 2)  
20 May 1915 to 20 Oct. 1915

4, R



Mark No. 26, Censor: Kokko,  
(same name as CS 2, mark 7)  
13 May 1915 to 04 Jan. 1916

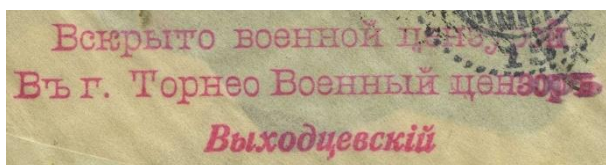
4, R

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1, continued



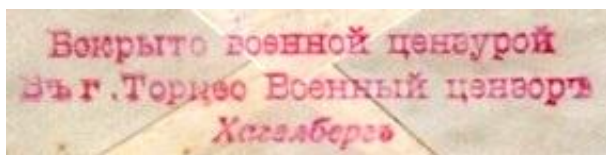
Mark No. 27, Censor: Räsänen,  
(same name as CS 2, mark 14)  
05 May 1915 to 27 May 1915

5, R



Mark No 28, Censor Vykhodtsevsky,  
(Name not known from CS 2)  
21 Apr. 1915 to 21 Jun 1915

5, RR



Mark No. 29, Censor: Hagelberg  
(same name as CS 2, Mark 3)  
21 Apr. 1915 to 10 Sep. 1915

5, RR

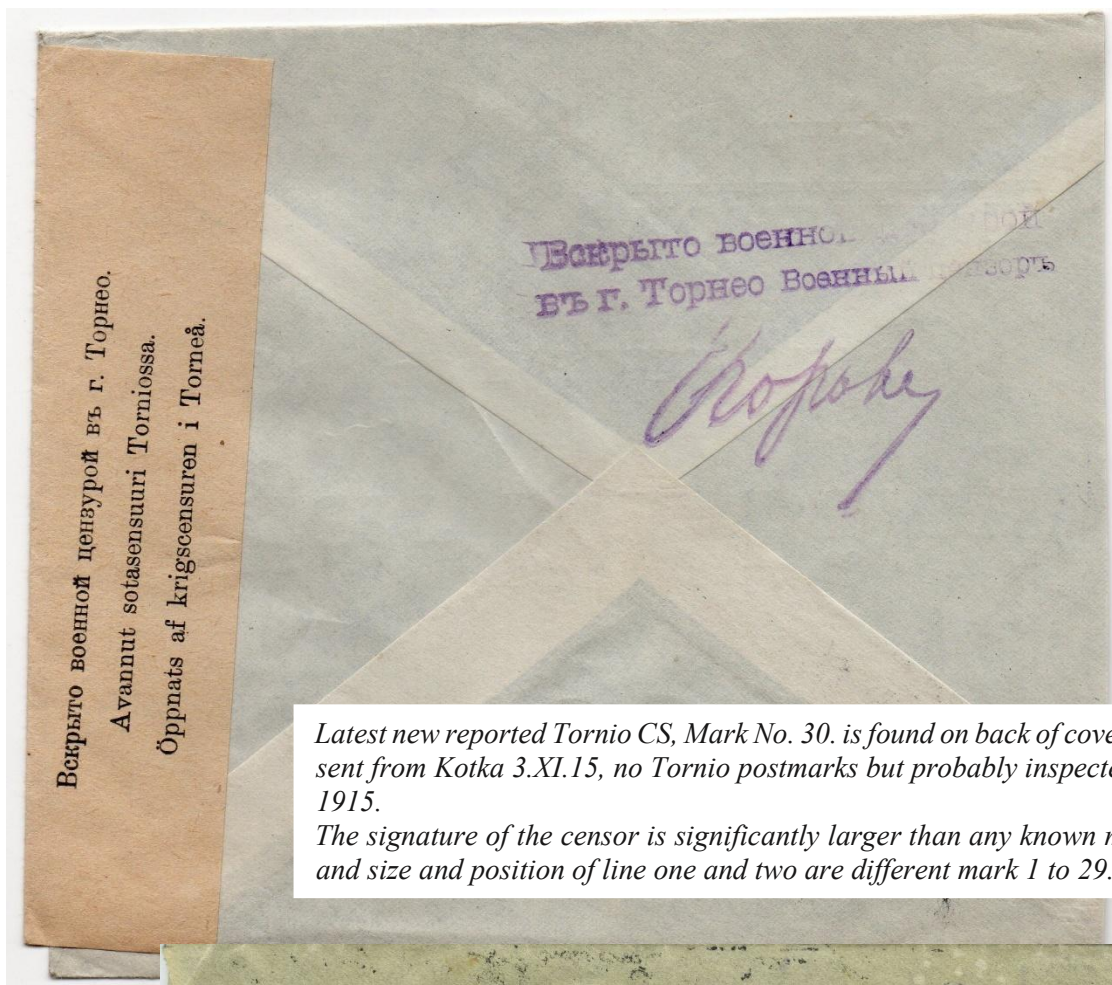


Mark No. 30, Censor: unknown  
(not known from CS 2)  
05 Nov. 1915

5, RR

Line two measured to 68,5mm (not 74mm)  
Position of line one / two is not similar to the other marks.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1, continued



Latest new reported Tornio CS, Mark No. 30. is found on back of cover to Denmark sent from Kotka 3.XI.15, no Tornio postmarks but probably inspected on 05 Nov. 1915.

The signature of the censor is significantly larger than any known marks of CS, and size and position of line one and two are different mark 1 to 29..



New registration, Mark No. 28 (Nov. 2017), Censor: Vykhodtsevsky (name not known from CS2). Here on the back of a cover postmarked **H.FORS – P-GRAD No. 2, 28.IV.15** addressed to Grand Hotel in Stockholm arriving 1. May, no Tornio marks. Collection Neil Ritchie.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1, continued



Newly registered Mark No. 27, Censor: Räsänen (name known from CS2 mark 14) on post card sent from Helsinki 4.V.1915, but without any Tornio dating. Another mark No. 27 is known used Tornio 5.V.1915 in combination with CT21.

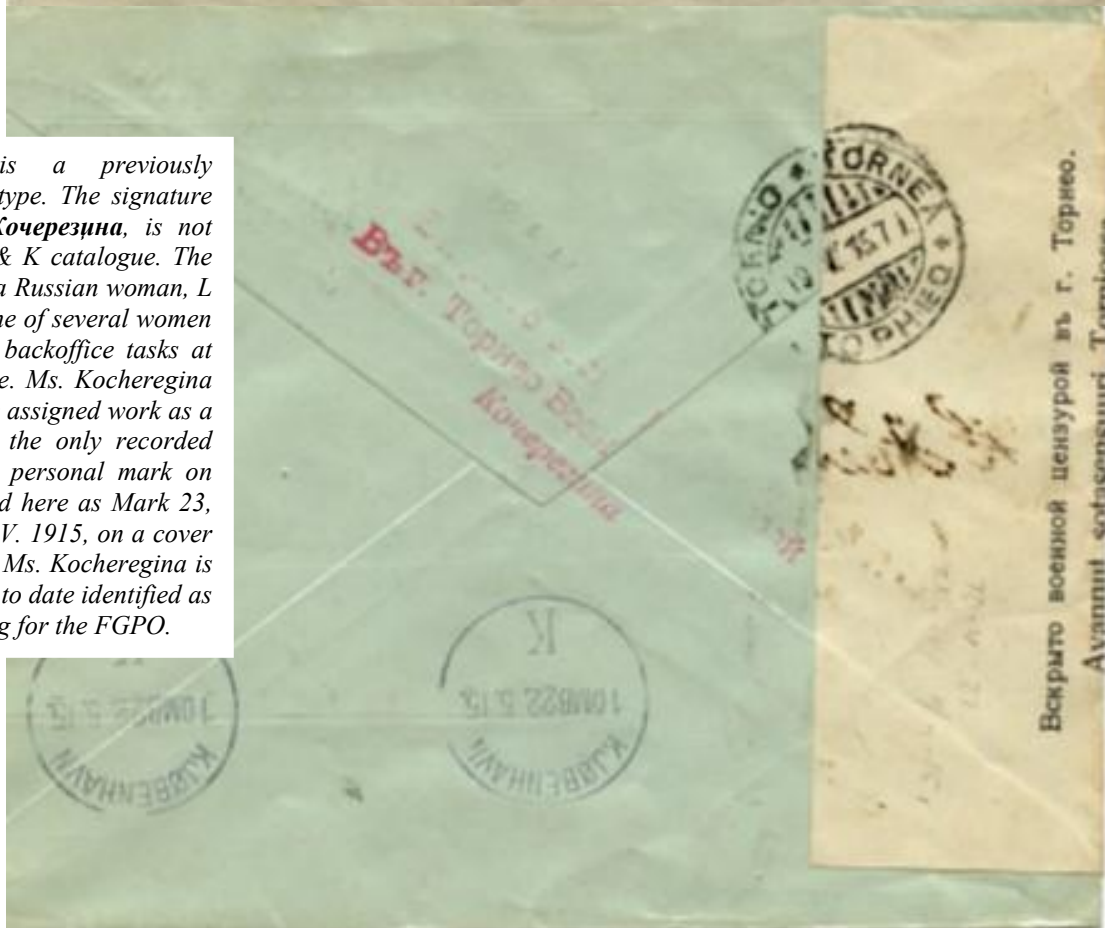


New registration (May 2018), Mark No. 29, Censor Hagelberg. His name is known from CS 2 Mark No 3. The cover was sent from Ingå 16 Jun. 1915 to Stockholm arriving 19 Jun. 1915. Exact date of censoring at Tornio is not known as the cover has no transit mark. Collection Per-Åke Wikström. A second copy of this mark has been reported – date of use: 30 May 1915.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1, continued



Marks 6 and 19 bear the signature of censor Kaijanen. Mark 6 was used from May through November 1915 and Mark 19 for only one day, 9 July 1915. Possibly the second entry is a mistake; both appear identical in appearance, format and spelling of the censor's name.



**Left:** This is a previously unrecorded subtype. The signature of the censor, **Кочерегина**, is not listed in the T & K catalogue. The name is that of a Russian woman, L Kocheregina, one of several women who performed backoffice tasks at the Tornio office. Ms. Kocheregina was temporarily assigned work as a censor. This is the only recorded example of her personal mark on cover. It is listed here as Mark 23, date of use, 19. V. 1915, on a cover to Copenhagen. Ms. Kocheregina is the only woman to date identified as a censor working for the FGPO.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1, continued

Вскрыто военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
6

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 1b, Mark No 6

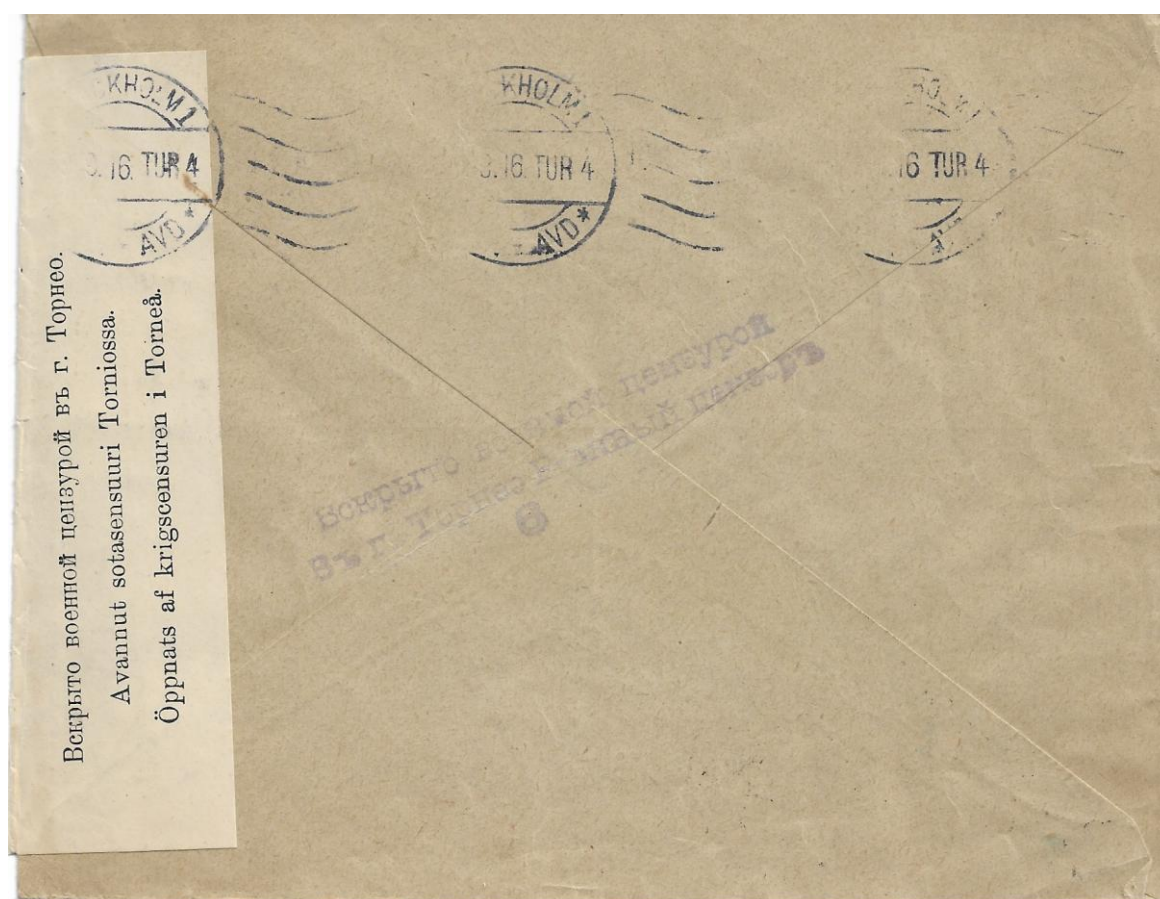
Dates of Use:

01 Sep. 1916 to 16 Sep. 1916

3

Comment:

This CS has the same format and text as CS No. 1 except that the censor is identified with a number assigned to him. The number 6 is the only numbered mark known.



Marks No. 6 is the only known sub-type of CS No. 1b struck on cover sent from Loviisa on 15 IX 1916, and probably censored the next day at Tornio, making this the LKU use. The cover has no postmarks from Tornio. The difference between CS No. 1b and No. 5 is the first word in first line, which is either Вскрыто in CS No. 1b or Просмотр in CS No. 5.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 2

Type: Personal  
 Shape: Straight Line  
 Size: 10 x 71 mm  
 Description: Three lines, text & name in Russian  
 Text: War Censor Inspected  
 City of Tornio  
*Censor's name*  
 Ink: Red, violet, blue  
 Subtypes: 16 marks are known; each censor's stamp made to order. Centerline starting point varies.

## Comment:

These marks are common and are seen in all types of mail. Museum ID: E1 6934. Dates of Use for individual marks are shown with the illustration of the mark, the name of the censor, and the rarity level. These marks are mostly very common or common.

Dates of Use: Range of use for all known marks  
 30 Nov. 1915 to 22 Aug. 1916

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Ахтала*

Mark No. 1, Censor: Ahtola  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 2)  
 05 Feb. 1916 to 12 Aug. 1916 2

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Бромс*

Mark No. 2, Censor: Broms  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 25)  
 22 Dec. 1915 to 21 Apr. 1916 2

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Хагелбергъ*

Mark No. 3, Censor: Hagelberg  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 29)  
 26 Jan. 1916 to 3 Jul. 1916 2



Mark No. 3X, Censor: Hagelberg  
 (first word missing)  
 02 Jan. 1916 to 28 Jan. 1916 5, RR

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Ярвелäinen*

Mark No. 4, Censor: Järveläinen  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 18)  
 01 Jun. 1916 to 19 Jul. 1916 3

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Кайяненъ*

Mark No. 5, Censor: Kaijanen  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 6)  
 30 Nov. 1915 to 19 Aug. 1916 1

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*М. Кайяненъ*

Mark No. 6, Censor: M. Kaijanen  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 7)  
 19 Dec. 1915 to 03 Aug. 1916 2

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Кокко*

Mark No. 7, Censor: Kokko  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 26)  
 03 Mar. 1916 to 01 Aug. 1916 3

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Ярвиненъ*

Mark No. 8, Censor: Järvinen  
 (same name as CS 1, mark 5)  
 02 Jan. 1916 to 18 Jul. 1916 1

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 2, continued

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Монкала*

Mark No. 9, Censor: Monkala  
(same name as CS 1, mark 9)  
30 Nov. 1915 to 18 Aug. 1916 2

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Рясяненъ*

Mark No. 14, Censor: Räsänen  
(same name as CS 1, mark 27)  
24 Dec. 1915 to 15 Apr. 1916 2

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Рейтеръ*

Mark No. 10, Censor: Reuter  
(same name as CS 1, mark 10)  
14 Dec. 1915 to 19 Aug. 1916 1

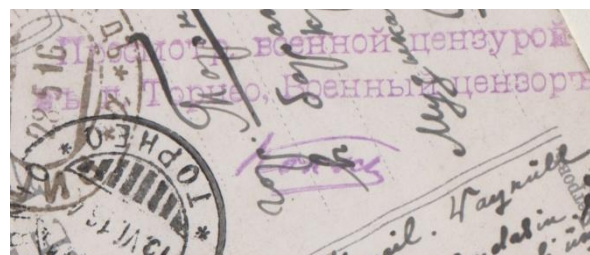
Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Алексефф*

Mark No. 15, Censor: Aleksejeff  
(same name as CS 1, mark 24)  
18 Dec. 1915 to 21 Jun. 1916 1

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 2, continued

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*У.Рейтеръ*

Mark No. 11, Censor: U Reuter  
(same name as CS 1, mark 11)  
20 Apr. 1916 to 23 Jul. 1916 2



Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Коивумаа*

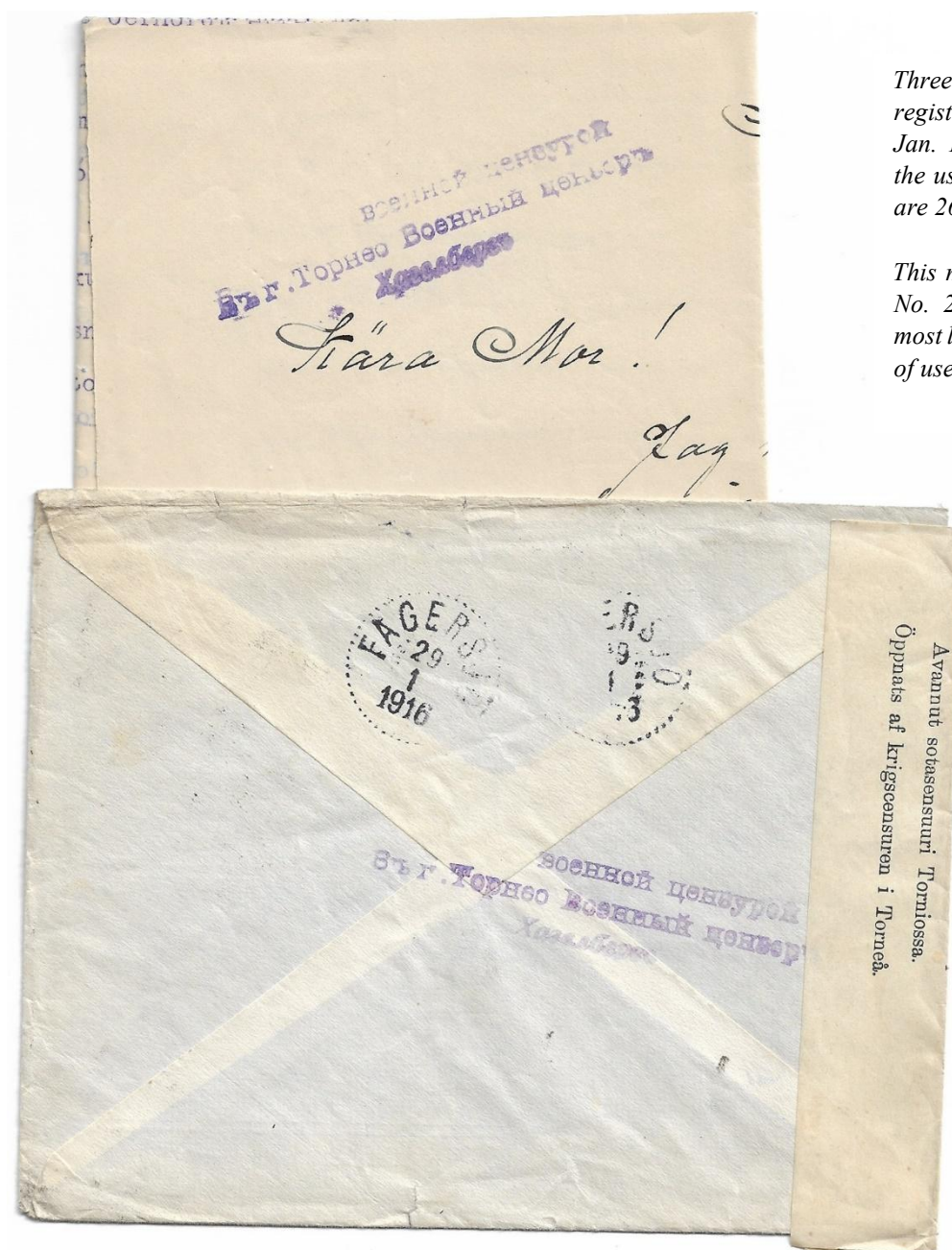
Mark No. 12, Censor: Koivumaa  
(same name as CS 1, mark 20)  
04 Dec. 1915 to 14 Aug. 1916 1

Mark No. 16, Censor: Kokko  
(same name as CS 1, mark 26 and CS 2, mark 7)  
15 Jun. 1916 5, RR

Просмотр. военной цензурой  
Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
*Рюхяненъ*

Mark No. 13, Censor: Ryhänen  
(same name as CS 1, mark 12)  
16 Feb. 1916 to 22 Aug. 1916 2

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 2, continued



Three covers have been registered censored 02, 26 and 28 Jan. 1916 which is just prior to the use of CS No. 2, Mark No. 3 are 26 Jan. 1916 to 3 Jul. 1916.

This mark has been listed as CS No. 2 Mark 3, due to that the most likely considering the period of use.

The marks on this cover and the contents of the cover are missing the first word in the first line, so it is not possible to see if it is a CS No. 1 or No. 2.

The difference between CS No. 1 and No. 2 is the first word in the first line, which is either Вскрыто or Просмотр.

**Tornio Censor Stamp No. 3**

Type: General  
 Shape: Straight Line  
 Size: 22 x 48 mm  
 Description: Three lines of text in Russian & printer's ornament  
 Text: War Censor  
 City of Tornio  
*printer's ornament*  
 Ink: Violet-red  
 Subtypes: None reported  
 Dates of Use: \_\_\_ Jan. 1916

**Comment:**

This stamp originally served as the Tornio internal censor mark No. 1, and was later converted by removing the lower rows. Used only in January 1916, exact dates are unknown. Usage of this CS has not been confirmed by Termonen & Keturi.

At this point, it would seem unlikely that this censor stamp mark will be found on any ordinary cover processed by the Tornio censor office.

CS illustration is from the Post Museum.

**Rarity:**

Unranked, no rarity level can be established until usage is confirmed.

**No Cover Illustration is Available**

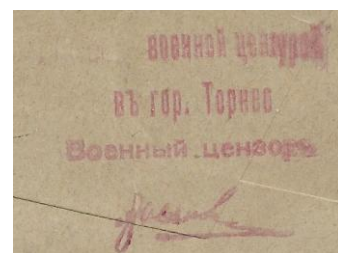
### Tornio Censor Stamp No. 4



Tornio CS No. 4, Mark No.1



Tornio CS No. 4, Mark No.2



Tornio CS No. 4, Mark No.3

Type:	Personal
Shape:	Straight Line
Size:	30 x 34 mm
Description:	Four lines, text & name in Russian
Text:	War Censor Opened City of Tornio War censor Censor's name
Ink:	Red, violet
Subtypes:	One
Dates of Use:	
Mark No. 1	09 Feb. 1915 to (30?) Jun. 1916 2
Mark No. 2	08 Jun. 1916 to 15 Jun. 1916 5, RR
Mark No. 3	30 Jun. 1916 or 01 Jul. 1916 5, RR

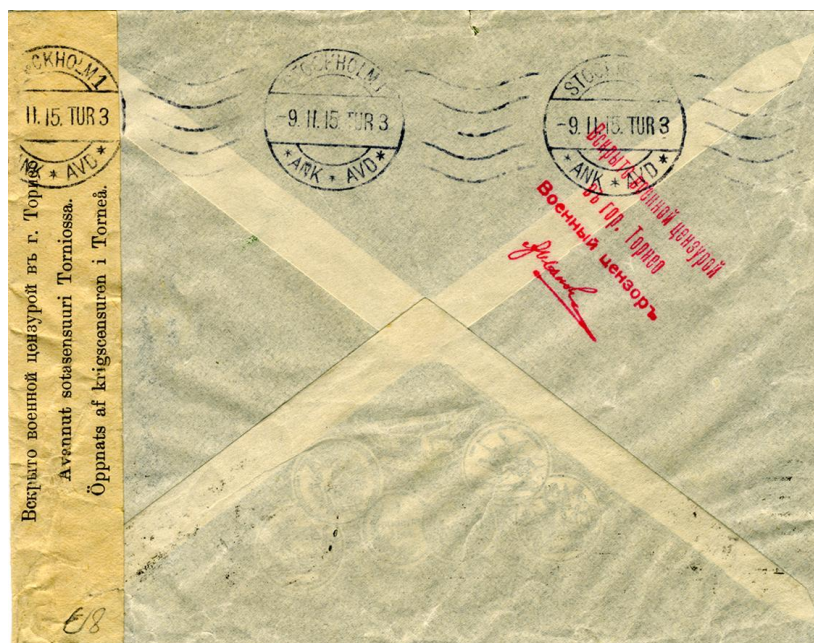
Comment:  
Known with this signature only. The mark is common. CS is seen solo on objects such as postal cards and with resealing tapes on opened and inspected letters.

Mark No. 1 first Russian word in the first line is **Вскрыто**

Mark No. 2 first Russian word in the first line is **ПРОСМ** (Inspected) This variation of the CS is a discovery (2017).

Mark No. 3 first Russian word in the first line is missing, probably broken off or became unglued and the CS was taken out of service, probably on June 30 or July 1, 1916.

Rarity:  
Mark No. 1: Common, level 2.  
Mark No. 2: Very rare, 5, RR, only three examples have been reported, see cover on next page.  
Mark No. 3: Very rare, 5, RR, only one example has been reported, see cover on next page.

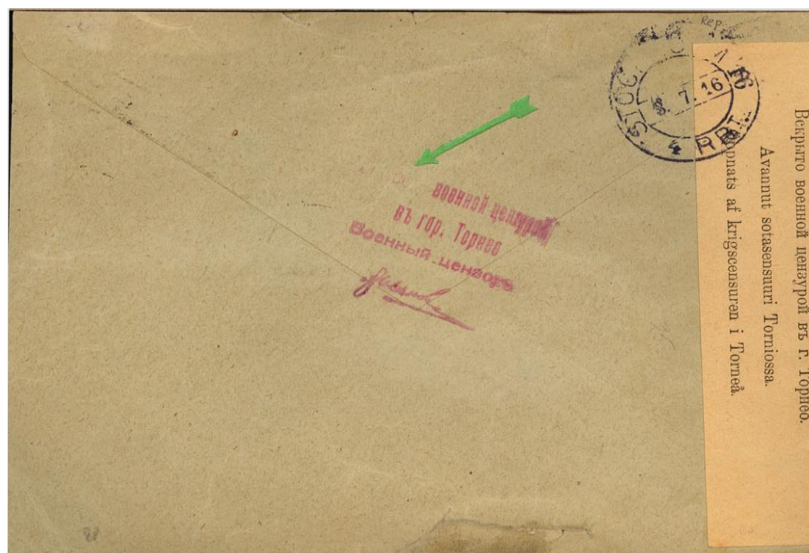


Illustrated here is the common CS No. 4, Mark 1 shown with CT No. 23 on the back of a cover from Helsinki via Tornio to Stockholm.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 4, continued



CS No. 4, Mark No.2 is a new reported (2017) where two copies were found. It very much looks like first word of the mark has been changed from *Вскрыто* to *ПРОСМ*. Both known copies of this postmark are from about 15. Jun. 1916. The exact date is difficult to establish as mail going via TCO were no longer transit postmarked. The above cover was sent from Helsinki 13.IV.1916 and arrived at Hälsingborg in Sweden on 17.6.17.



CS No. 4, Mark 3 on cover from Skuru 19 Jun. 1916 to Stockholm, arriving on 3.7.1916. The first Russian word of the CM is now missing, maybe due to the change made earlier in June. Further reporting of CS No.4 from June 1916 would be interesting!

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 5

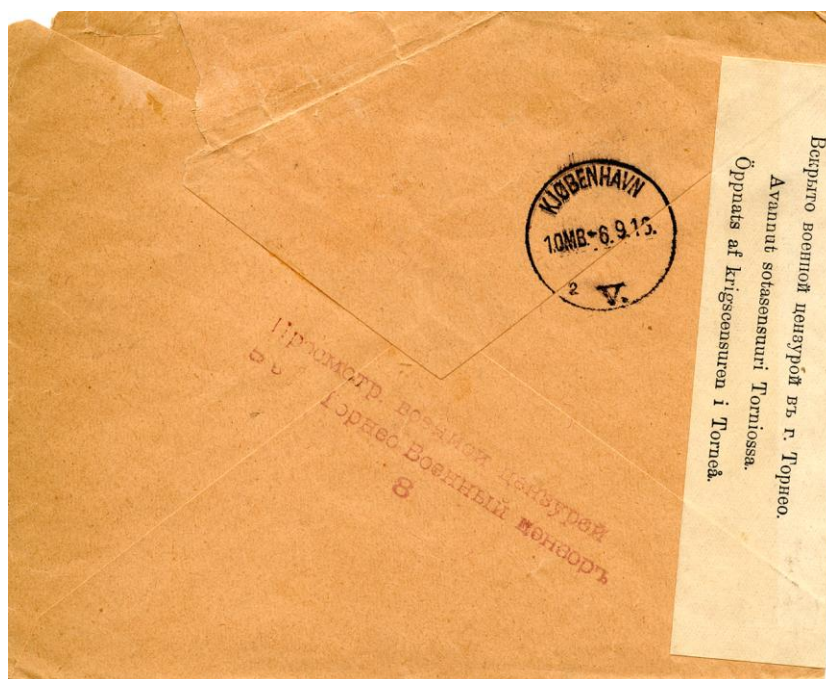
Просмотр. военной цензурой  
 Въ г. Торнео Военный цензоръ  
 8

Type: Personal  
 Shape: Straight Line  
 Size: 16 x 75 mm  
 Description: Three lines, text in Russian  
 Text: War Censor Inspected  
 City of Tornio War Censor  
 Censor's personal ID number  
 Ink: Red, violet  
 Subtypes: Several known; Mark numbers are listed below with the date(s) of use.

Comment:  
 Unlisted mark numbers are unknown. Marks are often blurred and indistinct. These marks are seen on general correspondence, solo on objects, and with resealing tapes. The length of the second line varies.

Rarity: All the marks are common, ranked 3 except for Mark Nos. 10, 13, 18, and 22 which are known used only one or two days and are ranked at level 5, RR.

Dates of Use:		
Mark No. 3	01 Sep. 1916 to 29 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 5	09 Aug. 1916 to 05 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 7	09 Aug. 1916 to 22 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 8	08 Aug. 1916 to 29 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 9	21 Aug. 1916 to 28 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 10	03 Sep. 1916 to 04 Sep. 1916	5, RR
Mark No. 11	15 Aug. 1916 to 25 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 12	26 Jul. 1916 to 21 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 13	14 Sep. 1916	5, RR
Mark No. 14	21 Aug. 1916 to 16 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 16	15 Aug. 1916 to 29 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 18	26 Aug. 1916	5, RR
Mark No. 20	23 Sep. 1916 to 26 Sep. 1916	3
Mark No. 22	26 Aug. 1916 to 19 Sep. 1916	5, RR



Generally, Finnish censored covers realize only small premiums in the marketplace. There are several reasons ranging from a strongly felt emotional dislike for the intrusions imposed by the Russian government and attendant sad memories, including censorship, of this difficult time to the fact that better covers from the wartime period were long ago sought out by traditional collectors and postal historians tracking rates, usages and destinations. Another factor is the consistently poor quality of the censorship impression as seen on these two items. The top item, a post card to Sweden that bears a light Mark 16 strike and the cover on the left, a nearly complete strike of Mark 8.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 6

## TARK 9

Type: Personal  
 Shape: Straight Line  
 Size: 20 x 3 mm  
 Description: One line, text in Finnish  
 Text: Inspect(ed) + *censor's personal ID*  
 Ink: Blue, violet  
 Subtypes: None reported

Dates of Use: 02 Sep. 1916 to 06 Oct. 1916

## Comment:

Mark appears on double-censored objects. The letter "R" is missing on some of the strikes. This rubber stamp has a wooden handle and removable letters.

Post Museum ID: E1 6950.

## Rarity:

Although double censored objects are elusive and highly desirable, this mark is common, level 2.



This cover sent from Tornio 22.IX.16 and has been stamped "TARK 9" on front side, when passing Tornio Censor office. At Helsinki 24 IX.16 the cover was resealed with CT 6 and stamped with CS 20, Mark 63, and CS 17 in Russian calendar, 11.IX.16, on top of the CT.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 7

Вскрыто Военной Цензурой .....191  
Торнеосский военный цензоръ № 8

Type:	Personal			
Shape:	Straight Line	Mark No. 24	08 Jan. 1917	5, RR
Size:	8 x 52 mm	Mark No. 26	20 Oct. 1916	5, RR
Description:	Two lines, text in Russian	Mark No. 28	18 Dec. 1916	5, RR
Text:	Opened by War Censor.....191 Tornio war censor No. ___	Mark No. 30	19 Apr. 1917	5, RR
Ink:	Red, blue, violet	Mark No. 33	13 Apr. 1917 and 17 Apr. 1917	5, RR
Subtypes:	30 marks are known from Nos. 1 through 40.	Mark No. 34	13 Apr. 1917 and 20 Apr. 1917	5, RR
Dates of Use:		Mark No. 35	18 Feb 1917 to 21 Apr. 1917	4, R
Mark No. 1	20 Dec. 1916	Mark No. 36	11 Apr. 1917 and 19 Apr. 1917	5, RR
Mark No. 3	29 Sep. 1916 to 23 Mar. 1917	Mark No. 39	19 Apr. 1917	5, RR
Mark No. 4	29 Apr. 1917 to 01 Sep. 1917	Mark No. 40	11 Apr. 1917 and 18 Apr 1917	5, RR
Mark No. 5.	05 Sep. 1916 to 24 Dec. 1917			
Mark No. 6	16 Oct. 1916 to 21 Mar. 1917			
Mark No. 7	25 Sep. 1916 to 23 Mar. 1917			
Mark No. 8	10 Oct. 1916 to 14 Mar. 1917			
Mark No. 9	10 Oct. 1916 to 23 Mar. 1917			
Mark No. 10	10 Oct. 1916 to 18 Feb. 1917			
Mark No. 11	09 Oct. 1916 to 20 Mar. 1917			
Mark No. 12	31 Oct. 1916 to __ Dec. 1916			
Mark No. 13	29 Nov. 1916 to __. Mar 1917			
Mark No. 14	24 Oct. 1916 to 24. Mar 1917			
Mark No. 15	07 Oct. 1916 to 05. Mar 1917			
Mark No. 16	20 Sep. 1916 to 24. Mar 1917			
Mark No. 18	11 Oct. 1916 to 23. Dec 1916			
Mark No. 19	31 Jan. 1917			
Mark No. 20	05 Sep. 1916 to 06 Dec. 1916			
Mark No. 21	14 Sep. 1916 to 26 Nov. 1916			
Mark No. 22	09 Oct. 1916 to 30 Jan. 1917			
Mark No. 23	11 Jan. 1917			

## Comment:

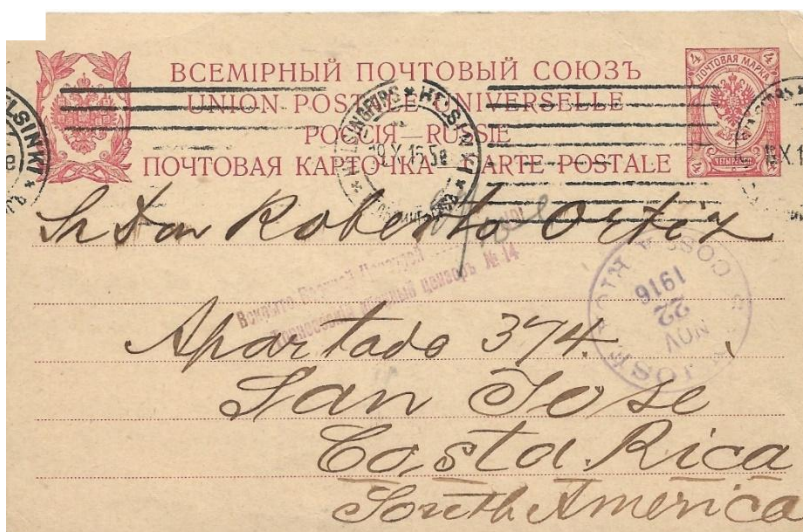
The type was used at all censor location. Gaps in numbers exist. Nos. 1, 4, 5, 14, 15, 19, 21-23 were added by Termonen & Keturi, Postisensuuri Suomessa, Vol. 2, pages 66-67. Nos. 24, 26, 28, 33, and 34 were added after T & K. New mark finds are still possible.

Nos. 33, 34, 35, 36, and 40 are reported used in periods 11 to 21 Apr. 1917 in combination with Helsinki CT. Either censors were relocated from Tornio to Helsinki and brought their personal CS along to the new office, or the available Tornio Cs were temporarily used of new censors until Helsinki Cs were available.

When this mark is used solo on an object, (i.e., postal card), the date is most often left blank; on opened and inspected mail, the date is usually written in.

## Rarity:

Thirteen of these marks merit a rank of 4 or 5 (R or RR).



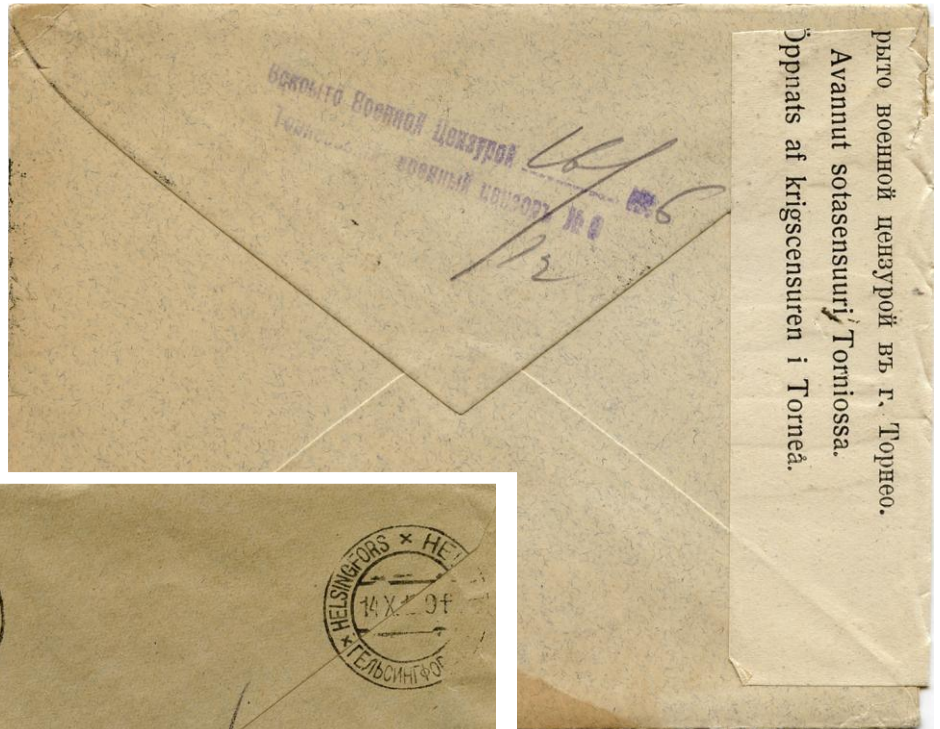
This censor stamp is known on all types of correspondence. When used to mark domestic open letters (post and postal cards) only the mark is seen without the date written in the space on the first line.

CS No. 7, Mark 14 is here used on card sent from Helsinki 19.X.16 to Costa Rica, arrival postmarked 22 Nov. 1916.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 7, continued

**Right:** Helsinki, 13. XII. 16 to Stockholm. Inspected at Tornio and on departure from the censor office struck with CS No. 7, Mark 9, which is a fairly common mark.

On opened mail to abroad, the departure date is always written on the top line of the stamp by the censor or his assistant.



**Left:** Wyborg to Helsingborg, Sweden, via Tornio censor office where it was opened, inspected, and resealed and struck on departure with CS No. 7, Mark 5, 14. X. 1916.

**Right:** On this registered letter from Helsinki to Berne, Switzerland, the cover was directed to Tornio via London, 5 November 1916, then to Berne. The cover appears not to have been censored at London or Bern; however, it was opened and censored at Tornio, resealed and struck with CS No. 7, Mark 8.

We often see the lower valued two kopek stamps in blocks of 10 because it was less expensive to buy ten two kopek stamps than one 20 kopek stamp.



Tornio Censor Stamp No. 7, continued

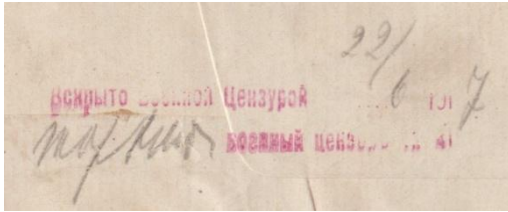
## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 7, continued



This cover was sent from Åbo Aktiebank 11 IV 17 to a Bank in Stockholm, The cover arrived at Helsinki 12 IV 17 and inspected 17 IV 17, where the cover was re-sealed with a Helsinki CT and stamped with Tornio Cs. No. 7, Mark 34, this mark is a new discovery (2019). From 20 Mar. 1917 mail to abroad was censored at Helsinki instead of Tornio, and therefore some censors from Tornio were relocated. Marks Nos. 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, and 40 have been reported used in period 11 to 21 Apr. 1917 in combination with Helsinki CT, probably by censors, who were relocated to Helsinki and brought their personal CS along to the new office, or these CS were given temporary to new censors because Helsinki CS's were not available? The fact that none of the numbers used t Helsinki has been reported used at Tornio speaks in favor of the last option.

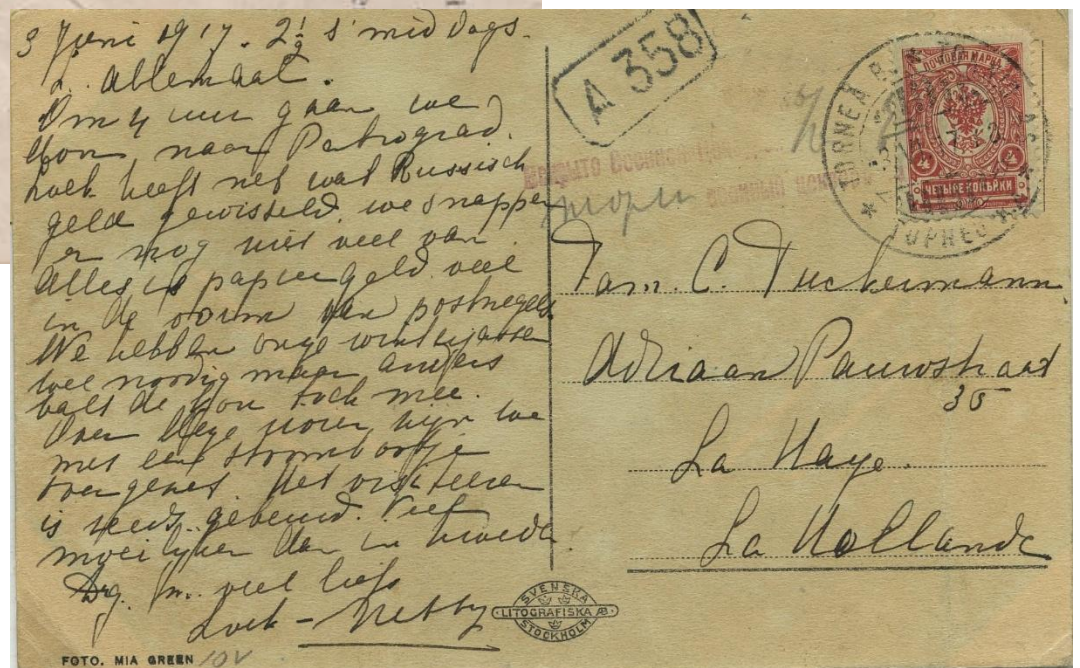
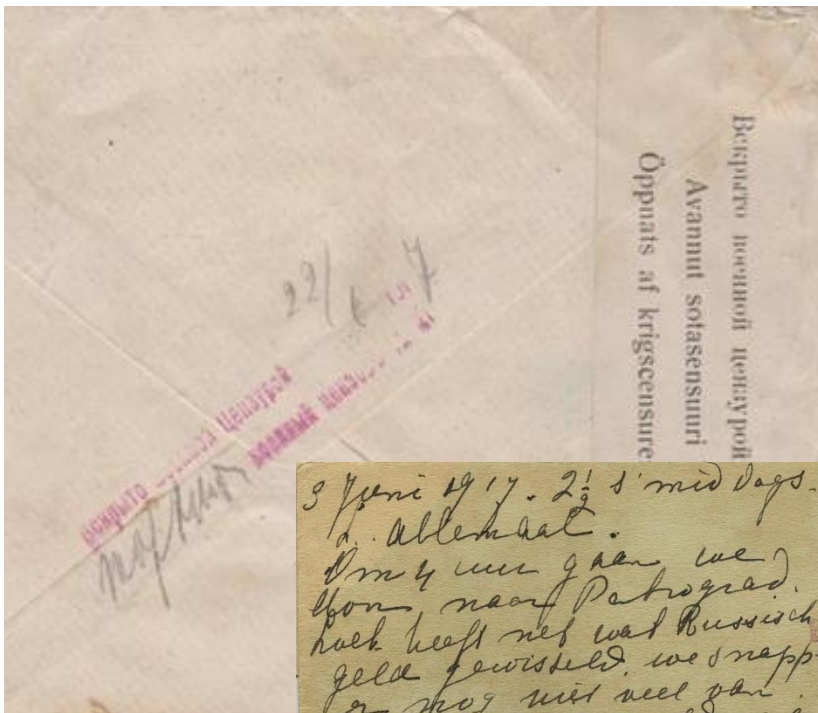
This cover has been opened on three sides, not for displaying, but due to bank policy, so that no papers could be overlooked in incoming covers.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 7, continued



Two examples from June 1917, where the city name of the original CS has been removed and the name of Tornio (in Cyrillic) has been added by hand. On the first the number "41" can be seen – probably the same on the second but cannot be confirmed. The position of the text in the two lines reveals that it is the name of Helsinki that has been removed. Helsinki CS 7, Mark 41 has been reported one day only: 30 Oct. 1916. Highest known number with city name of Tornio is "40".

From end of March 1917 very little mail were censored at Tornio, see previous page.



Postcard sent from Tornio As 3.VI.17 and inspected at Tornio, even though mail to abroad was to be inspected at Helsinki from 20 Mar 1917, with exception of mail from shipping companies (Bulletin 3930). The card does not show that sender is from one of these companies.

Name of Tornio is written by hand after original name of the CS has been removed.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 8



Mark No. 1



Mark No. 2

Type:	General
Shape:	Oval w/one ring & two rosettes
Size:	18 x 32 mm
Description:	Two lines of text in Russian
Text:	“Д. Ц.” (“D. Ts.”) War Censor City of Tornio
Ink:	Reddish violet and violet
Subtypes:	One reported, letter “D. Ts.” removed.
Dates of Use:	
Mark No. 1	01 Aug. 1915 to 03 Dec. 1915      3
Mark No. 2	29 Apr. 1916 to 19 Mar. 1917      5, RR      .

## Comment:

This stamp is known on administrative business letters from Helsinki to abroad. Also known solo on postcards to abroad. Appears that CS was out of service for some months, then reintroduced with the letters “Д. Ц.” removed. CS Mark No. 2 is known for passive censored items.

## Rarity:

Mark No. 1	Fairly common, level 3
Mark No. 2	Very rare, level 5 or (RR)



*Handstamp from the Postal Museum. The photo clearly shows the center of the mark with the Cyrillic letters “Д. Ц.” being removed and altering the CS from Mark 1 to Mark 2. Photo: Mikko Nykänen, [The Finnish Postal Museum](#).*

**Tornio Censor Stamp No. 8**



Reddish violet ink impression on postal card to Sweden. This is one censor stamp which is always seen in a clear, clean strike.

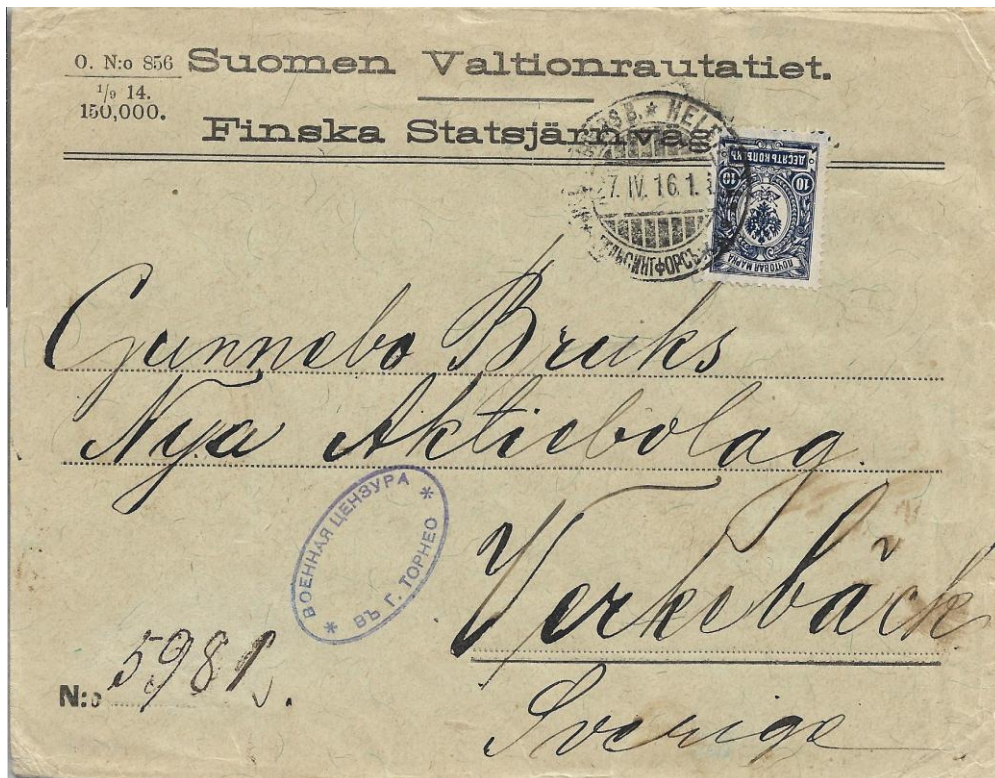


The violet strike on this card to Copenhagen is the LKU of this censor stamp with the Russian letters, "D. Ts." in the center.

**Tornio Censor Stamp No. 8**

**Top:** Mark 2 on official letter sent by Järnvägsstyrelsen in Finland, on 27.IV.16 to Sweden, this is the earliest reported use for Mark No.2.

**Below:** same mark on official letter from Postal Administration of Finland sent to Asthon Under Lyne on 20 Jul. 1916. (size reduced)



## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 9



Type: General  
 Shape: Rectangular, double frame, two rosettes  
 Size: 22 x 44 mm  
 Description: In the center, two lines of text in Russian with the date in the center  
 Text: War Censor(ing)  
*Date (Month in Cyrillic letters)*  
*Not Allowed*  
 Ink: Violet, Red  
 Subtypes: None reported  
 Dates of Use: 30 Sep. 1914 to 07 Nov. 1915

Comment: This is a ban mark, "Военной цензурой – Не пропущень" meaning "War Censor – Not Allowed". This CS was not listed in Tornio section of the Quinby CD.

Variations of this ban mark are now listed under the following censor offices: Helsinki, Oulu, Pori), Rauma, Tampere, Tornio, and Viipuri.

The last letter in the third line varies both **Ъ** and **Ь** are seen, and sometimes part of or all of the third line has been removed, changing the meaning from 'denied' to 'allowed'.

5, RR.

Rarity: Five known – very rare 5, RR.



This cover was sent from Galitsina, in Carelia, 28.IX,14, with direction "via Tornio", first word hidden under CT. The cover was stopped by censor 30. Sep. 1914; "НЕ ПРОПУЩЕЪ" is translated to "Not Allowed". On 3.II.1915 the cover was resealed with CT 15 and stamped with Tornio postmark. Arrival postmark from London 11.2.1915.

## Tornio Censor Stamp No. 9, continued



The decorative mute postmark on this cover is from Warsaw, and the cover was sent via Tornio for censoring where it on was stamped with the ban mark, "НЕ ПРОПУЩЕЪ" is translated to "Not Allowed". The ban mark is dated "11 ЯНВ 1915" which is 11. Jan. 1915, but we cannot know if this is Julian or Gregorian calendar. The cover was resealed with CT No 15, stamped with Tornio postmark dated 3. Feb. 15, so the cover was delayed 11 or 24 days, maybe just because of the German titillation "Fraulin" (Miss) in the address. German text was not tolerated by Russian censors. The cover arrived in Copenhagen 6 Feb. 1915.

This cover has previous been listed on the Helsinki pages. Collection Neil Ritchie.

## Censor's Handwritten Notation

Type: Handwritten Censor Notation  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Swedish  
 Size: Varies  
 Description: Handwritten, two lines  
 Text: Opened by war censor  
 Ink/Paper Color: Black ink on envelope paper

Dates of Use: 15 Aug. 1914 to 18 Aug. 1914

### Comment:

The Editor has noticed one handwritten cover with a Tornio exit cds from 18 August 1914 although paper tapes were reported to be used as early as 16 August 1914.

Uncertain how many different censors hand-wrote the inscription, "Öppnats af krigcensuren" on covers during the first few days of censorship. All these covers were resealed with three different Tornio postal wax seals.

Rarity: Certainly, hundreds of covers passed through the Tornio censor office during the first days, but an accurate census of surviving covers is difficult. A 4 or R ranking level is appropriate at his time. 19 covers on the editor's list of known items (15 - 17 Aug. 1914).



*This registered Åbo Aktiebank cover was postmarked at Turku, 5. VIII. 14, arriving Tornio 9. VIII. 14 and departing the censor office on the first day of censorship, 15. VIII. 15, for Brussels. It was briefly held pending the opening of the Tornio censor office. The cover was resealed with the Tornio postal wax stamp No. 2 with the letter-number combination A-1. This cover arrived in London, marked "Inaccessible-retour" and returned to Turku, 6. IX. 14. It is entirely possible that this cover first went to Helsinki for dispatch via Helsinki-St. Petersburg railway, but because of war conditions returned to Tornio where foreign mail was first censored. Without transit markings, this cannot be established with 100% certainty; rather, it is a reasonable conclusion based on the literature and applicable postal circulars.*

## Censor's Handwritten Notation (Second Day of Censorship)



This registered cover was postmarked at Turku on 7. VIII. 14 and released from the censor office eight days later, on 16. VIII. 14, arriving Göteborg, Sweden, 20. 8. 14. The cover was resealed with Postal Wax Seal No. 2 with the letter-number combination A-1. The larger dark red wax seal in the center is the sender's seal; the name is unreadable.

## Censor's Handwritten Notation (Second Day of Censorship)

The wax seal used here is from the Tornio Railway Post Office. Please take read more in the Wax seal section of this file.

21 covers registered as follows (upd. Feb. 2026)

Date	PO		PO		n/a	total
	PO	A-1	AS			
15 Aug.	3	3	1			7
16 Aug.	1	2	5	1		9
17 Aug.	2	2				4
18 Aug. date not a/v		1				1
Total	6	8	6	1		



*Tornio PO As wax seal  
Tornio As • Torneå B • Торнео Ж. Д*




*Handwritten notification "Öppnadt af krigscensuren" combined with wax seal from Tornio Railway station P.O. used on second of censorship.*

## Identify a Tornio Censor Tape

If more CT's with same characteristics, the link takes you to the first:

### Only two text lines – Finnish / Swedish

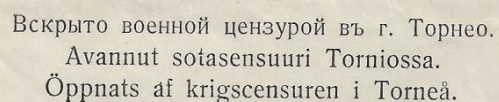
- “av” in second line - [CT1 to CT6](#)
- “af” in second line
  - No “S” in “oppnat” - [CT7; CT7A; CT8A](#)
  - Open arch in letter (Kri) g (scensur) in Swedish text
    - “Sotasensurin” with single “U” - [CT8A or CT9](#)
    - “Sotasensuurin” with double “UU” - [CT 12](#)
  - Finnish word “Sotasensurin” with single “U” - [CT7; CT7A; CT8A; CT9; CT10](#)
  - Finnish word “Sotasensuurin” with double “UU” - [CT11; CT12; CT12a](#)

Open arch in letter “g” 

### Three text lines – Russian / Finnish / Swedish:

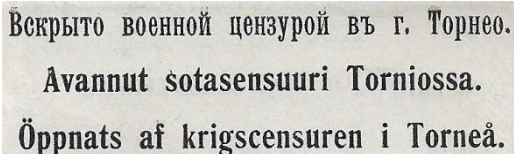
Letter O(ppnats) has "" inside the letter

- Yes
  - Four text lines - [CT19](#)
  - Three text lines - [CT18](#)
- No
  - Equal length of line one and three - [CT13](#)
  - Length of Russian text 75mm - [CT14 and CT15](#)
  - CT on red paper - [CT17](#)
  - Length of Russian text 67-68mm - [CT23; CT24; CT25; CT26](#)
  - Swedish Öppnadt spelled with a “d” - [CT28A-D](#)
- Remaining
- Three lines are narrow (vertical) [CT22A](#)



Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

- And with different font [CT21](#)



Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 1**

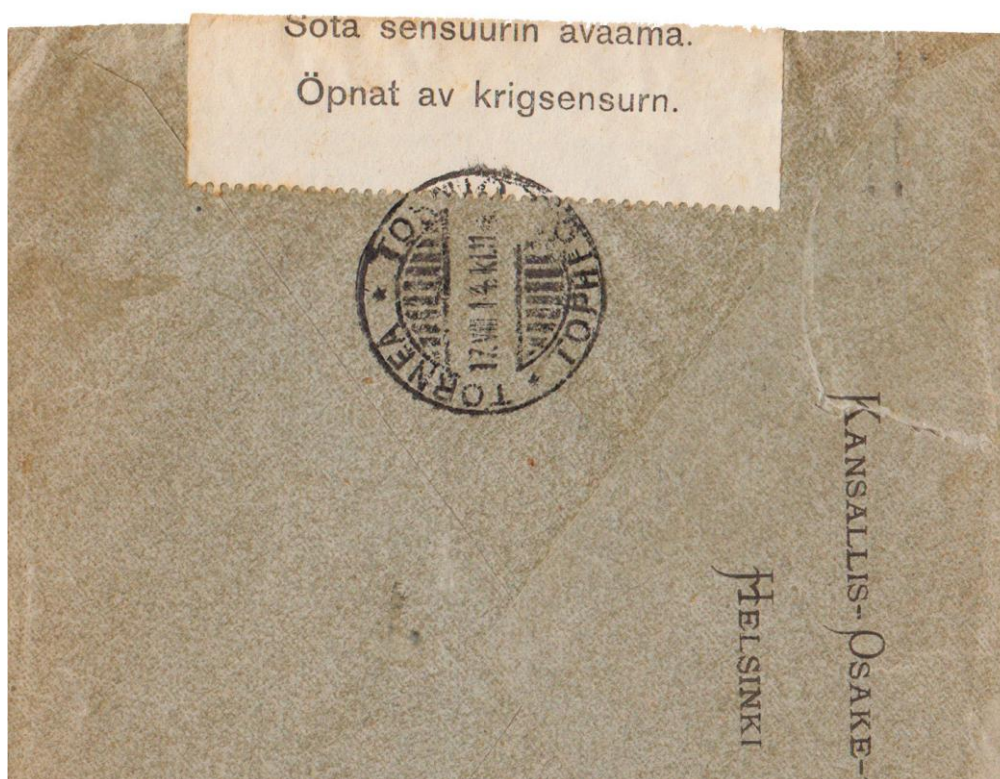
Sota sensuurin avaama.

Öpnat av krigsensurn.

Type:	W/out city ID; used only in Tornio	Comment:	No Russian text. "Öppnat" misspelled "Öpnat." "Krigs-cesuren" is misspelled, missing the letter "c" and second "e."
Shape:	Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish		Note space in "Sota sensuurin." This tape is elusive; it is missing from most major censorship collections. Probably not more than five examples exist.
Size:	Finnish text: 49.5 mm		
Swedish text:	46.5 mm		
Text:	Opened by War Censor		
Paper Color:	Off-white		
Date of Use:	16 Aug. 1914 to 17 Aug. 1914	5, RR	Seen only on covers sent abroad.

This tape is known to be used only on the second and third day of censorship.

Rarity: Previously, a rarity scale has not been established for resealing tapes. Based on additional information and a much larger census it is reasonable to assign rarity levels where appropriate and we begin by assigning a 5 or RR to Tornio CT No. 1.

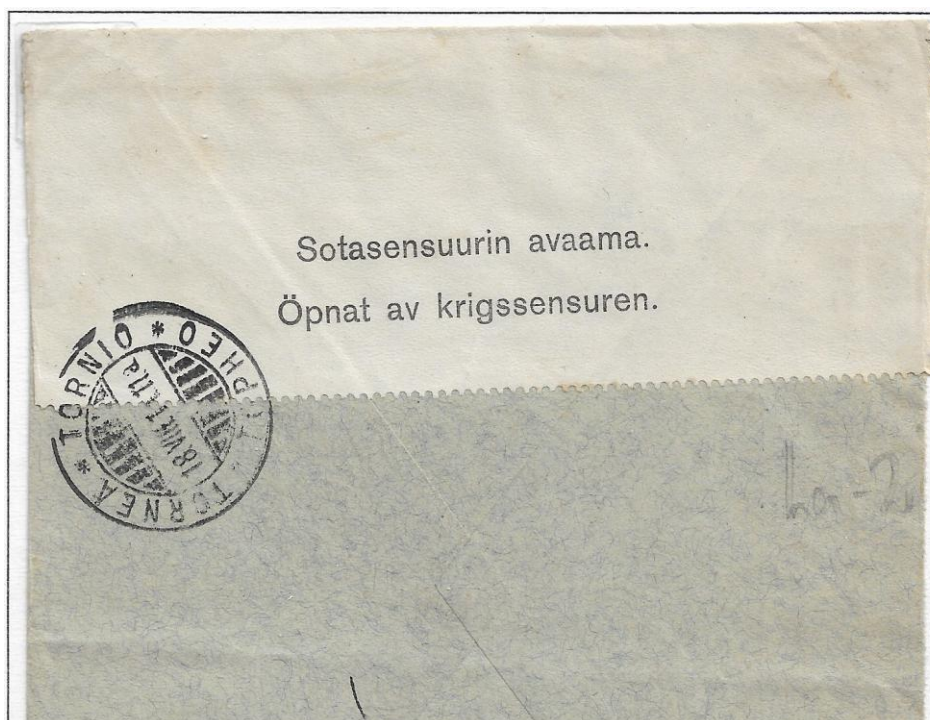


*There are three spelling mistakes on this elusive resealing tape known used only for two days, August 16 and 17, 1914, the second and third day of censorship.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 2**

**Sotasensuurin avaama.  
Öpnat av krigssensuren.**

Type:	W/out city ID; used only in Tornio	Comment:	No Russian text. "Öppnat" misspelled with one "p," "Öpnat" and "Krigscensuren" misspelled with a double "ss," "Krigssensuren."
Shape:	Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish		
Size:	Finnish text: 47 mm Swedish text: 51 mm		
Text:	Opened by War Censor		
Paper Color:	Off-white	Seen with Tornio cds as exit mark and only on covers to abroad.	
Dates of Use:	18 Aug. 1914 to 21 Aug. 1914	5, RR	Rarity: Very few covers with this tape have been positively identified. Level 5 or RR rarity.



*Tornio CT No. 2 is defined by misspellings in both the Swedish and Finnish text. The Swedish words "Öppnat" (= open) is misspelled "Öpnat" and "Krigscensuren" misspelled "Krigssensuren." (= war censor) misspelled with a double "ss." This ordinary cover was sent from Wasa Aktie Bank in Oulu, 28. VII. 14, via Tornio, 18. VIII. 14, to London.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 3**

**Sotasensuurin avaama.  
Öppnat av krigssensuren.**

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio

Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish

Size: Finnish text: 47 mm

Swedish text: 53 mm

Text: Opened by War Censor

Paper Color: Off-white

Dates of Use: 19 Aug. 1914 to 30 Aug. 1914

Comment:

No Russian text used for less than two weeks. "Öppnat" is correctly spelled, "Krigscensuren" is misspelled with a double "ss," as "Krigssensuren."

Seen only on covers to abroad and with Tornio cds as an exit mark.

Rarity: All covers that were processed during the first two weeks of censoring are highly prized. Insufficient information for establishing a rarity level, although a 3 or 4 is a reasonable preliminary assignment.



*Tornio CT No. 3 was first used on 19 August 1914. The Swedish word "Krigscensuren" is misspelled with a double "ss." All the other words in the Swedish and Finnish text are spelled correctly. Although registered mail was given priority processing, this cover was held a month before being released by the censor office. Helsinki, 28. VII. 14, via Tornio, 30. VIII. 14, to Stockholm, 2. 9. 14.*

*The wax seal was applied by the sender, Förenings-Banken, in Helsinki.*

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 4

Sotasensuurin avaama.  
Öppnat av krigssensuren

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
Size: Finnish text: 56 mm  
Swedish text: 62 mm  
Text: Opened by War Censor.  
Paper Color: Off-white  
Dates of Use: 18. Aug 1914 to 30 Aug. 1914

Comment:  
No Russian text. "Öppnat" spelled correctly "Krigscensuren" is misspelled with a double "ss," as "Krigssensuren." See CT No. 6, which may be incorrectly measured.

Seen with Tornio cds as exit mark and only on covers to abroad.

Rarity: This is a more common two-line censor tape, level 2 or 3 rarity.

**Right:** Helsinki, 11. VIII. 14, via Tornio, 19. VIII. 14 to London, AUG \_\_, 14. This cover was postmarked four days prior to censorship and was apparently expedited without undue delay. The extra handling of mail during the censorship period, routing and manual processing at censor office is evident from the number of damaged or soiled covers from this period.



**Left:** Kellomäki, 17. VIII. 14, via Tornio, 24.VIII. 14 (a little uncertain about the 4 in 24), to London. Unfortunately, there is no arrival mark, but most of the delays in the early days of censorship were at the Tornio censor office. Once mail cleared the Tornio office for friendly destinations without having to pass through St. Petersburg, it moved at the normal pace.

Both of these letters were addressed to London. The top cover was mailed at Helsinki on 11. VIII. 14, four days before censorship was initiated at Tornio and passed through the censor office rather quickly because at that time registered mail was given priority. The bottom cover also passed through the censor office rather quickly, about one week after it was postmarked at Kellomäki. Some mail was delayed a month or more at Tornio from the second week in August to mid-September.

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 5****NO ILLUSTRATION  
AVAILABLE**

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Finnish text: 57 mm  
 Swedish text: 54 mm  
 Text: Opened by War Censor  
 Paper Color: Off-white  
 Dates of Use: 23 Aug. 1914 to 27 Aug. 1914

Comment:  
 No Russian text, and very limited usage. "Öppnat" spelled correctly. "Krigscensuren" misspelled "Krigssensuren." Given the citation from Olamo for dates of use, at least two covers should exist. Nevertheless, no illustration of this tape has been offered and it is possible that it was originally misclassified.

Given the unique length of text for the Finnish and Swedish, these censor tapes should be readily identified.

Since no usage is available to confirm this tape's existence, it should be dropped from the listings. Nevertheless, the number "Tornio CT No. 5" is preserved to maintain the integrity and ease of use of the classification system.

Rarity: No rarity level can be established until more information about this tape is reported and usage confirmed.

**No Cover Illustration is Available**

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 6**

**Sotasensuurin avaama.  
Öppnat av krigssensuren.**

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Finnish text: 56 mm  
 Swedish text: 62 mm  
 Text: Opened by War Censor  
 Paper Color: Off-white  
 Date of Use: 21 Aug. 1914 to 27 Aug. 1914 (R)

Comment:  
 The above illustration is from Termonen & Keturi, Postisensuuri Suomessa, Vol. 2, page 70. The cover illustration is from the collection of R Quinby. The Olamo catalogue lists different measurements for this censor tape.

Only on mail to abroad.

Rarity: Difficult to assess but likely that not more than ten covers exist. Ranked 4, R pending additional information that this resealing tape is properly classified.



*The Finnish text on top line of the resealing tape measures exactly 56 mm and the second line of Swedish text measures exactly 62 mm, conforming to the measurements in the Olamo catalogue. The Tornio exit date on the cds is 26. VIII. 14.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 7****Tornio Censor Tape No. 7A**

Sotasensurin avaama.  
Öppnat af krigscensuren.

Sotasensurin avaama.  
Öppnat af krigscensuren.

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
Size: Finnish text: 53 mm  
Swedish text: 61 mm  
Full tape measures 117 x 51 mm  
Text: Opened by War Censor  
Paper Colors: Off-white/white  
Dates of Use: 31 Aug. 1914 to 20 Oct. 1914 2 or 3  
Includes all paper types: white, off white, light brown. Because of toning or oxidation paper types can be difficult to distinguish.

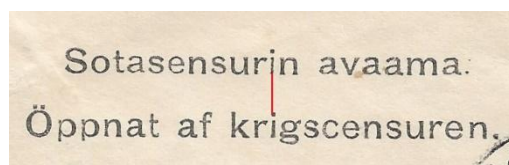
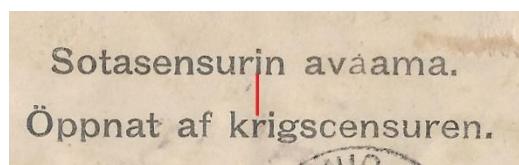
Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
Size: Finnish text: 53.5 mm  
Swedish text: 62.5 mm  
Text: Opened by War Censor  
Paper Colors: Off-white/white  
Dates of Use: 28 Aug. 1914 to 31 Oct. 1914  
Includes all paper types: white, off white, light brown. Because of toning or oxidation paper types can be difficult to distinguish.  
White paper 02 Sep. 2014 to 31 Oct. 1914  
Light brown 29 Sep. 1914 to 02 Oct. 1914

**Comment:**

No Russian text. Finnish word "Sotasensuurin" is misspelled with single a "u." and this is the only tape with Swedish word "Öppnat" spelled without "s" in combination with word "af".

Fairly common tape. T & K list a CT 7A on light brown paper.  
Seen with a Tornio cds as an exit mark, and only on mail to abroad.  
Rarity:

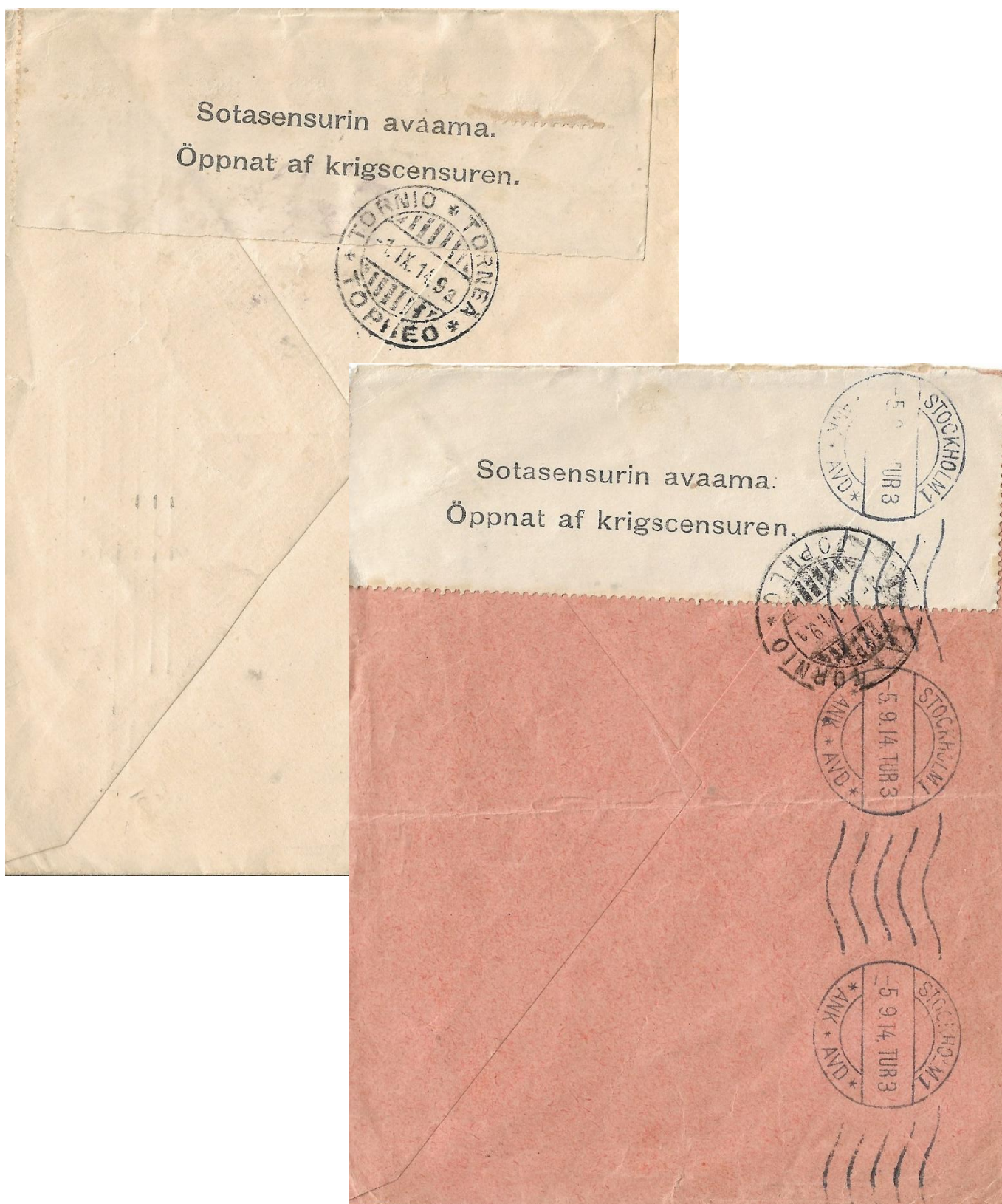
CT Nos. 7 and 7a are not scarce and a ranking of common, 2 or 3 fairly common <sup>1</sup>, is reasonable based on current census.



CT 7 to the left and CT 7A to the right. Swedish text line is 1,5-2 mm longer on CT 7A and more important the line is move towards left. The difference s easy seen by looking at the position of the letter "I" in both lines, CT 7, the Finnish "i" (line one) is above the letter "r" in second line. Where in type 7A the two letters "I" is in position over each other. If the letters "i" are above each other, you have to check the length of the lines as this also is the case for the newly reported type 8A. Swedish line of 8A is considerable shorter (8mm) and the arch of letter "g" is open.

<sup>1</sup> Present editor is not convinced that this rating is correct, based on the time I had to search for a copy, I would say more like fairly common, 3 or 4, R, rare.

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 7 &amp; 7A continued

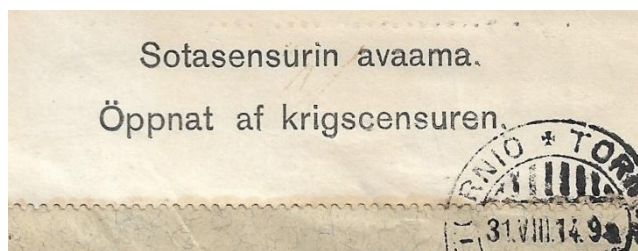


The CT's shown below on last page is here in full size on covers.

**Top left** CT 7 on cover from Turku 29.VIII.14 for Copenhagen, censored at Tornio -1.IX.14. **Below right** CT 7A on second weight cover also from Turku 31.VIII.14 for Stockholm, censored Tornio(-2?).IX.14

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 8A**

(CT No. 8 from previous catalogue has been joined with CT No 10 and 10a, and the new CT No. 8 has been named 8A to avoid misunderstandings)



Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Finnish text: 45 mm  
 Swedish text: 53,5 mm  
 Text: Opened by War Censor  
 Paper Color: White  
 Dates of Use: 31 Aug. 1914 to 04 Sep. 1914 5, RR

Comment:  
 This is a newly reported item:  
 No Russian text. Finnish word "Sotasensuurin" is misspelled with a single "u." The Swedish word "Öppnats" is spelled without "S", and the arch of "G" in "Krigscensuren" is identical to CT No. 9

Rarity:  
 Two copies reported: 5, RR



*Window cover posted at Jyväskylä on 28.VIII.14 and travelling via Tornio censor office on 31.VIII.14, Destination is unknown, but most foreign mail via Tornio went to Sweden or Denmark. The Censor tape is a mix of CT 's No. 7 and 9, the length of the text is almost identical with CT No. 9. and so is the characteristic arch of letter "G" in Swedish word "Krigscensuren", but the tape also misses the letter "S" in "Öppnats" which before this reporting was unique for CT No. 7 among the two lined CT's with "(Öppnats) af (krigscensuren)"*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 9**

Sotasensurin avaama.  
Öppnats af krigscensuren.

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Finnish text: 45 mm  
 Swedish text: 54 mm  
 The tape is perforated on two sides  
 Text: Opened by War Censor  
 Paper Color: White, brown

Dates of Use:  
 White paper: 31 Aug. 1914 to 23 Oct. 1914 2  
 Brown paper: 14 Nov. 1914

Comment:  
 This tape is easily recognized by its unique text lengths, and different styles of letter G in the word Krigscensuren.



An unused strip was discovered and reportedly put into use in July 1915 (Rare find, dates?). The Finnish word "Sotasensuurin" is misspelled with a single "u."

It is known to be used only on foreign mail and is always seen with a Tornio cds used as an exit mark.

Rarity: The white tape is fairly common, ranked 2. The brown tape is known to be used only one day and is very elusive, no firm rarity can be assigned at this time. It is also possible that the paper tape used on the reported 14 November 1914 cover has oxidized over time and is a discolored white.



*This is the LKU of the white-paper censor tape of tape No. 9, used 23.X.1914 on a second weight cover from Helsinki to Stockholm.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 10**  
 (including data of CT No. 8, which has been deleted)

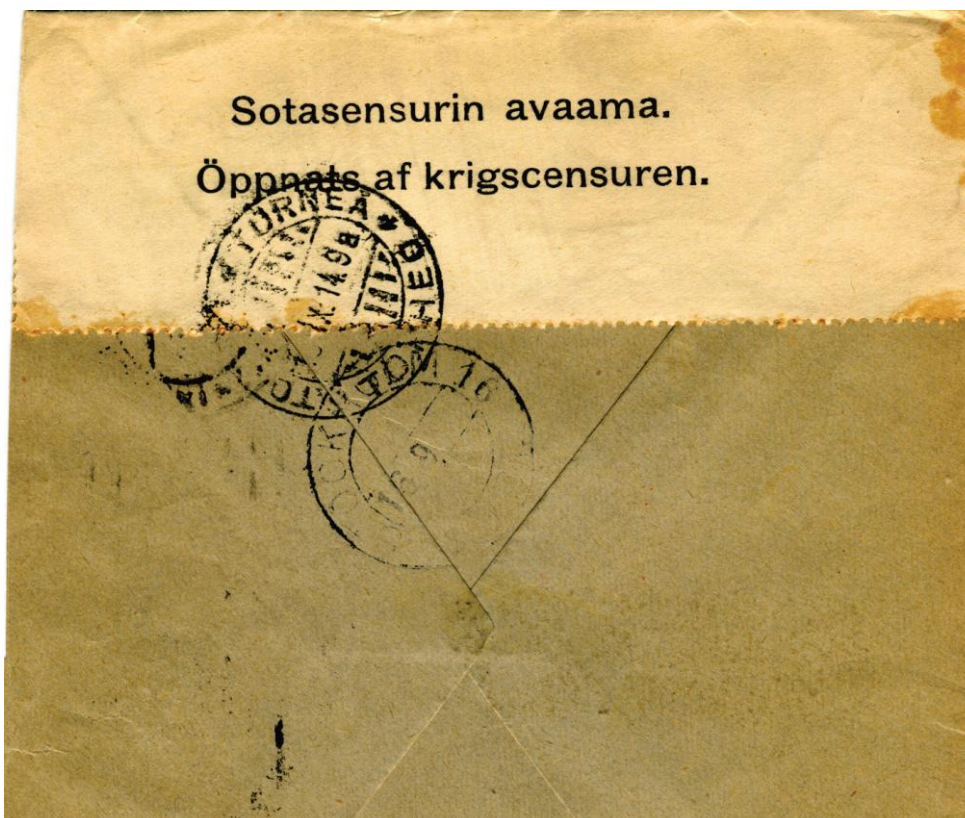
**Sotasensurin avaama.**  
**Öppnats af krigscensuren.**

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Finnish text: 54 mm  
 Swedish text: 63 mm  
 Text: Opened by War Censor  
 Paper Color: White  
 Dates of Use: 31 Aug. 1914 to 30 Nov. 1914

Comment:  
 No Russian text. The Finnish word "Sotasensuurin" is misspelled with a single "u." All words in Swedish text are spelled correctly. It is known to be used only on foreign mail and is always seen with a Tornio cds used as an exit mark.

There are no significant differences between CT Nos. 8, 10, and 10a, therefore they have been deleted, and "Dates of Use" joined.

Rarity:  
 Common, level 2  
 This resealing tape is common. It was used for nearly two months, and ranked at level 2 based on the current census.



*Ordinary bank letter from Wasa Aktie Bank at Helsinki, 11. IX. 1914 via Tornio, 16. IX. 1914, to Stockholm. The processing delay at Tornio was due to the backlog accumulated from early August until the Tornio censorship office was opened on August 15th. Delays at Tornio were common throughout September 1914.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 11**

**Sotasensuurin avaama.  
Öppnats af krigscensuren.**

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish

Size: Finnish text: 56 - 57 mm  
Swedish text: 62 mm

Text: Opened by War Censor

Paper Color: White

Dates of Use: 26 Oct. 1914 to 01 Dec. 1914

Rarity: Common, possibly the most widely used two-line tape at Tornio, ranked 2.

Comment:

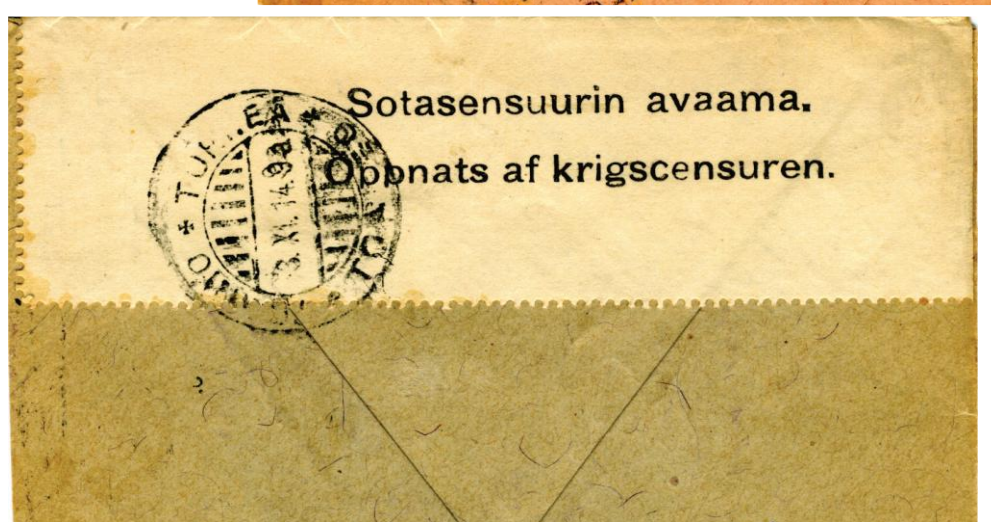
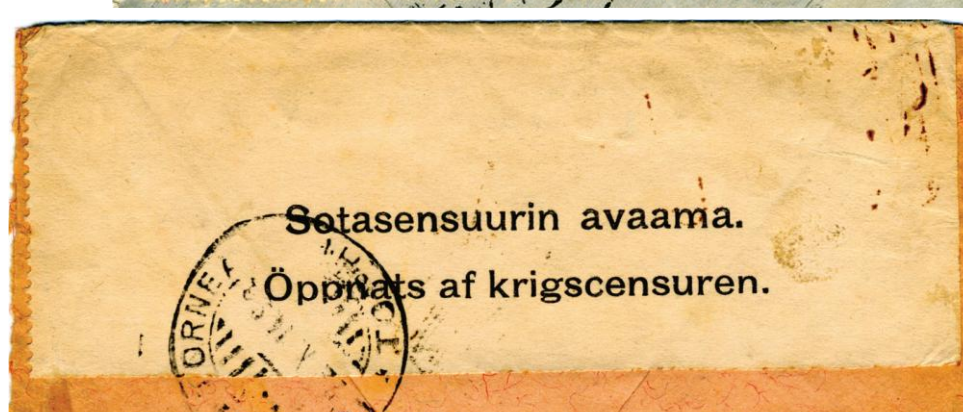
All words in Finnish and Swedish are spelled correctly. Among the two line locally printed Finnish and Swedish censor tapes, only Nos. 11, 12, and 12a have all words spelled correctly. It is known to be used only on foreign mail and is always seen with Tornio cds used as an exit mark.

The tape is common, and it is apparent that there were several printings of this tape as the length of the top line varies slightly from 56.565 to 57 mm. These differences are

**Top:** The Finnish text measures exactly 56 mm.

**Middle:** Here the top line measures 56.5 mm.

**Bottom:** The top line measures 57 mm.

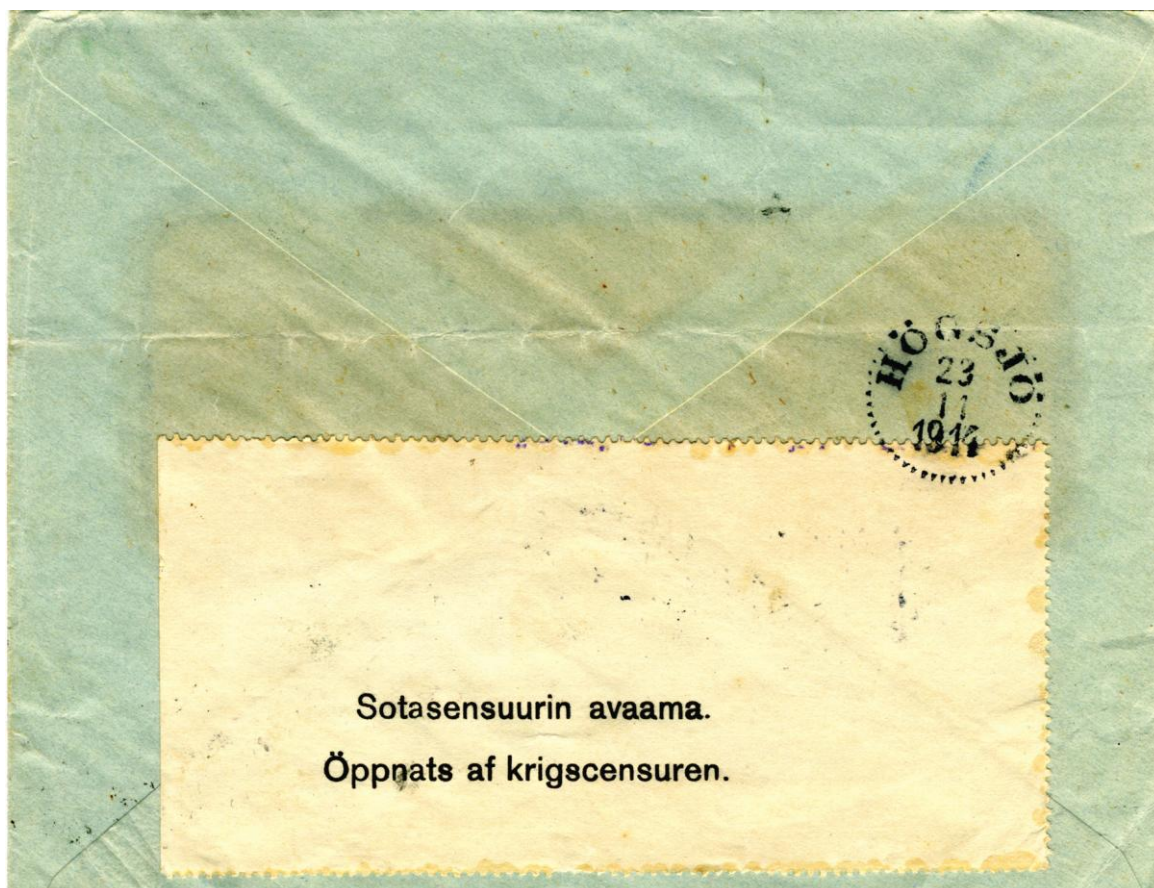


**Tornio Censor Tape No. 12**

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Finnish text: 47 mm  
 Swedish text: 54 mm  
 Text: Opened by War Censor.  
 Paper Color: White  
 Dates of Use: 08 Nov. 1914 to 02 Dec. 1914

Rarity:  
 This tape is common, level 2, based on the current census.

Comment:  
 All words in Finnish & Swedish text are spelled correctly.  
 Editor: T&K report length of Swedish text at 54 mm. Precise re-measurements of numerous examples of this tape also reveal slight differences in the length of the Swedish text. These differences are unimportant and do not warrant separate catalogue listing. The only similar tape is No. 11 from which it is easily distinguished by the overall differences in the length of both lines of text. It is known to be used only on foreign mail and is always (or nearly always) seen with Tornio cds used as an exit mark. See below.



*This envelope contained printed matter addressed to Sweden. It was left unsealed per regulations, so the censor simply applied the entire tape to the back to show that it passed through the censor office. According to practice, a transit, arrival or exit cds was not generally struck on printed matter mail in Finland. At the time censor stamps had not yet been introduced at Tornio. Three sided perforations on the tape are clearly visible. The Swedish text measures 54 mm.*

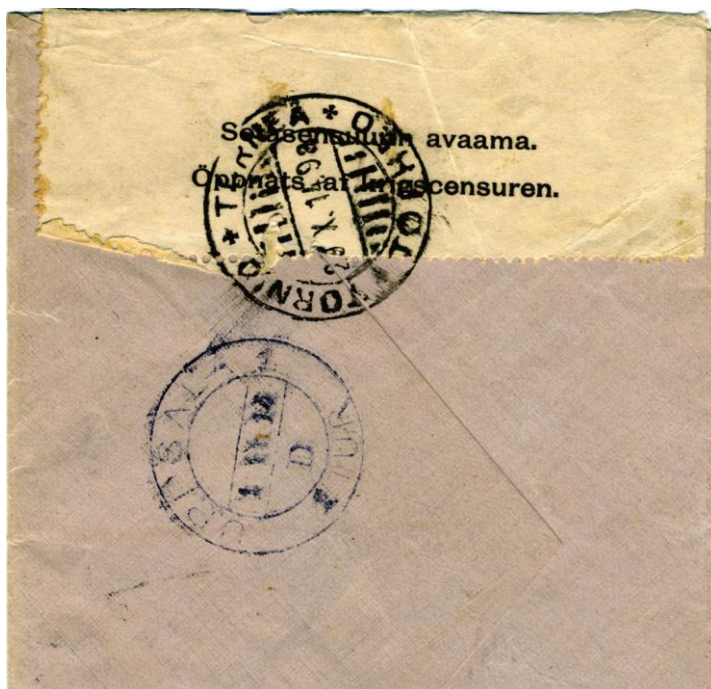
**Tornio Censor Tape No. 12a**

Sotasensuurin avaama.  
Öppnats af krigscensuren.

Type: W/out city ID; used only in Tornio  
Shape: Straight line, text in Finnish & Swedish  
Size: Finnish text: 41 mm  
Swedish text: 47 mm  
Text: Opened by War Censor.  
Paper Color: White  
Dates of Use: 18 Oct. 1914 to 02 Dec. 1914.

Rarity:  
Less than eight examples have been positively identified to date; therefore, this tape is ranked 4 or R. However, considering that this tape was in use for six weeks, additional specimens are likely to be reported.

Comment:  
All words in Finnish & Swedish text are spelled correctly.  
Editor: This tape was first identified by Termonen & Keturi. They measured the second line of text at 49 mm. This is a mistake.  
CT No. 12a is not a variety of CT No. 12; rather, this tape was first reported well after the Olamo catalogue numbering system was established. The two-line format without Russian text and dates of use suggested the designation 12a rather than adding it to the end of the three-line trilingual tapes.



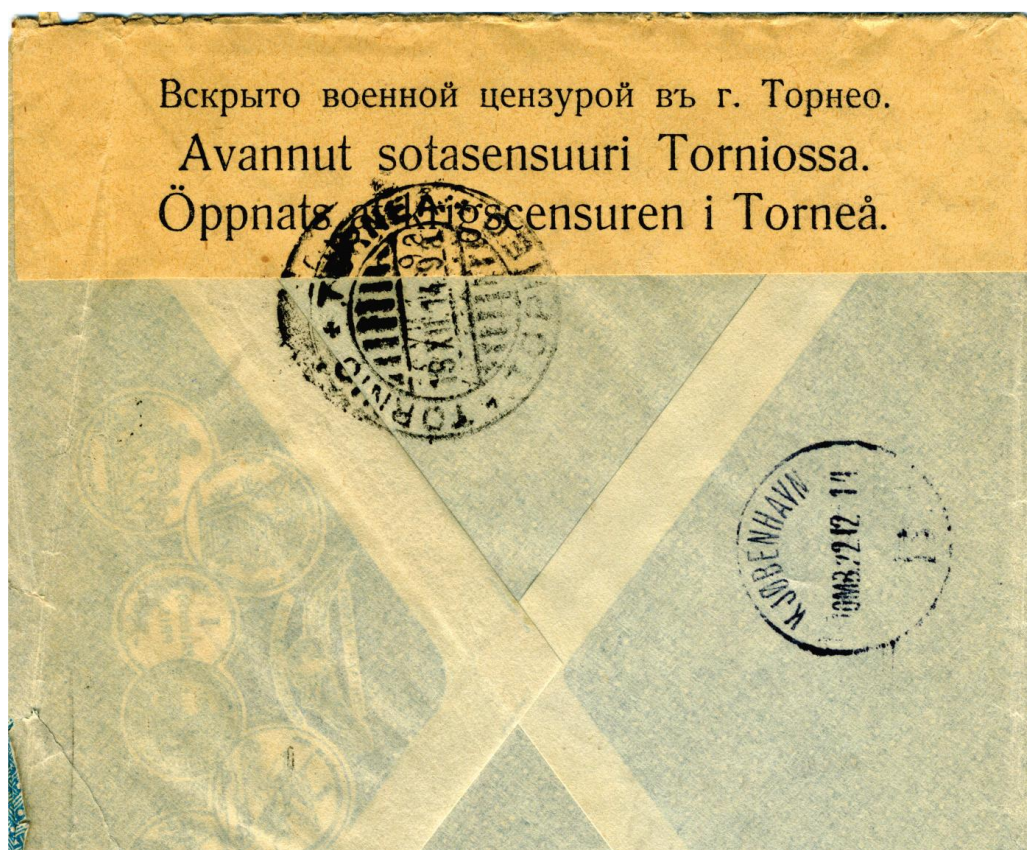
**Above:** Very often the Tornio cds, used as an exit mark, is smudged as seen on the above cover. The mark is frequently muddy, over inked or blurred and the dates difficult to read.

**Left:** Although the color of this paper has a brown tint, the tint is a result of natural oxidizing over many decades. The paper is classified as white.

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 13**

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
 Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type:	With City of Tornio ID;	Comment:
Shape:	Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish	The first and largest tri-lingual tape used in Tornio. It is also the first tape w/city ID. This tape went out of use before censor stamps were introduced at Tornio. It is seen only on mail to abroad and always with Tornio cds as an exit mark.
Size:	Russian text: 84 mm Finnish text: 80 mm Swedish text: 84 mm	Rarity:
Text:	Opened by war censor in Tornio.	This tape is fairly common. Editor's census suggests that brown paper tape is more common. The brown tape is ranked 2 or 3, pending a more complete census. No rarity ranking is assigned to the white paper tape.
Paper Colors:	White & light brown	
Dates of Use:		
	White paper: 12 Dec. 1914 to 30 Dec. 1914	
	Light brown: 04 Dec. 1914 to 23 Dec. 1914	



*Cover from Helsinki, 16. XII. 16, via Tornio, 19. XII. 14, to Copenhagen, 22. 12. 14, resealed with CT No. 13, which is easily recognized by the length of the text and large size of the type fonts.*

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 14

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.

Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.

Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line; text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 75 mm  
 Finnish text: 60mm  
 Swedish text: 66 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: White & light brown

Dates of Use:  
 White paper: 31 Dec. 1914 to 06 Jul. 1915  
 Light brown: 28 Dec. 1914 to 12 Apr. 1915

## Comment:

This tape is easily identified by the length of text on the three lines, clearly distinguished from any other three-line Tornio resealing tapes. To date, I only reported by mail to abroad usually with Tornio cds as an exit mark.

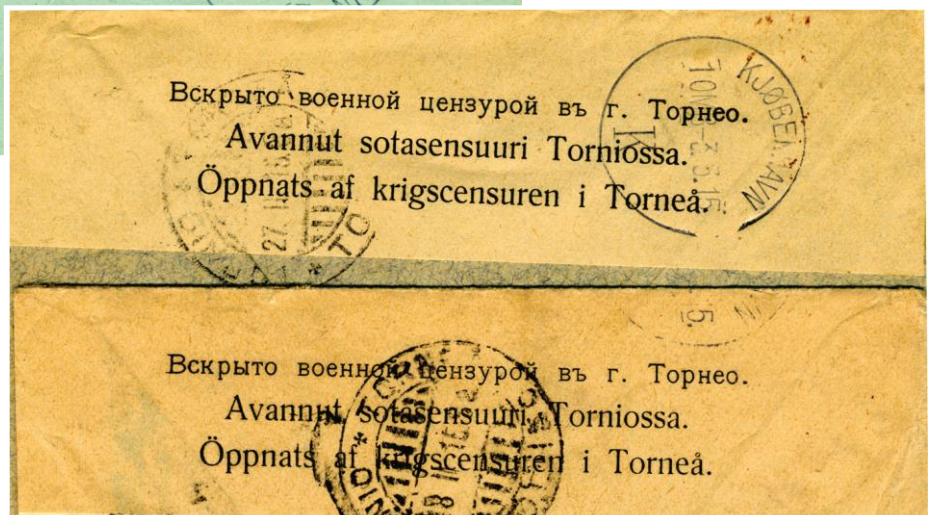
The intensity of color on the brown tapes varies; three light brown shades are noted. Natural oxidation and toning are possible explanations from the glue or other conditions. Also, different brown papers might have been used in the printings of the resealing tapes. Differences are noted, but not separately cataloged.

Rarity: Both shades are common, level 2 rarity.



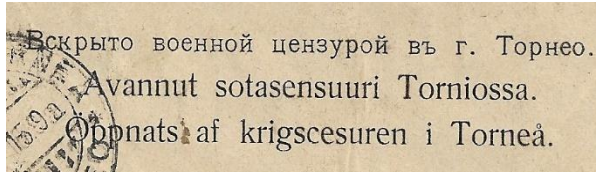
**Left:** Only the bottom two lines of the white tape are shown on the cover back. 19. V. 15 is the LKU of the white tape. Personal CS No. 1, Mark No. 23 was used to identify the censor, a practice not introduced at Tornio until the introduction of the personal censor stamps in March 1915.

**Right:** Two distinct brown shades are recognized on these censor tapes. There is also a slight difference in the intensity and thickness of certain letters, which more than likely was the result of over inking of the rollers when the top tape was printed. These minor differences and shades are noted but not catalogued.



**Tornio Censor Tape No. 14x**

(This CT was earlier listed as No. 16)



Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 75 mm  
 Finnish text: 60 mm  
 Swedish text: 64 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: White, brown

## Dates of Use:

White paper: 10 Jan. 1915 to 27 Mar. 1915  
 Lt. brown paper: 31 Jan. 1915 to 23 Feb. 1915  
 Brown paper: 11 Mar. 1915

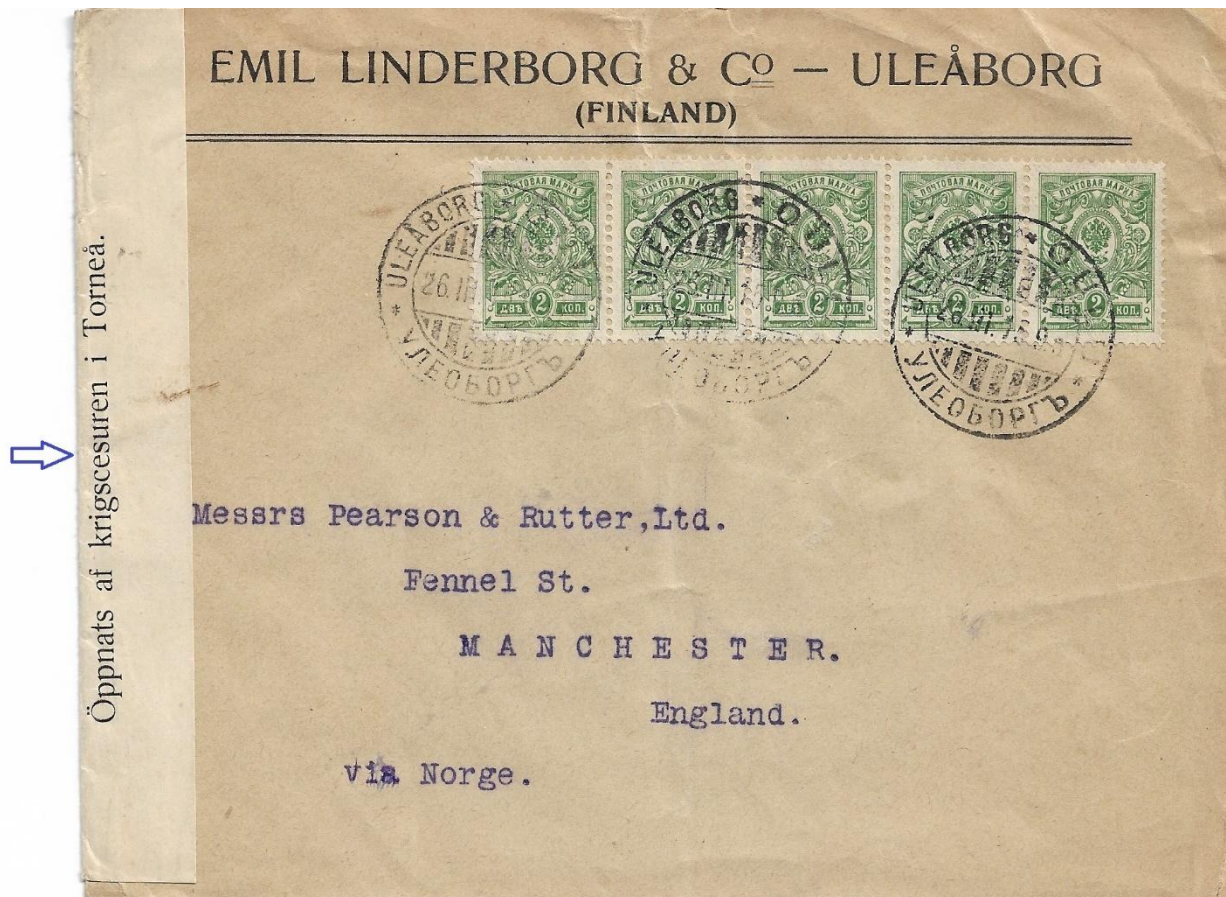
## Comment:

The Swedish word "krigscensuren" is misspelled; the first "n" is missing.

Proper identification of paper colors is always difficult. The paper used for this tape is described by Olamo and T & K as white, but tapes printed on lt. brown and brown paper have now been reported. See the illustration below.

## Rarity:

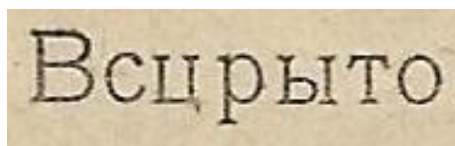
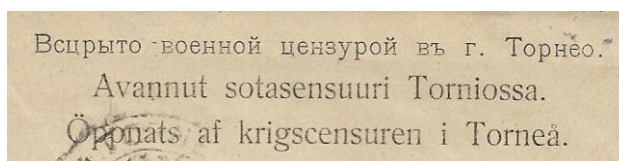
There is insufficient data and census to establish a rarity level for this tape; nevertheless, this CT is not often encountered because the missing "n" is overlooked or obstructed by the Tornio postmark or is rare



*Tornio Ct 14x, was previously listed as Ct No. 16, here illustrated on front side of a cover sent from Oulu with inscription "Via Norway" to England. The route via Bergen to Newcastle was an alternative during WWI to the route via Göteborg. The cover was censored at Tornio on 27 III 1915, which was LKU for 14x.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 14y**

with a typing error in the setting.



third letter in first Russian word is **с** not **к**

Only one copy was reported,  
 used 26 Dec. 1914,  
 Rarity: Only known – very rare 5, RR.



*Tornio Ct. No. 14, probably first printing of this censor tape type, with typing error in setting, third letter in first Russian word is **с** not **к**. This censor tape is used two days earlier than first known use and the misprinting has probably been discovered. The cover is sent from Helsinki 25.XII.14 and inspected at Tornio 26.XII.14. Rotterdam arrival postmark 3.1.15*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 15**

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.

Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.

Öppnats af krigscensuren i Tornea.

Type:	With City of Tornio ID	Comment:
Shape:	Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish	Rarity:
Size:	Russian text: 75 mm Finnish text: 54 mm Swedish text: 62 mm	CT No. 15 is one of the most common of all resealing tapes used at Tornio. On white or light brown paper, it is a level 1 on the rarity scale. There is an insufficient census of this tape on gray paper to establish a rarity level.
Text:	Opened by war censor in Tornio.	
Paper Colors:	White, brown, gray	
Dates of Use:		
White paper:	30 Dec. 1914 to 06 Jul. 1915	1
Light brown:	24 Dec. 1914 to 03 Mar. 1915	1
Gray:	18 Feb. 1915 to 21 May 1915	?



*Tornio CT No. 15 is one of the most common of all resealing tapes used at Tornio. The tape was used in first half of 1915 and in the last part of the period has only the white tape been reported. The tape illustrated here is on a cover sent from Dalsbruk 22.VI.15, censored at Tornio on 25.VI.15, by the censor Aleksejev, and the cover has been struck with his personal CS 1, Mark No. 4. This is LKU of this mark. The cover arrived in Stockholm 28.6.1915.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 15 v 1-7****Comment:**

Seven varieties of this very common tape have been reported in the last several years:

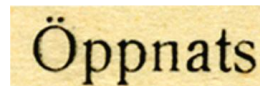
- v-1: See Ct No. 15A & B.
- v-2: The "T" in Torniossa is set in bold type
- v-3: The "A" and "T" are both set in bold type on the second line.
- v-4: The "T" in Torneå is set in bold type.
- v-5: On the third line the umlaut is missing over the "O" in Öppnats.
- v-6: The umlauts over the "O" in Öppnats touch the letter "O" and the letter itself appears thicker and slightly raised.
- v-7: The umlauts over Öppnats are missing entirely.

This tape was likely reprinted several times and for any number of reasons one font was substituted for another. This may also explain fractional differences in the length of one or more lines of text on some tapes.

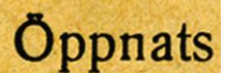
**Rarity:**

CT No. 15 is one of the most common of all resealing tapes used at Tornio.

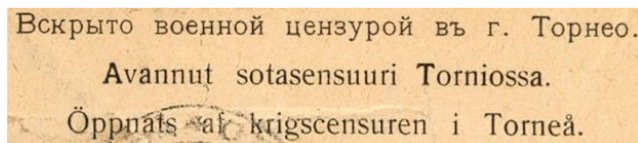
There is insufficient data to establish rarity levels for the varieties.



CT 15 Normal Ö

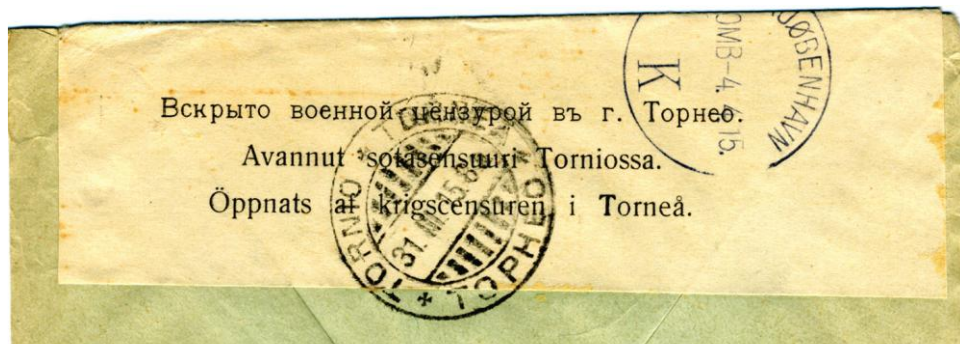


CT 15 V-6

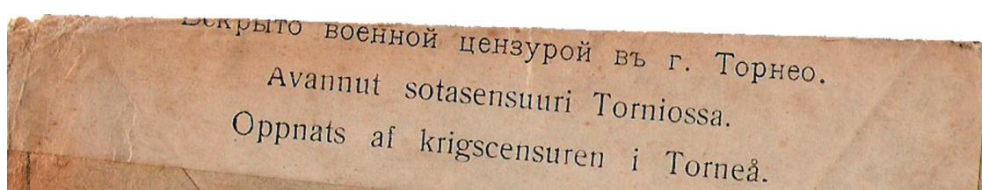


Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

**Variety v-3:** This variety may be distinguished from the common CT No. 15 by the bold capital letters in the Finnish text on the second line "Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa" Another variety shows the bold "A" and the regular "T." This censor tape variety was found on a cover from Helsinki, 1. II. 15, via Tornio with 3. II. 15 departure mark, to Sweden.

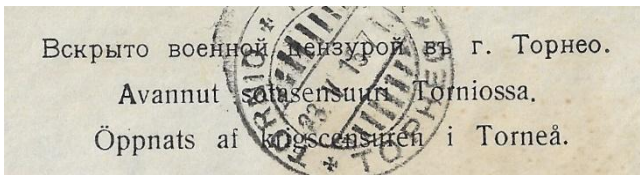


CT No. 15 v-4 on cover from Oulu, 30. III. 15, via Tornio to Copenhagen.



**T No. 15v-7** without umlauts over "Öppnats" was first reported during the fall of 2009. There is no evidence that the resealing tape was altered and again calls attention to the fact that new censorship marks and varieties may yet be discovered. Collection of John Salmi.

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 15A and 15B



Type 15A - Lower Case "s"(otasensuuri)

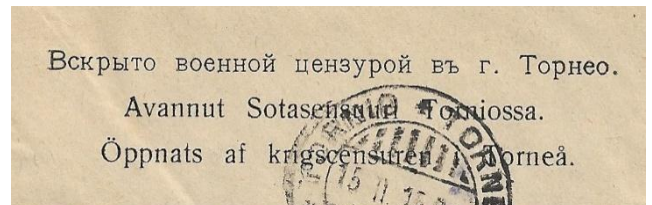
Period of use: 23 May 1915

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 75 mm  
 Finnish text: 55,5 mm  
 Swedish text: 62 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: White, lt. brown

### Comment:

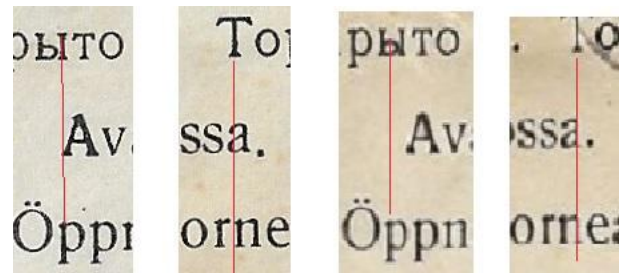
The difference between type 15A and 15B is that the first letter in the second word, "Sotasensuuri" in the Finnish text, the middle line, by type 15A is a lowercase a and by type 15B an upper case. An upper case is found in none of the other Tornio CTs. **Sotasensuuri**

Type 15A has earlier been listed as Ct No. 15 Variety v-1.



Type 15B - Upper Case "S"(otasensuuri)

Period of use: 29 Jan. 1915 to 02 Jun. 1915

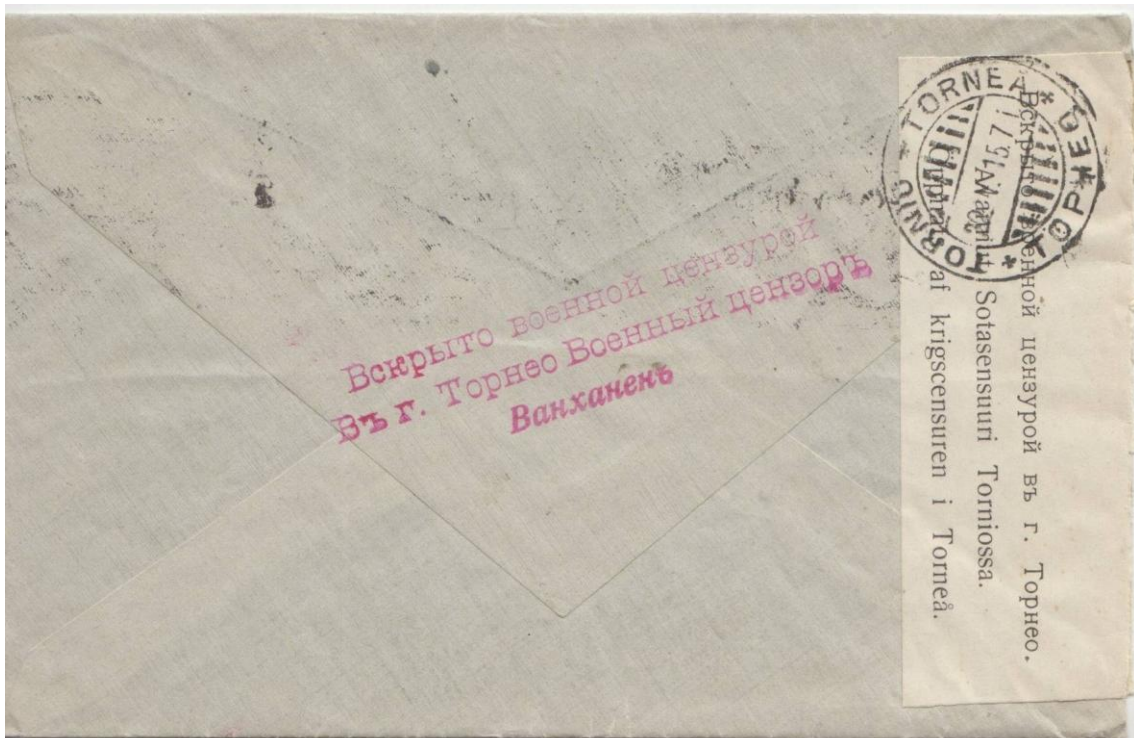


Ct No. 15A & B

Ct No. 15

The length of the Finnish text has a length of 55,5mm, which is 1,5mm longer than Ct 15, but you do not have to measure, you can compare the position of the line to CT No. 15.

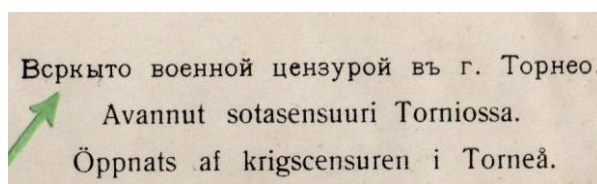
Rarity: There is an insufficient census of these types to establish a rarity level.



This resealed tape with S(otasensuuri) written in upper case. This CT was first reported late 2021 by Roger Santala.

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 15x**

(This CT was earlier listed as No. 20)



Type: With City of Tornio ID;  
 Shape: Straight line; text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 75 mm  
 Finnish text: 54 mm  
 Swedish text: 62.5 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Color White  
 Date of Use:  
 White paper: 26 May 1915

**Comment:**

In the Russian text, the first word, "Вскрыто" is misspelled. The letter "k" is misplaced after the Russian "p." The correct Russian spelling is Вскрыто.

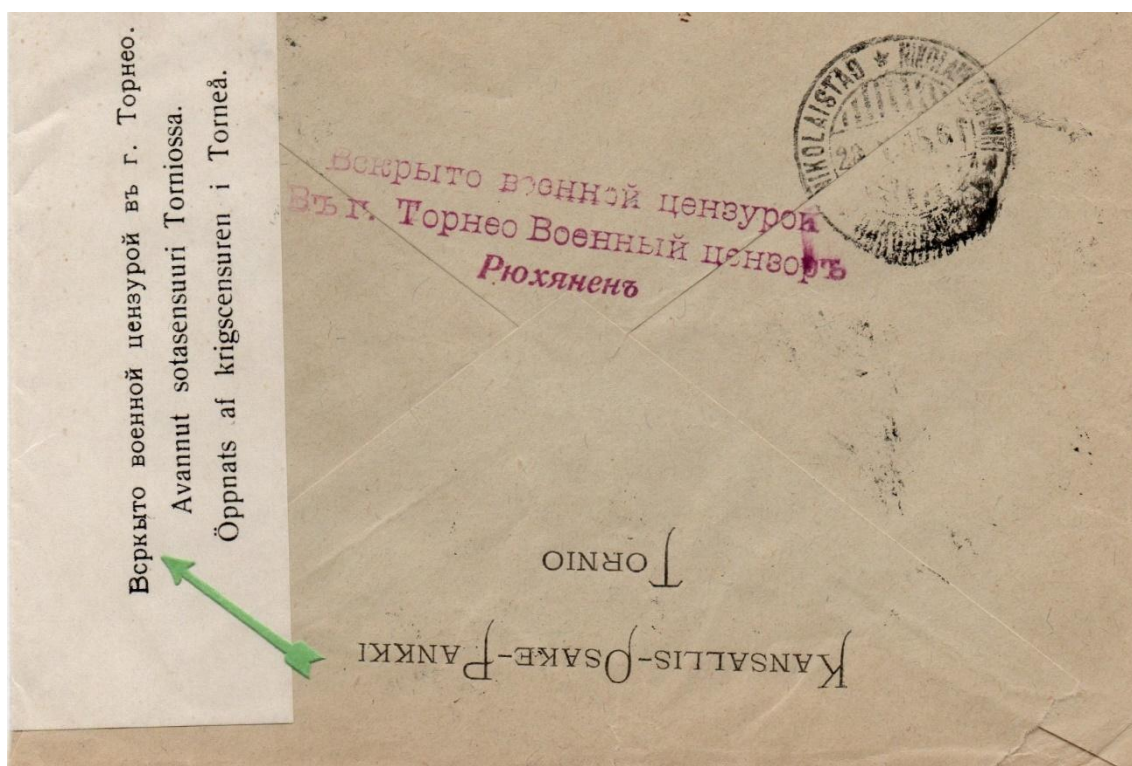
It is possible the spelling error was noted, and the Russian supervisor ordered the tape recalled -- it is known that printing numbers for the three language resealing tapes were substantial and none are particularly difficult.

Single-day usage. The census is unknown.

We have been searching for an example on the cover for years, but none has been seen but could be easily overlooked.

**Rarity:**

Rarity: Only known – very rare 5, RR.



*This is 30-40 years after Olamo introduced the miss-spelling in his catalogue still a One-Day-Known CT, and the cover is the very one from Olamo's collection. Mark No. 12, Censor: Ryhänen*

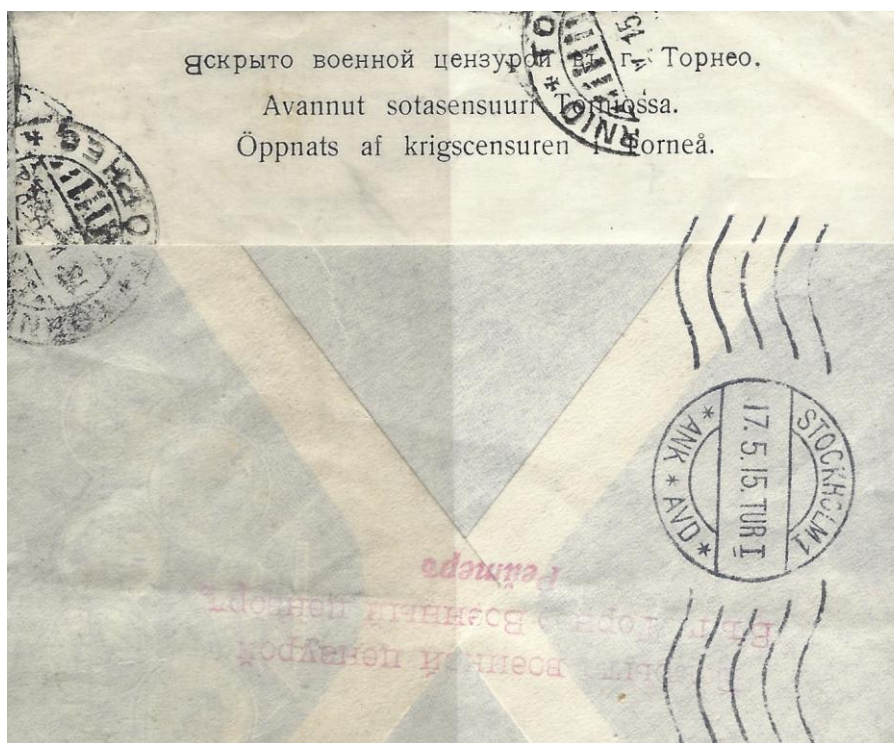
## Tornio Censor Tape No. 15y, with a typing error in the setting.

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
Size: Russian text: 75 mm  
Finnish text: 54 mm  
Swedish text: 62 mm  
Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
Paper Colors: White

Comment:  
Two tapes were only a month apart reported in 2018 with the same discovery: "B", the first letter in Russian text rotated 180°. The fact that there are 1½ months between the two known dates indicates that more items must exist.

Dates of Use:  
White paper: 29 Mar. 1914 and 15 May 1915

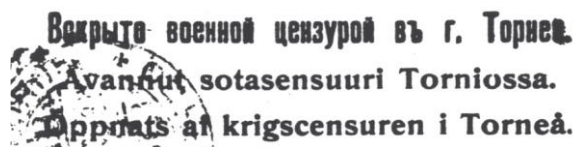


*An ordinary cover sent from Helsinki 12 V 15 to Stockholm. At Tornio censor office the cover was censored on 15 May 1915 stamped with CS 1, mark No 8 and resealed with CT No. 15a. Collection of Roger Santala.*

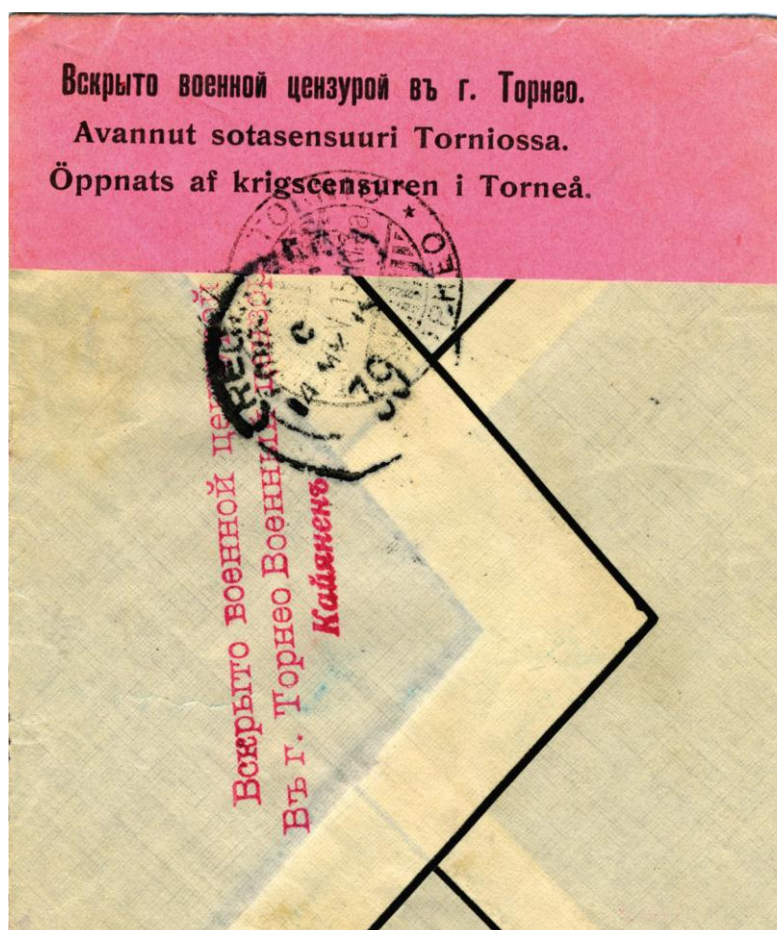
**Tornio Censor Tape No. 16**

Has been renamed to [No 14x.](#)

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 17



Type:	With City of Tornio ID	Comment:
Shape:	Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish	Unusual thick type. Russian text is reported blurred by Olamo.
Size:	Russian text: 67 mm Finnish text: 63 mm Swedish text: 69 mm	Only primary colored tape from Tornio. It is almost always seen on mail to foreign destinations with Tornio cds as an exit mark, and beginning March 1915, with a personal censor stamp as shown here.
Text:	Opened by war censor in Tornio.	Rarity:
Paper Color:	Red	Although not thought to be considered scarce, there is insufficient data to establish a reliable census for establishing a rarity level.
Dates of Use:	26 Feb. 1915 to 16 Jun. 1915	



Registered letter from Helsinki, 5. V. 15, via Tornio, 7. V. 15, to London. The Tornio exit date of 5 May 1915 pushes back the usage date of CS No. 1, Mark 6 (censor Kaijanen) from 21 May 1915, to 7 May 1915. Exceptionally clear, complete, and bold strike of this large censor stamp.

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 18**

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео  
 Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
 Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

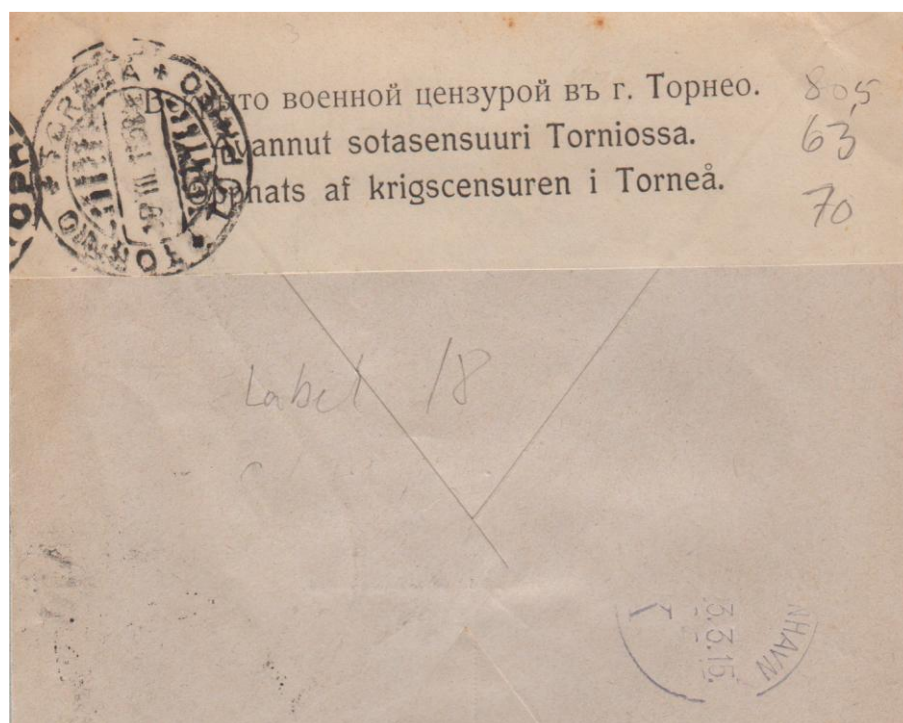
Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 80.5 or 81 mm  
 Finnish text: 63 mm  
 Swedish text: 70 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio  
 Paper Color: White  
 Dates of Use:  
 White paper: 18 Mar. 1915 to 19 Mar. 1915

## Comment:

This tape appears to be the same as CT No. 19 without the fourth line of text in Russian, which was likely added considering the dates of reported use. In the Swedish word "Öppnats, the dots are inside the letter "Ö," see the illustration for Censor Tape No. 19. This illustration is from Postisensuuri Suomessa, Vol. 2, page 74. About five covers were identified, all with 18-19 March 1915 cancellations.

## Rarity:

Rare, level 4, R



*On this cover, the position of the umlauts is not readily visible nevertheless, the CT has been authenticated as CT No. 18 with the cds from 18. III. 15. Censur is likely closer to 5 or 6 rather than at the upper end of the level 4 classification.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 19**

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
 Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.  
 Военный цензоръ .....

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line: four lines of text in  
 Russian, Finnish, Swedish & Russian  
 Size: Russian text: 80 mm  
 Finnish text: 63 mm  
 Swedish text: 70 mm  
 Russian text: 54 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio/  
 War censoring  
 Subtypes two  
 Paper Colors White, light brown

**Dates of Use:**

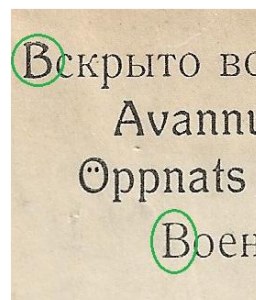
Type 1: The font of the first letter in line one is  
 different from the first letter inline four.

White paper: 15 Apr. 1915 to 30 Apr.1915

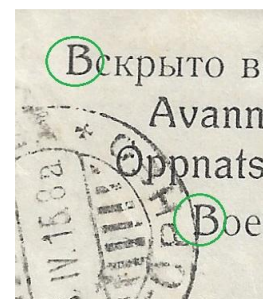
Light brown: 15 Apr. 1915 to 23 Apr.1915

Type 2: The font of the first letter in line one is the  
 same as the first letter inline four.

White paper: 23 Apr. 1915 to 28 Apr.1915



Type 1

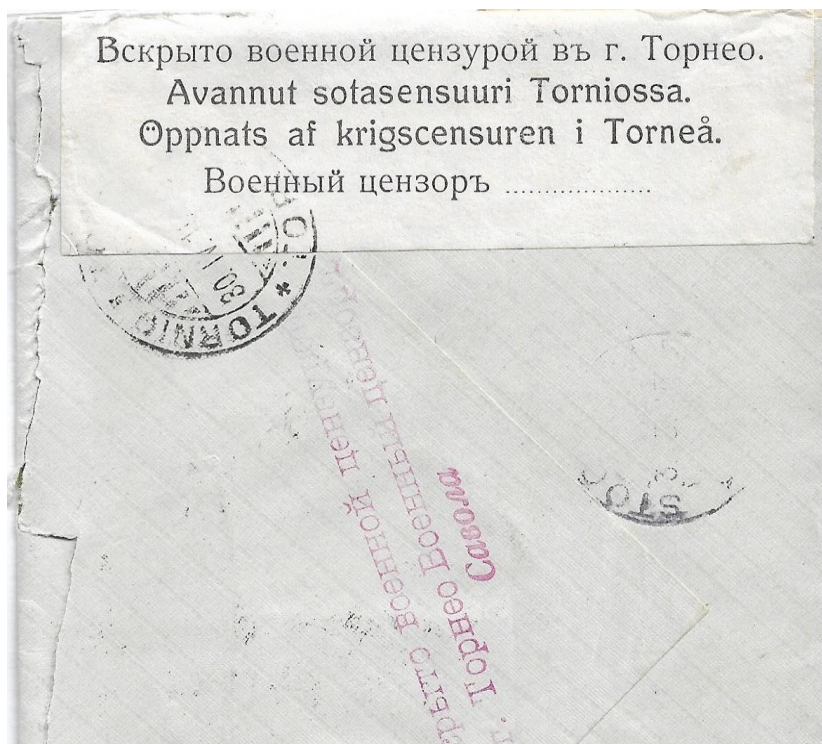


Type 2

**Comment:**

In the Swedish word "Öppnats", the dots (umlauts) are inside the letter "Ö." Only Tornio censor tape with four lines of text. The fourth line was for the censor to write his name or initial; however, the Editor has not seen a single example of the censor's handwritten initial or name. Seen on mail to abroad usually with Tornio cds as exit mark and a personal CS. Typical use is shown here.

Rarity: White CT, type 1, is common, level 2. Insufficient data to establish the rarity levels of the other CTs.



Here a cover sent from Helsinki to Stockholm censored at Tornio 30 IV 1915 LKU of CT 19 type 1 on white paper and the censor's personal mark; CS No. 1, Mark 13, censor's name is Savola.



**Tornio Censor Tape No. 20**  
has been renamed to [CT 15x](#)

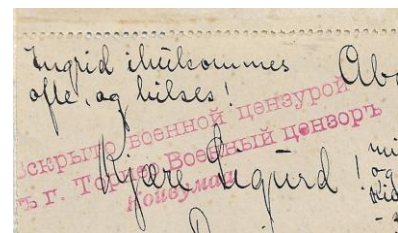
## Tornio Censor Tape No. 21

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
 Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type:	With City of Tornio ID	Postisensuuri Suomessa, 1914-1918, Vol. 1, page 75 again w/out illustration, referring to Olamo's listing.
Shape:	Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish	Text length as reported by Olamo is unique. The tape shown here measures exactly the lengths reported by Olamo and as it does not conform to any other Tornio tape it is presented here as an example of CT No. 21. CT No. 17 has a similar style font, but the spacing between letters is distinctly wider.
Size:	Russian text: 63 mm Finnish text: 55 mm Swedish text: 61 mm	
Text:	Opened by war censor in Tornio.	
Paper Color:	White	
Dates of Use:	05 Jun. 1915 to 25 Jun. 1915	Rarity: Ten examples of this censor tape have been reported: level 4, R.
Comment:	First reported by Olamo w/out illustration, used one day, 13.VI 1915. The tape is catalogued by Termonen & Keturi,	



Russian 3 kop Romanov lettercard up rated with a 7+1 kop 1915 charity stamp sent from Turku 5 VI 1915 and censored at Tornio 7. VI. 15, by censor Koivumaa, his personal censor stamp CS. 1, Mark 8 is stamped on the inside of the lettercard, which was resealed with no less than three copies of CT 21. Arrival postmark from Kristiania (Oslo), Norway 10.VI.1915



## Tornio Censor Tape No. 22A

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
 Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line; text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 69,5 mm  
 Finnish text: 54 mm  
 Swedish text: 59,5 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Color: White

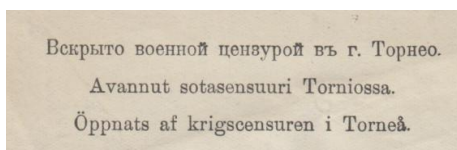
Comments: This tape is a new discovery, first reported in 2019 by Roger Santala. The measurements are different to any known Tornio CT and the small space between the text lines are unique. In 2021 a second copy was reported.

Rarity:  
 Very rare, level 5, RR

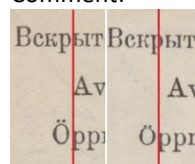
Dates of Use:  
 White paper: 11 Mar. 1916 to 17 Mar. 1916 5, RR



The first reported example of CT 22A, here on a cover sent from Viipuri 14 Mar. 1916 via Tornio to Copenhagen arriving 19 Mar. 1916. There is no transit mark from Tornio so exact date of use is not known. Especially the narrow high of the three lines catches the eye. Collection Roger Santala.

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 23**

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 68.5 mm  
 Finnish text: 52.5 mm  
 Swedish text: 58 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: White, light brown, brown

**Comment:**

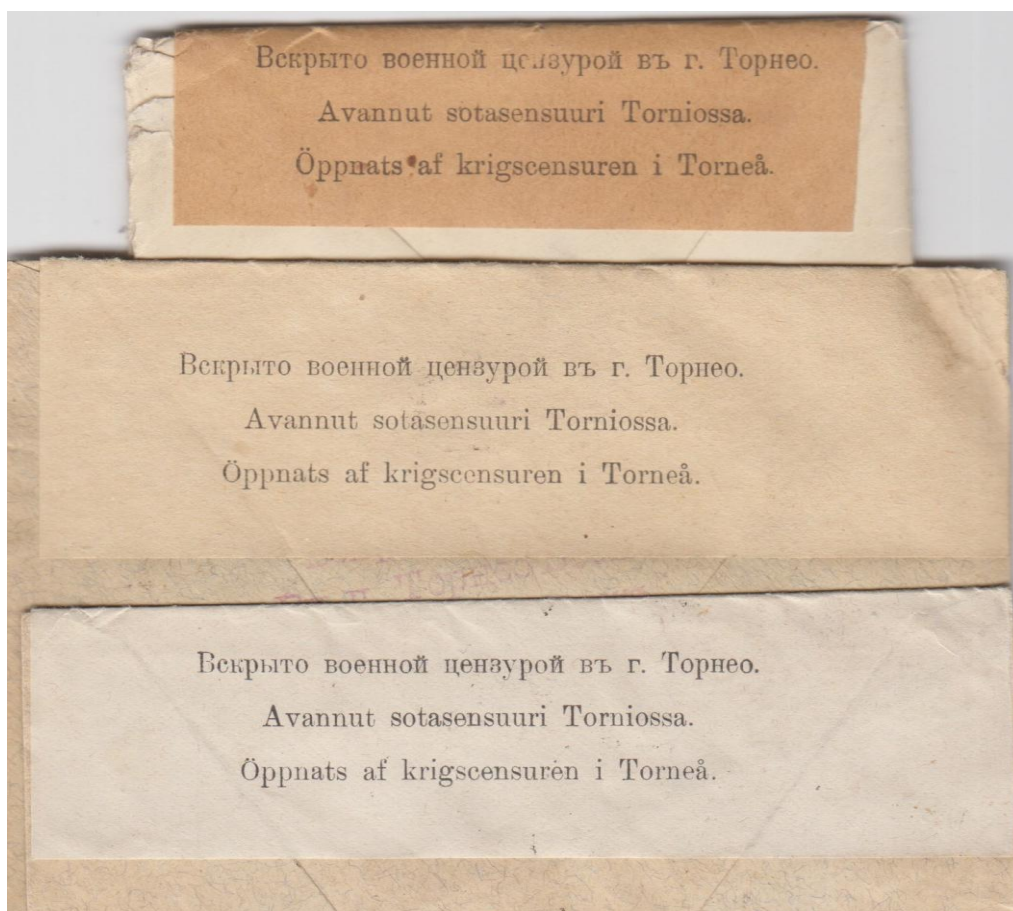
Ct No. 23 Ct No. 25

The difference between CT 23 and CT 25 is the starting position of second line, which is shifted ca. 1 mm to right on CT 25, as illustrated here.

Rarity: Very common, level 1.

**Dates of Use:**

White paper: 06 May 1915 to 17 Mar. 1917 1  
 Light brown: 07 Aug. 1915 to 11 Mar. 1917 1  
 Brown paper: 15 Aug. 1915 to 23 Mar. 1916 1



*CT in three colors of paper shown here, the brown CT is found in some shade, but it is difficult to know what is different shade and what is due to aging.*

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 23, continued



This cover was sent from Helsinki -8.IX.18, probably as second weight cover /16-30 gr) though no weight of cover is noted. Rate for double weight class is 20 kop, so the 3x7 kop - 21 kop, makes the cover overpaid by 1 kop. It arrived at Stockholm already on 11.IX.15, only three days later, which only leaves two days for transit to Stockholm.

The squared lilac mark (Cs. No. 9 with the text НЕ ПРОПУЩЕНЫ (Not Allowed) is dated 9. СЕНТ. 1915, maybe by mistake, and right away over stamped with censor mark No. 08 tp. 1; with the letters "Д. Ц." ("D. Ts." Passage Allowed). Read more about the elusive ban mark under Cs. 9.

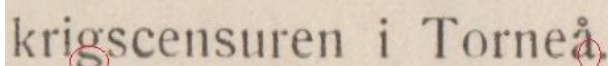
The cover was resealed with brown CT 23.

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 24

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avannut sotasensuuri Torniossa.  
 Öppnats af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line; text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 68,5 mm  
 Finnish text: 53 mm  
 Swedish text: 58,5 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: White, light brown

Comment:  
 The font of the type of this tape is different to CT Nos. 23, 25 and 26.



krigscensuren i Torneå

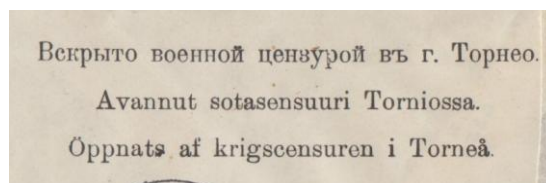
Dates of Use:  
 White paper: 01 May 1915 to 22 Oct. 1917  
 Light brown: 28 Sep. 1915 to 05 Sep. 1917

Among others differences the top of the arc in the lower part of the letter “g” in the Swedish word “krigscensuren” is slanted downwards and the last letter in Swedish text “å” in Torneå has no “tail”.  
 Very common, level 1.



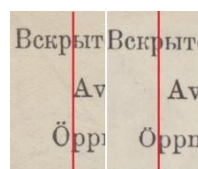
Domestic cover from Oulu 30 Apr. 1915 to Tornio inspected in both cities. According to the postal circular No 8197 dated 07 May 1915, incoming mail to Tornio was no longer to be censored at Oulu but at Tornio. This is a very early example of domestic censorship from the Tornio office, and it is the earliest known use of CT No 24. Under the Tornio CT on back side there is a CS No. 1 Mark 10.

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 25



Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 68.5 mm  
 Finnish text: 52 mm  
 Swedish text: 57 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio  
 Paper color: White, light brown and brown

Comment:



Ct No. 23 Ct No. 25

The difference between CT 23 and CT 25 is the starting position of second line, which is shifted ca. 1 mm to right on CT 25, as illustrated here.

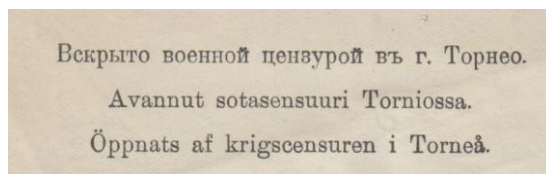
Date of Use:  
 White paper: 31 Aug. 1916 to 10 Mar. 1917 1  
 Lt. brown 18 Dec. 1915 to 17 Feb. 1917 1  
 Brown paper XX Dec. 1915 to 31 Jul. 1916 1

Very common, level 1.



Front (reduced size) and back of a cover is sent from Hämeenlinna on 05 Dec. 1915 and arrival postmark from Copenhagen dated 27 Dec. 1915. Censored at Tornio where the cover with two censor tapes, at least the one on top is a type 25, and struck with censor stamp 1 mark 25. Travelling time of 22 days from Finland to Denmark is significant longer than usual approx. 7 days. A closer inspection shows, that after sealing with the first tape, the cover has been opened and then resealed again, which means that the cover probably has been held at the Censor office in Tornio. There are no markings or stamps on the cover to explain why, neither any Tornio postmarks to show the timeline. This is the earliest reported example of the brown tape.

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 26



Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 67.5 mm  
 Finnish text: 52 mm  
 Swedish text: 57.5 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper colors: White, brown

Comment:  
 The CT is found on domestic and foreign mail with the usual personal mark of the censor.  
 Position of "A", first letter in line two, is like censor tape 23.

Rarity:  
 Very common tape, level 1.

## Dates of Use:

White paper: 15 Sep. 1915 to 11 Oct. 1916  
 Lt. brown paper: 24 Mar. 1917 to 03 Nov. 1917  
 Brown paper: 01 Sep. 1915 to 25 Feb. 1917



Front (reduced size) and back of a forwarded cover. It passed Tornio censor office around 15 Nov. 1916 from Helsinki on the way to Ramlösa in Sweden. Tornio stopped postmarking transit mail in August 1916, so exact date is not known. After passing censorship the cover was resealed with a brown copy of CT No. 26 and a special copy of censor stamp 4, please go to this stamp for further information. When forwarded back to Finland the cover (passive) passed Helsinki censor office where it was postmarked both on arrival and departure, together with a censor stamp No. 18. The mark is incomplete so sub type not possible to determine,

## Tornio Censor Tape No. 27

CT removed/deleted

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 28A, previous No 28.**

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avattu sotasensuurissa Torniossa.  
 Öppnadt af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line, text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 72 mm  
 Finnish text: 57 mm  
 Swedish text: 61 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: White, light brown  
 Dates of Use:  
 White paper: 06 Oct. 1916 to 14 Dec. 1916  
 Light brown: 28 Oct. 1916 to 20 Dec. 1916  
 Brown paper: 19 Nov. 1916

**Comment:**

CT Nos. 28A, 28B, 28C, and 28D were used from early October through late December 1916. All three censor tapes have the exact same length measurements with same type fonts and letter spacing. The Swedish word Öppnat is spelled with an extra "d," "Öppnadt." The differences between the CT's are minor, therefore the CT have been reclassified and catalogued as varieties of CT No. 28, namely A, B, C and additional No. 28D.

Seen on mail to abroad, one cover from Russia is noted, with the personal mark of the censor. CS No. 7 with or without date written-in is most common.

Rarity: CT No. 28A is very common, level 1.



*This is a clear example of CT No. 28 without either of the described anomalies of CT Nos. 29 or 30. On this inland cover, from Oulu to Kemi, 7. XI. 16, the Tornio cds, 8. XI. 16, is an arrival mark and the CS No. 7, Mark 21, with the handwritten date, 9. 11. 1916, is an exit date mark from the censor office.*

**Tornio Censor Tape No. 28B, previously No. 29**

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avattu sotasensuurissa Torniossa.  
 Öppnadt af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line; text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 72 mm  
 Finnish text: 57 mm  
 Swedish text: 61 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: White, light brown

Comment:  
 Editor's note: Text measurements are exactly identical to Censor Tape No. 28. After last word in line two "Torniossa" in the second line a jumping "period"

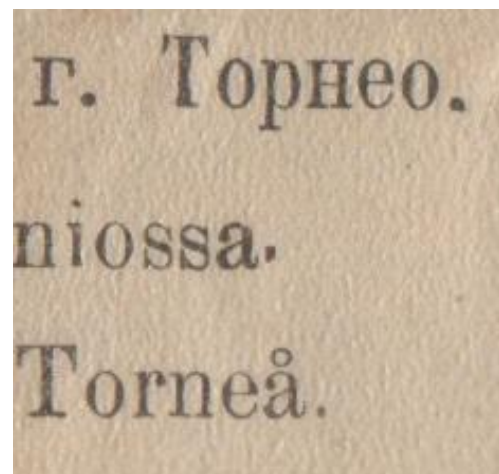
This tape is not illustrated in the Olamo catalogue.

Insufficient data to establish rarity levels.

Dates of Use:  
 White paper: 19 Nov. 1916  
 Light brown paper: 02 Nov. 1916 to 16 Nov. 1916



*Shown here is Tornio CT No 29 with the jumping "period" after Torniossa in second line (Finnish text). This registered cover was sent from Helsinki 31. Dec. 1916 and censored at Tornio 3. Nov. 1916*



**Tornio Censor Tape No. 28C, previously No. 30**

Вскрыто военной цензурой въ г. Торнео.  
 Avattu sotasensuurissa Torniossa.  
 Öppnadt af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line; text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 72 mm  
 Finnish text: 57 mm  
 Swedish text: 61 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Color: White

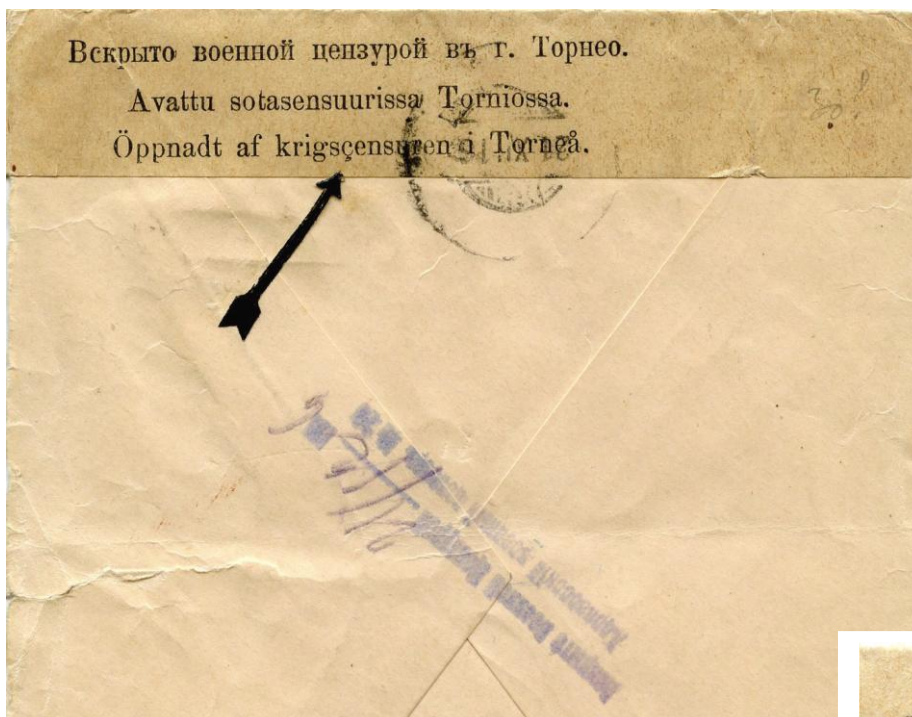
**Comment:**

Text measurements are exact identical to Censor Tape No. 28a. However, the letter “c” in the word “krigscensuren” is faulty, or is it a wrong setting with a Spanish letter with a cedilla “ç”? See illustration. Also, see comments with CT No. 28A. These tapes are not common.

Insufficient data to establish rarity levels.

**Dates of Use:**

White paper: 28 Oct. 1916 to 20 Dec. 1916  
 Light brown 21 Nov. 1916 to 20 Dec. 1916



*Shown here is Tornio CT No 30 with the faulty "c" in "krigscensuren" on the third line of text, on cover from Tornio to Oulu, 20. XII. 1916. On arrival, struck with Oulu CS No. 14. This mark is also struck on the front with the arrival date 21. XII. 16 clearly seen. This is a nice example of a double censored cover originating at Tornio.*



**Tornio Censor Tape No. 28D,**

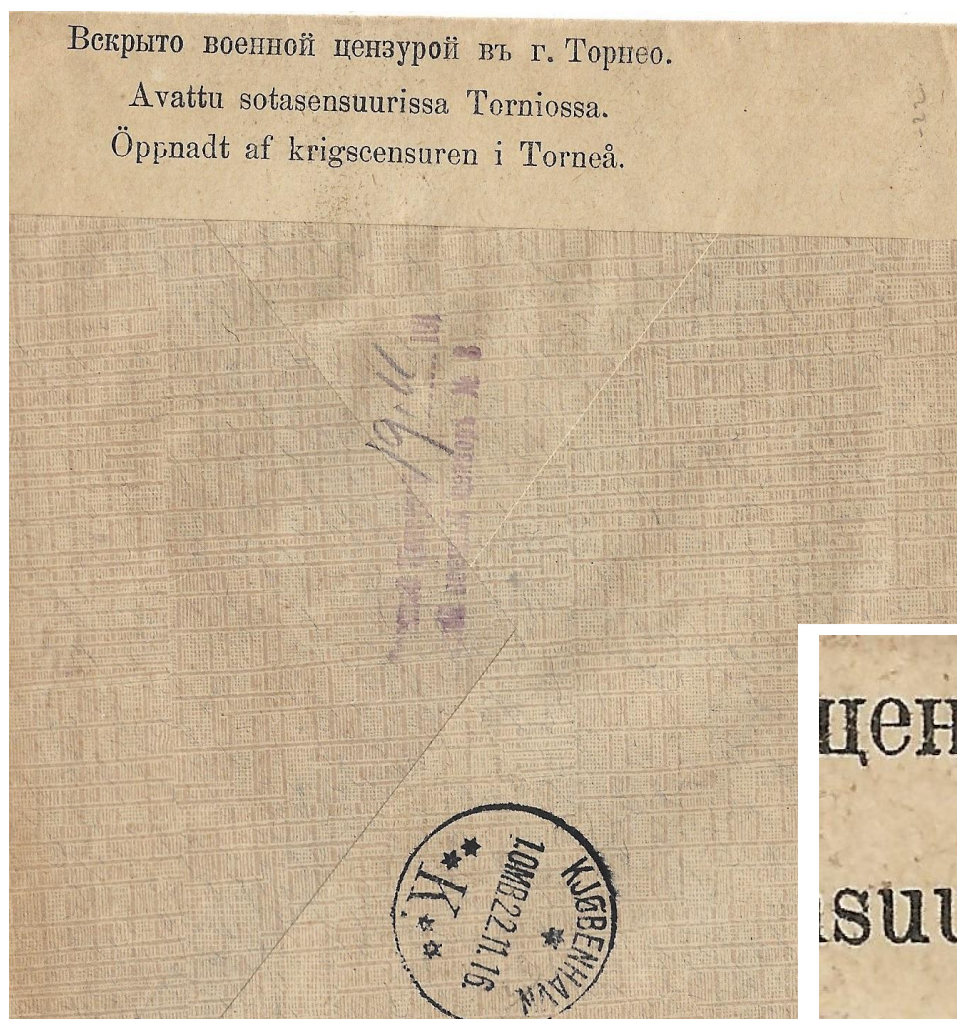
Вскрыто военной цензурой в г. Торнео.  
 Avattu sotasensuurissa Torniossa.  
 Öppnadt af krigscensuren i Torneå.

Type: With City of Tornio ID  
 Shape: Straight line; text in Russian, Finnish & Swedish  
 Size: Russian text: 72 mm  
 Finnish text: 57 mm  
 Swedish text: 61 mm  
 Text: Opened by war censor in Tornio.  
 Paper Colors: light brown

Comment:  
 Text measurements are exactly identical to other Censor Tape No. 28A. However, the letter "o" in the third Russian word "цензурой" is a different font. The different "o" has been mentioned in earlier catalogues but never illustrated..

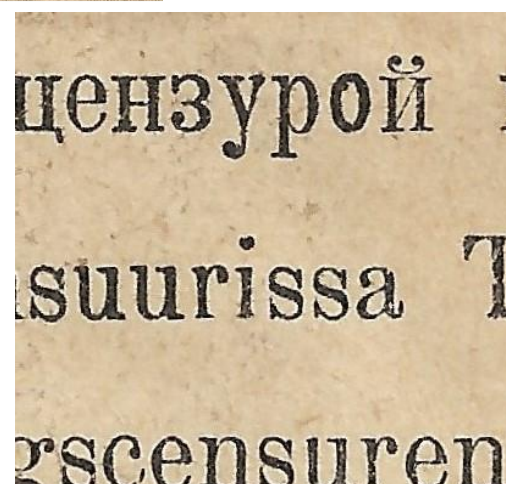
This tape is a new listing.

Dates of Use:  
 Light brown paper: 02 Nov. 1916 to 19 Nov. 1916



Shown here is Tornio CT No 28D Censor Tape with letter "o" in the third Russian word "ЦЕНЗУРОИ" is a different font.

This is a registered cover sent from Helsinki and censored 19 Nov. 1916 at Tornio. The cover is also struck by Cs No. 7 Mark No 8.



## Tornio Censor Tape No. 31

CT removed / deleted.

### Tornio Censorship Wax Seal,

Type: Censor wax seal w/ city identification

Shape: Circular

Size: Outer ring measures about 30 mm but varies with spread of wax on each impression.

Dates of Use:

CO: 26 Mar. 1916 to 30 Dec. 1916

Rarity: fairly common, level 3.

Comment:

This seal is not reported earlier than 26 Mar 1916, and there is a gap in reported wax seals from late November 1915 to late March 1916 and again from late December 1916 and to the end of censoring. Probably more dates are to be registered.



Tornio Censor Wax seal - in Russian language  
 ВОЕННАЯ ЦЕНЗУРА ВЪГ ТОРНЕО  
 (MILITARY CENSORSHIP IN TORNEO)



Stockholm 1. IV. 16 to Copenhagen (arrival 3. Apr. 1916) together with not one but two ct's. There is also a CS 2, mark 13, censor: Ryhänen The cover is franked with 26 kop.

## Tornio Postal Wax Seals Used by Censor Office

Type: Postal wax seal w/ city identification

Shape: Circular

Size: Outer ring measures about 30 mm but varies with spread of wax on each impression.

Dates of Use:

**PO:** Without letter-number combination:  
15 Aug. 1914 to 11 Apr. 1915 2

**PO A-1:** With letter-number combination A – 1  
15 Aug. 1914 to 26 Nov. 1915 2

Rarity: Both types are common, level 2.



*Tornio PO A-1 wax seal  
Tornio \* Torneå \* Торнео  
(seal is enlarged)*

Comment:

Four wax seals were used in Tornio almost exclusively with resealing tapes on insured or registered mail to abroad. The postal seals were used from the first day of postal censoring at Tornio.



**Tornio Postal Wax Seal**, with Tornio in three languages and without the letter-number combination. This seal was used for a period of approximately eight months from the first day of censoring at Tornio. This 130 Fmk value letter from Helsinki to Horsens, Denmark, is postmarked at Tornio, 2. XII. 14, then to Stockholm and then to Horsens. There are four (two on front) Tornio postal wax seals and a common resealing CT No. 12 securing the safety of this money letter.

## Tornio Postal Wax Seals Used by Censor Office, continued.



*Pictured here the postal wax seal with the letter-number combination A-1 under the emblem on a registered letter from Kaskinen/Kaskö to Copenhagen. The large postal and censor wax seals have not fared well with time; most have dried, cracked and parts have broken off as seen here.*



*Here is an excellent example of a complete postal wax seal used by the censor office to reseal an insured (value) letter. This letter from Hämekoski, via Tornio, 26. XI. 15, to Stockholm is the last reported use of Tornio Postal Seal A-1.*

## Tornio As Postal Wax Seal,

Type: Censor wax seal w/ city identification

Shape: Circular

Size: Outer ring measures about 30 mm but varies with spread of wax on each impression.

Text: Tornio As. in three languages

Dates of Use:

**PO As:** 15 Aug. 1914 to 16 Aug. 1914

Comment:

Three wax seals have previously been reported used at Tornio, this is the fourth type of wax seal registered. The Tornio As wax seal was normally used at the post office at the railway station.

Rarity: Level 5 or RR rarity.



*Tornio PO As wax seal  
Tornio As • Torneå B • Торнео Ж. Д  
(seal is enlarged)*



**Postal wax seal from Tornio Railway station** used for censoring: here used on a registered cover sent from Helsinki on 13.VIII.14 and censored at Tornio on the second day of censorship, 16. Aug.1914. This was before censor tapes were available so the cover was resealed with wax seals and handwritten Swedish text "Öppnad af krigscensuren". Arrival postmark from Copenhagen 20.8.1914.