



# Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

THIRD REICH STUDY GROUP  
Devoted to the Study  
of the Postal History  
of Germany 1933-1945

VOL. XXXVII No. 2 (Whole No. 147) 2003

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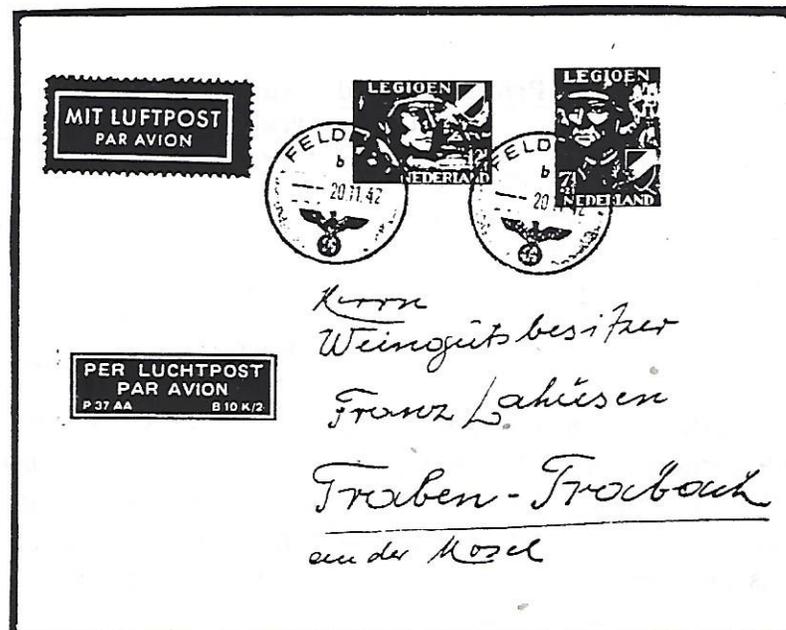
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BACK ISSUES MGR.: Robert Dunn

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## STUDY GROUP NOTES

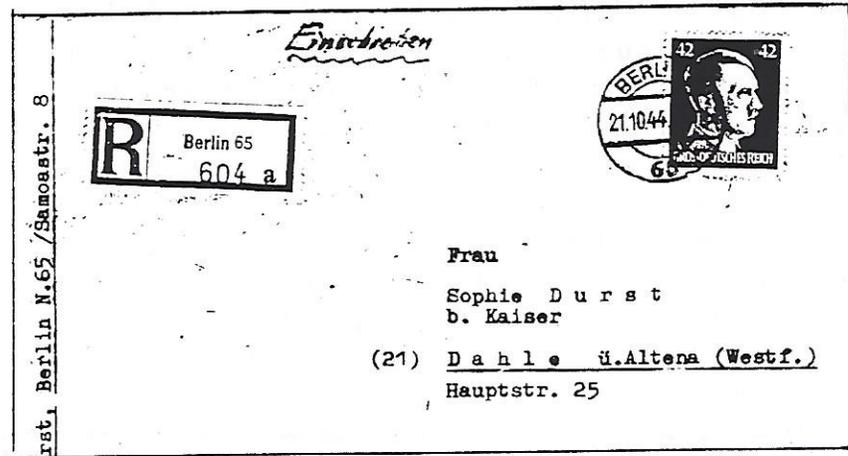
**Recommended Reading:** Rick Atkinson's *An Army at Dawn: North Africa 1942-1943* (New York: Henry Holt, 2002) is a highly recommended account of the North Africa campaign. *Ye Olde Ed.*

**Another TRSG related web site reported by our members:** <http://axis101.bizland.com> - for Foreign Volunteer Legion military and postal history by TRSGer Rene Chavez.

**Album Publishing Company** has been acquired by RJI Philatelics of Matthews, North Carolina. We have learned that they intend to continue to sell the whole range of books, etc. previously stocked by APC. They have several web sites such as [www.rjiglobal.com](http://www.rjiglobal.com) and [www.albumpub.com](http://www.albumpub.com).

**GERMANIA back issues:** TRSGer Arno Karnapke is trying to locate photocopies of articles from the journal of the Germany & Colonies Stamp Club (UK) including 'Art of the Third Reich' by Peter Bottger and the series 'Postal History of the KDF Cruise Ships' by John Rawlings. If anyone has this info, Mr. Karnapke's address is 6210A Enevold Drive, Camrose, AB T4V 3K2 CANADA.

**Early use of Mi. 795A** - TRSGer Larry Nelson sent in this "Bedarfs" R-cvr posted in Berlin on Oct. 21, 1944 that is earlier than the Nov. 1, 1944 philatelic cover cited in Ben Beede's article in Bulletin 146.



### Prices Realized – Auction # 89

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
2	\$ 80.00	22	\$ 15.00	29	\$12.00	37	\$15.00	47	\$12.00
10	45.00	23	12.00	30	14.00	41	12.00	48	9.00
11	40.00	24	12.00	31	14.00	42	11.00	52	16.00
13	90.00	25	26.00	32	11.00	43	20.00	59	13.00
14	45.00	26	39.00	33	20.00	44	12.00	61	20.00
20	26.00	27	26.00	34	11.00	45	9.00	62	14.00
21	12.00	28	15.00	35	20.00	46	10.00	63	25.00

**Cover Illustration** – airmail cover sent from a Feldpost office in November '42 from a member of the Legion Nederland to a vintner on the Mosel River in the Rhineland. This particular Legion, which numbered several thousand men, had a detachment fighting in Russia during this period. The Replacement unit of the sender was actually located in the Netherlands. This cover is lot 5 in our new auction that contains a number of scarce covers from Germany's various 'Foreign Legions'.

## COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 15th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS
15	665	81	88	106	15

The 15th Infantry Division was formed in 1935-36 (1st Wave) with troops recruited from the Main-Franconia area. It was later augmented with Austrians following the 'Anschluss'. This division did not participate in the Polish or Western campaigns. The division post office was assigned Fp. # 09885 as a mailing address and Kenn 665 as a coded identification in lieu of its tactical FpA 15. It first saw action with Army Group Center during the Russian campaign of 1941 where it took part in the Siege of Mogilev. It later fought in the Battle of the Yelna Bend where it suffered heavy casualties. The division was sent to La Rochelle, France to re-build in April 1942.

The 15th Infantry Division remained in France until early February 1943, when it was ordered back to Russia, where it remained for the rest of the war. After fighting west of the Donets under 4th Panzer Army, the division suffered heavy losses in the Battle of Dnepropetrovsk during the summer of 1943. It fought in the Battles of South Ukraine and was subsequently encircled west of the lower Dneiper in August 1944. The division broke out of the encirclement but had sustained such serious losses that it had to be re-built. Still at battle group strength in October 1944 it went back into the line opposing the Red Army's advance into Hungary. By March 1945 the division was in remnants but fought on until April when it surrendered along with most of Army Group Center in a large pocket east of Prague.



Cover sent to Military District Command at Dresden in November 1943 from Fp. # 15551 (Co. 3 of Engineer Battalion 15) via Field P.O. 15 (K-665).

## Story Behind the Stamp: Wagner's "Tristan und Isolde"

by Kelly Stefanacci

In Richard Wagner's opera Tristan was born at CANCEL, the chief city of Brittany. Upon the deaths of his father in battle and his mother in grief, Kurneval, a trusted knight, took Tristan to his uncle's court in Cornwall. He grew to be a famous knight who slew the giant Morold, who was the collector of the tribute due to Ireland. However, during this fight he received a wound from Morold's poisoned spear and could only be cured by an antidote only available in Ireland. Tristan traveled to the court in Dublin disguised as Tantris, a wandering minstrel, and met Isolde, the daughter of Germond, King of Ireland and his wife, Queen Iseult. Isolde nursed Tristan for six months, during which he taught her how to play the lyre. She began to feel stirring of love for him and was sad when he was cured and returned to Cornwall.

When he arrived at court in Cornwall, he was so full of praise for Isolde that his uncle Mark sent him back to Ireland and bring her back as bride for the Cornish King. Isolde was happy when Tristan returned to Dublin but she soon learned that he had come to woo her by proxy for his uncle, King Mark of Cornwall. In a cold fury Isolde agreed to sail with Tristan for her marriage to King Mark. This proposal was well received by her parents and her mother brewed a powerful love potion that she entrusted to Isolde's maid, Brangeane, to give to Isolde and Mark on their wedding day. However, on the voyage Tristan and Isolde unintentionally drank the love potion and fell hopelessly in love with each other.

Even in Mark's palace they met at night and were surprised by a treacherous knight, Melot, who both informed the king of their infidelity and wounded Tristan in their subsequent duel. The faithful Kurneval took Tristan to his ancestral castle in Brittany. There he grew weaker and finally, in his delirium, had a vision of a ship bearing Isolde toward him. She had slipped away from Cornwall and arrived just before his death, comforting him during his last moments. Mark arrived a bit later because he had learned the story of the love potion from Brangeane. He begged her forgiveness for the harm he had done but Isolde's heart was broken and she died by Tristan's prostrate body.

A set of nine stamps which depict scenes from Wagner operas were issued on Nov. 1, 1933 for the Winter Relief Fund (Deutsche Nothilfe). The scene depicted on the 20+10 Pfg. stamp (Mi. 505) is Tristan and Isolde drinking the love potion.



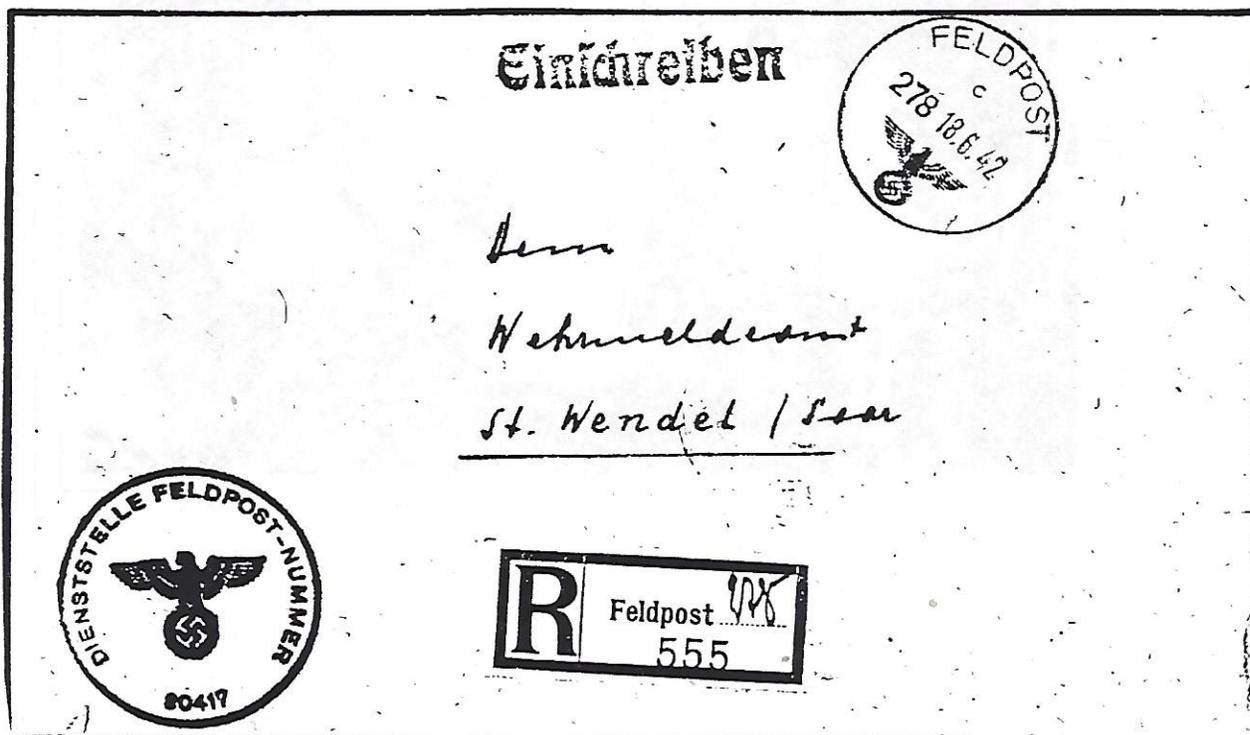
ED NOTE: If you enjoyed this article and would like to know "the story" about other people or places appearing on Third Reich stamps, please send requests to Ye Olde Ed.

## COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 23rd Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS	
23	278	9	67	68	23	23

The 23rd Infantry Division was formed in 1935-36 (1st Wave) by expansion of the historic 9th Infantry Regiment "Potsdam". The division post office was assigned Fp. # 10194 as a mailing address and Kenn 278 as a coded identification. Lightly engaged in Poland, the division fought in France in 1940 and then invaded Russia in 1941 under 2nd Panzer Army in the central sector. It took part in the Siege of Mogilev on the Dneiper from June 20-26, where it lost over 1,000 men. The division pushed to the gates of Moscow, suffering heavy casualties along the way. By January 1942 it had lost much of its infantry, so its nine infantry battalions were consolidated into three because of casualties. Surrounded south of Fedrovka during the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42, the division lost almost all of its artillery. Relieved, the division remained on the central front until July 1942, when it was sent to Brittany, France and re-formed as the 26th Panzer Division. The new panzer division retained the post office (renumbered FpA 93) and K-278.

A new 23rd Infantry Division was formed at Potsdam in the fall of 1942. It adopted the regimental numbers of the original division and received a new FpA 23 that was assigned Fp.# 48884 and K-737. Sent to the northern sector of the Eastern Front late in 1943, it subsequently withdrew through Estonia early in 1944 and defended Saaveman Island (Ösel). It then withdrew to the Courland Pocket but was evacuated by sea to Germany and finished the war in East Prussia.



Cover sent to Military Records Office in St. Wendel in June 1942 from Fp. # 30417 (Column/ Infantry Division Signals Battalion 229) via Field Post Office 23 (K-278).

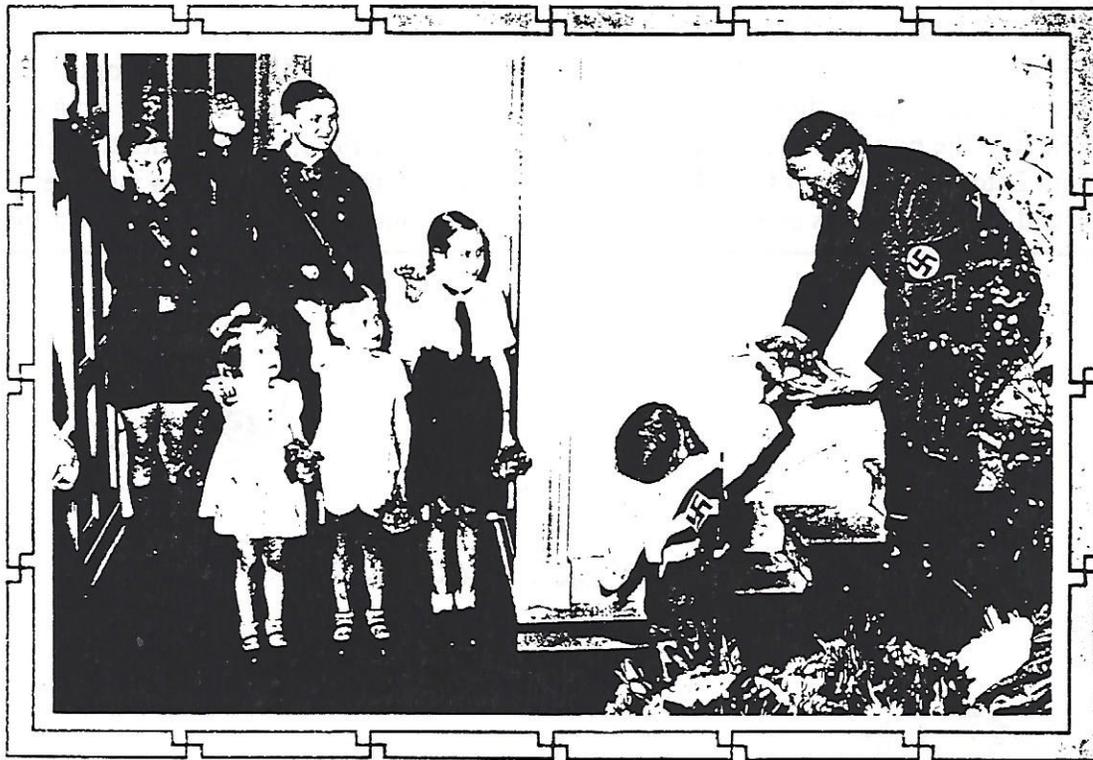
## Goebbel's Children on Hitler Birthday Card

by Ed Hope

Postal card #266D in Alf Harper's "Postal Stationery of the Third Reich", part of a set of six cards issued on April 9, 1939 for Hitler's 50th Birthday, reads "Hitler receiving flowers from Goebbel's children". Goebbles and his wife Magda did have six children with ages at time of issue:

Daughter Helga	Born 1.9.32	Age 7 Years
Daughter Hilde	Born 13.4.34	Age 5 Years
Son Helmuth	Born 21.10.35	Age 4 Years
Daughter Holde	Born 9.2.37	Age 2 Years
Daughter Hedda	Born 5.5.38	Age 1 Year
Daughter Heide	Born 10.40	Age 1 Year whoops

A son Harold was from Magda's first marriage to Gunther Quandt, a business man. The card shows slight differences in the ages of the children. Can anyone throw some more light on this matter? All of these children were poisoned by their mother just before she and Dr. Goebbles committed suicide in Hitler's bunker as the Red Army assaulted Berlin.



*ED.NOTE: This question first appeared in the Questions Corner of the November 1974 issue of The German Collectors News Sheet.*

# Fundamentals of Feldpost Collecting

## Part 12. Mute Feldpost Cancels (Section II)

by Jim Lewis

### V.) Circle/bridge/fence (Cont.)

Shown below are two cancel codes listed but unidentified by Clement:

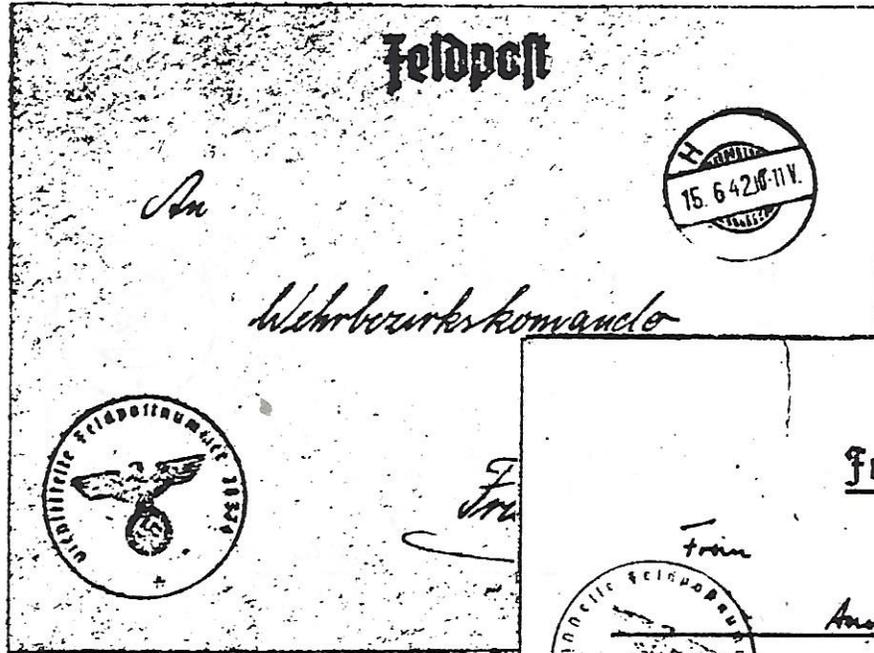


Fig. 26) Official cover sent June '42 from Fp.# 28374 (Kfz. Instands. Kp. 133) with code 'H'.

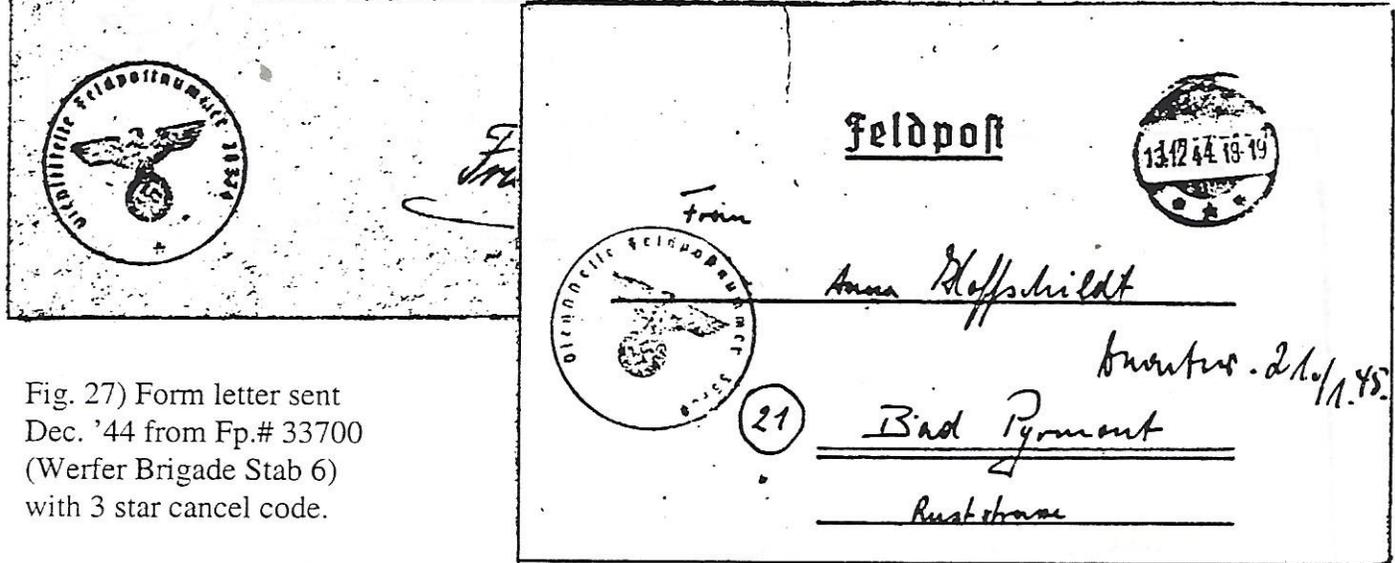
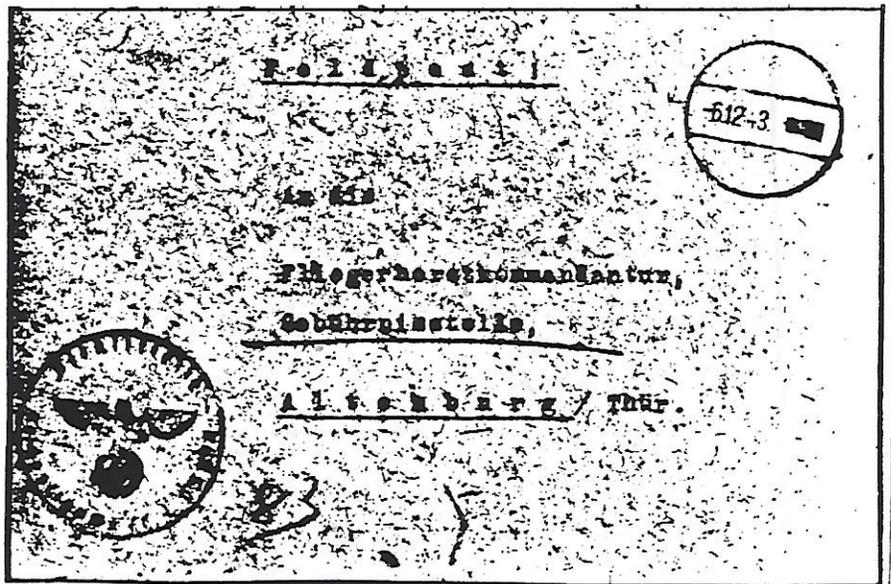


Fig. 27) Form letter sent Dec. '44 from Fp.# 33700 (Werfer Brigade Stab 6) with 3 star cancel code.

### VI.) Circle/bridge.

Clement lists two size **Kreissteg** mute cancels, 26/0/9 and 30/0/9, noting that this type of cancel was used in western Germany

Fig. 28) Official cover to Air Base HQ in Altenburg Sent Dec. '43 from Fp. # 05873 (Squadron 7, Pursuit Interceptor Group 76) has 26/0/9 Mute cancel.



VII.) Circle/double bow

The **Kreisdoppelsehne** mute cancel is listed by Clement in two sizes, 26/17/9 and 24/15/9 mm. These cancels were only used by post offices in Austria. The first size has no code markings but the second size is found with code letters a through f.

Fig. 29) Cover sent from member Fp.# 08623 (Luftflotte Kdo. 4) in Jan. '42 has cancel with code 'e' used in Vienna.

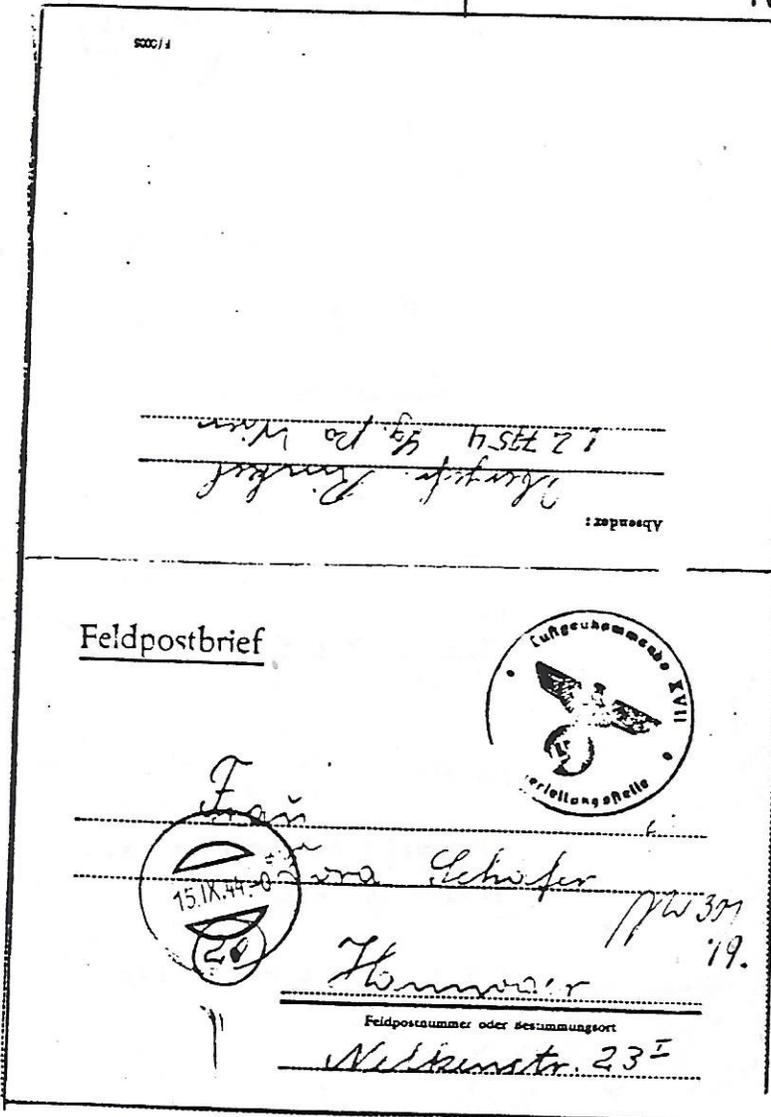
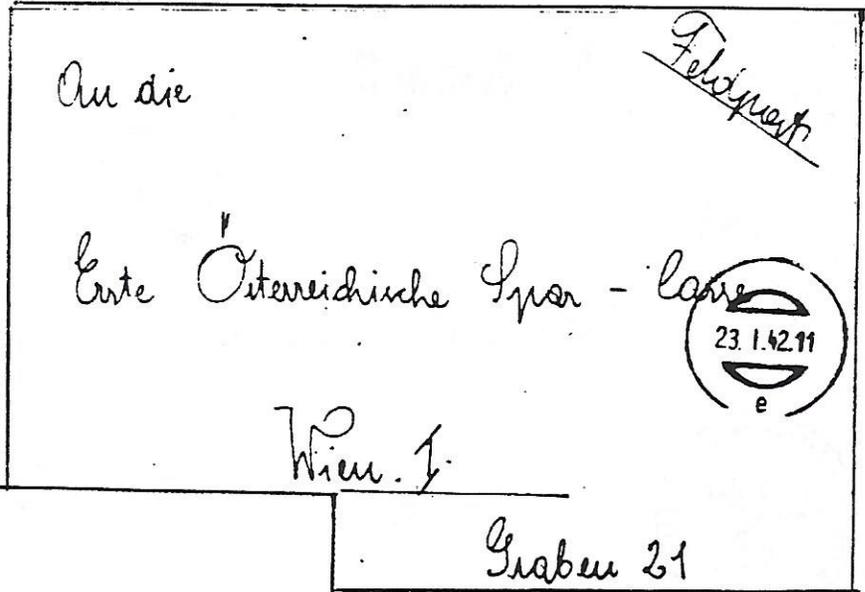
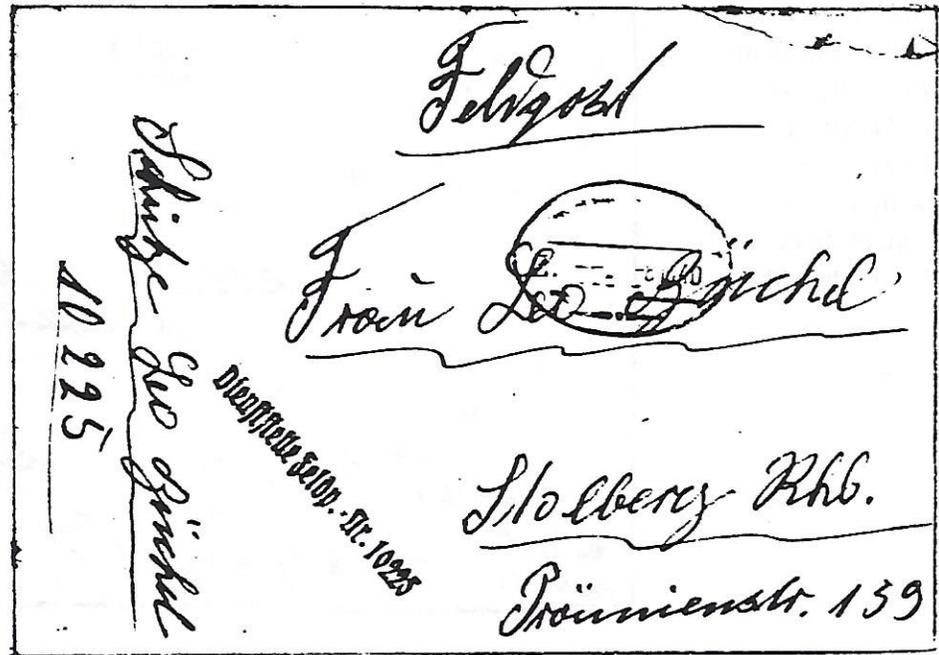


Fig. 30) Lettersheet sent Sept. '44 from Fp.#27754 (Night Recon Squadron 7) has unit seal of Luftwaffe Air District Command XVII on front. Cancel with code 'b' listed by Clement as used in Graz and Braunau.

VIII.) Mute Railroad Cancel

Clement lists one **Bahnpost** mute cancel sized 37:27 mm. These very scarce cancels were used to process Feldpost found while sorting mail aboard travelling post offices. The usual details found on ordinary RR cancels such as rail line and Zug (train) number are omitted and only the date is found.

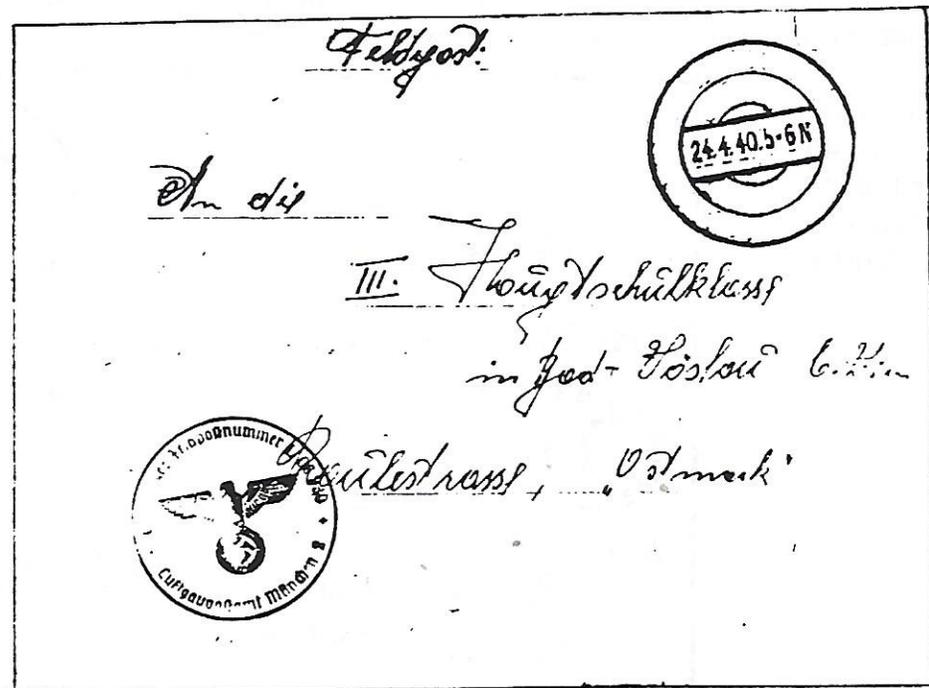
Fig. 31) Cover from Fp.# 10225 (Co. 1 of Local Defense Btl. 453) With mute RR cancel Dated Jan. '40. The code "—•—" at bottom is listed by Clement as used in Bad Kissengen.



IX. Triple ring/date bridge

One **Ringbrücke** hand cancel size 35/24/15/9 mm is listed by Clement as having been used in western Germany

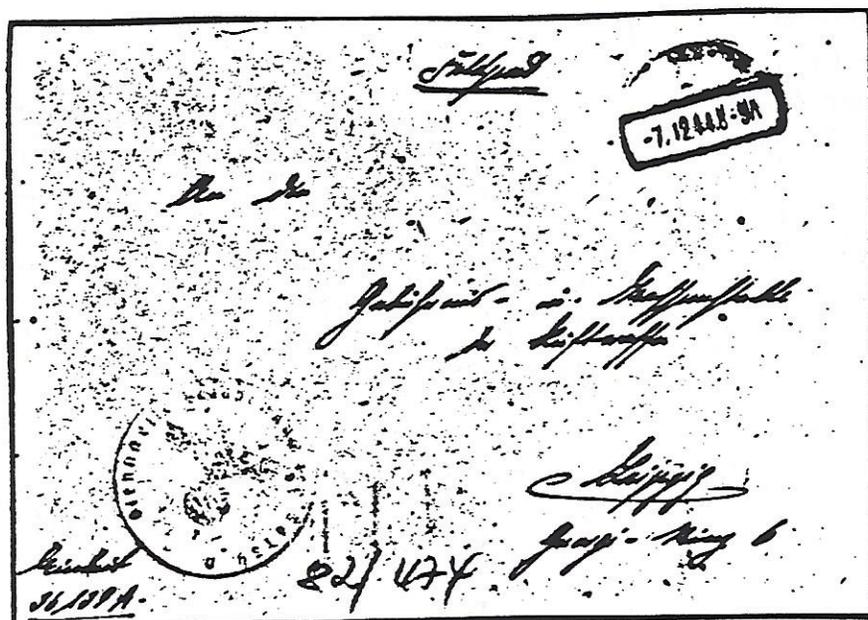
Fig. 32) Lettersheet sent April '40 from Fp.# 06930 (Battery 4 of Reserve Flak Abteilung 452) with largest of all mute cancels.



X.) Bridge

The **Steg** mute cancels were produced by surface grinding all details of the original canceling device except the date line. Clement lists a single size 28:9 mm with known usage in Reichenbach/Eule; East Prussia and Suwalki in the General Gouvernement.

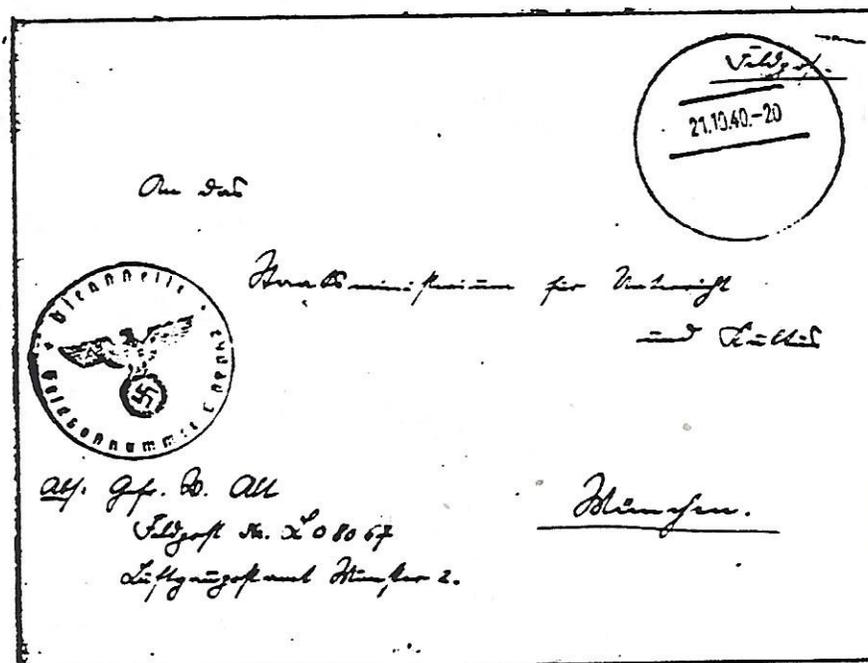
Fig. 33) Official cover sent from Fp.# 36139A (HQ/Artillery Detachment 18) with bridge cancel dated December '44.



XI.) Remainder.ring/bridge

Two **Restform von Ringsteg** cancels, produced by altering large commemorative canceling devices by removing all details except the outer ring and date bridge, are listed by Clements. A 25/0/9mm cancel was used in Wirballen and in Shitomir (Ukraine). A 30/0/10mm cancel is listed but the place (s) of usage are unknown.

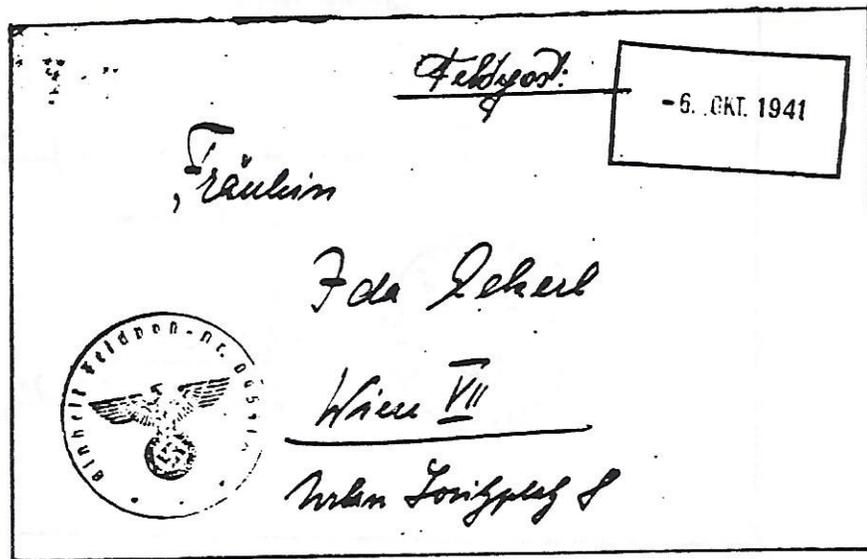
Fig. 34) Cover sent to Munich in Oct.'40 From Fp.# L08067 (Reserve Flak Abt. 746) with 30/0/10 mm cancel.



XII.) Box Cancel

Clement lists one **Kasten** mute cancel, a single size 33:20 mm with known usage in Austria.

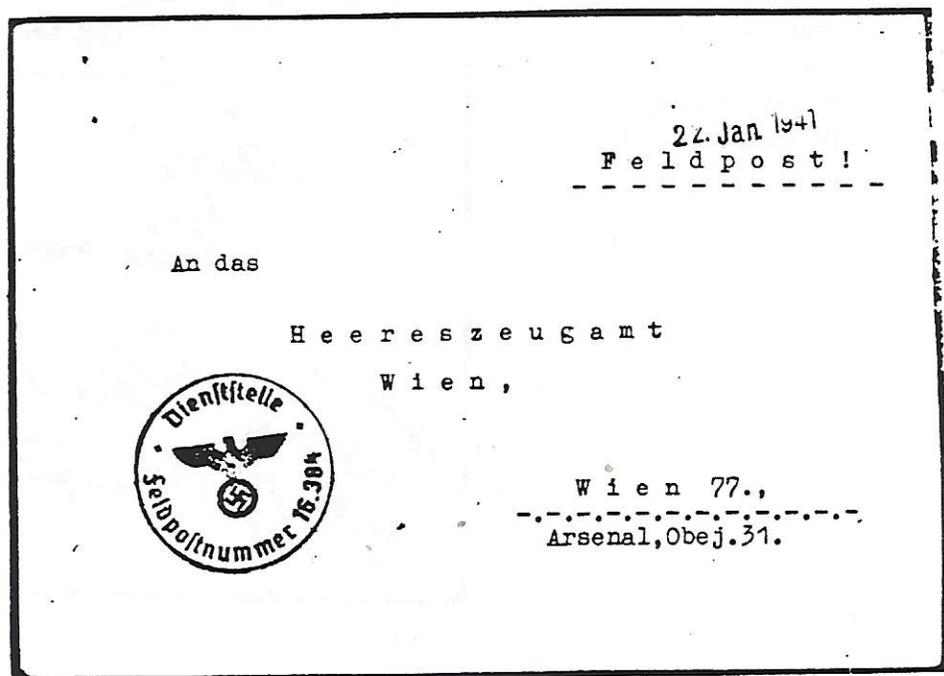
Fig. 35) Private cover sent to Vienna from Fp.# 09541 (III/Inf. Rgt. 330 of 183rd Infantry Div.). Formed in Jan. '40, this division was sent to Eastern Front late in 1941. Cover date of Oct. '41 may indicate posting on way to the front.



XIII.) Date Stamps

These hastily prepared **Datum** cancels were used in the General Government early in 1941 to handle the increased volume of Feldpost resulting from the transfer of combat units from the west to staging areas for the planned invasion of Russia. Clement lists no sizes but indicates usage by post offices in the towns of Dynow and Jaroslau.

Fig. 36) Official Cover sent to Army Ordnance HQ in Vienna from Fp.# 16384 (Hq/Anti-Tank Section 137 of 137th Infantry Div.) with straight line date stamp Jan. 22, 1941.



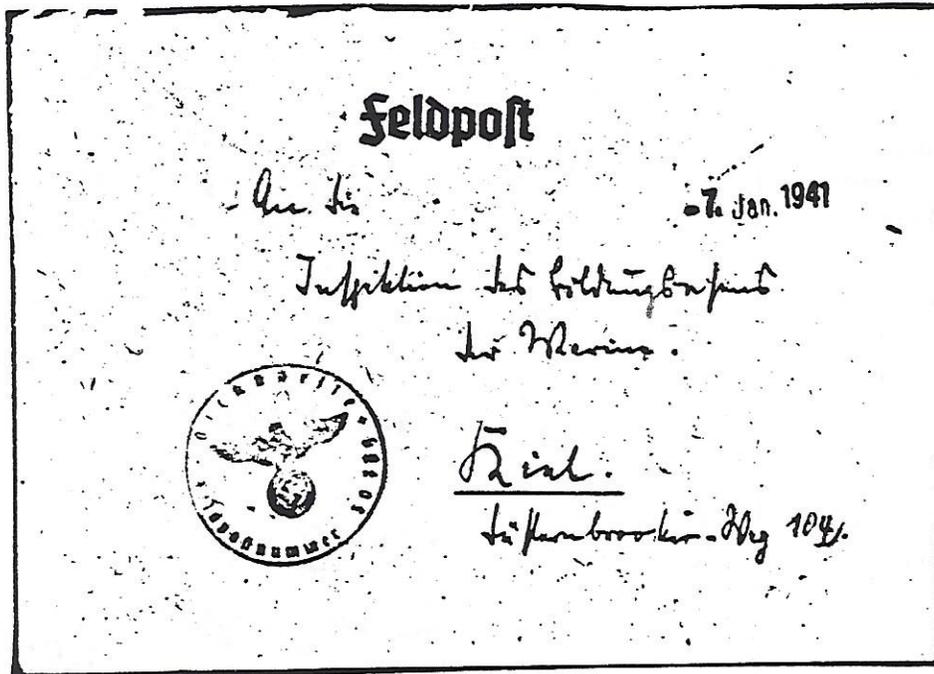
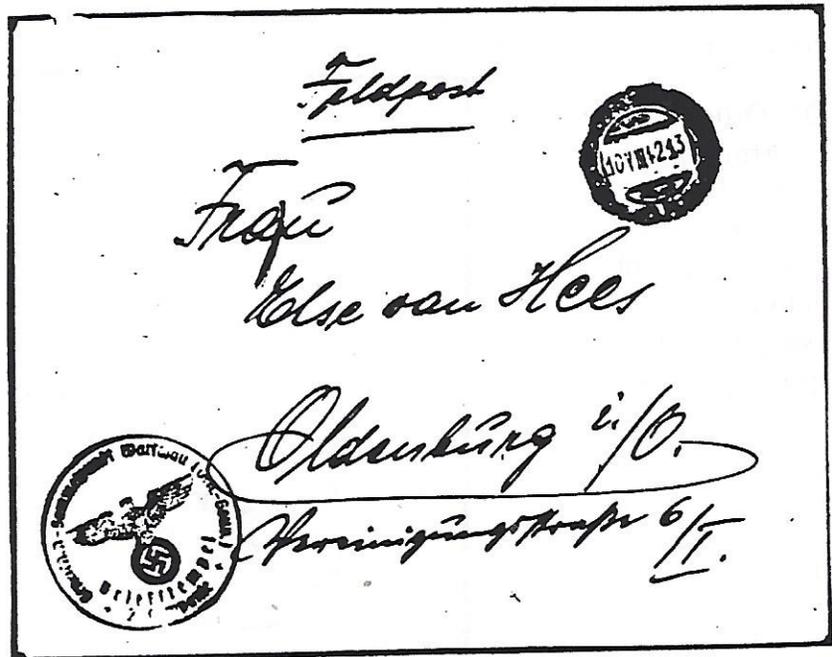


Fig. 37) Note the irregular arrangement of letter and numeral sizes on this official cover from Fp.# 30736 (Signals Btl. 258 of the 258th Infantry Division) posted in early January '41. This division was transferred from France several weeks earlier and was an element of Army Group center during the invasion of Russia.

XIV.) Black-out

As opposed to the removal of material to alter city canceling devices, the **Stempel ausgegossen** were produced by adding solder to obliterate unwanted details. Clement lists two sizes, 24/0/9 and 26/0/10, noting usage in the General Gouvernement.

Fig. 38) Feldpost cover with open identity unit seal of a Convalescent Collection Point in Warsaw has black out Polish city cancel.



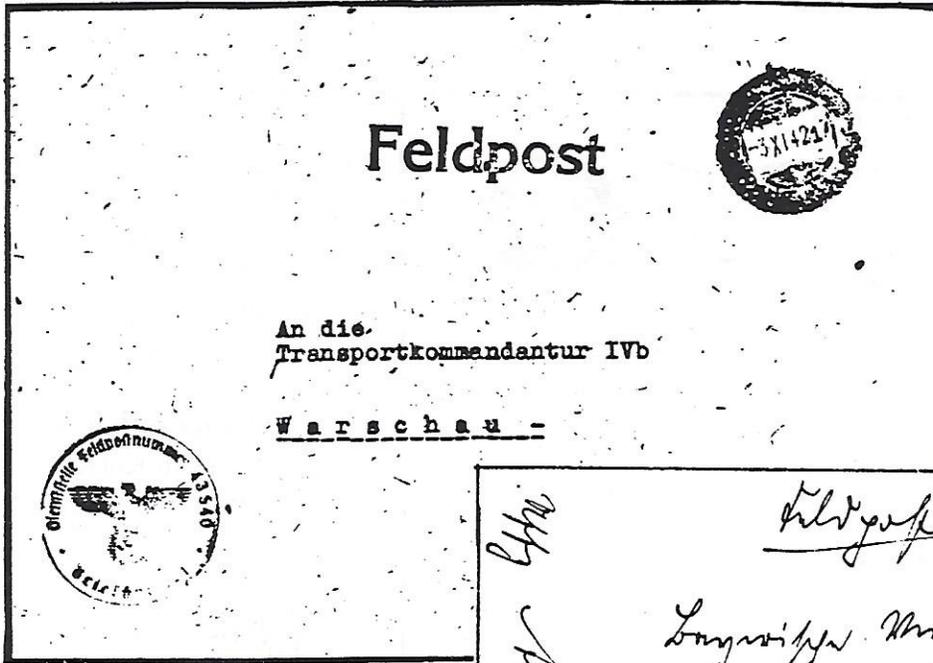


Fig. 39) Another of the Polish black-out cancels dated Nov. '42 on a cover sent by soldier using Fp.# 43450 (Composite Hospital Section 719)

Fig. 40) Black-out is more complete on this cover sent Nov. '41 from Fp.# 37481 (Art. Rgt. 268 of the 268th Infantry Division.)

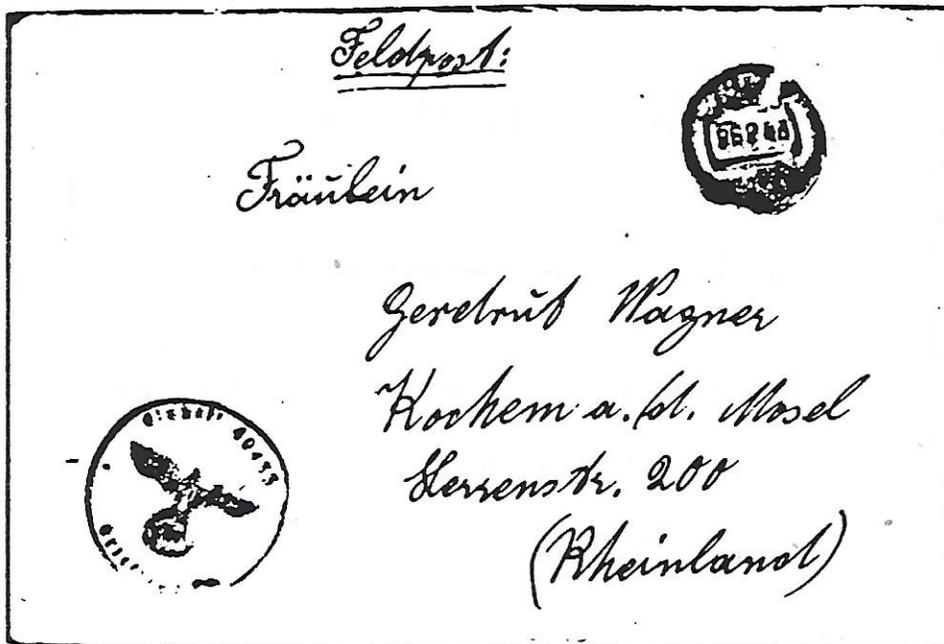
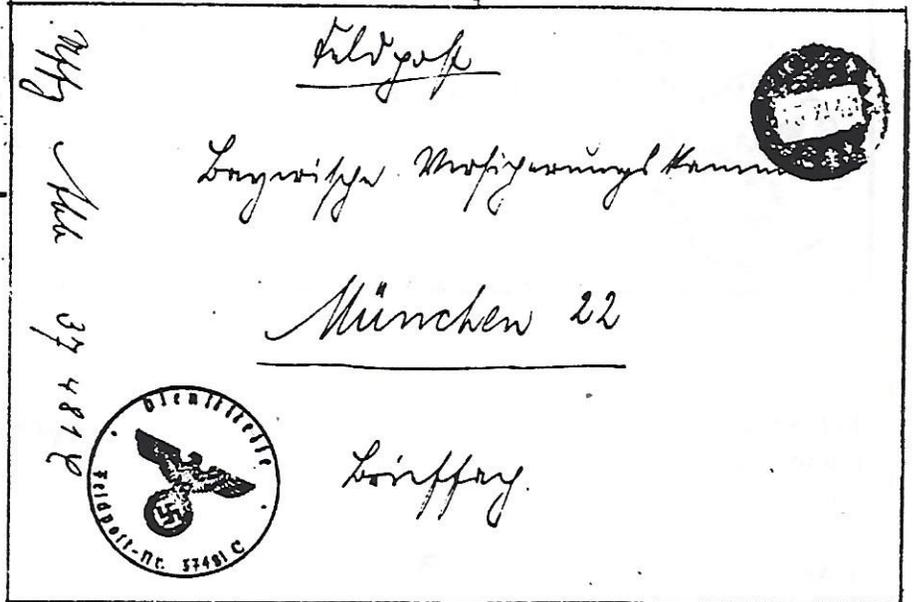


Fig. 41) Dienstpost offices in the Ukraine used altered Russian canceling devices on Feldpost such as this Cover from Fp.# 40433 (Army Horse Hospital 598) posted in Feb. '43.

The following are black-out cancel types that are not listed in Clement

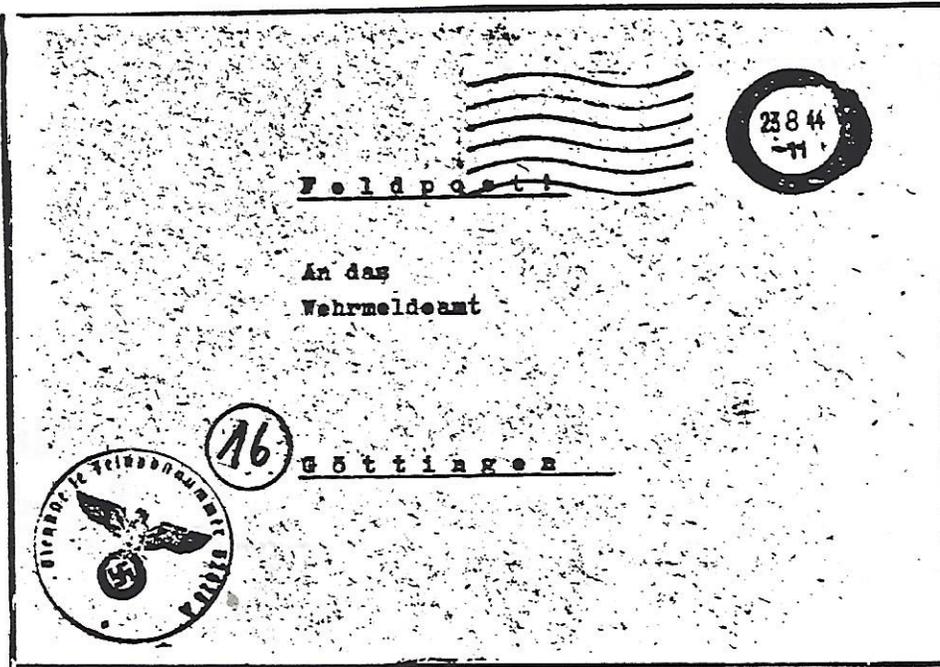
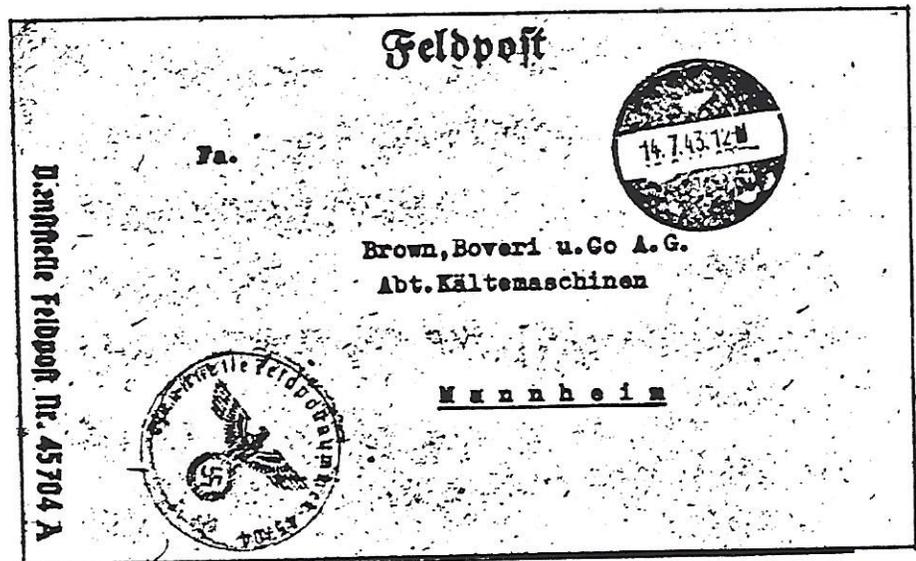


Fig. 42) Official cover with circular 22mm black-out machine cancel and six wavy lines sent from Fp.# 32626.(I/Art. Rgt. 332 of the 332nd Infantry Division, which merged with 278th Inf. Div. in Aug. '44 after suffering heavy losses in Korsun encirclement in Russia.

Fig. 43) Large size commemorative cancel with black-out on cover from Fp.# 45704 (Battr. I/Art. Abtl. (E) 672 sent in July '43.



This concludes the overview of **Stumme** (mute) Feldpost cancels. I hope the article has stirred interest in an area that provides much opportunity for research. Acknowledgement must be given to the late Alfred Clement, whose "Kleines Handbuch" published way back in 1952 inspired former and current TRSGers into the fertile fields of Feldpost research.

*Note: These articles were first published in several TRSG-Bulletins in 1983.*

## Special Cancels – Tag der Wehrmacht

by Bob Ferguson

There are a number of cancels commemorating the German Armed Forces. The cancel numbering scheme is in Julius Bochmann's work "Katalog der Deutschen Gelegenheitsstempel".

Anklam # 2	Tag der Wehrmacht/Fliegerhorst Anklam	19 March 1942
Berlin # 302	Tag der Wehrmacht/WHW	19 March 1939
Berlin # 372	Tag der Wehrmacht	19 March 1942
Braunschweig # 34	Armeen Werden Versorgt Ausstellung	21 Nov.-14 Dec. 1941
Donaustauf # 1	Wehrmacht/Sommernachtfest	31 July – 1 August 1937
Dresden # 88	Tag der Wehrmacht/Inf. Rgt. -10	19 March 1939
Dresden # 94	Tag der Wehrmacht/Inf. Rgt. - 4	17 March 1940
Dresden # 98	Tag der Wehrmacht/Inf. Rgt. - 56	29 March 1941
Dresden # 102	Tag der Wehrmacht	29 March 1942
Dresden # 103	Tag der Wehrmacht/Inf. Ers. Rgt. - 56	29 March 1942
Hagen # 11	Tag der Wehrmacht	29 March 1942
Kempten # 2	Tag der Wehrmacht	29 March 1942
Munchen # 173	Tag der Wehrmacht	29 March 1942
Neustadt (Schwarzwald) # 3	Deutsche u. Wehrmacht Ski-Meisterschafter	5- 13 February 1938
Wien # 57	Wehrmachtausstellung Der Sieg Im Westen	17 Nov.-28 Feb. 1941
Wien # 95	Tag der Wehrmacht	29 March 1942

### Machine Cancels

# 382	Besucht die wehrmachts Ausstellung/Armeen Werden Versorgt Hannover, 13 – 28 September 1941	10 – 29 September 1941 in Hannover and Hildesheim
# 383	Besucht die wehrmachts Ausstellung/Armeen Werden Versorgt Magdeburg, 11 – 26 October 1941	11 – 26 October 1941 in Dessau and Magdeburg
# 385	Besucht die wehrmachts Ausstellung/Armeen Werden Versorgt Braunschweig, 8 – 23 November 1941	3 – 10 November 1941 in Braunschweig and Gottingen
# 387	Besucht die wehrmachts Ausstellung/Armeen Werden Versorgt Braunschweig, 8 – 21 November – 14 December 1941	15 Nov. – 14 Dec. 1941 in Braunschweig and Gottingen



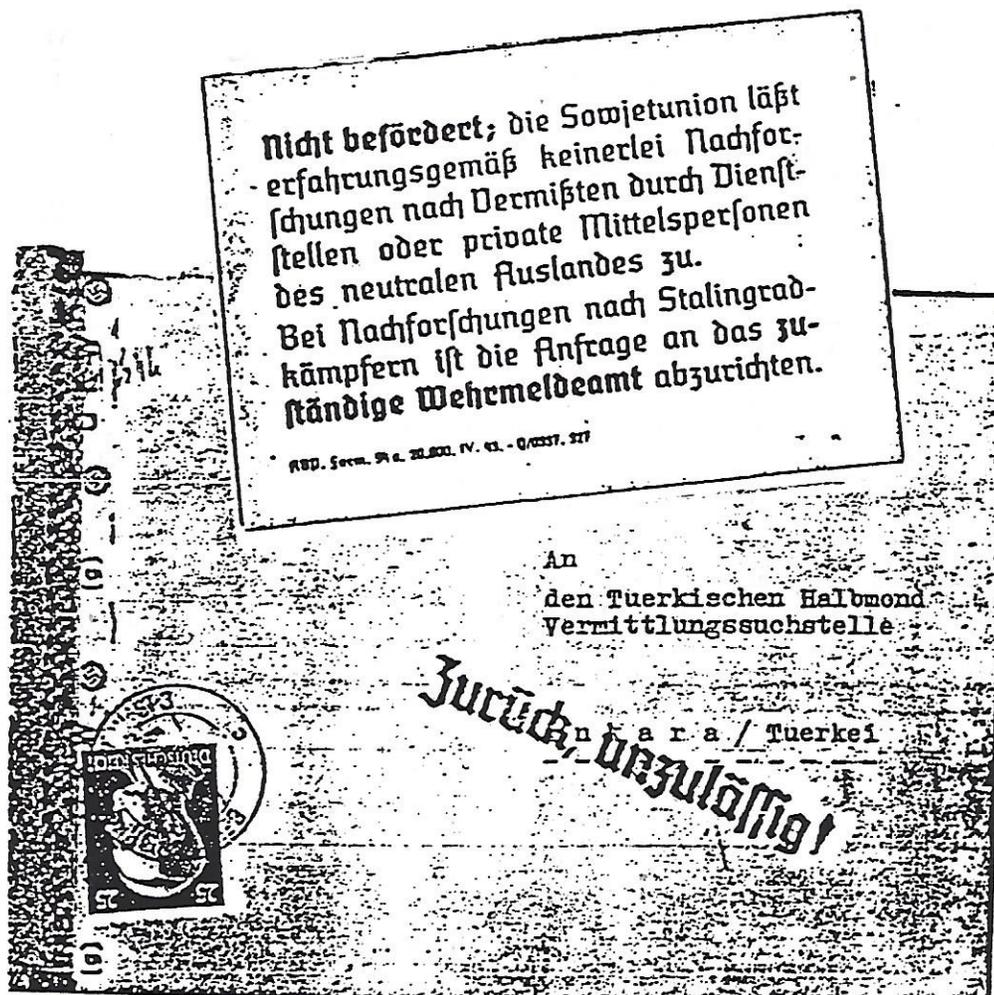
## Rejected by Censor - Inadmissible Mail

by Kelly Stefanacci

### Mail to Stalingrad POWs

Section 3. Supplementary order of May 13, 1940: "The sender is expressly advised that the Reichspost has no authority for determining admissibility of mail according to regulations. The intelligence officers of the military districts are responsible for such decisions. Return of fees for returned mail does not occur in any case."

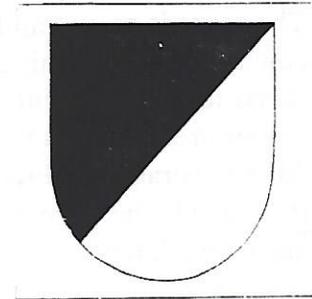
Shown below is a cover addressed to the Turkish Crescent (equivalent of Red Cross) Assistance Office in Ankara in December 1943. It was examined and rejected by the Vienna censor office per the hand stamp "Zurück, unzulässig!" (Return, not permitted!) and a reason for rejection insert. This insert explains that this letter cannot be forwarded because the Soviet Union has refused to exchange mail between German POWs and their homeland. Attempting to forward such mail via private persons in neutral countries is also not permitted. All attempts to send mail to Stalingrad POWs will be routed through the appropriate Armed Forces Records Office.



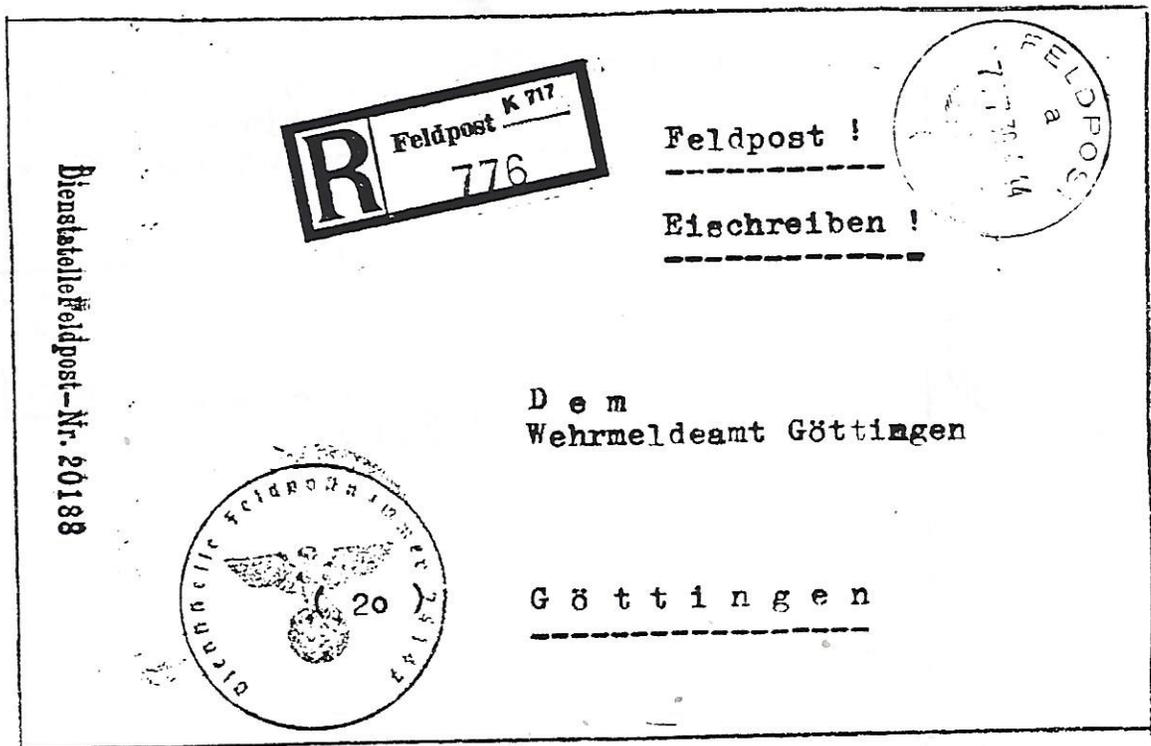
## COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 48th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS		COMPANY	AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		FUSILIER	UNITS
148	717	126	127	48	148

Formed in February 1944 (24th Wave) in the West Flanders area of Belgium from the 171st Reserve Division, this unit included many Poles and other non-Germans. At completion of training it was initially posted on the Belgian coast but was transferred to France after the collapse of the Normandy Front. The P.O. was assigned Fp.# 45924 as a return address and Kenn 717 as a coded identity. The division emblem was a blue and white diagonally halved shield.



The 48th Infantry Division first engaged the Allies in the Chartres area in August. Inexperienced in battle, inadequately trained and with no particular loyalty to the Third Reich, the division did not perform well in combat. It was defeated at Chartres, Metz and, later, in the Siegfried Line battles. After sustaining heavy casualties by Patton's Third Army, it finally collapsed and had to be temporarily absorbed by the 559th Infantry Division in November. Re-formed as a Volksgrenadier division in eastern Austria early in 1945, it was sent to the Eastern Front and was destroyed fighting under the German 8th Army as the Red Army drove on Vienna.



Cover sent to Military Records Office in Göttingen in April 1944 from Fp.# 20188 (Rgts. Stab of Grenadier Regiment 126) via P.O. 149 (K-717)

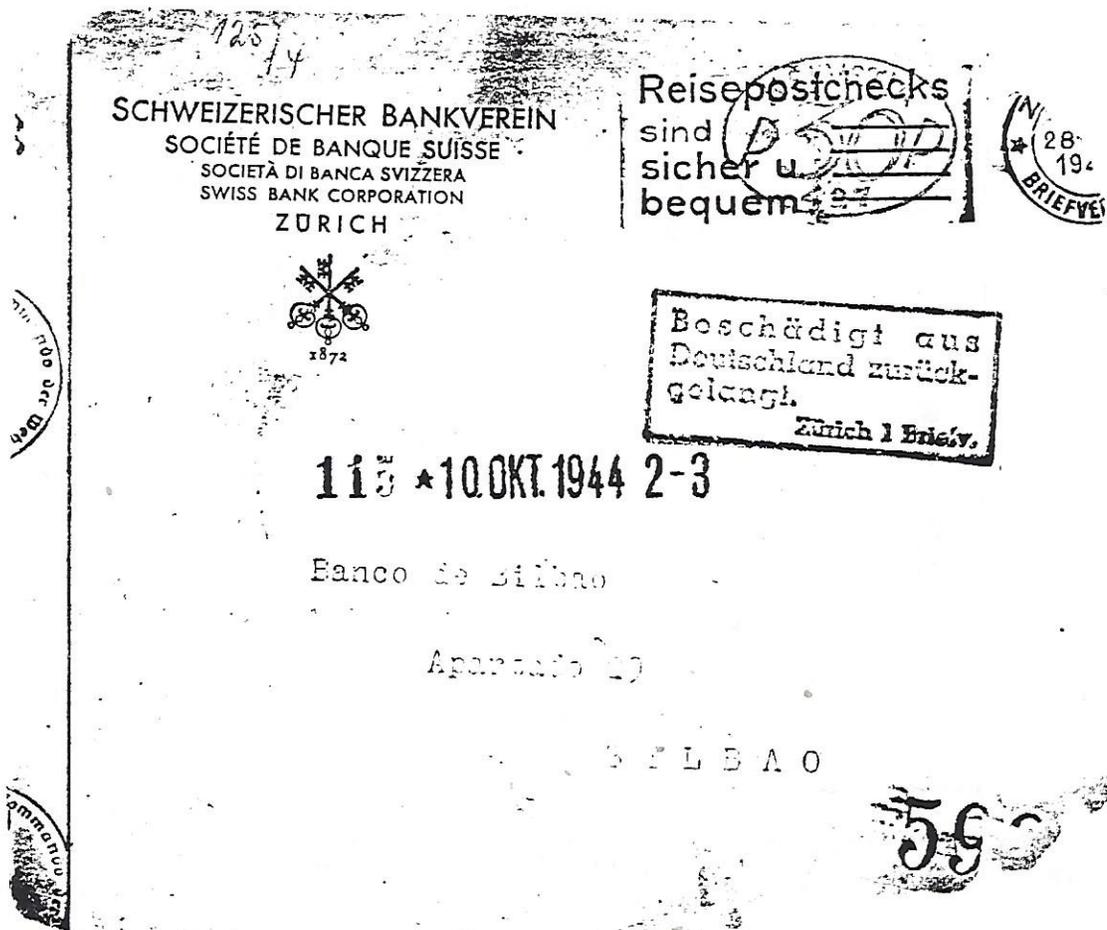
## SWISS TRANSIT COVER DAMAGED IN GERMANY, 1944

by Benjamin R. Beede

The Swiss Bank Corporation attempted to send this cover to Spain in 1944 but it was so heavily damaged in Germany that it had to be returned to sender. The boxed Swiss marking 'Beschädigt aus Deutschland zurückgelangt' (Returned Damaged from Germany) was applied in Zurich. The Swiss Bank Corporation apparently applied the October 10, 1944 marking when the cover was returned.

The cover is an example of "transit mail", that is, mail sent from one country to another through a third country. Why was this cover sent through Germany, however? It bears what seems to be the ordinary Swiss foreign rate without an airmail surcharge. By August or September 1944, surface mail could not be sent from Central Europe to Spain. Thus, it seems to have been mailed from Switzerland during the Allied liberation of France when postal and censorship conditions must have been quite confusing. Presumably, because German censorship offices in France, to the extent they still existed, could not handle mail, the cover was sent to the Berlin censorship office. Probably the cover was damaged after censorship, but before the question of how to forward this ordinary letter to Spain arose for the Reichspost. Because the cover had to be returned owing to the loss of contents and because no attempt was made to send the cover by airmail, the Reichspost did not apply postage due charges.

If this had been an airmail cover from Switzerland, it would presumably have been sent from Zurich to the Stuttgart air terminal, and it might be possible at least to guess in which air raid the cover was damaged. Because the cover went all the way to Berlin and because Germany was being so heavily bombed, it seems unlikely that the location where the cover was damaged can be identified.



## COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:

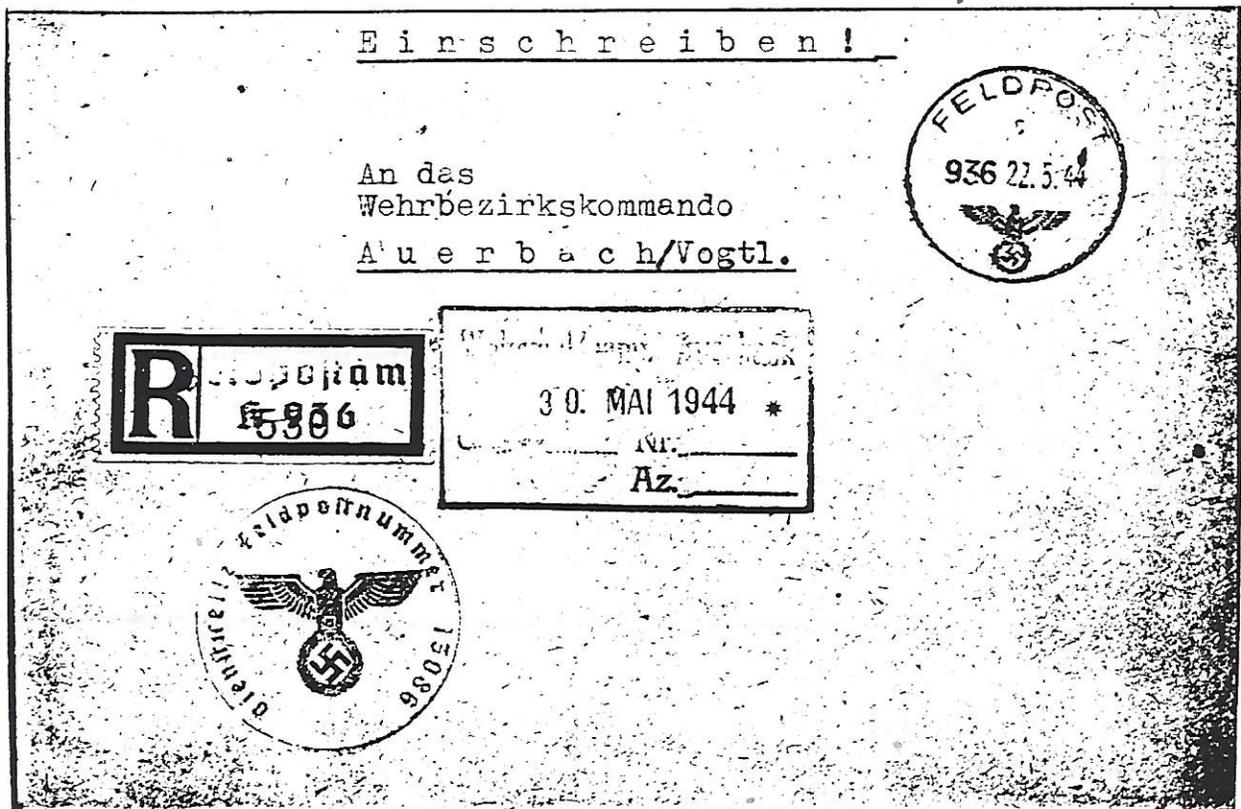
### 49th Infantry Division

by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS
149	936	148	149	150	149

The short-lived 49th Infantry Division was formed (24th Wave) in the Boulogne area of France in February 1944 by expansion of the 191st Reserve Division. The division post office was assigned Fp. # 47550 as a mailing address and Kenn 936 as a coded identification in lieu of its tactical FpA149. It first saw action in northern France in August 1944, then took part in the withdrawal to the Low Countries.

After being smashed by British forces near the Albert Canal, the remnants of the shattered division was reorganized at Hasselt. At that time the division contained a scant 1500 troops and only the 148th Grenadier Regiment Headquarters could be located. Although well under minimum strength, the 49th Infantry Division was assigned a portion of the front line north of Aachen but was withdrawn after the city fell. The division was formally disbanded in December 1944 with the survivors being transferred to the 246th Volksgrenadier Division.

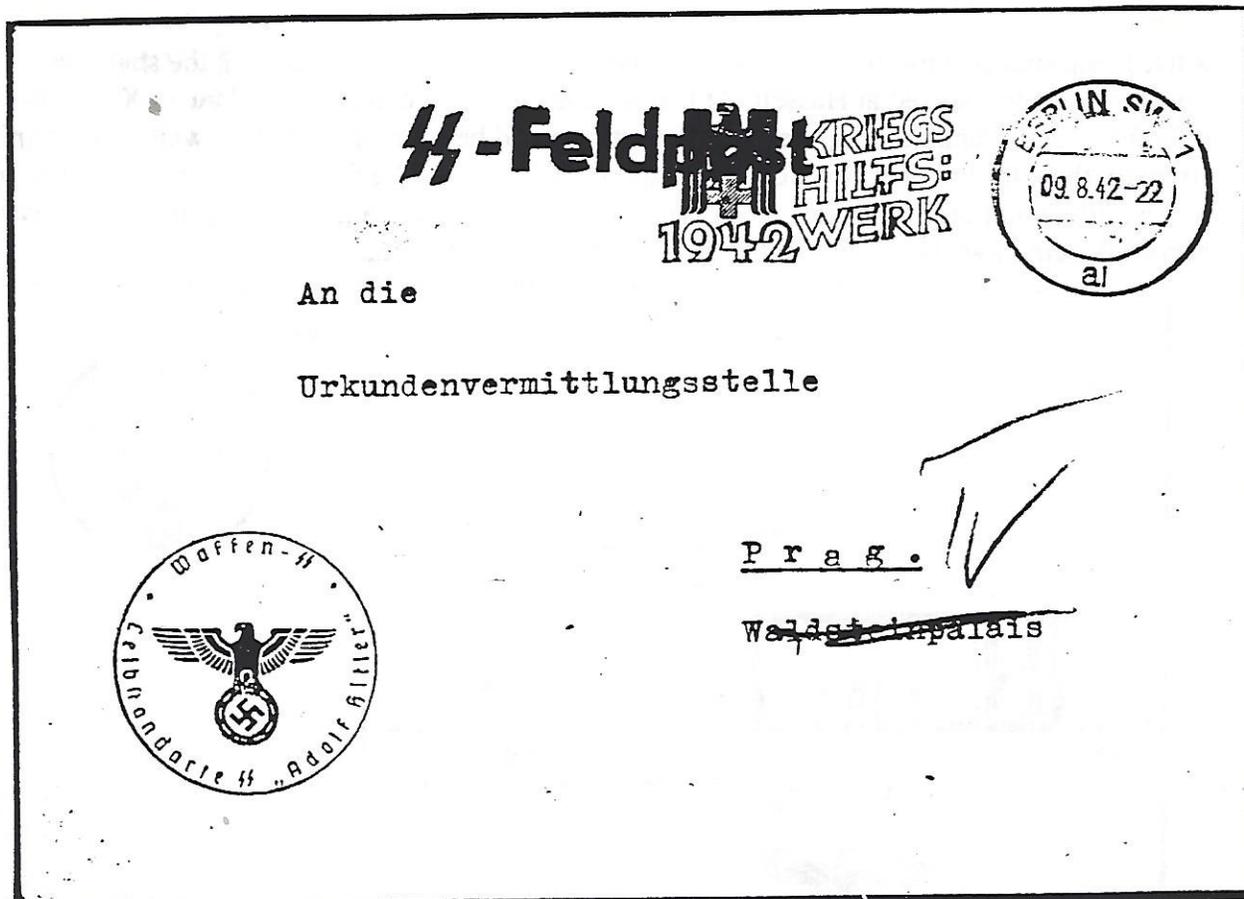


Cover sent to Military District Command in Auerbach in May 1944 from Fp. # 13086 (1 Kp./Nachsch. Batl. 144) via Field P.O. 149 (K-936).

# WAFFEN SS FELDPOST: SS Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler Cover

by John Painter

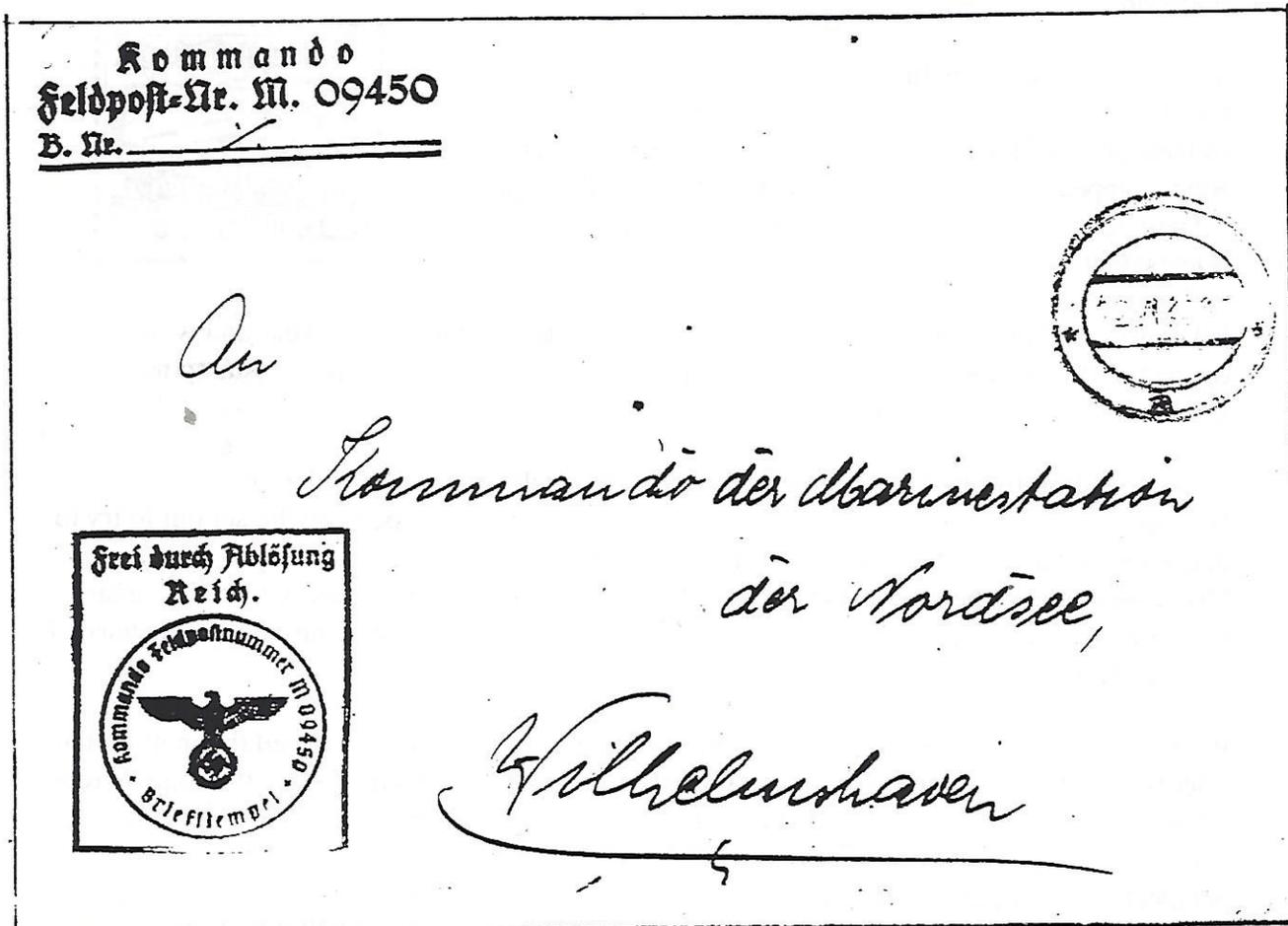
This unit was formed in 1933 as a bodyguard for Adolf Hitler. Their depot was in the Adolf Hitler Barracks located in Berlin-Lichterfelde. This bodyguard unit was eventually expanded to regiment, brigade and then into the Waffen-SS Division LSSAH.



The cover shown above with the open unit seal of the LSSAH was sent to a document center in Prague in August 1942.

# NAVY LOG

Auxiliary Cruiser 'Pinguin' - Feldpost # 09450  
by Martin Lynes



The 'Pinguin' was originally merchant ship 'Kandefels' built by A.G. Weser (Bremen) and launched on November 12, 1936. Displacement: 17,600 tons; Speed: 16 knots; Crew: 420; Armament: six 5.9" (6 x 1), one 75mm, two 37mm AA and two 20mm AA guns; four 21" torpedo tubes, 420 mines and two aircraft.

The 'Pinguin' sailed for Norway on June 22, 1940. During her combat cruise she sank 28 ships including 11 whalers, totaling 136,551 tons. While hidden at the Southern ice cap, a sailor was accidentally killed and his grave is the furthest south for German combatants.

The cruiser HMS Cornwall north of the Seychelles sank the 'Pinguin' on May 8, 1941.

Cover from Fp. # M09450, Schiff 33, Hilfskreuzer 5 'Pinguin' posted on June 12, 1940, shortly before sailing for Norway.

## Ship Ahoy!

by John Rawlings

How many of us have recently revised our descriptions of the 8 + 4 Pfg. value (Mi. 655) of the 1937 Winter Relief Fund set issued to publicize various aspects of Germany's maritime tradition?

The stamp shown at right depicts a fully rigged ship listed by Michel as a "sail training ship". Only Harper and Schreck, in their detailed handbook "The Stamps of Germany Third Reich" appear to have given the vessel a name and for years it featured in my own collection as the "Sail training ship 'Deutschland'".



Like most collectors I am not very keen on buying a new catalog every year and when I opened a Michel Specialized 1972/73 it came as quite a surprise to find the stamp newly described as the "Four-masted barque 'Padua'".

An explanation for the change emerged in a short article in the "Deutsche Zeitung für Briefmarkenkunde". In the article the author, H. Kuhlmann describes how he set out to try to discover the name of the vessel that had inspired the design.

His close study of the stamp revealed that the vessel depicted had a hull with raised areas fore and aft and a similar raised platform amidships; features more common on four-masted sailing ships than on those with only three masts.

Photographs of the sailing ships in commission in the mid-1930s confirmed that neither the 'Deutschland' nor any of the other vessels of her type had this style of construction whereas a photograph of the four-masted barque 'Padua' found in Kohler's Fleet Calendar for 1936 and in J. Anderson's "Last Survivors of sail" matched the description exactly. The perspective, the rigging, the hull shape and even the small anchor davit on the forecastle are so faithfully reproduced in the stamp that there seems no reasonable doubt that the photograph provided the inspiration for the Axster-Heudtlass team's design. The only discrepancy is that the rearmost mast, which is just discernable in the photograph, is not shown in the stamp at all so that what should be a four-masted ship has become a three-masted, but, when one considers the limitations imposed by the scale perhaps the designers may be forgiven.

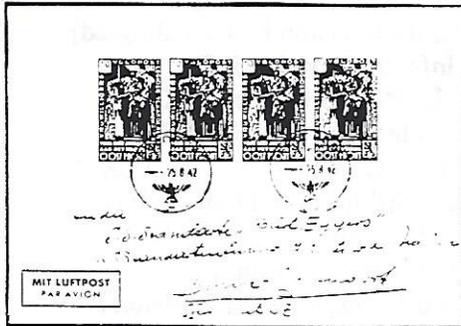
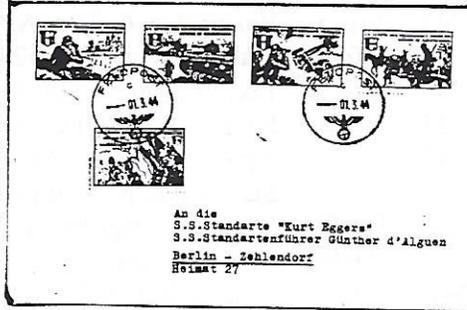
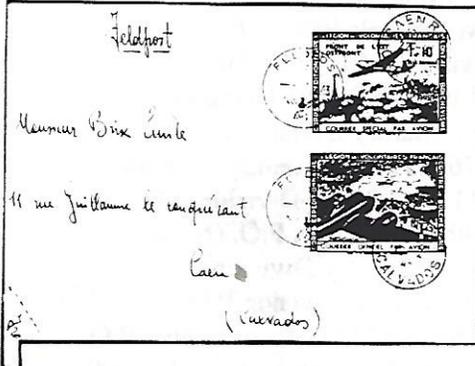
The 'Padua', of 3064 BRT, was built in 1926 by the J.C. Tecklenborg yards in Geestemunde. She carried a 72-man crew, of whom 45 were apprentices undergoing training, and, until 1939, served as a sail training ship for the F Laeisz Line. By 1945 she had been renamed 'Krusenstern' and, in the same year, she was handed over to Russia to become the sail training ship 'Sjedov'.

We offer Herr Kuhlmann our belated congratulations on his successful research and note with satisfaction the solution of another philatelic puzzle of the Third Reich period.

*Note: this article first appeared in the June 1976 newsletter of the German Collectors Group*

# TRSG Auction No. 90

Lot	Description	Min. Bid
<b>First 7 lots are Foreign Legion Feldpost covers illus. by Row/Position i.e. Top/Center =TC, etc.</b>		
1.	France – Fp. cover w/Mi. IV & V tied 2.'43 can sent to Caen. VF (See TL)	\$35.00
2.	France – Fp. cover w/Mi. VI - X V sent 3.'44 to SS 'Kurt Egger' . VF (See TC)	35.00
3.	Croatia – Legion S/S on airmail Feldpost cover to Hamburg 1.'45 VF (See TR)	15.00
4.	Belgium – airmail Fp. cover w/Mi IV Flandern sht sent to 'Kurt Egger' in Berlin 8.'42 (See BL)	35.00
5.	Holland - cover w/Legion stamps sent 11.'42 VF (See illustration on Bulletin Page 1)	45.00
6.	Norway – cover frm Norway to SS Legionnaire at Fp.# 09420 sent 4.'44 VF (See BC)	50.00
7.	Denmark – Fp. cover frm Freikorpmann to Denmark w/o can. w/ SS B'stemple & SS censor (See BR)	15.00



8.	'Wehrpass' 52 page passbook for soldier inducted 6.'40 w/photo, assignments to 1.'44. VF Scarce	25.00
9.	Waffen-SS cover frm LSSAH Barracks in 8.'42 (cover shown on page 20 this bulletin) VF	25.00
10.	SS cover sent frm Btl'n III of Polizei Rgt. 25 in Lukow, GG in 7.'43 VF	20.00
11.	Waffen-SS cover sent frm Administration Office of Auschwitz KZL 7.'42. Exhibit quality! XF	35.00
12.	Cover sent from SS Ordnungs Polizei HQ in Berlin in 11.'42 w/Himmler Office B'stemple. VF	25.00
13.	Private cover sent from SS-Mann in SS Flak Ersatz Abtl. in Arolsen, Germany 9.'42. F-VF	25.00
14.	SS cover sent from HQ of Polizei Rgt. 22 in Warsaw, GG in 11.'42 VF	20.00
15.	Waffen-SS cover sent from Fp.# 05396 (Sanitats Abtl. of 6th SS Division 'Nord') 10.'42. VF	25.00
16.	Pre-war SS cover from Gestapo HQ in Darmstadt via Worms P.O. in 8.'38. VF	25.00
17.	SS cover w/enclosure from Fp.# 58200 (Kartenstelle Führer) of V SS Gebirgs Corps 11.'44 VF	20.00
18.	Censored (Cologne tape/hand stamps) commercial cover w/Mi. 522 frm Dusseldorf to Belgium 12.40	12.00
<b>Next 6 lots are Official Kreigsmarine Feldpost covers, VF unless noted o'wise</b>		
19.	Sent 4.'42 frm Fp.# 30421 (Kdt. D. Seeverteidigung Pas de Calais)	12.00
20.	Sent 6.'42 frm Fp.# 32263 (Stab, Marine Flak Abtl. 119)	12.00
21.	Sent 3.'42 frm Fp.# 02855 (Stab, 22 Marine Flak Regiment)	12.00
22.	Sent 5.'40 frm Fp.# 39979 (Stab, 8 Marine Flak Regiment)	12.00
23.	Sent 7.'42 frm Fp.# 38565 (Stab, Marine Flak Abtl. 212)	12.00
24.	Sent 2.'42 frm Fp.# 30933 (Stab, Marine Flak Abtl. 282)	12.00
25.	<b>Censored Mail During the Third Reich</b> - English translation of Reimer in hard binder. VF	15.00

**Next 44 lots: R-Fp. covers frm Division & z.b.V (special P.O.) on exhibit sheets. F-VF unless noted o'wise**

	<b>Kenn.</b>	<b>FpA</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Fp. #.</b>	<b>Description</b>	
26.	100	268	5.'43	09769	Stab I/Gren. Rgt. 499 via 268th Infantry Division P.O.	12.00
27.	128	40	9.'42	06084	8 Kp./Pz. Pionier Btl. 40 via 24th Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
28.	130	84	7.'42	36772	3 Kp./Pz. Pionier Btl. 79 via 4th Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
29.	131	791 z.b.V	4.'43	07763	Special P.O. of Africa Corps in Bezerta (lost in Tunis)	12.00
30.	135	82	6.'43	06560	4. Kp/Pz. Jäger Abtl. 38 via 2nd Panzer Division P.O	12.00
31.	145	326	7.'43	48557	II/Festungs Rgt. 867 via 326th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
32.	146	218	11.'42	?	(Fp.# indistinct) via 218th Infantry Division P.O.	6.00
33.	278	93	11.'44	?	(Fp.# indistinct) via 26th Panzer Division P.O.	7.00
34.	287	88	11.'42	32535	1 Kp./Kradschutz Btl. 18 via 18th Panzer Division P.O	12.00
35.	335	294	3.'43	19454	Stab/Gren. Rgt. 515 via 294th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
36.	369	722 z.b.V	8.'43	20155	Bakery Kp. 687 via APM Brussels Branch P.O.	9.00
37.	420	639 z.b.V	2.'43	15036	Stab/Ns. Kol. Abtl. 529 via P.O. Bizerta (Africa Corps	7.00
38.	433	61	11.'43	02602	1.Kp./Pz, Gren. Rgt. 111 of 11th Panzer Division P.O	12.00
39.	469	198	5.'43	15902	I/ Gren. Rgt. 290 via 98th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
40.	482	332	8.'43	13166	Rgts. Stab/ Gren. Rgt. 676 via 676th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
41.	501	111	10.'43	18221	Stab/ Gren. Rgt. 70 via 11th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
42.	508	92	6.'42	11529	I/Pz. Gren. Rgt 59 via 20th Panzer Div. P.O. (No cancel)	12.00
43.	533	361	5.'44	35641	Stab/Art Abtl. 846 via 361st Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
44.	546	175	5.'44	28626	I/ Gren. Rgt. 222 via 75th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
45.	597	466	7.'43	46169	Heeresunterkunftsverw. 304 via 201st Security Div. P.O.	9.00
46.	606	376	8.'42	20800	Pi. Btl. 376 via 376th Infantry Division P.O. (Stalingrad)	12.00
47.	630	45	5.'43	18399	Aufkl. Abtl. 45 via 45th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
48.	640	788 z.b.V	4.'43	39098	Orts Kdr (I) 296 via special P.O. of Panzer AOK 1	12.00
49.	643	338	12.'43	46702	II/ Gren. Rgt. 759 via 338th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
50.	645	771 z.b.V	4.43	32876	Trsp. Kol.d. Luftw. 103/XVII via P.O. of Panzer AOK 3	12.00
51.	653	333	11.'42	18217	14.Kp/Gren. Rgt. 681 via 333rd Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
52.	655	342	5.'42	33563	Feldlazarette 665 via 342nd Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
53.	665	15	1.'43	15551	3. Kp./Pi. Btl. 15 via 15th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
54.	683	219	10.'44	25750	Division Kdo 183 via 183rd Volksgrenadier Division P.O.	12.00
55.	697	33	6.'41	31605	5 gr. Kw. Kol. 200 via 15th Panzer Division P.O	12.00
56.	699	756 z.b.V	4.'43	02084	Gru. Heeresbaudienststelle 48 special P.O. of 11th Army	12.00
57.	701	323	10.'42	27813	II/Gren. Rgt. 593 via 323rd Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
58.	703	352	12.'43	41081	Stab II/Gren. Rgt. 915 via 352nd Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
59.	724	117	9.'43	44345	Kr. Kw. Zug 1-117 via 117th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
60.	755	349	12.'43	28472	II/Gren. Rgt. 911 via 341st Infantry Division P.O (No can.)	9.00
61.	756	944	12.'42	44348	II/I Ausb. Rgt. 614 of 4th Fallschirmjäger Div. P.O.	12.00
62.	808	182	4.'43	35839	Kw. Werkst. Kp.182 via 82nd Infantry Division P.O	9.00
63.	828	4	6.'41	26894	2. Schwdr. Aufkl. Abtl. 401 via 14th Pz. Div. (Stalingrad)	12.00
64.	841	370	10.'42	35441	I/Gren. Rgt. 668 via 370th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
65.	863	330	9.'42	01435	Stab/Nachr. Kp. 330 via 330th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
66.	939	328	1.'43	27307	II/Art. Rgt. 328 via 328th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
67.	946	220	3.'43	42357	Div. Stab/164th Light Afrika Div. (Africa Corps)	12.00
68.	970	46	8.'42	38421	I/Gren. Rgt. 97 via 56th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
69.	985	90	5.'43	12891	3. Kp/Pz. Pionier Btl. 49 via 10th Pz. Div. (lost Tunisia)	12.00

**PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 90 is May 16, 2003.**

**SEND ALL BIDS TO: Jim Lewis, 111 Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070**