



Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

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

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STUDY GROUP NOTES

Membership Renewal – this issue completes yet another year of TRSG activities and, as dues are now due, a renewal form is included in this mailing. **Please take a moment to complete this form and send it with payment to Secretary-Treasurer Bob Dunn.** While we did not increase dues for next year, any member whose dues are not received by January 1, 2003 will be considered as having resigned. Should they wish to renew membership thereafter, they must pay the \$10.00 new member fee in addition to the annual dues.

Back Issue Index – our last index, published in 1996, covered issues 104 to 121. The new index that begins on page 8 in this bulletin covers issues 122 to 145. Back issues are available from Bob Dunn @\$3.00 each.

Book Review: *The Postal Rates of Croatia & Srem* by Geoff Barling – Rochester (U.K.) 1999; 400 pages, order from A. J. Bosworth, 34 Richmond Way, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6BN, England. Price: £26 plus postage & handling. “This is a monumental undertaking covering postal rates from the Venetian Republic through the Federal Peoples Republic of Yugoslavia (later Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia) in 1992. Almost all information of interest to the Yugoslav philatelist is included as the study concentrates on territories of the independent (of Yugoslavia) Republic of Croatia, as it is today, and the region of Srem, which remained within Yugoslavia, both of which have experienced a number of administrative changes and boundary alterations. Users will like the thirteen maps & glossary of place names in their different languages, which so often make some of the postmarks rather confusing. The historical introduction goes a long way toward explaining why there were so many territorial changes to be considered and so many versions of the place names. Well produced, this book has 209 clear cover illustrations.” Reviewed by TRSGer Henry Laessig.

Was Currency Control a Form of Censorship? Ben Beede writes:” In respect of Allan Warren’s interest in the possibility of currency inspection labels having been used in the Third Reich for political or military security censorship before World War II, as discussed in a recent issue of the German Postal Specialist, I’m increasingly convinced that currency inspection was, in fact, carried out strictly for economic reasons, not to mask political or security objectives. Wolfgang Lotz’s fine new book *Die Deutsche Reichspost 1933-1945: Eine politische Verwaltungsgeschichte Band I: 1933-1939* (1999) discusses currency inspection and the concept of “letter secrecy” at length in Chapter VI. There is no hint in Lotz’s treatment that currency inspection was anything but what it was supposed to be. In any event, the German government already had authority to breach postal and telecommunications secrecy through the “Reichstag regulation” of Feb. 28, 1933. For an English-language discussion, see Chapter VII of M. Woolsten’s *The Structure of the Nazi Economy (1941)*.”

Zeppelin Rate – the article in Bulletin 144 should show the rate for the 5-10 gram cover illustrated as:
Franking (125 Pfg.): 100 Pfg. (Zeppelin surcharge for weight 5-10 gram)
25 Pfg. (Foreign letter rate for weight 0-20 grams)

Our apology to Bob Ferguson, who did not write this article. The write up (and error) was by *Ye Olde Ed*.

Navy Log – new TRSG member Martin Lynn provided the Feldpost cover from a crewmember of the battleship ‘*Bismarck*’ shown on page 21. We have long sought a cover from this ill-fated ship for our popular ‘Navy Log’ feature. Our thanks to Martin for allowing us to share this scarce cover with the membership.

Cover Illustration – our auction includes many nice R-Feldpost covers such as Lot 63 that was sent during October 1942 from Fp.# 01040 (Btl. II/Pz. Gren. Rgt. 129) of the 22nd Panzer Division via FpA 140 (K-796). This panzer division completed formation in August 1941 and was destroyed at Stalingrad in January 1943.

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 225th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
225	834	333	337	376	225	225

Formed upon mobilization in September 1939 (3rd Wave) from 'Landwehr' personnel of the greater Hamburg area. The 225th Infantry Division first saw action in 1940 when it took part in the drive on Amsterdam. It was then on occupation duty in France from late summer 1940 until the end of 1941. During this period younger men were added, making the average age equivalent to other divisions.

Rushed to the northern sector of the Eastern Front in January 1942, it was placed into the lines of 18th Army to oppose the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42. By June 1942 it was part of L Army Corps and took part in the Siege of Leningrad. In late 1942 it was transferred to X Corps of the 16th Army. It defended a portion of the corridor into the Demyansk salient from November 1942 until February 1943, when the Demyansk area was evacuated. The 225th Infantry Division was then returned to 18th Army under XXVI Army Corps, where it took part in the retreat from Leningrad through the Baltic States. It fought in the Battles of the Courland pocket from October 1944 to April 1945 and ended the war in western Latvia.



Cover sent to NSDAP Leader at Münchberg in February 1944 from Fp. # 33522 (Battalion I/Grenadier Regiment 376) via Field P.O. 225 (K-834).

Story Behind the Stamp: Wagner's "Der Fliegende Holländer" by Kelly Stefanacci

Richard Wagner's opera "Der Fliegende Holländer" was based on the life of Jan van der Decken. According to legend he was born in Holland during the 17th Century. He went to sea as a boy and eventually became captain of a great sailing ship that roved across the southern seas, trading and amassing gold. When he decided to return home, a furious storm prevented him from rounding the Cape of Good Hope. This infuriated him so much that he swore he would sail round the Cape even if it took him to the end of time. For this blasphemy he was condemned to sail the oceans forever without reaching his journey's end. Once every seven years he was allowed to land in order to seek a wife. If he could not persuade her to marry him, he had to resume his endless journey.

In Wagner's opera (1843) the legend of the Flying Dutchman was told by the old nurse Maria to Senta, the beautiful daughter of Daland, a Norwegian captain. The legend so impressed her that she vowed to marry the Flying Dutchman, even though she is in love with Erik, a young hunter from the mountains. When Daland returned home from a particular voyage, he brings a visiting captain with him who Senta recognizes as Jan van der Decken, who had now been on the high seas for over a hundred years. By promising Daland gold and precious stones, Jan van der Decken obtains the hospitality of the house.

However, when he learns that Senta really loves him, he cannot bring himself to ask her to make the sacrifice. Nevertheless, she persuades him that she is willing to marry him and the wedding ceremony is set for the next day. When he sees her comforting Erik the next day, he assumes that she has regretted their betrothal and releases her from her promise. He sails away in his phantom ship but as it passes the headland above the village, Senta jumps from the cliff into the raging sea. As she touches the sea, the ship and all in it disappear from view. The opera ends with a vision of Jan van der Decken, now released from his curse, and Senta rising together into the heavens.

A set of nine stamps that depict scenes from Wagner operas were issued on Nov. 1, 1933 for the Winter Relief Fund (Deutsche Nothilfe). The scene depicted on the 4+2 Pfg. stamp (Mi. 500) is Jan van der Decken on his ship.

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.

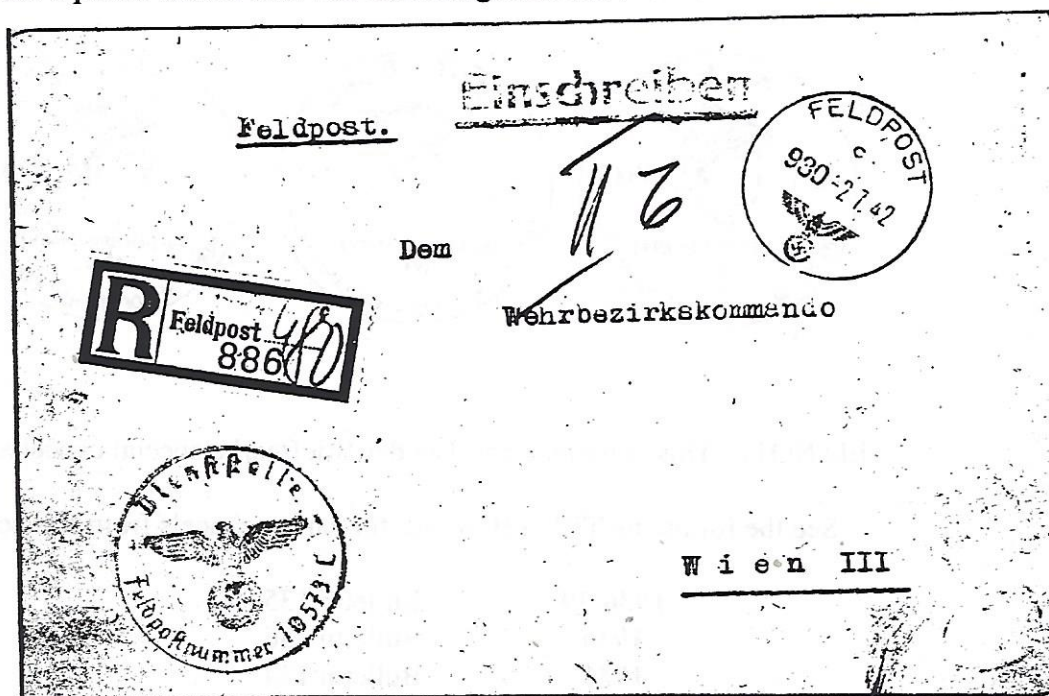


COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 18th Panzer-Grenadier Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT	KENN	MOTORIZED INF	PZ BTL	ARTY	UNITS	
18	980	30	51	118	18	118

Formed in 1935-36 (1st Wave), the 18th Infantry Division initially included the 30th, 51st & 54th Infantry Regiments. It fought in Poland in 1939 and the western campaign in the spring of 1940. In the fall of 1940 it was converted to a motorized division, giving up the 54th Regiment to the 100th Jäger Division. It invaded the Soviet Union under Hoth's 3rd Panzer Group, fought in the Bialystok and Minsk encirclements, the Dneiper crossings and the Battle of Smolensk. The 18th Motorized Division suffered heavy losses during the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42. After sustaining 9,000 casualties by December 27, 1941, the division was placed into reserve behind the northern sector.

In March 1942 the division was back on line and took part in the rescue of II Army Corps in the Demyansk pocket. Re-designated the 18th Panzer-Grenadier Division in the fall of 1942, it remained in the northern sector in the defensive battles of 1942-43, fighting around Demyansk and Staraya Russa. It was sent to Army Group Center in the autumn of 1943 and fought in the 4th Army's unsuccessful defense of Smolensk that fall. In the spring of 1944 it was cited for distinguished action in the fighting on the central Dnieper. In late June 1944, the 18th Panzer-Grenadier Division was surrounded at Bobruisk during a massive Soviet attack on Army Group Center and virtually destroyed. The division commander committed suicide rather than surrender to the Russians. The remnants of this division were reformed in Silesia in September 1944 and received a new FpA 18 and K-860. This unit fought in East Prussia and the Battle of Berlin.



Cover sent to Military Records Office in Vienna in July 1942 from Fp. # 10573 (Battalion I/Panzer-Grenadier Regiment 30) via Field Post Office 18 (K-980).

Special Cancels – Tag der Briefmarke 1943 by Bob Ferguson

The first “**Tag der Briefmarke**” was held on 7 January 1936 and was commemorated by two special cancels. The last (National Socialist) was in 1944 and was marked by a modesty similar to the first, a single stamp (Mi. 904) but no special cancel. For the entire nine-year period, “**Tag der Briefmarke**” was commemorated with 494 special cancels.

The cancel numbering scheme is in Julius Bochmann’s work “**Katalog der Deutschen Gelegenheitsstempel**”.

Uniform Design - Tag der Briefmarke/10 January 1943

Aschaffenburg # 13	Essen # 41	Munchen # 181
Augsburg # 13	Hamburg # 119	Munster (West) # 22
Berlin # 384	Kassel # 43	Nurnberg # 81
Bochum # 12	Kattowitz # 7	Salzburg # 20
Bremen # 36	Kiel # 49	Stettin # 35
Breslau # 61	Koln # 54	Strassburg # 18
Den Haag # 2	Leipzig # 184	Stuttgart # 95
Dresden # 104	Linz (Donau) # 15	Wien # 102
Erfurt # 31	Magdeburg # 38	Wiesbaden # 55
Villach # 10: Briefmarkensammlerverein Werbeschau zum Tag der Briefmarke, 10 January 1943		



ED NOTE: This completes the Tag der Briefmarke special cancel articles.

See the following TRSG Bulletins for earlier cancels from this series:

1936-39	Bulletin 135
1940	Bulletin 136
1941	Bulletin 124
1942	Bulletin 137

THIRD REICH POSTAL RATES

Late Parcel Post to Fernzone

by Bob Ferguson

The rates for ordinary parcel post which had been in effect since 30 January 1933 were revised on 13 August 1944. The new rates had only two distance zones, **Nahzone** (under 75 Km) and **Fernzone** (over 75Km). The maximum allowable weight was 15 Kg.

Ordinary Parcel Post to Fernzone

Posted: Rugendorf, March 12, 1945

Received: Feucht, April 5, 1945

Franking (1.20 RM): Fee for 8 Kg Parcel to Fernzone.

Eingangs-Nr.	Bescheinigung des (bei versiegelten We
Zustellvermerk <i>Talbe</i> <i>6.4.45</i>	
	Umstehend bezeichnet erhalten (Name)

631 ~~X Rugendorf~~ 2013

Absender: *Söllner 13a Rugendorf*
L.K. Stadtsteinsch. Bf.

Besondere Vermerke des Absenders (s. Rückseite):

An *Frau*

Freigebühr *Julie Söllner*

Postgewicht (kg) *Julius Streicher Südl. 143*

13a B. / K. / ...

über Feucht

(Straße, Hausnummer, Gebäudeteil, Stockwerk)

DEUTSCHES REICH 50 50
DEUTSCHES REICH 50 50
DEUTSCHES REICH 20 20

8. 42 M C 20 Din A6

Zur Beachtung

Mit einer Paketkarte dürfen bis 3 Pakete versandt werden. Zu jedem Nachnahmepaket ist jedoch eine besondere Paketkarte erforderlich, wobei die besonderen Nachnahmepaketkarten mit anhängender Postanweisung oder Zahlkarte zu benutzen sind. Auf eine Paketkarte dürfen nur Pakete derselben Art, also, entweder nur gewöhnliche oder nur unversiegelte oder nur versiegelte Wertpakete gemeinsam befördert werden, unversiegelte Wertpakete jedoch nur dann, wenn der Wertbetrag bei allen Paketen gleich hoch ist. Bei unversiegelten Wertpaketen darf der Wertbetrag nur einmal auf der Paketkarte vermerkt werden; bei versiegelten Wertpaketen muß der Wert eines jeden Pakets besonders auf der Paketkarte angegeben sein, es sei denn, daß er bei allen Paketen gleich hoch ist. Bei Wertpaketen ist der Wertbetrag mit dem Zusatz „Wert“ in Ziffern in dem Raum „Besondere Vermerke des Absenders“ zu

vermerken. In diesem gegebenenfalls Vermerk Bote bezahlt“, „Wen u. dgl., niederzuschreiben. Das Paket selbst und die gleichzeitige Zustellung, Wert, Name wie die Paketkarte; versiegelte Wertpakete Paket wegzulassen. Ist möglichst groß und deutlich anzugeben. Postpakete, die aus leeren Schachteln, Kisten, Körben oder andern leeren Behältnissen bestehen, sind über der Anschrift durch den Vermerk „Leergut“ zu kennzeichnen. Paketkarten dürfen nicht als Paketaufschriften benutzt werden. Auf den Paketen und Paketkarten hat der Absender seinen Namen und Wohnort nebst Straße, Hausnummer, Gebäudeteil, Stockwerk anzugeben. Auskunft über die Gebühren am Postschalter.

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Italian Volunteers in the Waffen-SS

by Jim Lewis

On September 12, 1943, four days after Italy surrendered to the Allies, a team of German commandos landed by glider at a small mountain retreat in the Abruzzi and liberated Mussolini, then under arrest by order of the Badoglio government. With the return of the Duce, a new fascist republic was established in northern Italy. Hitler and Mussolini then decided that reliable Italian militia formations would be needed to deal with the many partisan bands in the area. Formation and training of these militia units would be carried out by the Waffen-SS. "Formation Staff Hansen", named after SS-Brigadeführer Peter Hansen, began to look for volunteers among the nearly 250,000 Italian soldiers who had been disarmed and interned in German-held territory. By late September 1943, 15,000 Italian officers and men had volunteered for service. They were sent to the German troop training grounds at Muensingen and formed into Police Battalions of the Militia Regiment 'Maria'.

At the completion of their training, these units were sent to Italy and employed in various operations against the partisans. During this early action, SS-Standardtenführer Gustov Lombard commanded these troops because SS-Brigadeführer Hansen was off duty from early October to early December due to illness.

To provide for the postal needs of these units, the German Feldpost assigned all Italian military forces with 5-digit security addresses. While some of these Feldpost numbers were from existing number series, the majority was from a new 80,000 series reserved exclusively for Italian units. The first listing of these Italian units in the FpU ('Feldpostübersicht' or Feldpost Directory) appears in the 9th edition of Part II dated February 15, 1944:

Miliz. Rgt. De Maria (Polizei)			
	<u>Feldpost Nrs</u>		<u>Feldpost Nrs</u>
Rgt. Stab.	87670	Btl. VI	83571
Btl. I	81304	Btl. V II	82354
Btl. II	83851	Btl. VIII	87722
Btl. III	82076	Btl. IX	81568
Btl. IV	81456	Btl. X	85373
Btl. V	85262	Btl. XI	82467

SS-Brigadeführer Hansen decided to form a new Italian force that would not be used only in anti-partisan warfare. Instead, it would be trained and equipped for regular combat. In February 1944, volunteers were accepted for the 1st Storm Brigade of the Italian Volunteer Legion.

Another combat-ready unit was formed from Italian soldiers at the POW camp in Feldstetten. After processing through Muensingen, the 400 volunteers were sent to the Waffen-SS advanced training center near the town of Debica, Poland. By late March 1944, the Italian Volunteer Battalion 'Debica' had returned to Italy and was in action against partisan forces in the Germasca valley.

In April 1944, the Italian Legion was transferred to the Anzio-Nettuno Front where they were subordinated to a German SS "Kampfgruppe" from the 16th SS Panzergrenadier Division 'Reichsführer-SS'. They arrived at a time when forces of the American 5th Army, bottled up at Anzio since their landing on January 22nd, were preparing an all out assault to effect a break-out. This assault began in mid-May and continued for two months as German forces slowly yielded ground, eventually retreating to new positions north of Rome.



Recruiting card "Join the Italian SS Legion"

During their two months of combat on the Anzio Front the Italian Legion had 340 of their 650-man force killed in action. There were 52 battlefield promotions and 22 Iron Crosses awarded for valor. The fascist publication "Zeitschrift Avantgardia" carried a statement by Himmler: "Because of the demonstration of courage and sense of duty displayed by the volunteers of the Italian SS, they are designated as units of the Waffen-SS with all of the duties and privileges which that implies". Following their participation in the fighting near Anzio, the battered Legion was withdrawn for rest and reformation. The 1st Storm Brigade spent the next few months in the Susa and Chisone valleys to defend against an attempt to invade Italy from France.

The following are the Feldpost numbers of the Legion, which appears in the July 1944 edition of the FpU:

Sturmbrigade 1 – italien Freiwilligen Legion

	<u>Feldpost Nrs</u>
Stab u . Einh.	85961
Stab/Inf. Rgt. 2	86922
Btl. I	81984 A-E
Btl. II	83761 A-E

On September 7, 1944, an order from Himmler transformed the Legion into a "Waffen-Grenadier Brigade der SS" which put the official stamp of the Waffen-SS on the unit as well as designating it as a non-Germanic SS formation. The Waffen-SS Brigades had their internal elements carry the Brigade number plus the number 50 i.e. 51, 52 etc. to differentiate units such as Artillery and Engineer Battalions from their counterparts in the Waffen-SS Divisions. The official designation of the Italian Brigade was "9" while the two battalions were designated "81" and "89", The 'Debica' Battalion was also included as a Fusilier Btl. Of the new brigade. This reorganization resulted in the following Feldpost number assignments:

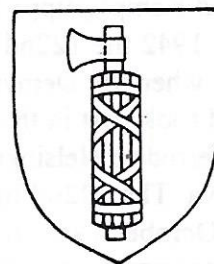
Waffen Grenadier Brigade der SS (italien Nr. 1)		
	<u>Feldpost Nrs</u>	<u>Feldpost Nrs</u>
Kommando	82640	Art. Rgt. 59 Stab 80203
Rgt. 81 Stab.	87670	Abtl. I 81568 A-C
Btl. I	83851 A-E	Abtl. II 80465 A-C
Btl. II	81304 A-E	Pz. Jag. Abt. 59 87772
Btl. III	81456 A-E	Fusilier Btl. 'Debica' 59 57239 A-E
Rgt. 89 Stab.	86922	
Btl. I	81984A-E	
Btl. II	83761A-E	
Btl. III	82354A-E	

Elements of the Italian SS carried out operations against bandits and partisans in the high mountains around the Germasca valley and Monte Oriseria during the last months of 1944. In late September, a large number of Italian SS volunteers took part in a major police action at Valsassina. In cooperation with Italian National Republican Guard units, they cleared the Valsassina valley of partisans by totally destroying the partisan brigades "Poletti" and "Rosselli".

Efforts began to reorganize the Storm Brigade and other Italian units into a full scale SS Infantry Division sometime in late 1944. A few sources indicate that this reorganization took place in May 1945. However, 'Projekt Himmelblau' (a 1980 TRSG publication that identified units by their Feldpost numbers – *Ye Olde Ed.*) research found that the 11th edition of Part II of the FpU dated December 20, 1944 listed the following units:

29. Waffen Grenadier Division der SS "Italia"

	<u>Feldpost No.</u>
General Kommando	82640
81. SS-Infanterie Rgt. Stab	87670
Btl. I (Stab und 1-5 Kp.)	83851 A-F
Btl. II (Stab und 6-10 Kp.)	81304 A-F
Btl. III (Stab und 11-15 Kp.)	81456 A-F
89. SS-Infanterie Rgt. Stab	86922
Btl. I (Stab und 1-5 Kp.)	81984 A-F
Btl. II (Stab und 6-10 Kp.)	83761 A-F
Btl. III (Stab und 11-15 Kp.)	82354 A-F
29 SS-Artillerie Rgt. Stab	80203
Abt. I und Battr. 1-3	81568 A-D
Abt. II und Battr. 4-6	80456 A-D
Panzer Jäger Abt. 29 Stab	87772 A
Battr. 20mm	87772 B
Battr. 47/32	87772 C
Battr. 75/18	87772 D
Battr. 75/42	87772 E
Battr. 75/48	87772 F
29. SS-Fusilier Btl. 'Debica'	
Stabs Kp. und 1-4 Kp.	57239 A-E
SS-Pioniere Kp. 29	59436
SS-Nachrichten Kp. 29	58260
SS-Ersatz Btl. 29 (Stab u. 1-5 Kp.)	85373 A-F
SS-Sanitats Kp. 29	66606
SS-Feldgendarmerie Kp. 29	56754
SS-Feldpostamt 29	11753
Officers Bataillon	86550



The reorganization of the Italian SS was constantly interrupted by the need to deploy units to meet immediate threats. Brigadeführer Hansen, named division commander, had staff HQ at Alzante Brianza while other units were at various locations. The 29th SS Division 'Italia' never saw action as a unified body. Rather, individual units or "Kampfgruppe" formations engaged in a series of actions against both the invading Allies and the partisans.

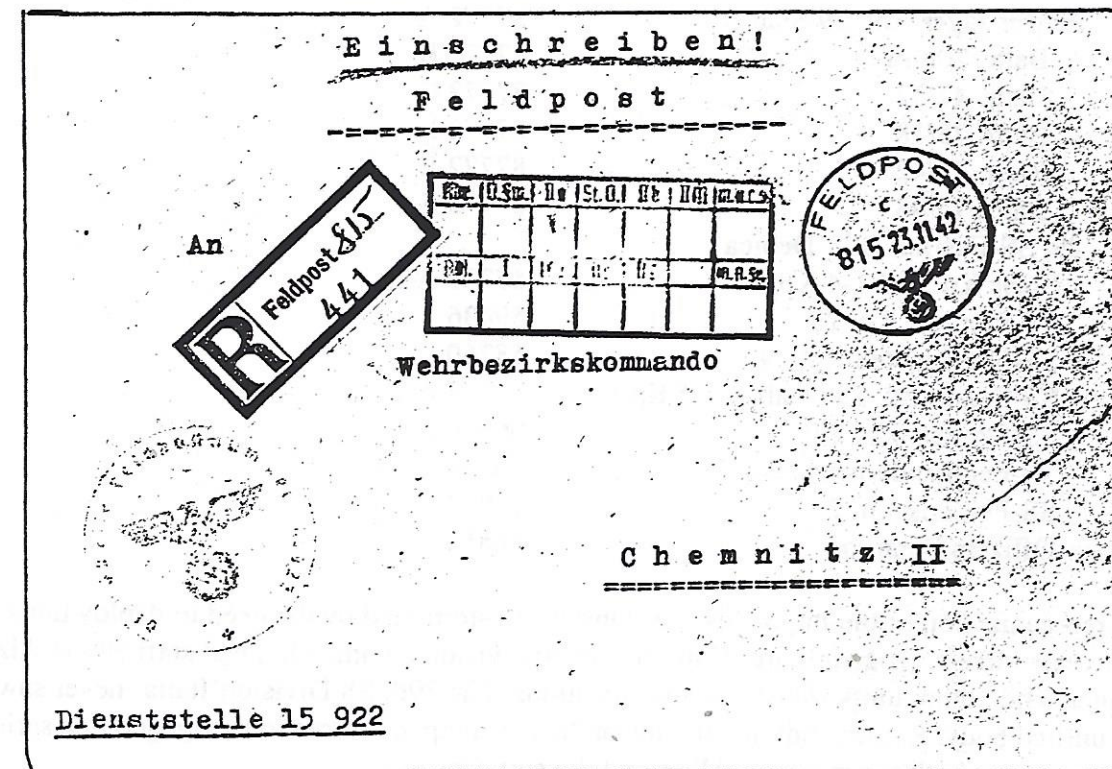
ED. NOTE: This article originally appeared in TRSG Bulletin No. 56 in 1980.

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 122nd Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
122	815	409	410	411	122	122

Formed in September 1940 (11th Wave) with personnel from Mecklenburg and Pomerania, the 122nd Infantry Division post office unit (Feldpostamt or FpA) was assigned Feldpost # 47993 to be used as a return address. In addition, this post office was assigned Kenn 815 for registered mail in lieu of its tactical designation FpA 122. It invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941 in the northern sector under I Army Corps and fought in the Battles of Novgorod, Lake Ilmen and Mga. In the early spring of 1942 it was transferred from XXVIII Army Corps to X Army Corps, where it took part in the relief effort which broke through the Soviet encirclement of II Army Corps in the Demyansk Pocket.

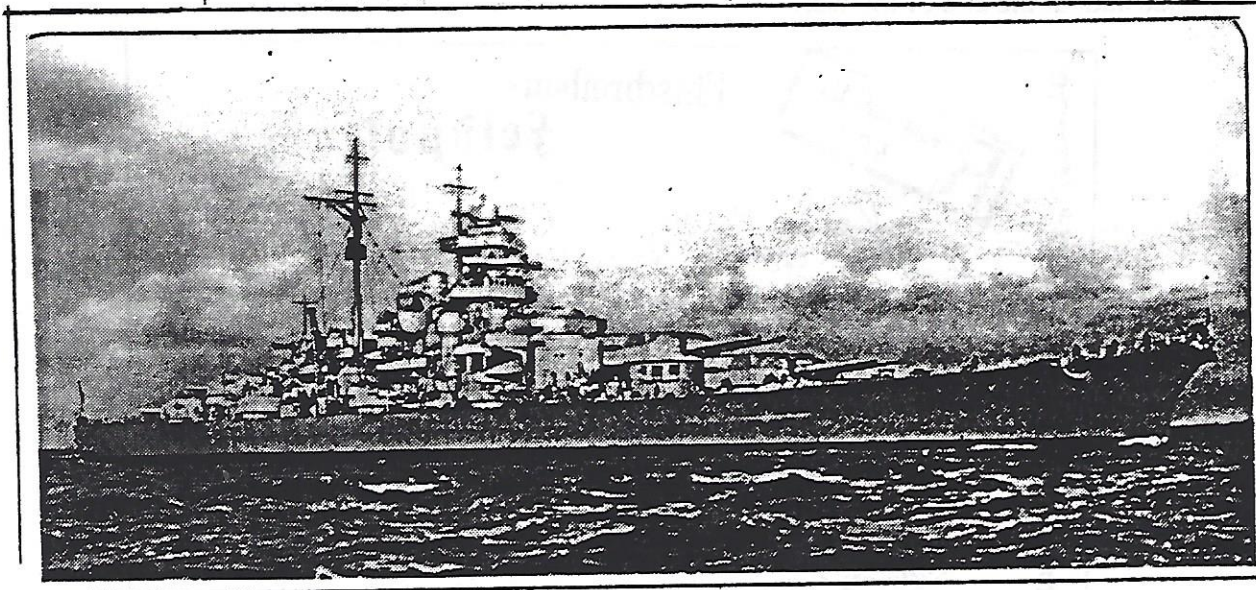
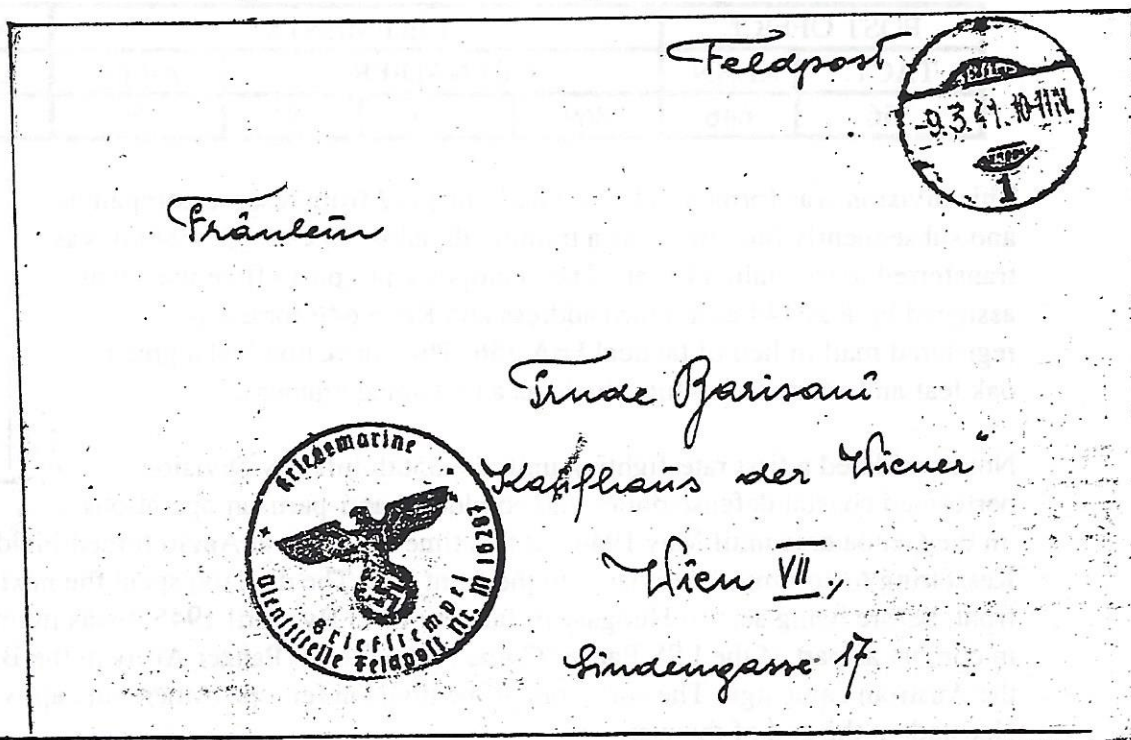
A portion of the division also took part in the attack that broke the Siege of Kholm on May 5, 1942 and rescued Kampfgruppe Scherer, who had been surrounded for more than three months. By November 1942 the 122nd Infantry Division was united and fought in the Demyansk corridor until early 1943 when the Demyansk salient was evacuated. In late 1943 it was transferred to Army Group Center and took part in the Battle of Nevel. In March 1944 it was returned to Army Group North and then transferred to Helsinki, Finland in July. However, it was recalled on July 29, two days after the fall of Narva. The 122nd Infantry Division retreated through Estonia and was cut off in the Courland Pocket in October 1944. It was still there when the war ended.



Cover sent to Military District Command in Chemnitz in November 1942 from Fp. # 15922 (Anti-Tank Battalion 122) via Field P.O. 122 (K-815).

NAVY LOG

Battleship 'Bismarck' - Feldpost # 16287



Built by Blohm & Voss (Hamburg) and launched February 14, 1939. Displacement: 41,676 tons; speed: 29 knots; crew 2,195; main armament: eight 15" (4 x 2) & twelve 5.9" (6 x 2) guns.

Sailed for Atlantic with cruiser *Prinz Eugen* in May 1941 via Denmark Straights, south of Iceland. Engaged British battleships on May 24, sank *Hood* and damaged *Prince of Wales* but also received damage causing fuel leak. While trying to reach the French coast, *Bismarck* was sunk on May 27 by gunfire from battleships *King George V* & *Rodney* plus torpedoes from cruiser *Dorchester* and aircraft from carrier *Ark Royal*.

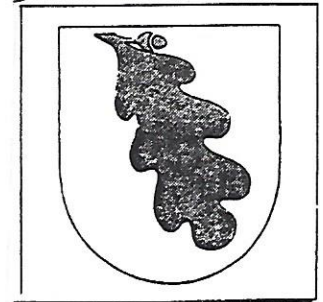
COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:

356th Infantry Division

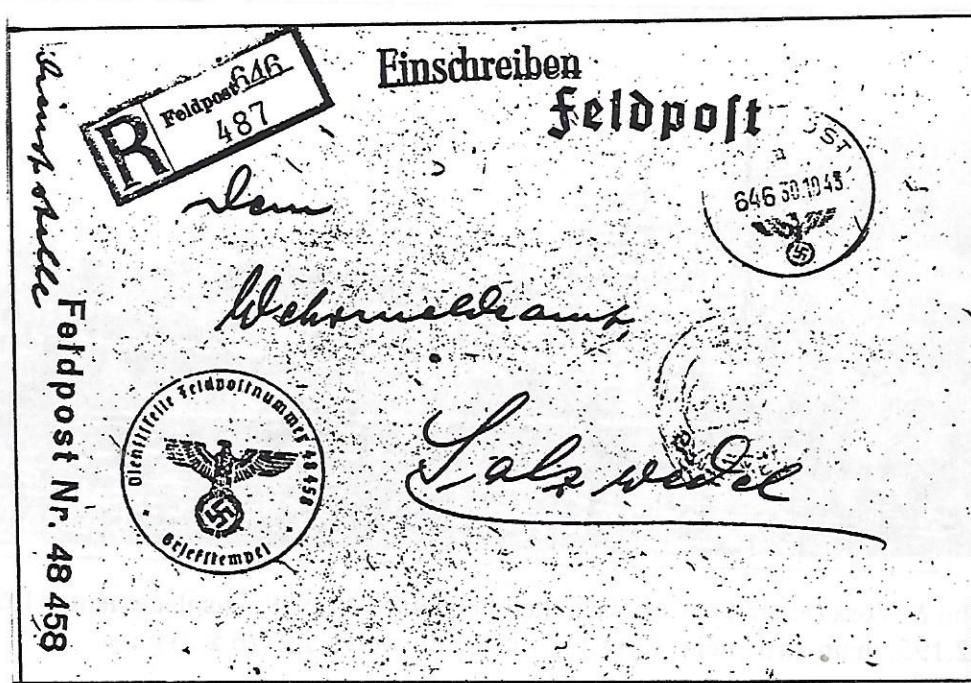
by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
356	646	869	870	871	356	356

This division was formed in France early in 1942 from reserve companies and subsequently functioned as a training division. In October 1943 it was transferred to the Italian Front. The "Feldpostamt" (post office unit) was assigned Fp # 25444 as a return address and Kenn 646 for use on registered mail in lieu of tactical FpA 356. This formation had a green oak leaf and acorn on a white shield as a divisional emblem.



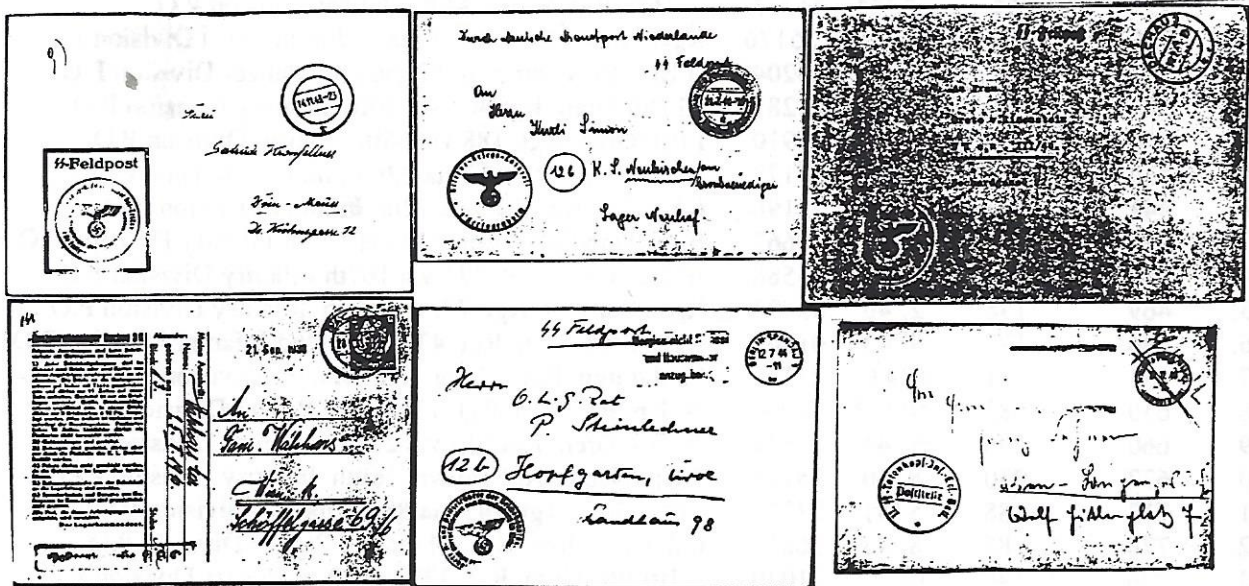
Not considered a first rate-fighting unit, the 356th Infantry Division performed coastal defense duties and conducted anti-partisan operations in the Genoa area until May 1944. At this time the crisis at Anzio forced Field Marshall Kesselring to commit the division to the front line. The division spent the next six months at the front, before being sent to Hungary in January 1945. By April 1945 it was in remnants but was still in combat as part of the I SS Panzer Corps of the 6th SS Panzer Army in the Battle of Vienna and the Austrian campaign. The survivors of the division fell into American captivity near Werner Neustadt at the end of the war.



Cover sent to Military Records Office in October 1943 from Fp. # 48458 (1. Schwadron/ Aufklarungs Abteilung 356) via P.O. 356 (K-646).

TRSG Auction No. 88

Lot	Description	Min. Bid
First 12 lots SS-Feldpost or KZL cvrs illus. by Row/Position i.e. Top/Center =TC, etc.		
1.	View card Krakau to Vienna w/mute can. 3.'42. B'stempel "Polizie Nachrichten Abtl." F-VF	\$15.00
2.	Cvr w/mute can 11.'43 & B'stempel "Hoh. SS u. Polizei Fuhrer Ost Krakau" (See TL)	30.00
3.	Cvr w/mute can 3.'41 & light B'stempel "Polizei Batl. 369" F-VF	15.00
4.	Cvr w/DDP Nederland can 7.'44 & B'stempel "Reserve Kreigs Lazarett" (See TC)	50.00
5.	Cvr w/Dachau can 9.'43 & B'stempel "Waffen-SS Konzentration Lager Dachau" (See TR)	75.00
6.	Same but B'stempel "KLZ Dachau Waffen-SS" blurred, cvr folded in center, Dachau can 12.'44 F	50.00
7.	Cvr w/Trifan can 2.'44 w/light B'stempel "Gendarmereiposten Trifan" F	15.00
8.	Cvr w/DDP Boh-Mor can Prag 12.'40 & B'stempel "II/SS Totenkopf Inf. Ers. Btl." (See BR)	100.00
9.	Six diff. type Fp form cds sent in '42 frm SS Mann Fp.# 34002 (III/G.R. 'Germania'). <u>No B'stempel</u>	15.00
10.	Formula cvr frm KZL Dachau w/censor stamp & Dachau 3 can 9.'38 (See BL)	40.00
11.	Cvr w/Berlin can 7.'44 & B'stempel "Hoh. SS u. Polizei Fuhrer d RHSS" (See BC)	50.00
12.	Color p'cd "Die Polizei im Fronteinsatz" w/Wien "Tag der Polizei" SPC (Phil. Usage) VF	35.00



13.	Hitler photocd "Unser Fuhrer" (Horn 1' 1006) w/Mi. 764-6 & 771 tied SPC Leipzig (Phil.) VF	25.00
14.	B&W photocd airplane view Berlin Reichssportsfeld w/Mi. 666 tied 17.7.'38 Berlin SPC F-VF	25.00
15.	B&W cd w/dwg Pz. Grenadiers in Kaukasus (Verlag Dachler #468). Mint. F-VF	25.00
16.	B&W photocd 88 AA gun w/crew on march (Bestal # 2456) Unsere Luftwaffe series	25.00
17.	B&W photocd field gun being fired by crew (Bestal # D 3457) Unsere Wehrmacht series VF	25.00
18.	B&W photocd crew camouflaging pom pom AA gun. Unsere Luftwaffe series. Bedarfs usage F-VF	25.00
19.	B&W cd w/dwg soldier with flamethrower. Bedarfs usage 12.41F-VF	25.00
20.	B&W photocd RAD troops helping soldiers repair bridge. (RAD series). Bedarfs usage 6.'42. VF	25.00
21.	B&W photocd MG crew "Schwere MG in Kampf". (Verlag Die Wehrmacht Pilz serie). Mint VF	25.00
22.	B&W photocd towed 88 "Flak-Batterie auf dem Marsche". Bedarfs Feldpost usage 11.'40. VF	25.00
23.	Color p'cd. Mundorf dwg of armored cars in beech woods. Mint. (Verlag fur Traditionspflege). VF	25.00
24.	Two mint "Marine Bilderdienst" color cds: Battleship sinking tanker (F) & U-boat attack. (G)	30.00
25.	B&W photocd Cruiser 'Emden' Bedarfs Feldpost usage w/8.'42 Rendsburg can. VF	25.00
26.	B&W photocd "Unsere Luftwaffe - Me 110" (Bernhardt Mitschke Verlag Nr M. 110/3)	25.00
27.	B&W photocd "Sturzkampflieger" 4 Stukas in flight. (Verlag Die Wehrmacht Pilz serie). Mint VF	25.00
28.	B&W photocd "Sturzkampflugzeug Junkers Ju 87" Bedarfs Feldpost usage. VF	25.00
29.	B&W photocd Goring & Chief of Luftwaffe Staff Jeschonnek visiting airport in Poland. Mint VF	25.00
30.	B&W photocd showing bombers crossing channel to England. Bedarfs Feldpost usage. VF	25.00

31.	Rare card out of the 11 card Stocker Series. Germania welcoming Austria. Bedarfs w/Graz slo. can F	\$45.00				
32.	B&W photocd KWHW "SD-Einsatzkommando während einer Marchpause". Mint VF	55.00				
33.	Same series showing that police have found a cache of weapons. Mint VF	55.00				
34.	Col. Cd. Ausstellung Unser Heer Wien 1944. Dwg of German soldiers from different eras. Mint VF	40.00				
35.	Col. cd Dwg. map w/eagle "Ein Volk Ein Reich Ein Fuhrer" w/re-union stamp & SPC. Phil. VF	25.00				
36.	Color cd Labor Day "Tag der deutschen Arbeit 1. Mai 1938" Phil. W/stamp & SPC on backside	25.00				
37.	B&W photocd Hitler greeting masses. Bedarfs/w mixed Austrian/German stamps tied/Wien SPC VF	35.00				
38.	B&W photocd Hitler saluting (Postkarten Ind. A. G. Wien) Mint but w/stamp & SPC F-VF	25.00				
39.	B&W photocd Hitler "Manner der Zeit" Nr. 124. Mint but w/stamp & SPC F-VF	25.00				
40.	B&W photocd Hitler (Hoffmann Nr. 483) Mint but w/4 diff. SPC & re-union stamps F-VF	25.00				
41.	B&W cd Hitler portrait with facsimile autograph. Mint but w/stamp & SPC F-VF	35.00				
Next 30 lots: Inf. & Pz Div. R-Fp cvrs on exhibit sheets w/emblem, brief history, etc. F-VF unless noted o'wise						
	Kenn #.	FpA	Date	Fp. #.	Description	
42.	130	84	8.'42	39049	8 Kp./Pz .Gren. Rgt. 12 via 4th Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
43.	130	84	6.'43	09882	5 Kp./Pz. Gren. Rgt. 33 via 4th Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
44.	146	218	11.'42	?	218th Infantry Division P.O. (Fp.#. not legible, o'wise VF)	7.00
45.	160	251	11.'40	30677	II Btl./Inf. Rgt. 471 via 251st Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
46.	197	44	4.'44	41773	IV/Art. Rgt. 96 via 44th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
47.	260	252	11.'44	35176	Rgts .Stab./Gren. Rgt.7 via 252nd Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
48.	287	88	6.'42	25204	II Btl./ Pz. Gren. Rgt. 52 via 18th Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
49.	324	30	7.'42	23287	III Btl/ Gren. Rgt.467 via 30th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
50.	354	168	5.'44	12910	I Btl./Gren. Rgt. 188 via 68th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
51.	434	22	7.'42	07177	II Btl./Gren. Rgt. 47 via 22nd Infantry Division P.O	9.00
52.	441	172	7.'40	23196	6 Kp./Inf. Rgt. 266 via 72nd Infantry Division P.O	9.00
53.	450	238	8.'43	20663	Rgts. Stab/Gren. Rgt. 339 via 167th Infantry Division P.O F	7.00
54.	450	238	2.'42	25588	III Btl /Gren. Rgt. 331 via 167th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
55.	469	138	2.'40	03092	Rgts. Stab/Inf. Rgt. 282 via 98th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
56.	544	132	9.'43	01761	Rgts. Stab/Gren. Rgt. 436 via 132nd Infantry Division P.O	9.00
57.	551	11	4.'43	23323	I Btl./Gren. Rgt. 44 via 11th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
58.	650	83	10.'42	11994	10 Kp./Pz .Gren. Rgt. 13 via 3rd Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
59.	660	296	5.'44	07834	III Btl/ Gren. Rgt.519 via 296th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
60.	677	230	8.'40	35176	2 Kp./Nachr. Abt 169 via 169th Infantry Division P.O F	7.00
61.	713	188	5.'41	03371	I Btl./Gren. Rgt. 245 via 88th Infantry Division P.O	9.00
62.	778	85	8.'43	36818	6 Kp./Pz .Gren. Rgt. 14 via 5th Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
63.	796	140	10.'42	01040	II Btl./Pz .Gren. Rgt. 129 via 22nd Panzer Division P.O	12.00
64.	832	219	11.'42	25490	Sanitats Kp. 219 via 183rd Infantry Division P.O. F	7.00
65.	834	225	10.'42	38773	Rgts. Stab/Gren. Rgt. 333 via 225th Infantry Division P.O. F	7.00
66.	884	152	6.42	07350	IV/Art. Rgt. 340 via 52nd Infantry Division P.O	9.00
67.	884	152	8.'42	19566	Flak Trsp. Battr. 1251 IV via 52nd Infantry Division P.O. F	7.00
68.	909	81	12.'43	25491	II Btl./ Pz. Gren. Rgt. 1 via 1st Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
69.	909	81	6.'42	19323	Rgts. Stab/ Pz. Gren. Brigade 1 via 1st Panzer Division P.O	12.00
70.	909	81	5.'44	03886	Rgts Stab/Pz. Gren. Rgt. 1 via 1st Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
71.	909	81	9.'42	18472	Stab/Pz. Jag. Abtl. 37 via 1st Panzer Division P.O.	12.00
72.	5 Luftfeldpost cvrs, each with one blue permit stamp. All different Fp. #s incl.1 "000" Fp can. F-VF					15.00
73.	5 Luftfeldpost cvrs, each with two blue permit stamps. All different Fp. #s incl.1 return to sender VF					15.00
74.	18 Fp cvrs – clean lot, all diff Fp. #s incl.2 w/contents plus Pz., Naval, form lettersheets, etc. F-VF					32.00
75.	6 Fp cvrs incl 2 R-Fp (K-283 & K-498), 1 Luftw. w/contents, 2 ret. to sender, 1 "000" Fp can. F-VF					15.00
76.	3 different photocards from Remerschen to Fp.# 44618 (Btl. I/Gren. Rgt. 720) during summer 1943					10.00
77.	Censored Mail During the Third Reich. English translation of Reimer in hard binder. VF					15.00

**PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 88 is October 24, 2002.
SEND ALL BIDS TO: Jim Lewis, 111 Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070**