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REICHSARBEITSDIENST

Editor's Report

I have started the New Year and already I have broken a resolution that I made for Ben Beede in the Director's Report of the October 1970 Bulletin. The presentation of the outline for the proposed WW II Feldpost handbook will have to be postponed for another Bulletin, due to the lack of Editor's time at this writing. Some may think our goals are out of reach, for a group whose contributions of time and material are purely voluntary. But why not? We all have a common interest in Third Reich philately and hundreds of unanswered questions. We grab what information we have at hand, stumble over unheard-of documents and books via the auction route or secure the loan of such items from a friend, and try to assemble this material in a hopefully palatable form. It is especially palatable if we write on the subject matter of greatest interest to each member

There have been some questions regarding the name of the Third Reich Study Group. I don't feel that there is any problem with this name. Naturally, there will always be some who might object to it, but basically, this is the correct name. If there are some of our members who have some thought on this, please let us know. Recently, in the Deutsche Zeitung für Briefmarkenkunde, a brief article explained that there were Third Reich Philatelic Study groups in England and the USA, why not Germany? Frankly, I think we are on the right track.

\$1.00 DUES ARE DUE!!! PLEASE SEND TO ROBERT J. HOUSTON, 11 YORKTOWN DR.
CLARK, NEW JERSEY 07066

"Postoffice Box 110 - Vienna"

by Robert J. Houston

A recently discovered group of twenty World War II German Feldpost covers indicates the possible existence of a forwarding facility or "cover address" used by correspondents of "Volksdeutsche" (ethnic Germans) Wehrmacht members whose homes were outside of the Reich - presumably to conceal this relationship from the local populace. The subject covers have a number of points in common:

1. Each cover has a rubber-stamped return address on the rear flap "Wien 62/Schliessfach 110/F.R." (Illustrations 2 and 3)
2. All covers are addressed to different servicemen in different handwriting (most are to Waffen-SS units, mainly composed of foreign/ethnic troops, although two are addressed to regular army units. (Illus. 1)
3. All covers are "blind" cancelled Vienna in 1944 and bear blue airmail admission stamps, as shown in Illustration 1.
4. The SS items were censored by SS-Auslandsbriefprüfstelle AS₄ (Illus. 1) (mail examining office for foreign troops) and the other two items by regular army censor (O.K.W.).
5. All are marked "Zurück" (return (to sender) which was Box 110, Vienna. Returned mail was quite common, late in 1944 due to the rapidly deteriorating military situation. (Illus. 1).
6. A few have the actual sender's name/address written on the inside of the rear flap - those readable are in Romania and "Grenzland".

It would appear that an ethnic German family in Romania, for instance, would write to their son in the Waffen-SS (a rather unpopular association in Romania at this time) and enclose the entire letter/cover in an outer envelope addressed simply to "F.R. - Box 110, Vienna". The inside envelope/letter would be removed by "F.R." and re-mailed from Vienna to the serviceman at the front. Should return of the letter have been required, it would go back to "F.R." rather than to the actual sender where the ethnic family's local postoffice clerk could detect the relationship.

Recent correspondence with Vienna postal officials confirms that "F.R." were the initials of a commercial establishment which held Box 110 from 1938 until the end of the war (exactly the duration of the Nazi occupation), however they politely insist that to disclose the actual name of the firm would violate postal regulations.

I would very much appreciate hearing from anyone who may have further information on this subject and/or other items of a similar nature.

R. J. Houston
GPS #3193

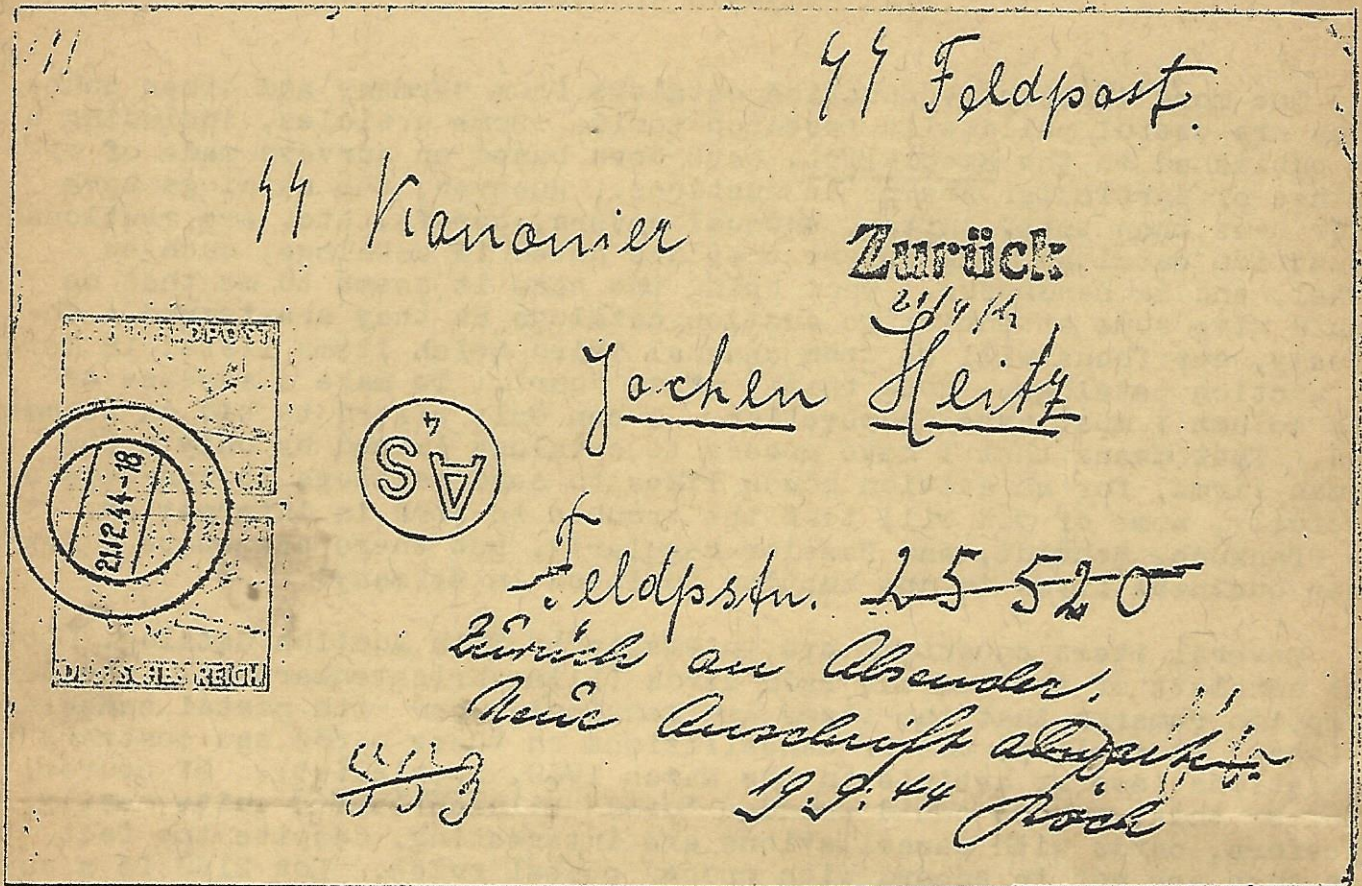


Illustration 1

Absender:
WIEN 62
SCHLISSFACH 110
F. R.

Illustration 2

Absender:
WIEN 62
SCHLISSFACH 110
F. R.

Illustration 3

AUCTIONS IN REVIEW

by Benjamin R. Beede

The more descriptive auction catalogs from Germany and other countries are useful philatelic research tools. Some articles, including a few published in the Specialist, have been based on surveys made of offerings of particular stamps in auctions. However, the catalogs have wider uses than that. Often, unusual covers, proofs, etc. are mentioned in auction catalogs long before they are noted in catalogs, such as Michel, and in handbooks. That being the case it seems to me that we should give some attention to auction catalogs as they are issued. Obviously, our focus will be upon unusual Third Reich items listed in German auction catalogs. Note that I wrote "our". To make a success of this column I must have cooperation. I can only afford to bid on so many lots. That means that I have access to catalogs issued by only a few German firms, for no auction house likes to send catalogs to non-buyers. Hopefully, some of you will take the trouble to send in information. I see Pfankuch, Schmidt, and Passier regularly, but there are quite a few other business firms in the auction business in Germany.

Several items caught my eye in Passier's 37th Auction Catalog. Lot 1815 consists of two red air raid cards (Eilnachrichtenkarten). The description remarks that the items are genuinely used with postal cancellations. In reality, use of cancellations on these cards was contrary to regulations (see my article in the March 1969, Specialist). Of course, going by this, anyone could produce "used" Eilnachrichten quite easily. Therefore, cards with cancellations are interesting, despite the fact that they are not in accord with proper postal rules. Lot 2168 is a cover from the Naval Communications School in Flensburg with a label tied on by a 1941 cancellation. This is a new label to me. Quite a few units did issue labels and seals during the war. These are listed in Hoffmann-Giesecke's Deutsche Feldpost 1939-45, published in the early 1950's. A number of concentration camp lots appear in the catalog, including an early item from Dachau (1935). For our purposes, the really new items are lots 2205 and 2206. These are airmail letters to a person confined in a German jail, who was later transferred to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. The covers came from the United States in 1940 and bear both British and German censor markings. Interesting, most of the concentration camp items were offered in the last sale as well, but evidently were not purchased. Lot 2277 has some points of interest. It is a Feldpost cover from 1941 with a censor marking: "Geprüft/Kasernenwache". Evidently, there must have been local censorship markings in the armed forces which were used in certain places for limited periods of time. Pfankuch has listed other items from time to time. The purpose of this particular marking is not too clear to me. I would guess that the sender may have been in the guardhouse and that this was a censor marking applied to prisoner mail. The occupation issues had little to interest me this time. The only really unusual item was a card bearing a copy of the Theresienstadt stamp. This is presumably a card similar to the one in Illus. 7 of Theodor Möbs, Theresienstadt (1965). Such cards carried the Theresienstadt stamps from the Jewish Council of Elders to applicants who wished to send a package to the camp. Lots 3787 and 3788 are of considerable interest to Feldpost specialists, consisting as they do of the "2 Kg" and green package stamps of 1944. Number 3791 also has some points of interest. It is a censored Inselfpost cover.

The Sudetenland Feldpost Story

by James E. Duffy

The German Feldpost (military postal "system") had already been tried and proven during the Army maneuvers which took place in Mecklenburg in September 1937 as is documented by the so-called "Manöverpostkarten 1937".

This same experienced Feldpost accompanied the German troops as they entered Austria in March 1938 in connection with the declaration of the Anschluss. Military post cards and letters were much in evidence with their free franking and special cancellations. The same form of the soon to be standard 28mm circle Feldpost cancel which was found on the 1937 maneuver cards, was now being used in Austria with one-, two-, or three-digit Kenn (code) numbers inserted on the same line in front of the date, for military unit designation.

The Austrian Anschluss gave Germany direct territorial contact with Italy, Hungary and Yugoslavia, and encompassed Czechoslovakia on three sides.

In October 1938, German troops entered Czechoslovakia, specifically the Sudeten Territory, so named after the Sudeten Mountains along the German-Bohemian frontier. This was the territory ceded to Germany under the Munich Agreement, September 30, 1938.

The same 28mm circle Feldpost cancel now appeared on mail from the newly occupied Sudetenland. Military mail has been found not only post free, but also franked with German and/or Czech stamps. The Kenn number with two or three digits inserted on the date line was not as much in evidence as were the Feldpost cancels without a number, and three dashes were used (---) where the Kenn number was.

Feldpost has been found from the "Freikorps Henlein". Konrad Henlein, involved with German political activity in the Sudetenland from 1931, founded the "Sudetendeutsche Freikorps" (Sudeten-German Free Corps) soon after the Austrian Anschluss took place. This organization, known as the "F.S" or "Freiwilliger Selbstschutz" (Volunteers for Self Protection) was modeled and trained after the SS.



Fig. 1

Provisional cancels from civil post offices are found on Feldpost cards. Three types are shown on page 7 of this bulletin. Fig. 1 is an example of the bi-lingual cancel used during the period of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Fig. 2 shows a cancel after, Třemešná, the Czech name for Röwersdorf, has been removed. Czech specialists have long sought after these cards or covers which have a special postal history significance. This then gave rise to the idea that

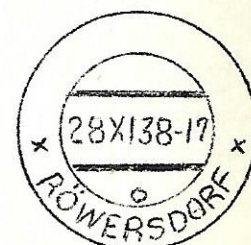
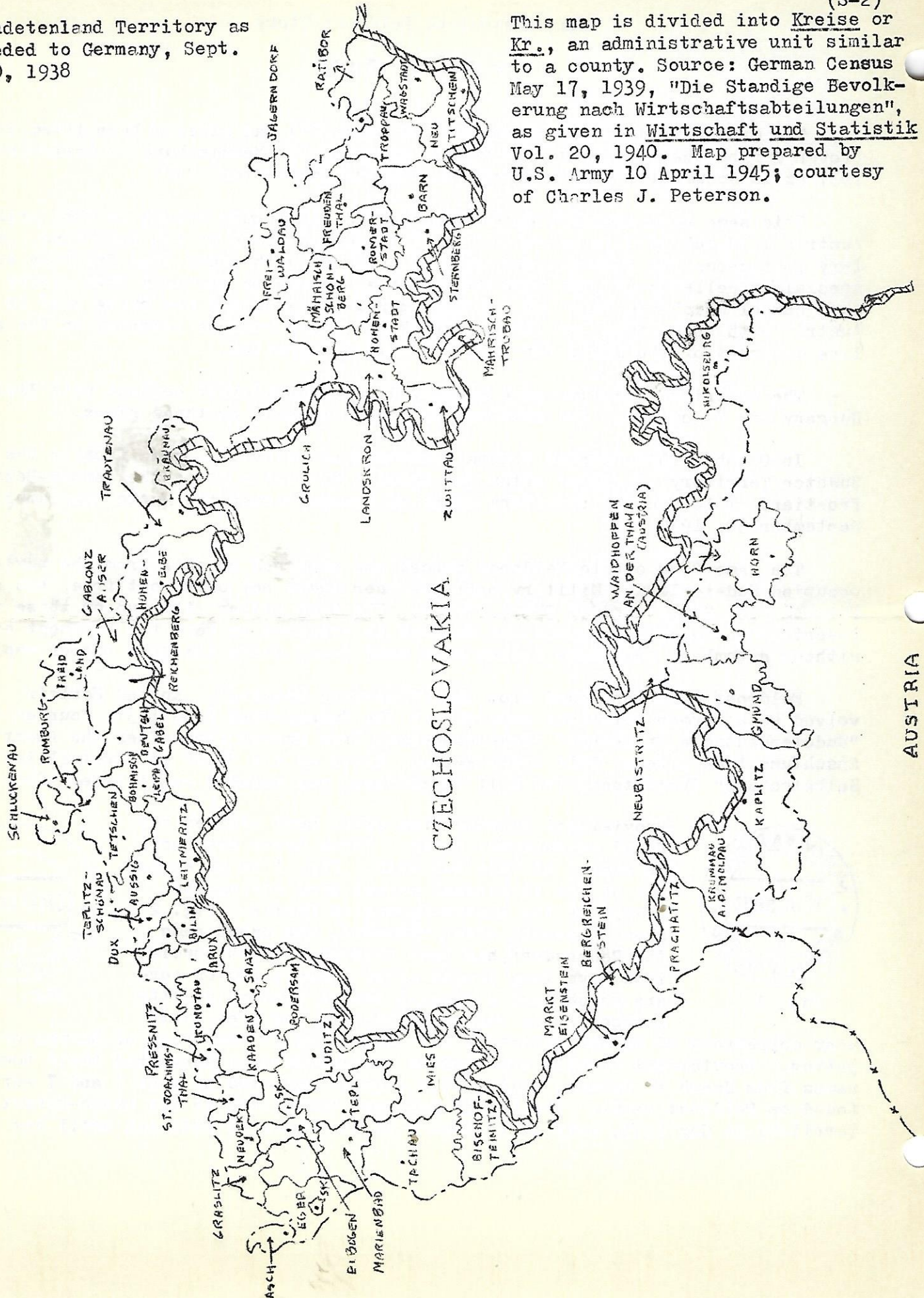


Fig. 2

many collectors of German philately are interested in the areas of German occupation. Provisional cancels appeared as Sudeten-Germans converted their town names from Czech to German. All of the cancels depicted on page 5 and 7 were found on Feldpost cards. The German Feldpost terminated in the Czech-Moravian Territory in May 1939, only to re-appear at the close of 1944 and until May 1945.

Sudetenland Territory as
ceded to Germany, Sept.
30, 1938

This map is divided into Kreise or Kr., an administrative unit similar to a county. Source: German Census May 17, 1939, "Die Ständige Bevölkerung nach Wirtschaftsabteilungen", as given in Wirtschaft und Statistik Vol. 20, 1940. Map prepared by U.S. Army 10 April 1945; courtesy of Charles J. Peterson.



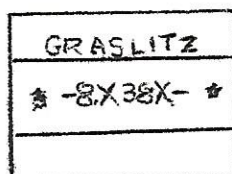
Directory of the Post Offices Postal Sub-stations, and
Postal Agencies in the Sudeten-German Territory
October 1938

by James E. Duffy

This directory is intended to assist collectors of postal history and/or postmarks of towns within the Sudeten-German Territory in October 1938. Many collectors have post cards or covers with provisional cancellations such as:

Bleifadt 2

13. X. 1938



Kaplitz

10. X. 1938

The October 1938 date line in all three cancellations usually should indicate a Sudeten-German item. Nevertheless, I hope this directory will enable the collector to determine more readily the location of the towns, and to be a checklist for the postmark collector.

I want to thank---Myron Fox, Needham Heights, Massachusetts, for the use of
Verzeichnis der Postämter und -amtsstellen-(Sudetendeutsches Gebiet)
Beilage 1 zur Amtsblatt Verfügung Nr. 592/1938

Frank J. Kovarik (Editor of the Czechoslovak Specialist 1942-1962) Brookfield, Illinois for the use of
The Checklist of Sudetenland Towns-Czechoslovak Specialist, March, April 1951

Charles J. Peterson, Libertyville, Illinois for the use of
Verzeichnis der Ortsnamen zur Karte der Tschechoslowakischen Republik

Town names are listed alphabetically in German and where possible, the location of the Post Office with its temporary designation.

"x" prior to a town name indicates Postagentur-postal agency

"o" prior to a town name indicates Poststelle-postal "sub"-station

"CZECH SPEC" listing in Czechoslovakian Specialist used. (some towns were not in the Amtsblatt listing; with these few exceptions, most of the town names were found in all three lists).

Abertham-Abertany	Albrechtsdorf (Kr. Gablonz, Neisze) -Albrechtice (Jiz. Horách)
x Abtsdorf (b. Zwittau, Schönbengstau) -Opatov (Česky)	Algersdorf (Kr. Tetschen)-Valkerovice
x Adamsfreiheit-Hürky (Nová Bystrice)	Altehrenberg (Kr. Schluckenau)-Starý Erenberk
Adersbach-Dolni Aderšpach CZECH SPEC	x Altenbuch (b. Trautenau)-Staré Buky
x Adlerdörfel (Adlergeb)	x Altendorf (b. Römerstadt, Altvater) -Stará Ves (Rýmařova)
x Aich (b. Karlsbad)-Douř (Karlovy Vary)	Althabendorf (Kr. Reichenberg, Sudetenl.) -Starý Habendorf
Aicha (Sudetenl.)	

Sudetenland Towns Checklist, continued.

- x Althart-Staré Hobzí
- Altharzdorf/über Reichenberg (Sudetenl)
-Starý Hecov
- o Althütten/über Neubistritz (Note: see
Altstadt (b. Neubistritz))
- Alt-Jičín-Starý Jičín CZECH SPEC
- x Alt Kinsberg-Starý Kynšperk
- x Altlangendorf-
- x Alt Moletain (b. Mōglitz, March)
-Starý Maletín
- Alt Rohlau-Stará Role
- x Altrothwasser (b. Weidenau, Schles.)
-Stara Cervená Voda
- o Altstadt/über Freudenthal (Ostsudetenl)
-Staré Městou (Bruntalú)
- x Altstadt (b. Mährisch Trübau)
-Staré Město (Moravský Trébové)
- x Altstadt (b. Neuhaus, Böhln)
- Alstadt (b. Neubistritz)-Staré Sedlo
(Nové Bystřice) CZECH SPEC (Note: see
Althütten/über Neubistritz)
- x Alttitschein/über Neutitschein (Note:
see Neutitschein) Ostsudetenl.
- o Alt Vogelseifen/über Freudenthal
(Ostsudetenl)-Starý Vogelzejf (Note: see
Alt-Vogelsteifen CZECH SPEC)
- Altzedlisch-Stare Sedliste (Note: see
Altstadt-Zedlisch CZECH SPEC)
- o Andersdorf/über Barn (Ostsudetenl)
-
- o Andreasburg/über Stein (Böhmerwald)
-Ondřejov (Chvalšiny)
- x Antoniwald (Isergeb)-Antonínov
- Arnau (Elbe)-Hostinné
- x Arnsdorf/über Bodenbach-
- Arnsdorf/über Haida (Kr. Leipa, Sudetenl)
-Arnultovice (Ústí nad Labem)
- Asch 1, 2, 3 -Aš
- x Augezd (b. Mährisch Neustadt)-Újezd
(Uničov)
- Arnsdorf (b. Tetschen) a./E.-Arnoltovice
(Děčína) CZECH SPEC.
- x Ausee-(Note: see Mährisch Ausee
(b. Mōglitz March)-Úsov
- Auscha (Kr. Leitmeritz)-Ústěk
- Auschowitz (b. Marienbad)-Ušovice
- Auspitz-Hustopeče
- x Aussergefild-Kvilda
- Aussig 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-Ústí nad Labem (Note:
see Arnsdorf (Aussig))
- Bad Gross Ullersdorf (Altwater)-(Note:
see Gross Ullersdorf (Altwater), Bad
- Bad Königswart-Lázně Kynžvart
- Bad Liebwerda (Kr. Friedland, Isergeb)
-Lázně Libverda
- Bärn (Ostsudetenl)-Moravský Beroun
- x Barnwald/über Langenau Bad (Bz Breslau)
-
- Bähringen-Pernink
- o Barnsdorf/über Neutitschein (Ostsudetenl)
-(Note: see Bährnsdorf an der Tafel-
fichte-Bernsdorf pd Smrkem)
- x Bartelsdorf (b. Görknu)-Dřínov...(Jirkov)
-(Note: see Bartelsdorf-Bartultovice)
CZECH SPEC
- x Barzdorf (b. Braunau, Heuschener)-Božanov

Sudetenland Towns Checklist, continued.

- | | |
|---|---|
| x Barzdorf am Rollberge--Pertoltice
pod Ralskem CZECH SPEC | x Biskupitz/über Mährisch Trübau
-Biskupice (Hrotovice) |
| x Barzdorf (b. Jauernig, Schles)
-Bernartice (Jovorníku) | x Blauda (b. Mährisch Schönberg)-Bludov |
| x Batzdorf/über Röwersdorf (Ostsudetenl)
-Note: see Röwersdorf (Ostsudetenl) | x Blauenschlag-Blažejov |
| Bautsch (Ostsudetenl)-Budišov nad
Budišovkou | Bleistadt-Oloví |
| Beneschau (b. Hultschin)
-Benešov (Hlučín) | Bleiswedel (Kr. Leitmeritz)-Blíževedly |
| x Beneschau/über Ratibor
-Benešov (Praha) | x Blisowa-Blížejov |
| Bennisch or Benisch (Ostsudetenl)
-Horní Benešov | x Blossdorf (b. Mährisch Trübau)
-Mladějov no Moravé |
| Bensen (Kr. Tetschen)-Benešov nad
Ploučnicí | Blottendorf (Kr. Leipa, Sudetenl)
-Polevsko |
| x Bergesgrün/über Brück-Chuderín | Bodenbach 1, 2, 3, 4-Podmolky (Děčín) |
| Bergreichenstein-Kašperské Hory | x Bodenstadt/über Bärn (Ostsudetenl)
-Podštát |
| Bergstadt Platten-Horní Blatná | Bohuslavice (Hlučína)-Bohuslavice (Hlučína) |
| x Bergstadt (b. Römerstadt, Altvater)
-Horní Město | Borowitz-Note: See Gross Borowitz |
| x Bernklau (Bz. Karlsbad)-Bezvěrov
(Manětín) | Böhmisch Aicha s. Aicha (Sudetenl)
-Český Dub (Note: See Aicha) |
| Bernartice n. Odrou-Bernartice
nad Odrou CZECH SPEC | x Böhmischdorf (Ostsudetenl)-Česká Ves |
| x Bernsdorf (b. Trautenau)
-Bernartice (Trutnova) | x Böhmisch Kahn/über Bodenbach s. Kahn/
über Bodenbach-České Chvojné |
| Bilin (Sudetenl)-Bilín | Böhmisch Kamnitz s. Kamnitz (Sudetenl)
-Česká Kamenice |
| Bílá Lhotka-Bílá Lhotka CZECH SPEC | o Böhmisch Kienhaid/über Marienberg
(Sachs)- |
| o Binsdorf/über Bodenbach- | Böhmisch Krumau-Český Krumlov CZECH SPEC |
| x Birkigt=Bodisch (Heuscheuer) | Böhmisch Leipa s. Leipa (Sudetenl)
-Česká Lípa |
| Bischofteinitz-Horšovský Týn | x Böhmisch Matha (b. Wekelsdorf, Heuscheuer) |
| | o Böhmisch Reizenhain/über Marienberg
(Sachs)- |

Sudetenland Towns Checklist, continued.

- Böhmisch Röhren-Ceské Žleby
- x Böhmisch Rothwasser (b. Landskron Adlersgeb)-
- x Böhmisch Rudoletz (Mähren)
-Český Rudolec
- x Böhmisch Wiesenthal-Český Wiesenthal
- x Bölten (Ostsudetenl)-Bélotín
- o Bohuslawitz/über Hohenstadt (March)
-Bohuslavice (Kyjov)
- x Bolatitz/über Ratibor-Bolatice
- x Botenwald/über Stauding (Ostsudetenl)
-Butovice (Fulnek)
- x Brandau (Ersgeb)-Brandov
- x Bransdorf/über Jägerndorf (Ostsudetenl)
-Brantice
- Bratelsbrunn-Prátlsbrunn
- Braunau (Heuscheuer)-Broumov
- x Braunau-Delberg (Heuscheuer)
- Braunsdorf-Brumovice (Slezsku) CZECH SPEC
- x Braunseifen (b. Römerstadt, Altvater)
-Brunzejf
- x Breitenau/über Freudenthal (Ostsudetenl)
-Bretnov
- x Breitenbach (Erzgeb)-Breitenbach
- o Breitenfurth/über Freiwaldau
(Ostsudetenl)-Siroký Brod
- o Briesau/über Troppau-
- Březová-Bohdašín- CZECH SPEC
- Březová ve Slezsku- CZECH SPEC
- Brims (Brims) (Kr. Deutsch Gabel, Bz.
Aussig-Brniště
- o Brosdorf/über Stauding (Ostsudetenl)
-Bravantice
- Broumov-Olivětín-Broumov-Olivětín CZECH SP.
- Bruch/über Brüx-Lom (Mostu)
- x Brünnl-Dobrá Vada (Nových Hradů)
- x Brünnlitz (b. Zwittau, Schönhengstgau)
-Brněnec
- x Brünsau (b. Zwittau, Schönhengstgau)
-Březová (Svitavy)
- Brüx-Most
- Brunnersdorf-Pruněřov
- Buchau (Bz. Karlsbad)-Bukov (Usti nad
Labem)
- Buchau-Bochov
- o Buchbergsthal/über Würbenthal (Ostsudetenl)
-Buchbergsthal
- x Buchers-Pohoří na Šumavě
- o Budigsdorf/über Hohenstadt (March)
- Bünauburg/über Bodenbach-Bynov
- o Bünles/über Hohenstadt (March)-
- Bürgstein (Kr. Leipa, Sudetenl)
-Sloup (Česky)
- Bullendorf/über Friedland (Isergeb)
-Bullendorf
- Buschullersdorf (Kr. Reichenberg, Sudetenl)
-Oldřichov (Haji) or (Hájích)
- x Buslawitz/über Ratibor-
- o Cerhof/über Hohenstadt (March)-
- x Chiesch-Chyše (Žlutice)
- Chodau-Chodov (Loket)

Sudetenland Towns Checklist, continued.

- x Chodenschloss--
- Chotieschau (Chotěschau (Staab)
-Chotěšov (Stod)
- o Chries/über Hohenstadt (March)
- o Christdorf/über Freudenthal
(Ostsudetenl)-
- x Christianberg-Křišťanov
- Christofsgrund (Kr. Reichenberg,
Sudetenl)-
- Citonice-Citonice CZECH SPEC
- Čižkowitz-Čižkovice CZECH SPEC
- x Chrobold (Böhmerwald)-Chroboly
- o Chwallatitz/über Schiltern (Mähren)
-
- Czalositz (Kr. Leitmeritz)-Žalhostice
- x Dallwitz (b. Karlsbad)-Dalovice
- Dauba (Bz. Aussig)-Dubá
- x Daubitz/über Schöblinde (Kr. Rumburg)
-Doubice
- x Deschney (Adlergeb)
-Deštné v (Orl. Horách) CZECH SPEC
- Deschenitz or Deschnitz-Dešenice
- o Dessendorf (Riesengeb)-Desná
v Jiz. Horach CZECH SPEC
- Deutsch Beneschau-Německý Benešov
- x Deutsch Biela or Biela (b. Zwittau,
Schönhengstgau)-Německá Belá
- x Deutsch Brodek/über Mährisch Trübau
-Brodek (Konice)
- Deutsch Gabel (Bz. Aussig)
-Německé Jablonné
- x Deutsch Hause (b. Sternberg, Odergeb)
-Německá Hůzová
- x Deutsch Horschowitz or Hořowitz
-Německé Hořovice
- x Deutsch Jassnik or Jasnik
-Německý Jeseník
- o Deutsch Knünitz/über Misslitz
-
- Deutsch Kralupp-Německý Kralupy CZECH SPEC
- Deutsch Krawarn (Kr. Ratibor)
-Křavaře (Hlučín)
- Deutsch Liebau-Německá Libina
- x Deutsch Lodenitz (b. Sternberg, Odergeb)
-Německá Loděnice
- Deutsch Prausnitz (b. Trautenau)
-Německé Brusnice
- Deutsch Reichenau (b. Gratzen)-Německý
Rychnov (Nových Hradí)
- Deutsch Reichenau (b. Maslach O Ö)
- x Deutsch Reichenau (b. Friedberg)
-Německý Rychnov (Frymburke)
- x Dielhau (Ostsudetenl)-
- x Dittersbach (b. Böhm. Kamnitz, Kr.
Tetschen)-Jetřichovice
- x Dittersback (b. Halbstadt)
-Jetřichov (Meziměstí)
- Dittersbach (Kr. Friedland, Isergeb)
-Dětrichov (Frydlantu)
- o Dittersbach/über Landskron (Adlergeb)
-
- o Dittersdorf/über Freudenthal (Ost-
sudetenl)-Dětrichov nad Bystrici
- o Dlouhomilov-Dlouhomilov CZECH SPEC
- x Dobern/über Leipa (Sudetenl)-Dobranov

Sudetenland Towns Checklist, continued.

- Dobrzan (Dobrschan)-Dobřany x Ebersdorf/über Seidenberg (Oberlausitz)
- Dörfel (Kr. Reichenberg, Sudetenl)
-Vesec (Liberce) Ebersdorf (b. Friedland)-Harbertice
(Frydlantu) CZECH SPEC
- o Dörfnitz/über Rausenbruck
- o Eckersdorf (Ostsudetenl)-Jarkartovice
- x Dörnsdorf-Dörnsdorf Eger, 1, 2-Cheb
- x Döschen (Bz. Kamnitz)-Dešná (Jemnice) o Ehrenberg/über Neutitschein (Ostsudetenl)
- x Domstadtl (Ostsudetenl)
-Domasov nad Bystricí Eichwald (Kr. Teplitz=Schönau)
-Dubi (Dubý) (Teplice-Sanov)
- x Donowitz (b. Karlsbad)-Stanovice Eidlitz (b. Komotau)-Údlice
- o Dorfteschen/über Troppau
-Deštné ve Slesku Einsiedel (Kr. Reichenberg, Sudetenl)
-Mníšek (Liberce)
- x Dotterwies-Tatrovice Einsiedel-Bnichov (Mar. Lázní) CZECH SPEC
- x Drahowitz-Drahovice x Einsiedel (b. Marienbad)
-Mnichov (Mariánské Lázně)
- x Dreihacken-Tři Sekery x Einsiedel/über Würbenthal (Ostsudetenl)
Mnichov (Vrbna)
- o Drosenau/über Hohenstadt (March)
- x Eisenberg (b. Görkau)-Jezeří
- Drum (Kr. Leipa, Sudetenl) x Eisenberg (March)-Ruda (Moravé)
- Drinn-Stvolinky x Eisendorf (b. Hostau)-Eisendorf
- Dubeneč-Dubeneč CZECH SPEC Eisenstein (Markt)-Zelezná Ruda
- x Dubenetz (am Königreichwald) x Eisenstrass-Hojsova Stráž
- Eisgrub-Lednice (Moravé)
- x Dubitzko (March)-Dubicko Elbogen-Loket
- x Dürmaul-Drnoul x Eleonorenhain-Lenora
- Dürnholz-Drnholec (Mikulov) x Endersdorf (Ostsudetenl)-Ondrášov
- Duppau-Doupou x Endersdorf-Ondřejovice CZECH SPEC
- Dux-Duchov x Engelhaus-
- o Ebersdorf/über Heidenau (Sachs) x Engelsberg/über Freudenthal (Ostsudetenl)
-Andelska Hora (Bruntál)

Sudetenland Towns Checklist, continued.

- x Engelsberg (Schl.)
-Andélská Hora (Slezsku)
- o Engelswald/über Stauding (Ostsudetenl)
-
- Engerau-Petrželka
- x Erdberg-Hrádek (Znojma)
- x Erdweis-Nová Ves (Luž)
- Eulau/über Bodenbach-Jílove (Děčín)
- x Eulenberg (b. Mährisch Neustadt)
-Sovinec (Rýmařov)
- Falkenau (Egertal) or Falkenau an der
Eger-Falknov nad Ohří
- Feldsberg-Valtice
- x Ferchenhaid-Ferchenhaid
- Fischern (b. Karlsbad)
-Rybáře (Karlovy Vary or Varu)
- Fleissen-Plesna (Vildštejn)
- x Fleyh or Flay-Fláje
- x Flöhau (b. Podersam)
-Blšany (Podbořany)
- Foitelsbrunn, See Voitelbrunn
- Frain-Vranov (Znojmo)
- Frain an der Thaja-Vranov (Dyjí)
CZECH SPEC
- x Frainersdorf-Vranovská Ves
- Frainspitz-Branišovice
- x Frankstadt (a. d. Mähr. Grenzbahn)
-Frankstat
- Franzendorf/über Reichenberg
(Sudetenl)3-Františkov (Liberce)
- Franzendorf-Františkov (Ploučnicí)
- Franzenbad-Františkovy Lázně
- o Franzensthal/über Huschwarda-
- x Franzenthal (Kr. Tetschen)
-
- x Fratting-Vratěnín
- Freiberg (Ostsudetenl)-Příbor
- Freiheit (Riesengeb)
-Svoboda nad Úpou=Vrajt
- x Freiheitsau (Ostsudetenl)
-
- x Freiherrmersdorf (Ostsudetenl)
-Svobodné Hermanovice
- o Freistein/über Schaffa-Frejštejn
- Freiwaldau (Ostsudetenl)-Frývaldov
- Freudenthal (Ostsudetenl) 1, 2-Bruntál
- x Friedberg (Moldau)-Frymburk (Vyšší Brod)
- Friedeberg (Altvater)-Frydberk
- x Friedland (b. Römerstadt, Altvater)
-Frýdland nad Moravicí
- Friedland (Tsergeb) or (in Böhmen)
-Frýdland (Čechách)
- x Friedrichsdorf (b. Deutsch Liebau)
-Bedřichov (Něm. Libing)
- x Friedrichswald/über Gablonz (Reisze)
-Fridrichsvald (Orl. Horách)
- Frischau (Niederdonau)-Fryšava (Znojma)
- o Fröllersdorf/über Grosbach-Frélichov
- x Frühbuss (Neudek)-Prebuz (Nejdek)
- x Fullstein (Ostsudetenl)-Fulštejn
- x Fühnhunden-Pětipsy
- x Fürstenhut-Knížecí Pláň

Sudetenland Towns Checklist, continued.

- o Fügau/über Neusalza=Spremberg
-
Fulnek (Ostsudetenl)-Fulnek
- o Gabel/über Würbenthal (Ostsudetenl)
-Jablonné
- x Gabersdorf (b. Trautenau)-Libeč
- x Gabhorn-Javorná
- Gablonz (Neisse) 1, 2, 3,
-Jablonec (Nisou)
- Gablonz (Niemes)-Jablonec (Mimoň)
- Gablonz a. Iser-Jablonec (Jiz)CZECH SPEC
- x Gärten/über Schönlinde (Kr. Rumburg)
-Zahrady (Rumburka)
- Gastdorf (Kr. Dauba, Bz. Aussig)
-Hořtka (Litomeric)
- x Gebirgsneudorf-Nová Ves v Horách
- Georgenthal-Česky Jiřetín
- x Georgendorf/über Brůx
-
Georgswalde or Georgewalde (Kr. Schluck-
enau-Georgswalde
- x Geppersdorf (March)-Kopřivná
- x Giebau (b. Sternberg, Odergeb)-Jívová
- x Gieshübel (Adlergeb)
-Olešnice (Orl. Horách)
- x Gieshübel Sauerbrunn-Kysibl-Kyselka
- Gilschwitz/über Troppau-Kylešovice
- x Girsch-Krsy
- x Glöckelberg-Glöckelberg
- o Glomnitz/über Troppau
-
Gmund (Niederdonau) 3-Česká Velenice
- o Gobitschau/über Sternberg (Odersgeb)
-
x Goldenstein(Altvater)-Kolštejn
- Görkau-Jirkov
- Gossengrün/über Jägerndorf (Ostsudetenl)
-Hořtalkovy (Krnova)
- x Göttersdorf (b. Görkau)-Boleboř
- x Gottesgab-Boží Dar
- Graber (Kr. Leitmeritz)
-Kravakeře v. Č. or Kravaře (Oštek)
- x Gradlitz (Königreichwald)
-Choustníkovo Hradiště
- Gräfenberg (Ostsudetenl)-Gräfenberk
- x Grafendorf (b. Grusbach)-Hrabětice
- Graslitz-Kraslice
- Grätz/über Troppau-Hradec(Opava)
- Gratzen-Nové Hradý (Kaplic) or
(Jiz. Čechach)
- Graupen (Kr. Teplitz=Schönau)
-Krupka (Teplice-Šanov)
- x Greifendorf or Grafendorf (b. Zwittau,
Schönhengstgau)-Grándorf
- o Grohmannschacht/über Görkau
-
Gross Aupa(Riesengeb)-Velká Úpa
- x Gross Aurim (Adlergeb)-Velky Uhřinov
- x Gross Borowitz (Königreichwald)
-Borovnice (Nová Paka)
- Grossczernosek (Kr. Leitmeritz) see
Gross Žernosek
- To be continued in next TRSG Bulletin

THIRD REICH MILITARY MAIL: COMPONENTS OF THE WEHRMACHT

By Benjamin R. Beede

Germany was far more generous with free franking privileges during World War II than was the United States, for example. Many categories of civilians, not to mention members of para-military organizations, were accorded the right to send mail free or at reduced rates. The purpose of this series of articles will be to discuss the history and postal privileges of each element of Germany's armed forces. The skeptic may ask, "why differentiate between covers sent by an air force man and a munitions worker. A stampless cover is a stampless cover?" The author does not accept this view. Postal regulations did distinguish categories of clientele in discussing the Feldpost system. That counts for something. More important, dealers and collectors do pay higher prices for certain covers, such as items with "SS-Feldpost" markings and the "M" prefix.

* * * * *

REICH SARBEITSDIENST

The Reichsarbeitsdienst (National Labor Service) had its origins in voluntary labor camps of the Weimar Republic. Compulsory training in the Reichsarbeitsdienst was ordered in 1935, and during 1938-9 many units were used in the construction of the Westwall. When war came RAD units to be used for military tasks were integrated directly into the armed forces as construction companies under Army officers. Early in 1940, however, the decision was made to use RAD men in independent formations. RAD forces served in Germany and in and in all the occupied territories, except Italy. Although RAD men sometimes participated in combat, their normal role was the performance of simple engineering assignments. Their military contribution did increase as the war went on. Four-hundred anti-aircraft batteries were manned by the RAD, and from early 1944, the RAD assisted the Ersatzheer (Replacement Army) in giving basic military training. Conscription of women for the RAD began in 1939. Later another agency, the Kriegshilfsdienst was established. Girls served a half year in both the RAD and the Kriegshilfsdienst. Units of women were used by the Luftwaffe in various capacities, and some operated searchlight batteries.

HISTORICAL SOURCES:

Konstantin Hierl, Im Dienst für Deutschland 1918-1945 (Heidelberg, Kurt Vowinckel Verlag, 1954), pp. 105-112; Wolfgang Scheibe, Aufgabe und Aufbau des Reichsarbeitsdienst (Leipzig, Verlag W. Kohlhammer-Abteilung Schäffer, 1942 3 Auflage, pp. 27-8.

POSTAL HISTORY:

RAD units in operational areas had Feldpost privileges from the beginning of the war.¹ They were assigned Feldpost numbers, but their mail can be recognized by the ranks in addresses or return addresses,

REICHSARBEITSDIENST, continued.

for they were different from those of any of the branches of the armed forces. RAD ranks were: Arbeitsmann, Vormann, Obervormann, Truppführer, Obertruppführer, Unterfeldmeister, Feldmeister, Oberstfeldmeister, Arbeitsführer, Oberarbeitsführer, Oberstarbeitsführer, Generalarbeitsführer, and Obergeneralarbeitsführer.² In June, 1940, privileges were given to RAD men outside operational areas, i.e., in Germany provided that they were performing tasks directly of benefit to the armed forces. To differentiate these elements from other RAD detachments, they were given Feldpost numbers to be used in combination with town names.³

A number of changes occurred during the last year of the war. Early in 1944, some units were given completely open addresses. These units were performing assignments for the Wehrmacht and were attached directly to military forces in a support capacity. The address consisted of rank, name, Wehrmacht unit name, RAD unit name, and town. A typical address would read:

Arbeitsmann Heinz Schmidt
25 schwere Flak Abteilung 45●
(RAD Abt. 2/301)

Glückstadt

Such mail had to bear an official seal. Privileges were also given to women members of the RAD (Arbeitsmädchen). RAD units also continued to exist which used a Feldpost number plus a town name.⁴

In August, 1944, girls in the Kriegshilfsdienst were given Feldpost privileges, if they were (1) with a military unit which had a Feldpost number; or (2) with a unit with an open address and were separated from their families and billeted at government expense. Typical addresses are shown below:⁵

K.H.D.-Mädchen im Wehrmachtsdienst
Greta Schmidt
Feldpost Nummer 60 000

K.H.D.-Mädchen im Wehrmachtsdienst
Greta Schmidt
bei Heeresmunitionsanstalt
Kiel

Gradually, restrictions were still further relaxed. Some units and their members were considered acting for the Wehrmacht even though not attached to particular military forces. These were given Feldpost privileges in August 1944. Addresses ran this way:⁶

Arbeitsmann Heinz Schmidt
RAD Abt. 2/301 im Wehrmachtseinsatz
Glückstadt

From October 1944, for the purpose of uniformity, all mail to units with open addresses bore the notation "im Wehrmachteinsatz", but mail made out in accordance with the regulation of March 1944, was not to be questioned by the Reichspost.⁷ The final step was taken in March 1945, when free franking concessions were given to all male members of the RAD, since they were receiving basic military training, and to all female members in the service of the Luftwaffe. Official agencies of the women's RAD were also given Feldpost privileges. (To be continued in Bulletin 2).

A BELATED HAPPY NEW YEAR AND THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!! (Ed.)