



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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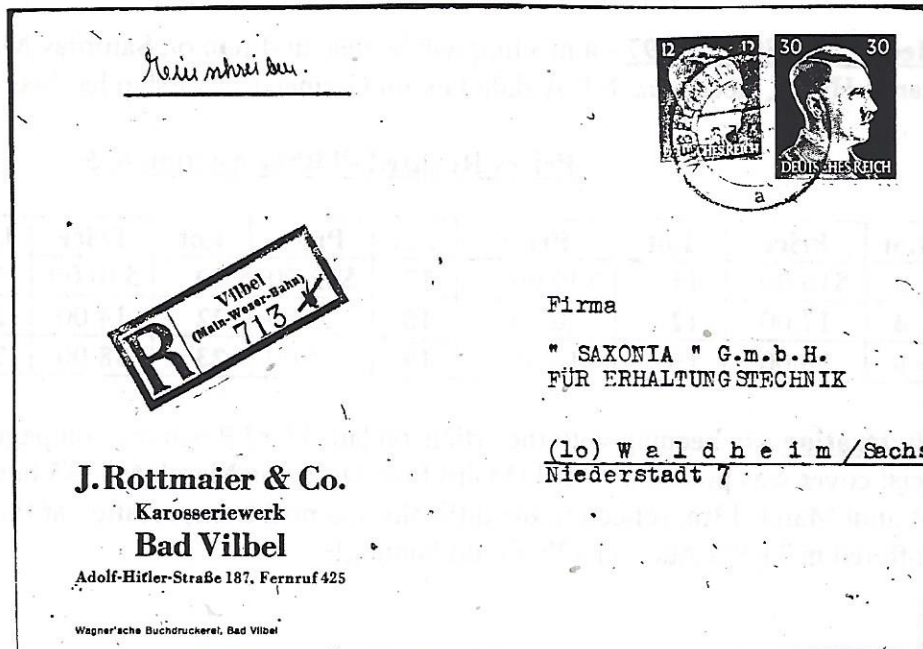
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STUDY GROUP NOTES

Welcome to New Members

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Report on TRSG Meeting at CHICAGOPEX by Director Myron Fox - a meeting was held during the GPS annual convention in Chicago on November 22-24, 1996 (See details on convention in January '97 issue of German Postal Specialist). I intended to have a brief "business" meeting and then present my slide discussion on Censorship which I had lugged from Boston.. I began the meeting by observing that our study group has existed over 30 years, which is a remarkable accomplishment. We discussed recent staff changes and I emphasized that we can always use additional help, particularly with translations. While the meeting discussion was wider than expected, I was not worried about my slide presentation since there was apparently a "free" hour after our slot.

There then ensued a lengthy discussion on recent discoveries from newly opened DDR archives which have changed expert opinions on the notion that certain Berlin post offices serviced mail with SA & SS issues (Mi. 909-10). The stories of collectors dodging bombs and bullets always seemed a bit far fetched to me. However, us collectors often believe such tales, particularly when then-current "experts" supported the theory. In such matters Dr. Bohne's "Caveat Emptor" philosophy is more and more the best advice one can heed.

It then turned out that I had read the schedule wrong and there was no "free" time available, so only about 25% of my Censorship slide presentation could be shown before our allotted meeting time expired. Attendees included: John Bloecher, Jesse Boehret, Dr. Werner Bohne, Dan Darnieder, Al Dietz, John Grabowski, Harry Gray, Noel Kasper, Robert Koschalk, Walter Kurth, Jason Manchester, John Mattler, Del Meinung, Tom Richards, Ralph Schneider, Jim Spielmann, Keith Stuppel, Roger Szymanski, Henrick Thode, Robert Thorn, Anthony Torres and Ronny Van Waardhuizen. *Best Regards, Myron Fox.*

TRSG Meeting at NOJEX '97 - a meeting will be held at 4 p.m on Saturday May 24, 1997 in the Meadowlands Hilton, Secaucus, NJ. A slide talk on German Censorship has been scheduled.

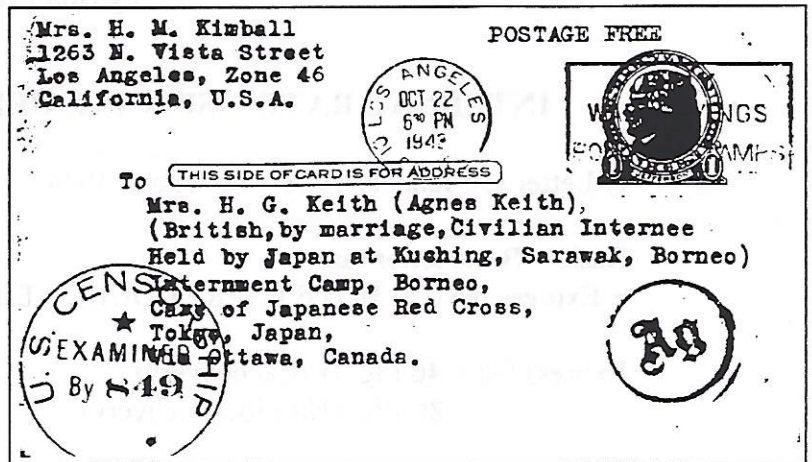
Prices Realized -TRSG Auction #75

| Lot | Price | Lot | Price | Lot | Price | Lot | Price | Lot | Price |
|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|
| 3 | \$16.00 | 11 | \$30.00 | 17 | \$32.00 | 20 | \$30.00 | 24 | \$22.00 |
| 4 | 17.00 | 12 | 20.00 | 18 | 28.00 | 22 | 14.00 | 25 | 25.00 |
| 6 | 20.00 | 15 | 18.00 | 19 | 22.00 | 23 | 38.00 | 26 | 20.00 |

Cover Illustration - in keeping with the article on late Third Reich mail on page 12, this registered commercial cover was posted at Vibel (Main) Post Office on March 6, 1945 but not delivered to Waldheim (Saxony) until March 13th, reflecting the difficulties in mail transportation at this time. This cover is one of the lots offered in TRSG Auction #77. Good hunting!

Inquiries & Follow Up on Recent Bulletin Articles

Vienna Censored POW Mail to Japan - as follow up to article in Bulletin # 120, this card to civilian internee in Borneo was posted in Los Angeles on Oct. 1943. Addressed to Red Cross in Japan via Ottawa, Canada, card was routed through Vienna censors who applied "Ag" pass stamp. It then, presumably, traveled to the Far East via neutral Turkey and the Middle East. Can anyone explain this unusual routing and tell us what the normal route for such mail would have been at this stage of the war?



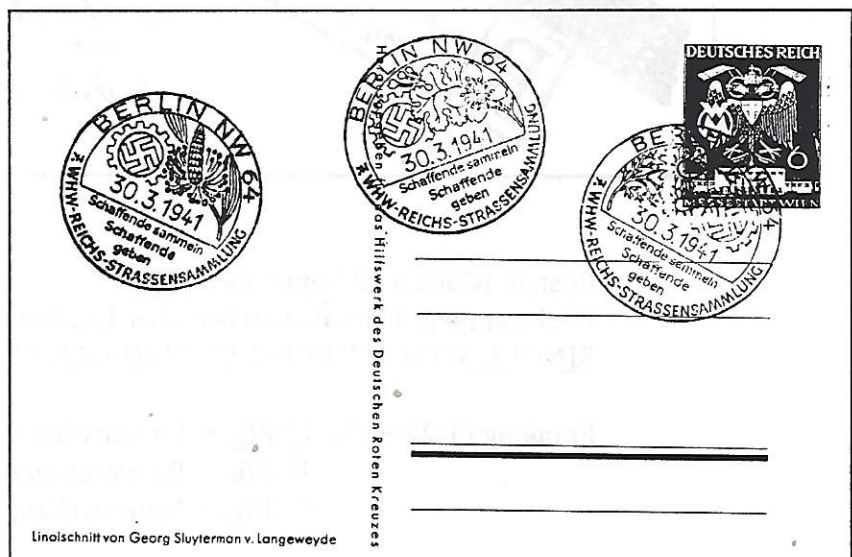
Information on Führerpost label?

TRSGer Jim Danner obtained this "Führerpost" gummed label (shown 73% actual size) a few years ago but, being unable to find any information pertaining to its usage, would appreciate any help we can provide. So, if you have info on this item, please send it to Ye Olde Ed so will can pass it on to Jim and to the group in a future Bulletin.



Special cancel with multiple designs?

Kelly Stefanacci located a postcard with three different versions of a Berlin NW 64 special cancel used March 30, 1941 for 7th Winter Relief Fund Street Collection. All cancel designs are identical except for the type of flowers and location of cogwheel. Are there other examples of such variations within a common design?



THIRD REICH POSTAL RATES

by Bob Ferguson

INTERNAL RATES: SPECIAL DELIVERY (DURCH EILBOTEN)

I) Letter (30 January 1933 - 12 August 1944)

Basic = Basic letter rate

+ Express fee (EILBOTE EXPRES/DURCH EILBOTEN)

Express fee = 40 Pfg. (Local delivery)

80 Pfg. (Non-local delivery)



Posted: Munich 22 September 1938

Backstamped: Untereufstetten über Crailsheim 23 September 1938

SINGLE WEIGHT INTERCITY REGISTERED SPECIAL DELIVERY LETTER RATE

Franking (1.22 RM): 12 Pfg. = Intercity letter rate for weight under 20 gram.

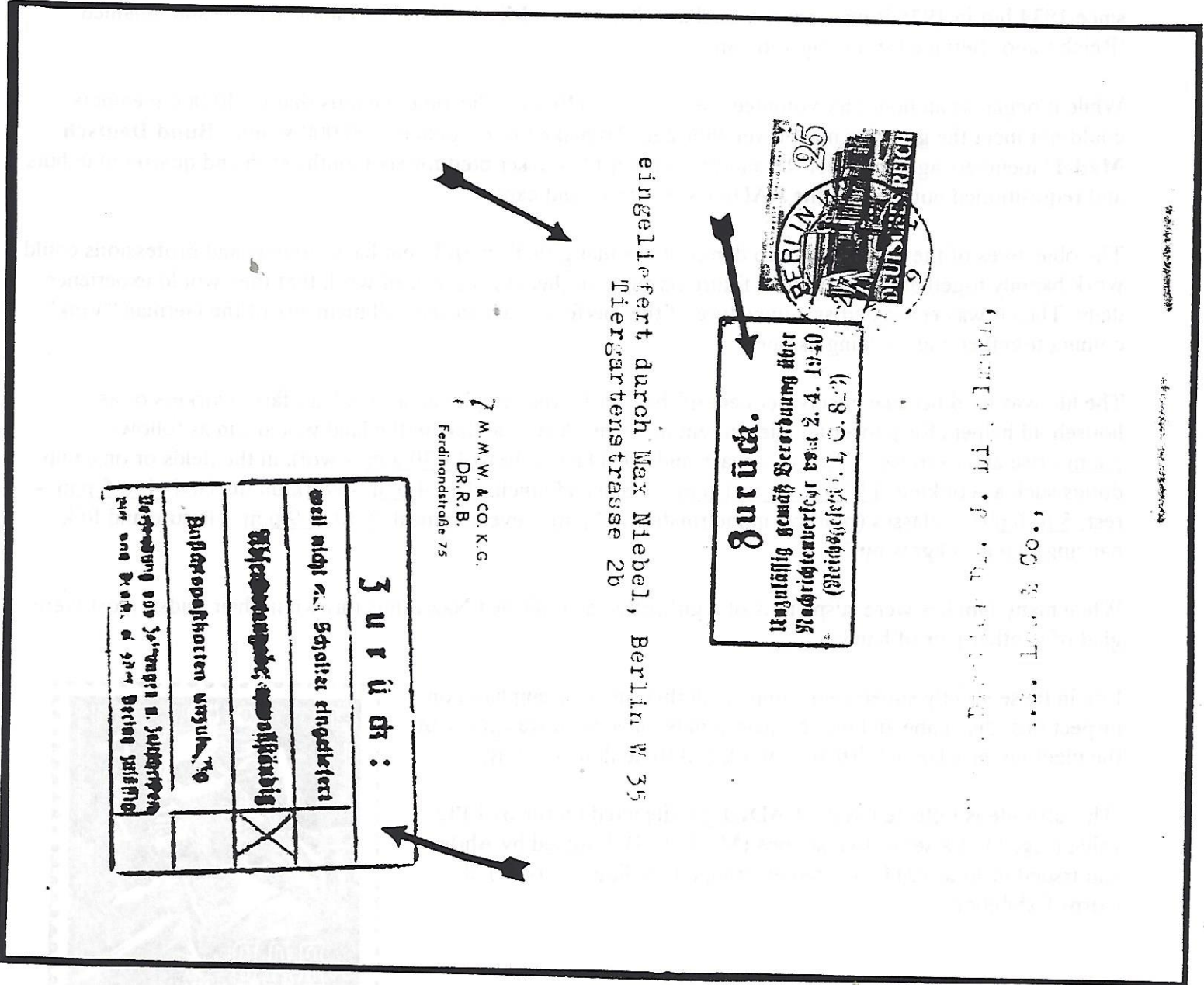
30 Pfg. = Registration fee

80 Pfg. = Non-local express fee.

Rejected by Censor - Inadmissible Mail Sender's Address Incomplete

Occasionally, "multiple choice" objection stamps are found which provided the censor with various common reasons for rejection to be checked off. Return address below stated "dispatched via Max Niebel" and the specific identity of the actual sender was in question.

Section 2.A. 4 "Mail without indication of sender is to be returned by the counter clerk".



| RETURN: | |
|--|---|
| NOT SENT FROM COUNTER | |
| SENDER'S ADDRESS INCOMPLETE | X |
| VIEW CARDS NOT PERMITTED | |
| NEWSPAPERS & PUBLICATIONS TO BE SENT BY PUBLISHERS ONLY | |

RETURN
INADMISSIBLE PER DIRECTIVE
ON COMMUNICATION SERVICE
OF APRIL 2, 1940
(DECREE I, PAGE 823)

THE STATE LABOR SERVICE FOR YOUNG WOMEN

by Richard Hemery

The “**Reichsarbeitsdienst der weiblichen Jugend**” (RADwJ) was the female section of the National Labor Corps. It was always far smaller than its male counterpart and the relative lack of postage stamps, cancellations and postcards commemorating the women’s service reflects this fact.

Gertrud Schotz-Klink had numbered a ‘German Women’s Labor Service’ among her numerous organizations since 1934 but in 1936 it was incorporated into Konstantin Mierl’s National Labor Service and renamed ‘Reich Labor Service for Young Woman’.

While it began as an honorary volunteer service, by 1939 it had become obvious that its 40,000 members could not meet the growing manpower shortage. To make up this deficit, 100,000 senior “**Bund Deutsch Mädel**” members aged between 18 and 25 were hastily conscripted for six months each and quartered in huts and requisitioned buildings in the RADwJ’s two thousand camps.

The objectives of the service were to demonstrate that girls from different backgrounds and professions could work happily together and to harden future farming mothers to the sort of work that they would experience daily. Thus it was envisaged as a miniature of the ‘perfect’ Nazi society, all members of the German “Volk” coming together and working as one.

The life was hard because ninety per cent of these girls were employed as auxiliary farm workers or as household helpers for poorer families in remote areas. A typical day on the land would run as follows: 5 a.m. - rise and exercise; 5:30 a.m. - wash and breakfast; 6:30 to 11:30 a.m. - work in the fields or on camp duties such as cooking; 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. - wash and lunch; 1 to 4 p.m. - work on the land; 4 to 5 p.m. - rest; 5 to 6 p.m. - classes (political indoctrination); 7 p.m. - evening meal; 7:30 to 9 p.m. - leisure and folk dancing; 9 p.m. - lights out!

While many families were suspicious of a girl (often a confirmed Nazi) thus thrown in their midst, most were glad of another pair of hands.

Life in these strictly supervised camps with their military emphasis on inspections, discipline and indoctrination must have been was grim but the ideology proclaimed that such work had to be done joyfully.

This attitude is reflected in the RADwJ girl depicted on the 6+4 Pfg. value (Fig. 1) of a set of two stamps (Mi. 893- 4) designed by Ahrlé and issued in June 1944 to commemorate a traveling National Labor Corps Exhibition.



The stamp design (Fig. 1) shows her uniform scarf (normally red), the collar of her blue (often checked) dress which she wore with an apron, her large wooden rake and her silver neck badge. Bearing a design by the Berlin artist Egon Jantke, this neck badge (Fig. 2) was introduced late in 1936. The service parade ground uniform was very different, khaki in color, with smartly cut jacket and skirt and a soft, wide-brimmed hat.

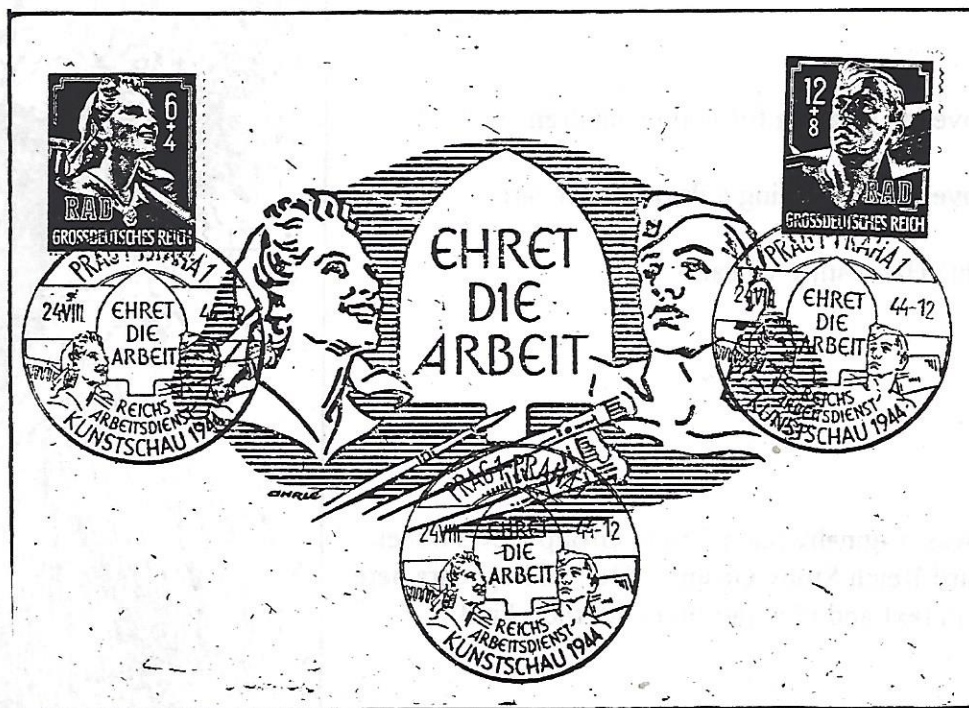


This "Reichsarbeitsdienst Kunstschau" (National Labor Service Art Exhibit) was an exhibition of handy crafts and art done by RAD members. There were no special cancels used by post offices in Germany to commemorate the Labor Corps Exhibition. However, Germany's 'Land Girls' do appear on hand and machine special cancels used by post offices in Prague in late July 1944 when the traveling exhibit visited the Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia. Both of these cancels have as a design element the shape of a spade with text "EHRET DIE ARBEIT" (Honor the worker).

The machine cancel (Fig. 3) used at PRAG 25 shows only the female RAD member while the hand cancel used at PRAG 1 (Fig. 4) includes both male and female members. The male and female figures on these cancels are very similar to those appearing on the German postage stamps issued the previous month.



A blue-green envelope placed on sale when the Labor Corps Exhibition visited Prague in July 1944 has an engraved illustration showing male and female RAD members with four different artist brushes in the foreground. The name "Ahrle" below the female figure reveals that the envelope designer also designed stamps Mi. 893-4. For Third Reich collectors, a highly prized possession is this commemorative envelope with these German stamps tied to by the Prag 1 special cancels. (Fig. 5).



While I have found no color post cards depicting members of the State Labor Service for Young Women, there are at least three different black & white photo cards showing different kinds of work performed by these young women.

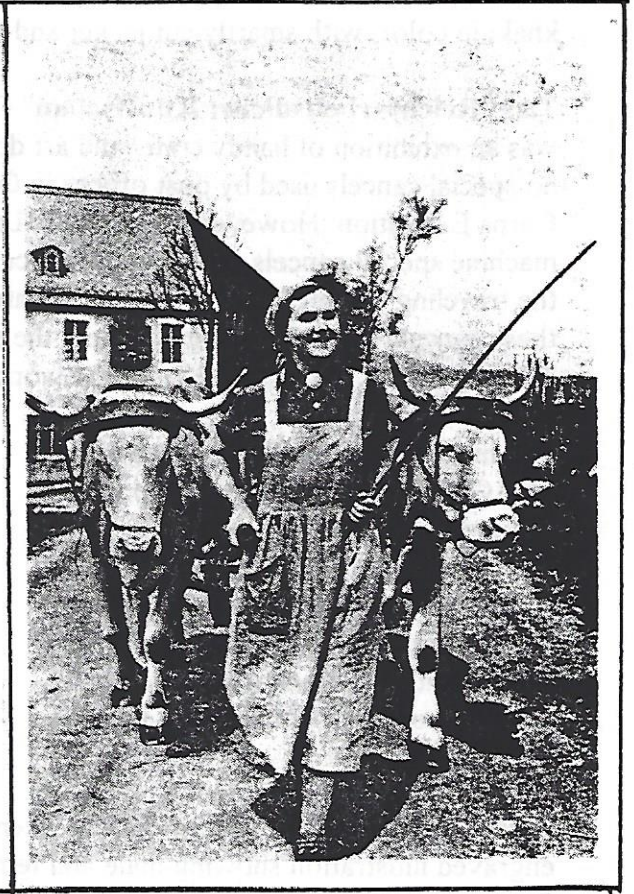


Fig. 6 (above left) Caring for young children.

Fig. 7 (above right) Leading a drawn farm cart.

Fig. 8 (right) Harvesting wheat.



This article was originally published in Group News Sheet 48 of the Third Reich Study Group (U.K.) and appears here (w/ changes in text and illustrations) with their kind permission.

German Airmail to USA via South America

by Bob Ferguson

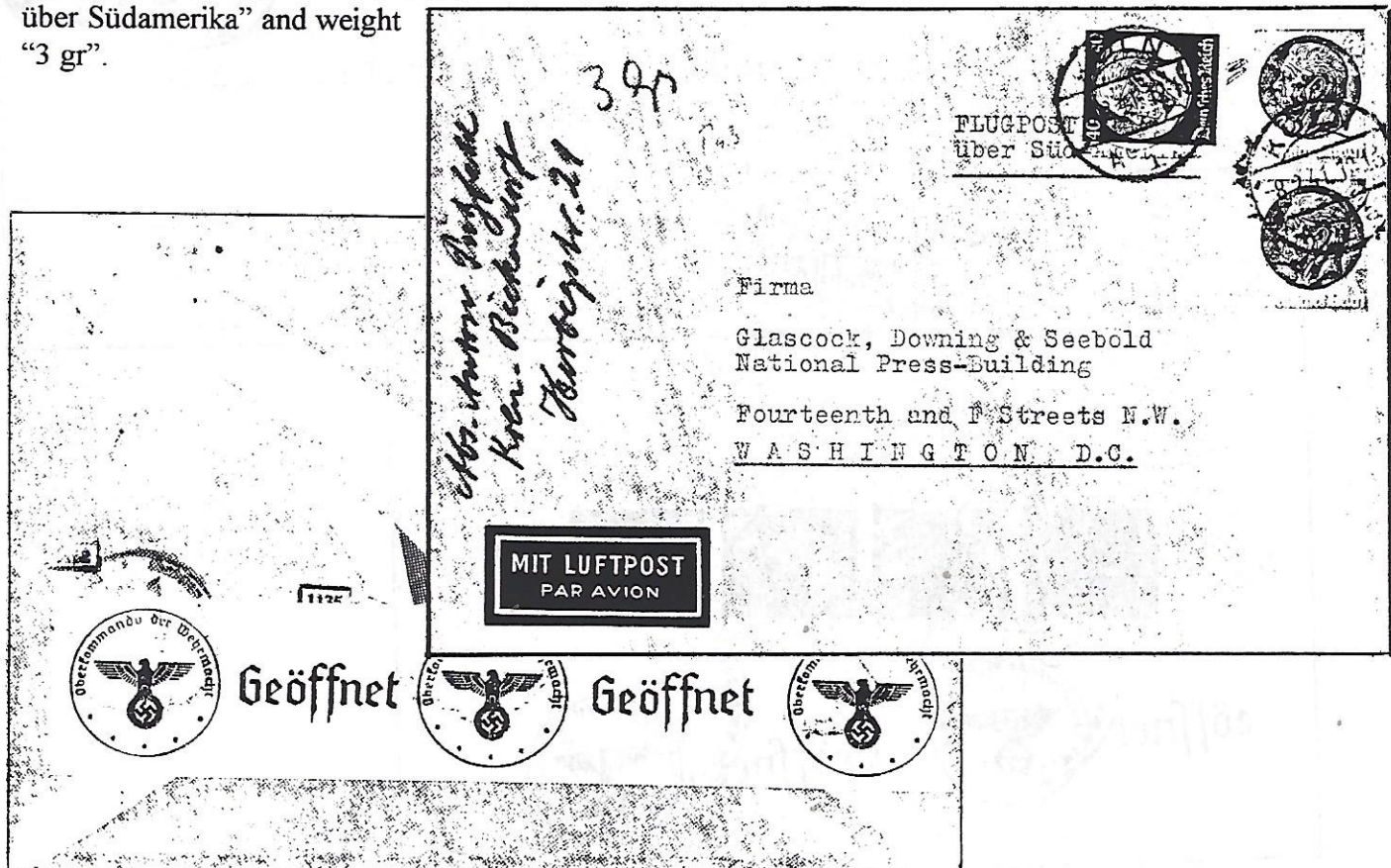
After the outbreak of war, which ended service to South America by *Deutsche Lufthansa*, the *Linee Aeree Transcontinental S.A. (LATI)*, a subsidiary of the Italian airline *Ala Littoria*, initiated service to South America in December 1939. The route was: **Rome - Villa Cisneros (Rio De Oro) - Sal (Cape Verde Islands) - Pernambuco (Brazil) - Bahia (Brazil) - Rio De Janeiro**. The *LATI* service was initiated on December 21, 1939 and operated weekly through December 4, 1941.

Initially the only connecting flights from Rio were to cities in South America and the *LATI* line could not be used for airmail addressed to North America. However, a demand grew from postal customers seeking to use the South American route (for airmail destined to the United States) to avoid the British censors at either Hamilton, Bermuda or Port of Spain, Trinidad. (The regular South Atlantic route passed through Bermuda and the alternate South Atlantic route through Trinidad).

Beginning September 1, 1940, airmail sent via the *LATI* line connected with the United States by way of the west coast of South America: **Rio De Janeiro - Buenos Aires - Lima - Cristobal (Columbia) - Mexico City - New York**. This west coast route permitted airmail from Germany to bypass the British censors. The airmail surcharge for this service was 2.15 RM. per 5 Grams. Shown below are three covers which used this route.

Fig. 1) Single weight airmail letter to Washington, D.C. via South America posted Köln Feb. 8, 1941
Franking (2.40 RM): 25 Pfg. - Foreign letter rate for weight 0-20 grams.
2.15 RM - Airmail surcharge for weight 0-5 grams.

Note route marking: "FLUGPOST über Südamerika" and weight "3 gr".



In Fig. 1, the censor sealing tape (B-54) and hand stamps (B-2) indicate that this letter was processed at the Berlin Foreign Letter Examining Office. The other examples shown below were examined at different censor offices.

Fig. 2) Double weight airmail letter to New York, via South America posted Hamburg April. 7, 1941
Franking (4.55 RM): 25 Pfg. - Foreign letter rate for weight 0-20 grams.
4.30 RM - Airmail surcharge for weight 5-10 grams.

English language route marking "Air Mail via South America", the weight "7 gr" (in pencil) plus 50 Pfg. & 5 Pfg. stamps appear on the address side while a strip of four 100 Pfg. stamps is on the reverse side.

The censor sealing tape (D-59) and hand stamps (D-3) indicate that this letter was handled at the Munich Foreign Letter Examining Office. The boxed stamps in lower right corner of address side contain the identity numbers of the examiners.

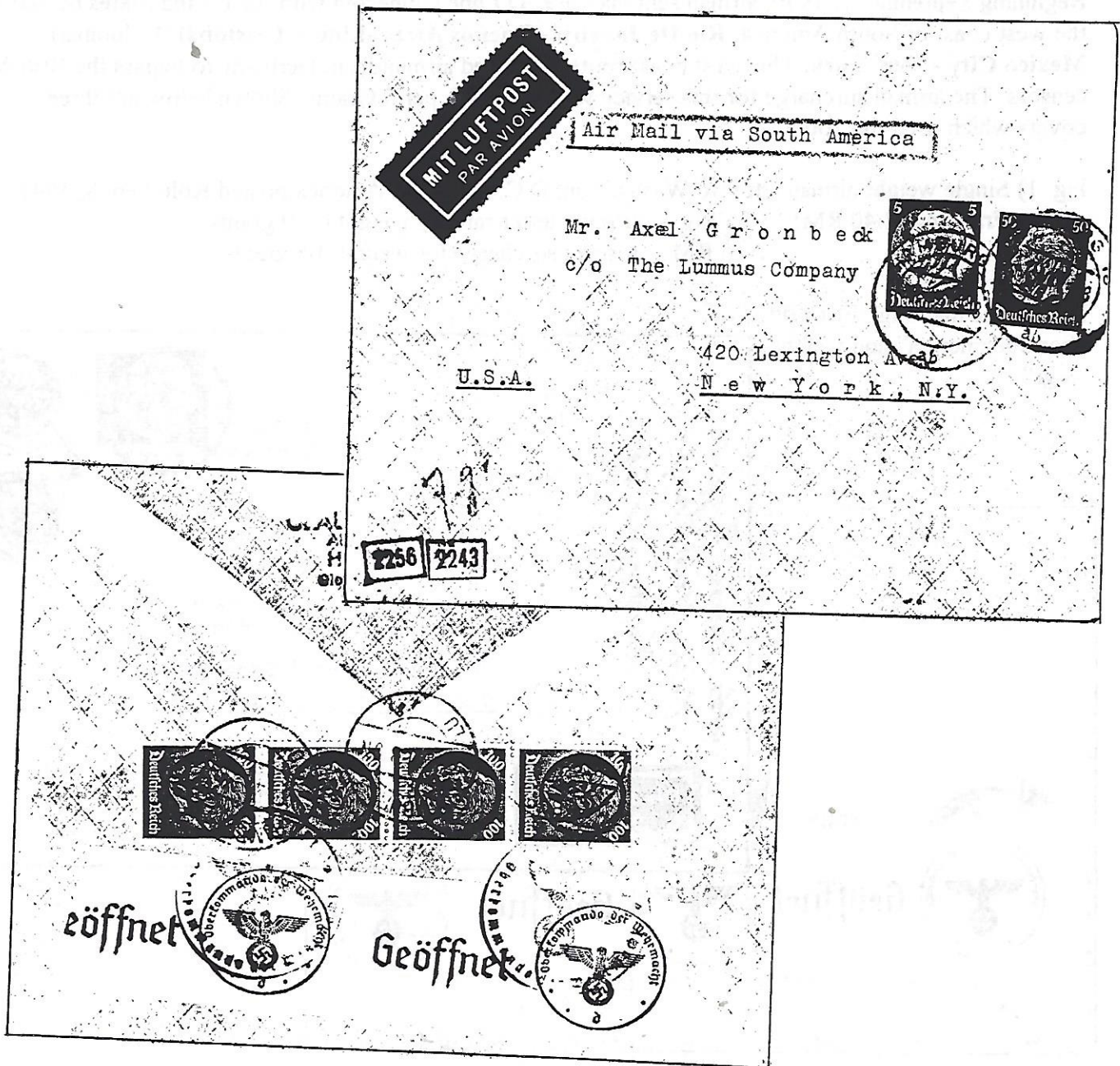
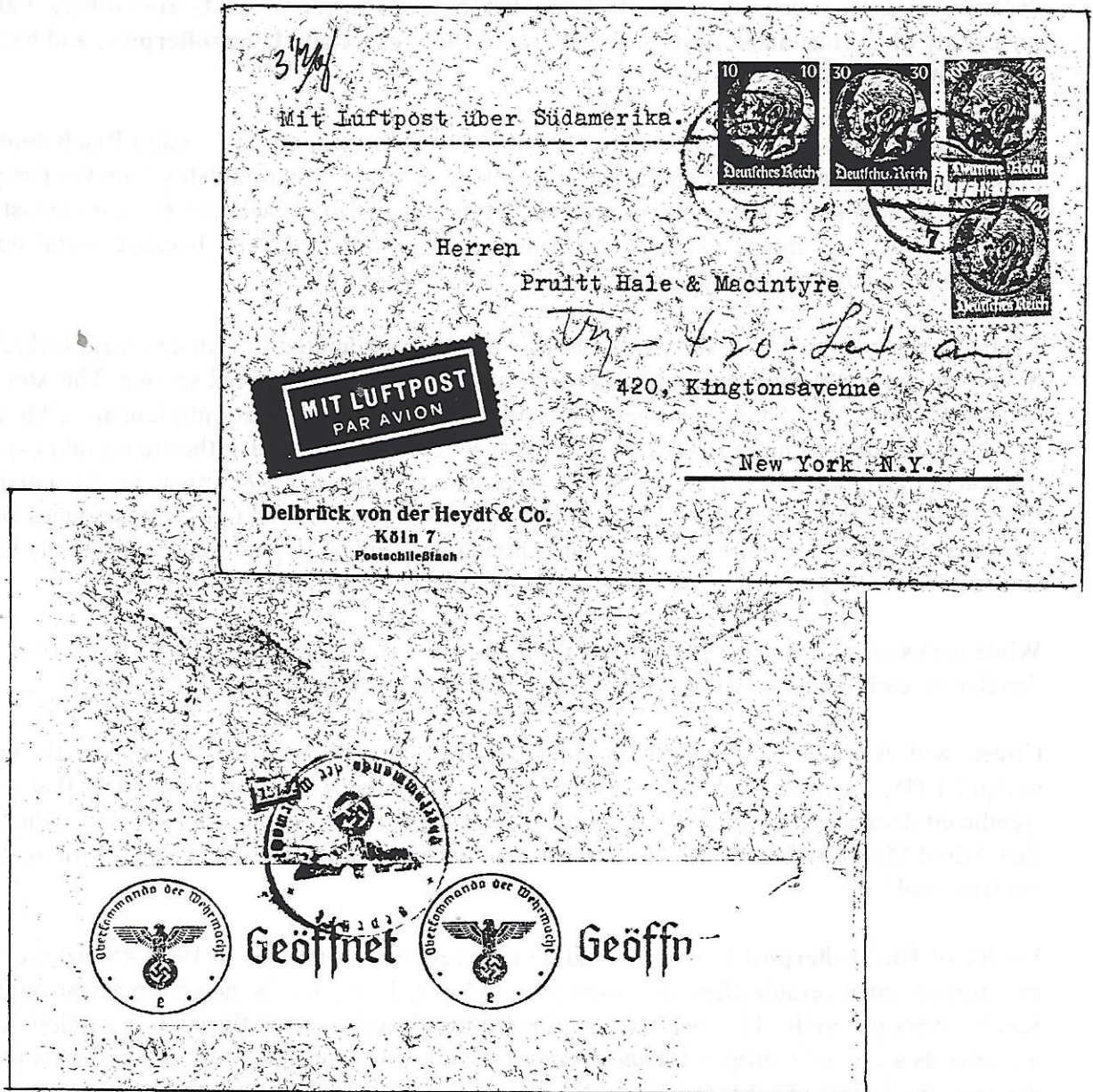


Fig. 3) Single weight airmail letter to New York posted Köln November 29, 1940
 Franking (2.40 RM): 25 Pfg. - Foreign letter rate for weight 0-20 grams.
 2.15 RM - Airmail surcharge for weight 0-5 grams.

The censor sealing tape (E-53) and hand stamps (E-2) indicate that this letter was examined at the Frankfurt Foreign Letter Examining Office.



NOTE: Except for the illustrations, this is a paraphrase of an article by Rainer E. Lutgens which appeared in Volume 64, # 8 of THE AIRPOST JOURNAL in 1994.

The censor marking identifications noted above are from Reimer's "Foreign Letter Examining Offices of Third Reich Germany."

Interpreting "Late" Third Reich Covers

by Ben Beede

Auction catalogs and dealer listings frequently attach the adjective "late" to Third Reich covers bearing 1945 cancellations. Some German auction houses have even begun to establish sections of "late" Third Reich covers dating from early 1945. Use of the word "late" in this context raises the question of what it signifies for postal history collectors. There is probably no definitive answer, but I would like to describe some of my hypotheses in the hope that they will elicit comments from others. I am working on a study of German mail in late 1944 and early 1945, especially *Überrollerpost*, and need the perspectives of other collectors.

Apparently no one describes any covers with 1944 cancellations as "late" Third Reich items. This is probably because auctioneers and collectors look at "late" cancellation dates from the perspective of Germany generally. However, a regional and even municipal approach may be more realistic. A 1944 cover to or from an area near one of the fronts may be considered "late" because postal service was very limited at the time owing to military or transportation problems.

In late January 1945, postal service for private citizens was limited to ordinary mail, including postal money orders and postal checking, as a result of severe reductions in rail service. This step was taken on January 23rd, but the regulation was not printed by the *Reichspost* until January 29th. (1) The text of the regulation was more restrictive than its implementation. Postal authorities could expand service if suitable transportation was available. Between January and May 1945 many private citizens sent registered and other types of mail which had supposedly been limited to official agencies and some business concerns. Therefore, I do not think premiums need to be paid for covers simply because they entered the mail stream after the January 1945 limitations were enacted.

While package cards are not uncommon from late January through the end of March 1945, such items dated after early April are rarely offered in German auctions known to me.

Covers with April 1945 cancellations are potentially quite attractive items. The later the mailing date in April 1945, the more likely a cover is to be of special interest. Out-of-town letters that moved significant distances in April 1945 are scarce. They do not seem to be rare, however, which suggests that Alfred Meschenmoser made an overly broad generalization when he wrote "April mail is normally overrun mail." (2)

My file of *Überrollerpost* ("overrun mail") i.e. covers in transmission in 1944-45 that were delivered or returned undeliverable after the surrender on May 8, 1945, may be helpful in assessing late Third Reich covers generally. The file, based on the listing of such items in the auction catalogs available to me, reveals a dramatic drop in the incidence of covers after April 22, 1945. This reflects the Allied occupation of most of Germany, part of Austria and the continued deterioration of transportation facilities. I assume the number of covers that were delivered also declined significantly about April 20, 1945.

Covers with cancellations dating from May 1 to May 8, 1945 deserve a premium, but even they are not rarities. There are covers mailed in areas not yet occupied by Allied troops with cancellation dates from several days after the surrender on May 8, 1945. Those are important postal history items, and larger premiums almost surely justified.

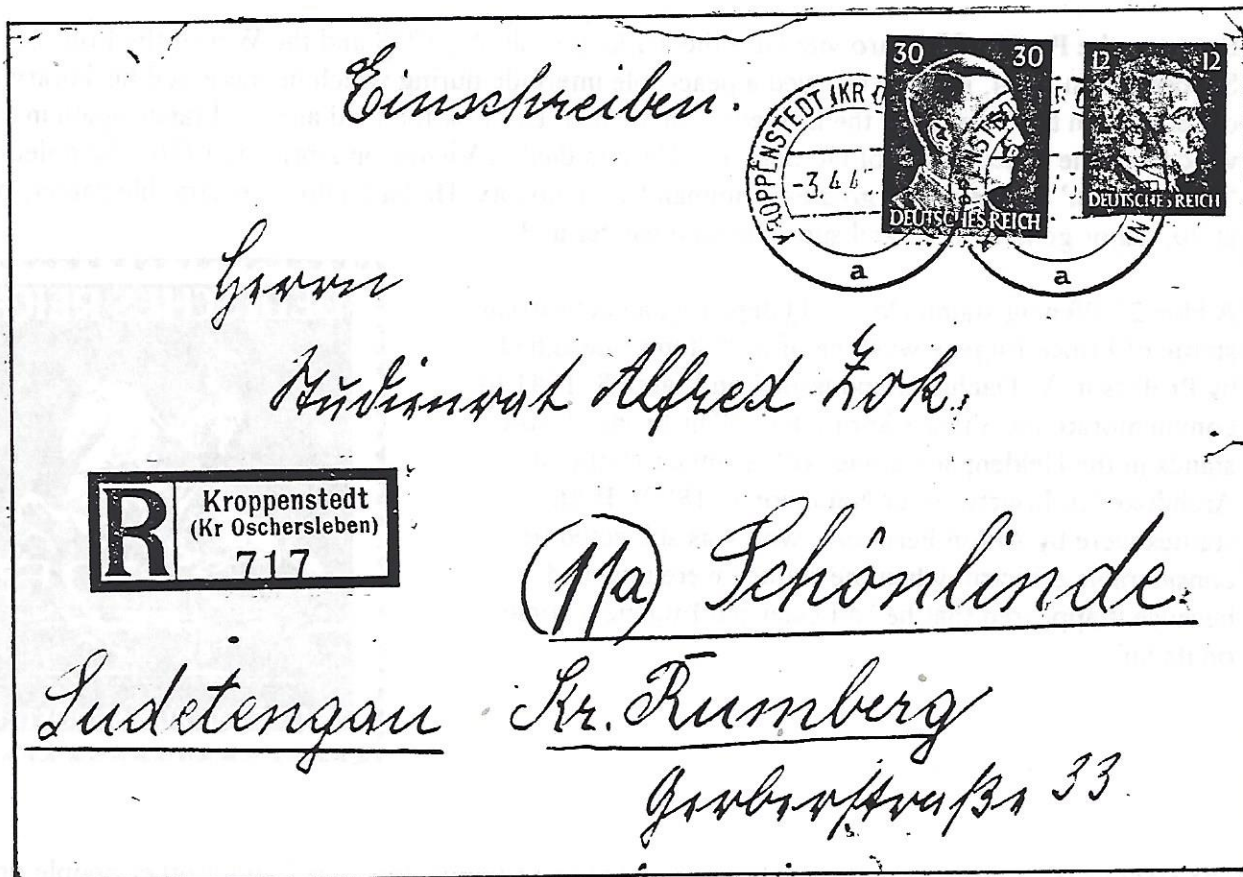
Because the impact of the war varied by period and location and because postal officials had a good deal of discretion about allowing particular services, before paying a premium for a "late" cover should be evaluated in terms of:

1. The identities of the sender and addressee.
2. The location of the post office which dispatched the cover and location of the addressee.
3. The proximity of Allied forces to both locations.
4. The cancellation date.

These factors are not listed in order of importance because the relative importance depends upon an examination of all the facts about a particular cover.

- (1) Amtsblatt des Reichpostministeriums, Jahrgang 1945, 29 Januar, 30/1945, pp. 27-30.
- (2) Alfred Meschenmoser, Überroller-post 1945-1949 vom 'Dritten Reich' in das 'Nachkriegs-Deutschland' Neue Schriftenreihe der Poststempelgilde "Rhein-Donau" E.V. heft Nr. 104 (1984), p. 17.

Shown below is a registered cover posted April 3, 1945 at a town near Halberstadt in east central Germany and received in the Sudetenland on April 14, 1945.



Story Behind the Stamp: Prince Eugene of Savoy

by Kelly Stefanacci

Eugene, Prince of Savoy was born in Paris on October 18, 1663. He was the fifth son of Prince Eugene Maurice (1635-1673), Count of Scissons of the cadet line of Savoy-Carignano, and his wife Olympia Mancini (1639-1708), who was a niece of Cardinal Mazarin. After the early death of his father, the boy was educated under his mother's supervision. She intended that he should become a priest but, like his older brothers, the boy showed an inclination towards a military life.

After his mother fell into disgrace and was banished to Brussels in 1680, Eugene remained at court under the supervision of his paternal grandmother, Marie de Bourbon. In 1683 he renounced any desire for the clerical life and requested a commission in the Army from Louis XIV. When this was refused, a destitute Eugene went to his relative, the Emperor Leopold I in Vienna, who gave him a commission in the Imperial Army. He took part in the Relief of Vienna in 1683 and also in the subsequent campaigns against the Turks.

Because of his great personal courage, he was given command of the Dragoon Regiment. Promoted to Major-General in 1685, he was twice wounded during these wars, once at Buda in 1686 and again at Belgrade in 1688. While he was made supreme commander in 1698, it was during the War of the Spanish Succession (1701-1714) that he became famous. Together with the Duke of Marlborough he fought a series of successful battles - Höchstädt, Blenheim and Malplaquet - which finally ended French military superiority in Europe. After the Peace of Rastadt on March 6, 1714, he again fought against the Turks, driving them out of the greater part of Hungary and capturing Belgrade on August 16, 1717.

Between the Peace of Passarowitz with the Turks on July 21, 1718 and the War of the Polish Succession in 1734, Eugene enjoyed a peaceable interlude during which he increased his library and art collections in the Palaces of the Belvedere in Vienna. He took the field against France again in 1734 but welcomed the peace treaty of October 3, 1735 and died in Vienna on April 21, 1736.. Napoleon rated 'Prinz Eugen' as one of the greatest commanders in history. He had quite a remarkable career, penniless at 20, major general at 22 and supreme commander at 34.

A blue 25 Pfennig stamp (Mi. 771) depicting an equestrian statue of Prince Eugene was one of four stamps designed by Professor W. Dachauer and issued on March 8, 1941 to commemorate the Vienna Spring Fair. This bronze statue stands in the Heldenplatz along with a similar statue of Archduke Karl (victor over Napoleon in 1809). Both statues were by Anton Fernkorn, who was subjected to considerable criticism when the statues were unveiled because it appeared that he had balanced Eugene's horse on its tail.



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

The German Annexation of Northern Slovenia

by Jim Lewis

Following the surrender of Yugoslavia on April 17, 1941, the Axis powers proceeded to divide up the remains. Slovenia, with a population of about 2 million, was divided between Germany and Italy in accordance with an agreement signed in Berlin on July 8, 1941. Hungary was also given a few small towns and villages with less than 100,000 inhabitants. Under the terms of the agreement, Germany annexed northern Slovenia, which had been part of Austria prior to world war I.

Immediately after the occupation German was proclaimed as the only official language. All Slovene signs on offices and principle buildings were removed and replaced with German signs. The names and surnames of the population were permitted to be used only in the German form, both in speech and writing. A great number of Slovenes were removed to Croatia and other parts of Yugoslavia, to make room for German colonists. The latter were recruited from the Reich and from Germans who were removed to Germany from Romania (Bessarabia and Dobruja), from Italy (Southern Tyrol) and from Italian-occupied Slovenia. The process of colonization was called by the Germans **Heimholung** (bringing into the homeland), the Germans claiming that these territories belonged to the German living space.

The Germans moved promptly to incorporate northern Slovenia into the Greater Reich. Portions were attached to the provinces of **Untersteirmark, Kärten and Krain** (*Styria, Carinthia and Carinola*). All postal service was immediately suspended, and there was no civilian mail until May 2, 1941, when civilian post offices were reopened for letters and small parcels.

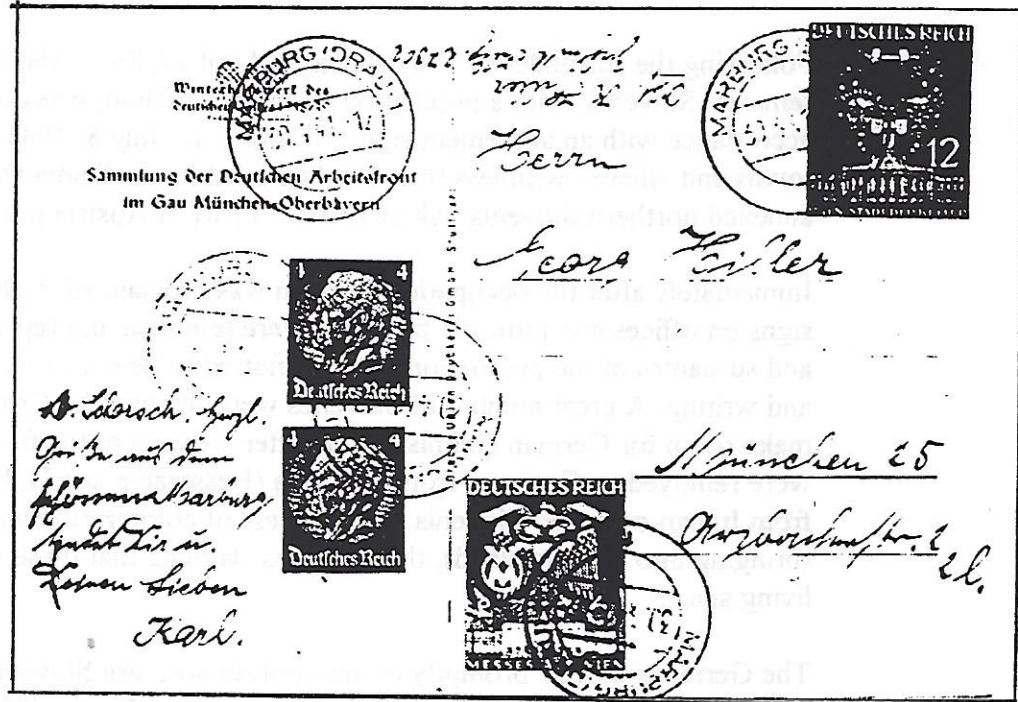
At an earlier date the Germans established an official mail service (*Deutsch Dienstpost*) manned by German personnel from the Reichspost for the use of occupation authorities, their personnel and designated collaborators only. This official mail service had only six offices in the principle towns where the occupation administration offices were located. These towns were **Marburg** (*Maribor*) where Dienstpost headquarters was located, **Cilli** (*Celje*), **Krainburg** (*Kranj*), **Unter Drauberg** (*Dravgorad*), **Rann** (*Brezice*) and **Pettau** (*Ptuj*). These offices were supplied with German style double ring canceling devices displaying only the town name and date. In **Marburg** the town name was followed by "**(Drau)**" and in **Rann** by "**(Save)**", indicating that those towns were situated, respectively, on the Drava and Sava rivers.

When civilian post offices were reopened, only German stamps were valid. The Germans changed the canceling devices in most areas to reflect the German names used prior to World war I when this area had been part of Austria. Thus *Kamnik* became **Stein** - both words meaning stone. In some places the Yugoslav name was "Germanized". *Donzale*, for example, became **Domschale**. It can be seen that a knowledge of these town names is essential to identify covers from the German occupation during World war II.

While the Germans eventually furnished most civil post offices with new canceling devices using new town names, most were not ready when these offices reopened. Consequently, the postmasters had to make use of a variety of provisional devices such as pen and mute cancelers, as well as various rubber stamps for adding town names and dates.

Examples of official mail (Fig. 1) are both scarce and difficult to recognize because these offices did not employ special "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost" canceling devices as in other occupied areas.

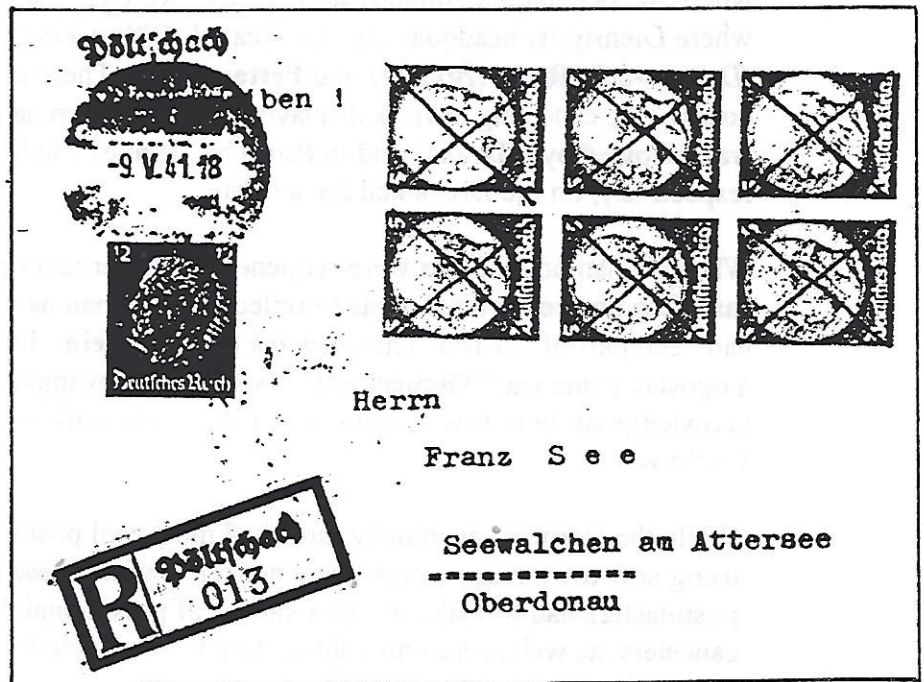
Fig. 1) Postcard mailed from **Marburg (Drau)**, former Yugoslav town of *Maribor*, to Munich on April 30, 1941, is canceled with postmark used at the Dienstpost office Germans operated there for their occupation forces.



Also fairly scarce are examples of provisional canceling devices used for civil mail. One example of the latter (Fig. 2) is a registered letter to Austria posted on May 9, 1941. The stamps are pen canceled, the German town name "**Poltschach**" added by rubber stamp above "mute" cancel (the Yugoslav town name "*Poljcane*" was obliterated) and on registry label.

Fig. 2) Registered cover mailed from **Poltschach** - former Yugoslav town of *Poljcane* - to Austria on May 9, 1941, after the Germans resumed civilian mails in Northern Slovenia.

Temporary postmarks include a Yugoslav date stamp (former cancel with town name obliterated) and rubber stamped German town name **Poltschach** which was also stamped on German blank field registry label.

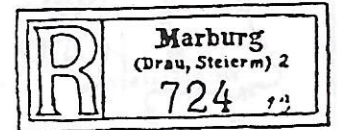
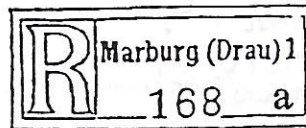


The following are examples of various postal markings used by area post offices (see map below):

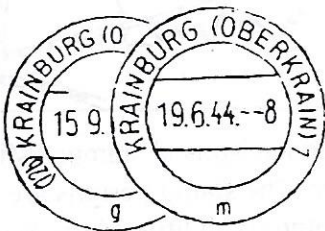
A.) MARBURG



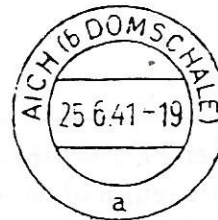
Special cancel used at military training camp outside Marburg



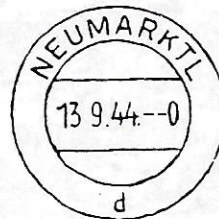
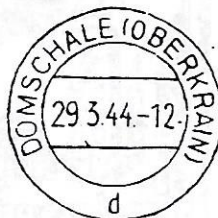
B.) KRAINBURG



C.) AICH



D.) DOMSCHALE



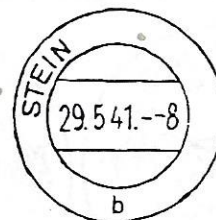
E.) NEUMARKTL



F.) PÖLLAND

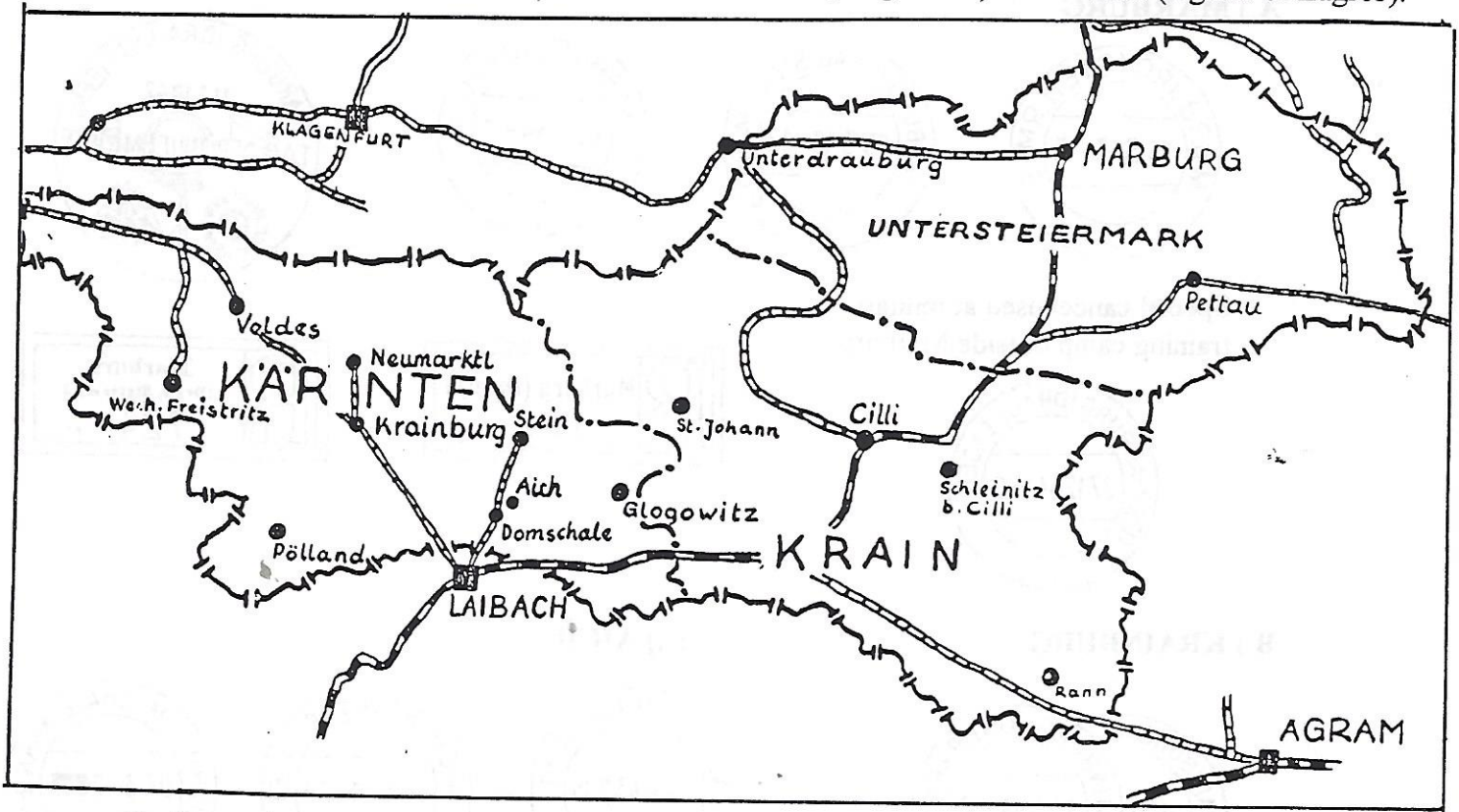


G.) STEIN



Pölland/über Bischoflack

Fig. 3) Shown below is a map of Northern Slovenia showing the major towns in the three districts and the transportation network linking the area to Austria (Klagenfurt) and Croatia (Agram or Zagreb).



On September 29, 1941 the German Postal Ministry issued four semi-postal stamps (Mi. 806-9) to commemorate return of Northern Slovenia to Greater Germany. The stamp designs are: 3+7 Pfg. - Marburg Castle (Steiermark), 6+9 Pfg. - View of Veldes (Kärnten) with little Maria Wörth church, 12+13 Pfg. - Pettau (Steiermark) city tower and 25+15 Pfg. - View of Triglav mountain (Kärnten).



Special cancels reading "Deutsch für Immer!" (German Forever!) were used by post offices in the four towns illustrated on these stamps for one day only (October 1, 1941). Note: Meistern is the largest town near the Triglav mountains.



Nine days after the appearance of these special cancels, there was a “Erinnerungsfeier” (Remembrance Ceremony) to commemorate a plebiscite held in Carinthia on October 10, 1920 which yielded a majority vote for reunion with Austria. The results of this vote was protested by Yugoslavia and was later nullified by the Armistice Commission.

Fig. 4) The NSDAP District Propaganda Office in Klagenfurt sponsored a color postcard printed by N.S. Gauverlag Tirol-Vorarlberg depicting patriots with an Austrian banner and text “Kärntner! Dein Ehrentag 10. Oktober” (Citizens of Carinthia, October 10 is your day of honor!).



The address side has Mi. 806-9 stamps tied by the special Gutenstein cancel used on Oct. 10, 1941 to commemorate the Remembrance ceremony. This registered card was sent to Völkmarkt where a receiving postmark was applied on the next day.



This scarce card, regarded by many as one of the nicest Third Reich propaganda cards, is a fitting place to end this article. Please send any comments and/or additions to Ye Olde Ed.

References:

Jugoslavia Postal History During World War II by Lauson H. Stone; Postal History Journal Feb. 1989.
Axis Rule in Occupied Europe by Raphael Lemkin, Carnegie International Endowment, 1944.
Deutsche Dienstpost 1939-45 by Dr. H. Schultz, Postempelgilde “Rhein-Donau” No. 9, 1953.

Berlin Auto Exhibition and Related Special Cancels

by Bob Ferguson

The following lists of specials cancels commemorate the annual International Auto Exhibition in Berlin and other cancels with "automotive" themes. The cancel numbering scheme is that of Julius Bochmann's work "Katalog der Deutschen Gelegenheitsstempel"

Cancel No.

Berlin # 134
 Berlin # 145
 Berlin # 160
 Berlin # 182
 Berlin # 215
 Berlin # 258
 Berlin # 301

Text

International Automobil und Motorrad Ausstellung
 International Automobilausstellung
 International Automobil und Motorrad Ausstellung
 Autoschau Berlin 1936/50 Jahre Automobil/1886-1936
 International Automobil und Motorrad Ausstellung
 International Automobil und Motorrad Ausstellung
 International Automobil und Motorrad Ausstellung

Dates of Usage

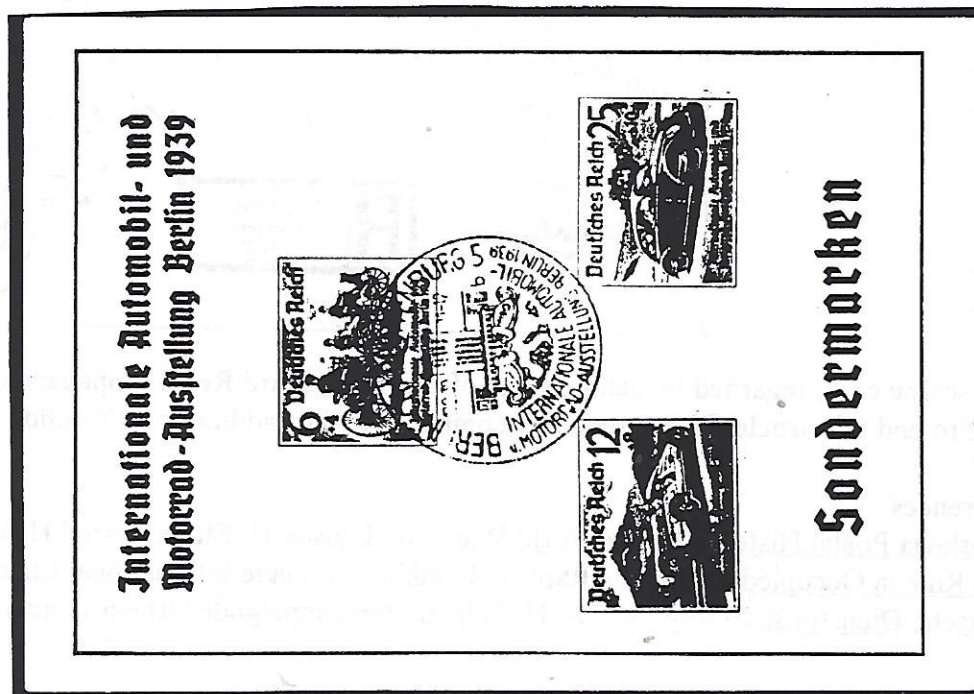
February 11-13, 1933
 March 8-18, 1934
 Feb 13-March 3, 1935
 Feb 14-March 2, 1936
 Feb 20-March 7, 1937
 Feb 18-March 6, 1938
 Feb 17-March 5, 1939



Gaggenau #2
 Gaggenau #4
 Mannheim #30
 Mannheim #31
 Rothenfelde #1
 Schorndorf #6
 Schorndorf #9
 Stuttgart #37

Daimler-Benz Stadt in Scharzwald/Waldseebad!
 Nutzwagen
 Zur Benz Feier! Histor. Korso Osten/Mannheim 1933
 Zur Benz Feier! Auto Schau Osten/Mannheim 1933
 Grundsteinlegung des Volkswagenwerkes Rothenfelde
 Daimlerfeier/Denkmalweihe/Sternfahrt/Festzug Schorndorf
 Daimlers Geburtsstadt/1 Werbeschau der KdK Sammlergruppe/
 Gottlieb Daimler 1834-1934/Ehrentage in Stuttgart u Schorndorf

1937-1939
 1938-1942
 1933
 1933
 May 26, 1938
 April 21-23, 1934
 May 28-29, 1942
 April 21-23, 1934



COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 78th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

| POST OFFICE | | REGIMENTS | | | | AUXIL |
|-------------|------|-----------|-----|-----|------|-------|
| TACT. | KENN | GRENADIER | | | ARTY | UNITS |
| 178 | 295 | 195 | 215 | 238 | 178 | 178 |

Recruited in and around Württemberg in 1939, the 78th Infantry Division emblem design represented the gothic spires of Ulm cathedral (Right). The post office was assigned Fp.# 03356 as a return address and Kenn 295 for registered mail in lieu of the tactical FpA 178.



The division saw action in France in 1940 and served on the Eastern Front with Army Group Center during the initial campaign in 1941. It distinguished itself in the battles of Bialowieza and the Yelna Bend, in the Battle of Moscow and against the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42. During that period it dropped the 238th Infantry Regiment and received the 14th Infantry Regiment from the 5th Infantry Division.



The 78th achieved such an excellent combat record that it was designated as a "Sturm" (Storm or Assault) division in 1942 and its emblem was changed to the iron fist of Gotz von Berlichingen (Right). In 1943 it took part in the Battle of Kursk and in the successful defense of Smolensk. The division was virtually annihilated near Minsk in June 1944 during the Soviet summer offensive against Army Group Center.

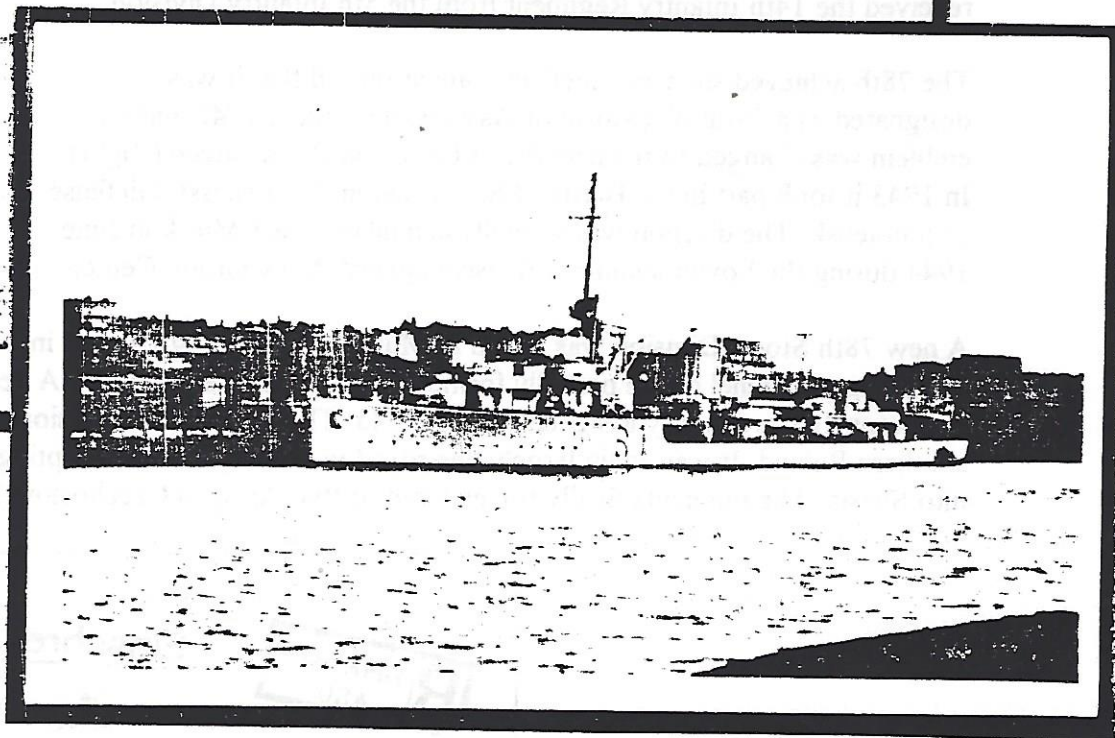
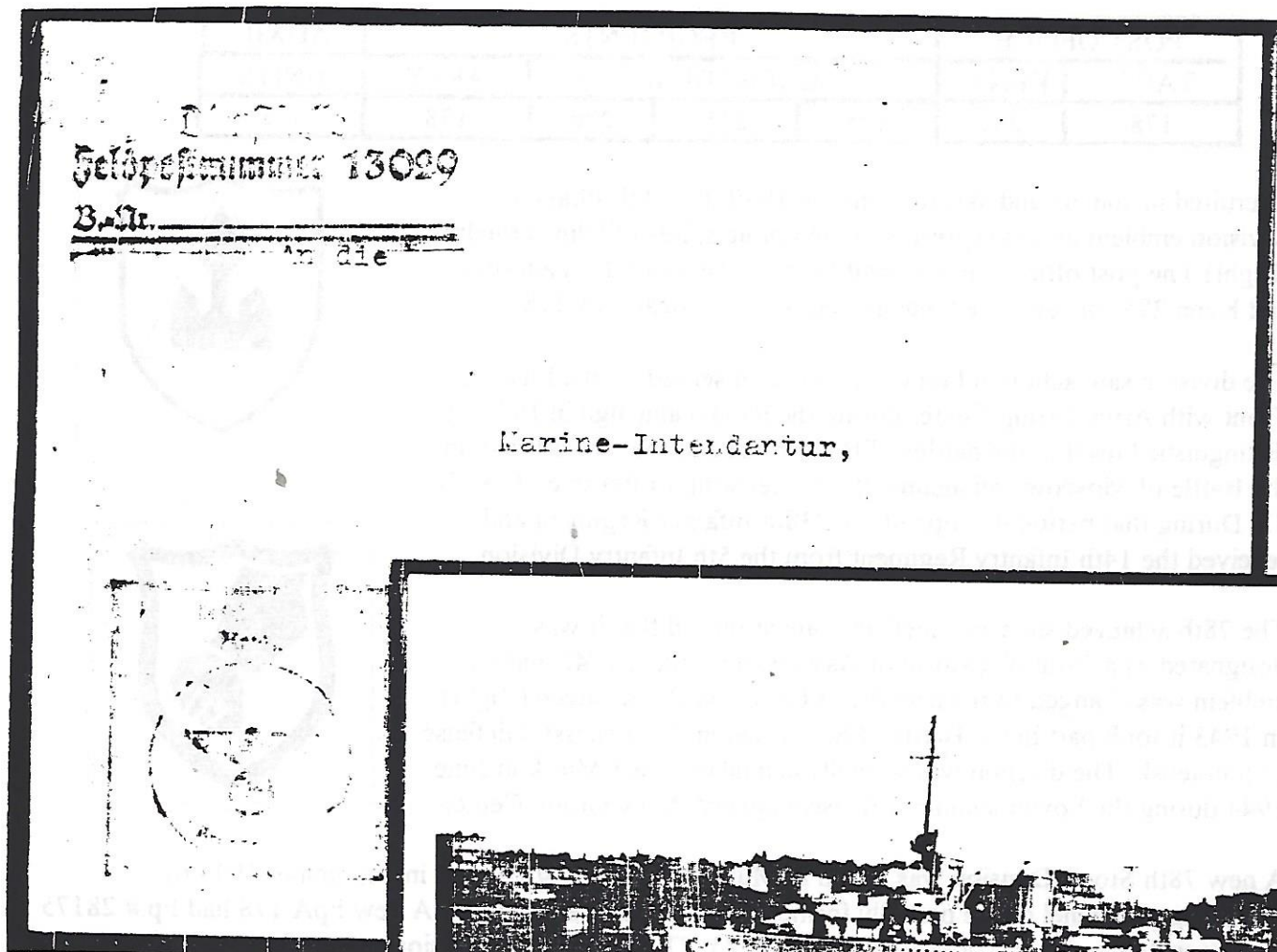
A new 78th Storm Division was raised at Munsingen Training Ground in September 1944 by absorbing personnel of the partially formed 543rd Grenadier Division. A new FpA 178 had Fp.# 28175 and Kenn 188 previously assigned to FpA 1543. The 78th Storm Division returned to action in southern Poland. It was again largely destroyed in January 1945 attempting to block the Russian drive into Silesia. The remnants finally surrendered to Red Army in Czechoslovakia during May 1945.

Cover sent to District Military Command in Konstanz in July 1942 from Fp. # 29152 (Regimental HQ/ Grenadier Rgt. 14) via P.O. 178 (K-295).



NAVAL LOG

Destroyer Z-8 'Bruno Heinemann' - Feldpost # 13029



The eighth of sixteen "Leberecht Maass" (Destroyer Type 1935 Z1-16) class ships. Built by AG Weser (Bremen), launched September 15, 1936. Namesake Kapitänleutnant Heinemann killed by Communist mutineers aboard SMS 'König' on November 5, 1918.

Struck mine and sunk Jan. 25, 1942 off eastern entrance to English Channel en route to Brest for Operation 'Cerebus' (dash of 'Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Prinz Eugen).

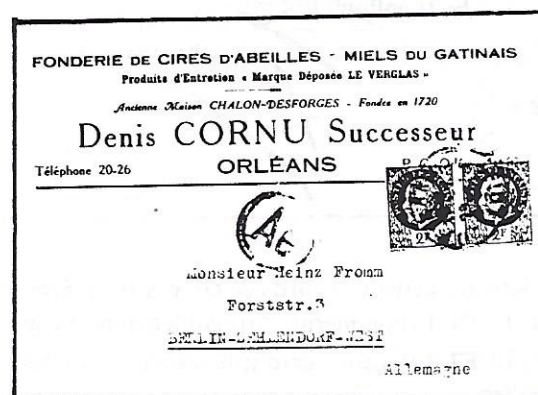
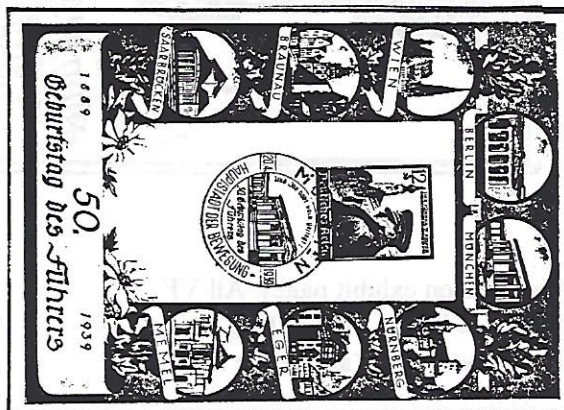
Cover to Naval HQ in Kiel received May 21, 1940 (date on backstamp).

TRSG AUCTION NO. 77

| Lot | Description | Min. Bid. |
|-----|--|-----------|
| 1. | Cvr frm Fp# Sch 17803 (Schützen= Coast Artillery) Marine Flak Abt. 234 mute can. 3.'44 F-VF | \$12.00 |
| 2. | Fp cvr frm Luftwaffe Signals Training Rgt. 7 (Augsburg, Germany) w/7 line mute mach. can. 3.'43 VF | 8.00 |
| 3. | Occu. Belgium: commercial cvr sent Dusseldorf to Antwerp July '40 w/ Cologne censor h/s & tape VF | 12.00 |
| 4. | Occu. Denmark - Hitler slogan postcard sent frm Karlsbrunn (Saar) 3.'44 w/ Frankfurt censor h/s VF | 8.00 |
| 5. | Hitler w/o Hat Birthday card (Borek 286-1/Bernhard. 358) Bedarfs w/Berlin 50th B'day SPC. VF | 12.00 |
| 6. | 1943 NSDAP in GG post card "Nacht du." w/Mi.106 tied Krakau SPC 13-15 Aug. '43 VF (Below Left) | 15.00 |
| 7. | 1939 Nuremberg Rally color postal card - Borek 272 (Mint) | 12.00 |
| 8. | 1941 Color card - 6. Reichsbundstag (Borek 298) tied by Wien SPC 5.10.41 (Below Right) | 12.00 |

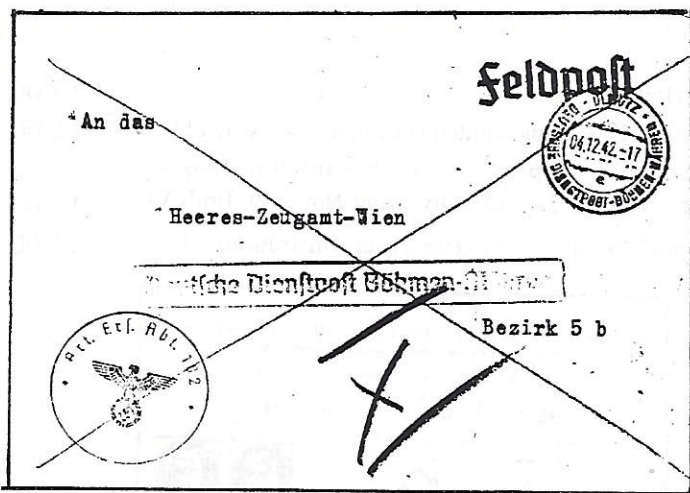


- | | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| 9. | Hitler 50th B'day card w/B'day stamp tied Munich SPC (Below Left) | 15.00 |
| 10. | Vichy France, comm cvr Orleans to Berlin 7 '42 w/pr Petain 2F stamps, voided cens tape (Below Right) | 12.00 |
| 11. | Two 1939 Feldpost items - 1) Report for Duty notice in cover frm Fp# 03533 (11. Kp./Inf. Rgt. 486) w/ Dec. '39 Fp cancel, 2). Postcard from Fp# 09109 (2. Sanitats Kp. 13/13 Inf. Div.) sent Nov. '39. Both VF | 12.00 |
| 12. | 1945 Reg. commercial cvr frm Vilbel b'stamped Waldheim March 15, 1945 (see cover illustration) VF | 15.00 |



- | | | |
|-----|---|-------|
| 13. | Parcel express receipt card for 8.3 kg to Army Garrison HQ in Mistelbach from Reichsbank Vienna in April '43 has h/s "Dringen Wehrmachtsache" (Armed Forces Business). Feldpost b'stmp. V-F | 10.00 |
| 14. | P'card for 2. Kreigs WHW (Borek 284) w/ Nürnberg Tag der Brief. SPC 1.12.41. (Signals Operator) VF | 8.00 |
| 15. | Bedarfs cover franked : w/Mi. 652-3,660& 662 cancel Woldstein 4.'35 | 5.00 |
| 16. | Bedarfs cover franked w/Mi. 764 (pair) , 765 and 786 can. Zethau 3.'41.F | 5.00 |

| <u>Lot</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Min. Bid</u> |
|------------------|--|-----------------|
| | The next 12 lots are books (which should be of particular interest to Feldpost collectors) included at request of deceased TRSG member's family. To hold down costs, books will be mailed Book Rate unless bidder requests otherwise. Note: HB = Hard Back & PB= Paper Back. | |
| 17. | Uniforms, Organization & History of the Afrika Korps by Bender & Law. 1973 HB 256 Pgs. 1st Ed. VF | 13.00 |
| 18. ^s | AfrikaKorps: An Illustrated History by Peter Stahl, Stanford, CA 1972, 176 Pgs. PB Large Format. VF | 10.00 |
| 19. | Gebirgsjager im Bild - 6th SS Gebirgs Div. 'NORD' 1940-45 (in German) by Alfred Steurich, Monin-Verlag Osnabrück, 1976, Large format 198 Pgs. fully illustrated history of this SS division. VF (Very Nice!) | 15.00 |
| 20. | Panzer by Philip Warner, Arthur Parker Ltd. (UK) 1972, 144 Pgs. HB. Comprehensive illustrated history of German armored vehicles w/ many color photos. VF | 12.00 |
| 21. | Grossdeutschland: Germany's Elite Panzer Force by James Lucas (UK) 1978, 152 Pgs., HB 2nd Edition. VF | 8.00 |
| 22. | War on the Eastern Front by James Lucas (UK) 1980, 161 Pgs., HB 1st Edition. VF. | 8.00 |
| 23. | The Eastern Front: The Soviet-German War 1941-45 by, J. W. Westwood, Military Press, 1984, 190 Pgs. Large Format. An illustrated history of war on Eastern Front. VF | 9.00 |
| 24. | Great Battles on the Eastern Front by Col. T. N DuPuy & Paul Martell, 1982, 249 Pgs. HB, 1st Edition VF | 8.00 |
| 25. | The Devil's Virtuosos: German Generals at War 1940-5 by D. Downing, 1977, 256 Pgs. HB 1st Ed. F-VF | 7.00 |
| 26. | The Rise of the Luftwaffe 1918-1940 by Herbert Mason Jr., Dial Press, 1973, 402 Pgs, HB F-VF | 7.00 |
| 27. | Lost Victories by Field Marshal von Manstein, Henry Regency, Chicago, 1958, HB (1st Ed. in English) F-VF | 9.00 |
| 28. | Film in the Third Reich by David S. Hull, 1973, PB, Analysis of Third Reich films (propaganda, etc.) VF | 8.00 |
| 29 | Occ. Ukraine - Fp cvr frm Fp.#11741 (Defense Btl. 856) w/ "mute" Soviet cancel 6.8.42. VF | 10.00 |
| 30. | DRK post card with quotation (Below Right) has 3 cancel variations (see reverse side on Page 3) VF | 14.00 |
| 31. | Boh.-Moravia - Feldpost cvr from Art. Ers. Abt. 102 has 12.'42. DDP Olmutz can. (Below Left) | 12.00 |
| 32. | Lot of 8 double usage Feldpost covers , 7 w/different type paste-overs, 1 turned inside out. Interesting. VF | 16.00 |



| | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| 33. | Next 7 lots are censored cards & covers from German POW camps on exhibit pages. All VF | |
| 33. | STALAG LUFT 1 (Pommern) - Airmail lettersheet frm British Pilot sent to USA 4. '41w/10 Pfg. stamp | 12.00 |
| 34. | STALAG LUFT 3 (Sagan) - card frm American Lt. sent to USA 12. '44 w/40 Pfg. Taxe percue h/s | 13.00 |
| 35. | STALAG XB - parcel receipt card to Danish Red Cross for food parcel dated 7.'42 | 10.00 |
| 36. | POW Hospital 5 (Nuremberg - Langwasser) -Fp cvr to Int. Red Cross w/mute 8.'42 cans. Hospital unit seal. | 13.00 |
| 36. | STALAG 329 - Fp. cvr w/unit seal Fp# 11007 (Stalag 329 in Poland) has 3.'42 mute Polish cancel. Scarce | 16.00 |
| 37 | STALAG XIIC - early French language form card sent to French POW in 1.'41 frm Tourlaville. | 12.00 |
| 38. | LABOR BTL. -free franked cvr to IRC frm Fp# 25729 (HQ, POW Construction & Work Battalion 47. Nice Fp. # censor h/s plus sealing tape & machine stamps Frankfurt censor office. Undated but VF & Scarce. | 15.00 |

PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 77 IS MAY 30, 1997
SEND ALL BIDS TO: JIM LEWIS, 111 MONTROSS AVE., RUTHERFORD, NJ 07070