



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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EDITORIAL

With this first issue of 1985 we look forward to another year of further growth and activities. I am particularly pleased with the quantity and quality of articles submitted by first-time authors. For those of you who have requested information on the "Deutsche Dienstpost" systems operated in the occupied territories, a major work detailing the DDP in the Netherlands has been completed by Gerhard deBoer. The first installment of this work appears in this issue and provides a wealth of information available in English for the first time. We hope to have similar treatments of DDP in Ostland, Ukraine, etc. in future bulletins.

Finally, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the many letters of support. I also encourage you to let me know if there are areas of Third Reich philately you'd like to see covered in the bulletin. It's your publication and I need your input.

Seasons Greetings

JEL

Study Group Notes

Robert J. Houston

It is my sad duty to inform you that Bob Houston passed away on November 5, 1984 after a long illness. Our sympathies go to his wife Jill and daughter Jeanne.

Bob's interest in European postal history was sparked initially during WW II when he served as an Ensign in the Merchant Marine in the Atlantic Theater.

An early member of the TRSG staff, Bob served 16 years as Secretary/Treasurer and doubled as Bulletin Editor for the past 10 years. In addition, he was Vice-President of the War Cover Club and served as President of GPS Chapter 6 for two terms.

Bob was a top-ranked exhibitor whose many postal history entries dealing with Feldpost and Censorship regularly won Golds at local and regional shows. In 1976 Bob's "Republic of Venice" won Best in Show at BALPEX and later competed in the Champion of Champions show in Boston. During that same year he won a Gold at INTERPEX, the International Philatelic Exhibit in Philadelphia.

A prolific writer, Bob was the author of numerous articles dealing with Feldpost and the German occupation of the Channel Islands. He was one of a small group of U.S. collectors to become interested in the coded number systems used to conceal the actual unit and post office designations on Feldpost. After many years of intense research and hundreds of hours viewing microfilmed German documents, the first sequential listing of 5-digit Feldpost number identifications was published as 'Projekt Himmelblau' - his "blue sky" project had become a reality. In 1979, the APS Writers Unit awarded a Vermeil to Bob for his TRSG article "Feldpost in North Africa".

These considerable accomplishments aside, Bob will be best remembered for his unselfish nature. Like many of you, I was influenced by the genuine enthusiasm he felt toward our hobby. He always had time to help a new collector and carefully shunned the "political" aspects of organized philately. He was a good guy and a dear friend. We'll miss him very much.

The Robert J. Houston Writer's Award

As a tribute to Bob, a TRSG RESEARCH AWARD will be given to those members contributing outstanding articles for the TRSG Bulletin. These awards, if merited, will be announced in the last Bulletin of each year and distributed to recipients. Formerly awarded only for Third Reich postal history exhibits displaying original research, the availability of this handsome plaque (see p. 35 of TRSG Bulletin No. 53) with the special inscription is intended to encourage would-be authors and to provide opportunities for members who do not enter postal history exhibitions. The TRSG Staff are excluded as potential recipients and will select winners by consensus.

NOJEX '84 - Secaucus, NJ - Oct. 26-28, 1984

A joint meeting of the TRSG and War Cover Club was held on Oct. 27th. TRSG Director Myron Fox announced the resignation of Jim Duffy as Co-Director. Now Vice-President of the GPS, Jim is one of our "alte Kämpfern" who served as Bulletin Editor from 1969 to 1976. During that period Jim single-handedly organized, typed and distributed the Bulletin, keeping our little publication alive during the lean years. Jim will retain his membership in the TRSG and we wish him continued success.

Our new publication "Waffen-SS Feldpost Numbers and Order of Battle" was discussed by Jim Lewis then offered for sale to WCC members. We were pleased that the small number of copies quickly sold out. A "Grosstauschtag" (swapping of info and material) followed the formal meeting. TSGRers in attendance included J. Chevernyak, T. Van Dam, H. Laessig, J. Lewis, A. Hecker, D. Mayo, R. Wright, F. Chmiel, the brothers Miskevich and L. Nelson.

NOJEX exhibits included a special war covers section. M. Fox received a Silver for "U.S. Censorship During WW II" and J. Lewis received a Vermeil and GPS award for "Fieldpost Offices of the German 16th Army in Northern Russia". A non-TRSG entry, "Holocaust Migration", had two very nice "Box 506" items.

"Projekt Himmelblau" SOLD OUT - the last 12 volume set of our most ambitious publication was purchased at NOJEX. We thank our members for the fine support given to this project.

MEMBER ADLET: I would like to purchase flags, medals, daggers, clothing, etc. of the Third Reich period. Please send description and prices to Robert Kresbaugh, 18415 Breezeway St., Fraser, MI 48026.

WHW LABELS - in response to the inquiry on p. 29 of Bulletin No. 71, Jim Duke submitted copies of several different sets which will be shown in a future Bulletin. Henry Wasielewski notes that such labels were displayed in windows to show that residents had contributed to the Winter Relief drive. Henry has the name of a dealer in California who carries two books (in German) detailing these labels. If interested, write Henry at 487 Mercer St., Jersey City, NJ 07306.

CONCENTRATION CAMP MAIL - several of you have asked for a list of available literature on this subject. Two highly recommended works are "Concentration Camp and Ghetto Mail System Under the Nazi Regime" by Henry F. Kahn (28 page softcover booklet in \$ 3 price range) and "A Postal History of the Mail in the Concentration Camps 1939-1945" by Sam Simon (A comprehensive work in hard cover for \$ 25.00). Both of these books are available from the Judaica Historical Philatelic Society, 80 Bruce Ave., Yonkers, NY 07306.

Welcome to New Members:

CHMIEL, Frank - 350 Marc Drive, Toms River, NJ 08753

KRETZ, Michael J. - 91 Fernott Drive, Lancaster, NY 14086

Deutsche Dienstpost Niederlande

by Gerard J. deBoer

FORWARD

Very little has been published in this country about Deutsche Dienstpost in general. The main work is Dr. Hermann Schultz's "Deutsche Dienstpost 1939-1945", which of course is in German. With these two limiting factors in mind the following article was written, to give the non-German reader a better understanding of the German mail system in operation in Holland during World War II. Some of the material is from Dr. Schultz's book and some from the works of Drs. van Doorn, who was kind enough to supply me with many copies of records from the DDPN Archives in Amsterdam.

INTRODUCTION

The German Blitzkrieg in the West, code-named 'Fall Gelb' (Case Yellow), began at 3:30 a.m. on May 10, 1940, when Army Group B under General von Bock invaded the Netherlands and northern Belgium. The armies involved in Holland were the 18th Army under Gen. von K  chler and the 6th Army under Gen. von Reichenau. The 6th Army's objective was to attack French and British forces and to reach them it moved through southern Holland, one wing via Eindhoven, the other via the Maastricht area. It consisted of the 3rd and 4th Panzer Divisions, eleven Infantry Divisions and some Air Landing Troops.

The main invasion force was the 18th Army, with X and XXVI Corps. Its 1st Cavalry Division crossed the borders of the provinces of Groningen and Drenthe, between Nieuwe Schans and Coevorden, and raced towards the "Afsluitdijk" (Great Enclosure Dam). The 227th Infantry Division moved into eastern Holland, near Oldenzaal, then crossed the river IJssel and assaulted the "Grebbeberg" (Grebbe Fortress), scene of the heaviest fighting. The motorized regiment Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler was included in this force but was withdrawn the next day and sent to the province of Brabant.

The XXVI Corps, containing the largest number of troops, moved into Holland south of the great rivers, through the province of North Brabant and into the heavily populated western part, which became known as "Festung Holland" (Fortress Holland). This plan of action was suggested by Gen. Kurt Student and called for the capture of the main axis Moerdijk-Dordrecht-Rotterdam. The strategic bridge at Moerdijk was taken by the 9th Panzer Division. The SS Standarte "Deutschland" went to the island of Walcheren while SS Standarte "Germania" moved on to Antwerp. The 208th, 225th, 254th and 256th Infantry Divisions crossed the Maas River and occupied western Brabant.

The Luftwaffe's objective was to capture the airfields of Ypenburg, Valkenburg and Ockenburg, as well as to occupy the city of The Hague and to attempt the capture of the Dutch Government. Glider and parachute troops quickly seized most of their objectives but a stout defense of The Hague allowed Queen Wilhelmina and the Dutch Government to escape to England on May 13, where they would rule-in-exile from London. On the next day an impatient Hitler ordered the bombing of Rotterdam, a brutal act for negotiations for its surrender were under way when the planes appeared. That same evening, May 14, all Dutch troops were ordered to stop fighting. The armistice was signed the next day at Rijsoord near Rotterdam by Gen. Winkelman, Commander of Dutch Armed Forces and Gen. von K  chler.

After the end of military actions, it was necessary for the Germans to establish civilian and military administrations in Holland. On May 18, 1940, Hitler appointed Dr. Arthur Seyss-Inquart as Reichs Commissioner for the Occupied Territory of the Netherlands, in charge of the administration of the civil government in The Hague. The Dutch quickly nicknamed him "6-1/4" which, when pronounced, sounds just like Seyss-Inquart. Although the top civil authorities were replaced by Germans, Dutch middle and lower civil servants could remain in office providing they were loyal to the occupation forces. Soon every large city had a local civil administrative Reiko office, accountable to the Reichs Commissar, whose main office was in The Hague, although a separate office was maintained for him in Berlin.

Luftwaffe Gen. Friedrich Christiansen was appointed Military Commander ("Wehrmachtbefehlshaber") and Gen. d. Inf. Hans Reinhard as Commander of Troops in the Netherlands ("Befehlshaber der Truppen in den Niederlanden") with headquarters in Hilversum. These impressive titles, however, amounted to little more than a garrison command. The country was divided into three FK ("Feldkommandantur") Administrative H.Q.

After the initial invasion forces had moved into Belgium and France, relatively weak occupation troops stayed behind while military supply units, hospitals and other support troops moved in. A Luftwaffe hospital was established in Amsterdam, a Naval hospital in Bergen op Zoom and a Waffen-SS hospital in The Hague.

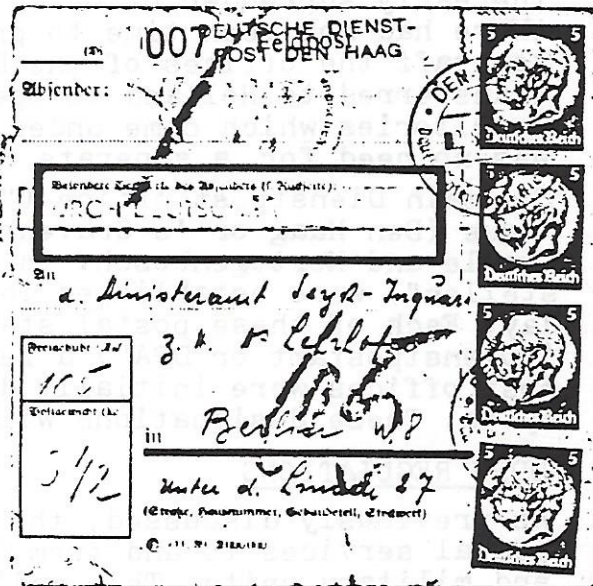


Fig. 1) Package card sent from Den Haag to Seyss-Inquart's office in Berlin August 1941.

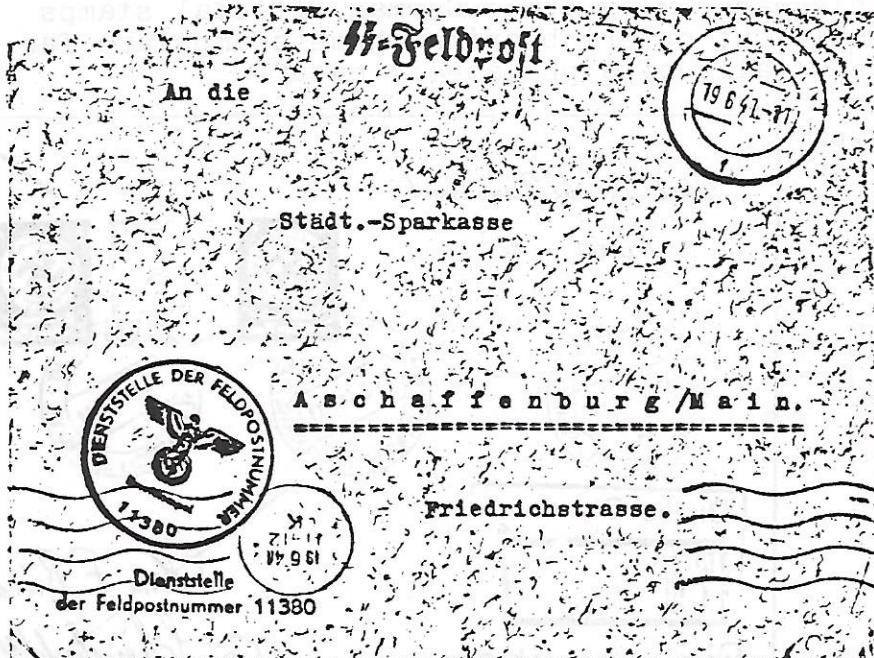


Fig. 2) SS-Feldpost cover sent from the Supply Depot of the Waffen-SS in The Hague (Fp.#11380) in June 1941 has mute cancel with code letter 'f'.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DIENSTPOST SYSTEM

After being briefly interrupted during the hectic days in May, the railway and postal services were quickly restored to service. The Post Office and Railroad Agency were linked to, and supervised by, the German postal and transportation authorities. However, because of possible sabotage and espionage activities by the Dutch postal service, a separate German postal system was deemed necessary to handle the mail to and from the various Reiko offices, NSDAP offices and military units. Thus, on June 5, 1940, the German Official Postal Service in the Netherlands ("Deutsche Dienstpost Niederlande", abbreviated DDPN) was established.

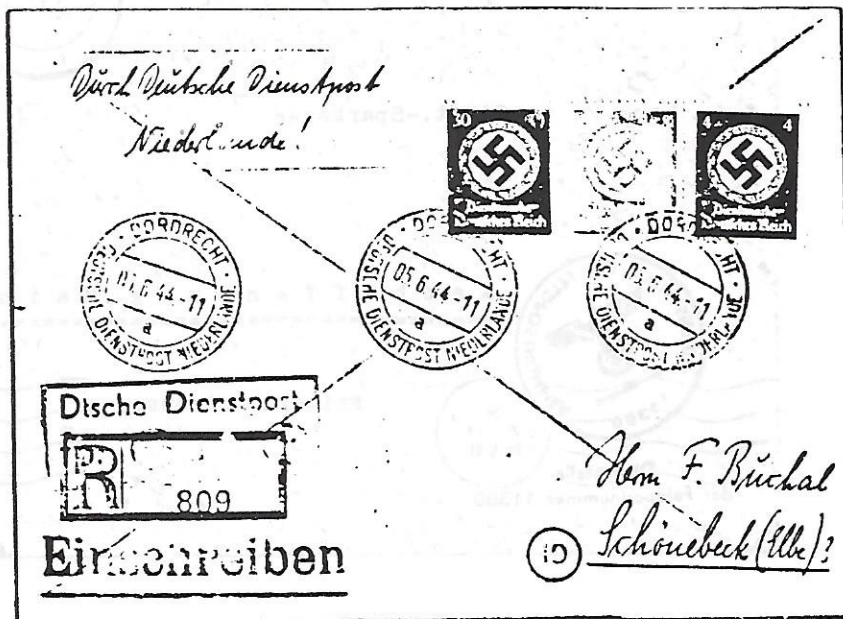
The early surrender of Dutch forces had not been foreseen, hence there had not been time to properly train German civilians needed to staff the offices of the DDPN. Feldpost personnel were therefore transferred to Holland to operate the DDPN. As in the other occupied territories which came under German civilian administrations, there was no need for a separate military postal system.

The main Dienstpost office ("Hauptdienstpostamt") was located in The Hague (Den Haag or 's Gravenhage in Dutch) with other offices in Zwolle and Hertogenbosch. In addition, Postal Stations ("Dienstpoststellen") were established in Amsterdam and Rotterdam on that same day. Each of these postal stations was upgraded to a full post office ("Dienstpostamt or DPA") a few weeks later. These first five Dienstpost offices were initially designated in Feldpost code as Fp 1a thru Fp 5a. These designations will be detailed in a following section.

DDPN REGULATIONS

As previously discussed, the main purpose of the DDPN was to provide postal services to and from Germany for civil administration offices and military units. This mail was handled free of charge but German civilian and commercial mail required postage at domestic German rates. Only German stamps were permitted and these were sold at all DDPN offices. Until April 1, 1941, stamps had to be purchased with Dutch currency, after this date either Gulden or Reichsmarks were accepted. NSDAP mail could also be franked with Nazi Party stamps but for some reason this was rarely done. German Official stamps were used more frequently but covers bearing these stamps are far from plentiful and are usually of a philatelic nature.

Fig. 3) Registered cover posted at DDPN office in Dordrecht in June '44 is franked with Official stamps. Such frankings were available upon request for philatelic "Sonderstempel" orders sent to the DDPN office in Den Hague.



A number of Dutch businesses, such as Philips, Fokker Aircraft Co. and others, were permitted use of the DDPN if they were working for or with the Germans. Such DDPN privileges were not granted automatically but had to be formally requested.

All administrative and commercial Dienstpost mailings were required to display a diagonal blue cross on the address side and the notation "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost Niederlande" (which could be handstamped, handwritten, typed or printed) enclosed in a red box. Feldpost sent through DDPN was exempt from these requirements.

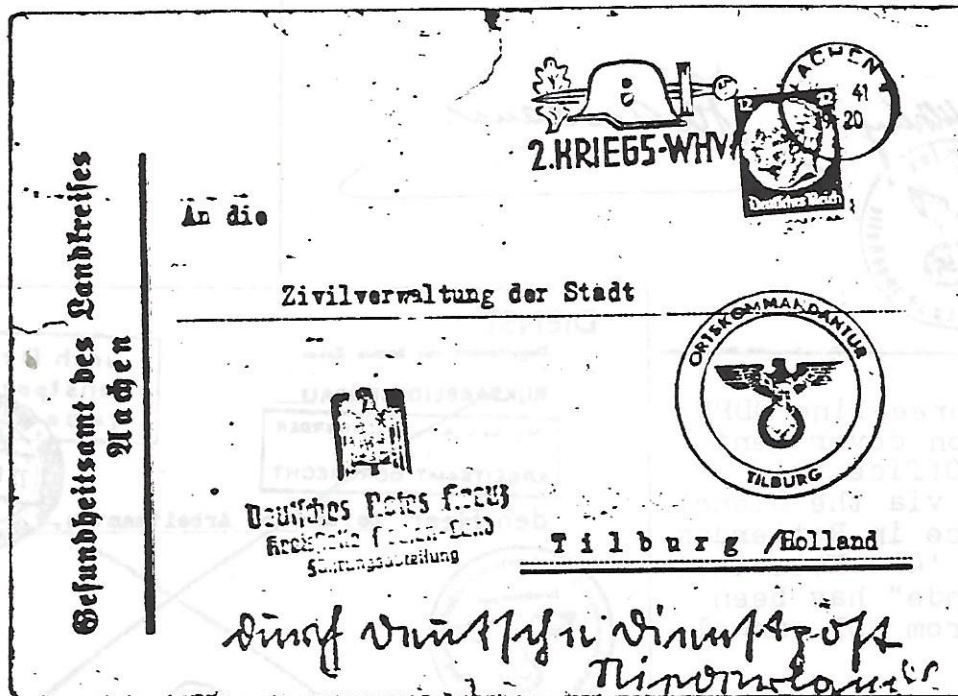


Fig. 4) Red Cross item from Aachen addressed to Tilburg has manuscript notation "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost Niederlande" and receiving stamp of the military administrative HQ in Tilburg.

While regulations specified a boxed notation in red, numerous types exist without the red box (Fig. 5). The notation text also varies from for instance "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost in den Niederlande" to just a simple "Dienstpost" or "Dienst". While two- and three-line notations were used, the most common is a boxed one-line in Latin type measuring 0.8 x 10.7 cm. If the sender had forgotten to mark his envelopes with the blue cross, which was to denote priority handling by the German postal service, DDPN clerks frequently added this marking.

One of the general rules of all Dienstpost services was that mail could not be delivered to the addressee but had to be picked up at the Dienstpost office. Those German civilian or military personnel located in areas without a DDPN office or station could deposit or receive mail in designated "Abhol und Abgabestellen" (pick up and delivery stations).

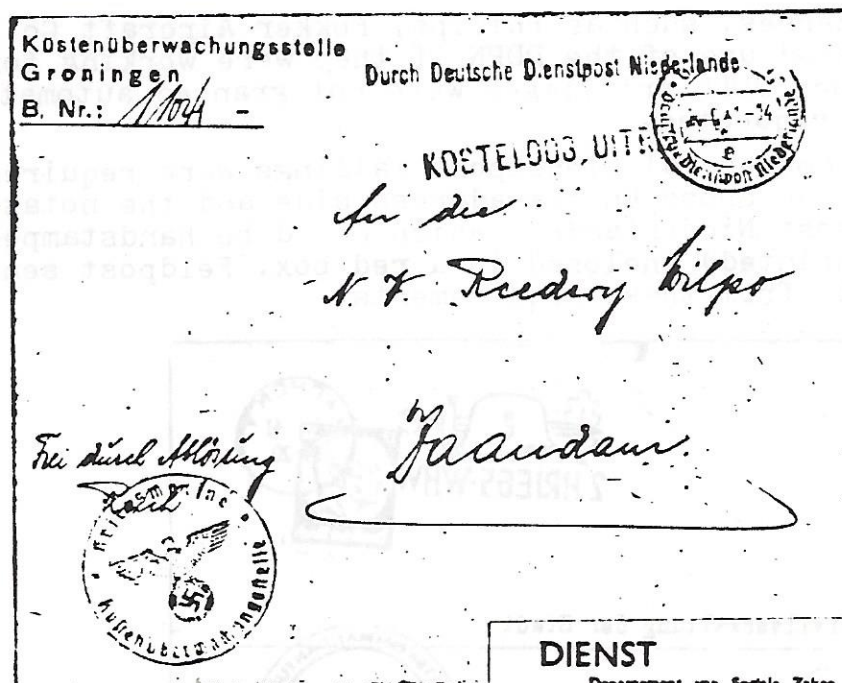
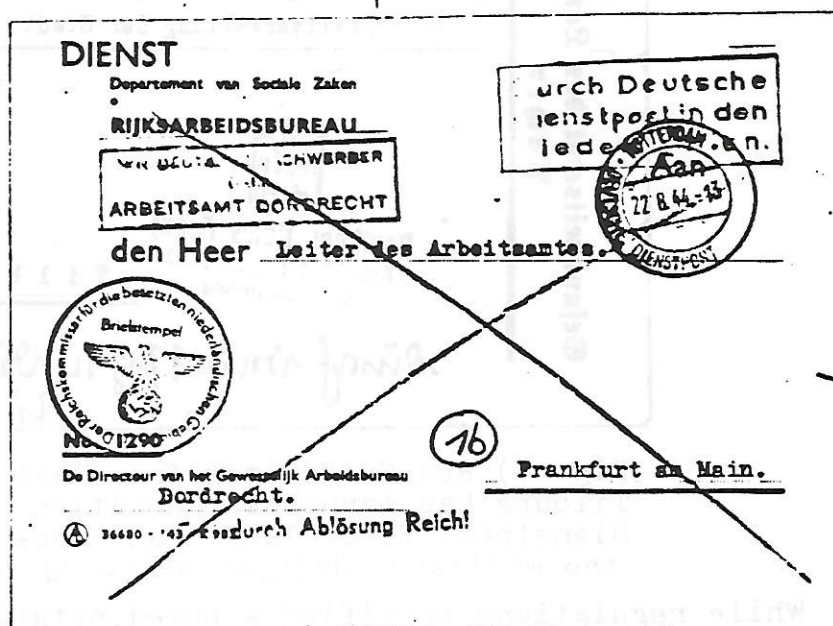


Fig. 5) Official Kriegsmarine cover from the coastal surveillance office in Groningen sent June '41 has DDPN notation without boxed outline.

Fig. 6) Three-line DDPN notation on cover sent by Labor Office in Dordrecht via the Dienstpost office in Rotterdam in August '44. Note that "Niederlande" has been deleted from DDP cancel.



There were 23 such stations in Holland as of December 1940, located at German military installations or garrison commands and were staffed by military personnel, not by DDPN personnel. Use of the Dutch civil postal service was expressly forbidden, even personal correspondence had to go via DDPN channels. This was apparently frequently ignored, for a routine order from the "Wehrmachtbefehlshaber" (Armed Forces Commander) dated Feb. 26, 1941 emphasized once again that military personnel were required to use the Feldpost and not the Dutch postal system. Violations of this regulation were punishable.

The only exception to this regulation was in cases where neither a DDP office nor an "Abholstelle" was located. In such cases the nearest Dutch office could handle the first or final legs of the postal transmission. Fig. 7 shows a cover sent from the Armed Forces Commander in Den Haag to a lumber yard in nearby Zaandam which was handed over to the Dutch post office in Den Haag by the DDPN for delivery. Dutch offices backstamped such mail.

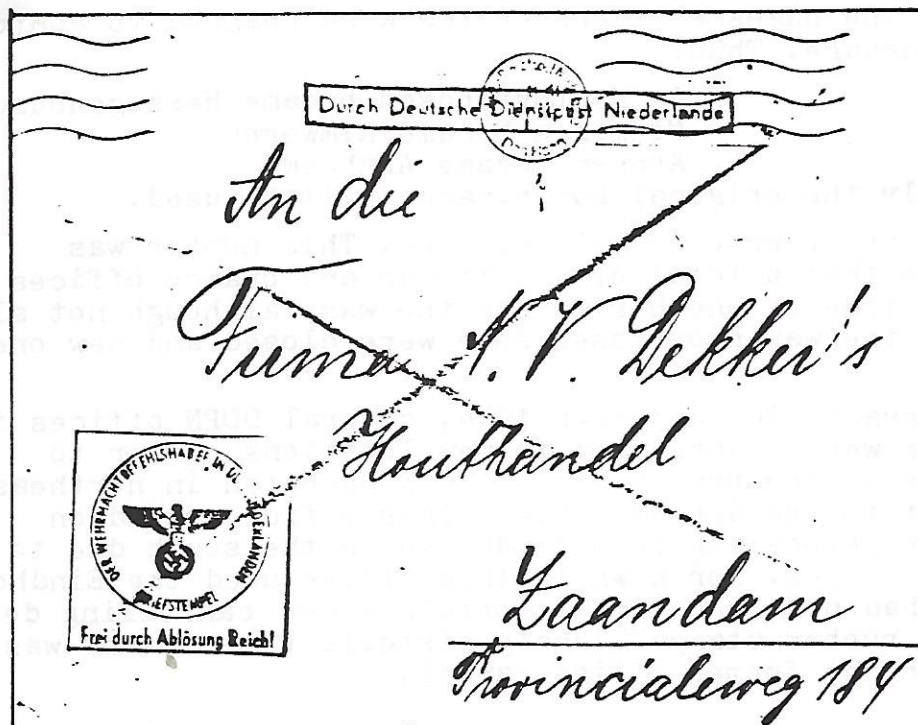
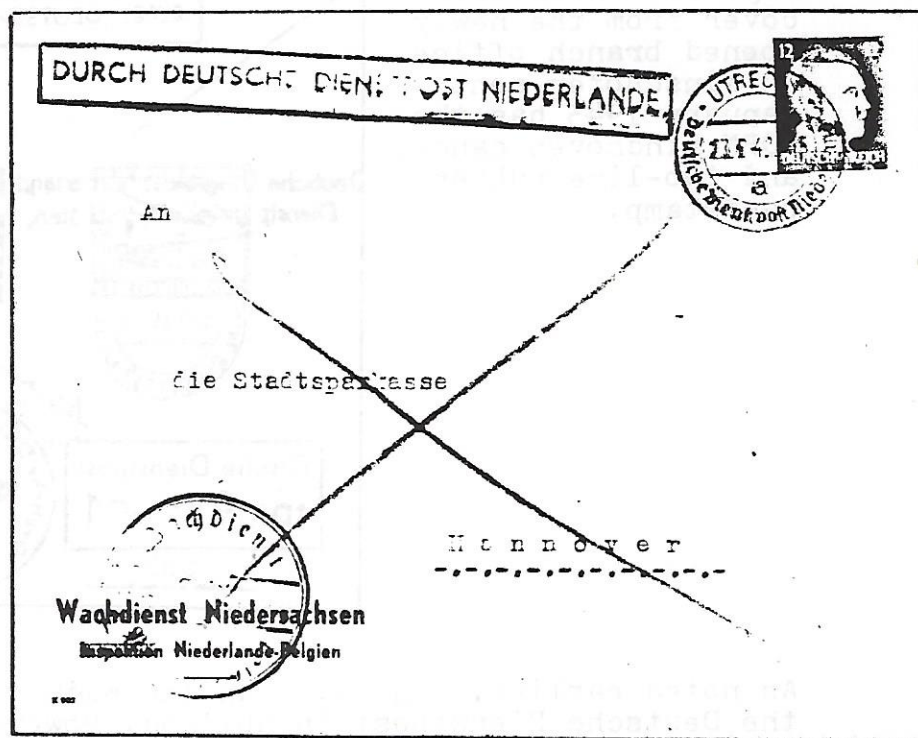


Fig. 7) Postage free cover with exemption note "Frei durch Ablösung Reich!" has machine cancel of the DDPN office in Den Haag and boxed notation handstamped.

DDPN transmitted this item to Dutch P.O. in Den Haag to be delivered by the Dutch (PTT) P.O. in Zaandam. Dutch backstamp (below) was applied in Den Haag.



Fig. 8) Cover from member of Security Inspection sent to Savings Bank in Hannover via DDPN office in Utrecht. Such private mail required postage at domestic German rate. The DDPN cancel is a 28.5 mm handstamp which is the most common type used by DDPN offices.



EXPANSION OF THE DDPN

Holland was strategically located as a base for "Unternehmen Seelöwe" (Operation Sea Lion), the invasion of England. During the Summer of 1940 there were large army and navy build-ups in Holland. Several airbases and coastal defense fortifications were built. These required not only German military personnel but German and Dutch construction companies employing thousands of laborers. The five original DDPN offices could not possibly handle the additional volume of mail, so new offices were continuously added in various parts of the country.

During this period the names of three cities were changed to conform with the German language. Thus:

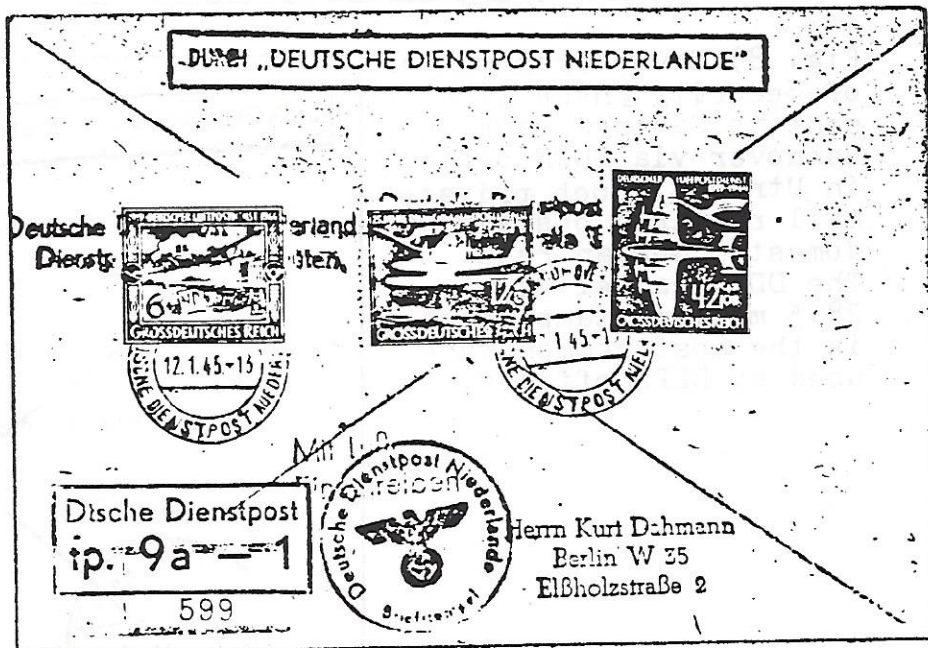
's Hertogenbosch became Herzogenbusch
Nijmegen became Nimwegen
Arnhem became Arnheim

In this article only the original Dutch names will be used.

By the end of 1940 there were 22 DDPN offices. This number was further expanded so that a total of 40 offices and branch offices were in use at one time or another during the war, although not all simultaneously. As the war progressed some were closed and new ones were opened.

After the Allied assault in September 1944, several DDPN offices in the south closed or were transferred to new locations closer to Germany. An example is the branch office in Winschoten in northeastern Holland, right next to the German border. This office opened on Oct. 21, 1944 after relocating from Eindhoven in the south due to the approaching Allied armies. For a while this office used the Eindhoven canceler as there had not been time to obtain a new cancelling device. A hastily produced rubber stamp "Dienstpoststelle Winschoten" was used in conjunction with the former office cancel.

Fig. 10) Philatelic cover from the newly opened branch office in Winschoten sent January 1945 has the DDPN Eindhoven cancel and two-line rubber handstamp.



As noted earlier, Den Haag was the main office ("Hauptpostamt") of the Deutsche Dienstpost in Holland. However, this was relocated to the city of Deventer on March 21, 1943 because of the danger of a possible Allied landing. The director of the DDPN, Dr. Linnemeyer, also moved that same month from Den Haag to Arnhem and then even further east to Oldenzaal in October 1944.

A "Feldpostpäckchensammelstelle" (Feldpost Package Collection Station) was opened in Nijmegen on Sept. 22, 1943 to handle small packages sent from Holland to Germany by military personnel. It's existence was short lived, for on Feb. 2, 1944 it was totally destroyed during an Allied air raid. Postal markings from this office are not known.

Construction of fortifications on the "Atlantic Wall" and Naval installations on the coast of Holland resulted in large increases of Air Force and Navy personnel. In order to lessen the burden of nearby DDPN offices, a special "Luftgaupostamt" (Air District Post Office) and "Marinepostamt" (Navy post office) were opened in Amsterdam. From there all mail went by rail or by courier service to Germany. While no "Marinspostamt" postal markings are known, those used by "Luftgau-postamt" are detailed in a following section.

TRANSPORT OF DDPN MAIL

DDPN mail to and from Germany was normally transported by rail ("Deutsche Bahnpost") or by air. An elaborate postal network of automobile routes was used to distribute or pick up mail from the various DDPN offices. The DDPN offices in Hengelo, Oldenzaal and Arnhem, located near the German border, sometimes transmitted mail by courier to German border stations at Bentheim and Emmerich. The "Merkblatt über Dienst- und Feldpost", dated 1940, lists four such lines between Holland and Germany and nine lines inside Holland, as well as two railway lines between Den Haag and Berlin. These were trains #111 and 137 east bound and #112 and 138 on the return trip.

Such was the situation in the early days of the war when many rail lines could not be used because the Dutch had blown up most of the railway bridges to slow down the German advance. As the rail system was gradually restored, the DDPN switched more and more from bus to train transport. The "Kursheft der Bahnpost- und Kraftwagenlinien" for the Netherlands dated Dec. '43 lists 16 rail lines (4 to Germany & 12 inside Holland) but only two automobile routes. These lines remained in use until Sept. 17, 1944, when the Dutch Government-in-exile in London ordered a national railroad strike to coincide with the start of "Operation Market-Garden", the Allied armored/airborne operation whose goal was the capture of the Rhine bridge at Arnhem. This strike not only affected German supply lines, it also reduced the transport of mail to a virtual standstill. For the next few months the DDPN operated chaotically, until January 1945 when two railway lines in eastern and northern Holland were finally reopened, one from Utrecht to Germany via Hengelo and Oldenzaal, the other from Zutphen to Germany via Groningen. Both of these trains ran only at night and carried both DDPN and some Dutch inland mail in sealed pouches. Permission for this had been given by the DDPN office in Oldenzaal on Dec. 28, 1944 in a letter distributed to all offices. Incoming mail from Germany which had to be handed over to the Dutch PTT was sent to Deventer, which at that time was the main office of the DDPN. Fortress Holland in the west, however, remained virtually without a rail system.

New instructions from the "Bahnbevollmächtigter" (railroad representative) in Utrecht required that as of Jan. 1, 1945, all Dienstpost mail sent by rail within Holland will have "EDS mit Zug" (Railway station by train) in the lower left corner of the envelope. Such mail could be taken to train stations at Amersfoort, Amsterdam, Almelo, Apeldoorn, Den Haag, Groningen, Hengelo, Leeuwarden, Utrecht, Zutphen & Zwolle.

In cases where mail was to be sent to DDPN offices which could not be reached by train, the last train station was to add "Durch Vermittlung des Bahnhofs X-Stadt" (through arrangement of station X) to the envelope, with "X" denoting the closest station to the actual destination. From there the mail was to be delivered to the DDPN office by courier service on bicycle. Covers with these markings are extremely rare.

The railroad strike by Dutch personnel lasted until the end of the war.

Table 1. DDPN Post Offices
(with opening dates)

Amsterdam	June 6, 1940	's Hertogenbosch	June 6, 1940
Arnhem	June 17, 1940	Oldenzaal	Oct. 23, 1944
Deventer	Sept. 7, 1940	Rotterdam	June 6, 1940
Den Haag	June 6, 1940	Utrecht	June 13, 1940
Hengelo	Apr. 27, 1942	Zwolle	June 6, 1940

Table 2. DDPN Branch Offices
(with opening dates)

Alkmaar	Dec. 10, 1940	Groningen	June 16, 1942
Almelo	Nov. 26, 1944	Haarlem	June 12, 1940
Amersfoort	Aug. 15, 1940	Harderwijk	1943
Apeldoorn	Mar. 22, 1943	Den Helder	Oct. 18, 1940
Assen	June 20, 1940	Hilversum	Apr. 20, 1942
Baarn	Aug. 18, 1944	Leeuwarden	June 16, 1940
Bergen op Zoom	Sept. 5, 1940	Maastricht	June 19, 1940
Breda	June 20, 1940	Middelburg	June 23, 1940
Bûssum	1941	Nijmegen	1940
Dordrecht	Nov. 20, 1940	Roosendaal	1944
Ede	Aug. 30, 1940	Tilburg	June 5, 1944
Eindhoven	Aug. 30, 1940	Venlo	June 20, 1940
Emmen	Dec. 15, 1944	Winschoten	Oct. 21, 1944
Goes	Feb. 10, 1944	Zutphen	Oct. 24, 1944

Table 3. DDPN Postal Stations

Harlingen	Dec. 27, 1944
Ijmuiden	1943

Table 4. "Abholstellen" as of Dec. 1940

Delft	Gorinchem	Leiden	Sittard
Delfzijl	Heerenveen	Monnikendam	Soesterberg
Doetinchem	Helmond	Oldebroek	Uithuizen
Domburg	Huizen	Purmerend	Vlissingen
Edam	Jaarsveld	Roermond	Zaandam
Gouda	Kootwijk	Scheveningen	



8.7.48. '84

Location of DDPN offices (underlined) and branch offices

1940 - 1945

(To be continued)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE STAMPS

by Tom Gobby

Shown below are a number of GG Revenue (?) stamps and a Winter Relief Fund label which I obtained many years ago. Does anyone know how these stamps were used by government agencies in German-occupied Poland?



Brown-Black



Violet-Brown



Orange-Red



Lilac



Bluish Green



Brown-Red



Brown-Red



Dark Brown



Brown

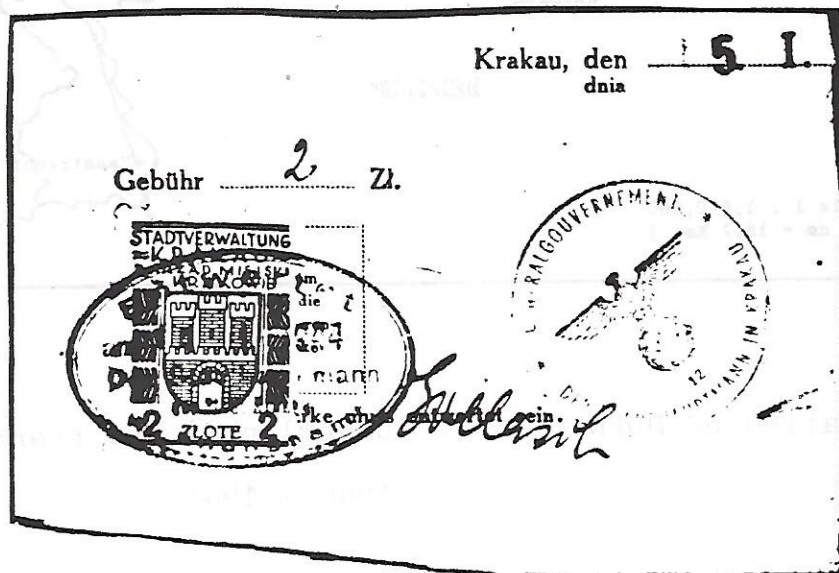


Olive-Brown



Orange

The stamp on this piece is Black on Yellow/Buff paper.



"Ausstellung 1918" Update

An interesting advertisement for this exhibit (Fig. 1) is provided by Franklin Prosser. The front side is a parody 500 milliarden Reichsbank Note of Oct. 26, 1923. Franklin states that the leaflet measures 105 x 84mm whereas a genuine banknote was 138 x 65mm. Text on the back notes that because of the inflation created by "Jewish speculation", this banknote represents the price of 1 kilogram of bread in 1923.

As the war advanced and the expected German victory appeared more and more remote, Propaganda Minister Goebbels initiated his "strength through fear" campaign aimed at imbuing the German masses and Germany's allies with the determination to bear the harshness and inconveniences of war rather than face an infinitely worse situation in a crushed fatherland. "Strength through Fear" could only be gained by producing a nightmarish image of the deeds the enemy would commit should Germany be defeated. Fear of this dreadful possibility was to make the last German man and woman prefer to die stoically than to live as a slave under a foreign yoke.



Fig. 1)

Fünfhundert Milliarden Reichsmark = 500.000 Millionen = 500.000.000.000 RM

Dafür erhielt man 1 kg Brot während der Inflation, die durch die hemmungslose jüdische Spekulation hervorgerufen wurde. Der Verlust aller Ersparnisse, Arbeitslosigkeit, Hunger und entsetzliche Not waren die weiteren Folgen des „gerechten“ Friedens der Freiheit und Unabhängigkeit, die uns unsere englischen und amerikanischen „Freunde“ versprochen hatten.

Am 16. Juli 1919 hat die Nationalversammlung der deutschösterreichischen Republik zu dem Friedensdiktat einstimmig folgende Entschließung angenommen:

„Das, was dem Volk Deutsch-Österreich in diesem Frieden gegeben wird, ist kein Friede der Versöhnung, es ist ein Vernichtungsfriede. Dieser Friede bedeutet für uns nicht Erlösung aus den Qualen des Krieges, er bedeutet für uns ihre Verlängerung, er bedeutet Hunger, Not, Elend und Verderben.“

Die Groûsausstellung 1918

zeigt in Originaldarstellungen Ursachen und Folgen des Zusammenbruchs von 1918. Sie beweist auch Überzeugend, daß sich in diesem Krieg die Ereignisse des Jahres 1918 nicht wiederholen werden.

Wir werden diesen Kampf fortsetzen bis zum Sieg!

Jeder Wiener, jede Wienerin muß die Ausstellung 1918 gesehen haben.

18. Dezember 1943 - 29. Februar 1944 im Messelpalast, Wien VII.

Täglich (auch Sonntag) von 9 bis 19 Uhr.

Eintrittspreis: An der Tageskasse 50 Rpf. - Vorverkaufskarten zum ermäßigten Preise von 40 Rpf. erhältlich bei allen Ortsgruppen, Dienststellen und Amtswaltern der NSDAP, der DAJ, der NS-Frauenenschaft, in den Verkaufsstellen der NS-Gemeinschaft „KdF“, sowie bei zahlreichen Organisationen und Verbänden.

Therefore, an exhibition reminding the German people of the suffering which had resulted from the harsh terms demanded by the victorious Allied Powers would serve to stiffen their resolve to see the current conflict in terms of no alternative but victory. As noted in the Ad, the Exhibition 1918 was held at the Messepalast in Vienna from Dec. 18, 1943 to Feb. 29, 1944. General admission was 50 Rpf. with a 20% discount available to members of Nazi organizations.



Fig. 2) An example of the Advertising leaflet which has Hitler stamps tied by the special Exhibit cancel used by a temporary P.O. located in the exhibit.

Note: illustration appears in the numismatic journal The Shekel, Vol. 18, No.4.

Additional photocards sold at the exhibit include a display of political posters (Fig. 3) from Communists, Social Democrats, etc. circa 1920s submitted by Bob Buxton. Art Carey sent in a card (Fig. 4) titled "Schwarze Schmach" (Black Outrage) refers to the occupation of the Rhein-Ruhr area by black French colonial troops from Africa. The cross on the left has an inscription for a German shot at this location by French troops on 26 May 1923. The other two photos are of the colonial troops.



The three cards shown below were sent in by Jim Duke. At least two of these seem designed specifically for the citizens of Vienna. It may have been deemed politically necessary to do so because of the surrender of Italy and ever approaching Soviet forces.



Fig. 5) Photos of Allied occupation troops in Vienna in 1919 plus a morale-building slogan that the "Conquerer" will not have it so easy this time.

Fig. 6) Nazi eagle upon pedestal. The inscription is not legible but has "1917" and appears to be a memorial to the dead of WW I.

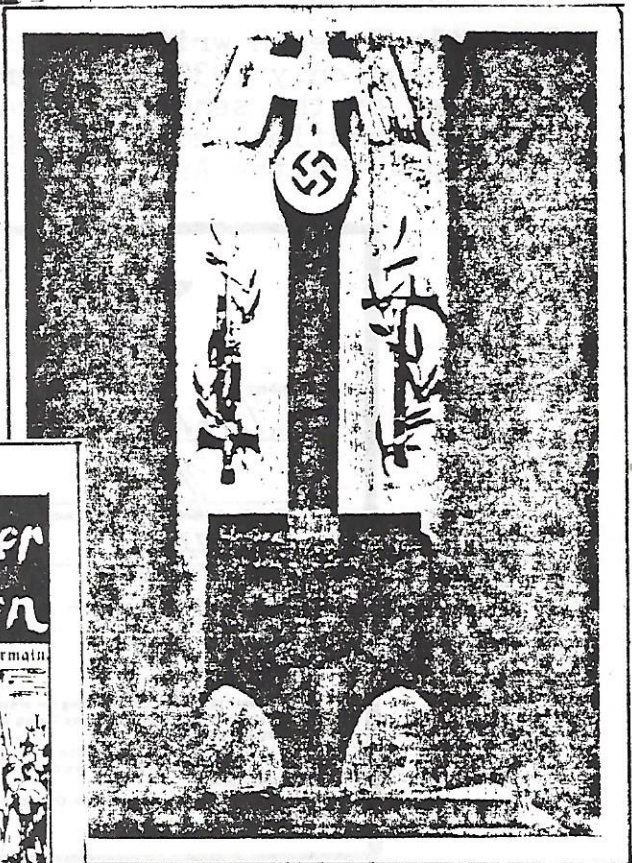


Fig. 7) Political cartoons denounce the "Peace of Disgrace". Although voted by the new Austrian republic in March, 1919, union with Germany was forbidden by the Allies on political grounds in the Treaty of St. Germain (September, 1919).

1937 MANEUVERS - LEITSTELLE TREPTOW?



by John Norris

In his classic "Kleines Handbuch der Deutschen Feldpost" (Graz 1952), Alfred Clement stated that mail to and from military units taking part in the 1937 "Herbstmanöver" is routed through civilian postoffices ("Leitstellen") in the towns of Güstrow, Pasewalk, Neustrelitz and Treptow.

The 1979 TRSG article "The 1937 Maneuvers" (Bulletin #53) by R. Houston casts doubt about a Treptow Leitstelle as this location was not listed in the German Army documents which appear in U.S. Archives microfilm roll T78-374.

A similar conclusion must have been reached by the Feldpost Study Group in Germany ("Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutsche Feldpost 1939-1945 e.V.") which supplied the text for the 1983 Michel Feldpost catalog. The section "Wehrmacht Manöver 1937" (page 33) does not list Treptow as the fourth leitstelle.

Recently I began writing up some of my Feldpost covers and on checking my one and only 1937 Maneuver card, I noticed that the Leitstelle is given by the sender as Treptow. Does anyone have similar cards with this designation and/or an opinion as to why this routing office would not appear in the Army records?

	Postkarte Wehrmachtmanöver 1937	
Absender: <u>Lieghard Wald</u> (Name) <u>Vlt.</u> (Dienstgrad (Soldat, Gefreiter, Leutnant usw.)) <u>0469</u> (Feldpostnummer) <u>Treptow</u> (Leitstelle)	<u>Serra</u> <u>Flammar Vorst</u> <u>Treptow - A. 4</u> <u>Tauschstraße 75</u> (Straße, Haus-Nr., Seitenstr., Stockwerk, Postfach-Nummer)	
Zur Beachtung! Diese Karte ist nur zur Einlieferung bei einem Feldpostamt bestimmt; sie wird dann ohne Anlag von Postgebühren befördert. Wird die Karte durch die Briefkästen oder bei den Ortspostämtern eingeleitet, so werden die gewöhnlichen Postgebühren nachgehoben. Die Karte darf nur nach Orten in Deutschland verschickt werden.		
G 4102 37 HD		

Maneuver postcard with Feldpost cancel No. 621 used by "Neutral" troops in Neubrandenburg. The sender was a corporal belonging to the 1st Grenzschutz Division. Left side of card has the sender's name, rank, 4-digit Feldpost number and routing office ("Leitstelle") Treptow.

THE BOOKS OF WOLF WILLRICH
by Tony Barrett

The recent review of Willrich cards by Robert Brooks (TRSG Bulletin 68) provided a most useful guide to the subject, to be appreciated not only by the specialist but also by those like myself who previously had only hazy notions of the range and variety of material. Since some at least of Willrich's cards reproduced illustrations from his previously published books, it follows that a complete list of his publications would be a useful research tool. I make no claims that the following collection of titles is complete. It is based on the bibliographical resources relating to Germany, Britain, France and the U.S. available to me. Perhaps members could add other titles of which they are aware. Since with one exception the Willrich books are very scarce, I have also listed the libraries in North America that have copies. Again, this list of locations may well not be complete and other members may be able to add to it.

Runst und Volksgesundheit (Art and National Health), Berlin, 1935; Reichsdruckerei, 11 pages. This was pamphlet no. 7 in the series of the Reichsausschuss für Volksgesundheitsdienst. It seems to have been reprinted in 1935 and 1937. (University of Indiana, Bloomington).

Bauertum als Heger deutschen Blutes (Peasantry as the Guardian of German Blood) with introduction by R. Walter Darre, Goslar, 1935; Blut und Bogen Verlag, 7 pages, 40 plates. (N.Y. Public Library; Center for Research Libraries, Chicago; Harvard; Yale; Berkley; Columbia; University of Wisconsin, Madison; University of Chicago and Library of Congress, Washington D.C.)

Vom Lebensbaum deutscher Art: Bilder und Gedanken zur Rassenfrage (Of the Family Tree of the German Type: Pictures and Thoughts of the Race Question) Volume 1, Goslar, 1935; Blut und Bogen Verlag, 12 portfolio plates. Reprinted in Berlin in 1937. No information available on any second volume. (Library of Congress, Washington).

Säuberung des Kunsttempels: eine kunstpolitische Kampfschrift zur Gesundung deutscher Kunst im Geiste nordischer Art (Cleansing of the Temple of Art: an Art-Political Essay on the Recovery of German Art in the Spirit of the Nordic Type), Munich and Berlin, 1937; J. F. Lehmann, 179 pages. A second edition was published in Munich in 1938. (Available in most large University libraries; also in New York and Boston Public Libraries; and the Art Institute, Chicago)

Nordisches Blutserbe im süddeutschen Bauerntum (Nordic Blood Heritage in the South German Peasantry) with introduction by R. Walter Darre and with illustrations also by Oskar Just, Munich, 1938-9, F. Bruckman Vol. 1 (1938), 16 pages/64 plates; Vol. 2 (1939) 16 pages/48 plates. (New York and Cleveland Public Libraries; Berkeley; Harvard; Northwestern University, Evanston; Duke; Library of Congress, Washington).

Männer unserer U-Boot-Waffe (Men of our U-Boat Force), Berlin, 1939; Verlag Grenze und Ausland, 2 pages/8 plates. Apparently reprinted in 1940. (Library of Congress, Washington).

Des Edlen ewiges Reich (Eternal Reich of the Nobleman), Berlin, 1939; Verlag Grenze und Ausland, 40 pages/48 plates. There were three subsequent editions. Years of publication are uncertain; the 3rd & 4th seem to have appeared in 1943 (48 plates) and 1944 (50 plates). (N.Y. Public Library; University of Virginia, Charlottesville; Harvard; University of Illinois, Urbana; Duke; Yale; Berkeley; Columbia; Princeton; Library of Congress, Washington).

Des Reiches Soldaten (Soldiers of the Reich), Berlin, 1943: Verlag Grenze und Ausland, 24 pages/48 plates. (N.Y. Public Library; U. of Indiana, Bloomington; Princeton; U. of Illinois, Urbana; Duke; Yale; Harvard; Columbia; U. of Chicago; Berkely; U. of Wisconsin, Madison; Art Institute, Chicago; Center for Research Libraries, Chicago and Library of Congress, Washington).

Dafür kämpfte der deutsche Soldat (For this the German Soldier Struggled), Buenos Aires, 1959: Dürer-Verlag, 31 pages. This item is especially intriguing, given that Willrich apparently died in 1948. I have been unable to locate a library that holds it.

I have found no trace of Das Gesicht des Fliegers, mentioned by Bob Brooks as a possible Willrich publication. It may have been published and distributed privately.

Editor's Note: Many thanks to Tony Barrett of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver for this fine piece of research! The listing of U.S. libraries with one or more Willrich books provides an opportunity for many TRSG members to view these scarce publications. To cap off this article, the following are Willrich cards for the E-Series as listed in Bulletin 68. The photocopies were provided by Bob Albrecht.

JEL



E-58



E-80

by Jim Lewis

The Lieutenant was probably a medical officer in the 353rd Infantry Division which served in the southern sector of the Eastern front from January 1943 until it was destroyed between the Dniester and Prut Rivers during the Soviet Offensive in August 1944.

Suchantrag ¹²³⁴ 44 O./Le Zöppot, den 8. Mai 1944

Auf Wunsch der Angehörigen bittet das Deutsche Rote Kreuz
um Auskunft über den Verbleib des Oberl. Fritz F r a n z
geb. 15.12.1914

Nach Angabe der Angehörigen soll F. am 18.10.43
zum dortigen H.V.P. überführt worden sein.
Seit der Zeit fehlt jede Nachricht. Welche Dienst-
stelle kann weitere Auskunft geben? Welche K.-veränderung?

Heil
18.10.43 Noraga-Heim DRK.-Landes-Heim
Granatpl.-Brückendirektion für Kriegsg
18.10.43 K. S. H. Gabelacke luste
SVL. 4. Abteilung
in Lüneburg
Für möglichst baldige Antwort auf Anfrage
das Deutsche Rote Kreuz
Dr.
C 1363 1364 DRK.-

Absender
Deutsches Rotes
Kreuz, Waldenstr.

Message side of form card has printed text "The Red Cross is requesting unit members to provide details on the whereabouts of ---".

Absender
Deutsches Rotes Kreuz
Zentral. Waldchenstraße 7

Eilt sehr!

Luft-Feldpost

An Dienststelle





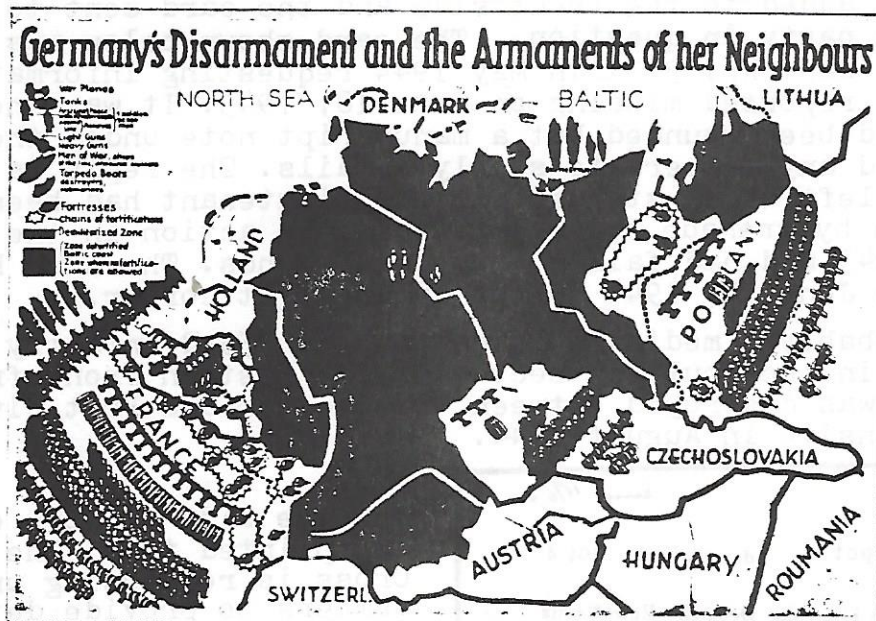
690

Feldpost-Nr. 025 97
oder überstellte Dienststelle

Diagonal blue lines on card denote priority mail and was supposed to alert Feldpost sorting clerks of this status.

Propaganda Card Corner

The "Corner" feature in Bulletin #64 illustrated English and American versions of a card pertaining to the Danzig corridor. A similar type of "dramatized map" card is depicted in Bernard as #035. This card (in German) contrasts Germany disarmed by the Versailles Treaty and her powerfully armed neighbors. John Miskevich provides the English and Danish language versions of the same card. Jack informs us that he has seen a Dutch version as well. Any others out there, Gang?



The message side of these cards does not reveal the printer or sponsor. Text in upper left corner reads: "The unilateral disarmament of Germany seriously endangers her security as long as her neighbors do not disarm in a similar manner. The German people unanimously demand the same rights and the same security as other nations and claim an absolute equality of status with regard to this vital question."



T.R.S.G. Auction No.32

Lot #	Description	
	The first 13 lots are postal stationery per Michel or Borek Nos.	
1.	'36 Olympics, 4 cds. Mi. P259-62, Mint VF	SB \$ 10
2.	'38 'Sachsen am Werk' (Mi. P269-70) w/sp. Dresden can.	SB \$ 6
3.	'38 'Tag der Kunst' (Bo. 108/D11) Mint color cd. VF	Res \$ 10
4.	'39 'Danzig ist Deutsch' (Mi. P278) Bedarf usage VF	SB \$ 7
5.	'39 'Ostmesse in Königsberg' (Mi. P280-1) Mint VF	SB \$ 6
6.	'39 'Reichspartei Tag' (Bo. 271) Mint VF	SB \$ 6
7.	'39 Hitler B'Day set 4 cds (Mi. 278/Bo. 266) Mint VF	Res \$ 12
8.	'38 Austrian Anschluss (Mi. P268) w/Branau sp. can. & Sudetenland Annexation (Mi. P279) Mint.	SB \$ 10
9.	'40 Famous Germans 6 cds (Mi. P285/Bo.275) Mint VF	SB \$ 12
10.	Same as 9. but ea. cd. w/diff. city W.H.W. sp. cans VF	Res \$ 25
11.	Graf v. Zeppelin color cd., all 4 versions: Orig. Mint, plus 3 diff. sold at Konstanz Exhibit incl. Bo. 108/C31 and 128/C1 w/sp. cans. Rarely offered as a set!! VF	Res \$ 45
12.	'42 'Gau Wartheland' 4 cd set Bo. 107/C22 (2 diff.) and Bo. 137/D4 (2 diff.) All w/Litzmannstadt sp. can. VF	Res \$ 15
13.	'36 'Deutscher Philatelistentag' 4 cds Bo. 127/C2, 128/C1, 129/C1 & 130/C1. All mint VF	Res \$ 25
14.	Propaganda Cd. "A.O" Day (Bernhard 163) 1 color missing re "O Helig..", sp. can. Stuttgart. Nice error item.	SB \$ 15
15.	Three Hoffman Hitler photocds M8, P4 & P73, all "Hennig" addr. w/var. GG o'print stamps. Philatelic VF	Res \$ 12
16.	Double view cd. '37 Rally w/Mi. Block 11 tied sp cans	SB \$ 25
17.	Hitler 'Manner der Zeit' Nr. 91 photocd w/Hossbach can	SB \$ 6
18.	Munich Photocd (Bernh. 337) but not correct cans. F	Res \$ 10
19.	Pvt. Advertising cd 1935 Saarland Plebiscite, Bedarf usage w/sp. cans. Nice unlisted item! VF	SB \$ 15
	<u>Next 6 lots German Occupation of Channel Islands</u>	
20.	Jersey: Mi. 1-8, ea. on sepearte FDC. VF	Res \$ 15
21.	Guernsey: cvr w/2d Geo.VI bisect, 1d Geo.VI & pr.Mi.2b	Res \$ 15
22.	Guernsey: cvr w/Geo. VI bisect can. 2.8.41 (Phil.)	Res \$ 10
23.	British Red Cross form message sent 7.7.42 to Jersey, nice German RC & British censor h/s	SB \$ 15
24.	Same but to Guernsey 8.43, Guernsey R.C. rec. stmp, German R.C. h/s & blue chemical streak F-VF	SB \$ 15
25.	German R.C. form (in French) frm Guernsey to England 2.'42, German R.C. censor & I.R.C. h/s VF	SB \$ 20
26.	Bedarf cvr addressed to Adolf Hitler 10.'33 w/Munich roller can. Nice example early Third Reich mail. VF	SB \$ 10
27.	Five (5) sepia photocds frm series "Deutscher Marine-Kalender 1942", views U-Boats, Coastal guns etc. Mint	SB \$ 25
28.	Five (5) Kriegsmarine Feldpost cvrs frm Bremen, Berlin, Hamburg & Königsberg. Generally VF w/nice markings	SB \$ 15
29.	Reichspost metered cvr frm Vienna Bank to USA 9.'41, airmail via Lisbon w/nice German & Brit. censor mks.	SB \$ 20
30.	Luftfeldpost cvr 21.6.42 frm Fp#27341 (Nachsch. Kp./der Luftwaffe 4/III). LGPA location del. frm h/s VF	Res \$ 8.50
31.	Same, 15.9.42 frm Fp#09541A (III/Gren. Rgt. 330 of 183rd Inf. Div.) on Central Sector Russian Front. F-VF	Res \$ 9
32.	Same, 21.6.42 frm SS-Hauptscharfhr. w/D'siegel Fp# 23007 (Einsatzgru. Reval d. Sicherheitpol. u.d. SD) scarce exhibit quality cvr frm Extermination Group operating in Estonia! VF	Res. \$ 45

Lot	Lot #	Description	
33.		Eight Feldpost cvrs, better than avg. lot w/various 5 digit nos. All from Front via FpAs (1 Stumme) F-VF	SB \$ 10
34.		Double used Fp cvr; pasteover frm Fp#48348 (Feldzeug Park IV) 29.3.'44. Underneath is a "Durch Kurier" item frm Armee Pi-Park in Brod. Both pieces intact VF	Res \$ 15
35.		Fp cvr to Berlin frm "Schützen-Ersatz-Btl. 3" via Eberswalde 5.10.'41. Nice Luftpost slogan can. VF	Res \$ 8
36.		Fp Official cvr to Vienna Reichsbank frm German military Cartographic Institute in Prag via DDP Boh.-Mor. Front only but VF markings. Attractive item.	SB \$ 7
37.		Cvr to Paris frm Vienna Sept.'38 w/Type II currency control and scarce pre-annexation Austrian customs h/s. See TRSG Bulletin 59, Fig. 5 on Page 6. VF bedarfs item!	Res \$ 12
38.		Cvr to Germany frm Shanghai via Siberia Dec.'40 w/Berlin censor B-35, B-54 & B2D (1150 Pts!) plus "C" routing stamp used in Berlin-Charlottenburg. Bedarf & VF	Res \$ 20
39.		Cvr frm Belgian national in Eisenspater to family in Brussels Oct.'42 w/Cologne censor C5d & C-53. Franked w/Mi-793, blue-green streaks for secret ink test on cvr & message, both nicely mounted on exhibition page! Ready to show.	SB \$ 15
40.		Cvr frm Raon, Fr. to Belgium Dec.'41 w/Cologne censor C-5c & C-55. Also beautiful exhibit page/write-up! VF	SB \$ 12
41.		Commercial cvr Düsseldorf to Belgium Dec.'40 w/Cologne C-4a & C-55 (brown). Also on exhibit page. V. Nice.	SB \$ 9
42.		Cvr w/25 Pfg "Lothringen" o'print frm Reichskommissar Bulendorf to Swiss Red Cross July '41. Frankfurt censor tape E-54 & scarce E-4 "wrong-way" eagle.(3 strikes!)	SB \$ 15
43.		Cvr frm England to Swiss Red Cross Dec.'42 w/Paris censor tape X-50 & scarce X-2 in red w/Fp 24052D (1500 Pts!) VF	Res \$ 25
44.		Dienstpost Niederlande Leeuwarden. Window envelope commercial mail 22.6.44. Hitler stamp 12 Pfg.	Res \$15
45.		German occupation Serbia, (2)Mi.5 stamps. Vienna censor G-21 & Serbia Abb. 276 Beograd 13.	Res \$35
46.		German occupation Serbia, (2)Mi.3 stamps, Serbia censor Abb. 275 & Abb. 277, Beograd Registered mail.	Res \$40.
47.		Letter to Munchen, Germany, 4 Din Yugoslavia stamp 1940 German Censor. Riemer Abb 185, Abb 213	Res \$30

SEND ALL BIDS TO:

Fred Stengel
1248 Magnolia Place
Union, NJ 07083

CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 32 IS FEBRUARY 8, 1985

TRSG AUCTION NO. 31

Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price
1	40.00	19	20.50	39	12.00	59	15.00
3	15.00	20	25.00	42	5.50	62	13.00
4	9.50	21	45.00	51	7.00	66	16.50
6	10.00	24	22.00	52	12.00	69	12.00
7	25.00	28	17.00	53	13.00	75	14.00
8	10.00	29	14.50	54	3.00	77	9.00
9	15.50	30	17.00	55	62.50	79	17.50
14	13.00	31	23.00	56	24.00		
18	8.00	33	12.00	58	23.00		