



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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DIRECTOR: Myron Fox, P.O. Box 283, Needham Heights, MA 02194

BULLETIN STAFF:

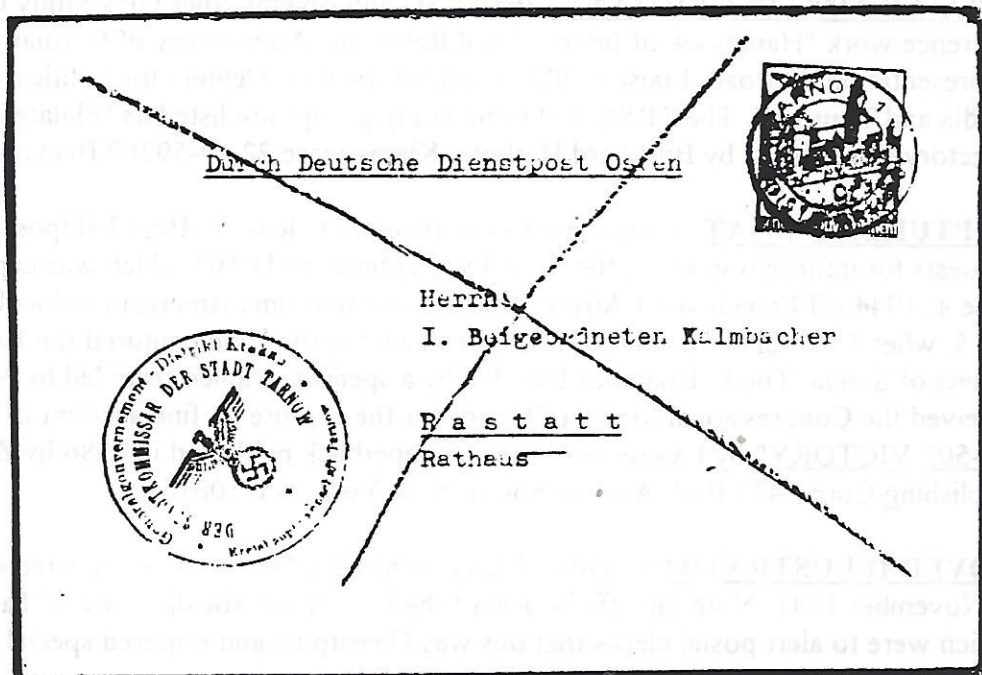
EDITOR: James E. Lewis, 111 Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070

SECRETARY / TREASURER: Fred Willshaw, 10408 Avondale Ave., Charlotte, NC 28210

AUCTION MANAGER: Fred Stengel, 1248 Magnolia Place, Union, NJ 07083

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STUDY GROUP NOTES

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

BEVILACQUA, Jon, 81-25 Surrey Place, Jamaica Estates, Queens, NY 11432
JOHNSON, Terry, P.O. Box 1930, Bushnell, FL 33513
LORDAHL, Eric, Gydas V.52 N-1413 Tarnasen, Norway
LUNDQUIST, David, 629 El Toro Way, Davis, CA 95616

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - with this 4th issue of the Bulletin for 1993, dues are now due and a renewal form is included in this mailing. Please take a moment to fill in the form and send it with your payment to Sec.-Treasurer Fred Willshaw. While we have not increased TRSG dues for next year, any member whose dues are not received by January 1, 1994 will be considered as having resigned. Should those individual wish to renew membership after January 1st, they will be obliged to pay the \$10.00 new member fee in addition to the annual dues.

WHERE ARE THOSE VOLUNTEERS ? - we are still awaiting the following from TRSG members: a.) translation of a German article on the Hamburg Censorship Office and b.) computer re-formatting of a comprehensive article on postal fees during the Third Reich. These volunteer assignments remain uncompleted after nearly a year. We would very much appreciate an update on these assignments from our volunteers. If you are no longer able or willing to complete these tasks, please return the materials to your Bulletin editor so that we can make other arrangements.

TRSG DETAILED a very nice write up on the TRSG appears in Bill Brooks' "Circles, Groups & Societies" column in the September, 1993 issue of GLOBAL STAMP NEWS. Mr. Brooks describes specialty study groups such as ours as "the true 'work horses' of collecting". Many thanks to Jack Miskevich for bringing this article to our attention.

TRSG LISTING IN GERMANY - the TRSG and several other GPS Study Groups are listed in a new reference work "Handbook of International Relations: A Directory of German and Foreign Representations Abroad, Liaison Offices and Information Centers for Politics, Economy, Culture, the Media and Tourism". The TRSG and other study groups are listed as "philatelistische Interessen". This directory is published by Burkhard Herbote, Klarastrasse 22, D-59269 Beckum, Germany.

CAPTURED U-BOAT in response to our recent article on U-Boat Feldpost numbers, we received requests for information about the Type IX-C submarine U-505 which was captured by the U.S. Navy on June 4, 1944 off French West Africa. This was the first time American sailors boarded an enemy ship since 1815, when U.S. sailors from the U.S.S. Peacock boarded and captured the British H.M.S. Nautilus in the Straits of Sunda. The U-Boat was boarded by a specially trained team led by Navy Lt. Albert David, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for the capture. A fine account of these events can be found in "U-505 VICTORY" by Lawrence Cortesi, a paperback published in 1986 by Zebra Books, Kensington Publishing Corp., 475 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.

COVER ILLUSTRATION - Official cover sent via DDP Osten was posted in Tarnow (District Krakau) in November 1941. Note the official seal of the Commissar for the State of Tarnow and diagonal blue lines which were to alert postal clerks that this was Dienstpost and required special handling.

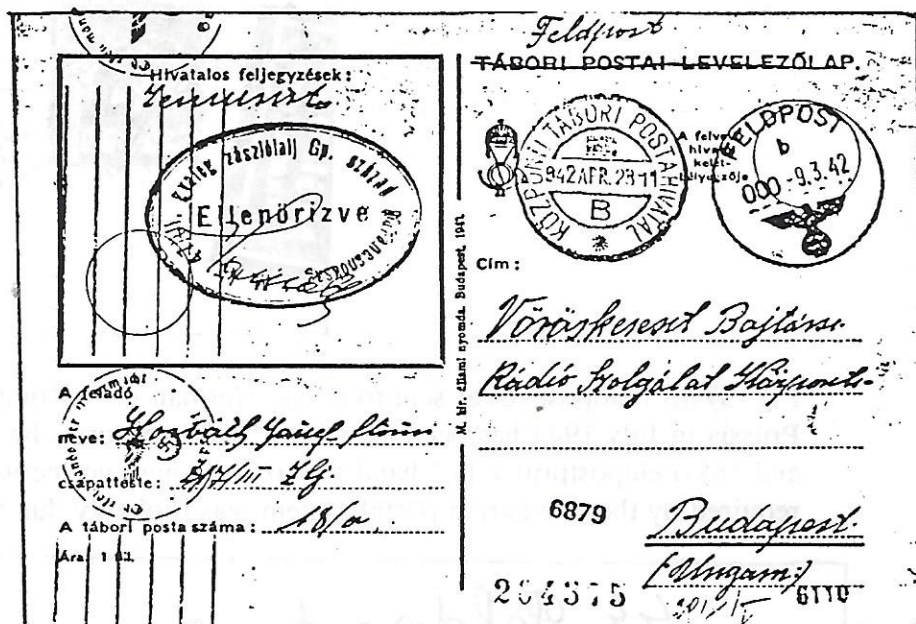
HUNGARIAN VOLKDEUTSCHE VOLUNTEERS

by Rene Chavez

I.) Hungarian Units Attached to German Army

Hungary entered the war with Germany against the Soviet Union on June 27, 1941, sending an elite motorized corps, a mountain corps and the 8th Frontier Brigade. These units were placed under command of the German 17th Army in the southern sector of the Eastern Front. By the Spring of 1942, the Hungarian 2nd Army numbering 200,000 men had also been sent to the Eastern Front to meet the need for more manpower.

Fig. 1) Hungarian Field postcard to Budapest dated March 9, 1942 was sent through German Feldpost system. Manuscript notation "Feldpost" replaced Hungarian "Tabori Postai Levelezolap" which is crossed out. This card has both Hungarian and German Feldpost cancels in upper right corner. A German censor machine stamp and Hungarian censor hand stamp plus manuscript "Zensurat" appear on left side of card



The Hungarian 2nd Army had been sent to the Eastern Front with inferior equipment and no logistic support. Consequently, they were overwhelmed by superior Soviet forces early in 1943 during the battle for Stalingrad, suffering 30,000 dead and wounded plus 50,000 captured. The remaining forces, no longer considered combat effective, were withdrawn for garrison and security duties in the homeland.

II) Volksdeutsche Volunteers

Hungarians conscripted into the army included Volksdeutsche minorities from Hungary and from the annexed territories such as Slovakia and Ruthenia, northeastern Transylvania and the Barania "Backa" region (former Yugoslavia). The German Waffen-SS was eager to recruit these ethnic Germans for their ranks but was not permitted to do so until restrictions were relaxed by the Hungarians early in 1942. Even then, recruitment of Hungarian minorities by the Germans required that: 1) enlistment was strictly voluntary, 2) minors had written permission of their parents or guardians and 3) volunteers in the German Armed forces automatically lost their Hungarian citizenship.

Despite these restrictions, 30,000 Volksdeutsche enlisted in the German armed forces early in 1942, primarily into the Waffen-SS and Todt Organization. By early 1944, Hungary revoked the law under which ethnic-German volunteers lost their citizenship. All volunteers enjoyed dual citizenship and the majority enlisted in the Waffen-SS.

Fig. 2) Express airmail cover posted in Ujvidek, Hungary on December 24, 1942 was sent by the wife of an SS volunteer training at Breslau, Germany. He was a member of "1 Gen. Kp. SS Inf. Ersatzbataillon Ost", an Infantry replacement battalion.



Fig. 3) SS Feldpost cover sent to ethnic-German in "I Kombani" (1st Kompanie) at SS Barracks in West Prussia in July 1944 has been examined by SS censors who applied "GEOFFNET" (Opened) sealing tape and "SS-Feldpostprufstelle" hand stamp. Although no fee was required for Feldpost, the 30 filler fee required by the Hungarian postal system was probably due to a letter weight exceeding 250 grams.



DEUTSCHE DIENSTPOST OSTEN

By Jim Lewis

PART 2

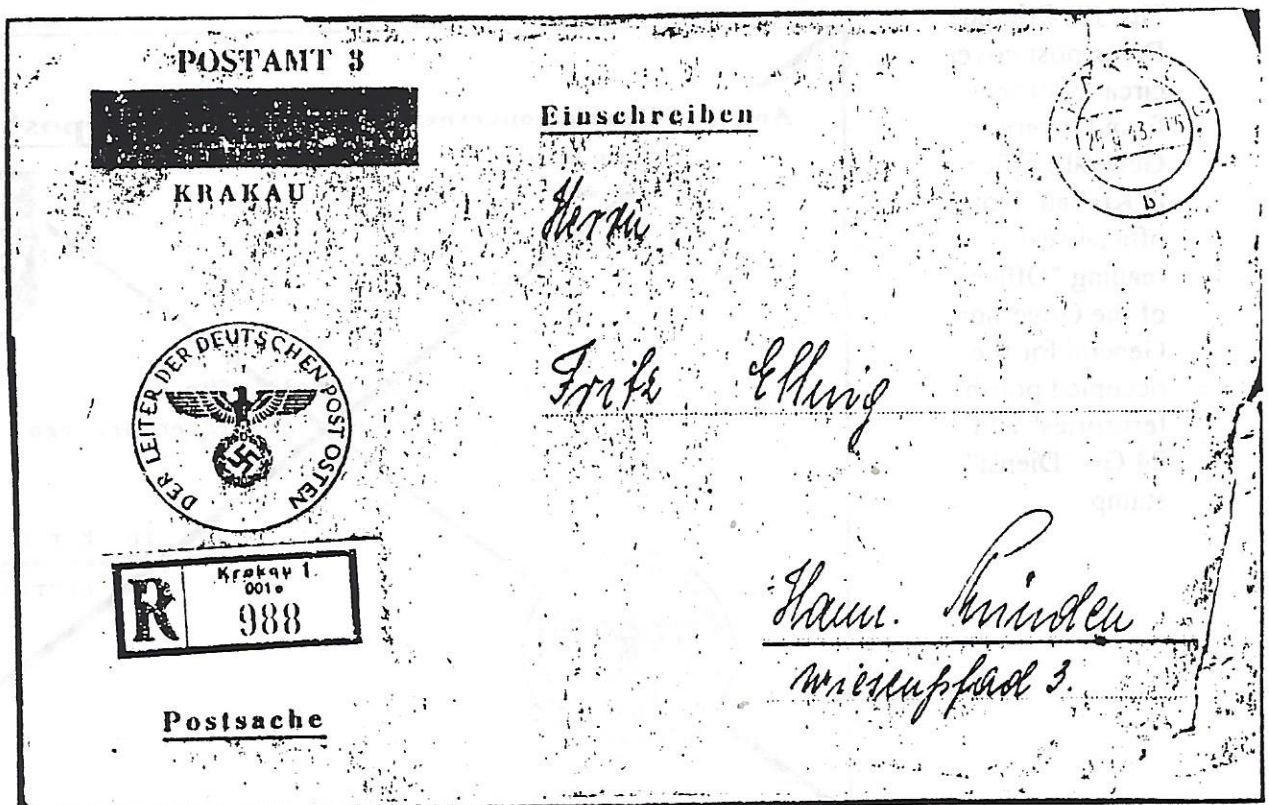
B) Krakau fell to German forces with very little damage. As a former Austrian city associated with such great names as Viet Stoss and Copernicus, Krakau had a much different character than Warschau. For these reasons it was selected as the seat for the new Governor General and the towering castle became the palace of the Governor.

The following offices existed in mid-1944 and were shared by the Deutsche Dienstpost, the Deutsche Post Osten and the District Postal Administration. The postal bureaus (PBs) and branch offices BOs) were under Krakau 1 Post Office:

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|------|--------------|
| 1.) | Krakau 1 Post Office | 8.) | Krakau 14 PB |
| 2.) | Krakau 2 Post Office | 9.) | Krakau 15 PB |
| 3.) | Krakau 4 PB | 10.) | Krakau 16 PB |
| 4.) | Krakau 5 PB | 11.) | Krakau 17 PB |
| 5.) | Krakau 9 PB | 12.) | Krakau 18 BO |
| 6.) | Krakau 10 PB | 13.) | Krakau 20 BO |
| 7.) | Krakau 12 PB | | |

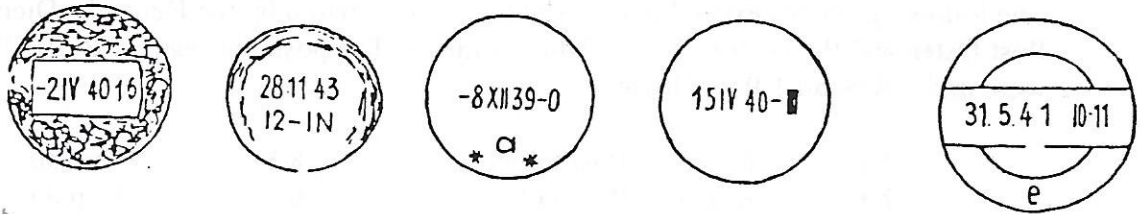
As in Warschau, a few postal bureaus in Krakau were closed during the war because Krakau 3, 7, 8 and 11 cancels exist but these offices are not mentioned in the Deutsche Reichspost listing shown above.

Fig. 11) Postal Matter ("Postsache") free-franked cover sent to Germany in August 1943 from office of Chief of Deutsche Post Osten . Note Krakau 3 cancel over stamped on Krakau 1 registry label. This office was closed early in 1944.



While Dienstpost service for "Behorden" (Officials) in Warschau was opened on October 23, 1939 by the DDP Osten, the first such letter from the military commander of Krakau to the Army High Command (O.K.H.) has a Krakau cancel dated October 5, 1939.

Postal clerks handling Feldpost received at the Feldpost window in the DDP used the mute ("stumme") cancels shown below, even when the return address was openly written rather than a 5-digit "security" address. These were altered Polish cancels which had been found in undamaged post offices and from which the polish town names had been removed.



Further cancel development was the same as in Warshau, except that a cancel "DDP Osten, Abholpostamt Krakau" is not known. Instead, the official seals of the individual Post Offices were used to cancel the mail, just as at the DDP offices in other parts of the GG, often with an additional date cancellation. Otherwise, the 5 and 6 line roller cancels, most likely of Polish origin, were used. The German style cancels were the same as elsewhere, except for smaller size double-ring/date-bridge designs with additional ornamentation which were also produced in Poland. These various cancels are shown below:

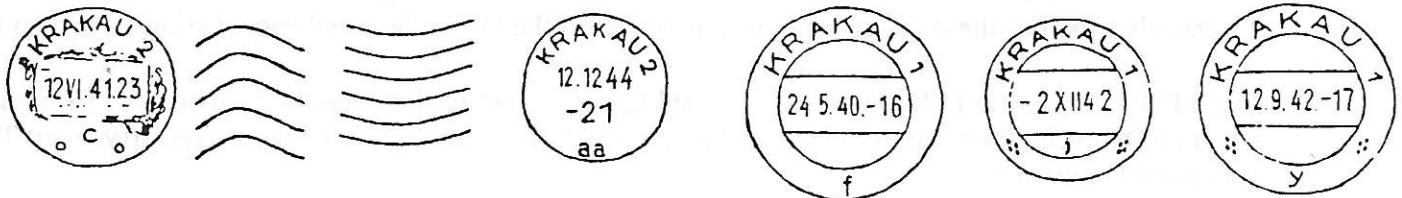
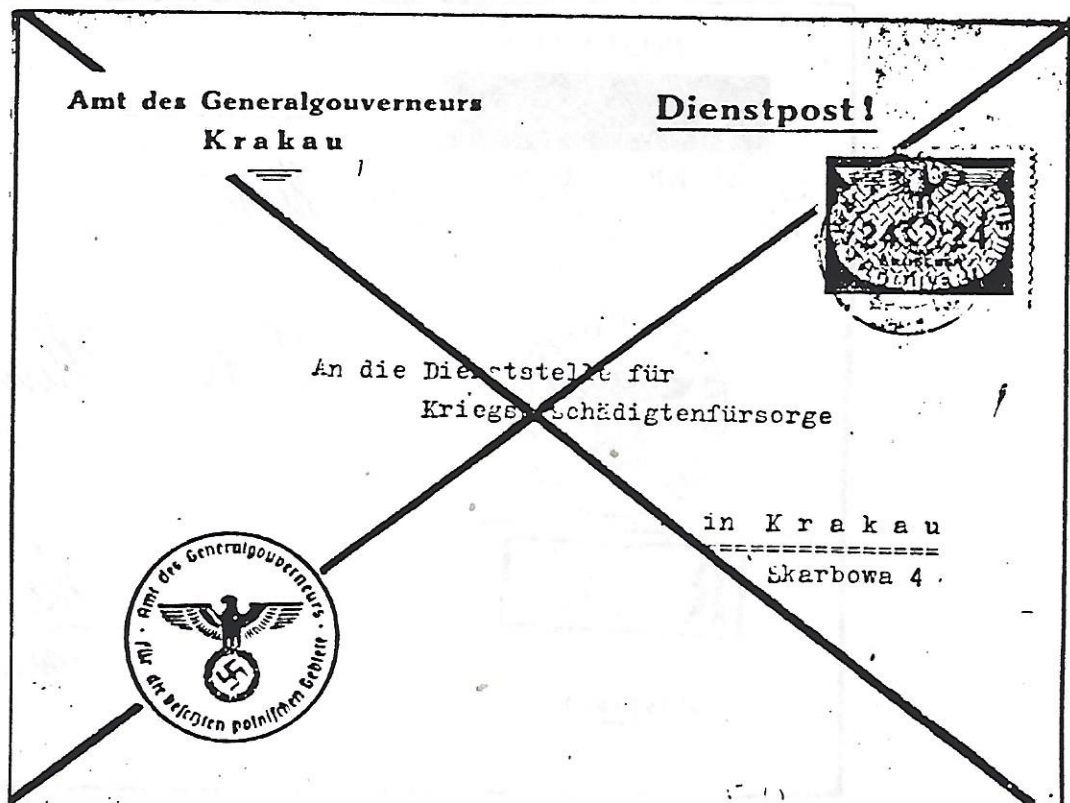


Fig. 12) Printed Dienstpost cover circa 1940 sent from Governor General's office in Krakau. Note official seal reading "Office of the Governor General for the occupied polish territories" and 24 Gr. "Dienst" stamp.



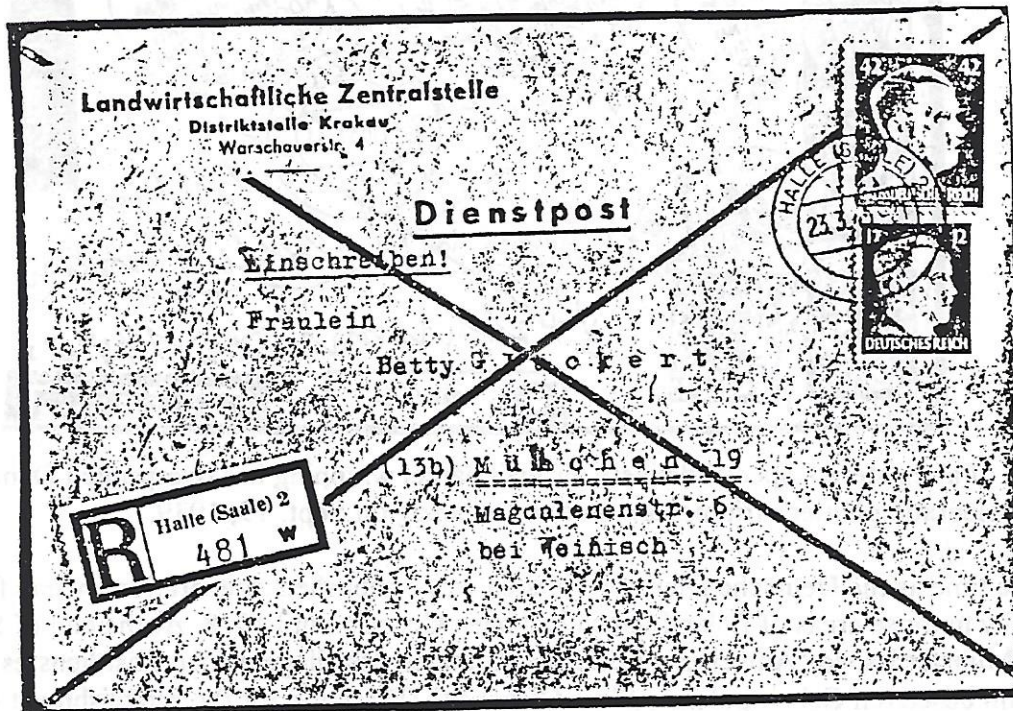
The registry labels need no further discussion as their development was the same as in the rest of Poland and Warschau.

During the advance of the Red Army into the eastern areas of the GG, the Director of the Deutsche Post Osten and parts of the Krakau Post Office were transferred to Hirschberg in the Riesengebirge. This is where the main business office of the D. post Osten was located when the remainder of the GG was occupied by Soviet forces. There is an interesting cover dated October 18, 1944 with the standard Hirschberg cancel together with the post office seal of Krakau. The D. Post Osten in the Krakau area , as well as the dispatch of Dienstpost mail was halted on January 20, 1945 due to the Soviet occupation.

Shown below is the letter seal of the Director of the Deutsche Post Osten with gothic letters and the line and date cancels of Krakau 20 Post Office.



Fig. 13) The fate of Germany's extensive postal system in Poland is illustrated by the cover shown below. A printed envelope for an official German agency in Krakau carries a March 23, 1945 postmark from the agencies new location in Halle, Germany



The Third Reich had 44 more days and Germany's eastern frontier now lay deep within the homeland.

VIII) The "Einsatz" in the incorporated Eastern areas: Upper Silesia; the Wartheland Gau, Danzig-West Prussia, in the District Zichenau, the Sudeten area and the Soldau area.

The communications service in all wars has been of decisive importance for the outcome of the war. Hitler prepared his conquests well in advance, especially the first campaigns into Poland and France. Thus the war did not catch the Reichspost unprepared. As noted in Part I, extensive preparations were made for the outbreak of war and secret state assignments about the organization of the Reichspost concerned first of all the establishment of the German Feldpost, secondly the Dienstpost and thirdly the setting up of a normal civilian postal service in the occupied territories which were scheduled to be incorporated into the Reich. These were first of all the areas east of the 1914 German border, in old Poland.

The start of the Polish campaign coincided with the takeover of the entire post and telegraph administration of Danzig. Because destruction by the Poles did not take place here and because the postal system since the Free State status had been organized and expanded in a German fashion, the "Postsach" troops for repair of the telephone system and "Postschutz" (postal protection) troops were not needed. The organizational merger was completed without any problems. Only the legend "Frei Stadt Danzig" had to be removed from canceling devices.

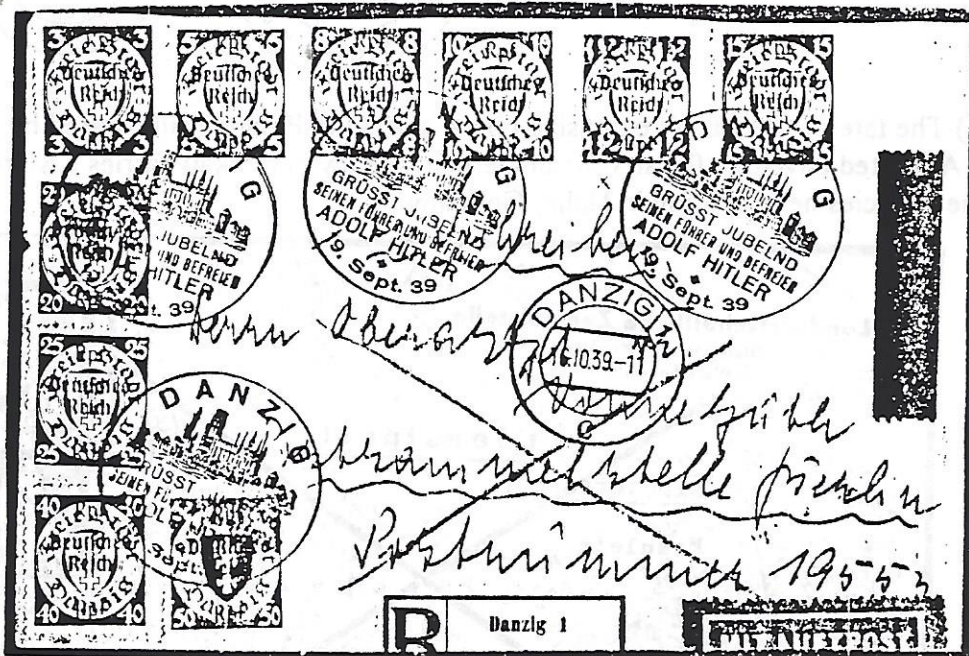
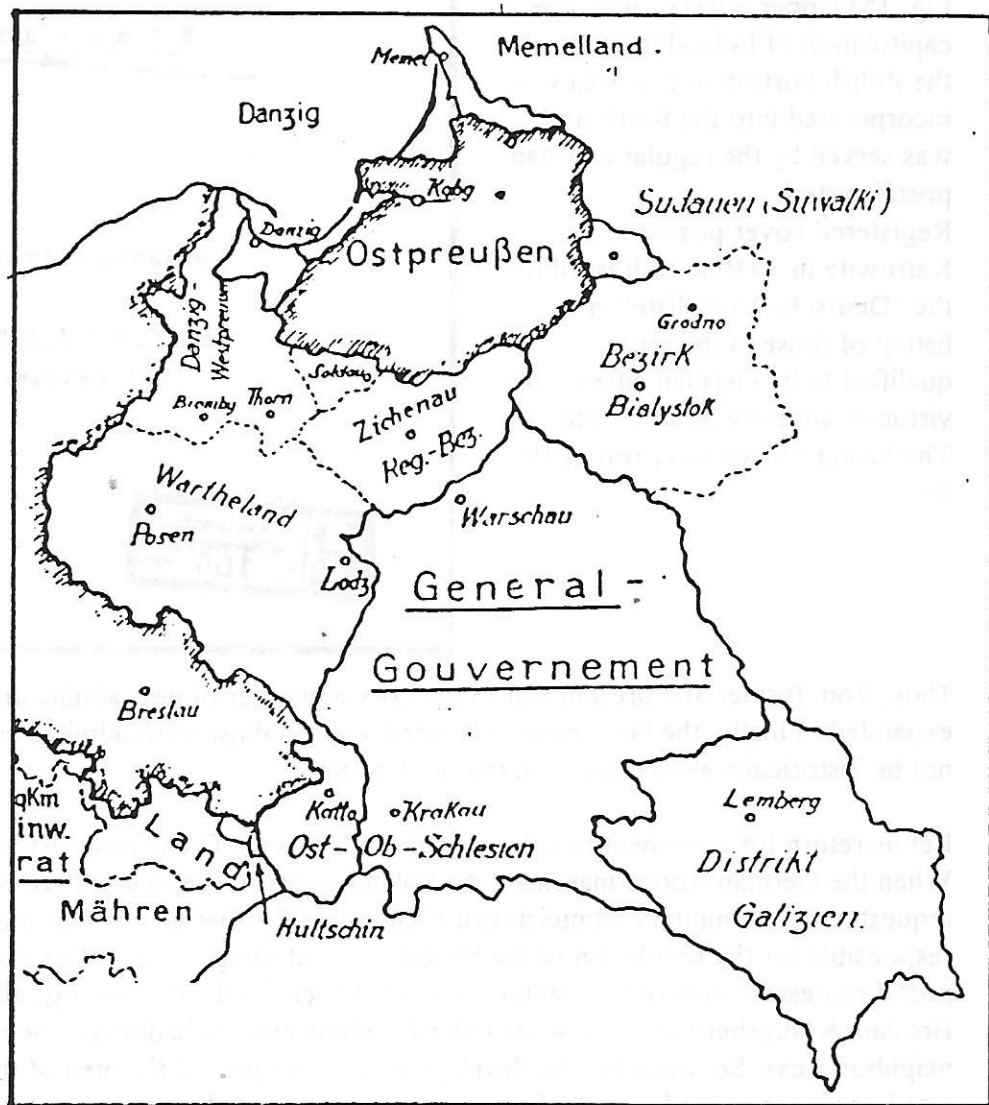


Fig. 14) Portion of a registered, special delivery air mail parcel wrapping has overprinted Danzig stamps tied by special cancels celebrating Hitler's triumphant entry into danzig on Sept. 19, 1939.

Almost the same time as the Deutsche Dienstpost Osten was established, preparations began for a general postal service, especially in those areas of Poland which had been German until 1918. At the end of September 1939, the Reichspost Minister issued "Anweisung ueber die Aufnahme des allgemeinen Postdienstes inner halb der alten Reichsgrenzen im besetzten Gebiet polens und im Olsgebiet" (Direction for the establishment of a general postal service within the old Reichs borders in occupied Poland and in the Ols area).

The administrative development of the individual areas and the corresponding postal development soon went their separate ways. OPD Danzig was responsible for the newly created Danzig-West Prussia Gau. Similarly, the new OPD Posen was responsible for the Posen Reichs Gau which was created out of former German and old Polish parts and which was later renamed Wartheland (See map on next page).

Map showing the areas of pre-war Poland which were incorporated into the Reich ("Einsatz") and Galacia (which had been annexed by the Soviet Union in September 1939) which became the fourth district of the "General Gouvernment" in 1941.



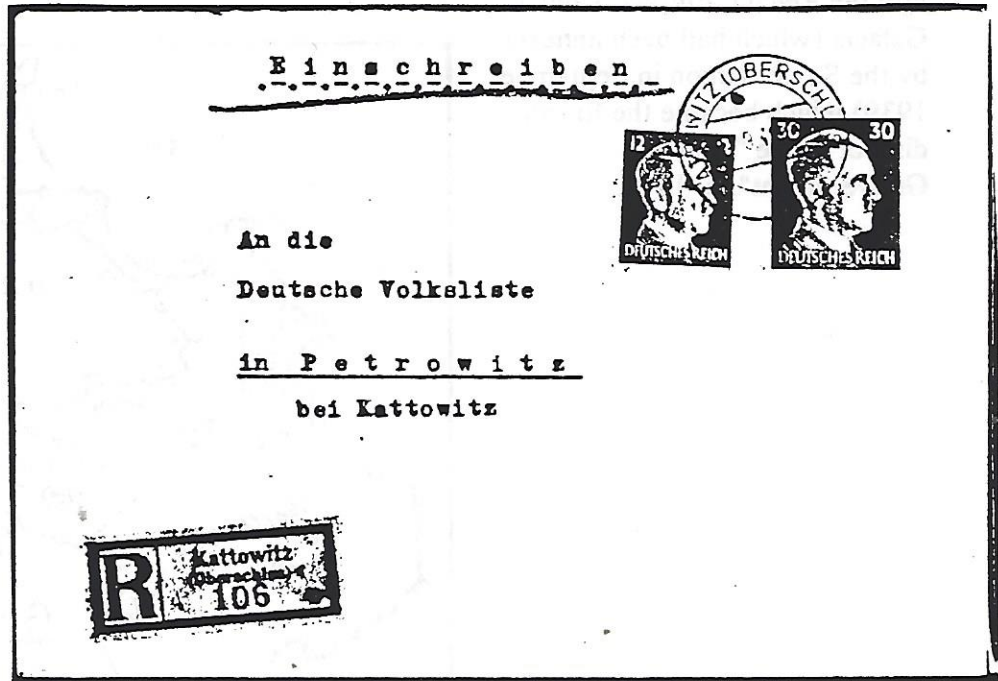
Kreis Suwalki went to the province of East Prussia (Administrative District Gumbinnen) and was put under the jurisdiction of OPD Gumbinnen. Suwalki was later renamed Sudauen. The part of Kreis Soldau which was awarded to Poland in 1919 (Dzialdowo) and the newly created Administrative District of Zichenau were coupled to OPD Königsberg/Pr. Smaller areas of Lower Silesia that had been given to Poland in 1919 (parts of Kreis Namslau, Kreis Gross Wartenberg, etc.) went back to OPD Breslau. The Olsa area around Teschen, the Bielitzer area of the Gablunka Pass and a broad area east of Upper Silesia including the towns of Saybusch, Bendzin, Auschwitz, etc. were finally united in a new province, together with Upper Silesia, which from then on belonged to OPD Oppeln.

It is of political and postal importance to understand that in this southeast corner of Poland bordering Upper Silesia, the borders of Greater Germany ("Grossdeutsches Reich") were shifted several times. In the beginning the old Reich border of 1914 was also the new border and was hermetically sealed.

After a few weeks the Olsa area (former Austrian Silesia) was merged with Reichs Gau Upper Silesia as were Saybusch and Sucha at a later date. Even later, Auschwitz (Oswiecien), Krenan (Chryanow) and Trzebinia, which had until then been part of the "General Gouvernement", were merged with this Gau.

Fig. 15) Upper Silesia - with the capitulation of Poland in 1939, the Polish portion of this area was incorporated into the Reich and was served by the regular German postal system.

Registered cover posted in Kattowitz in 1940 is addressed to the "Deutsche Volksliste", a listing of those in the areas qualified to be German citizens by virtue of ancestry, politics, etc. The listing offices were run by the SS.



Thus, from former and present Polish territory a number of new administrative bodies were created and old ones expanded. Finally, the Government General was established to administer the purely Polish areas which could not be historically associated with the old Reich.

Let us return for a moment to the entry of the Deutsche Dienstpost Osten, which covered all of these territories. When the German troops marched into Poland, a general representative of the Deutsche Reichspost was requested by the military administrator ("Oberbefehlshaber Ost") This individual, whose office was in Lodz, was responsible for the regulation of the Dienstpost and safeguarding of its operations. He was given control of the postal representatives of the military districts Posen, Lodz and Danzig; the special representatives of the OPDs Breslau, Konigsberg and Frankfurt/Oder for those areas scheduled to be merged with those OPDs and bordering neighbor areas. So much for the development of that part of the area of the Deutsche Dienstpost Osten which was later incorporated into the Reich.

The seat of the postal representative for Old Poland (which later became the Government General) was Krakau. The Dienstpost in the first few weeks of the Polish campaign could be described more precisely as "Dienstpost Office of the General Representative of the Reichspost under the Oberbefehlshaber Ost". The time span for this status is rather brief, however, so we stay with the "start of the Deutsche Dienstpost Osten" description. Because of Hitler's decree of October 8, 1939 concerning the organization and administration of the "Ost" areas, the new areas were given their final form.

The Reichs Gau Posen, the largest new Gau, became Reichs Gau Wartheland through an additional decree proclaimed on January 29, 1940. This new Gau encompassed the largest part of western Poland with 44 thousand square kilometers of land containing 4.5 million people. More precisely, it covered only the areas which had not been German at the start of the Polish campaign but included those parts of Posen awarded to Poland in 1919 and the newly conquered areas of western Poland.

In the south it bordered on OPD Oppeln and OPD Breslau, in the north on OPD Königsberg and OPD Danzig and in the west on OPD Frankfurt/Oder. Because different military commanders were operating in the area, there were no less than five postal representatives present at the beginning of mail service.

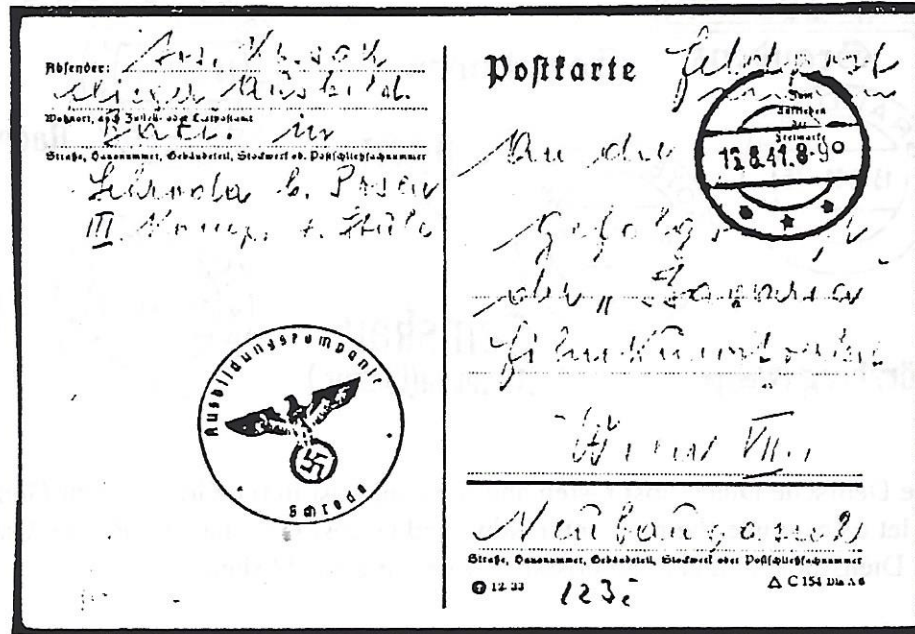


Fig. 16) Wartheland - Postcard with "mute" modified Polish cancel has open identity of sender's unit as "Ausbildungskompanie Schroda". This was a Luftwaffe training facility located at Schroda, near Posen in the Wartheland.

The development of the other Reichs areas and non-Polish areas was simpler. The establishment of the Dienstpost offices and of general postal service in the Districts of Zichenau, (see Fig. 17) Suwalki (Sudauen) and the rest of Soldau will be discussed elsewhere. The establishment in the areas which were merged with Upper Silesia went either according to the old Prussian foundation of 1919 or by association with the Polish postal administration which had been intensively developed in these highly industrialized areas. The postal service in the Teschen area (Olsa area), which had been part of Czechoslovakia until 1938, had hardly been touched by the war and was simply taken over intact.

The District west of Krakau (around Schanow and Auschwitz) was formerly part of Austrian Galacia and had a well developed postal system. Only in the northeastern part of Upper Silesia, near Bendzin (renamed Bendsburg) was it necessary to improve the postal system, because this area had been part of Russian Poland until 1919. The differences in cancel types of the Dienstpost, Deutsche Post Osten and Deutsches Reichspost in the southeastern part of Upper Silesia and in other places along the eastern border with the Government General can be explained by adjustments to the administrative borders

In the northern part of Poland, West Prussia with Thorn, Dirschau and Bromberg was merged with the Danzig-West Prussia Reichs Gau and, at the same time, administered by OPD Danzig.



As the start of the Deutsche Dienstpost Osten and the civil post in the Government General was dealt with in a separate section, let us examine the most interesting and largest Gau, namely Reichs Gau Wartheland, for an example how the Dienstpost and civilian postal service were established.

As noted earlier, at the beginning of the Polish campaign the Posen area had five different postal offices, namely the postal representatives of the military commanders in Posen, Lodz and Danzig plus representatives of the OPDs Breslau and Frankfurt/Oder. When the military administration was changed to a civilian administration and the Wartheland Gau received its final borders on October 26, 1939, a postal representative for OPD Posen was appointed with responsibility for improving postal service. The participation of postal representatives of the neighboring OPDs Breslau and Frankfurt/Oder ended when the new OPD Posen became fully operational on December 1, 1939.

The original order for OPD Breslau and Frankfurt/Oder was to establish a Dienstpost system in certain neighboring areas which were formerly part of the "Reich", but this was expanded in October to include the preparation for a general civil postal service in these and other old Polish areas.

Because OPD Breslau had gained considerable experience setting up a Dienstpost system in the Protectorate of Bohemia-Moravia, it was able to set up the Dienstpost much faster and more assuredly than the postal representative of the military district, especially with the support of all officials and their personnel. On the other hand, the military commanders demanded the establishment of a civil postal system take place in agreement with military interests, which sometimes clashed with those of the OPDs. Difficulties were unavoidable but were eventually overcome.

The professional task of postal representatives, namely the establishment of Dienstpost offices using existing "Abhol" offices (pick up places) located in government offices, NSDAP offices or in towns with large troop concentrations was relatively easy because the postal protection ("Postschutz") troops had maintained the existing postal facilities and because an adequate number of German officials from old Reich OPDs were available to staff them.

Dienstpost offices were begun only in County Seat ("Landrat") offices. The Wartheland Gau was divided into three government districts, namely Posen, Hohensalza and Lodz, together with 38 "Land" districts.

Fig. 17) Zichenau - part of the Polish province of Warsaw which was incorporated into German East Prussia as the District ("Bezirk") of Ziechenau and was served by the Reichspost.

Parcel post dispatch card for a parcel sent in May 1944 from the town of Szelkow, Kreis Mackeim, Bezirk Zichenau (Kreis and Bezirk are local divisions roughly equivalent to a township and a county) to inmate #15534, Block D of a Labor Camp near Braunschweig in northwestern Germany.

553
Szelkow
Kreis Mackeim (Bezirk Ziechenau)

Sender: *Anna Jelen, Ziechenau*
Szelkow Kreis Mackeim Bez. Ziechenau
Kochhaus

Empfänger: *Marian Myslak*
Arbeitslager Dristte
Arbeitslager Dristte

in *bei Braunschweig*

Bezeichnung (Ort, Hausnummer, Gehöft, etc.)

50 Reichsmark postage stamp
50 Reichsmark postage meter stamp

IX) INITIATION OF GENERAL POSTAL SERVICE

The simple network of Dienstpost offices soon proved inadequate and authorization was given to create a general civilian postal system. This occurred in mid-September 1939 for South Posen and at the end of September 1939 for the remaining areas which had been German or Austrian in 1918. In the former Polish areas the DDP Osten would remain as the only postal service for the time being. Soon the DDP Osten in former German areas would also process a limited amount of civilian mail in addition to their normal work load.

The limitations on postal service in former German and Austrian areas was ended on October 10, 1939. A few months later a listing of towns which could receive letter mail, telephone service plus payment and parcel service was published in the "Amtsblatt" of the Reichspost Ministry. The originally planned implementation of these services did not take place for military reasons. The final confirmation of establishment of the OPD Posen on December 1, 1939 was followed by a decree on December 19, 1939 announcing civilian postal and telephone service in the incorporated areas.

For similar military reasons the official discontinuation of DDP Osten in the incorporated areas was not made public. According to a secret order of the Reichspost Ministry in January 1940, the special task of the DDP Osten in the incorporated areas would cease and this function would be taken over by the offices of the general postal service. Especially trustworthy "Reichs" German officials, not "Volksdeutsche", would handle the Dienstpost in the civilian offices of the Deutsche Reichspost and they would employ Reichspost cancellers. However, even in the incorporated Ost areas cancellations of the DDP Osten are known up until 1943.

By the Spring of 1940, the different branches of the postal service were fully implemented in all small and large post offices and branch offices. The handling of a) Feldpost, b) mail of government officials, c) mail of the NSDAP administration and d) internal mail of exclusively German officials and employees was secured at this time. In contrast to the Government General, by the end of Spring 1940 there was no longer a need for special markings on Dienstpost mail in all of the incorporated areas. Declaration of routing points "Posen" and "Lodz" was also no longer needed. Covers after that date found with the notation "DDP Osten" are mostly due to the fact that official mail is often stamped "Dienst". This is, however, no proof of special postal handling.

In the same fashion and in the same time frame, a general civilian postal service superseded the Dienstpost in Upper Silesia, in the new Reichs Gau Danzig-West Prussia and in those areas merged with Lower Silesia. However, because the post offices of the DDP Osten in the districts of Zichenau and Suwalki were administered by the OPDs Konigsberg and Gumbinnen, these districts were supplied with different cancellers than in West Prussia, Warthegau and Upper Silesia.

Because District Zichenau, a sparsely populated old Polish area, was mostly farmlands and forest, the establishment of a general postal service was considerably more difficult than in other areas. The Dienstpost remained there much longer as a separate branch of the postal system.

X) NOTES ABOUT THE DDP OSTEN CANCELLATIONS

The general implementation of the establishment of the postal administrations in the incorporated "Ost" areas (Danzig -West Prussia, Wartheland and Upper Silesia) did deliberately not coincide with changes in cancellations in these areas. Liberated "Ost" areas and the Government General form an entity which must be researched jointly to understand the full scope of these DDP Osten cancellation changes.

A sharp differentiation between DDP Osten and Deutsche Post Osten is not possible either, neither in postal functions nor in cancellation types because they overlap one another. Many a Dienstpost office lost its Dienstpost character rather late and then took up the general postal service. This can be observed in the cancellations, as many offices used Dienst seals and cancels well into the year 1940. Other offices in large towns, such as Krakow, Warchau, Lublin, etc. had already been changed to Deutsche Post Osten by the end of 1939 and had Dienstpost sections but used no Dienstpost cancellers at all. In addition to German cancellers (introduced at the end of 1939) the office in Lublin also used some Polish cancellers. Warschau, however, right from the beginning used Polish cancellers found in the office, a definitive German cancel "Warschau" without post office number (obtained from the Dienstpost office) and pure Dienstpost cancels of a pickup office type ("Abholpostlamt"). In addition, an "Abhol" post office already set up in Warschau in October 1939 used a rubber cancel. The many Dienstpost cancellations used in both the incorporated areas and the Government General did not carry the words "Deutsche Dienstpost" but were, nevertheless, issued by the DDP Osten until mid-1940.

Unlike the Government General, only German style cancellations were introduced (similar to cancels used in the Reich) into the liberated "Ost" areas and the number of provisional and special cancels were very small. It should also be emphasized that in contrast to Bohemia-Moravia, Adria and Alpenvorland, etc., the words "DDP Osten" do not occur on the definitive German steel cancellers. In larger cities, altered Polish cancellers were allowed only until German-produced steel cancellers became available. It was the responsibility of the postal clerk, the firm or the NSDAP people to mark their mail "Dienstpost" with hand written notation or a rubber stamp.

In the majority of smaller towns, however, rubber stamps of the DDP Osten and, later, D. Post Osten were used to cancel the mail, whereby the date was added with a date cancel or by hand. The rubber hand stamp cancellers of the Dienstpost had either a seal character or were two or three line bridge cancellers which displayed the Dienstpost office or "Abhol" post office.

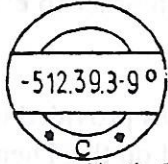


Deutsche Dienstpost Osten
-1. Dez. 1939 MIECHOW

Deutsche post Osten
Abholpostamt Radomsko

Deutsche Post Osten
Checiny
13. Aug 1940.

Durch Deutsche Dienstpost
Ostern



Patofsch

Deutsche Post Osten
Bahnpost, Radom-Katowitz

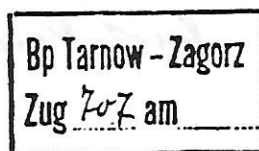
Deutsche Post Osten
1140. Baigrod

In many instances the Dienstpost cancellers were used in conjunction with normal date cancellers in order to mark the mail as Dienstpost.

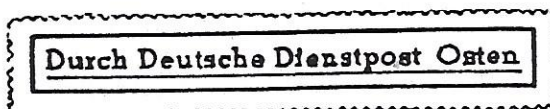
At the time of the entry of the DDP into Poland, the Dienstpost offices were supplied with administrative numbers for security reasons. A number of offices, especially in western Galicia, had these first cancellers with numbers and without town name. However, only two numbers from Posen and Gnesen, besides a few numbers from the Krakau District, have been identified. Further research has uncovered no other offices using such security numbers and it appears that in other offices the town name cancellers were used right from the beginning.



Railroad offices were also utilized in the delivery of mail. The railway cancels can be divided into a.) old Polish cancels continued without change, b.) modified (Germanized) Polish cancels, c.) new cancels of circular Polish style and d.) new oval German form, all with and without the words "Deutsche Dienstpost" or "Deutsche Post". In addition, there is evidence of provisional cancels and labels used in place of cancels.



Bp Posen-Kreuz-Posen
Zug 455/460 19.6.40



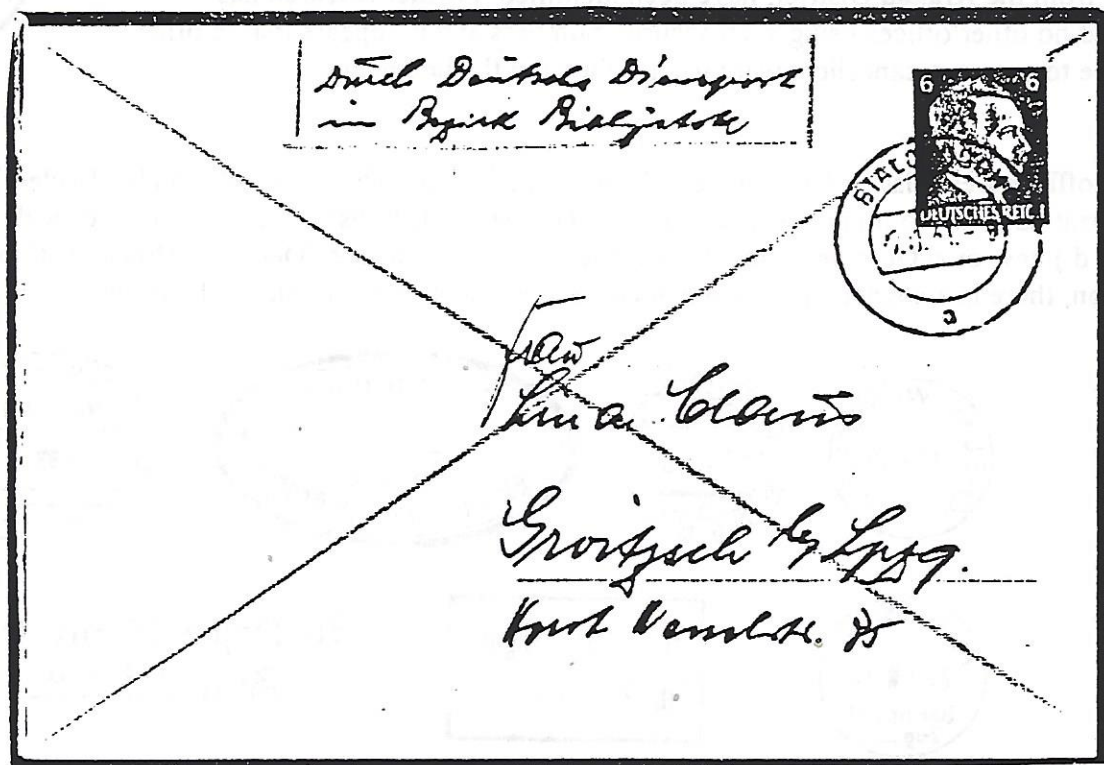
XI) Deutsche Dienstpost Bialystok

This former province of eastern Poland was occupied by the Red Army in September 1939 per the terms of the Moscow Pact which had been signed by Hitler and Stalin.

In the first weeks of the German attack on Russia in 1941, Bialystok was occupied by the Germans. The former province ("Gebiet Bialystok") was placed in a category of territories which were to be governed by a German civil administration with the eventual goal of "germanizing" the territory. As in Upper Silesia (See Fig. 15), the SS set up many offices to interview and investigate the population in order to establish a racial register ("Volkliste") of those who could qualify for German citizenship.

Bialystok was given the status of a German district ("Bezirk") with postal services provided by a Dienstpost system during this early period. Standard German postage stamps were required on this Dienstpost mail. This district was incorporated into the province of East Prussia on March 4, 1942. At this time the Dienstpost service was discontinued and postal service thereafter provided by the German Reichspost

Fig. 18) Postcard canceled in Bialowisch (formerly Bialowieza) in southern Bialystok in November 1941 has manuscript notation "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost im Bezirk Bialystok" (via German Official mail in District Bialystok). Note the diagonal blue lines which were an attempt to adhere to postal regulations which stipulated that Dienstpost mail should be identified in this manner for ease of recognition. This regulation was apparently followed as long as a blue pencil was available; however it was not too strictly enforced for practical reasons.



XII) CANCELS OF THE DEUTSCHE DIENSTPOST AND THE DEUTSCHE POST OSTEN

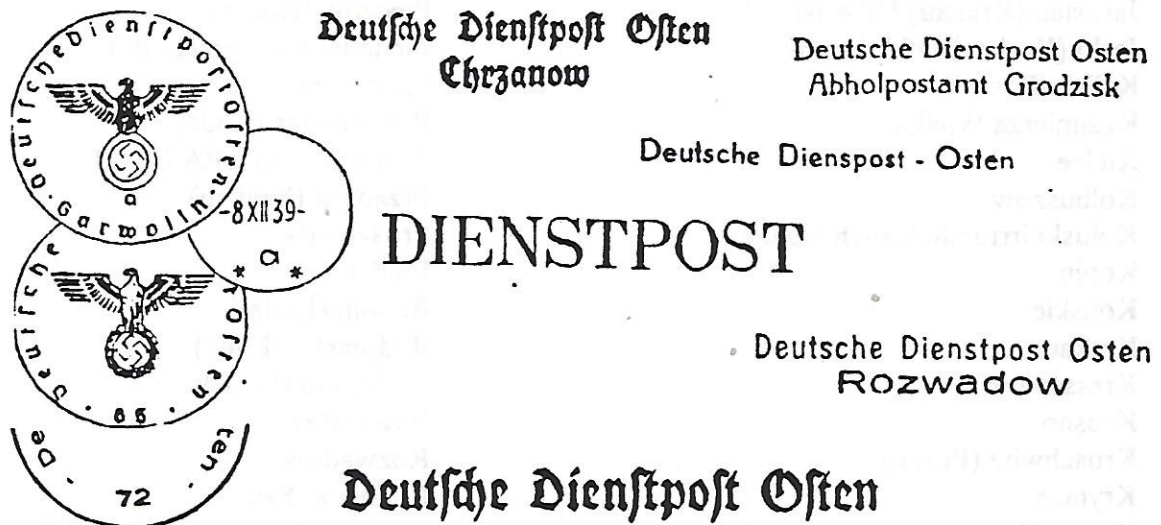
In the following listing are all known towns of old Poland which had a Dienstpost office and that utilized a DDP Osten cancel. As far as is known, the routing offices till the end of 1939 are included. It would be beyond the scope of this article to list all the cancels of each office, as in almost every case there were several types in each office. All kinds of possible cancellations and identifications can thus be found on Dienstpost covers.



The same goes for cancellations of the Deutsche Post Osten, again a mixture of old Polish cancels, partly modified Dienst seals, two or three line rectangular cancels and a new definitive Government general cancel.

A combination of Dienst seals of the DDP Osten and cancels of the D. Post Osten or vice versa, occur frequently.

A listing of the types of DDP Osten and D. Post Osten and the definitive cancels of the Government general is thus not possible for individual towns, in contrast with the Dienstpost system in other areas.



The following is a listing of Deutsche Dienstpost (DDP) offices in German occupied Poland. An expanded listing including Deutsche Post Osten (DPO) offices can be found in Schultz's handbooks:

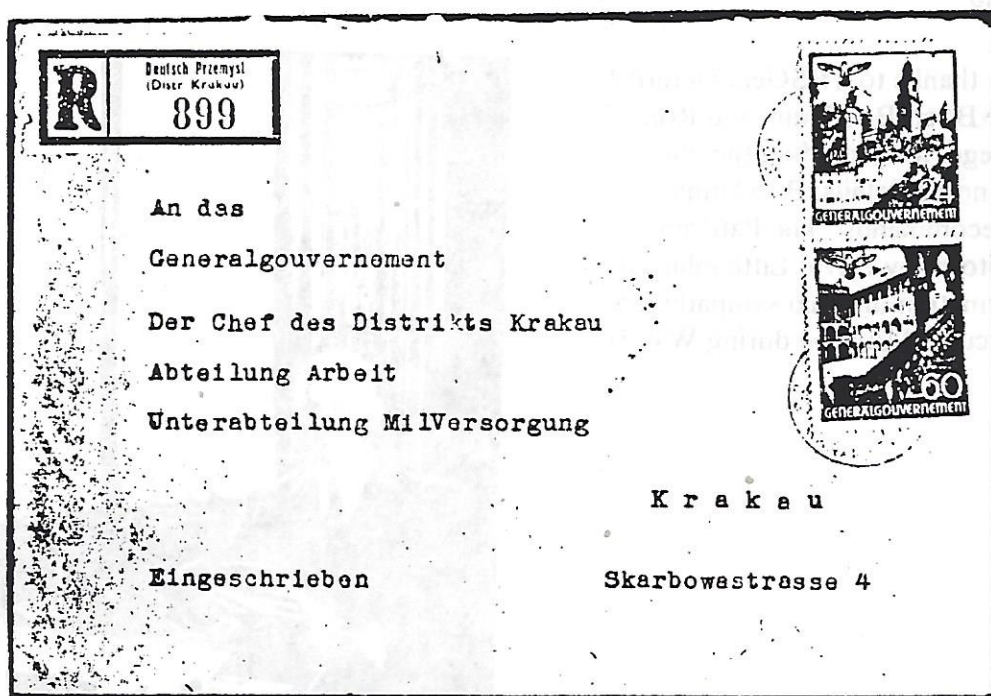
Alexandrowo (Lodz)	Lancut (Posen)
Argenau (Posen)	Leczyca/Lentsceuhltz (Lodz)
Biala Podlaska (Lodz)	Limanowa (Krakau)
Bielitz (Krakau)	Lodsch Dtsch.FP-Stpl.u.Norm-Stpl.
Bigoraj	Lodz 10
Bochnia (Krakau)	Lowicz (Lodz)
Bromberg (Lodz)	Lubartow (Lodz)
Brzesko (Krakau)	Lublin (Krakau) poln. aptiert,
Busko Zdroi (Krakau)	Lukow I (Lodz)
Chabowska	Makow-Podhalanski
Chelm-Lub. (Krakau) (derselbe Ort)	Miechow (Krakau) DPA Nr. 72
Cholm (Krakau)	Mielec (Krakau)
Chrzanow (Krakau)	Minsk Mazowiecki (Lodz)
Dabrowa (Krakau)	Mogilno (Lodz)
Debica (Krakau)	Murawana-Goslin
Demblin (Lodz)	Myslnice (Krakau) DPA Nr. 76
Deutsch-Przemysl (Krakau)	Neumarkt (Krakau) DPA Nr. 66
Dolhobyczow	Neu-sandez (Krakau)
Garwolin (Lodz)	Neutomischel
Gnesen (Posen) DPA Nr. 23	Nisko (Krakau)
Gora-Kalwarija (Lodz)	Olkusz (Krakau)
Gorlice (Krakau)	Opatow
Gostyn (Posen/Lodz)	Opoczno
Grodzisk (Lodz)	Ostrow Maz.
Grojec (Lodz)	Ostrowo-Posen (Lodz)
Grybow	Ostrowiec (Lodz)
Guldenhof (Posen)	Ozorkow
Hohensalza (Posen)	Pabianice/Pabianitz (Lodz)
Jadow	Pakosch
Janow Lubelski	Petrikau
Jaroslaw (Krakau) DPA Nr. 74	Pinczow (Krakau)
Jaslo (Krakau) DPA Nr. 69	Pinne Bez. Posen (Lodz)
Kalish (Posen)	Piwniczna
Kazimierza Wielka	Poddembice (Lodz)
Kielce	Posen (Lodz) DPA Nr. 21
Kolbuszow	Przemysl (Krakau)
Koluski irrtumlich auch Kuluski	Proszowice
Konin	Rabka
Konskie	Radom (Lodz)
Krakau	Radomsko (Lodz)
Kressendorf	Radzymin (Lodz)
Krosno	Rawa Maz.
Kruschwitz (Posen)	Rozwadow
Krynica	Rudnik a. San
Kutno (Posen)	Rzeszow (Krakau) DPA Nr. 73

Sandomir (Krakau) DPA Nr. 78
 Sanok (Krakau) DPA Nr. 79
 Saybusch (Krakau)
 Siledlce (Lodz)
 Skarzysko (Lodz)
 Skawina
 Skierniewice (Lodz)
 Sochaczew
 Sckolow (Lodz)
 Stalowa Wola 1
 Stalowa Wola 2
 Starachowice
 Stary Sacz/Alt Sandez
 Stroze
 Slupce/Grenzhausen (Pozen)
 Sucha/k. Zywca
 Szczakowa/Schakowa O/S

Stenschewo/Seenbruck
 Tarnow 2
 Terespol/Bug
 Tomaszow
 Tarnobrzeg (Krakau)
 Tarnow (Krakau) DPA Nr. 62
 Tschenstochau (Krakau)
 Warschau (Lodz)
 Warchau 1
 Wisnicz Nowy
 Wlodawa
 Wloszczowa (Lodz)
 Zakopane (Lodz) DPA Nr. 77
 Zwaiercie (Krakau)
 Zdunska Wola (Lodz)
 Znin (Lodz)

Much of the information contained in this article was derived from 2 Lieferung of Dr. Hermann Schultz's DEUTSCHE DIENSTPOST 1939-1945 - Handbuch und Stempelkatalog published in 1955 by Neue Schriftenreihe der Poststempelgilde "Rhein-Donau". Again, many thanks to Gerard J.de Boer for providing the English translation.

Fig. 19) Registered cover sent to Labor Office in Krakau in January 1942 via DDP office in Deutsche Przemysl reflects "Germanization" of postal markings. Registry label and double-ring /date bridge cancel were placed into use late in 1941. This small diameter cancel was later replaced by a larger design similar to those used in Germany. Similarly, the "thick" letter "R" in the label was replaced by the thinner "R" used on German labels. Note: All numbered illustrations in this article were provided by the TRSG



FOLLOW UP TO MAX BLOKZUL INQUIRY

As expected, the TRSG came through with flying colors in response to our inquiry in Bulletin #108. Firstly, the spelling "Blokzul" is incorrect. What appears to be the letter "u" is actually the Dutch diphthong "ij", in which the two letters are generally combined when written.

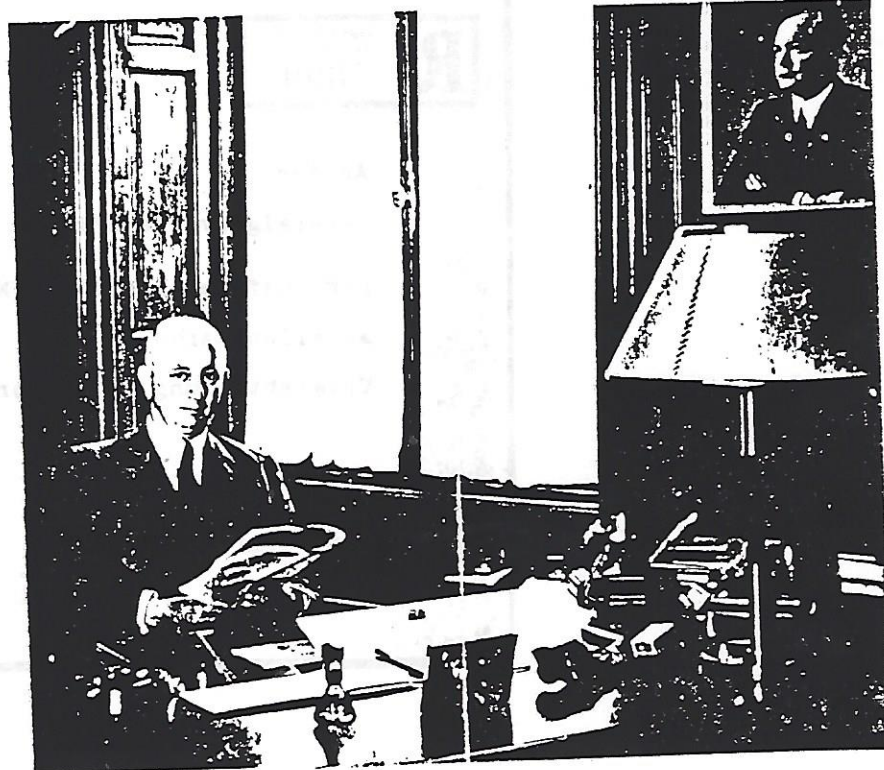
As to Max Blokzijl, he was born in Holland in 1884 and by the 1930s had become a leading journalist and comedian. He was foreign correspondent in Berlin for the daily newspaper "Handelsblad" and became an ardent Nazi. He also had a radio talk show "Burning Questions" which was very popular. After the German occupation of Holland, Blokzijl, then General-Secretary for Press Affairs for the Dutch Nazi Party ("N.S.B."), replaced former Prime Minister Dr. Colijn as editor of the influential Protestant paper "De Standaard".

In February 1941 Blokzijl began a new talk program titled "I was there". Altogether there were 800 of these programs, the last one airing on May 6, 1945, the day after the German surrender in Holland. His last words were "We will be back!". Max Blokzijl was sentenced to death in the Hague and executed by firing squad at Schveningen on March 15, 1946

The postcard shown in Bulletin #108 has text "Max Blokzijl as rubble clearer .. a burning question." at top which obviously refers to his talk program. The bottom text reads "Apparently more V-2 rockets went astray than I wanted them to believe!" This refers to the German's V-2 rocket attacks on Allied positions which began in the Fall of 1944. As with conventional artillery, there were situations in which rockets fell short of their targets, in this case they fell on German occupied areas in Holland. It seems that Blokzijl had been attempting to minimize the frequency of these incidents.

The post card below shows Max Blokzijl in his N.S.B. office in the Hague. The photograph on the wall is that of Mussert, head of the N.S.B., who followed Blokzijl to the stake at Schveningen on the same day.

Many thanks to TRSGers Gerard J. de Boer, Bob Dunn and Ron Huegel for providing the above noted details. Bob Dunn recommends "The Patriotic Traitors" by David Littlejohn for information on Nazi sympathizers in occupied Europe during WW II



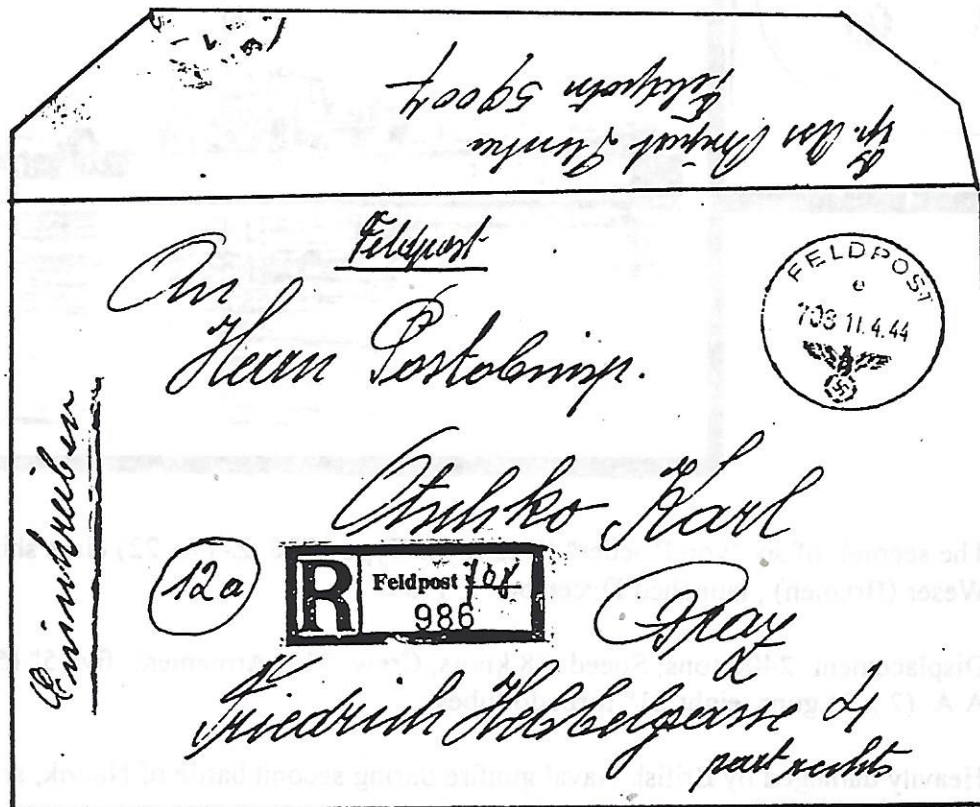
COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 334th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADEIER		ARTY	UNITS
334	708	754	755	756	334

Formed in Fall of 1942 as composite division with 754, 755 & 756 Grenadier Regiments raised in XIII, XVII & XVIII Military Districts ("Wehrkreis"). Upon completion of training, division post office FpA 334 was assigned Fp#48115 and K-412. Sent to North Africa in December 1942, division fought well in battle of Tunisian bridgehead but was destroyed when Armee Gruppe Afrika collapsed in May 1943.

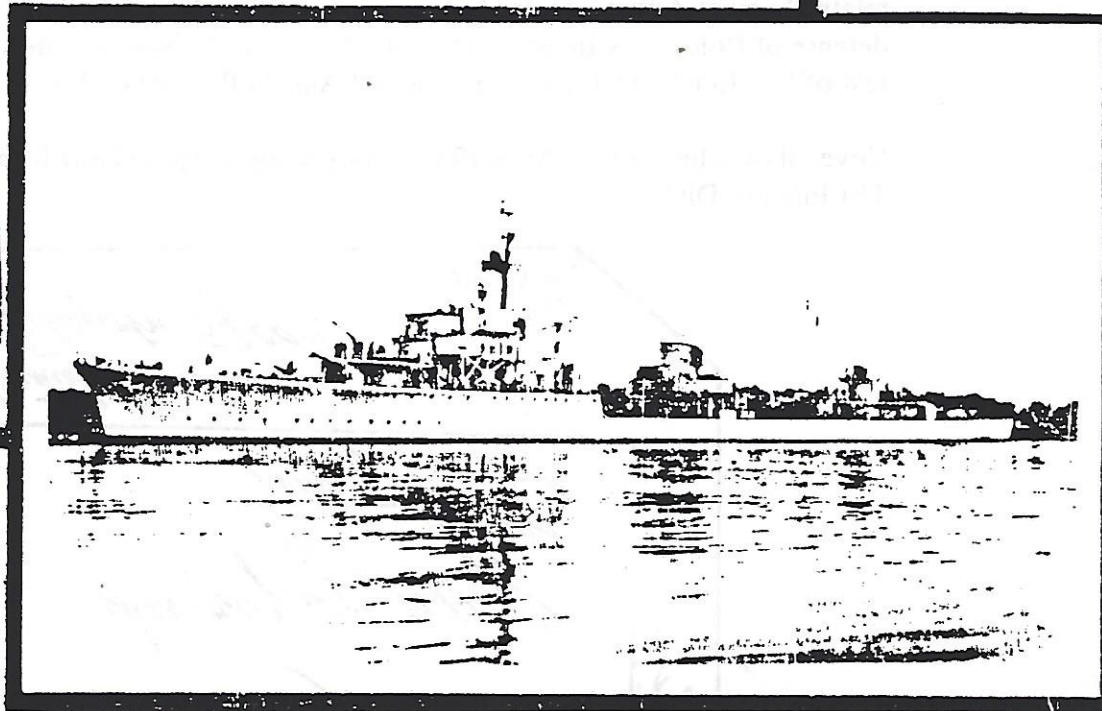
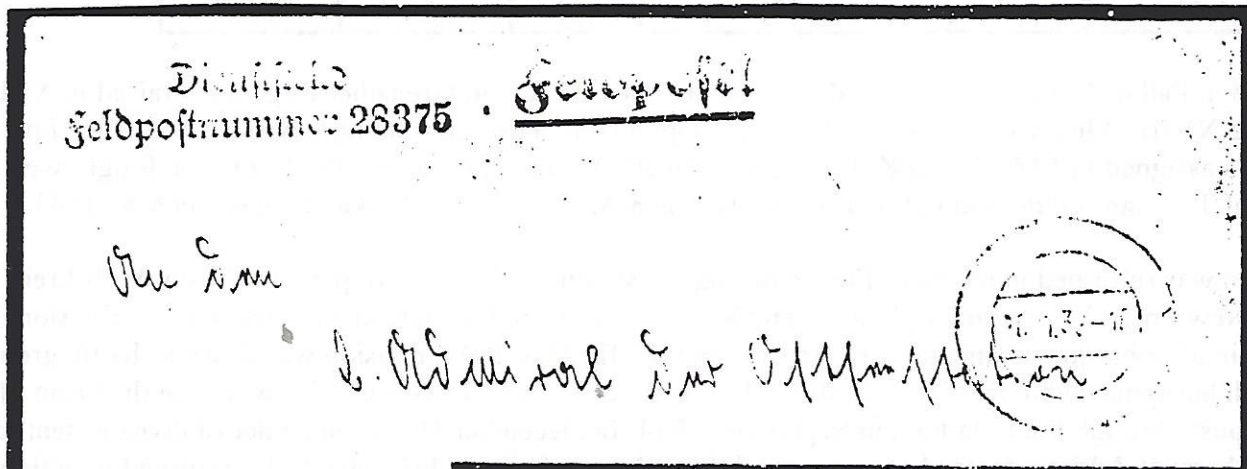
Division was reformed in southern France during the summer of 1943 with personnel from Wehrkreis XIII. New FpA 334 assigned Fp#59007 and K-708. Transferred to Italy in November 1943, division fought in all subsequent campaigns of Army Group C. By May 1944, division was down to battle group strength but remained in front line. Suffered heavy losses in battle of Gothic Line and bore the brunt of Allied push through the Futa Pass in September 1944. In December 1944, remainder of division sent to relatively quiet Adriatic sector but was not reinforced nor rebuilt. In February 1945, returned to action in defense of Bologna with less than 2600 effectives. Division was destroyed on April 23, 1945 with the rest of LI Mountain Corps during the last Allied offensive on Italian front..

Cover shown below sent April 1944 to Postal Inspector in Graz from Fp#59007 (Field Post Office of 334 Infantry Division).



NAMM LOG

Destroyer Z-18 "Hans Ludemann" - Feldpost #28375



The second of six "von Roeder" (Destroyer Type 1936: Z-17 - 22) class ships. Built by A.G. Weser (Bremen), launched December 1, 1937.

Displacement: 2400 tons; Speed: 38 knots; Crew: 313; Armament: five 5" (5 x 1), four 37mm A.A. (2 x 2) guns; eight 21" torpedo tubes.

Heavily damaged by British Naval gunfire during second battle of Narvik, scuttled in Rombaksfjord on April 13, 1940.

TRSG AUCTION NO. 64

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Min. Bid</u>
1.	Boh.-Mor. official R-cvr w/Dienstmarken Mi.19 & pr. Mi. 20.ca. Prag 4.'43 F	\$12.00
2.	Gen. Govt. R-cvr can. Debica 1.'43 w/Mi. 40,69, 71 (2), 74 & 76. Frm Pharmacy F-VF	10.00
3.	Phil. cvr 6th Int. Gemeinekongress 6.'38 w/blks 4 Mi. 617 & 618, plus , 619, 620 & 512 VF	5.00
4.	Bedarfs Express cvr w/Mi. 512 (pr) & 525 can. Tarnow-Berlin 8.'40 F-VF	5.00
5.	Two diff. Anti-Masonic slogan can. Hannover on unaddr. cd & bedarfs cvr F-VF	5.00
6.	"Elsass" Mi.10 on bedarfs censored cvr cans.Strassburg 2.'41 VF	10.00
7.	Danzig o'prts Mi. 719,721 plus 714/15 on Phil. cvr. w/10.'39 SPC "Danzig greets Fuhrer". VF	7.00
8.	Mi. Ganzachen P258 Winter Olympics bedarfs to Chile frm Lorch 4.'36. B'stmp Valparaiso F	8.00
9.	Same, P312b can. Eutin 14.1.45 bedarfs to Wiesbaden. VF	5.00
10.	Gen. Govt. parcel cd w/Mi. 48 & 51 can. Skierniewice (Warsaw) 11.'41 VF	5.00
11.	Two C.O.D. "Nachnahme" cvrs frm stamp dealers circa 1944 w/nice var. stamps Attractive F	7.00
12.	Bedarfs cvr w/Mi. 513,545 & 574 can Kichheimbolanden to Buenos Aires 6.'35 F-VF	5.00
13.	Bedarfs R-cvr w/Mi. 791,810 & 811 can. Wien 56 in 1.'42. Local rate w/"4" notation. VF	5.00
14.	Lodz ghetto p'cd 12.'41 confiscated by ghetto censor w/offending phrases underlined and "UNHALT UNZULASSIG" h/s . See sim. markings GPS Aug.'91, page 33,fig. 31 VF	40.00
15.	Early T.R. cvr w/Mi. 379 & A379 tied Nuremberg slogan can. 2.'33, sent to N.J. F	5.00
16.	Lot of 27 different machine slogan cans on bedarfs cds & cvrs. Condition mostly F	9.00
17.	Drucksache cvr w/Ukraine Mi. 5 tied DDP can. 2.'42 (looks Philatelic) VF	5.00
18.	German Consulate mail - two cvrs sent to German War Graves Commission, Berlin frm Commission Delegation in France. One cvr posted Jan.'38 is lacking required Dienstseigle has "Nachgebuhr" (postage due) h/s & manuscript "24" penalty fee. Similar cvr posted Feb.'38 has correct markings and required no postage. Both via diplomatic pouch w/Berlin SW11 cans. VF	24.00
19.	Official 1941 cvr frm "Reich Food Estate" w/scarce "Portopflichtige Dienstsache" h/s (see Fig. 3 in Bulletin #105).	12.00

- 20. Hitler photo card "Manner der Zeit" Nr. 92 w/Austrian stamp tied SPC Vienna 3/15/38 "Der Fuhrer in Wien" VF 10.00
- 21. Color p'cd Hitler superimposed on gold map Germany/Austria. Bedarfs w/mixed Ger./Aust. stamps tied two diff. Vienna SPC VF 12.00
- 22. Scarce double circle Feldpost cancel June 6, '40 on cvr frm Fp.#12315. VF 9.00
- 23. Munich-Riem 1936 Souvenir Sheet (Michel Block 4) VF 8.00
- 24. Boh.-Mor. DDP Mahr. Ostrau can. on re-used Feldpost cvr frm Army Hospital to Metz. Attractive official tan o'label and red boxed "Durch DDP" h/s. Original cvr readable! VF 14.00
- 25. DDP Boh.-Mor. Brunn 5. '40 can color p'cd sent Feldpost frm Luftwaffe Air Base 9.00
- 26. Censored. cvr w/Mi. 793 sent frm Germany to Nancy, France August '43. Red E-30b censor h/s VF 12.00
- 27. Commemorative cvr 150 Years Bad Nenndorf Spa sent Drucksache w/Dienst stamp Mi-136 tied SPC. Nice Nazi D'siegel and ancillary markings. Attractive! VF 10.00
- 28. Reg. Feldpost cvr to Prag Military Records sent frm Fp#12369 (Art. Rgt. 213) via K-267. backstamped Prag DDP cancel. Scarce Kenn and DDP cancels on same cvr! VF 12.00
- 29. Feldpost lettersheet sent Feb. '43 frm Fp# 24190 (Jaeger Rgt. 75) discloses location "Pleskau, Russland" on message side. (Against Fp regulations!) F-VF 12.00
- 30. Catapult airmail cvr sent to Frankfurt frm steamer 'Bremen' off Southampton on Aug. 29, '34 on return trip frm USA. Many nice cachets, etc. on Nord Lloyd envelope. Some wear. F-VF 12.00
- 31. Beautiful mint 1935 photo card of 'Bremen' purchased on ship. Nice companion to Lot 30. VF 8.00
- 32. Postal cd (Borek# 284) w/SPC Nuremburg Tag der Briefmarke (radio operator) 12.1.41 VF 5.00
- 33. View card resort Tatra Mts. w/Slovakia Scott# 45 (2), 46, 47, 48 (2) & 49 (Parks set) sent to Vienna Physician Oct. '40 w/German mach. censor. Bedarfs & VF. 17.00

THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 64 IS DEC 10 1993. SEND ALL BIDS TO:
FRED STENGEL, 1248 MAGNOLIA PLACE, UNION, NJ 07083

PRICES REALIZED - TRSG AUCTION NO. 63

<u>LOT</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
1.)	\$34.00	11.)	\$10.00	19.)	\$15.00	28.)	\$20.00
2.)	27.00	12.)	9.00	20.)	25.00	29.)	18.00
3.)	28.00	13.)	21.00	21.)	15.00	31.)	20.00
4.)	22.00	14.)	23.00	22.)	10.00	33.)	11.00
5.)	14.00	15.)	36.00	23.)	15.00		
6.)	16.00	16.)	30.00	25.)	22.00		
10)	11.00	18.)	17.00	26.)	15.00		