



Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

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

VOL. XLI No. 2 (Whole No. 163) 2007

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

BULLETIN STAFF:

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

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Robert Dunn, 3318 Running Cedar Way, Williamsburg, VA 23188

BACK ISSUES MGR.: Robert Dunn

Contents:

Page 3	Combat Division Profile: 330th Infantry Division - J. Lewis
Page 4	Combat Division Profile: 256th Infantry Division - J. Lewis
Page 5	TRSG Map: Luftwaffe Organization in Western Europe 1940-1944 – J. Painter
Page 6	Story Behind the Stamp: KdF Liner 'Wilhelm Gustlof' – K. Stefanacci
Page 7	Waffen-SS: Troops of Command Staff of the Reichsführer-SS– J. Painter
Page 8	Postal Effects of Allied Air Raids – B. Beede
Page 14	Postal Rates: Internal Rates Jan. 30, 1933 to May 8, 1945 (Part 2) B. Ferguson
Page 20	Combat Division Profile: 45th Infantry Division - J. Lewis
Page 21	Navy Log: Auxiliary Minelayer 'Hansestadt Danzig' – R. Dunn
Page 22	Combat Division Profile: 168th Infantry Division – J. Lewis
Page 23	TRSG Auction No. 106

066 Warschau C 1 b

Kraj nadania: Gouvernement général Generalne gubernatorstwo

Wertangabe (In Buchstaben und in lateinischer Schrift) (in arabischen Ziffern) (in arabesques lettres) (en chiffres arabes) Wertek (Literami i pismeni oznaczenie) (w cyfrach arabskich)

Paketkarte – Bulletin d'expédition – Adres Pomocniczy

Zahl der Pakete (Pakete) (Paczki) Zollinhaltserklärungen (déclarations en douane – Deklaracje cełne) Bescheinigungen oder Rechnungen (certificats ou factures – Zwizdzenia sub rachunkie)

An *Jastynski Zdrzslaw*
Schutzhalle Nr 16300 Block 2
Arbeitslager Dritte über Brannschweig – Deutschland

(Lieu de destination) – (Miejsce przznaczenia) (Pays de destination) – (Kraj przznaczenia)

Strasse und Hausnummer (Rue et numéro) – (ul. i nr domu)

Gewicht – Poids – Waga *1* kg g

Leitvermerk: – Acheminement: – Kierunek

Weg – Voie – Droga

Zollgebühren (Droits de douane) – Oplaty celne

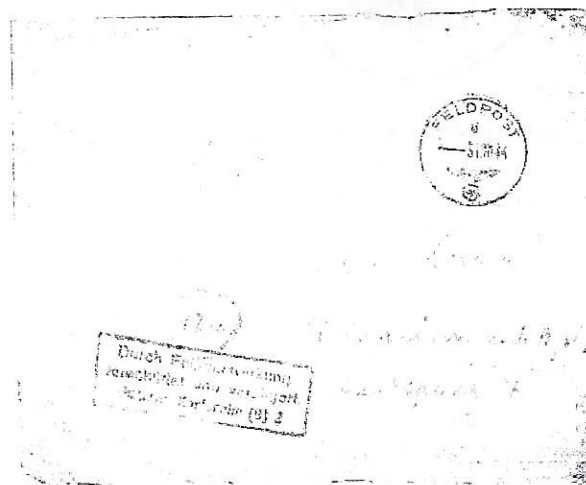
Auswechslungs-Postanstalt (Bureau d'échange) – Pocztowy Urząd Wymiany

1) Ausfüllen von der Eingangs-Postanstalt oder der Zollverwaltung des Bestimmungslandes Cadre à remplir par le bureau d'entrée ou par le service de la douane du pays de destination Wypełnia Pocztowy Urząd nadejścia lub Urząd Celný Kraja przznaczenia

DPO 443 (3-11)

STUDY GROUP NOTES

Feldpost delayed by enemy action - Shown at right is a Feldpost cover addressed to Weinheim dated 31.10.44. The sender's Feldpost number is illegible on account of exposure to moisture. This cover has an explanatory red boxed hand stamp reading: 'Buried and delayed due to enemy action. Karlsruhe Post Office (B) 2'



The U.S. 8th Air Force bombed Karlsruhe on Nov. 5, '44 and it is quite likely that train or truck carrying this cover was heavily damaged during that raid.

Submitted by Martin Lynes

The 8th SS Cavalry Division 'Florian Geyer' - in response to an inquiry, Florian Geyer (1490-1525) was a Franconian knight and devout follower of Martin Luther who entered the service of Grand Duke Albrecht of Prussia. He later led a peasant revolt with the goal of reforming the Reich by abolishing the privileges of church and nobility and empowering the citizens and peasants. There was a 19th-century song about Geyer which begins "Wir sind des Geyers schwarzer Haufen..." ("We are Geyer's black-clad troops..") that must have appealed to those responsible for choosing the division's name.

Ye Olde Ed goofs!- in making up the R-Fp section of our auctions, I use the section from a previous auction as a template and enter the new Kenn, Date, Fp. # etc. I used the section from Auction 102 for Auction 105 and erroneously retained lots 38, 44, 45, 53, 57, 62 & 63 without change. My apologies to all who bid on these "phantom" lots. As a way of explanation (but not as an excuse), my wife has been quite ill these past few months and I put the auction together without my usual triple checking.

In addition, I learned that **Henry Laessig** provided the Croatian postcard and write-up shown on page 19 in Bulletin 161. Sorry, Henry!

Prices Realized -Auction # 105

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
5	\$ 35.00	13	\$45.00	17	\$28.00	29	\$31.00	34	\$34.00	54	\$10.00
6	32.00	14	43.00	24	36.00	31	36.00	39	10.00	55	11.00
8	36.00	15	31.00	25	41.00	32	41.00	43	10.00	69	10.00
11	12.00	16	32.00	28	25.00	33	62.00	50	10.00		

Cover Illustration: This packet card from a 4 kilogram parcel sent via Warsaw C1b post office in April 1944 is addressed to a Polish inmate at the 'Arbeitslager' (work camp) in Drutte that was located outside Braunschweig, Germany. While this card carries three 50 Groschen stamps (two on front, one on reverse) the German postal authorities added a violet 'Nachgebuhr' (postage due) hand stamp and manuscript '40' on the front. This item is lot 8 in a nice selection of General Government lots Auction 106. Good Hunting!

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 330th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL	
TACT	KENN	INFANTRY			ARTY	UNITS
330	863	554	555	556	330	330

The 330th Infantry Division was formed in December 1941 and remained in Germany until sent to the Eastern Front early in 1942. The P.O. was assigned Fp.# 33500 as a mailing address and Kenn 863 as a coded identification for registered mail in lieu of tactical FpA 330.

Joining Army Group Center, the 330th Infantry Division held a position facing the 4th Soviet Strike Army at Demidov, just north of the Moscow-Smolensk highway. It continued to serve in Russia as part of 9th Army in the heavy defensive fighting of 1942-43. By October 1943 the division had been reduced to battle group strength and ceased to function as a separate entity. A portion of the division was attached to the 35th Infantry Division and another to the 78th Sturm Division, both divisions of the 4th Army. Finally, the division was formally disbanded on November 2, 1943. The Feldpost office (FpA 330), including Fp.# 33500 and K-863, was re-numbered FpA 367 and transferred to the new 367th Infantry Division that was forming in Croatia



Cover sent in September 1942 to Military District Command in Neumünster from Fp. # 01435 (Stab/Nachrichten Kompanie 330) via Post Office 330 (K-863).

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:**256th Infantry Division**

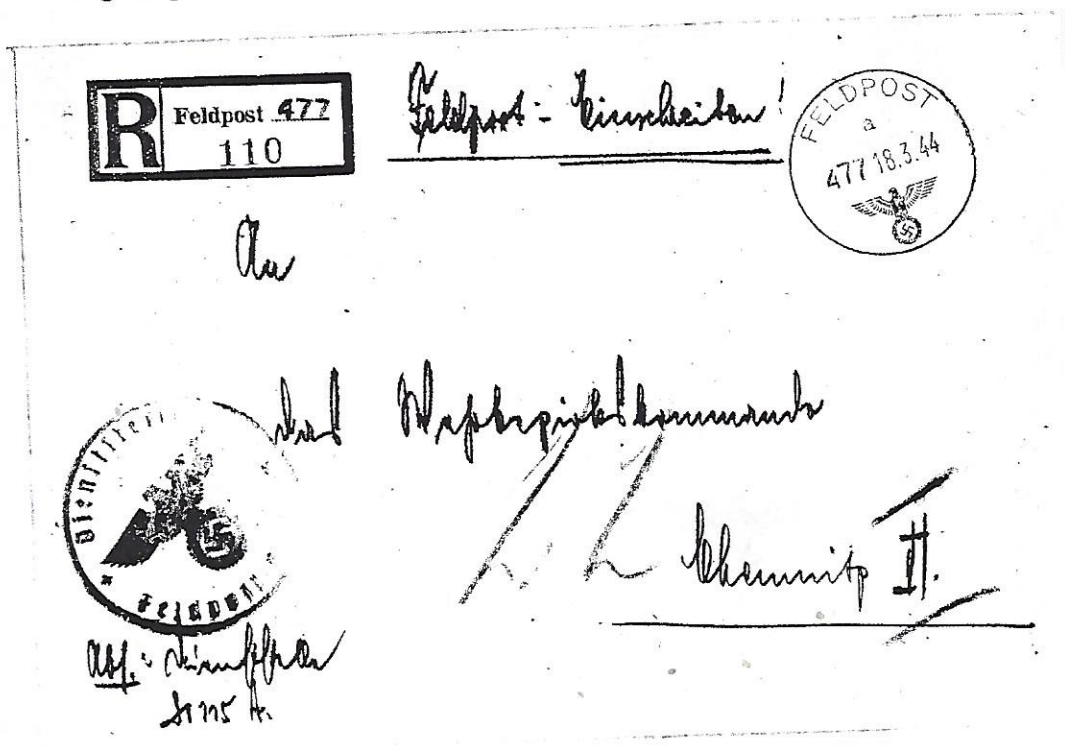
by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
256	477	456	476	481	256	256

The 256th Infantry Division was formed in the 1939 mobilization (4th Wave) from reserve (Engänzung) units. The post office was assigned Fp.# 31951 as a return address and Kenn 477 in lieu of tactical FpA 256. After taking part in the Dutch and Belgian campaigns in 1940, the division invaded Russia in June 1941 as part of Army Group Center. Near the end of December 1941 it was instrumental in saving the XXIII Army Corps that had been encircled by the Soviets. Remaining in the central sector, it took part in the Rzhev withdrawal but was not present at Kursk.

The division suffered heavy losses in the Battle of Smolensk in the autumn of 1943. An element of 3rd Panzer Army, the division was destroyed during the massive Soviet offensive against Army Group Center in July 1944.

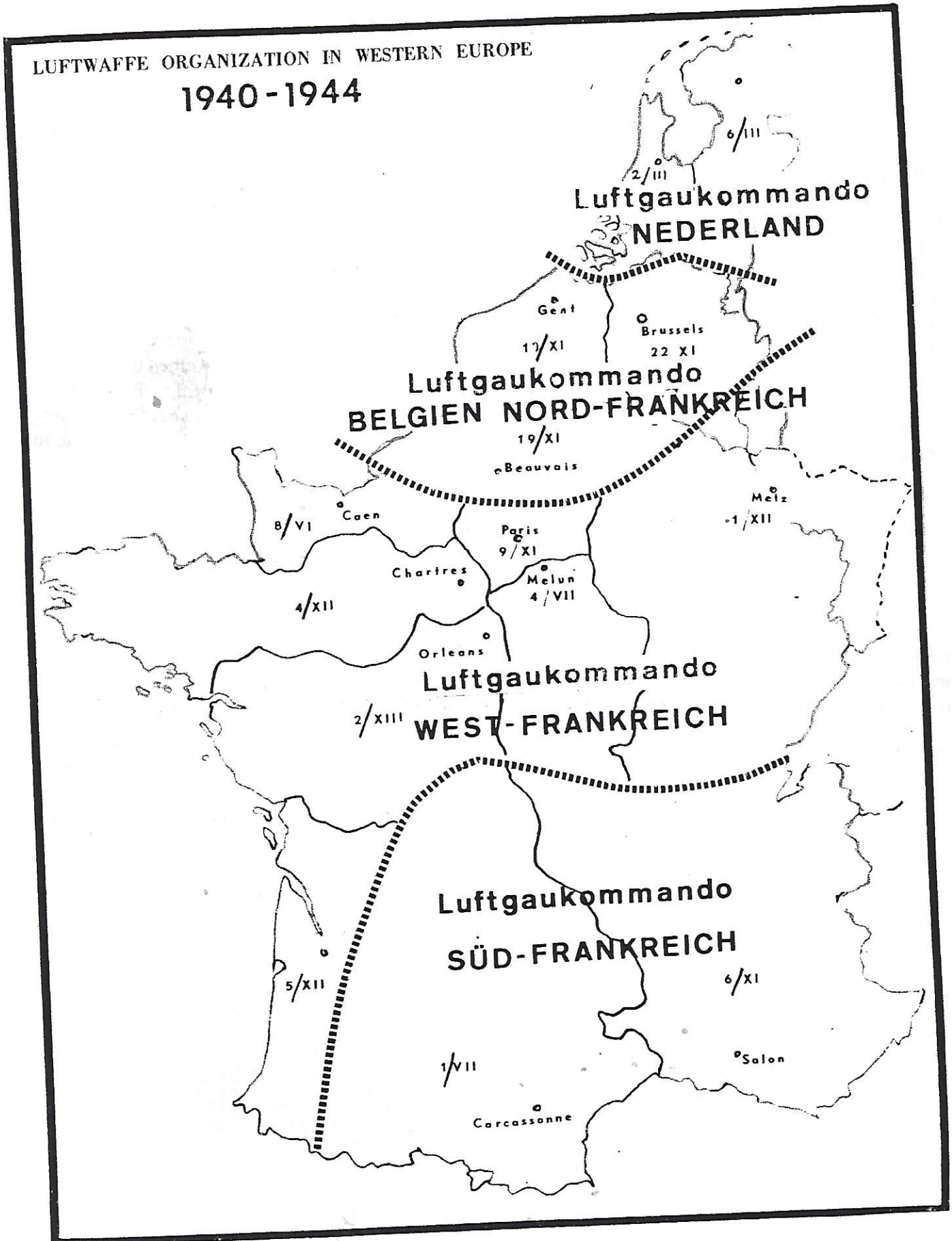
A new 256th Volksgrenadier Division was formed in Saxony in September 1944 using personnel from the partially formed 568th Grenadier Division and veterans of the Eastern Front. The new FpA 256 (former FpA 1568) was assigned Fp.# 16025 and Kenn 898. The division fought the British in southern Holland in October and in the Battle of the Schelde (Oct. 2 – Nov. 8, 1944). It then took part in the fighting in northern Alsace, Bitche and in the Battle of the Saar-Moselle Triangle in February 1945. It was still fighting in southern Germany when the war ended.



Cover sent to Military District Command in Chemnitz in March 1944 from Fp. # 31775 (Stab II of Grenadier Regiment 476) via Division P.O. 256 (K-477).

TRSG Map: Luftwaffe Organization in Western Europe 1940-1944

by John Painter



Story Behind the Stamp:
The 'Wilhelm Gustloff'
 by Kelly Stefanacci

Wilhelm Gustloff was the German leader of the Swiss Nazi Party assassinated in 1936 by David Frankfurter, a Jewish student who'd been monitoring his activities. He was born in Meklenburg and had a state funeral in Schwerin in the presence of Hitler and Goebbels.

At the request of Hitler, Wilhelm Gustloff took his memorial on May 5, 1937 as a new 25,400-ton ocean liner bore his name in Gothic letters on her bows and across her stern. Blohm & Voss built this splendid ship at a cost of 25 million Reichmarks. She was launched by Gustloff's widow and became flagship of the Kraft durch Freude (Strength through Joy) fleet. She took her first cruises to the Mediterranean in March 1938, a ship on which groups of Hitler Youth could revel in Nordic dreams. A crew of 400 kept with modern amenity ideas and would ferry 1,465 passengers on holiday cruises not only to northern waters of Norway but to the aforementioned and Africa. On a visit to Britain she sailed up the Thames to be used as a floating polling station for 2000 Germans wishing to vote in an election cruising Portugal and the Madeira. In the winter of 1938-39 she went to Genoa then sailed on to Naples and Palermo before putting her passengers ashore at Venice for the their homeward rail journey. She made her final peacetime passage in the early summer of 1939 to Norway and Sweden.

Almost a year and a half into the war she was taken back to Hamburg to be converted into a hospital ship. However, she was then redirected east to Gdynia to be used as a barracks ship for submariners at their training school. Her new white paint was exchanged for Navy grey and she would lie alongside Gdynia pier for the next four years.

In January 1945 the Red Army was advancing and orders were given for evacuation of the U-boat men and their families aboard the Gustloff. Many thousands of civilian refugees fled into Gdynia and Danzig Bay hoping to find a place on a ship to Kiel. It is estimated that there were nearly 60,000 people gathered in the harbor in hope of getting aboard the ship when she sailed on January 30. That morning it was 10 degrees below zero and snowing when the 'Wilhelm Gustloff' left unescorted with only a few anti-aircraft guns and about 10,582 people aboard. Later that night the Russian submarine S-13 spotted the ship and fired three torpedoes. The first torpedo hit the starboard side below the bridge and the other two hit near the engine compartments. The ship lost power and began to list to starboard. The thousands of passengers began to panic and fought for spaces in the ice-covered lifeboats. Fifty minutes after the attack the ship slipped beneath the waves. The water was so cold that no human could survive for more than a few minutes. German rescue ships only picked up 996 survivors of what had become one of the worst maritime disasters in history.


A set of eight stamps was issued for the 1937 Winter Relief Charity. The 6 + 4 value (Mi. 654) depicts the "Wilhelm Gustloff".



Waffen-SS Feldpost

Troops of the Command Staff of the Reichsführer-SS
by John Painter

This postcard to Potsdam was sent in December 1942 by SS Mann Rattmauer using Fp. 27581, the coded return address of the artillery detachment of the 2nd SS Infantry Brigade. The German cadre of this formation was used to train and coordinate the activities of several diverse units. These units included the Legion Nederland, the Legion Flandern, as well as the Escort Battalion of the RFSS. All these units were operating under the direct control of Himmler's command staff in the rear of Army Group Center. Their after action battle reports indicate they were involved in anti-partisan operations against Russians and helped the Security Police in their round up of Jews that had escaped earlier.

	
Absender <u>44 Mann</u> Dienstgrad <u>Alwin Rattmauer</u> Vor- und Zuname Feldpost- Nummer <u>27581</u>	Feldpostkarte <u>Herrn</u> <u>St. Gruen Berking</u> <u>Potsdam</u> <u>Jagerallee 39</u>
G. 36 5. 42 100000 Einzinger & Co., München E2	

In May of 1943 the unit was withdrawn from rear area duties after the Dutch and Flemish Legions were sent to Germany for refitting. The approximately 1,500 men of the cadre that remained were used to form the SS Latvian Volunteer Brigade that was later expanded to the 15th SS Division (Lettisch Nr. 1). Incidentally the Kenn number for this formation was K-568.

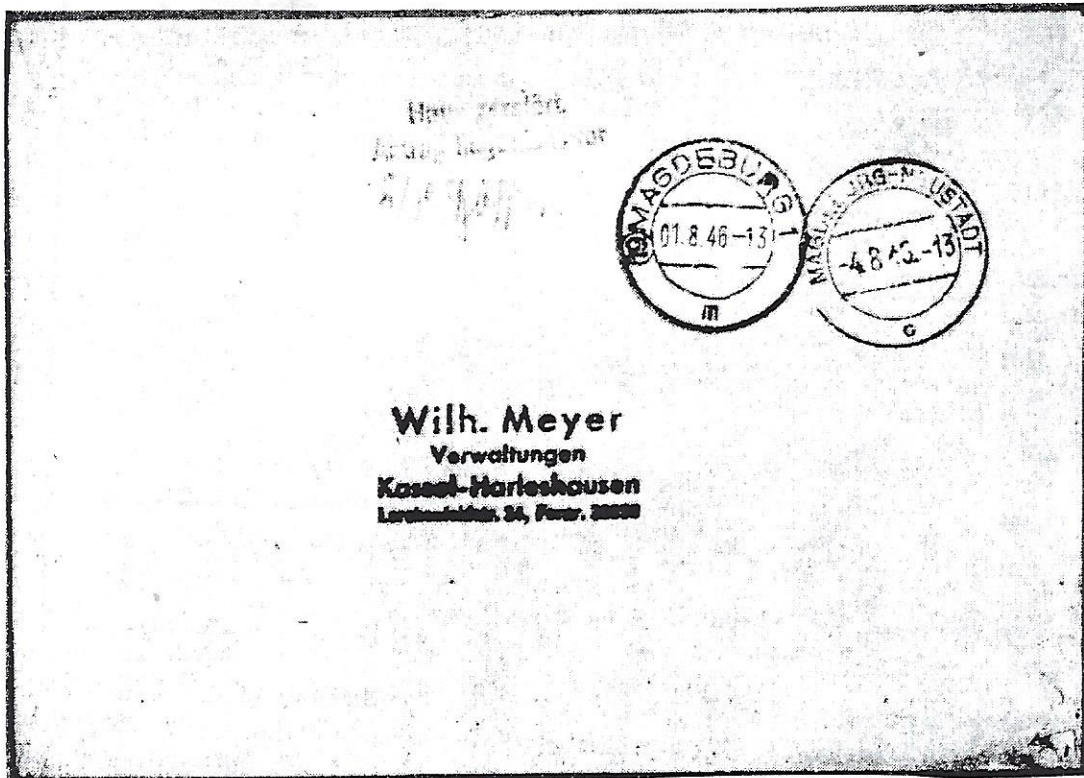
Postal Effects of Allied Air Raids

by Benjamin R. Beede

During the latter half of the Second World War phrases such as “thousand plane raids” and “round-the-clock bombing” came into parlance in the Allied countries to describe the tremendous Anglo-American air offensive undertaken against Germany. There is a growing historical and military literature on the subject of these campaigns, including general histories [1] and detailed studies of particular raids [2]. Relatively little has been said about the philatelic aspects of the air war over Germany in 1942-45. The purpose of this article will be to draw upon official regulations to outline this neglected but intriguing field. Some philatelic effects were indirect, while others tied philately closely to the era of firestorms and “saturation bombing”.

One postal effect of the relentless strangulation of the German railways was the slowing of postal service. There was a steady decline in the amount of mail carried in 1943-44 [3]. This is the most difficult phase to document. Presumably one could determine the length of time required for a letter to pass from one city to another in normal times and then include a cover from the years 1942-45 traveling the same route to show delays.

Shown below is a postwar cover with inscription (in German): “**House destroyed. Application not submitted**”, indicating that the bombed out person did not inform the post office of their change of address



In the last years of the war it is also possible to find registration labels from offices other than the one that cancelled the stamps. Such differences may be attributed to the air offensive. It might be that a particular post office was partially destroyed by an air raid, but that some stocks of forms, etc. were saved. [4] In paper-hungry Germany such forms would not be wasted. After at least one major raid on Dresden in February 1945, provisional cancels were brought into use in some post offices of that city. [5]

Apparently, the earliest postal regulation arising from the air war appeared in July 1943. Bombed out persons were advised to notify their post offices as soon as possible. Post offices and welfare agencies in the heavily bombed areas were instructed to have ample supplies of change of address cards. Bombing victims' forwarding applications were sent free in both local and out-of-town mail. Letters sent to persons bombed out were not returned immediately and every effort was made to forward them. If inquiries were unsuccessful, the mail could be retained for a period of a week or two, depending upon the amount of damage inflicted by the raid. When such letters were finally returned, ordinary markings were to be used; no mention of the air raid was allowed. If authorities were certain the addressee had been killed, then the note read: "**Empfänger einen feindlichen Bombenangriff zum Opfer fallen**" (Recipient died in an enemy air raid). [6]

In April 1944, this changed. When the addressee was killed, only the ordinary notation: "**Empfänger verstarben**" (Recipient deceased) was allowed. [7] Packages were treated in a special regulation shortly afterward. For a month after a move resulting from an air raid, forwarding of a package took place at the request of the sender or recipient. Packages returned to the sender were not charged postage due if the addressee had been an air raid victim. [8] Money orders were the subject of still another regulation. [9]

Perhaps the most interesting philatelic manifestation of this period was a unique communications system developed to deal with the problems arising in the aftermath of large-scale attacks. Three franked postcards for use by the general public were introduced late in 1943. Two of these were designated **Eilnachrichtenkarten** (Rapid Information Cards) and were used by individuals who had survived an air raid to inform friends and relatives of their condition. The front of each card contained space for the address of the recipient, including telephone number. The reverse side had places for a return address, the date and a message of not more than ten words. One version of this card was bordered in red and was for use for correspondence with civilians or military personnel who did not have Feldpost number addresses (Figs 1 & 2).

Fig. 1. Face of Eilnachricht card. Note lines for the **Fernsprecher Nr** (phone number)

The image shows the front of a German 'Eilnachricht' (Rapid Information Card) postcard. At the top center, a box contains the instruction 'Deutlich schreiben!' (Write clearly!). Below this, the word 'Eilnachricht' is printed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath, the word 'An' is followed by a horizontal line for the recipient's name. A large rectangular box on the left side is labeled 'Raum für Prüf- oder Beglaubigungsvermerk' (Room for check or certification mark). To the right of this box, the word 'in' is followed by a horizontal line for the recipient's address. Below the address line, the text '(Straße und Hausnummer)' (Street and house number) is printed. Further down, there are two lines for phone numbers, each labeled 'Fernsprecher Nr' (Telephone number) and followed by '(Rufnummer)' (Call number). The first line is followed by 'oder über' (or via), and the second line is followed by 'Fernsprecher Nr' and '(Rufnummer)'. The entire card is enclosed in a double-line border.

Fig. 2. Reverse of card. Senders are warned to "Deutlich Schreiben!" (write clearly)

Deutlich schreiben!

Lebenszeichen von *Gläster Karl*
(Zuname) (Vorname)

aus *Dümldorf Beurath*
(Ortsangabe) (Straße)

Datum *25. 4. 44* (Inhalt zugelassen höchstens 10 Worte Klartext)

*alles ~~ist~~ wohl behalten
 sind gemaint
 Karl + Käthe*

21100 43 1 B

The other card (Fig. 3) had a light green border and was used to contact service men with field post number addresses. The reverse side of both military and civilian cards was identical.

Fig. 3. Card for military personnel has address line for "Feldpostnummer" (unit postal number)

Deutlich schreiben!

Eilmnachricht an

Raum für Prüf- oder Beglaubigungsvermerk

 (Feldpostnummer)

Dieser Raum muß für Dienstvermerke frei bleiben

Cards were stocked at post offices and offices of the Nazi Party in areas especially threatened by air attacks. Heads of postal districts (roughly equivalent to German states) had some discretion about which offices received supplies of cards. Their use was permitted for four days after the raid. They had to be brought to the post office and could not be put into mailboxes. This was to prevent delays.

From the post offices these cards were hurried to collecting offices where Feldpost and civilian cards were segregated. Feldpost mail was then sent to the nearest Army, Air Force or Navy Post Office (**Postsammelstelle, Luftgaupostamt or Marine Postburo**). A special office at each Postsammelstelle handled the cards. Their processing took precedence over all other postal operations. In order to provide airmail service for cards when applicable, the Postsammelstellen were authorized to contact the Luftpostsammelstelle Berlin to determine which military units could be reached by air. [10].

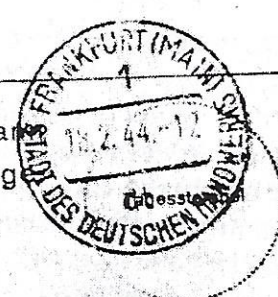
Civilian cards were not sent through any routing offices but went directly to the railway for transmission. If rail communications were disrupted, trucks could be used. Additional vehicles could be requisitioned from other districts if needed. These districts had to give top priority to such calls for assistance. When civilian cards arrived at the post offices in the town where the addressee lived, those with telephone numbers were segregated. When possible, postal officials were to telephone the addresses and notify them of receipt of the cards and then forward the cards with the next mail delivery. If no telephone number was shown, they could be forwarded as special delivery mail. If that service could not be given, then ordinary postal channels were used.

A third card was for making inquiries about postal addresses in areas hit by air raids (Figs. 4 & 5). Criterion for issuance of these cards was the mention of a town in the daily radio **Wehrmacht Bericht** (Armed Forces Report). Cards could be distributed for four days after such reports and must be posted within four to ten days. They too had to be mailed at a post office, either military or civilian. After a raid each post office in the area set up a "**Nachsendung, Auskünfts?**" (Forwarding, Information?) and "**Ausgabestelle für Postsendung an die Bombengeschädigte Bevölkerung**" (Issuance office for Mail to Population Affected by Air Raids).

Fig. 4. Face of mint Inquiry card.

Deulich schreiben!	
<p>Absender:</p> <p>..... (Name)</p> <p>(Wehrort, auch Zustell- oder Luftpostamt)</p> <p>(Straße, Hausnummer, Gebäudeteil, Stockwerk oder Postschließfachnummer)</p> <p>(Fernsprechananschluß, über den Antwort zugesprochen werden kann)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Aufgabe- stempel</p> <p>Eilauftrag zur Prüfung einer Postanschrift</p> <p>An</p> <p>das Postamt (Auskünfts- und Ausgabestelle für Postsendungen)</p>

Fig. 5. Reverse of used Inquiry card dated February 1944 with Frankfurt/M. certification cancellation

Auskunft nur nach den Unterlagen der Postdienststellen	
<p>Ist folgende Postanschrift richtig? (Deutlich schreiben!)</p> <p><i>H. W. Götting</i> <i>Frankfurt</i> <i>Main</i> <i>Mylisstr. 44</i></p>	<p>Antwort: Ja! Eine Änderung ist dem Postamt nicht bekannt.</p> <p>Nein, sie muß lauten:</p> <p>Nein, andere kann aber nicht angegeben werden</p>
	

Such sections returned these cards with notifications of address changes, if any, or certificates that the addresses remained the same. The face of an "Eilauftrag" (Rapid Inquiry) card contained space for a return address and a line for the town name where the post office was located. The reverse contained three spaces. On top was the boxed inscription "**Auskunft nur nach den Unterlagen der Postdienststellen**" (Information only according to the documents of the Postoffice). This was probably an admonition to postal clerks not to guess about the information. The left side showed the inquiry of the sender: "**Ist folgende Postanschrift richtig?**" (Is the following postal address correct?). The sender wrote the name and address below this remark. On the right were two spaces for use by the post office. The upper one states: "**Antwort: Ja! Eine Änderung ist dem Postamt nicht bekannt**" (Answer: Yes! The postoffice does not know of a change).

 "Nein, sie muss lauten:" (No, it should read:)

The lower states: "**Nein, andere kann aber nicht angegeben werden**" No, but another cannot be stated."

Finally, there was a circle for insertion of the office's cancellation as a certification mark. According to regulations only the Eilauftrag cards were cancelled, both by sending and receiving offices. In order to reduce the processing time, Eilnachricht cards were not to be canceled at all. However, cancellations do occur as shown in Fig. 6.

Occasionally a cover shows the effects of the war even more vividly. The cover shown as Fig. 7 lost its stamp in the process of being forwarded and bears marks of an air attack. Presumably, due to the lack of any postage, it was enclosed in an official post office envelope. Allegedly the train that carried this cover was attacked because it had a Flak gun mounted on one car. No date can be determined because of the missing portion of the cancel but it probably originated in 1944 or early 1945.

Fig. 6 Card with cancel contrary to regulations

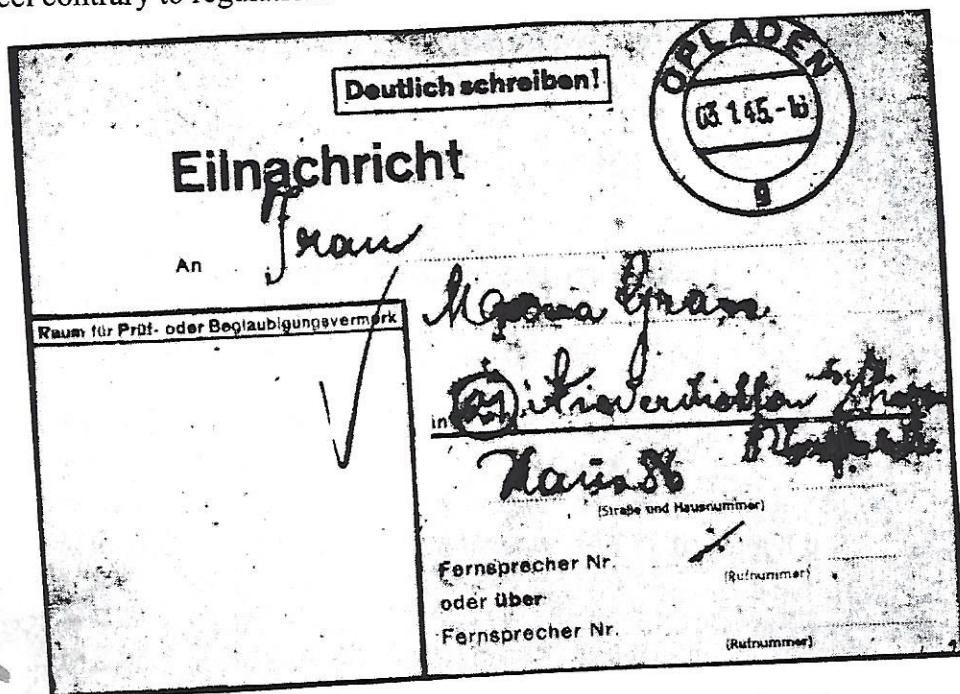
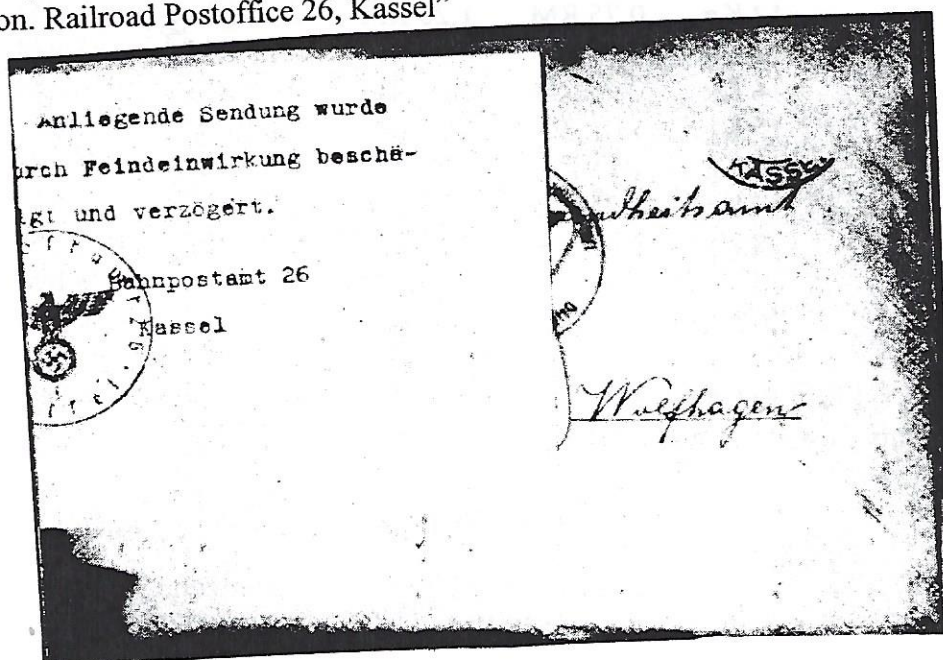


Fig. 7 Cover damaged by air raid (note burns). P.O. label states: "Enclosed mail damaged and delayed by enemy action. Railroad Postoffice 26, Kassel"



References:

1. Hans Rumpf, **The Bombing of Germany** (New York 1963)
2. Martin Caidin **The Night Hamburg Died** (New York 1961)
3. Office of Military Government, Economic Division, **Statistical Handbook of Germany, Part V**
4. Author is indebted to Consul Wolfgang Robinow of Frankfurt/M for texts of regulations cited.
5. "Dresden Mann" (Dresden Warns) **Sammler Express**, Nr. 3 (1965), p.50
6. Reichspostministerium, **Amtsblatt**, 369/1943, 437.
7. **Ibid**, 99/1944, 150
8. **Ibid**, 109/1944, 165
9. **Ibid**, 255/1944, 339
10. Reichspostministerium, **Feldpost Amtsblatt**, 121/1943, 56

ED Not: This article appeared in *German Postal Specialist* in March 1969.

German Postal Rates from January 30, 1933 to May 8, 1945

by Bob Ferguson

I. Internal Rates (Part 2)

17.)

ORDINARY PARCEL POST

30 January 1933 – 12 August 1944

	1 Zone - 75 Km	2 Zone -150 Km	3 Zone -375 Km	4 Zone - 705 Km	5 Zone + 705 Km
to 5 Kg	0.30 RM	0.40 RM	0.60 RM	0.60 RM	0.60 RM
6 Kg	0.35 RM	0.50 RM	0.80 RM	0.90 RM	1.00 RM
7 Kg	0.40 RM	0.60 RM	1.00 RM	1.20 RM	1.40 RM
8 Kg	0.45 RM	0.70 RM	1.20 RM	1.50 RM	1.80 RM
9 Kg	0.50 RM	0.80 RM	1.40 RM	1.80 RM	2.20 RM
10 Kg	0.55 RM	0.90 RM	1.60 RM	2.10 RM	2.60 RM
11 Kg	0.65 RM	1.05 RM	1.80 RM	2.35 RM	2.90 RM
12 Kg	0.75 RM	1.20 RM	2.00 RM	2.60 RM	3.20 RM
13 Kg	0.85 RM	1.35 RM	2.20 RM	2.85 RM	3.50 RM
14 Kg	0.95 RM	1.50 RM	2.40 RM	3.10 RM	3.80 RM
15 Kg	1.05 RM	1.65 RM	2.60 RM	3.35 RM	4.10 RM
16 Kg	1.15 RM	1.80 RM	2.60 RM	3.35 RM	4.40 RM
17 Kg	1.25 RM	1.95 RM	3.00 RM	3.85 RM	4.70 RM
18 Kg	1.35 RM	2.10 RM	3.20 RM	4.10 RM	5.00 RM
19 Kg	1.45 RM	2.25 RM	3.40 RM	4.35 RM	5.30 RM
20 Kg	1.55 RM	2.40 RM	3.60 RM	4.60 RM	5.60 RM

RATE = FEE FROM TABLE + 15 Pfg DELIVERY FEE (*Zustellgebühr*)

Maximum weight accepted after 30 september 1942 = 15 Kg

13 August 1944 – 8 May 1945

	Nahzone - 75 Km	Fernzone + 75 Km
to 5 Kg	0.30 RM	0.60 RM
6 Kg	0.35	0.80
7 Kg	0.40	1.00
8 Kg	0.45	1.20
9 Kg	0.50	1.40
10 Kg	0.55	1.60
11 Kg	0.65	1.80
12 Kg	0.75	2.00
13 Kg	0.85	2.20
14 Kg	0.95	2.40
15 Kg	1.05	2.620

RATE = FEE FROM TABLE (Delivery fee was rescinded on 12 August 1944)

INTERNAL RATES (Cont.)

18.)

C.O.D. (NACHNAHME)30 January 1933 – 8 May 1945

Rate = Basic rate

+ Presentation fee

PRESENTATION FEE (*VORZEIGE GEBÜHR*) = 20 Pfg.

19.)

POSTAL COLLECTION ORDER (POSTAUFTRAG)30 January 1933 – 8 May 1945

Rate = Basic letter rate

+ Registration fee

+ Presentation fee

PRESENTATION FEE (*VORZEIGE GEBÜHR*) = 20 Pfg.

20.)

NEWSPAPER PRINTED MATTER. (ZEITUNGSBRUCKSACHEN)

Rates available only to certain senders (e.g. newspaper and magazine publishers) in mailings to customers

1 May 1939 – 8 May 1945

to 50 gm - 3 Pfg.

50 to 100 gm - 4 Pfg.

100 to 250 gm - 8 Pfg.

250 to 500 gm - 15 Pfg.

500 to 1000 gm - 30 Pfg.

(From 30 January 1933 – 30 April 1939 printed matter rates applied)

21.)

REGISTRATION (EINSCHREIBEN)30 January 1933 – 8 May 1945

Fee = 30 Pfg.

22.)

STREETCAR DISPATCH (STRASSENBAHN)

The streetcars in Hamburg had mail boxes attached to their back platforms. Mail deposited in these boxes, rather than conventional street boxes, assured that an item of mail would be delivered to the main postoffice (HAMBURG 1) when the streetcar completed its circuit. The special cancel showing both hours and minutes included the word: "STRASSENBAHN". Available for letters, postcards, printed matter, samples, business papers and mixed sendings.

30 January 1933 – July 1943Rate = 5 Pfg. + Basic fee
(Prepayment required)

INTERNAL RATES (Cont.)

23.)

AIRMAIL LETTERS AND CARDS

Rate = Basic rate + Airmail surcharge

Airmail Surcharges

30 January 1933 – 31 July 1938

to 20 gm -	10 Pfg.
20 - 50 gm -	20 Pfg.
50 - 100 gm -	40 Pfg.
100 - 250 gm -	80 Pfg.
250 - 500 gm -	125 Pfg.
500 - 1000 gm -	250 Pfg.
1000 - 1500 gm -	375 Pfg.
1500 - 2000 gm -	500 Pfg.

1 August 1938 – 8 May 1945

to 20 gm -	5 Pfg.
Each additional 20 gm -	5 Pfg.

24.)

AIRMAIL PARCEL POST

Rate = Basic parcel rate + Airmail surcharge

Airmail Surcharges

30 January 1933 – 8 May 1945

to 1 Kg ----	100 Pfg. to each of Zones 1 through 5
to 375 Kg ---	each additional 0.5 Kg = 20 Pfg (Zones 1, 2 & 3)
over 375 Kg ---	each additional 0.5 Kg = 40 Pfg (Zones 4 & 5)

25.)

ZEPPELIN

30 January 1933 – 10 May 1934

Letter (to 20 gm) ---- 150 Pfg.

Card ----- 75 Pfg.

11 May 1934 – August 1939

Letter (to 20 gm) ---- 100 Pfg.

Card ----- 50 Pfg.

26.)

PNEUMATIC MAIL (*ROHRPOST*)

(Berlin, Munchen and Wien)

30 January 1933 – 8 May 1945

Rate = Basic rate + Rohrpost fee (10 Pf.)

Allowed for letters to 20 gm (to 100 gm from 15 July 1938) and postcards. From 18 September 1939 also printed matter, money orders and registered letters and postcards.

INTERNAL RATES (Cont.)**27.) VERIFICATION OF ADDRESS (*AUFTRAG ZUR PRUFUNG EINER POSTANSCHRIFT*)**

Obtained by sending a postcard to the responsible post office.

30 January 1933 – 27 March 1945

Fee= 3 Pfg.

28.) BULK NEWSPAPER DISPATCH (*BAHNHOFSTZEITUNG*)

Used by publishers for dispatch of newspapers to railway book shops and newspaper distribution centers. From 14 December 1943 allowed for dispatch to retailers.

30 January 1933 – 28 February 1935

to 100 gm - 5 Pfg.

100 to 250 gm - 10 Pfg.

250 to 500 gm - 20 Pfg.

500 to 1000 gm - 30 Pfg.

1000 to 2000 gm - 60 Pfg.

each additional 1000 gm to 20 Kg - 20 Pfg.

1 March 1935 – 8 May 1945

to 100 gm - 5 Pfg.

100 to 250 gm - 10 Pfg.

250 to 500 gm - 20 Pfg.

500 to 1000 gm - 30 Pfg.

1000 to 1500 gm - 45 Pfg.

1500 to 2000 gm - 60 Pfg.

each additional 500 gm to 20 Kg - 10 Pfg.

29.) DELIVERY TO ADDRESSEE IN PERSON (*EINGENHANDIG*)

1 August 1933 – 8 May 1945

Used for registered or insured mail or money orders.

Fee= 10 Pfg.

30.) DOCUMENT DELIVERY (*ZUSTELLUNGSURKUNDE FÜR BRIEF*)

Used for legal documents which required address's attention and then were returned to sender

30 January 1933 – 31 May 1943

Rate = Basicletter rate

+ Delivery fee (30 Pfg.)

+ Letter rate for return of document to sender.

INTERNAL RATES (Cont.)31.) **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT (*RUCKSCHEIN*)**

Used for parcels, registered mail and insured mail.

27 August 1927 – 8 May 1945

Fee =30 Pfg.

32.) **SPECIAL (EXPRESS) DELIVERY FOR PARCEL POST**

From 12 September 1941 through the end of the service on 12 August 1944, the special delivery fee was collected from the recipient since the Reichspost could not guarantee the service in advance due to manpower shortages.

1 August 1927 – 11 September 1941

Local delivery - 60 Pfg.

Non-local delivery - 1.20 RM

12 September 1941 – 12 August 1944

Local delivery - 45 Pfg.

Non-local delivery - 1.05 RM

33.) **POSTAGE DUE (*NACHGEBÜHR*)**

Postage due can arise from underfranking, as a forwarding fee or in connection with certain official mail. For underfranked mail, postage due was the deficit plus a penalty of 50% of the deficit. For forwarded mail, only the deficit (if any) was due.

34.) **PRIORITY DISPATCH FOR PARCELS (*DRINGEND*)**

Available for ordinary parcel post, postgut and non-wax sealed insured parcels.

1 August 1927 – 12 August 1944

Fee =1 RM.

35.) **LATE FEE**

27 August 1927 – 8 May 1945

Fee =20 Pfg.

INTERNAL RATES (Cont.)**36.) GENERAL DELIVERY/POSTE RESTANTE (POSTLAGERND)**

Storage Fees for Parcels
30 January 1933 – 31 March 1933

Fee per day = 15 Pfg.
Maximum fee - 4 RM

1 April 1933 – 31 August 1943

Fee per day = 10 Pfg.
Maximum fee - 2 RM

(No storage fee for letters)

37.) DELIVERY RECEIPT FOR PARCELS (EINLIEFERUNGSSCHEINE)

30 January 1933 – 8 May 1945

Fee = 10 Pfg. for each item (50 Pfg. maximum for a multiple sending)
(No charge for Registered, Insured Fees or C.O.D. Mail)

38.) FEE FOR UNDELIVERABLE MAIL (UNZUSTELLBARKEITSMELDUNG)
Required for undeliverable parcels, money orders and insured mail.

30 January 1933 – 8 May 1945

Fee = 30 Pfg.

39.) FEE FOR SPECIAL CANCEL (SONDERSTEMPEL)

On 26 January 1943 a stamp (Mi. # 830) was issued whose primary purpose was to pay the 3 Pfg. fee for application of special cancels. The fee went to the Fuhrer's Kulturfond.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The balance of this article detailing Foreign Postal Rates will appear in TRSG Bulletin 164

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:**45th Infantry Division**

by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
45	630	130	133	135	98	45

Originally the 4th Austrian Division, re-designated and incorporated into the German Army following the 'Anschluss' of 1938. The P.O. was assigned Fp.# 08525 and Kenn 630 in lieu of FpA 45 when the division first saw action in Poland and, later, France. The 45th Infantry Division invaded Russia in June 1941 and suffered heavy casualties in the reduction of the fortress of Brest Litovsk in June-July 1941. It later fought before Moscow as part of 2nd Army and then opposed the Soviet offensive of December 1941. It suffered heavily during the withdrawal and was forced to abandon its artillery after its horses starved or froze to death.

The 45th Infantry Division remained on line, fought in the southern sector of the Eastern Front in 1942, and was transferred back to the central sector throughout 1943. It sustained heavy losses in the Battle of Kursk in July 1943. That autumn it fought in the defense of Sozh and in subsequent retreats on the central sector. Along with most of Army Group Center, the 45th Infantry Division was largely destroyed during the massive Soviet summer offensive (Operation 'Bagatron') in July 1944. The few survivors were cadre for a new 45th Volksgrenadier Division formed in the Dollersheim Maneuver Area in October 1944 (32nd Wave) with a new FpA 195 (K-534). The reformed division was sent back into action on the central front. It fought at Warsaw and ended the war at battle group strength opposing the Soviet invasion.

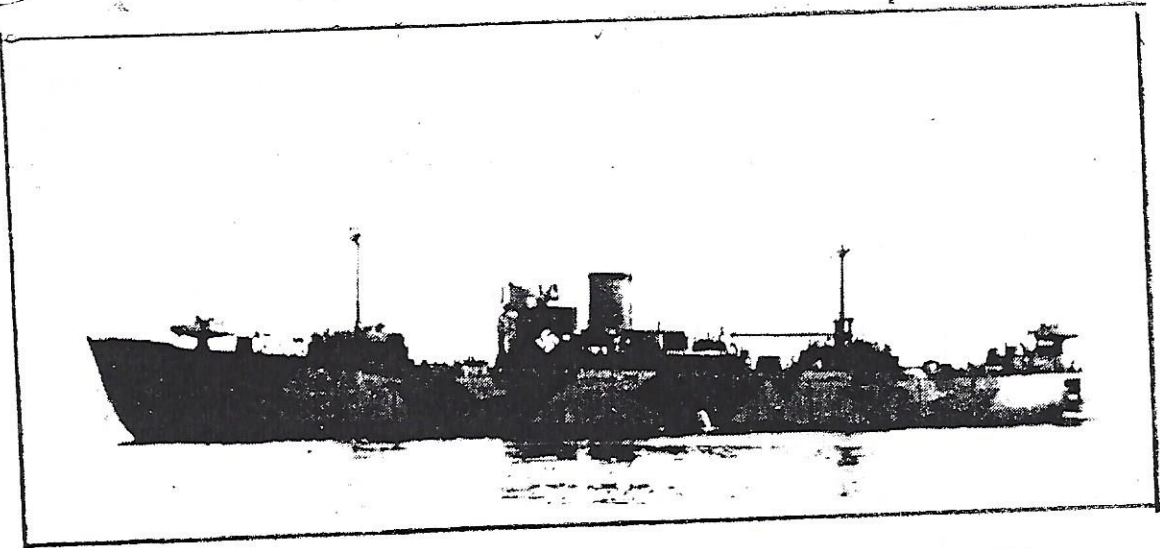
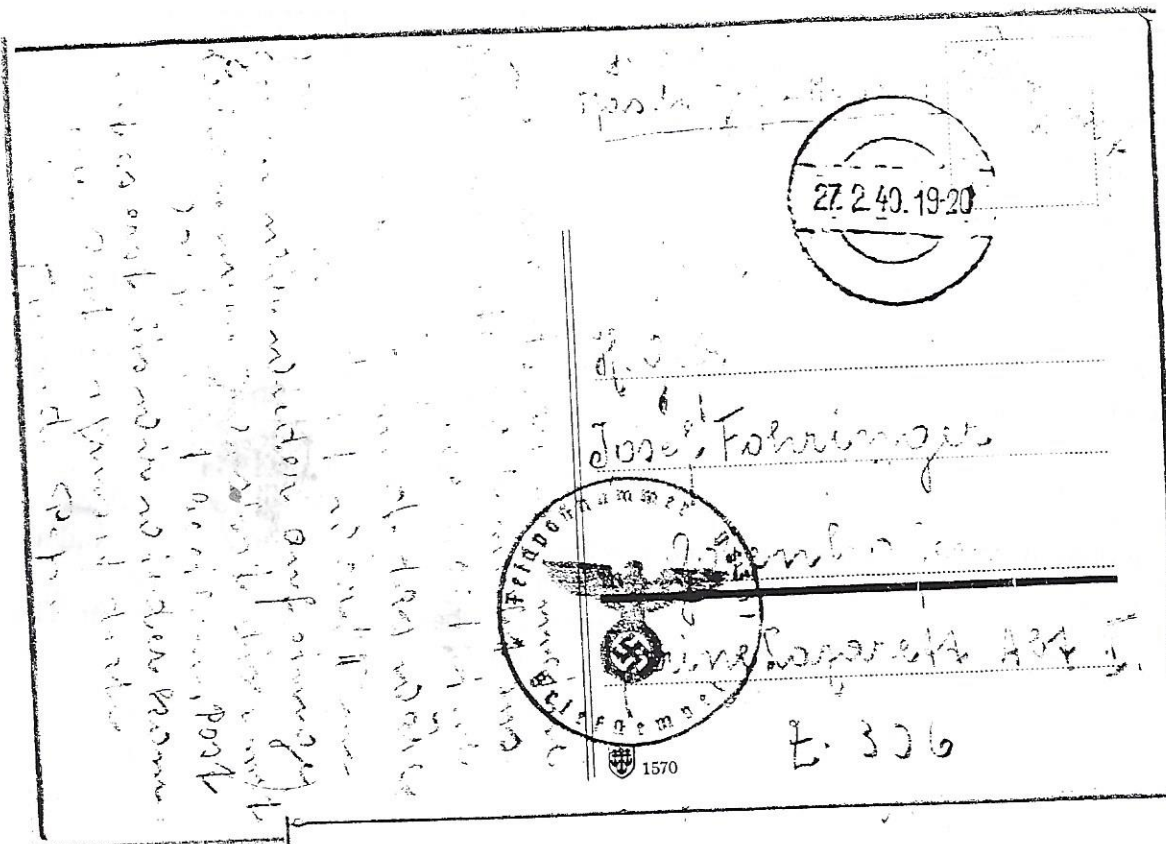


Cover sent to Military Records Office in Dresden in May 1943 from Fp. # 18399 (Squadron 1 of Reconnaissance Battalion 45) via Field post Office 45 (K-630).

NAVY LOG

by Bob Dunn

Auxiliary Minelayer 'Hansestadt Danzig' - Feldpost # 06361



This ex-merchantman was built in 1926. Displacement: 2,430 gross tons. Armament: two 37mm AA guns and 180 mines. She carried a battalion of troops from the 198th Infantry Division which disembarked in Copenhagen on April 9, 1940. These troops assaulted the fortress overlooking the harbor and captured it with minimum losses. This ship hit a mine and sunk off Olandsund on July 9, 1941.

This postcard was mailed by a sailor from the Hansestadt Danzig on February 27, 1940. The mute cancellation is the double circle/ring bridge variety.

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:

168th Infantry Division

by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT	KENN	INFANTRY			ARTY	UNITS
248	694	417	429	442	248	248

The 168th Infantry Division was formed in January 1940 (7th Wave) from existing replacement & training units. The P.O. was assigned Fp.# 35160 as a mailing address and Kenn 694. Upon completion of training the division was stationed in Poland from July 1940 until June 1941 when it took part in the invasion of the Soviet Union. The division fought in the Belgorod offensive in the summer of 1943 and suffered heavy casualties during the retreat from Kursk and in the battles west of Kiev. It then fought under 4th Panzer Army in the Battle of Zhitomir in December 1943.

The division formed the northern flank of Army Detachment Kempf in February 1944, defending Akhtyrka (in the rear of Kharkov) against heavy Russian attacks. It was encircled near Cherkassy and virtually destroyed. The remnants of the division were sent to Poland to rest and refit but did not receive enough replacements to exceed battle group strength. Regardless, the "division" was returned to the Eastern Front in January 1945 and took part in the battles near the Vistula River. The 168th Infantry Division capitulated to Soviet forces on the central front at the end of the war.

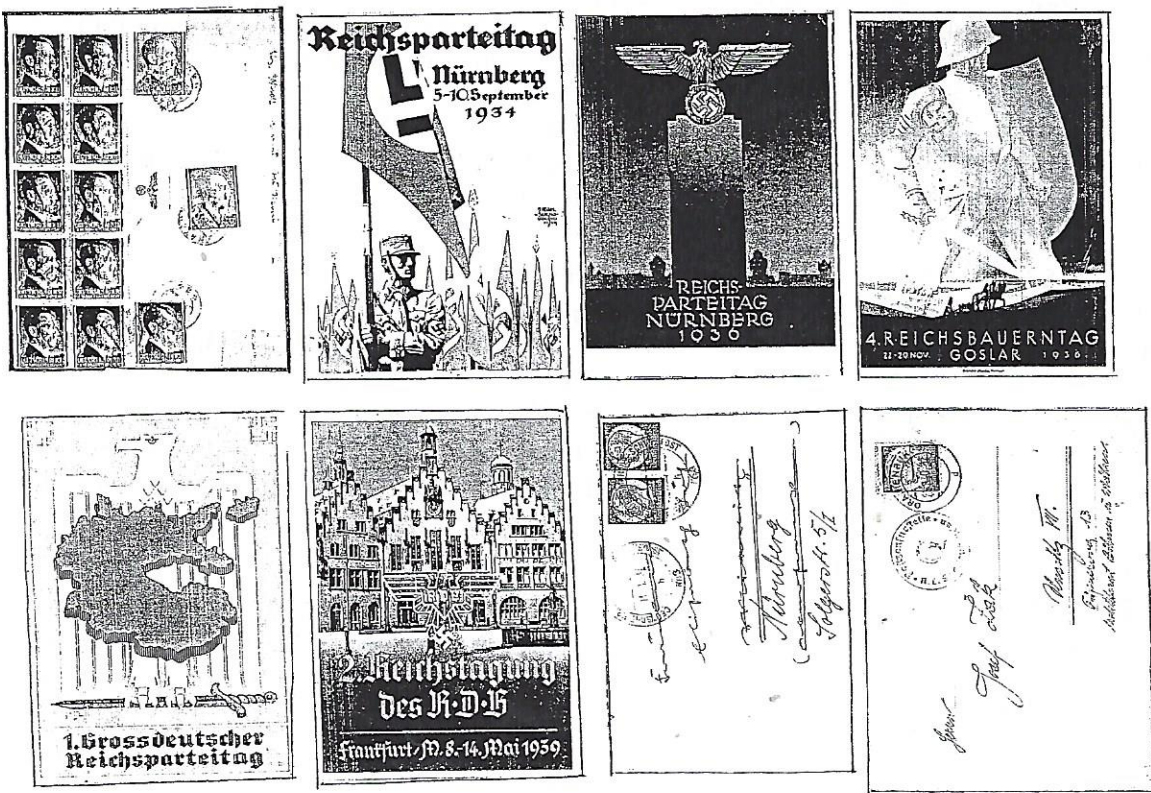


Cover sent to Military District Command in Vienna in February 1944 from Fp. # 23694 (Battalion II of Grenadier Regiment 417) via Post Office 248 (K-694).

TRSG Auction No. 106

Illustrated lots by position i.e. TL=Top Left, TLC=Top Left Center etc. All lots VF unless noted o'wise.

LOT	DESCRIPTION	MIN.
First 8 lots are covers & postal cards frm General Gouvernement		
1.	Mint Hindenburg p'cards o'prtd "Deutsche Post Osten" (Borek 1 & 2)	\$10
2.	Provisional censored p'cd (Borek 1) Warsaw to USA 5.'40	8
3.	P'cd w/Mi. 66-70 stamps sent Krakau to Berlin 11.'41 (phil)	8
4.	Max Card Hitler B'day w/Mi. 117-9 tied SPC Krakau 20.4.'44	12
5.	Max Card Art Show w/Mi. 72-7 tied SPC Krakau Art Exhibition 19.11.'43	10
6.	R-Cvr w/Mi. Dienst 25, 28, 9, 30 & 31 tied Warsaw 1.'43	10
7.	R-Cvr Krakau to Zwainim w/13 GG stamps (842 Gr or 42 Pfg) on back [See TL]	12
8.	Parcel card to Polish inmate at Drutte Labor Camp [See Pages 1 & 2]	18
Next 5 lots are propaganda postal cds w/correct SPCs. Condition VF		
9.	1934 Reichspartietag [See TCL]	35
10.	1936 Reichspartietag [See TCR]	35
11.	1936 Reichsbauertag (Farmer's Day) Goslar [See TR]	35
12.	1938 Reichspartietag [See BL]	35
13.	1936 Reichsagung des R.D.B. (National Teachers Bund) Frankfurt 8-14 May [See BCL]	35
Next 13 lots are Kriegsmarine Fp cvrs & cds from ships, all w/clear markings		
14.	Torpedo Boot 'Itise' w/Schiffpost Nr. 8 can. 14.1.'37 - Spanish Civil War patrol [See BCR]	25
15.	Training Ship 'Munin' (Fp M26043) mute can.. 7.'41	8
16.	Training Ship 'Hugin' (Fp M26096) Fp can. 11.'43	8
17.	Gunnery Training Ship 'Drache' (Fp M04137) mute can. 1.'44	8
18.	Gunnery Training Ship 'Mars' (Fp M17387) mute can.11.'42 Note: w/contents	8
19.	Navigation Training Tender 'Nordsee' (Fp M05262) Gotenhafen can. 10.'41	8
20.	State Yacht 'Grille' (Fp M06006) mute can. 12.'40	8
21.	Fleet Tender 'Hela' (Fp M19010) mute can 8.'43	8
22.	Survey Ship 'Meteor' (Fp M25785) mute can 8'41	8
23.	Aux. Minesweeper 'M517' (Fp M39932) mute can 5.'43	8
24.	Pursuit Boat 'F123' (Fp M04860) mute can 4.'43	8
25.	Coastal Patrol Boat 'V1509' (Fp M13611) mute can 5'40	8
26.	Coastal Patrol Boat 'V1704' (Fp M01881) mute can 2'43 Note: w/contents	8



Next four lots are **Concentration Camp** mail

27.	Form ltrst sent 8.'40 from Sachsenhausen inmate has 'G' censor marking [See BR]	\$18
28.	Parcel card for 3 Kg package sent to Flossenburg inmate from Bohemia 10.'44	15
29.	Parcel card for 3-1/2 Kg package sent to Drutte inmate from Kalmen 12.'44	15
30.	Parcel card for 7-1/2 Kg package sent to Drutte inmate from Upper Silesia 11.'44	17
31.	Unused Feldpost Sack Labels for directing letters and packets to other postal facilities (Scarce)	20
32.	Three different Wehrpass cards, each w/different size Dienstseigel - 20mm, 30mm & 35mm	15
33.	Durch Deutsche Feldpost comm. cvr from German firm in Ghent, Belgium to Leipzig 1.'42	18
34.	Same, from German Krankenkasse for Belgium to factory in Oranienburg 3.'44	18
35.	R-Fp frm Naval Schiffstamabt. 31 on North Sea sent via FpA SS11 (K-495) 11 SS Nordland	25
36.	Inside the Afrika Korps by Rainer Kriebel, 326 pgs, Greenhill Books, London 1999 HB	15
37.	DVD ' Sieg im Westen ' 2 hr. documentary on 1940 campaigns by OKH w/ English text.. VF	20

The next 32 lots are Registered Feldpost covers. Condition is very FV unless indicated o'wise

	Kenn	FpA	Date	Fp. Nr.	Description	
38.	129	336	5.'43	11652	III/Gren. Rgt. 686 via 336 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
39.	146	218	4.'44	07051	II/Gren. Rgt. 386 via 218 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
40.	219	383	7.'43	11273	I/Gren. Rgt. 325 via 383 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
41.	242	44	11.'40	06907	III/Gren. Rgt. 134 via 44 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
42.	245	385	1.'42	27665	I/Gren. Rgt. 537 via 385 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
43.	249	31	3.'44	19611	14 Kp/Gren. Rgt. 17 via 31 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
44.	295	178	2.'43	00351	Stab/Gren. Rgt. 195 via 78 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
45.	348	211	8.'41	23414	I/Gren. Rgt. 317 via 211 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
46.	399	229	12.'42	13282	Beob. Abtl. 19 via 197 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
47.	416	187	12.'40	17437	Stab/Gren. Rgt. 187 via 87 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
48.	440	208	8.'44	01727	I/Gren. Rgt. 309 via 208 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
49.	441	172	7.'42	28285	II/Gren. Rgt. 266 via 72 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
50.	479	156	10.'42	18778	Korps Abtl. 'D' via 56 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
51.	543	102	7.'42	30960	Stab/Art. Rgt. 102 via 102 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
52.	598	6	4.'43	20452	Stab/Gren. Rgt. 37 via 6 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
53.	630	45	5.'44	12347	Vet. Kp. 45 via 45 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
54.	635	126	1.'42	17731	Sanitats Kp. 1 via 126 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
55.	649	335	3.'42	32825	2. Fahrkol via 335 Infantry Division P.O.	10
56.	655	342	4.'44	23917	Nachsch. Tr. 342 via 342 Infantry Division P.O.	10
57.	660	296	7.'42	38427	Vet. Kp. 296 via 296 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
58.	660	296	8.'42	15001	Stab/Gren. Rgt. 521 via 246 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
59.	677	230	11.'40	36250	Ns. Fuhrer 230 via 169 Infantry Division P.O.	10
60.	680	112	8.'42	18027	Stab/Aufkl. Abtl via 112 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
61.	713	188	6.'42	05831	II/Gren. Rgt. 245 via 88 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
62.	720	137	5.'42	12138	Stab/Gren. Rgt. 449 via 137 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
63.	831	357	2.'44	22313	Stab/Aufkl. Abtl 106 via 357 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
64.	834	225	4.'43	30305	II/Gren. Rgt. 337 via 225 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
65.	856	17	2.'42	04229	III/Gren. Rgt. 95 via 17 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
66.	884	152	9.'42	22680	II/Gren. Rgt. 205 via 52 Sicherungs Div. P.O.	10
67.	951	106	10.'43	32837	Stab/Art. Rgt. 139 via 106 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
68.	956	215	1.'43	01301	Sanitats Kp. via 215 Infantry Div. P.O.	10
69.	974	295	6.'42	24951	1 Kp/Pi. Abtl.295 via 2951 Inf. Div. P.O.(Stalingrad)	10

PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO.106 IS MAY18, 2007
SEND ALL BIDS TO: Jim Lewis, 111F Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070