



Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

THIRD REICH STUDY GROUP

Devoted to the Study
of the Postal History
of Germany 1933-1945

VOL. XVII, NO. 4 (WHOLE NO. 69) - 1983

DIRECTOR: Myron Fox, P.O. Box 283, Needham Heights, MA 02194
CO-DIRECTOR: James E. Duffy, P.O. Box 65, Highwood, IL 60040
SEC./TREAS.: Robert J. Houston, 11 Yorktown Dr., Clark, NJ 07066

STAFF:

BULLETIN EDITOR: Robert J. Houston
ASSOC. EDITOR: James E. Lewis, 111 Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070
AUCTION MGR.: Fred Stengel, 1248 Magnolia Pl., Union, NJ 07083
DATA PROJECTS: Fred A. Willshaw, 207 Oak Lane, Cranford, NJ 07016

Contents:

- Page 3 : New TRSG publication - Waffen SS
Page 4 : Rejected Feldpost - J. Lewis
Page 9 : Stadt des KdF-Wagens bei Fallersleben - R. Miskevich
Page 12: Navy Log - R. Houston
Page 13: Fallschirmjäger Regiment 6 - J.C. Wideman
Page 16: Propaganda Card Corner - T. Dean
Page 18: More on the French "Spy" stamps - M.C. Gilhousen
Page 21: TRSG Auction No. 27 - F. Stengel
Page 24: Prices Realized - TRSG Auction No. 26



Welcome to New Members:

- ROSETTI, Frank J. - 4740 NE 2nd Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33334
Mint stamps, espec. occupations & Overprints.
- LIESKE, Jay H. - 1136 Olive Lane, La Canada, CA 91011
Occupations, Feldpost, Censored covers.
- MARCK, James L. - 41 W. 9th Pl., Mesa, AZ 85201
Photocards of German officers.
- DAUM, William K. - 2316 Belvedere Dr., Wilmington, NC 28405
Germany (stamps, covers, postcards).
- SCOPEL, Richard L. - 928 North Second St., San Jose, CA 95112
Official covers; All 1933-38.
- RYCKOFF, Paul -
- PARKER, Philip E. - 1272 Stadium Ave., Bronx, NY 10465
Censored mail from/to/thru Portugal & Colonies.
- NIDITCH, Gary B. -
- TALACKO, Emil - 230 Glengrove Ave. W., Toronto, Ont. Canada M4R 1P3
General.
- STRACK, Harry R. -
- KEATING, John J. - 11344 S. Lothair Ave., Chicago, IL 60643
Germany, Austria, Scandanavia, USA.
- HABERSANG, Paul O. - 626 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10031
Covers, Special cancels, Stationery.
- AGEE, Richard L. -
- KNEPPER, Norman -

N O T I C E

Effective immediately, we have found it necessary to slightly increase the price of Back-issues of the TRSG Bulletin to the following:

Vol.'s I-III (Package)	\$7.50
Vol.'s IV to date	\$7.50 per volume

1984 RENEWALS:

It's that time again! This is the 4th quarter issue for 1983 and dues for 1984 are now due from members finding a renewal form enclosed which is not stamped "PAID". Those that have already paid advance dues can determine the years already paid by observing the number in the upper-right corner of their address label. "4" means paid thru 1984, "5" indicates paid thru 1985, etc.

Your cooperation in renewing immediately would be greatly appreciated as it aids considerably in planning and book-keeping as well as avoiding costly and time-consuming mailouts of "Reminders". Canadian members please note that checks drawn on Canadian banks (even though drafted in U.S. funds) are subject to substantial processing charges and cannot be accepted.

NEW TRSG PUBLICATION**"WAFFEN-SS FELDPPOST NUMBERS AND ORDER OF BATTLE"**

We are pleased to announce the first new TRSG special publication since 1980. Based on extensive research, this booklet includes the Order-of-Battle and feldpost numbers of 38 Waffen-SS divisions. A brief history of the major actions of each division allows the collector to ascertain the approximate location of these units on a particular date and should be of great value in writing up one's collection. In addition to these divisions, the booklet provides a listing of SS Corps, independent formations and the early units such as the Totenkopf Standarten, Verfügungsdivision, etc. Shown below is a 70% reduction of a page from this new booklet. See your 1984 renewal/order form for price and details.

17 SS Panzer-Grenadier Division

POSTOFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	Pz.Bn.	Pz.Gren.	ARTIL.	UNITS
SS-17	988	17	37	38	17



Formed late 1943 in western France. Personnel were German and ethnic-Germans from the Balkans. Titled "Götz von Berlichingen", this was the only Waffen-SS division which fought exclusively on the western front. Feldpost numbers for this division first listed in Rev. 9 of FpU.

Actions:

June 1944: rushed north to Normandy area, fought south of Carentan under LXXXIV Army Corps, suffered heavy casualties.
 August 1944: withdrew through France, began reforming in the Saarland.
 Sept. 1944: absorbed personnel of 49th & 51st SS Panzer Brigades to rebuild battered 37th & 38th SS Rgts. Under XIII SS Corps.
 Oct. 1944: defense of Metz, 38th Rgt. destroyed in early November.
 Dec. 1944: fighting withdrawal toward Saarbrücken and West Wall, 38th Rgt. reformed with personnel from SS Pz.Gren. Lehr Rgt.
 Jan. 1945: took part in "operation Nordwind" in Alsace, withdrew to Lothringen area when offensive failed.
 March 1945: heavy fighting near Zweibrücken, withdrew across Rhine.
 April 1945: suffered heavy losses around Jagst River and Nuremberg.
 May 1945: withdrew to foothills of Bavarian Alps, surrendered to Americans on May 7th.

Division Stab	36777	SS Nachsch. Tr. 17:	
SS Pz.- Gren. Rgt. 37:		Stab	37306
Rgts. Stab	32208	Ns. Kp.	34177
Btl. I	37044	Waffen-Werkst. Kp.	45763
Btl. II	35272	1. Kraftf. Kp.	42134
Btl. III	44181	2. " "	33621
13. Kp.	36595	3. " "	44815
14. "	42415	4. " "	46932
15. "	32503	5. " "	47713
		6. " "	43287
SS Pz.-Gren. Rgt. 38:		SS Sanitats Abt. 17:	
Rgts. Stab	44261	Stab	33748
Btl. I	33237	1. Kp.	46752
Btl. II	45020	2. "	45678
Btl. III	32974	SS Felders. Btl.	47054
13. Kp.	34727	SS Feldgend. Kp.	35018
14. "	47166	SS Pi. Btl. Stab	36380
15. "	43902	Bru. Kol.	48087
SS Panzer Abt. 17	34356	SS Instands. Abt.	41722
		SS Flak Abt.	46413
SS Art. Rgt. 17:		SS Nachr. Abt.	46104
Rgts. Stab	35922	SS Wirtsch. Btl.	37982
Abt. I	45144	SS Pz. Aufkl. Abt.	38594
Abt. II	39312	SS Pz.-Jäger Abt.	37476
Abt. III	30615	SS FpA 17	40100

REJECTED FELDPOST

by Jim Lewis

An interesting aspect of feldpost collecting concerns those postal markings applied to mail which had been rejected and returned to sender. While the circumstances for such rejections varied, these were the most common:

1.) Feldpost Number Reassignment

As owners of "Himmelblau" are aware, the same 5-digit feldpost number was often assigned to different units at various times, making proper identification of units a very date conscious proposition. One result of such feldpost number changes was the return of mail addressed to units which had "lost" their former 5-digit number.

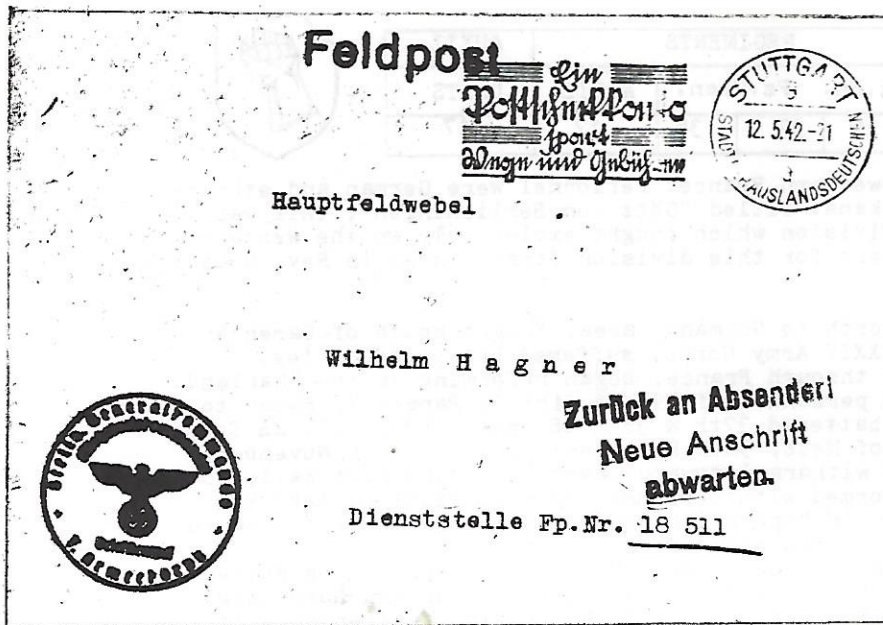
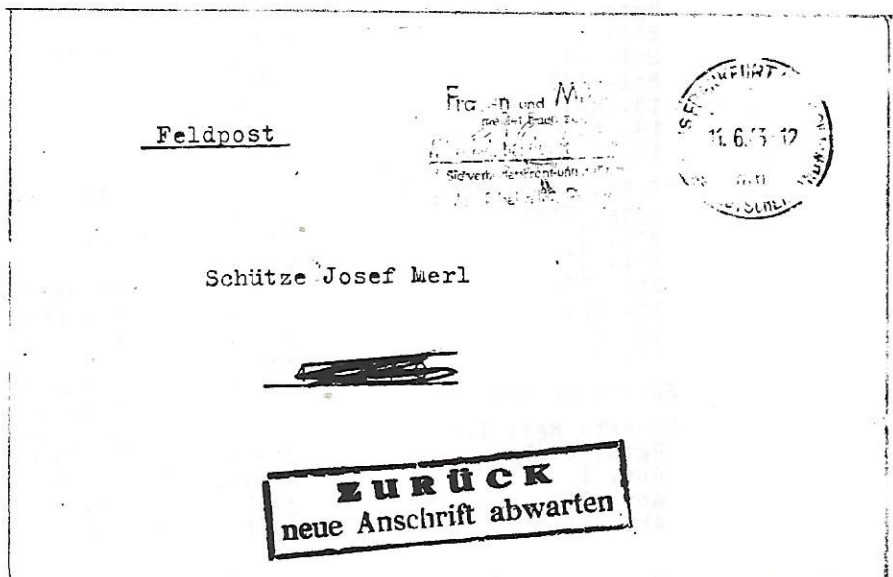


Fig. 1) Cover sent to Fp# 18511 May '42 from "Generalkommando V Armeekorps" has 3-line "Zurück an Absender! Neue Anschrift abwarten" (Return, await new address). "Himmelblau" (hereafter "Hb") lists this Fp# for "4 Kp./Kradschutz Btl. 10" until early '42 when this unit was deleted. This Fp# assigned to "O.T. Bauleitung 2/XVIII (Caesar) in '44.

Fig. 2) Violet boxed hand stamp on cover sent to Fp# 44170 June '43. "Hb" lists "Wehrmacht Trsp. Ltg. Ukraine" until mid-'43 when unit deleted. This number reassigned to "1.Kraftf. Kp./Div. Versorg. Rgt. 1190" in '45.



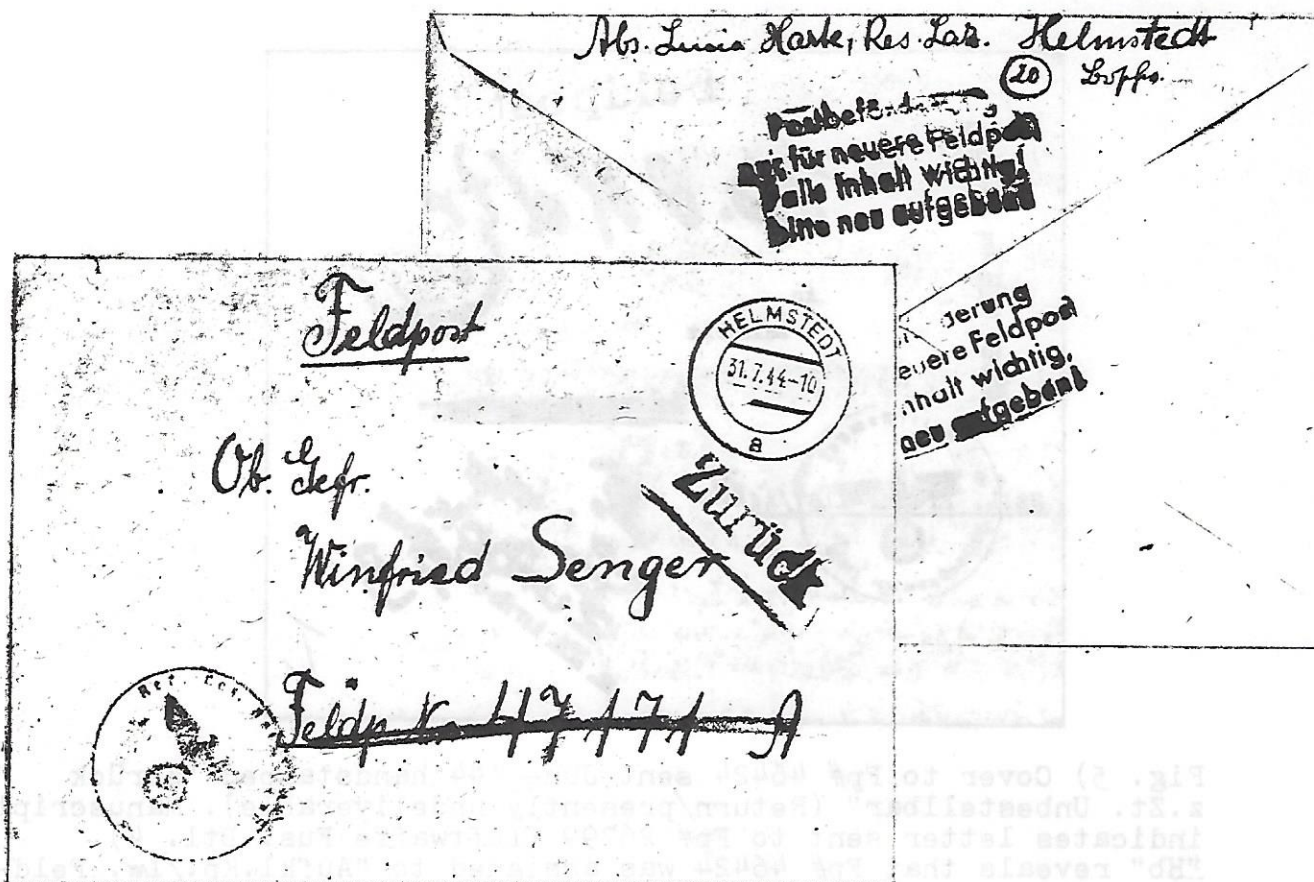


Fig. 3) Cover from Reserve Hospital in Helmstedt to Fp# 47171 sent July '44 has "Return" on front with explanation handstamped on rear: "Postal forwarding for new feldpost. In case contents are important, request new posting". "Hb" shows this Fp.# assigned to "le. Marine Art. Abt. 684" from '43 to '45. In July '44 this Artillery unit may have been in the Normandy fighting and unable to receive mail.



Fig. 4) Air Feldpost cover sent to Fp# 28676 via the Deutsche Dienstpost office in Maastricht, Holland August '44 was passed unopened by German censor office in Cologne (circled "A.c." handstamp) but rejected by the Feldpost. "Hb" shows this Fp# assigned to I/Gren. Rgt. 222 of the 75th Inf. Div. w/o change. This unit was heavily engaged in the Ukraine at this time and the rejection may be due to the transfer or wounding of the intended recipient.

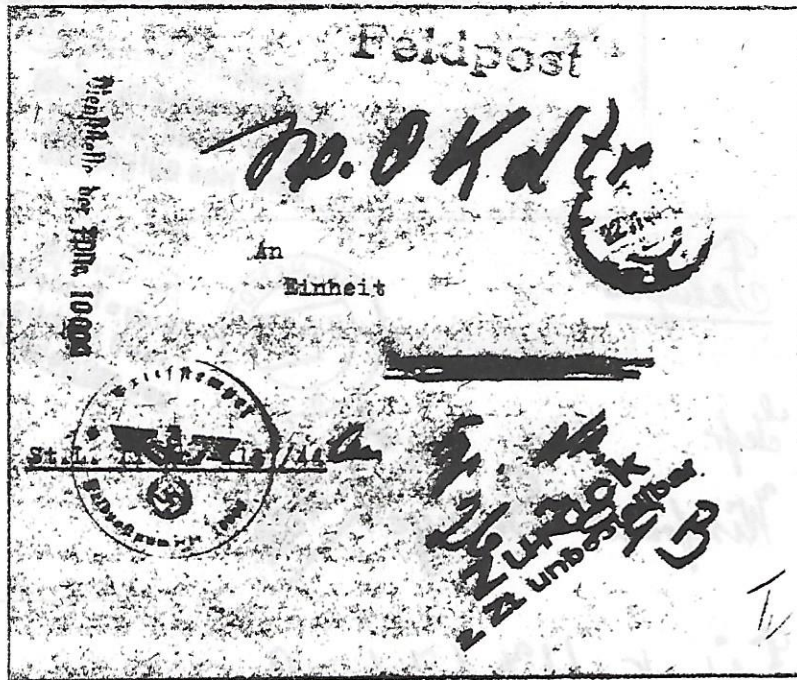


Fig. 5) Cover to Fp# 46424 sent June '44 handstamped "Zurück z.Zt. Unbestellbar" (Return/presently undeliverable). Manuscript indicates letter sent to Fp# 26799 (Luftwaffe Fus. Btl. 4). "Hb" reveals that Fp# 46424 was assigned to "Aufkl.Kp./Lw. Feldkorps II" in '43 but unit deleted in '44. This Fp# reassigned to "Stab II/Pz.Jagd.Verband-Pz.Jagd.Brigade Dora" in '45.

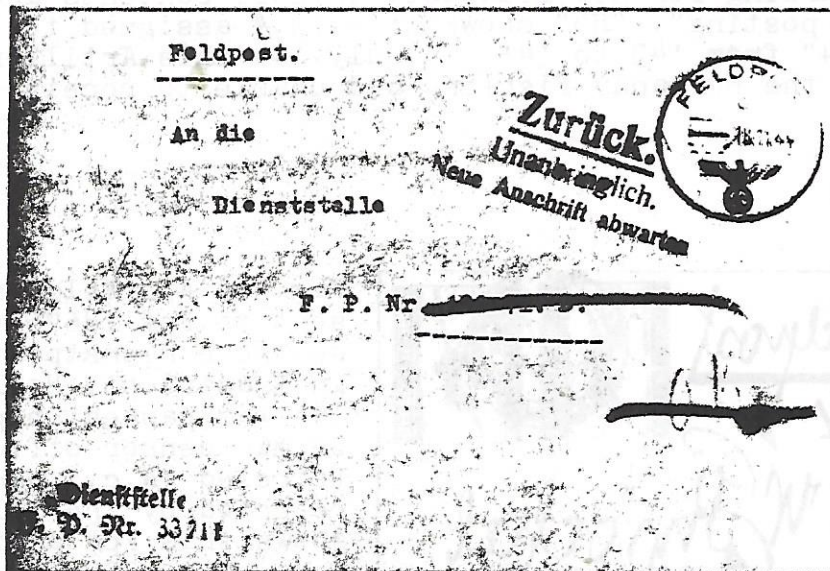


Fig. 6) Official military mail from Fp# 33711 ("Wehrmacht Kdtr. Krakau") to Fp# 40071 dated Nov.'44. Three line handstamp reads "Zurück. Unanbringlich. Neue Anschrift abwarten". (Return. Unacceptable. Await new address). "Hb" shows Fp# 40071 assigned to "Stab II/Gren. Brigade 1134" in '44 but deleted the same year. Unit may have been destroyed. This Fp# was never reassigned.

2.) Loss of Military Airmail Privilege

As most TRSG members know, beginning in April '42, an Air Fieldpost Service ("Luftfeldpostdienst") was established for soldiers serving on the Eastern front. However, upon transfer to other areas, units often lost the privilege of participating in this air service. When mail to such units, bearing "Luftfeldpost" labels, were received at Military Airmail Receiving Centers, explanatory routing marks were added. Such mail was either rejected or forwarded with a penalty added.

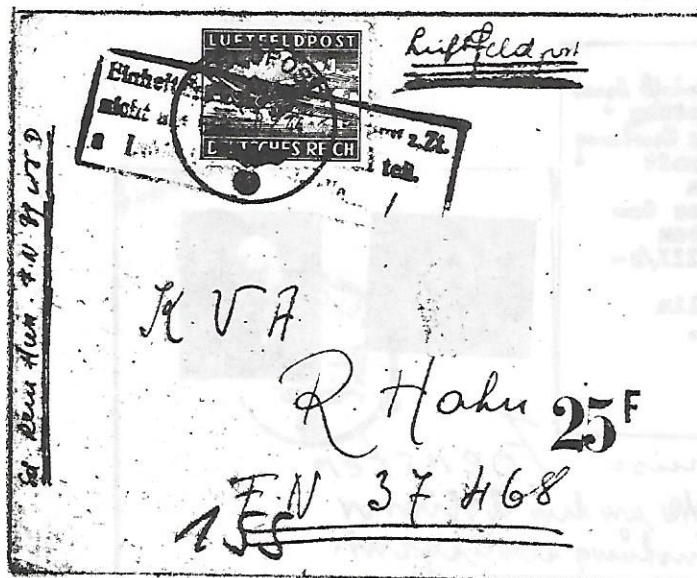


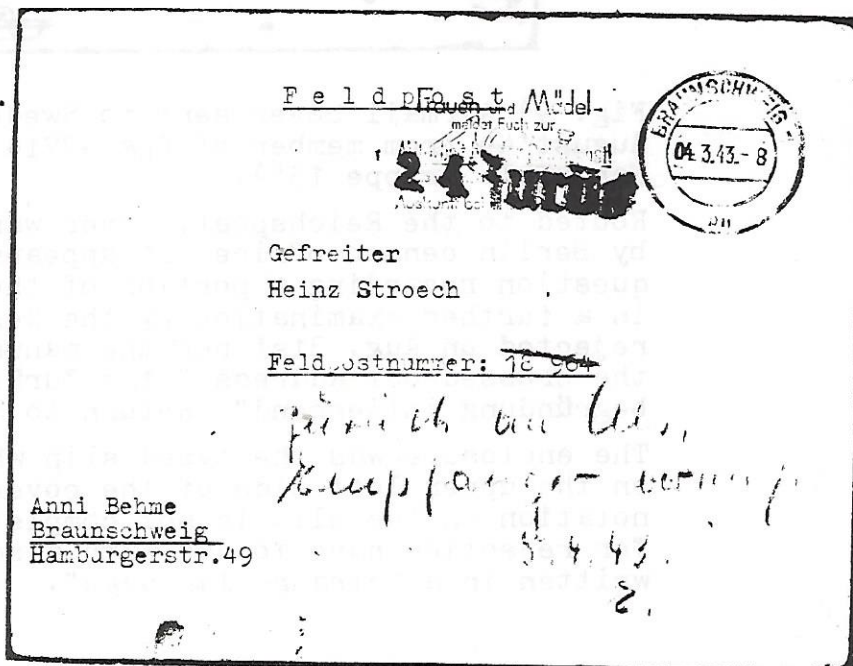
Fig. 7) Cover sent to member of Fp# 37468 in Feb.'44 has boxed h'stamp "Einheit des Empfängers nimmt z. Zt. nicht am Luftfeldpostdienst teil. a Luftfeldpostsammelstelle" (Unit of the recipient no longer participates in the Military Airmail Service at this time.) "Hb" shows this Fp# assigned to "2.Battr./le. Flak Abt. 980".

3.) Intended Recipient Missing in Action

Little explanation is necessary for situations in which a military unit received mail addressed to a member listed as missing in action. Such mail was returned to sender, often with a manuscript explanation added.

Fig. 8) Sent to member of Fp# 18964 ("3 Kp./Fusilier Btl. 111 of Inf. Div. 111") in March '43. Dated handstamp "2.4. Zurück" and manuscript "Zurück den Absender. Empfänger Vermisster" (Return - Addressee missing) dated 8.4.'43 and initialed.

At this time the 111th Inf. Div. was fighting in the Kuban bridgehead and suffered heavy casualties.



Anni Behme
Braunschweig
Hamburgerstr.49

4.) Violation of Postal Regulations

German servicemen were permitted to communicate with non-hostile foreign countries. Germany had reciprocal postal arrangements with most such countries by which ordinary letters or cards sent via Feldpost required no postal fee. Special handling such as airmail, registration etc. was charged at domestic rates.

Feldpost sendings to foreign countries was subject to examination at German censor offices and were rejected if found to be in violation of postal regulations.

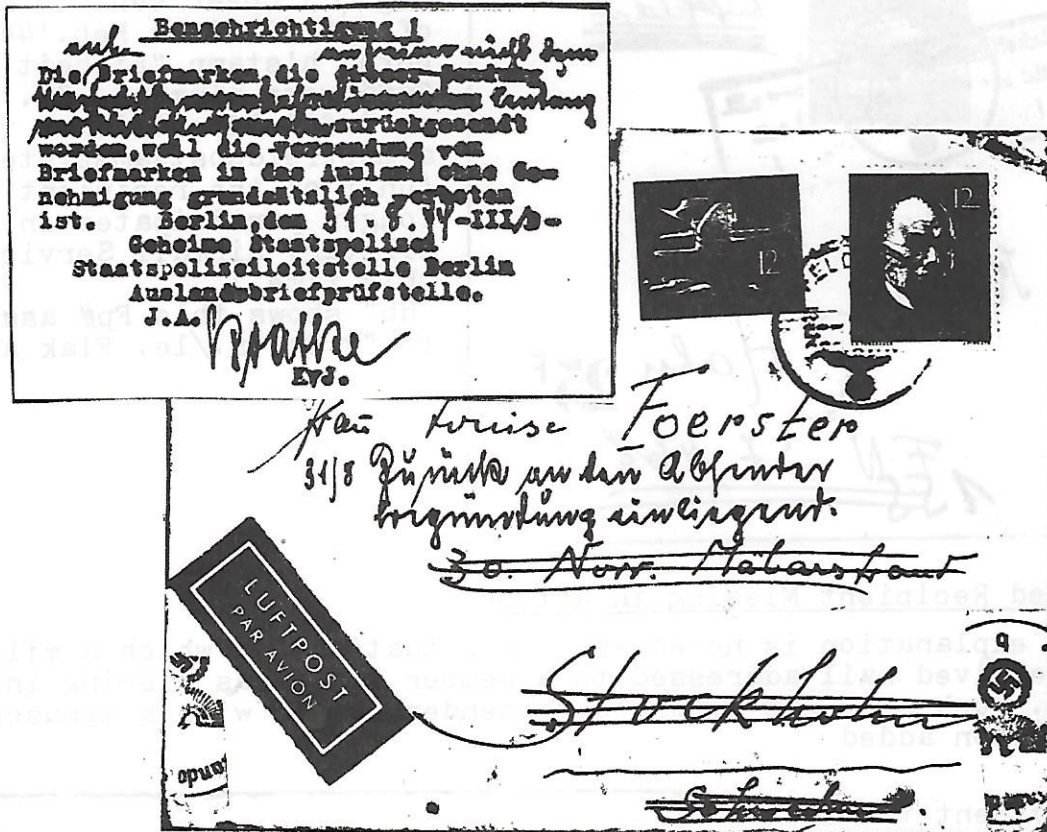


Fig. 9) Airmail cover sent to Sweden via the Feldpost August '44 from member of Fp# 47714 ("Ln. Betr. Kp./ Nahaufkl. Gruppe 13").

Routed to the Reichspost, cover was opened and examined by Berlin censor office. It appears that there was a question regarding a portion of the letter which resulted in a further examination by the Gestapo. The letter was rejected on Aug. 31st per the manuscript notation above the crossed-out address "31/8 Zurück an den Absender/ begründung inliegend" (Return to Sender/reason enclosed).

The enclosure was the typed slip which I've superimposed on the upper left side of the cover. While the written notation on the slip is not completely legible, grounds for rejection have to do with a portion of the letter written in a "strange language".

STADT DES KdF-WAGENS BEI FALLERSLEBEN

BY Robert Miskevich

In late May of 1937 the German government formed an automobile manufacturing company known as Gesellschaft zur Vorbereitung des Volkswagen (Volkswagen Development Company). Adolf Hitler, an automobile enthusiast, was determined to produce a People's car (and a military vehicle factory). To finance the enterprise an ingenious solution was found using the funds of the German Labor Front of Dr. Robert Ley and its subsidiary organization, Kraft durch Freude or KdF (Strength-Through-Joy). In what was actually a gigantic layaway scheme and contrary to universal practice, the working people of Germany furnished capital through pre-payment installment contracts administered by the KdF. Delivery of the car would be provided only after all installment payments were completed by the buyer.

In January of 1938, Fallersleben in Lower Saxony was chosen as the site of the Volkswagenwerke. Construction began on an entirely new planned industrial city, an Autostadt (auto city), with housing for 90,000 people. On May 26, 1938 during a festive ceremony, Adolf Hitler laid the cornerstone of the Volkswagen factory. In his dedication speech he named the new car the "KdF-Wagen"—Strength-Through-Joy Car. ("Volkswagen" was not Hitler's name for the car but only became official after the war.)

Construction of Germany's vast "Westwall" fortifications was launched as a crash program in July 1938 and virtually overnight most of the construction crews building the workers' city vanished. In September 1939 war came and construction on the workers' city, now officially known as the Stadt des KdF-Wagens, slowed still further. By December 1941, when all new civilian housing units were halted by decree, only 2358 apartments were completed (less than 10% of those projected), and for the remainder of the war wooden barracks served as substitutes. Meanwhile, production at the factory was of a military vehicle known as the "Kubelwagen" (bucket car), one of the finest manufactured by anyone during World War II. By the time the plant shifted over to war production in 1940, only 210 KdF-Wagens had been built and these had not even been constructed at the factory.

In June 1945, the city administration renamed their city after the castle of the Schulenburg family who originally owned the land on which the city was constructed. Due to the start of the war the castle, Schloss Wolfsburg, survived urban development and the city is now known as Wolfsburg.

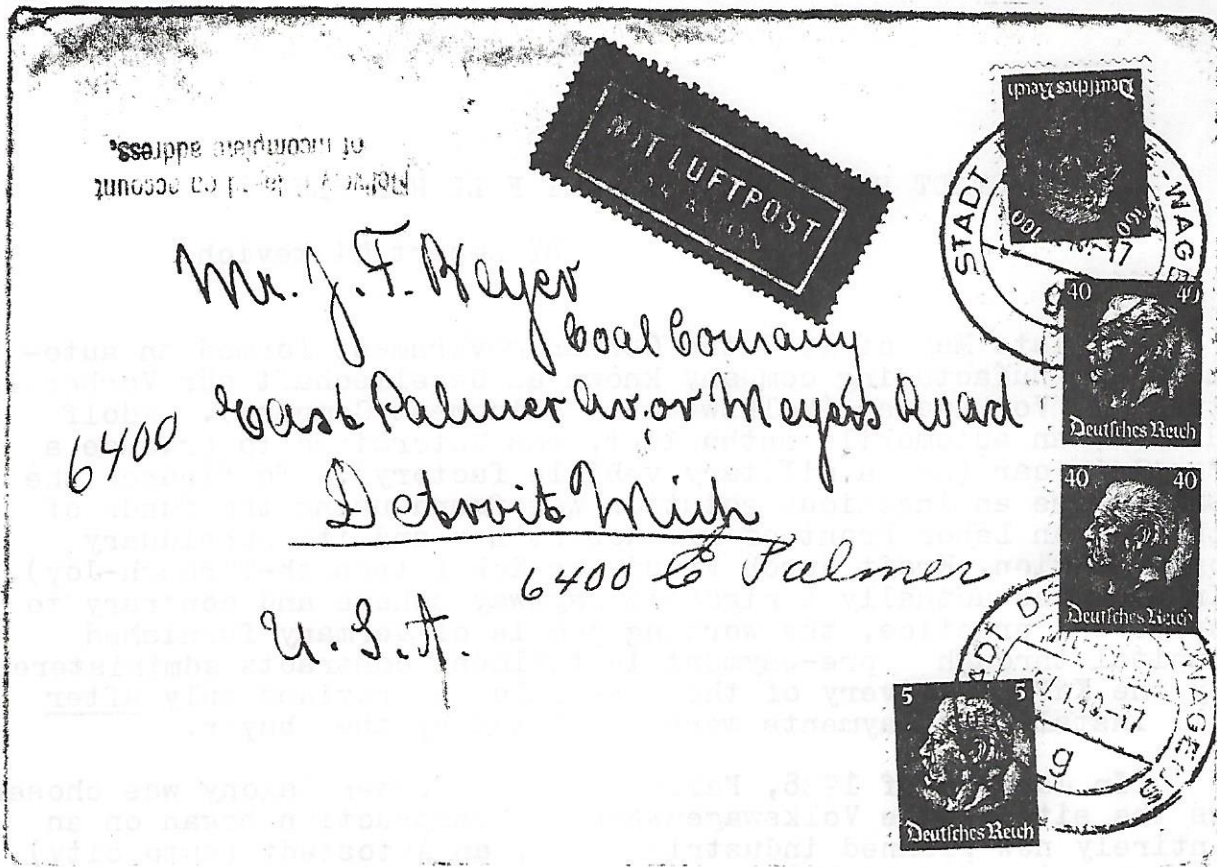


Figure 1. The cancellation used at the post office in the Stadt des KdF-Wagens bei Fallersleben on a cover to the USA dated Jan. 27, 1940. The city is now known as Wolfsburg.

Figure 2. Special cancellation for the Volkswagen Groundbreaking Ceremony used on one day, May 26, 1938, at Rothenfelde über Vorsfelde, the nearest town with a post office.



PLEASE CANCEL LIGHTLY! • BITTE SAUBER STEMPELN! • S. V. P. CANCELEZ LEGEREMENT!



AMERICAN BEROLINA COMPANY
 32 WEST 47th STREET
 NEW YORK CITY, U. S. A.



Figure 3. On February 17, 1939 a 25 + 10 pf. blue stamp was issued depicting the KdF-Wagen. (Mi. 688). The stamp was one of a set of three issued at the Berlin International Auto Show (the sixth and last show of the era). The first day cover above has the special cancellation of the Auto Show. With regard to the KdF-Wagen, a joke began to circulate in Germany about this time about a Volkswagen employee who sedulously filched components from the factory and assembled them in his garage -- only to wind up with a machinegun carrying military scout car.

Ref.

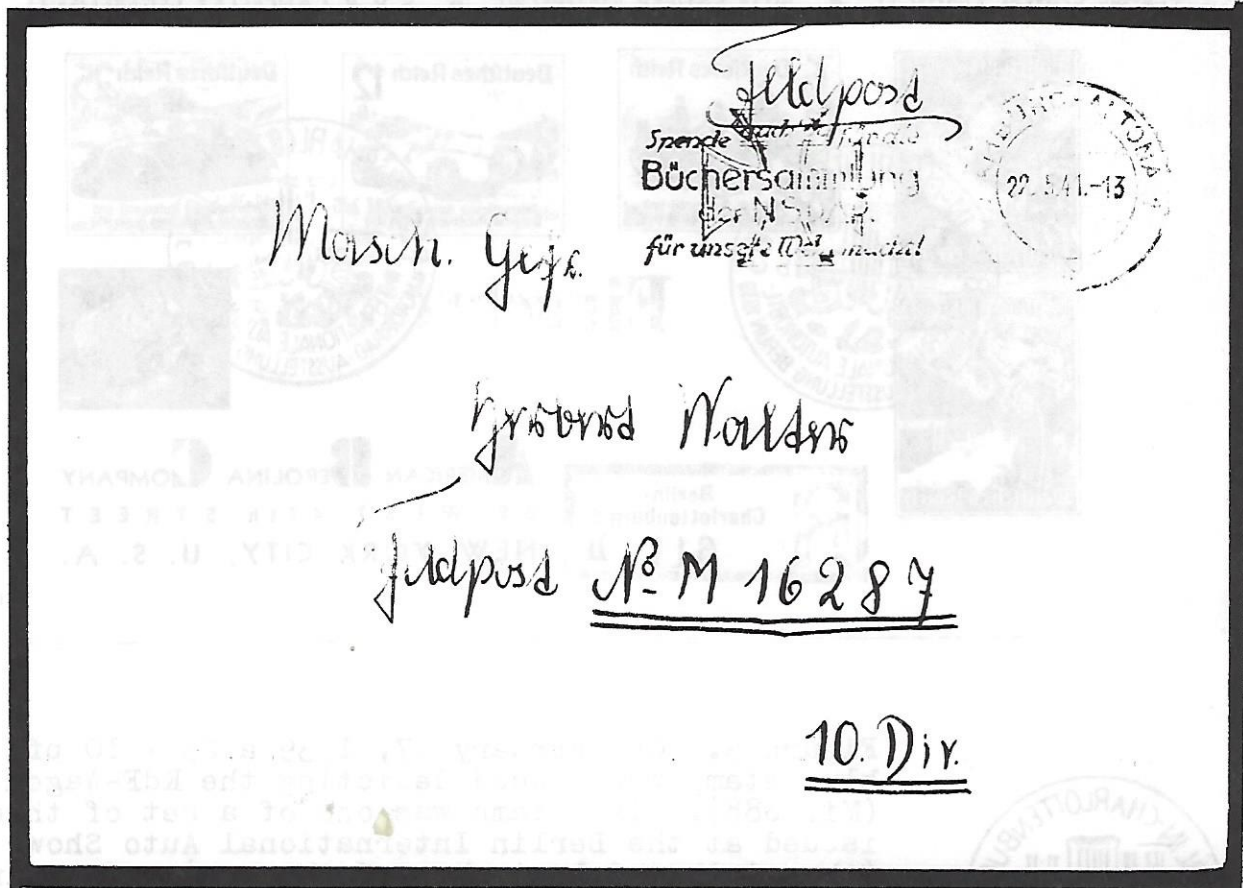
Nelson, Walter Henry, Small Wonder, the Amazing Story of the Volkswagen, Little, Brown & Co. (1970) p. 27-93.

Grunberger, Richard, The 12-Year Reich, A Social History of Nazi Germany 1933-1945, Stein & Day, New York (1976) pp. 367.

Harper, A., Scheck, W., The Stamps of Germany Third Reich, a self publication (1966) pp. 181.

Navy Log

The Last Voyage of the "Bismarck"



The above cover was mailed from Hamburg on May 22, 1941 and is addressed to a crew member of the battleship "Bismarck" (Feldpost number M-16287). The 41,700 ton "Schlachtschiff" had, however, sailed from Bergen on the previous day into the North Atlantic on what was to be her final ill-fated voyage. The cover was eventually returned with the hand-stamped notation "Not deliverable - return to Sender".

On May 24, 1941, Bismarck sunk HMS Hood and damaged HMS Prince of Wales in the Denmark Strait. In subsequent action, Bismarck was damaged by aircraft from HMS Victorious and Ark Royal, then by gunfire from HMS King George V and Rodney. She was finally torpedoed and sunk by HMS Dorsetshire on May 27, 1941.

(RJH)

FALLSCHIRMJAGER REGIMENT 6 (NEU) - NORMANDY, 1944

By John C. Wideman, Ph.D.

Fallschirmjager Regiment 6 (Neu) (Airborne Infantry Regiment 6 (New)) was formed in early Spring 1943 and became part of Fallschirm Division 2. After some early action on the Eastern Front, Regiment 6 was transferred to France along with two Fallschirm Division (3 and 5) to form the II Fallschirm Korps. This was done because Hitler felt that the Allied invasion would come at the Pas de Calais in 1944 and that the invasion would include feints in Normandy. He gave the 15th Army responsibility for the coastline from Le Harve to Holland and the 7th Army covered the coastline from Le Harve south.

Regiment 6 (Neu) was assigned to the area near Carentan on the Cotentin Peninsula, arriving at Lessay and Periers, South of Carentan on May 6, 1944. In late May, Regiment 6 (Neu) was moved to St. Saveur le Vicomte. There, it was placed under the operational control (opcon) of General-Major Falley, commanding officer of the 91st Infantry Division (Haudegen). The 91st Division, formed in April 1944 (23rd Wave), was at this time, composed of two full-strength Grenadier Regiments (the 1057th and the 1058th) and a full-strength artillery regiment (the 191st).

Regiment 6 (Neu), under the command of then Major (later Colonel) Friedrich August Freiherr von der Heydte, an experienced, combat paratrooper, was at its full strength of 3,457 personnel organized into three battalions and a heavy weapons company (machineguns and mortars). The Regiment was completely jump-trained, but the average age was 17½ years, indicating that it lacked in-depth combat experience. The only problem was that there were only 70 assorted vehicles for the entire regiment.

Hitler had directed that 15th Army have priority on men and material because of his belief as to the invasion site. Thus, the units on the Cotentin Peninsula were less heavily armed and manned than the more northern units. The eastern half of the peninsula was held by the 709th Coastal Division and the western half by the 243rd Attack Division. Apart from the Festung Cherbourg troops, the 7th Army Sturm Battalion and the 91st Infantry Division, the peninsula was held by Regiment 6 (Neu), the 206th Panzer Battalion and the 795 Ost Battalion.

On June 6, 1944, Regiment 6 (Neu), upon being advised of the invasion, marched from Carentan to Ste Come du Mont, arriving at 1200 hours. Major von der Heydte climbed to the bell tower of the village church and looked out over the vast D-Day invasion fleet anchored off the Normandy coast. He immediately deployed the 2d Battalion to Ste Mere Eglise, the 1st Battalion to Ste Marie du Mont and returned the 3d Battalion to Carentan to serve as a permanent operating base and reserve. In the confusion that typified D-Day, the 1st Battalion was taken prisoner by the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment (US) on June 7. Von der Heydte fought a withdrawal action with the 2d Battalion picking up elements of the 3d Battalion of the 1058th Regiment. Once the German units formed a defense in

the week following D-Day, they fell back along the shaft of the peninsula. Ultimately, the German units were split with the 91st Infantry Division withdrawing North to Cherbourg, where it surrendered in July with the 77th Division. Regiment 6 (Neu) was badly mauled, with some elements withdrawing along a line from Carentan to Brest. These elements surrendered at Brest in September 1944 following an attempt by German forces to enclave there.

Other elements of Regiment 6 (Neu), still under the command of Von der Heydte, managed to withdraw East with other German units. Von der Heydte, who had begun his career as a parachute commander with the 1st Battalion, 3rd Parachute Regiment in the bitter fighting for Cannae during the conquest of Crete, continued to fight through France, Belgium and Holland. In December 1944, he was captured while leading another parachute battalion in a drop near Malmedy during the Battle of the Bulge.

While Regiment 6 (Neu) was in Normandy, they were assigned to the 91st Infantry Division for mail services since they did not have their own organic mail services and no other units were in the vicinity. However, there is a separate listing within the FpU under Feldpostnummer 06133: "V. d. Heydte - Carentan (1944) Ø". It is possible that this FpN was issued to Von der Heydte in the period after the invasion when he and elements of the regiment withdrew from Normandy, or when the regiment first arrived in Normandy in May 1944 until it could slave off of the 91st Division.

ORDER OF BATTLE
Fallschirmjager Regiment 6 (Neu), 1944

Regimental Staff (FpN 49323)

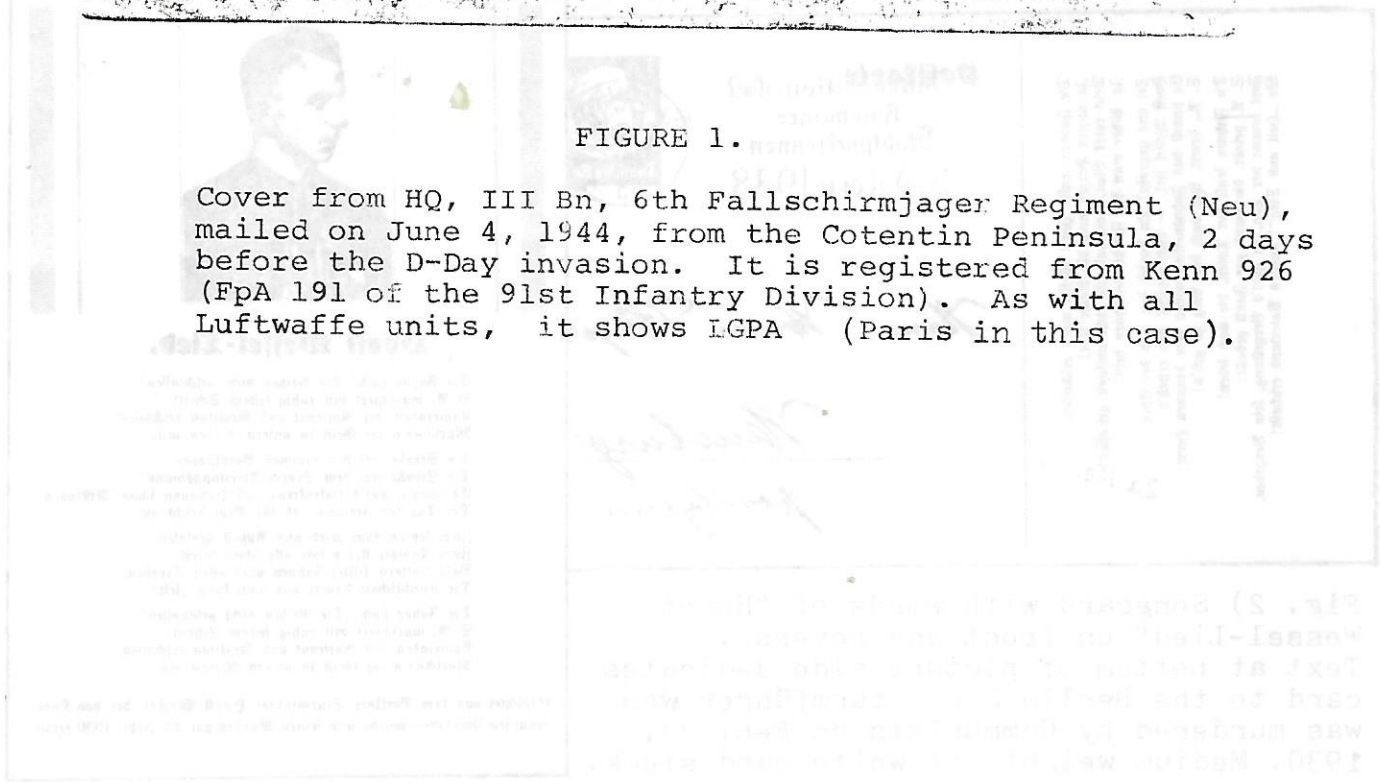
		— Le. Kolonne (FpN 51535)			
		— 13th Komp. (FpN 50023)			
		— 14th Komp. (FpN 52558)			
I Bn (FpN Unk)		II Bn (FpN 55096)		III Bn (FpN 50370)	
HQ (A)		HQ (A)		HQ (A)	
1 Kp (B)		5 Kp. (B)		9 Kp (B)	
2 Kp (C)		6 Kp (C)		10 Kp (C)	
3 Kp (D)		7 Kp (D)		11 Kp (D)	
4 Kp (E)		8 Kp (E)		12 Kp (E)	

Note: This regiment had one company of heavy weapons (machineguns and mortars) in addition to the three battalions. The purpose of the 14th Kp is unknown.



FIGURE 1.

Cover from HQ, III Bn, 6th Fallschirmjager Regiment (Neu), mailed on June 4, 1944, from the Cotentin Peninsula, 2 days before the D-Day invasion. It is registered from Kenn 926 (Fpa 191 of the 91st Infantry Division). As with all Luftwaffe units, it shows IGPA (Paris in this case).



Propaganda Card Corner

Member Tom Dean provided copies of these cards from his collection.

Fig. 1) Commemorating the 6th Anniversary of the Third Reich. Medium weight card stock with "Der 30 Januar 1930" in gold color. Reverse has "Gedenkkarten des Dritten Reiches" in upper left, number 502 in bottom center and verticle text: "Verlag Th. König, Berlin SW 68".

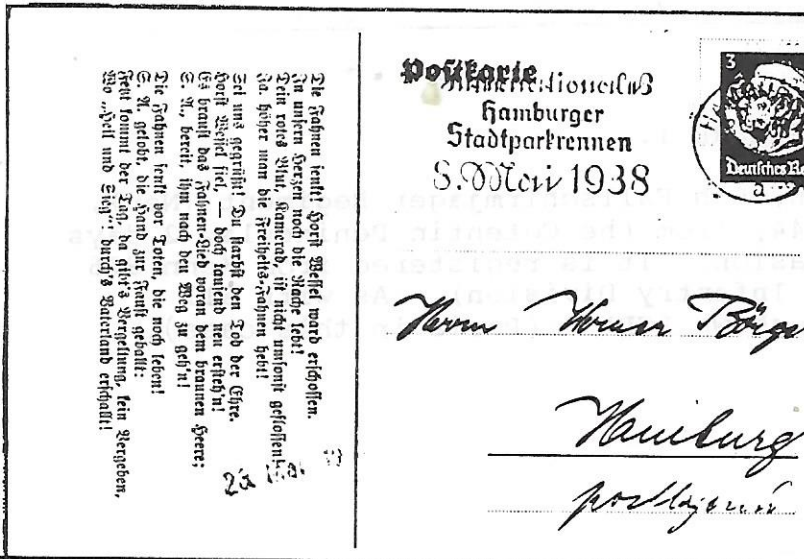


Fig. 2) Songcard with words of "Horst Wessel-Lied" on front and reverse. Text at bottom of picture side dedicates card to the Berlin S.A. Sturmführer who was murdered by Communists on Feb. 23, 1930. Medium weight off-white card stock.



Gedichtet von dem Berliner Sturmführer Horst Wessel, der von Kommunisten überfallen wurde und seinen Wunden am 23. Febr. 1930 erlag.

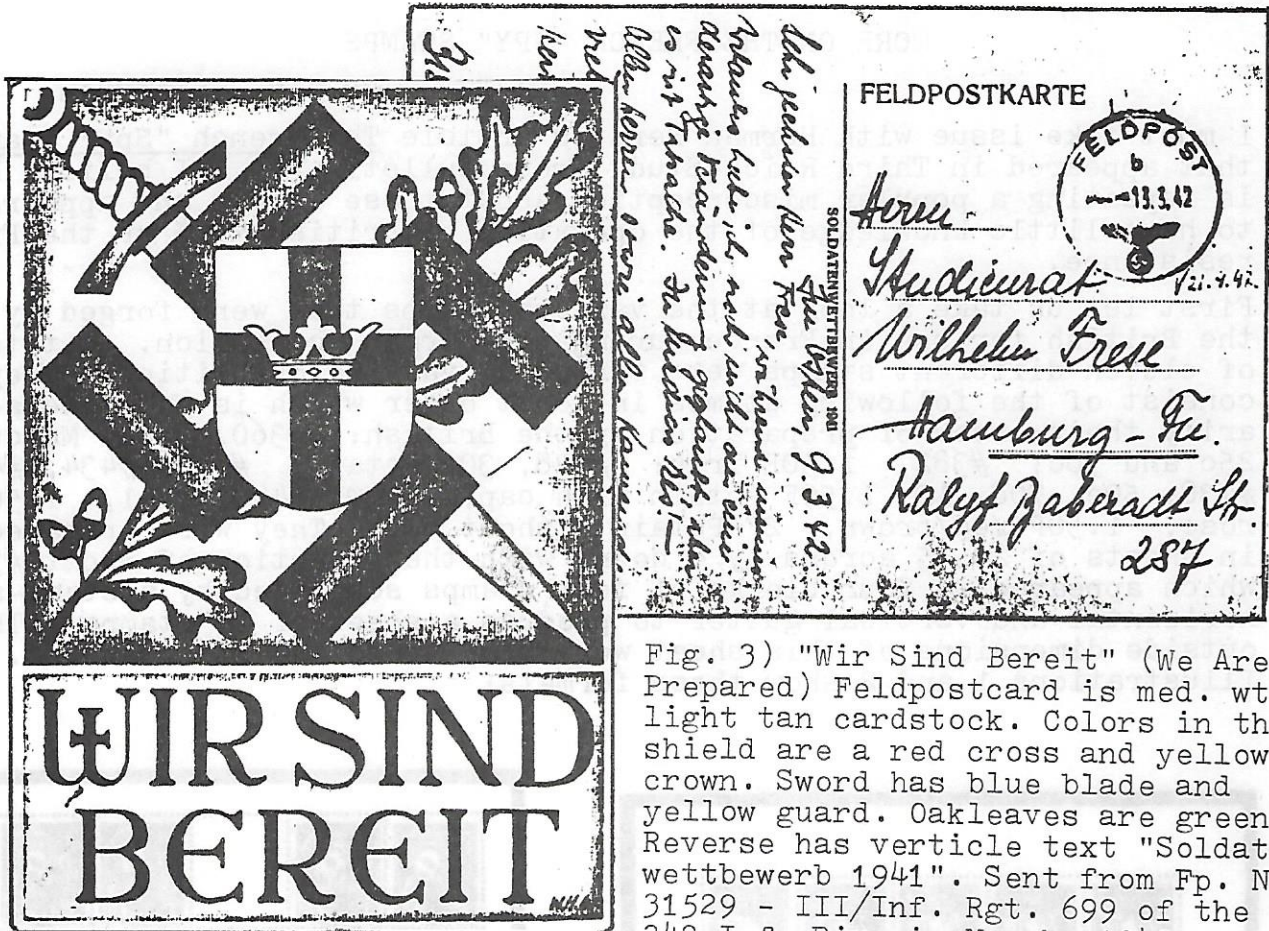
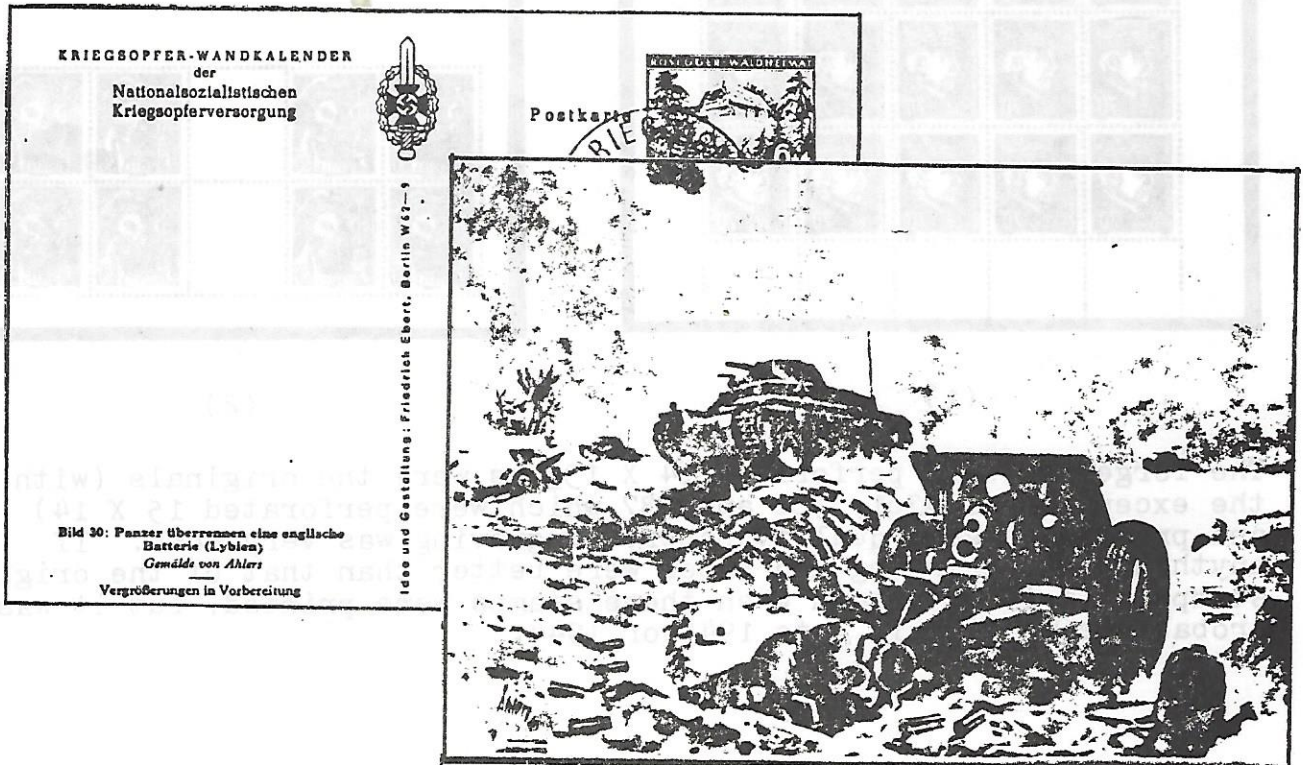


Fig. 3) "Wir Sind Bereit" (We Are Prepared) Feldpostcard is med. wt. light tan cardstock. Colors in the shield are a red cross and yellow crown. Sword has blue blade and yellow guard. Oakleaves are green. Reverse has verticle text "Soldatenwettbewerb 1941". Sent from Fp. No. 31529 - III/Inf. Rgt. 699 of the 342 Inf. Div. in March, 1942.

Fig. 4) Multicolor card with painting of German tank passing a knocked-out British battery in Libia is med. wt. white stock. Verticle text on reverse "Idee und Gestaltung: Friedrich Ebert, Berlin W 62-9". This card is no. 30 of series.

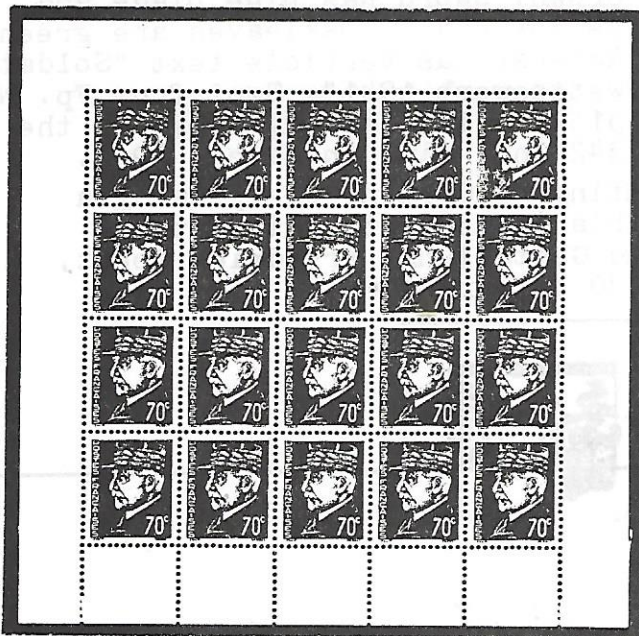


MORE ON THE FRENCH "SPY" STAMPS

By M.C. Gilhousen

I must take issue with Herman Herst's article The French "Spy" Stamps that appeared in Third Reich Study Group Bulletin #67. I believe he is repeating a popular misconception about these issues and appears to have little knowledge of the operation of British MI-5 or the French resistance.

First let us take a look at the various stamps that were forged by the British for use in France during the German occupation. A total of eleven different stamps were forged in varying quantities. They consist of the following stamps in Scott order which is not necessarily their order of preparation by the British: #360, #361, Mercury 25c and 30c; #382, 1.50F Iris; #428, 30c Petain; #431, #434, #437, #438, 50c, 70c, 1F, 1.50F Petain with cap; #439, #440, #441, 1.50F rose, 1.50F red/brown, 2F Petain without cap. They were prepared in sheets of 20 (5 across by 4 down) with the exception of Scott #361 which appeared in four blocks of four stamps separated by a stamp-sized horizontal and vertical gutter to produce a sheet of 16 stamps. The outside dimensions of this sheet were similar to the other sheets. Illustrations 1 and 2 show these formats:



(1)

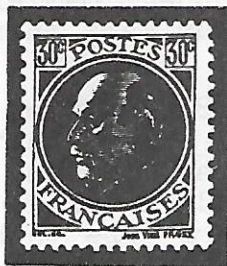


(2)

The forgeries were perforated 14 X 13½ as were the originals (with the exception of #361, 382 and 437 which were perforated 15 X 14) and printed on good quality paper. Engraving was very done. If anything, the printing and paper were better than that of the original stamps. It is not known when these stamps were printed, but it was probably some time in late 1943 or 1944.

French Spy Stamps (Continued)

In addition to these forgeries, the British also prepared a parody of Scott #428 showing the shadowy, satanic figure of Pierre Laval lurking over the shoulder of Petain:



Genuine



Parody

The original forgery of Scott #428 was used to produce this parody.

All of these British forgeries have distinguishing marks of some sort. The reason for this is not really known. Most of the marks are so insignificant that they could easily have occurred accidentally when the printing plates were prepared. After all, the British-forged 3, 4, 6 and 8 pf Hitler stamps as well as the forged 12 pf Hindenburg and the luftfeldpost admission label have identifying characteristics also and this certainly was unintentional.

Mr. Herst seems to think that these markings were incorporated into the designs to alert the various resistance members that their mail had been sent by another resistance member. This is certainly most interesting, but it seems like an awful lot of effort to achieve so small a return. Why not a mark on the envelope in a prearranged spot? A small smudge, a tear, a missing perforation, certain key words in the address or return? These signals could be changed periodically. Certainly a lot easier than sending to England for a specially printed series of stamps! And who would want to carry those special stamps around with them? In sheet form they were a dead (no pun intended) give away. And if you and I can see the markings on these stamps, couldn't Gestapo Muller also see them? They would also give away their real purpose if they were found in the possession of arrested suspects and thus negate the whole costly scheme. And finally, how many resistance members do you think made their plans through the mails? I would expect that the Germans were smart enough to examine the mail of suspected members of the resistance.

In order to understand the workings of British MI-5 and thus the reason for printing these stamps, one must first become familiar with the people involved. Members were selected for this choice position by virtue of family, educational background (school) and political hue. In other words, it was a "Good Old Boy" club in the strictest sense of the word. MI-5 covered the area of "black propaganda" - the spreading of rumors among the enemy. Subtle hints about impropriety on the part of prominent public officials and things of this nature were ordinary projects. The messages were to be delivered by various means - radio, spys, leaflets dropped from the air and last, but not least, direct mail campaigns. Whoever proposed this latter idea must have been fairly high up in the "club", for

French Spy Stamps (Continued)

considerable time and money were put into the stamp forging program. It has been attributed to Churchill by one writer.

The "good old boys" never let their subject matter get too basic as the Germans did on many an occasion, but kept their journalistic and moral standards high to the end.

The 12 pf Hindenburg, the 3, 4, 6 and 8 pf Hitler and the various French issues were prepared for use in this direct mail campaign. Agents were to have been infiltrated into Germany and France with bundles of letters containing propaganda material franked with these forged stamps. These letters and papers were to have been dropped into mail boxes for delivery by the enemy's own postal system. Just great! But what poor dim wit was going to try to enter the Reich loaded with propaganda material in the quantities suggested? Some of the Hindenburg and Hitler forgeries were affixed to propaganda cards and letters as well as newspapers and dropped over Germany from air-planes, but there is no evidence that any of the French issues were ever used, at least for the purpose for which they were printed. It would seem that a number of sheets were appropriated for personal use some time after the end of the war. The two most knowledgeable people in the field of propaganda and espionage forgeries (Herbert Friedman and the late Vernon McKenzie) both doubt that these stamps were ever place in use. In fact, they probably were never delivered to France. Only four have ever been discovered on cover.

So the entire program of forging French stamps turned out to be a school boy lark - just something to keep the "good old boys" busy. It was certainly a lot more prudent than spying around German occupied Europe where the mortality rate was frighteningly high.

CINDERELLA CORNER

Two colorful labels of unknown date and origin were recently submitted for the TRSG Auction and are reproduced full-size. The "Groß-Deutschland erwache!" label measures 32 x 40mm. The text appears white on a red background. The swastika is black.

The dramatic "Jugend im Luftschutz" label measures 38 x 52mm and is multi-colored. The design is a Hitler Youth member outlined against a blue/black sky. The "Luftschutz" (air raid protection) emblem appears above the text. The youth is carrying a hatchet, helmet, gas mask and what appears to be an air pump. This equipment was, of course, used in rescuing victims of air raids.



T. R. S. G. Auction No. 27

<u>Lot#</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	P'cd to Switz. frm "Israel" 7/'42, 4-line h'stmp "Einlieferer: Aeltestenrat der Judisch. Kulturg. in Bendsburg" VF RES \$40.
2.	Con. camp Sachsenhausen lettersht w/"Auszug aus der Lagerordnung" & camp censor "A", stamp removed, to Litzmann. F-VF RES \$30.
3.	Con. camp Mauthausen form cvr w/imprint "St.Georgen Gusen", 2-line camp censor, sent to Warthegau 12/'40. VF RES \$50.
4.	Receipt for parcel sent to Auschwitz 10/'44, Mi.787 VF RES \$20
5.	Receipt for money order to Oranienburg 12/'40 frm Litzm. RES \$20
6.	Sml coupon for lunch Litzmannstadt Getto "Talon fur 1 Mittag" seal of "Der Aelteste der Juden". VF & scarce. RES \$ 25
7.	Austrian p'cd can. 6/'33 w/boxed h'stmp "arische firma" and swastika frm firm in Vienna. VF SB \$ 10.
8.	Official cvr frm Der Landrat, Biberach w/yellow & red label w/star of David & anti-Jewish text. VF SB \$ 15.
9.	Off. Nazi cvr w/Mi.144(2) & 148, SA Munich cachet 6/'38 RES \$10
10.	Same, reg. cvr w/NSDAP label backside, Munich 1/'40 VF SB \$6
11.	Postal check order w/"Elsas" Mi. 9, 1-line Dossen. can. SB \$6
12.	Cvr w/Mi. 763/772, can. Berlin "Eur.Front gegen Bol."11/'41 SB\$6
13.	Mixed German/Austrian franking on reg. cvr. Salzburg 8/'38 SB\$6
14.	Drucksache cvr w/sp. can. Aue "Gautreffen der NSDAP" 6/'37 SB\$5
15.	Gen.Govt. cvr w/Mi.45 tied by Krakau roller slogan can. SB \$5
16.	Prop. color cd. Olympics (WB-279)w/sp.can. VF RES \$18
17.	Same, WB-278w/photo Austrian Olympic Fund on back. VF RES \$18
18.	Photocd. Submarine w/song "Seeman erschuttern.."Used F RES \$14
19.	Same, Luftwaffe Kampfflug, HE 111K Fp#L32251 mute can. F SB \$10
20.	Willrich VDA cd. Stukaflieger Fp# 12477 & Fp. can. VF SB \$15
21.	Photocd. Panzer auf Fahrt w/Pz.-Jag. Kp. seal Pretty! SB \$8
22.	Same, Me109 chasing Spitfire, Fp usage 6/'44. VF SB \$8
23.	Reg. cvr frm German Consulate Bombay 4/'37, nice markings RES \$12
24.	Reg. cvr w/Ukraine o'prints frm Nikolajew. Mute cans w/line stamp 3/'42. Handstamped reg. label F-VF RES \$18
25.	Same but 2-line Kriwoi Rog & unit seal DDP 6/'42 RES \$18.
26.	Mi. 887 on reg. cvr. w/Amsterdam Hitler B'day can. '44 VF SB \$6
27.	Photocd. Feldherrnhalle monument, "Ewige Jude" Munich can. SB \$14
28.	Photocd. Tannenberg w/"Schlacht b. Tann." sp. cans. 8/'39 SB \$6
29.	Photocd. Battleship "Deutschland" (WB-365) w/Berlin sp. can. "Bolschw. ohne Maske" 11/'37. VF RES \$ 20.
30.	Three diff. Flak unit photocds mint VF SB \$6
31.	Photocds Rommel & Göing (reprints?) VF SB \$5
32.	Photocd visit Yugoslav Royalty w/Berlin sp. can. 2.6.39 VF SB \$6
33.	Colorcd. Hitler & Mussolini (WB-342)w/can. Italy F RES \$20
34.	1936 Rally cd. photo March of Old Banners (sim. WB-273) VF SB \$8
35.	1938 "Medal" color cd. sim. WB-257, used w/proper can. VF SB \$10
36.	1939 "Medal" cd. (WB-257) used Bad Nauheim 6/'40 VF SB \$10
37.	Tag der Deutschen Kunst cd. (WB-120) w/corr. stmp & can. VF RES\$20
38.	Danzig color cd (WB-322) mint VF RES \$12
39.	Iron Cross color cd. (WB-413) mint F RES \$20
40.	Kriegsmarine Feldpost cvr. Fp#10149 "Admiral Scheer" VF RES \$ 12
41.	Same, Fp#22289 "Königsberg" cruiser sent 11/'39 VF RES \$ 12
42.	Same, Fp#M17028 "Leopard" PT Boat, part unit seal o'prt RES \$14
43.	Fp cd to SS Schutzen in Berlin, red h/s "An Absender.." RES \$16
44.	Photocd frm SS Verfugs. Kraftfahrt, Berlin 5/'41 VF RES \$ 16
45.	Same, frm SS Pz.-Jäg. Ers. Abt. Arolsen 4/'41. VF RES \$ 18.

- | <u>Lot #</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--------------|---|
| 46 | Parole der Woche Nr17, '42, sml NSDAP leaflet issued weekly, with "Hassrede des Herrn Vansittart" seldom seen VF RES \$16 |
| 47 | Dritte Reichsleiderkarte w/coupons frm Berlin '42, punchholes RES \$8 |
| 48. | Reichseierkarte Wein Nov.'44 w/egg coupons Avg. SB \$5 |
| 49. | Red Labor Corps membership booklet w/var. dues labels VF RES \$15 |
| 50. | Two propaganda labels, "Deutsch. Erwach" & "Jugend Luftschutz" SB \$8 |
| 51. | POW letter to Major Walter Reder at Gaeta, Italy 11.9.73 VF RES \$12 |
| 52. | "Volk & Rasse" 32 pg. booklet (extract "Mein Kampf"), nice photo of Hitler on cover! VF RES \$15 |
| 53. | "Berliner Illustr. Zeitg." 8/5/41, photos Balkans & Africa RES \$15 |
| 54. | Prop. leaflet ZG91K frm U.S. 3rd Army to Germans. F SB \$12 |
| 55. | Same, G46 Hitler letter to SS etc. VF SB \$10 |
| 56. | Same, 648 SK 1C, to U.S. troops "When will war be over etc." SB \$10 |
| 57. | DDP Adria, reg. cvr.w/Mi.865-8, Laibach cans. 3.'44 VF RES \$35 |
| 58. | Same w/Mi.888-93, Triest cans. 10.'44 VF RES \$35 |
| 59. | DDP Oslo reg. cvr.w/Mi.891,900-1 & K241 9.'44 VF RES \$12 |
| 60. | Jewish mail, cens.cvr.Hamburg to USA 8.'41 Mi. 789 & 796, sender used "Sara" VF RES \$12 |
| 61. | Reg. Feldpost K#649, Fp#22912 22.10.'42 (335 Inf. Div.) VF RES \$12 |
| 62. | Kreigsmarine cvr. frm Wilhelmshaven training base, Oct.'41 VF SB \$9 |
| 63. | Fp cvr frm Fp#27754 w/stumme can."ax",DDP Alpenvorland Dec.'44. |
| 64. | Fp cvr w/manus."Feldpost Alpenvorland" to Bozen Feb.'45 frm Fp#08553 (II/Geb. Jäg. Rgt.99). Fp cancel. Scarce & F RES \$ 12 |
| 65. | Occup. Greece, Reg. Fp. cvr frm Fp#53824 (Luftw. Hospital Athens) via FpA 506 Salonika (K-842). Exhibition cond. & scarce! RES \$25 |
| 66. | ZENSURPOST Lyon - 3 cvrs to Switz., ea. w/diff. color L-50 tape & handstmps L-2(500 Pts) and L-4 (750 Pts). F-VF RES \$25 |
| 67. | Same, reg. cvr Oslo to Sweden Aug.'43 w/pr."Viking" stmps and censor transit 0-30 (300 Pts). VF RES \$ 18. |
| 68. | 1937 Nuremburg Rally, set of 8 pcds (WB 262-9) w/sp rally cans in orig. Reichspost env. See Fig.83 Rawlings. RES. \$ 35. |
| 69 | Same, photocd NSKK Lager w/Mi.650 tied by sp can NSKK-Zeltlager Mögelsdorf code "c". VF RES \$ 15 |
| 70. | Same, cvr w/Mi.672 tied by rally can. Red boxed "Nachgebühr" (postage due) & manusc. "9" for penalty. Gen. usage VF RES \$ 15 |
| 71. | Same, reg. cvr w/Mi. 646,532,512 & 520 tied by rally cans and 2BA registry label of mobile P.O. at rally. VF RES \$ 12 |
| 72. | Same, Mi. Block 11 w/2 nice rally cans code "c" item mounted on exhibit sheet with write-up. VF RES \$ 15 |
| 73. | "The 1000 Yr. Empire That Never Was"circa 1969 stamp album of TR era, places for stamps Allies/Axis text etc. about 1/2 full. ?
The next 13 lots are off. Fp cvrs, most to Army Arsenalns. All have clear unit seals & VF cond. unless o'wise indicated: |
| | <u>Fp. #</u> <u>Date</u> |
| 74. | 08219 9.41 2. San Kp./160 Inf. Div. (destroyed Stalingrad) |
| 75. | 08372 8.41 Art. Park 591 (destroyed in Russia early '42) |
| 76. | 11389 10.41 Oberfeldzeugstab 5 |
| 77. | 14130 1.41 II/Inf. Rgt. 664 of 393 Inf. Div.(disband. Spring '41) |
| 78. | 18872 4.44 Lehr (Ausb.) Kp. Rumänien (German forces in Romania) |
| 79. | 23602 9.41 Stab/Radfahr Wach-Btl. 619 |
| 80. | 45041 9.41 Qu. b. Dtsch. Mil. Attache Rom (Military Attache Rome) |
| 81. | 25097 8.41 Stab/Ldschtz Btl. 908 (Local Defense Anti-Partisen) |
| 82. | 26535 9.41 Stab/Ldschtz Btl. 876 (same as above) |
| 83. | 30579 4.44 Kdr. d. Panzer Lehr Div. Nachsch. Tr. |
| 84. | 22991 8.44 Stab u.1-4 Kp./Ost Btl. 412 (Russian Volunteers) |
| 85. | 36315 8.41 Stab IV/Panzer Art. Rgt. 16 (destroyed Stalingrad) |
| 86. | 39076 8.41 Stab III/Panzer Armee Nachr. Rgt. 1 (1st Pz. Army) |

- | <u>Lot #</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--------------|---|
| 87. | Feldpost cd.w/cartoon of 2 soldiers w/melting snowman produced by "Soldatenbl. f. Feier u. Freizeit". Civil use w/Mi. 785 tied by 19.2.45 Augsburg can. Gen. usage & VF. RES \$ 17. |
| 88. | Occupation Holland - Dutch parcel cd. w/Scott 243Q (2) & 255 tied by 7/'44 Amster. can. Nice German Customs office Hof unit seal & line stamp. Interesting item! F-VF RES \$ 12. |
| 89. | Tag der Beiefmarke cd. Wien 1/10/43 w/Mi. 828 & sp. can. SB \$7 |
| 90. | Cvr to USA w/Mi. 518 & 531 tied Pirma can. 2/'39 VF SB \$ 6.50 |
| 91. | Reg. cvr. w/blk 4 plus single Mi. 691 tied by sp. Braunau can. Hitler b'day 20.4.39. Backstmp N.Y. VF RES \$ 15. |
| 92. | Feldpost Bohmen-Mahren, 13 cvrs w/var. unit seals, DDP cancels Brünn, Prerau, Wischau, Prag, Olmutz, Kremsier, Göding. We note 3 fronts only. Cond. gen. F couple VF. Nice lot! SB \$ 25. |
| 93. | Zusammendrucke - corner pane H-B 84 tied to reg. cvr. by sp. cans. 1937 Nuremberg Rally. Gen. usage & VF RES \$ 15. |
| 94. | "Viktoria" h'stmp in Ger. & Czec on Oct/'41 cvr posted Krems, Bohemia. Mi. 77. Gen. usage to Brünn. F-VF RES \$ 10. |
| 95. | DDP Lorraine - Mi. 4 o'print on newspaper wrapper Metzter Zeitung tied by Metz-Lafayette French style can. Boxed DDP. VF RES \$ 15. |
| 96. | Serbia - Mi. 2 tied to Belgrad photocd. by 23.9.41 mach. can. censored Vienna (G-22). Message incl. "Heil Hitler" VF RES \$ 25. |
| 97. | Color cd. Map E. Africa frm Ital. Red Cross. Mint & VF RES \$ 10. |
| 98. | Day of Stamp color cds. Off. '41 Vienna (Borek 285) and P.P.O. version w/added text & Mi.762. Both w/ Stuttgart sp.can.VF RES \$10 |
| 99. | Cvr w/Mi 513 tied sp. mach. can. Wien 1st Ann. Annexation of Austria, swastika & "Großdeutsch." 3/14/39. VF RES \$ 9. |
| 100. | German POW in USA, cvr w/Taxepercue(airmail) notation frm Leipzig to POW Camp 18 in Grenada, Mississippi 9/'43. VF RES \$ 18. |

REGISTERED FELDPOST - FROM PANZER DIVISIONS:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 101. | 2nd Pz Div : Fp #39938 via K135, 10.3.42 VF RES \$12. |
| 102. | 4th Pz Div : Fp #37020 via K130, 12.10.42 VF RES \$12. |
| 103. | 9th Pz Div : Fp #10963 via K608, 10.10.43 VF RES \$9. |
| 104. | 14th Pz Div: Fp #58709 via K455, 22.6.43 VF RES \$13. |
| 105. | 23rd Pz Div: Fp #23808 via K788, 1.12.43 VF RES \$7.50 |

KRIEGSMARINE FELDPOST (All VF):

- | | |
|------|--|
| 106. | Offic. cover fm Fp# Sch 19568 w/Fp ring-segment canc. (Petersen No. 13b) dated 12.3.43. RES \$30. |
| 107. | Kreuzer "Leipzig" on Spanish Civil War Patrol (25.3.37). Canc "Deutsche Kriegsmarine Nr.32" & beautiful pre-war ship's cachet & Line h/s. RES \$35. |
| 108. | Torpedoboats Flott. 2 on Span. Civil War Patrol. Canc. "Deutsche Marine Schiffspost Nr.24" on 20.8.36. Nice pre-war cachet and ship's line h/s. RES \$30. |
| 109. | Regis. Cvr fm M-18542 (17. U-Boots Jagd-Flott.) via K875, 19.2.42, w/a1 buchstaben in canc., "Feldpost 875 h/s into blank-field regis. label. - a real beauty! RES \$15. |

FELDPOST CANCELLATION VARIETIES:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 110. | Regis cvr via K515 - Canc. has double letters "Oa". RES \$7. |
| 111. | Regis cvr via K326 with "Ea" (Petersen type 5c) RES \$6. |
| 112. | Regis cvr via K298 with "Pa" RES \$7. |
| 113. | Fp cvr fm L49526 with "Mb" - RES \$5. |
| 114. | Fp cvr fm #23006 w/"b1" buchstaben in canc. (type 5d) RES \$4. |
| 115. | Fm #17298 with buchstaben "b4" !! RES \$5. |

116. Two Fp covers: 1 w/"Dfutsche Reichspost" canc (actually the more common one) and 1 w/"Deutsche Reichspost" canc (the rare variety) - see Petersen No. 32a/b. VF RES \$50.
117. Cvr fm #33672 w/"Brussels" Fp canc w/slogan "Das Deutsche Siegeszeichen" - Petersen Nr. 15d. VF RES \$18.
118. "POSTA DA CAMPO" canc on cvr dated 3.3.45 fm Fp# 83882 of the Italian "Littorio" Divis. VF RES \$35.
119. Mil. Camp cancel: "Ahrbruck Ubungsplatz" VF RES \$5.
120. " " " "Admont Lager" VF RES \$4.
121. " " " "Zossen Ubungsplatz" - A nice pre-war useage by soldier with 12pf franking. VF RES \$7.
122. Fp Card w/canc of "Potsdam Kriegsschule" 1939 - RES \$ 5.
123. Cvr w/"Schweinfurt Fliegerhorst" canc 1938 on official military business fm Stuka Geschw. 165. VF RES \$5.
124. BATTLE OF NARVIK: Set of 17 photocards w/striking photos of German destroyers sunk at Narvik, harbor with sunken ships, town burning, British vessels involved , etc. RES \$25.

REGISTERED FELDPOST - UNITS IN NORWAY:

125. 4.12.42, K#199, Fp# 46137 VF RES \$9.
126. 26.4.43, K#346, Fp# 41374 VF RES \$8.
127. 19.12.44, K#353, Fp# L04532 VF RES \$8.
128. 28.5.43, K#459, Fp# 15389 VF RES \$6.
129. 13.12.43, K#875, Fp# 19380 VF RES \$7.
130. 4.3.42, K#996, Fp# 38790 VF RES \$8.

SEND ALL BIDS TO:

Fred Stengel
1248 Magnolia Place
Union, NJ 07083

CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 27 IS: DECEMBER 1, 1983

Prices Realized

TRSG AUCTION NO. 26

<u>Lot #</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Lot #</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Lot #</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Lot #</u>	<u>Price</u>
4	15.00	30	10.50	46	10.00	72	18.00
5	7.00	31	15.25	48	26.00	74	21.00
6	20.00	32	15.25	49	25.00	75	14.00
18	20.00	33	14.75	51	6.50	79	33.50
19	12.00	34	8.50	52	6.50	80	18.00
20	12.00	35	13.25	55	6.75	82	12.00
22	15.00	36	9.00	56	6.50	83	12.25
23	10.25	37	9.00	57	18.75	86	19.50
24	12.75	38	9.00	59	15.00	87	18.00
25	12.50	39	10.00	60	16.50	89	12.00
26	14.50	40	9.00	66	10.00	93	86.50
27	15.00	41	28.50	67	16.50	94	27.50
28	12.00	42	39.00	69	18.50	95	29.00
29	10.50	44	19.00	71	w/d	97	37.00
						100	16.00