

# THIRD REICH STUDY GROUP BULLETIN

JULY 2017 VOLUME LI, NUMBER 3 (204)

INSIDE:

- The most infamous Olympics ever, explained philatelically and photographically
- Estonia forgeries from WWII
- Long-lost relatives
- Another try at Trivia
- YOUR help is still needed!!!

# THIRD REICH STUDY GROUP BULLETIN

JULY 2017 VOLUME LI, NUMBER 3 (204)

**The Concentration Camp Stamp** A fresh look at a fascinating stamp.

**The 1936 Berlin Olympics** Take a look at most infamous of games from the philatelic perspective.

**An Olympic Pictorial** One article just can't do it justice. Review the stamps, postcards, propaganda and memorabilia that will leave a chill down the spine.

**Ostropa** The intriguing story of the 1935 disappearing stamp.

**Long Lost Relatives** A short but poignant article from one of our readers sure to tug at the heartstrings that gently reminds us of the many tragedies of war.

**Estonian Forgeries** Finishing out last issue's forgeries of the Ostland section, this detailed guide to Estonian forgeries of WWII is straight from the Germany Philatelic Society

**Help!** Another reader has a question, and we really need copies of the old Bulletins! We need your assistance!

**Trivia** Despite the seemingly obvious errors I published last journal, we're trying it again.

## WELCOME!

A new and different study group Bulletin seems to have gotten mainly favorable reviews, so the format is similar to the previous issues. However, any and all comments on format and content are appreciated. Just drop an e-mail to [ctkolker@mail.com](mailto:ctkolker@mail.com) or write to: Christopher Kolker, 25 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360.

## Articles!

You have them, I need them. Send your articles to the above address. Long or short, detailed or general, we need them all.

*Third Reich Study Group Bulletin – July 2017*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE CONCENTRATION CAMP STAMP

5

THE 1936 SUMMER OLYMPICS

6

A PHILATELIC PICTORIAL OF THE BERLIN OLYMPICS

14

OSTROPA

22

WAR'S CASULTIES

28

LATVIAN AND ESTONIAN FORGERIES

29

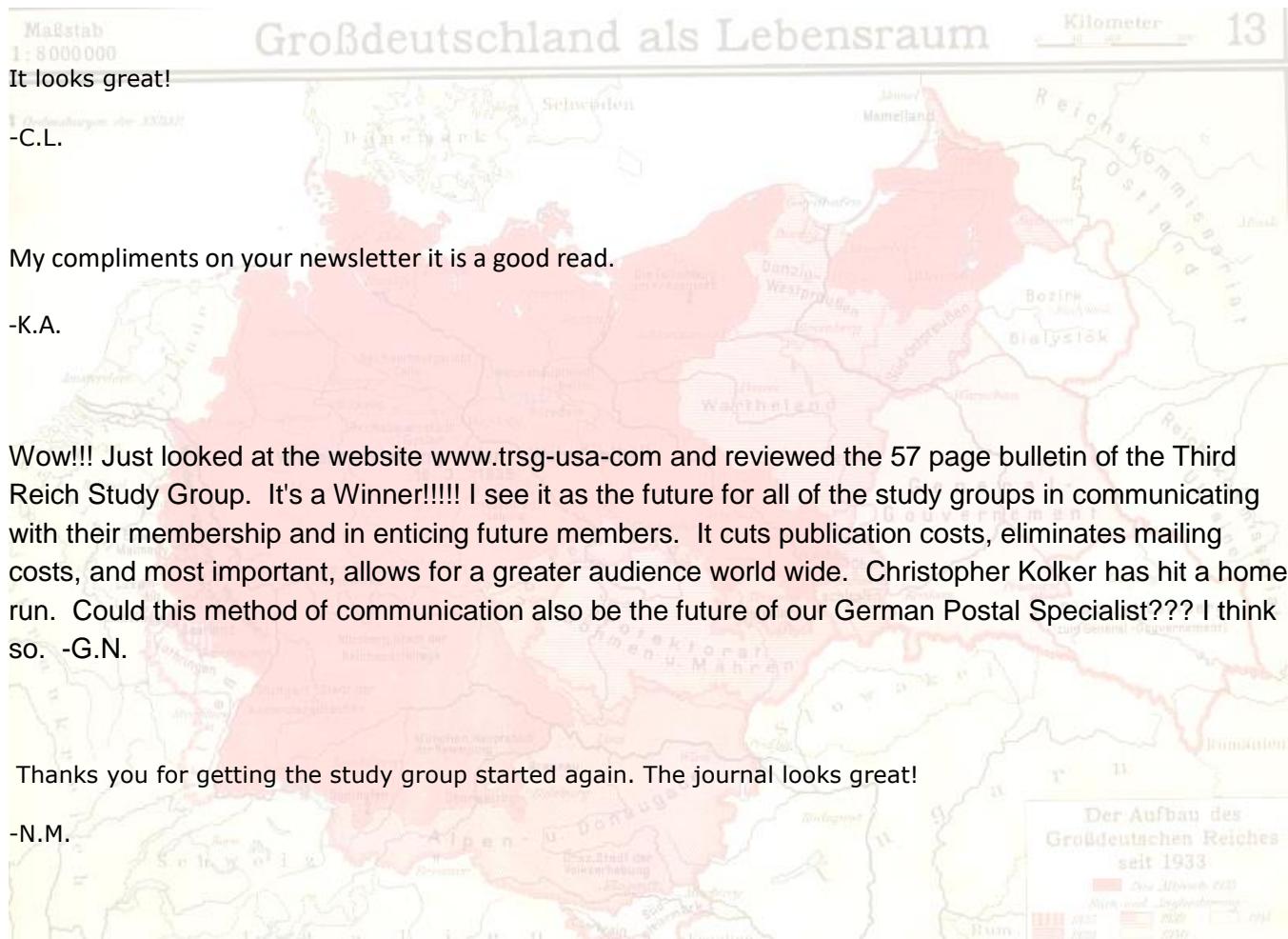
HELP!

TRIVIA

EDITOR'S NOTE

## To Our Valued Members:

The feedback is in, and it appears that most like the new format. Some comments:



I am a new collector of the Third Reich and am currently working on the occupied countries. Your "publication" looks great and will read it at my leisure. It will be a valuable tool as I move more deeply into this chapter of German Stamp Collecting. Thank you for your great work.

-G.A.

Even though the response sent to me has been overall positive, this does not mean that constructive criticism cannot be sent along.

Aloha Christopher,

The April issue of the TRSG Bulletin arrived today. It is an amazing step forward. The section of Ostland forgeries will certainly save many of us from wasting money on eBay forgeries.

I hate to add a "but," but...

1. I was surprised to read that the Luftwaffe "included parked planes on the ground" when tallying an ace's air kills. I have been studying German military history of this period for more than 50 years and never found this claim in any credible reference. What is your source for this?

2. The Großdeutschland Division was never an SS division.

3. My references show that Hans Jeschonnek committed suicide following the failure of Luftwaffe units to provide adequate defense of the missile research facilities at Peenemunde and not "due to constant verbal abuse from Hitler."

Perhaps stamp trivia would a better choice next time, but much respect to you for accepting the task of keeping the Bulletin alive.

With best wishes from Hawaii,

John Berger

Second, I just skimmed your trivia questions --

Re #5, the Grossdeutschland Division was not a Waffen-SS unit, but an elite division of the "Heer".

Re #6, where did you find the comment that the Luftwaffe "included parked planes on the ground"? I have read numerous Luftwaffe memoirs and biographies, including Hartmann's, and have never seen a reference to that. The Luftwaffe was quite strict about recognizing victories. "Including parked planes on the ground" in the victory count was done by some USAAF fighter groups because of the high danger when strafing German air fields; they had excellent flak. I'll have to check the memoirs of Frank Speer, 4th Fighter Group; I think that's where I first read about it.

-A.K.

Well, you can't win them all. For the record, my source on the trivia was mainly an old World War II trivia book called *The World War II Quiz and Fact Book* by Timothy Benford. However, the readers' points are made, and I will attempt to be more cautious with the questions I use going forward. Thanks for your feedback.

Let's keep doing this together. Write me with any comments, articles, or suggestions to [ctkolker@mail.com](mailto:ctkolker@mail.com) or write to:

Christopher Kolker  
25 Parkwoods Drive  
Norwich, CT 06360

Philatelically yours,



Chris

The Concentration Camp Stamp



# Reprinted from *Covers*, December 1958

Submitted by Bob Baltzell

The bulk of this personal mail, of course, is sent at Christmas time.

Readers should not write to diplomatic or consular offices abroad requesting that letters be sent them through the pouch. Such requests generally, if not always, are refused. Normally offices abroad answer letters through official channels, the replies passing through the Department of State, where the replies are placed in envelopes and mailed at Washington, the foreign origin of the contents not indicated by the envelope.

Diplomatic covers are, normally, acquired by chance. They are not, of course, rarities, though they are at times somewhat scarce.

## BOHEMIA, MORAVIA, SLOVAKIA

The establishment of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia brought forth stamp issues—and the partition of Czechoslovakia when Germany's Adolf Hitler accomplished his Munich Pact in 1938. Signed by Hitler, Mussolini, Chamberlain and Daladier, the Pact was to prevent war, but instead the Nazi armies merely delayed their march and the division of Europe.

The stories of the stamp issues of this period tie in with many countries and is well told in a beautiful book published by the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society and available at \$4.50.



COVERS, December 1958

from Geo. C. Kobylka, 1433 So. Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Ill., at \$4.50.

The book recalls that a paratrooper squad from the Czechoslovak Army in Britain was dropped into the occupied territory to assassinate Reinhard Heydrich, called the "Butcher of Bohemia" (see Deutches Reich / Bohemia and Moravia death mask issue of 1943); he was also the chief of the Gestapo. While Heydrich was riding in an open auto that was negotiating a sharp turn the paratroopers jumped from the roadside and threw a grenade under the car. We recall—from another stamp—(1947 Czech GRIEF) that the Gestapo lost no time retaliating with the bloody massacre of LIDICE.

We find many familiar designs, Czech buildings and castles and heroes, German leaders and Hitler—his many birthday issues—in the pages.

## Concentration Camp Stamp



Illustrated is the THERESIENSTADT parcel post stamp of July 10, 1943, which symbolized terror and heartache despite its serene view of a forest scene. Joseph Munk displayed the stamp for the Masonic Stamp Club of New York and told its story; we add details from the Czech book. The stamp was obligatory on all parcels sent to the Jewish inmates of this particular concentration camp. With permission of the German Gestapo, the post office clerk would affix the stamp to a parcel, then charge 1000 Kr. The reason for the high cost was twofold: first, to extort the sum from relatives of the prisoners and second, to prevent many packages from

even entering the camp. Upon arrival of the parcels, wrappings were removed and destroyed; therefore the stamps in used condition are rare. Mr. Munk said that his stamp was given to him by a one-time inmate.

The book reports that to procure and use the stamp, the potential sender had to go to Gestapo headquarters to get permission to send a parcel! With certificate of permission, the Theresienstadt stamp was sold for 1,000 Crowns (approx. \$20.00) and then the parcel would be delivered (?) but after the guards tore off the wrappings; they said to censor the contents. Thus the stamp hardly guaranteed certain delivery despite its cost.

The book also pictures and describes many of the postcards and letter sheets of the period.

An interesting chapter deals with SLOVAKIA (1938 stamps CZECHOSLOVAKIA and 1939 for the Hitler puppet state SLOVAKIA-SLOVENSKA POSTA 1939). These were preceded by overprints with "Slovensky Stat." The March 1940 issues pictures the presidential residence in Bratislava; a 1944 set Tatra mountain scenes; a 1941 Slovak castles. The last listing portrays President Tiso on the 6th anniversary of the Slovak Republic in 1945.

## U.S. POSTAL CARD ERROR

Collectors are taking a second glance at all ordinary 3¢ U.S. postal cards due to the fact that a good many went into circulation—after the first printing—which have a missing "I" in the motto "In God We Trust." The variety is easily detected and was no doubt caused by a defect in a printing plate that may have been quickly remedied.

The erroneous cards have been reported as "finds" in widely separated areas, first from the east and in Albany, Ore. in October by Ray Wright, who actually received one from a dealer who had used the cards for a price listing. Needless to say, they will be desirable.



13

5



LIGHTING THE ETERNAL FLAME AT OLYMPIAD STADION, BERLIN 1936



POSTCARD FROM THESE INFAMOUS GAMES

## "I Call the Youth of the World"

### The XI Olympiad

Berlin, 1936



THE XI<sup>TH</sup> OLYMPIC GAMES BERLIN, 1936

Hitler wanted a spectacle. The 10<sup>th</sup> Summer Olympics were held in Los Angeles in 1932, and Hitler was determined to outdo those games. After winning the vote for the Olympics over Barcelona, in which the vote was actually held in Berlin, Adolf Hitler spared no expense in preparing Berlin to be the premier site of the Summer Olympics. He had a new 100,000 seat, track and field stadium built just for the event, called Deutsches Stadion. It is now Olympiastadion Berlin, which still hosts important sports events like the 2006 FIFA World Cup and the 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup.

But Hitler did not stop there. Six gymnasiums and many other smaller arenas were also built. He made sure that these were the first games to be televised. Radio broadcast would reach 41 countries. He commissioned \$7 million for a film of the games to be made. That film. Produced by filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl, was called *Olympia*. Many of her techniques used for filming athletic events are still being used today.

Everyone knows the story. Hitler saw the games as an opportunity to prove racial superiority. Jews were not allowed to compete in the games. It even seemed that



MARATHON AT THE BRANDENBURG GATE, BERLIN OLYMPICS 1936

used as a way to weed out the weak and show that Jewish strains were inherently inferior.

Showmanship was certainly a large part of the 1936 Summer Olympics. The torch relay was the first of its kind. To be sure, the Olympic flame had been reintroduced as a concept in 1928. But both in Amsterdam and in Los Angeles, the torch was simply lit at the main stadium. This torch relay started in Greece. It subsequently traveled through Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and finally in Germany, covering over 3000 km. While lasting just 12 days, Hitler saw it as a link to the ancient games, as a way to illustrate his personal belief that ancient Greece was an Aryan forerunner of the modern German state. In fact, Hitler was much quoted as saying:

*The sportive, a nightly battle awakens the best human characteristics. It does not separate, but unites the combatants in understanding and respect. It also helps to connect the countries in the spirit of peace. That is why the Olympic flame should never die.*

Jewish athletes from other countries, especially the US, were sidelined in order not to offend the Nazi government.

Sports became very important for the Germans because of these Olympics. Many thought sports would instill patriotism while training and hardening the German youth. To many Nazis, sports could be



OLYMPIC STADION 1936

Another part of the spectacle was its live television coverage. Over 70 hours of coverage was broadcast mainly to viewing rooms throughout Berlin and Potsdam. A few private

television sets even showed the games, which at the time represented cutting-edge technology.

Twenty-two different venues were used for the games, including the bay of Kiel for sailing. Basketball and handball made their debut here, and both were at the time outdoor sports.

This doesn't mean everything went wonderfully, especially at the opening ceremony. US distance runner Louis Zamperini relates a rather humorous story:

*"They released 20, the pigeons circles overhead, and they shot a cannon, and they scare the poop out of the pigeons, and we had straw hats flat straw hats, and you can hear the pitter patter on our straw hats, but we felt sorry for the women, for they guided in their hair, but I mean there was a mass of droppings, and I say it was so funny...."*

Of course when one talks about the 1936 Olympics, Jesse Owen's name comes up first. An All-American athlete from Ohio State, he set three world records at the Big Ten track meet in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1935. This was called "the greatest 45 minutes ever in sport". However that pales into comparison as to his achievements in these Olympics. Owens won gold in the 100m, 200m, long jump and the 4 x 100 m relay. His victories seemingly single-handedly crushed the "Aryan superiority" that Hitler believed existed.

Owens relates a story that during the ceremonies, Hitler seemed to go out of his way to waive congratulations to him, and did not ask seem visibly upset. One of Owen's comments:

*Hitler had a certain time to come to the stadium and a certain time to leave. It happened he had to leave before the victory ceremony after the hundred meters. Before he left I was on my way to a broadcast and passed near his box. He waved at me and I waved back. I think it was bad taste to criticize the "man of the hour" in another country.*

Subsequently Albert Speer wrote that Hitler said "their physiques were stronger than those of civilized whites and hence should be excluded from future games."



Owens was surprised and disappointed that he did not receive a telegram from then-President Franklin Roosevelt nor was he invited to the White House.

Not all Germans showed such blatant racism. Owen's competitor Luz Long offered

Owens some advice after he almost failed to qualify in the long jump. With this simple act of kindness, Owens was able to go on and defeat Long in the long jump. Long however was awarded the Pierre de Coubertin medal for sportsmanship by the International Olympic Committee posthumously in 1964. Long died in 1943 serving in the German Army in Sicily.

Germany did do better in the total medal count, dominating in the end. Unfortunately that simply gave Hitler the narrative of Aryan superiority that he so desired. Because of this, the 1936 Summer Olympics became synonymous with the worst of sport: politicalized to show superiority of the host country and to demonstrate inferiority of those around them. The Olympics were not to be held again until the winter Olympics of 1948 in St. Moritz Switzerland.

However fascinating this all may be, this is a stamp journal, not a sports journal. Philately records this remarkable history, and adds its own mark to it.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Germany (host nation)	33	26	30	89
2	United States	24	20	12	56
3	Hungary	10	1	5	16
4	Italy	8	9	5	22
5	Finland	7	6	6	19
7	France	7	6	6	19
8	Sweden	6	5	9	20
9	Japan	6	4	8	18
10	Netherlands	6	4	7	17
	Great Britain	4	7	3	14

1936 SUMMER OLYMPICS MEDAL COUNT



LUZ LONG WITH JESSE OWENS 1936

Eight stamps were commissioned for the games. The designs were by Max Eschle. The perforations were 14 x 13.25, and unsurprisingly all came with a swastika watermark. They were made by recess printing.

A total of 15 postmarks were also designed for the games. The first was the Olympic Games Berlin postmark dated August 1-16 1936 with the Brandenburg gate in the background. The others are listed below:

## 1936 German Olympic Postmarks with Translation

<u>German Postmark</u>	<u>English Meaning</u>
Olympia Stadion	Olympic Stadium
Olympic Stadion (Presse)	Olympic Stadium Press Building
Int. Kanulager Muggelsee	Olympic Canoe Camp, Muggelsee
Olympia Pressehauptquartier	Olympic Press Headquarters
Olympia Schwimmstadion	Olympic Swimming Stadium
Olympia Reiterplatz	Olympic Riding Ring
KdF Stadion	Strength through Joy Town
Olympisches Dorf	Olympic Village
	
	
Grunau Regattabahn	Yachting Camp
Deutschlandhalle	Germany Hall
Int. Sportstudenten Lager	Int. Sports Students Camp
Olympialager Heerstrasse	Olympic Camp Army Street
Ausstellung Deutschland	Germany Exhibition

SCOTT NUMBER B91 SHEET, WITH B83-84, B89 STAMPS, FEATURING FOUR OF THE EIGHT STAMPS ISSUED TO COMMEMORATE THE 1936 SUMMER OLYMPICS

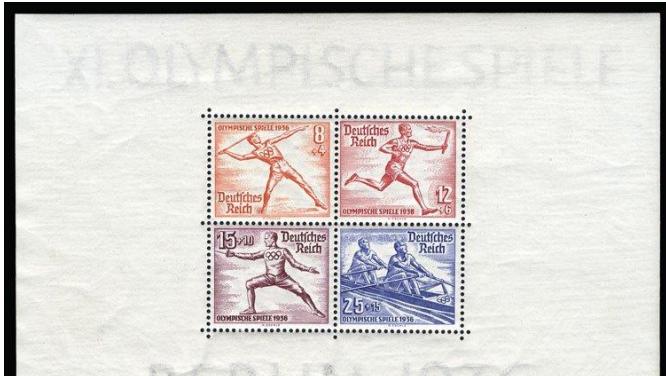


FIGURE 2 SOUVENIR SHEET SCOTT NUMBER B92, WITH STAMPS B85-B88

### Fahrbares Postamt Travelling Post Office

(Taken from *Philately of the Third Reich*, by Robert Jones )

Furthermore, a special meter mark was used for the Olympic village. It was also in use at the Yachting Camp, Olympic Stadium, the Olympic Village Army Street, the Olympic Headquarters, and the Olympic Canoe Camp. The meter marks were in use from 27 May to August 18, 1936. The special postmarks were in use from July 23 to August 17.

Olympic water sports were held in Kiel from August 4 through August 14. They also had two special postmarks. Furthermore, an advertising postmark was also featured. The airship Hindenburg did a special flight from Frankfurt to Berlin on opening day. (Yes, that Hindenburg.) She flew above the main stadium during the opening ceremonies. The Hindenburg was also carrying mail which received Magnetek cachet under the top right postmark.

Stamp booklets were printed with two pages stamps as listed below:

(Numbers represents the face value in Pfennigs of the particular stamps)

3 3 3 3 3    4 4 4 4 4

12 12 12 12 12 12    6 6 6 6 6

(Taken from *Philately of the Third Reich*, by Robert Jones )

There are two types of coverage of these booklets one with only printing in German the front color and the other with additional diagonal 8mm line printed in red from bottom left top right-hand corner.

Postal stationery was also sold. Two types were designed. The first by George Fritz of Berlin, depicts the main stadium with a stamp depicting the Olympic bell. The second, designed by Prof. O. Anton of Bremen was made for the Olympic water sports, depicts a yacht with the Marine Memorial of Laboe in the background.

Both had the same denominations:

6+4 Pfg. - Both printed in sepia (reddish-brown, like that of early photographs)

1: 8000000

13

15+10 Pfg. - Both printed in purple.

Two Olympic Games miniature sheets were also printed and issued on August 1, 1936. (See above). Put together they contained all the values of the Olympics set. They were sold at face value from August 1 to August 16 and were valid until June 30, 1937.

Finally, a souvenir Olympic sheet was shown. The complete set of stamps was on the souvenir sheet. Sheet measures 8.25" x 11.5" it was sold for two marks. Eight different postmarks were placed on the souvenir sheet.



Most but not all of these souvenir sheets have folds them, sometimes to the eternal frustration of the collector. The reason behind this is actually very simple. When first sold, most people were actually at and/or around the Olympic venue. Many bought them as they were going in or perhaps even leaving the Olympic areas. Because they were there to enjoy the games and the festivities that went around the games, most people would simply do the logical thing - they would fold it up nice and neat spacing not to bend the stamps and put into their pocket or their purse.

Because of that, it is very difficult at times to find one without these creases. However, it needs to be said that the folds do bring a show of authenticity. The souvenir collection sheet was indeed there, was held by somebody who went in and saw part of the games, and was indeed pushed into somebody's pocket or purse. That is authenticity.

Finally, innumerable postcards were made for these games. This is something that many collectors value these days, even though at the time

these cards were fairly plentiful. These cards are beyond the scope of this articles, but I would sure love to see an article featuring these picturesque yet telling pieces of history.



A COMMEMORATIVE SHEET OF THE BERLIN OLYMPICS

## XI Olympische Spiele – Berlin 1936

### The 1936 Summer Olympics in Postal Pictures

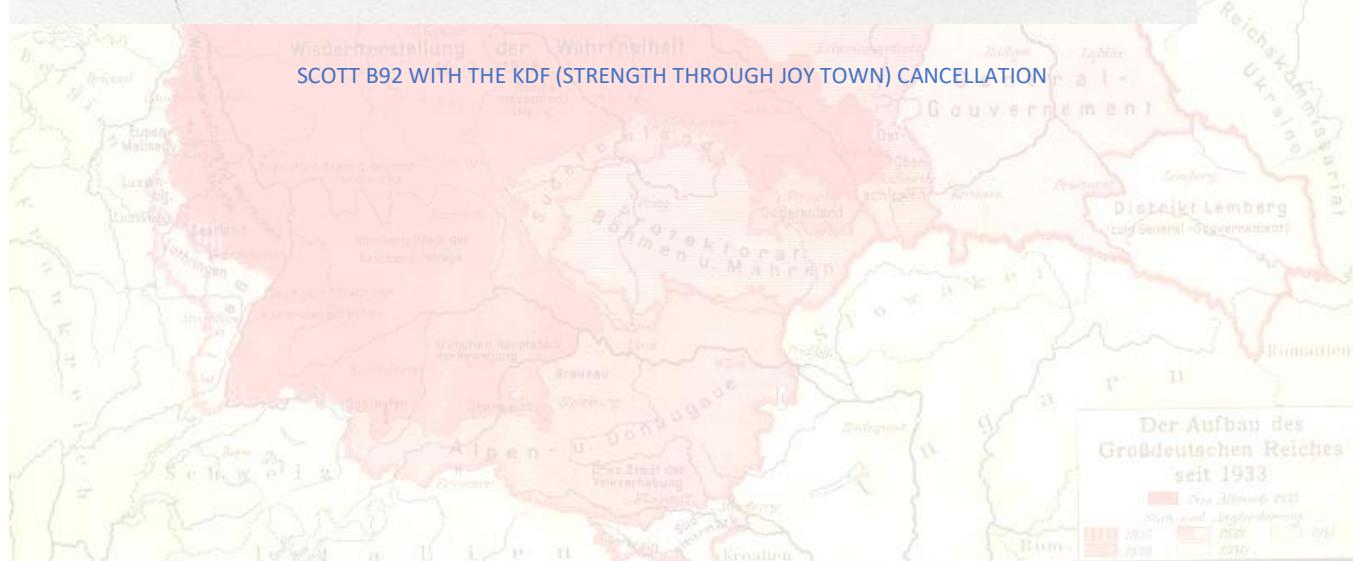
Maßstab  
Großdeutschland als Lebensraum Kilometer 13  
Being the most infamous Olympic games ever played, interest has always remained high in philately for the memorabilia associated with these games. From the stamp sheets to the postmarks to the chilling postcards, these artifacts of the game remind us of the perils of politicization of these games.

Below is a pictorial display of a few items that may disgust, intrigue, or simply leave one's head shaking about a very different time.





er 13



Sonderbriefmarken der Deutschen Reichspost  
für die XI. Olympischen Spiele 1936  
in Berlin



Kilometer  
13



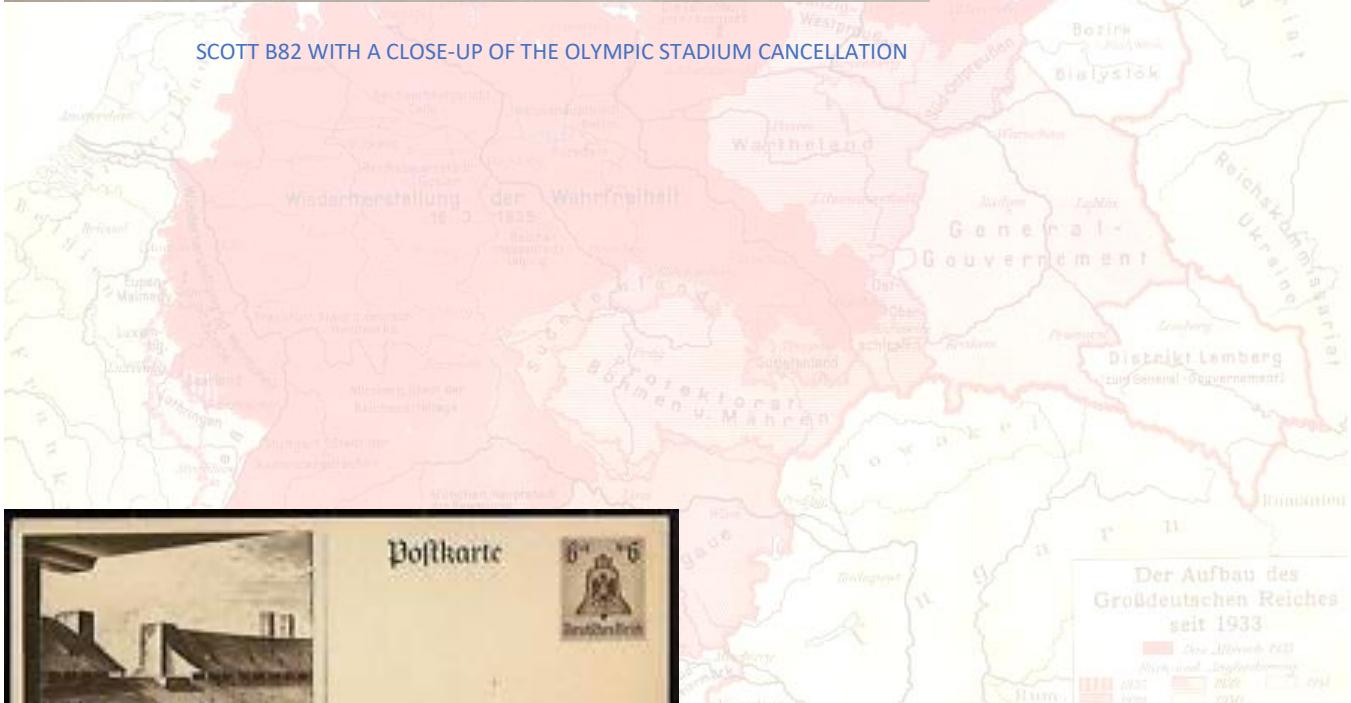
Der Aufbau des  
Großdeutschen Reiches  
seit 1933

Das Alldeutsch 1933
Marken und Zeichenzeichen
1933 1936 1938 1940
1933 1936 1940

SOUVENIR SHEET, SUMMER OLYMPICS, BERLIN 1936



SCOTT B82 WITH A CLOSE-UP OF THE OLYMPIC STADIUM CANCELLATION



SUMMER OLYMPIC COMMEMORATIVE POSTCARDS, 1936 BERLIN

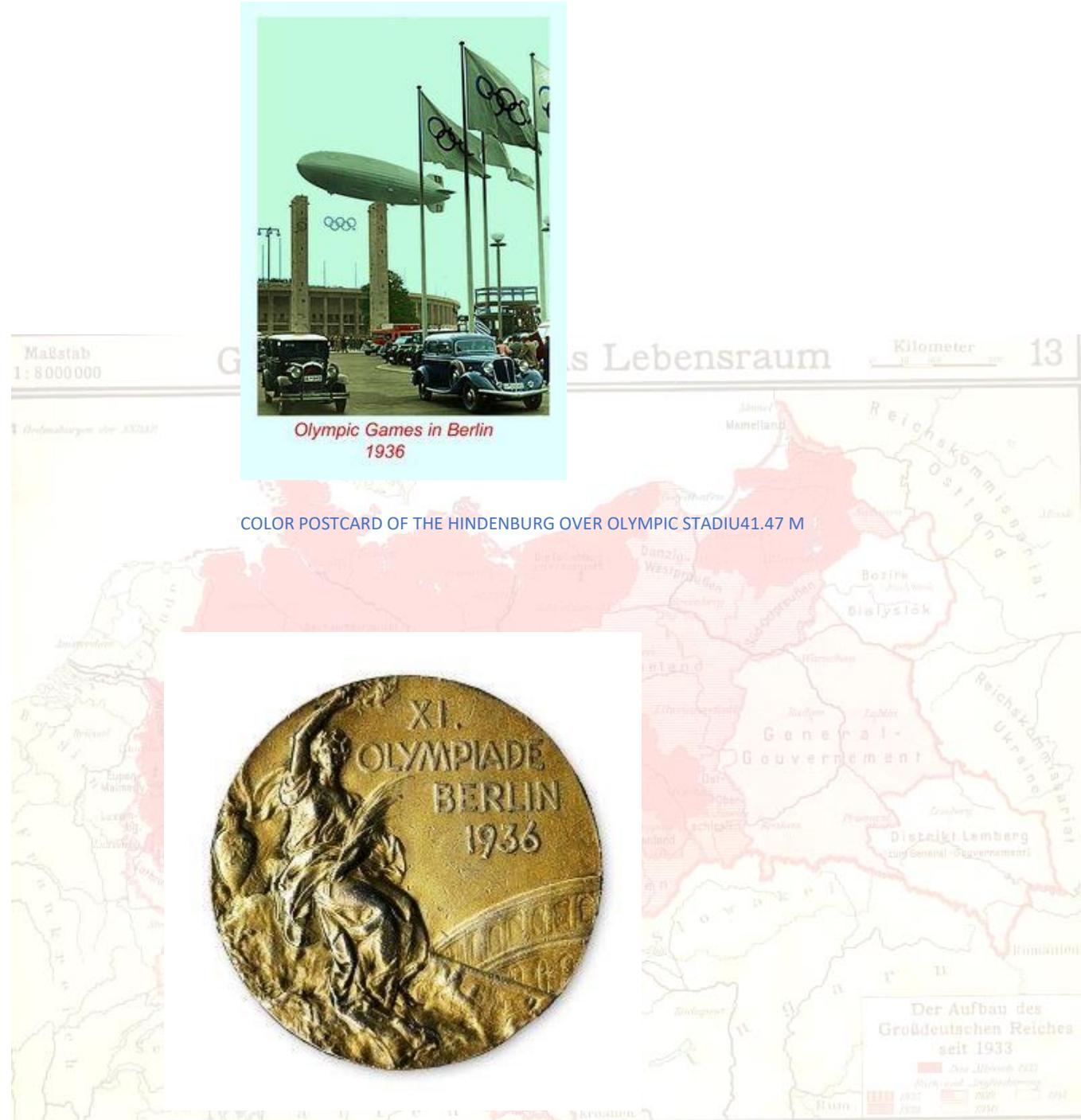
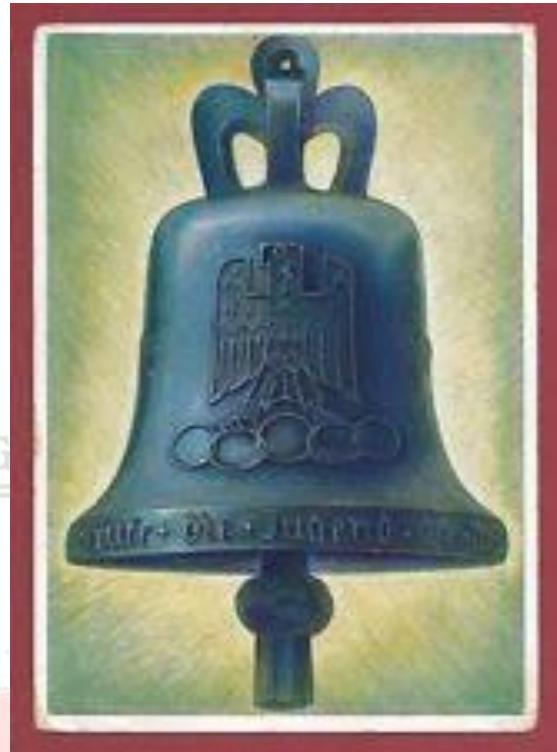
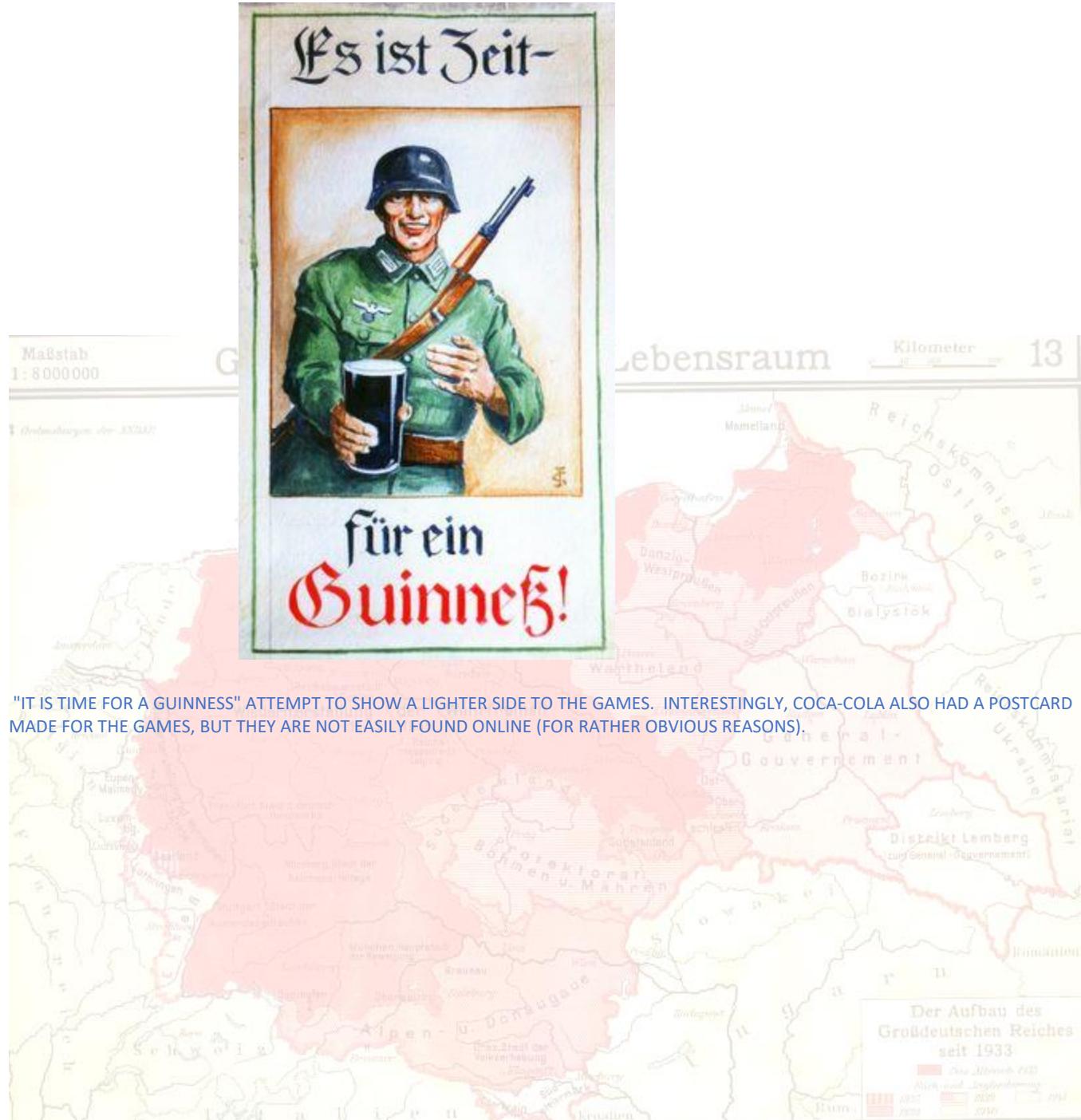


FIGURE 3 ONE OF JESSE OWEN'S OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALS THAT WENT UP FOR AUCTION IN 2013. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY WHICH ONE THIS IS, AS THEY WERE ULTIMATELY PLACED BY THE OWENS FAMILY IN UNMARKED CONTAINERS. IT SOLD FOR \$1.47 MILLION.



THE BELL, WHICH SERVED AS THE UNOFFICIAL EMBLEM OF THE GAMES, ON A POSTCARD





"IT IS TIME FOR A GUINNESS" ATTEMPT TO SHOW A LIGHTER SIDE TO THE GAMES. INTERESTINGLY, COCA-COLA ALSO HAD A POSTCARD MADE FOR THE GAMES, BUT THEY ARE NOT EASILY FOUND ONLINE (FOR RATHER OBVIOUS REASONS).





## OSTROPA-The Disappearing Stamps of 1935



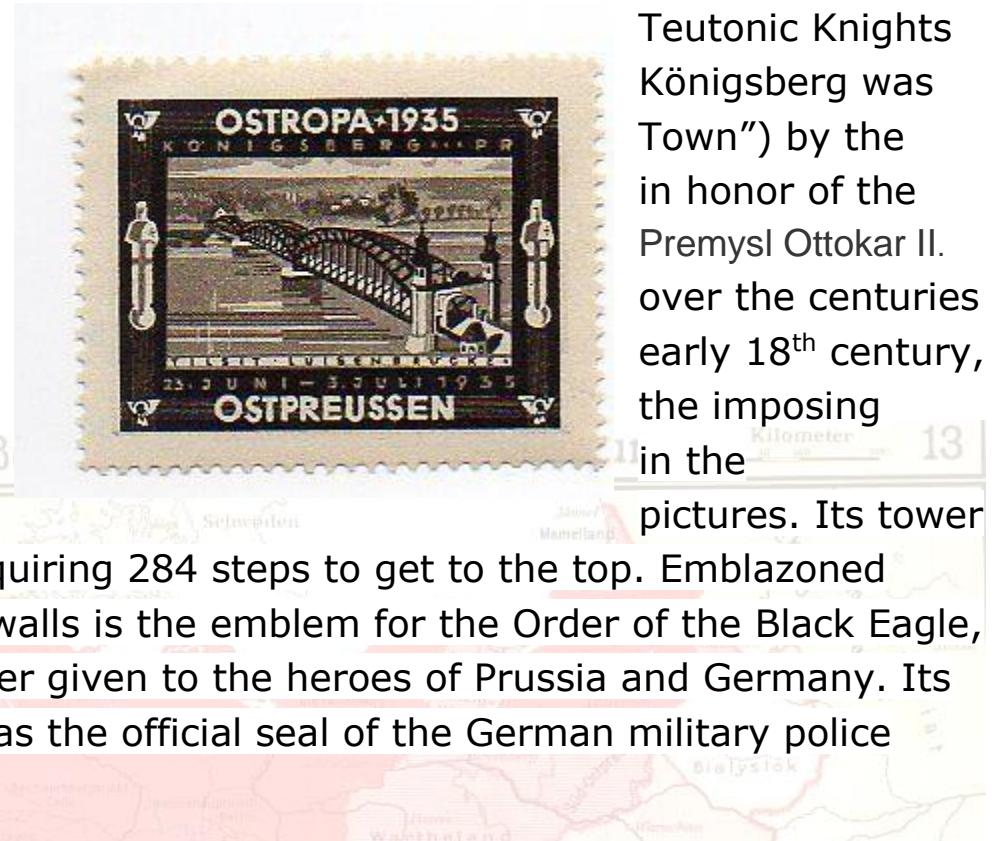
Certainly the most famous and enduring philatelic event of 1935 in Germany was the OSTROPA Philatelic Exhibition in Königsberg, East Prussia. OSTROPA stands for Osteuropäische Briefmarken-Ausstellung, or East European Stamp Exhibition.

This is an incredible place to have a stamp exhibit. Königsberg in East Prussia was the capital, a beautiful Baltic Sea port. In what was considered the town center, although situated on the southeast edge of town was this beautiful castle, one of the largest in all of Germany. Gothic in nature and incredibly imposing, it served as a natural cultural center and meeting place for the most important people of Germany throughout its existence.

Founded by the Teutonic Knights in 1255 as a fort, named ("King's Castle") by King of Bohemia, Its structure was improved until the 17th century when it became a castle that is seen accompanying

was 100 m tall, requiring 284 steps to get to the top. Emblazoned inside its massive walls is the emblem for the Order of the Black Eagle, the prestigious order given to the heroes of Prussia and Germany. Its image is still used as the official seal of the German military police today.

But as amazing as it must have been to have a philatelic meeting there, this is not the reason why the stamps are so very well known throughout the ages. These souvenir sheets now sell for \$150 and above, many times the value of other sheets in this era. This is because sulfuric acid was put in the gum of the stamps. That sulfuric acid over time inevitably ate through the paper. All that were saved with the original gum simply would be destroyed, eaten away by the constant presence of the acid. When it became known that the sulfuric acid was a huge issue, savvy collectors took it upon themselves to remove the gum as best as possible. Some sheets were indeed saved, but it is thought that most were lost. The law of supply and demand dictates then that the price of these sheets will go up since so few



Teutonic Knights  
Königsberg was  
("King's Town") by the  
in honor of the  
Premysl Ottokar II.  
over the centuries  
early 18<sup>th</sup> century,  
the imposing  
in the  
pictures. Its tower

remain, and of course they have.

Unfortunately, as the stamp went, so did the castle. Bombed mercilessly by the Allies during World War II, by 1944 the castle had been obliterated. Remnants of the exterior walls remained however, surviving even the Soviet invasion and annexation of the city.

With the city renamed Kaliningrad, the remnants remained standing until 1968. Declaring it to be a remnant of "Prussian militarism" soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev personally ordered the final destruction of the remnants of the castle. It should be noted that the Königsberg Cathedral next to it had a much better fate. In the early 21<sup>st</sup> century it was ultimately restored, perhaps due in large part to the fact that it housed famed philosopher Immanuel Kant's remains.

The souvenir sheet remains iconic to this day because of the sulfuric acid debacle and its place so very unique in philatelic history.





{The coronation of Prince Wilhelm Friedrich Ludwig as King Wilhelm I of Prussia - Schlosskirche, Königsberg}



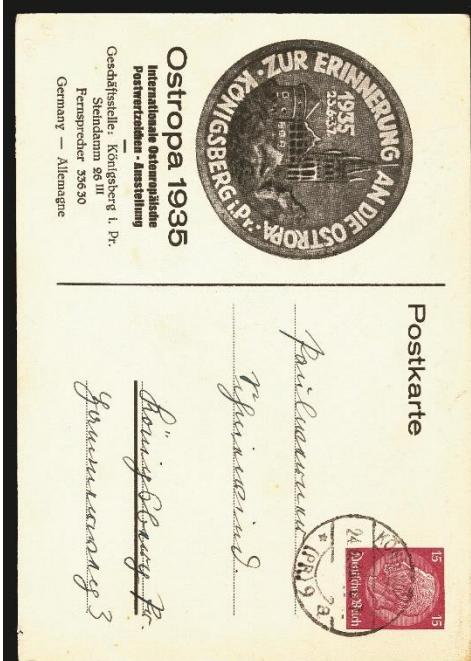


FIGURE 4 TAKEN FROM A RECENT STAMP AUCTION AT STAMP AUCTION NETWORK (HRH AUCTION HOUSE)



13



27

## Family Separations—World War II A Philatelic Quest

The Second World War separated families not only within Germany but also separated families from family members who resided outside of Germany. Such was the case for my mother's side of our family. My mother was born in Wendisch-Karstnitz, Kreis Stolp, Pomerania and emigrated to the United States with her parents in 1925. Contact with her cousins, as far as I can remember, was lost when World War II started in 1939. The photograph below depicts one of my mother's cousins, Artur Radde, who went missing in Russia after this photograph was taken in 1943.



Artur Radde  
(Center)

The photograph was taken somewhere in Russia in 1943. The names of the soldiers on the right and left of Artur Radde are unknown.

Unfortunately, I do not know the division that Artur Radde served in but the search for the fieldpost number will commence. The photograph is not part of my German 18th Army Fieldpost Collection but part of my family genealogical collection. Perhaps, if the fieldpost number is found I may be able to incorporate a personal family item into my 18th Army Fieldpost Collection.



## Estonian Frauds

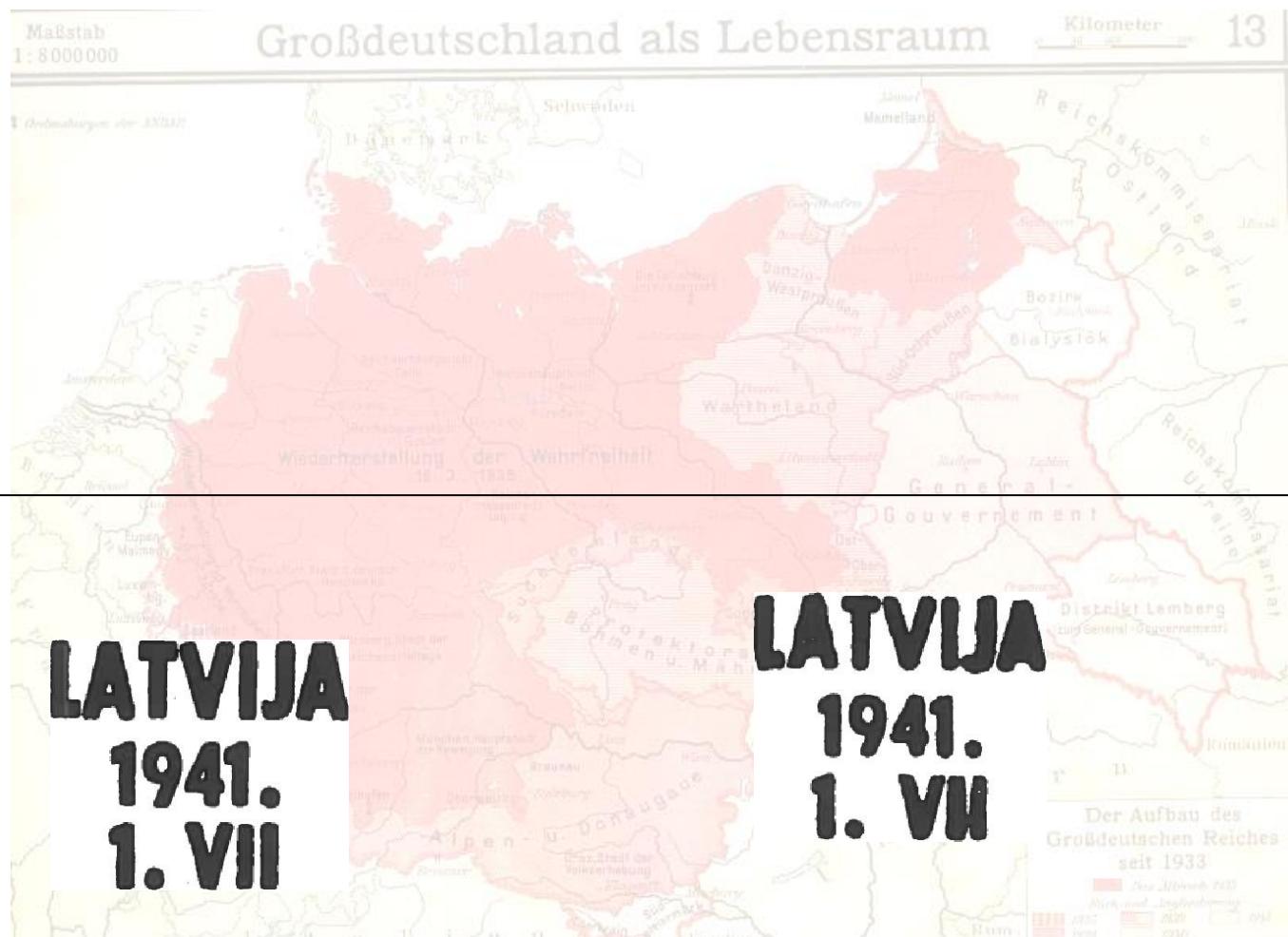
Last issue we printed straight from the German Philatelic Society, some examples for fraudulent overprints of the Ostland. Due to space constraints, we could only print those of Lithuania. To finish out the set, below is the German Philatelic Society's 1980 publication on fraudulent overprints of Latvia and Estonia during the second world war.



A genuine overprint

German Occupation

1939-1945

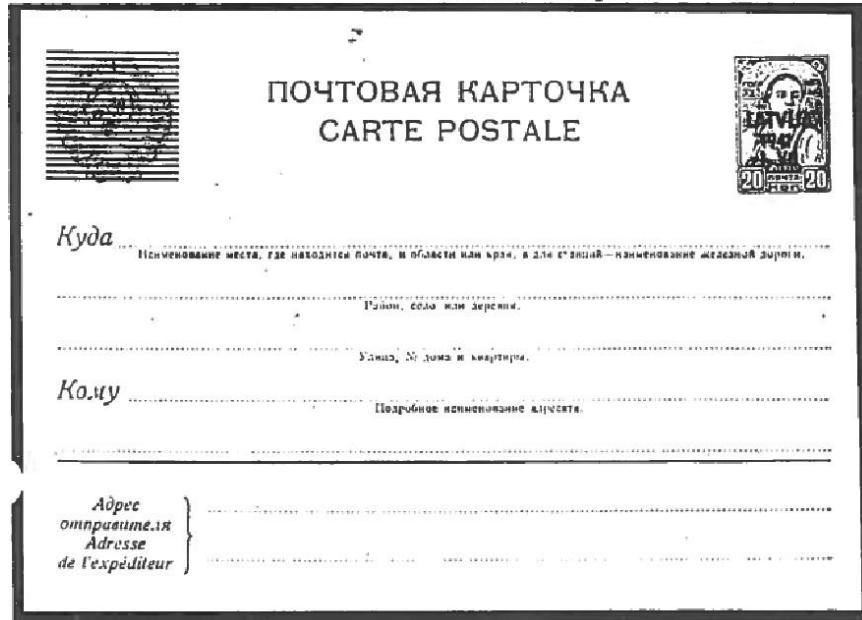


Genuine Overprint

Fraudulent Overprint

## **GERMAN OCCUPATION OF LATVIA**

**Post Card, Michel No. P 1 with  
Fraudulent Overprint**



with fraudulent cancellation





## A LEGITIMATE OVERPRINT

**LATVIJ  
1941.  
1. VII**

## GERMAN OCCUPATION OF ESTONIA

Local Issue for Elwa

Michel Nos. 1-48



Genuine Overprints

Eesti  
Post

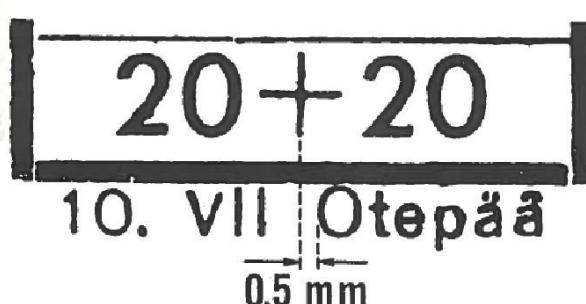
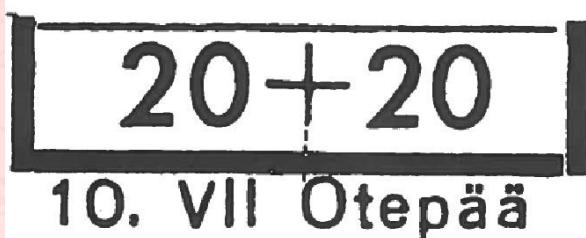


Eesti  
Post

Eesti  
Post

## GERMAN OCCUPATION OF ESTONIA

Odenpäh  
Michel No. 1, A + B



Forgery Type I

## GERMAN OCCUPATION OF ESTONIA

Odenpäh  
Michel No. 1, A + B



**20+20**  
10. VII Otepää



Forgery Type II

This forgery is easily identified by the spot in the lower portion of the "O" in Otepää.

Maßstab  
1: 8000000

## Großdeutschland als Lebensraum

Kilometer  
0 50 100

13

### GERMAN OCCUPATION OF ESTONIA

Odenpäh

Michel No. 2, Type I, A + B

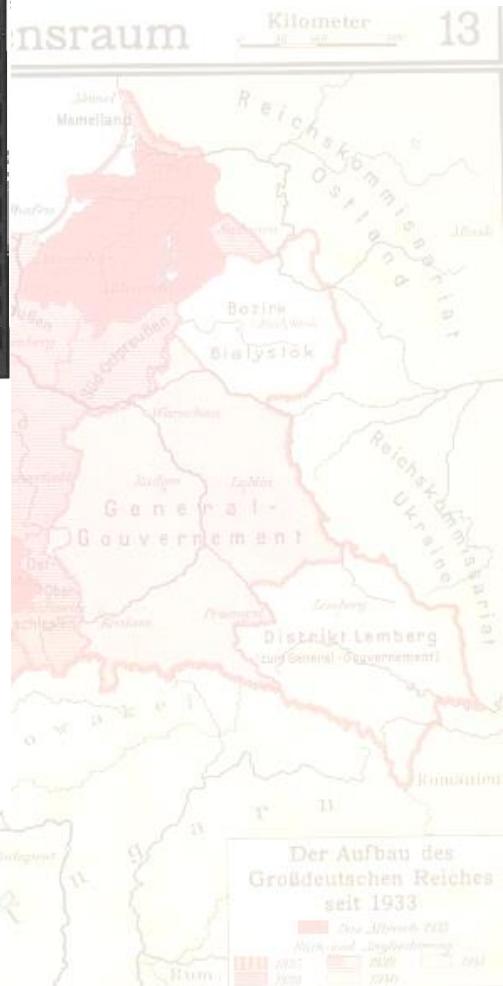
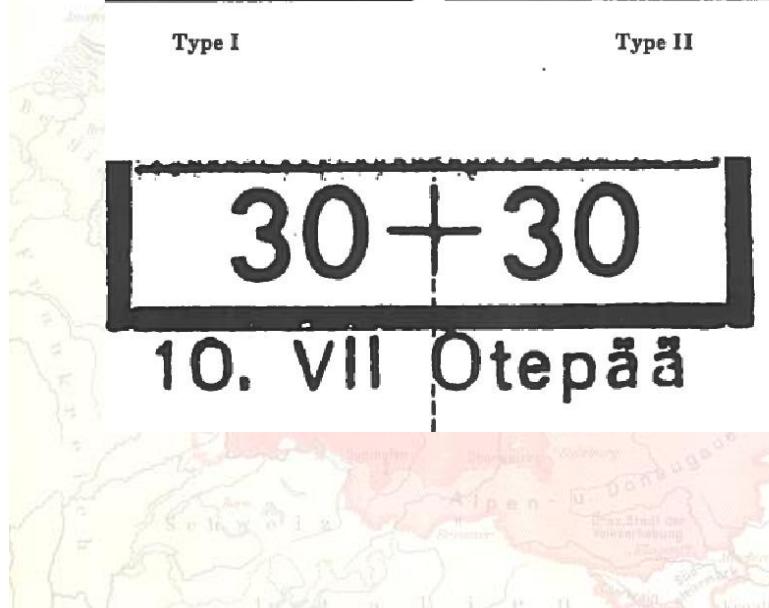




Type I



Type II



Maßstab  
1: 8000000

Ortskarten der XXIX/2



**30 + 30**  
**10. VII Otepää**  
→ ←  
**0.5 mm**



Forgery Type I

## GERMAN OCCUPATION OF ESTONIA

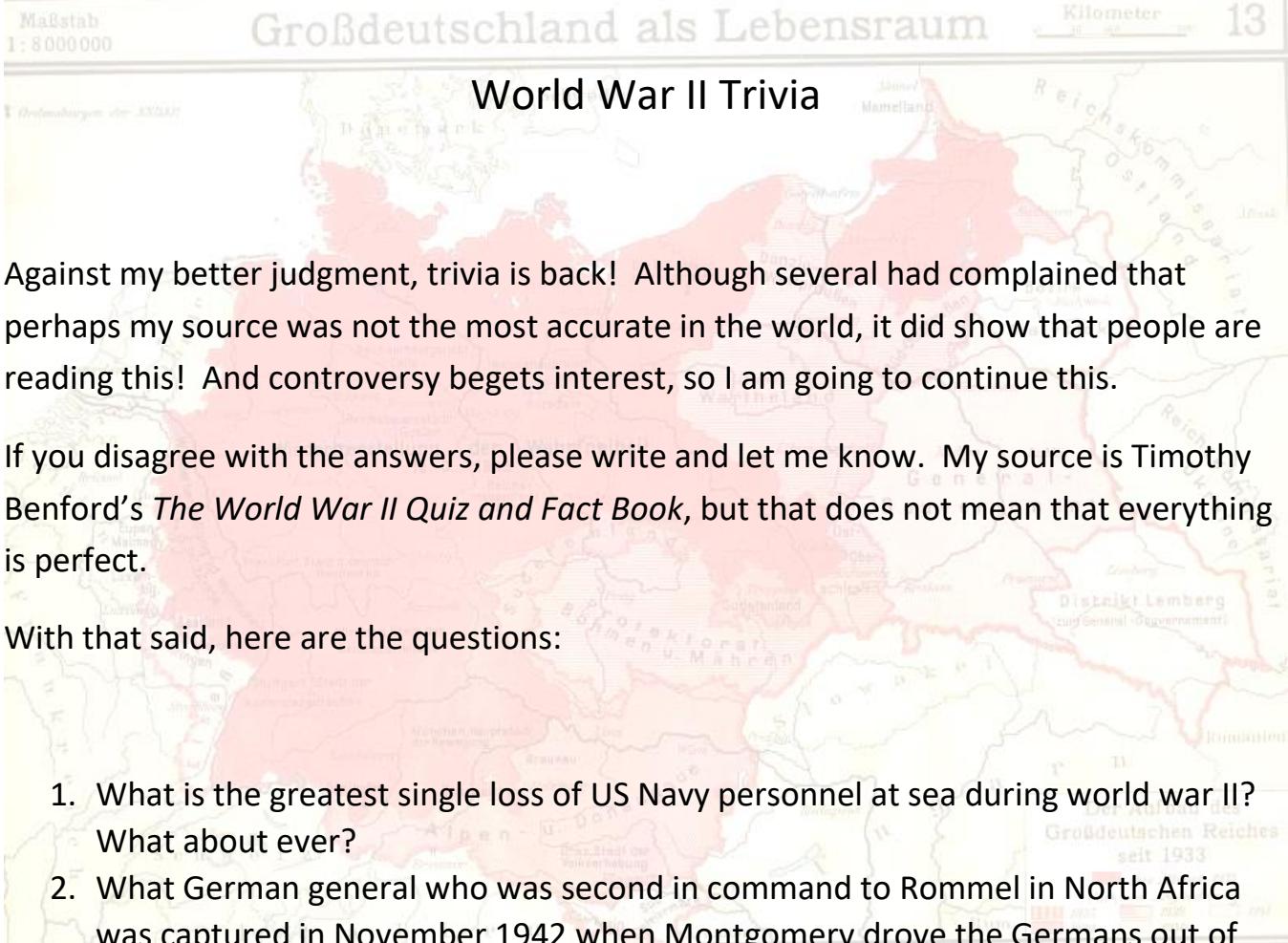
Maßstab  
1: 8000000

Odenpäh  
Michel No. 2, Type I, A + B



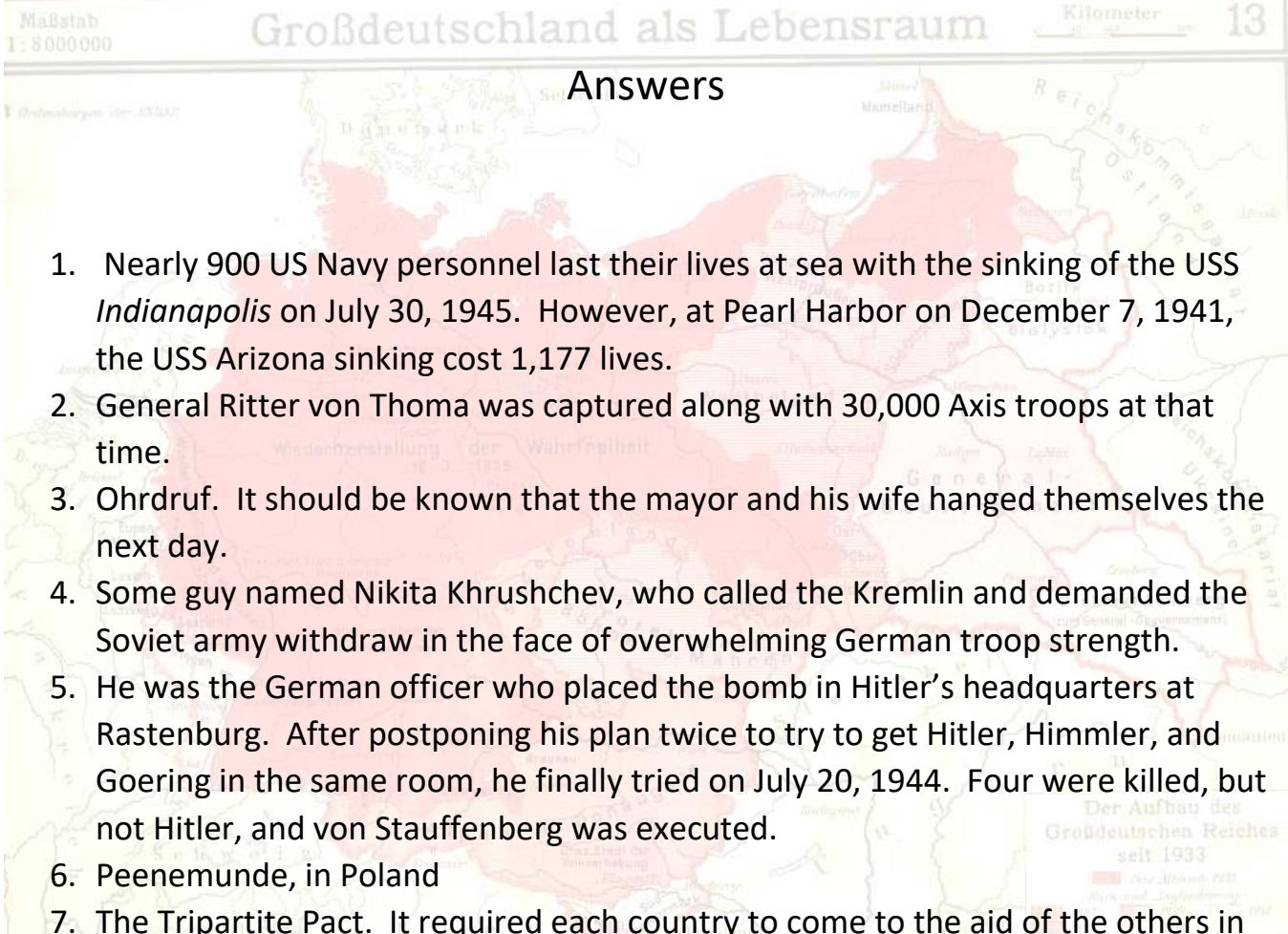
Forgery Type II

The distance between the right frame line and the shield is only 0.8 mm,  
this distance varies between 1 mm and 1.2 mm on the genuine copies.



1. What is the greatest single loss of US Navy personnel at sea during world war II?  
What about ever?
2. What German general who was second in command to Rommel in North Africa was captured in November 1942 when Montgomery drove the Germans out of Egypt?
3. To what concentration camp did General Patton order nearby residents to tour, to show the horror they lived by?
4. Who was the commissar of Kharkov, the city known as the Soviet Pittsburgh?
5. Who was Colonel Count Klaus Schenk von Stauffenberg?
6. What was the name of the site where German scientists worked on rocket research?

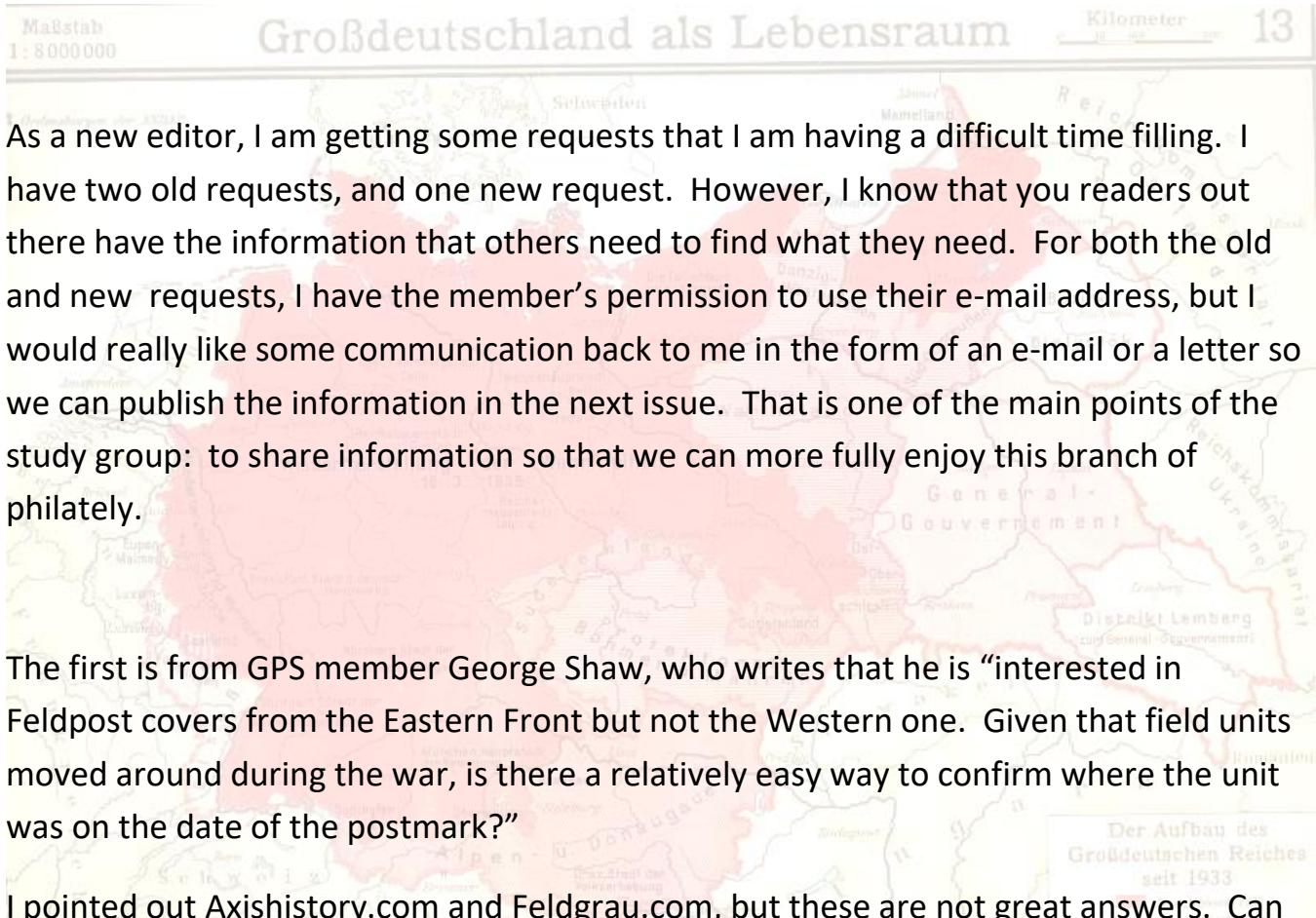
7. An easy one: What has the pact that Germany, Italy and Japan signed on September 27,1940?
  8. Where did the term quisling come from?
  9. How many German Panzer divisions were totally mechanized at the onset of the war?
  - 10.What was the first German city captured by U.S. troops?



## Answers

1. Nearly 900 US Navy personnel lost their lives at sea with the sinking of the USS *Indianapolis* on July 30, 1945. However, at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the USS Arizona sinking cost 1,177 lives.
2. General Ritter von Thoma was captured along with 30,000 Axis troops at that time.
3. Ohrdruf. It should be known that the mayor and his wife hanged themselves the next day.
4. Some guy named Nikita Khrushchev, who called the Kremlin and demanded the Soviet army withdraw in the face of overwhelming German troop strength.
5. He was the German officer who placed the bomb in Hitler's headquarters at Rastenburg. After postponing his plan twice to try to get Hitler, Himmler, and Goering in the same room, he finally tried on July 20, 1944. Four were killed, but not Hitler, and von Stauffenberg was executed.
6. Peenemunde, in Poland
7. The Tripartite Pact. It required each country to come to the aid of the others in the event the U.S. joined the war.
8. Vidkun Quisling was a Norwegian who proclaimed himself the Prime Minister of Norway after it was captured in April 1940. The Nazis at first rejected him, but ultimately put him in that post in 1942. He was executed as a traitor after the war.
9. Only 4. The other 86 used horses in some form or another to help
10. Aachen. This may have been a bad omen for the Germans, as it is the city they served as the fortress for Charlemagne.

## HELP!!!



The first is from GPS member George Shaw, who writes that he is "interested in Feldpost covers from the Eastern Front but not the Western one. Given that field units moved around during the war, is there a relatively easy way to confirm where the unit was on the date of the postmark?"

I pointed out Axishistory.com and Feldgrau.com, but these are not great answers. Can you readers out there help? E-mail the answer to [g0b07shaw@gmail.com](mailto:g0b07shaw@gmail.com) and [kolkermd@att.net](mailto:kolkermd@att.net)

The second request is from Lt. Col Frederick Clements. He simply wants back copies of the Bulletin, preferably in pdf form. If you have such copies, please e-mail him at [denny70947@aol.com](mailto:denny70947@aol.com) and me at [kolkermd@att.net](mailto:kolkermd@att.net). I just want to say from a very

personal perspective that in order to preserve the history and scholarship of this group, PLEASE be willing to share. I will make sure that you will incur no expense or trouble!!!

The third and new request is from Mr. Bill Wilson. He writes:

On Jun 25, 2017, at 6:46 PM, Bwilson1951 <[bwilson1951@aol.com](mailto:bwilson1951@aol.com)> wrote:

I have a question for you.

I've collected the Hitler sheets for the Reichspartei 1937 event for some time. There was a special Sonderstempel applied to the sheets on covers, etc. The following is an example with the Sonderstempel:



If you notice at the eagle's claws there are letters indicated.( In this case "a" and "e") Sometimes there is only one letter and in most cases there are two. I have found 72 varieties so far of different letters.

Do you or anyone else know what these letters represent?

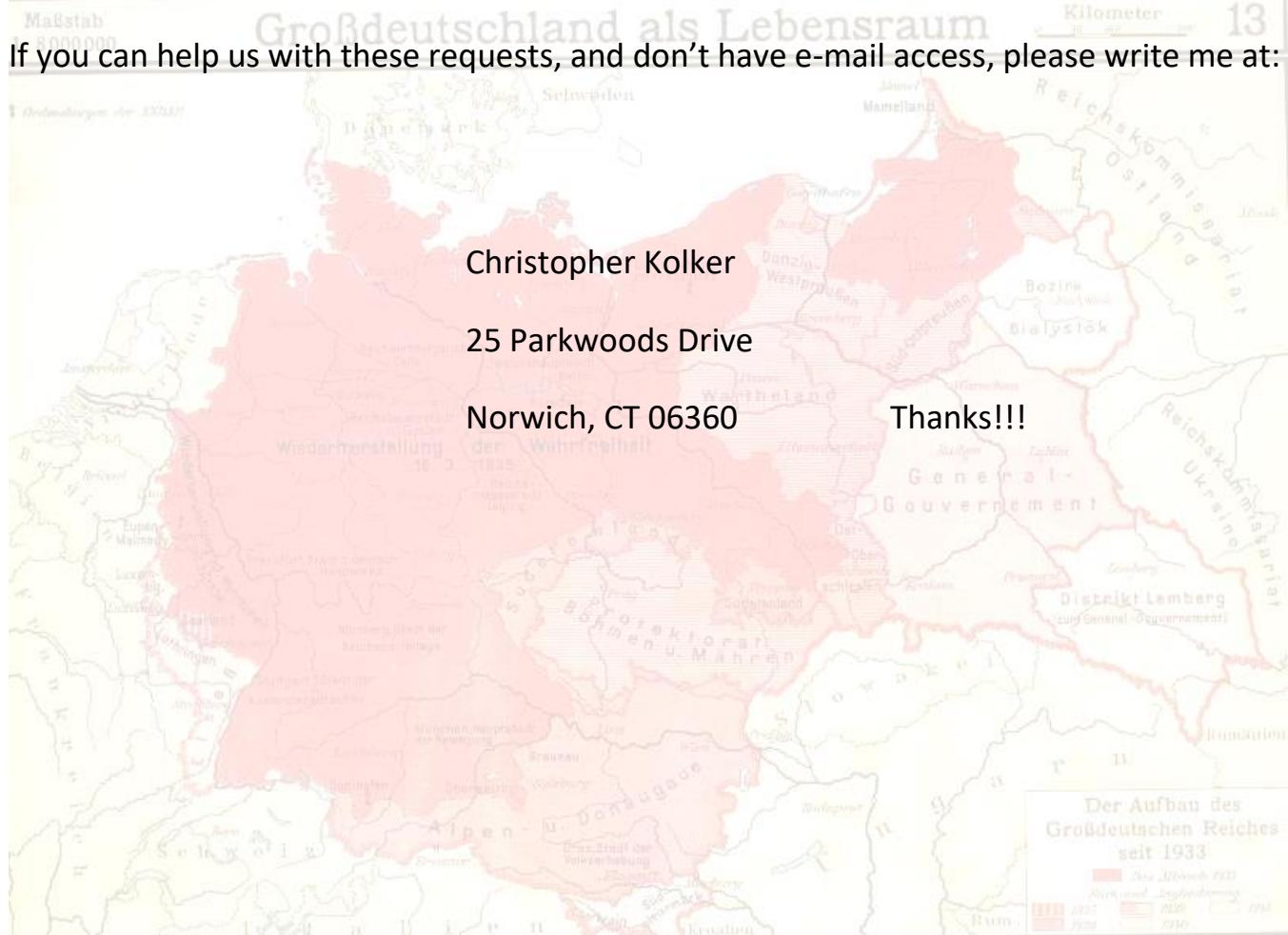
Any help in identifying what these letters stand for would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Bill Wilson

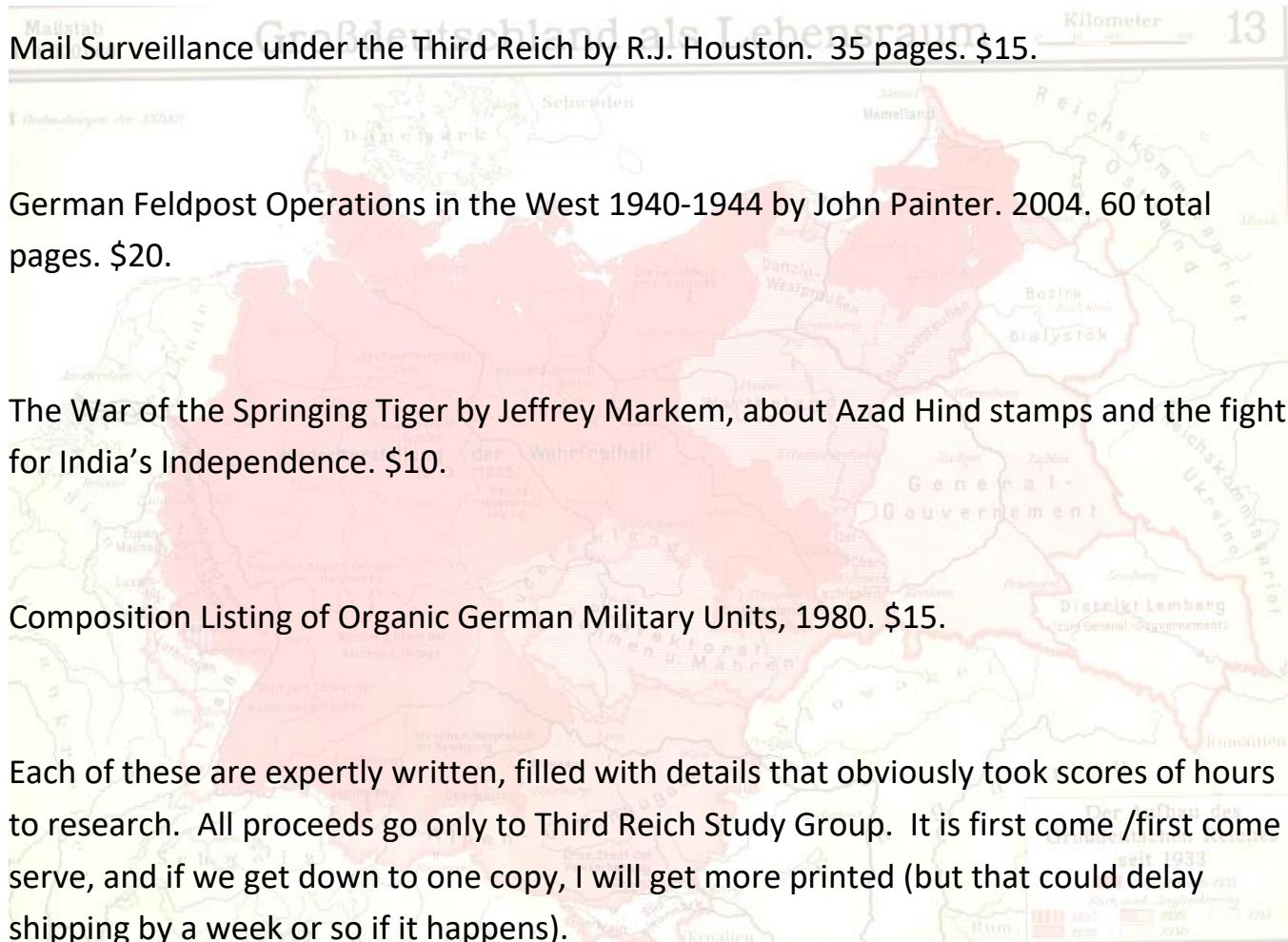
Please contact Mr. Wilson with eh answer, but please let me know as well at the above e-mail address. I would like to share with the group.

If you can help us with these requests, and don't have e-mail access, please write me at:



## For Sale

We do have a few items for sale:



E-mail me at [kolkermd@att.net](mailto:kolkermd@att.net) or write to : Christopher Kolker, 25 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360, for orders or for questions.

Thanks!!!!

Our Next issue is in mid-October. Please submit articles, essays, pictorals – whatever you have!

Thanks for reading!

-Chris