



# Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

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

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*Einzeichnen:*

Schutz vor Wetter u. Verfall  
**Römisch - Farben**  
überall!

Firma  
Alfred Graf,

**DROGERIE**  
**RÖMISCH**  
FÜRTH I. B.

Fürth (Bay) 2  
13a 905 a

Nürnberg-Grosseuth b. Schweinau.  
Postfach 305

# STAFF GROUP NOTES

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

**COX**, Gregory B, P.O. Box 2134, McKinleyville, CA 95519

**DIETZ**, Alfred, P.O. Box 235, High Shoals, GA 30645

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**PROSIT NEUJAHR** - welcome to another year of group activities. We have several projects in the works for 1996, including completion of the comprehensive article on German Military Mail in Bohemia -Moravia begun in Bulletin # 112. The TRSG Staff wish you all a healthy and prosperous new year!

**FLOREX '95** - this GPS Regional Meeting held 10-12 November in Orlando, Florida featured many fine exhibits of German philately including the following from "our" era:

"German Philately During the Third Reich"- Arnold Engel

"Third Reich Censorship" - Myron Fox

"A Postal History of the Nuremberg Trials" and "In Retrospect" - George Kuhn.

Director Myron Fox conducted an informal TRSG Meeting on November 11th which was attended by: John & Betty Bloecher, Al Dietz, Bud Hennig, Heinrich Hahn, Ed Kazmierczak, George Kuhn, Al Kugel, Ronny Van Waarmhuizen and Colin Wanner.

**AUCTION RULES** - during the past year we learned that some members found our auction rules to be unclear in terms of acceptable bidding practices, etc. In order to avoid any future misunderstandings, you will find revised auction rules on page 14 of this Bulletin. As these revised rules supersede all previous versions, we hope that more of our members will decide to participate in our auctions. It is unlikely that you will find material of this quality at these prices anywhere!

## Prices Realized -TRSG Auction #71

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1	\$16.00	19	\$12.00	28	\$ 8.00	38	\$34.00	47	\$26.00	62	\$30.00
2	14.00	20	8.00	29	7.00	39	22.00	48	20.00	63	12.00
7	12.00	21	9.00	30	9.00	40	18.00	49	15.00	64	14.00
9	20.00	22	9.00	31	12.00	41	19.00	51	18.00	67	14.00
12	17.00	23	8.00	32	12.00	42	18.00	52	17.00	68	14.00
13	88.00	24	9.00	33	9.00	43	25.00	53	18.00	70	34.00
14	48.00	25	8.00	34	8.00	44	20.00	54	14.00	71	24.00
16	32.00	26	8.00	35	9.00	45	36.00	57	13.00	72	16.00
17	8.00	27	9.00	36	8.00	46	20.00	61	13.00	73	18.00
18	14.00										

**Cover Illustration** - this registered commercial cover addressed to a firm in Nuremberg was posted in nearby Fürth, Bavaria P.O. 2 on March 23, 1945. Note the "post lead" (zip code) **13a** printed in the registry label and hand stamped next to the address line. This very nice example of late Third Reich mail is but one of many desirable lots being offered in Auction # 72. Good Hunting!

**COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:****297th Infantry Division**

by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS
297	312	522	523	524	297

Activated March/April 1940, the 297th first saw action on the Eastern Front in July 1941 as part of Army Group South. It took part in the drives toward Kiev and Rostov in 1941 and put up a stiff resistance during the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42. In 1942 it was part of 6th Army in the Battle of Kharkov, in the clearing of the Izyum pocket, in the drive across the Don, and in the Battle of Voronezh.

After 6th Army was encircled at Stalingrad, the 297th, along with the 29th Motorized and 371st, held the sector between Zybenko and Peschanka in the south side of the "Kessel" (pocket). On January 10, 1943, Soviet armored forces smashed into this sector and, by January 13th, the 397th had been virtually annihilated. Most of the survivors later died in Russian prison camps.

A second 297th Infantry, formed in Serbia during the Summer of 1943 to replace the division destroyed at Stalingrad, had a new "Feldpostamt" (FpA) 297 which was assigned Kenn # 308. It engaged in anti-partisan operations in Albania (Sept. 1943 until autumn of 1944), then fought Tito's guerrillas in Montenegro. It remained in the southern sector of the Eastern Front until the end of the war.



Cover sent to Army Ordnance Office in Vienna in May 1940 from Fp. # 14680 (Stab III/ Infantry Regiment 523) via P.O. 297 (K-312).

## Propaganda Card Corner: The Flag Bearer

by James A. Lees

Probably nothing exemplified the propaganda effort to build an image of greatness for Hitler as the German Führer than Hubert Lanzinger's painting "**Der Bannerträger**" (The Flag Bearer). This painting was included in the "**Grosse Deutsche Kunstausstellung**" (Great German Art Exhibit) held in the "**Haus der Deutschen Kunst**" (House of German Art) in Munich to celebrate "**Tag der Deutschen Kunst**" (German Art Convention) in 1937. This painting served to contrast the work of traditional German artists with that of "modern artists" whose works were being ridiculed at the "**Entrarete Kunst**" (Degenerate Art) exhibit which was being held in Munich at the same time.



This painting was reproduced by Heinrich Hoffmann as the color (red, black, off-white and shades of gray) postcard shown here. The address side has the Hoffmann Munich address and Nr. 428. This card sold very well at both art exhibits and was thereafter available for sale at the House of German Art.

Hitler is portrayed as a mounted knight in shining armor bearing the swastika flag. In the lower right corner of the card is a Hitler quotation: "Whether in good fortune or bad, in freedom or in slavery, I am truly devoted to my banner, which today is the flag of the German Reich". The image in this painting depicts simultaneously a medieval herald, the Teutonic savior in the struggle against Bolshevism and a leader ranking with Alexander the Great, Caesar and Napoleon.

Today this propaganda image of the Führer may seem foolish in hindsight, but Lanzinger's painting was very popular at the time. The original painting, captured by American troops toward the end of the war, was vandalized with bayonets by the GIs who were not impressed by the particular view of the nazi leader.

**TRSG Tips #4- Philatelic/Autographic Exhibit Pages**

by William Bailey

The following are pages from my exhibit "The Road to V-E Day", an integrated collection of philatelic and autographic reminders of the events which contributed to the rise and fall of Nazi Germany.

**Reinhard Heydrich**  
H-Gruppenführer  
und Chef der Sicherheitspolizei

Berlin SW 11, den 23. März 1940  
Dresdner-Allee-Strasse 8



Lieber Parteigenosse T o d t !

Zu Ihrer Ernennung zum Reichs-  
minister für Bewaffnung und Munition  
darf ich Ihnen meine herzlichsten Glück-  
wünsche aussprechen.

He i l . H i t l e r !

Ihr

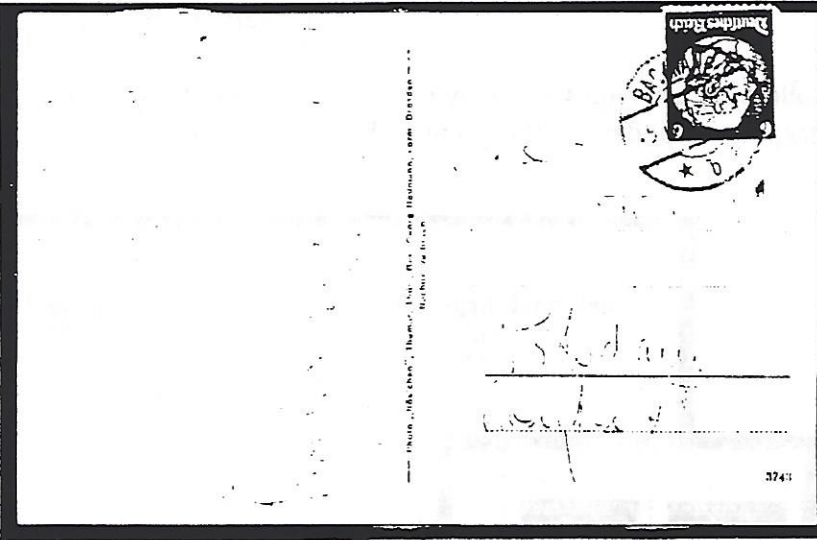
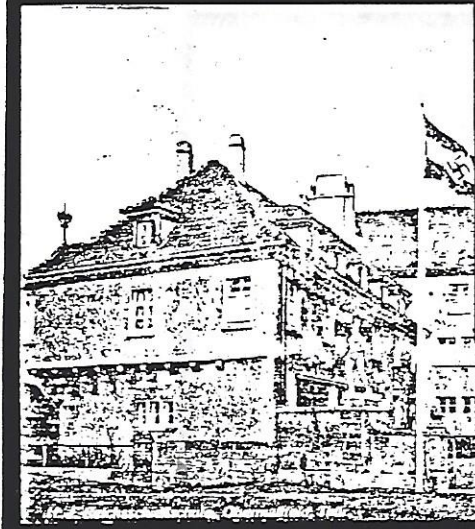


1943 stamp for Bohemia and Mora-  
via featured the death mask of  
REINHARD HEYDRICH, ruthless SS  
leader and chief of the Reich  
security office. Reporting to  
Himmler, he had first headed the  
Gestapo (secret police), Kripo  
(criminal investigation), and SD  
(SS security division).

In reward, Heydrich became Pro-  
tector of Bohemia and Moravia.  
In June 1942 he was killed by  
Czech resistance fighters  
trained in Britain. The SS  
retaliated by destroying the  
nearby village of Lidice and  
murdering its inhabitants.

Above: 1940 Heydrich letter to  
Fritz Todt, newly named Minister  
for Armaments and Munitions.

ERWIN ROMMEL wrote this 1937 note to his wife, Lu, while attending the Obermassfeld military weapons school (shown on reverse).



Auxiliary parcel post stamp (1943) issued to Afrika Korps troops for sending food parcels home from Tunisia.

30. 2. 42  
 Abfender:  
 Der. und Stamme: *Reinhold R*  
 Ref. Nummer: *1168*  
 15. 1. 1942



BREAKTHROUGH: Durchbruch. Now commander of one of ten panzer divisions poised along frontiers of Belgium and the Netherlands, General Rommel wrote his wife again in 1940: "Dearest Lu, We're packing at last. You'll get the news in the papers. Don't worry. Everything will be all right."

He was correct: The Germans broke through south of the Ardennes (commemorated by the card at left) and raced to the sea. Rommel performed with such flair that Hitler would later give him command of the Afrika Korps and the opportunity to earn his name "Desert Fox."



ADOLF HITLER

BERLIN den 21.12.1940



Ich bestimme, daß die bisherige 4-Division  
der 11-Verfügungstruppe den Namen

4-Division "Das Reich"

führt.



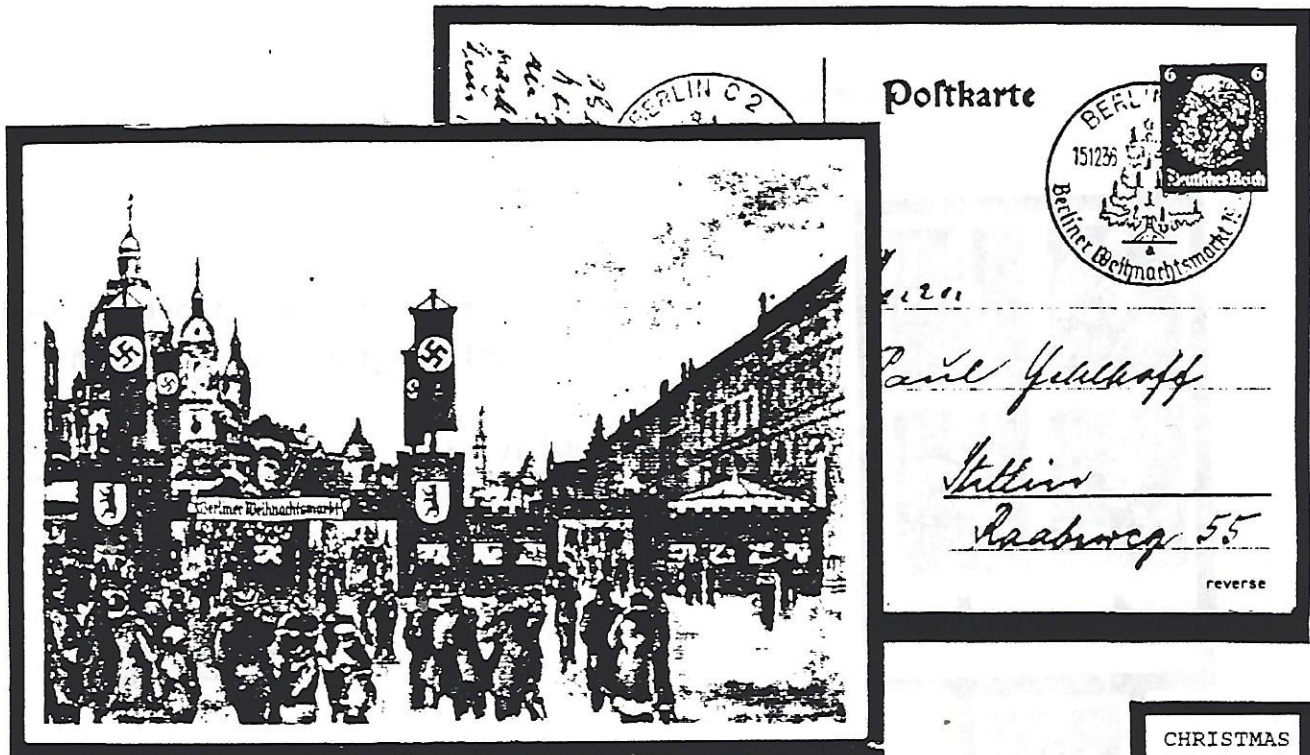
*W. im mit lo  
Berliner Wohnung  
Sagalt, King Trin  
neder Bieder u  
Adolf Hitler, s*

Above left: The SS (Schutzstaffel), organized in 1922 as Hitler's elite personal body guard, was the subject at war's end of this April 1945 stamp (never sold in this imperforate form).  
Above: Three days after his fateful Barbarossa order for a surprise attack on Russia, HITLER signed this order changing the name of a major SS division to "The Reich" Division.




Left and below: SS GENERAL PAUL HAUSSER was commander of the division, which battled as far east as Moscow and as far west as Normandy.

*am mit sieben in in Es Exempel man  
besten Gm3  
F. P. Hausser*



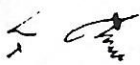
Weihnachten 1944

  
 ADOLF HITLER

Es ist mir eine besondere Freude, Ihnen, wie in den vergangenen Jahren, auch diesmal das beifolgende Paket, dessen Inhalt mir noch aus Resten zur Verfügung stand, als kleines Weihnachtsgeschenk übersenden zu können.

Mit den herzlichsten Glückwünschen für das Weihnachtsfest und zum Neuen Jahr

Ihr



---

Christmas 1944

It is a special joy for me, as in past years, to send you a little Christmas present, the accompanying package of surplus at my disposal. With warmest wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Your Adolf Hitler

CHRISTMAS IN BERLIN is a festive time, suggests the 1936 postcard above.

The card at left gives no hint of Berlin's holiday season by 1944 becoming far less festive.



## The Iron Cross

by John Webb

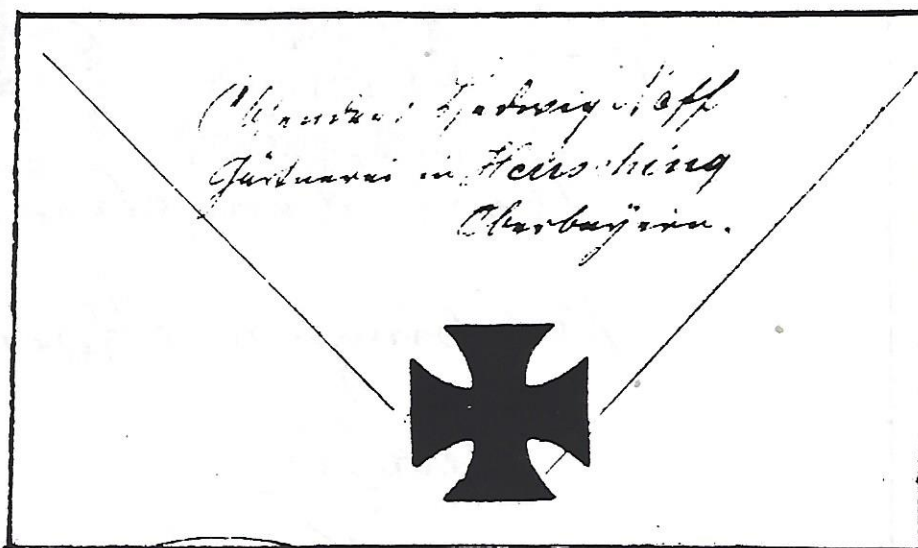
The Medal of Honor, Victoria Cross, Croix de Guerre, Iron Cross - all familiar medals to the majority of adults in this country and for anyone interested in the postal activities of Germany it is fairly easy to form a good thematic collection depicting the last one.

The Iron Cross was first instituted in March 1813 as an award of merit for Prussians fighting against Napoleon in the war of Liberation and was awarded then up to the war of 1815. The next occasion it could be won was during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871, once again as a Prussian award.

With the outbreak of World War I in August 1914 the medal was revived again, for issue to the German forces this time. With the popular use of the postcard and more people using the mails, the value of this medal as a propaganda and patriotic symbol was realized. This is shown in the many ways in which the 'Kaiser Wilhelm' Cross made an appearance in the early months of the war on Red Cross and Feldpost cards. The Cross illustrated on these items (see Fig. 1 at right) displays the Imperial Crown at the top, 'W' for Wilhelm in the center and "1914" in the lower section.



More ways were found to enhance the prestige of the medal by using small adhesive crosses to seal the flaps of envelopes (see Fig. 2 below) and larger ornate transfers to adorn the front of these envelopes.

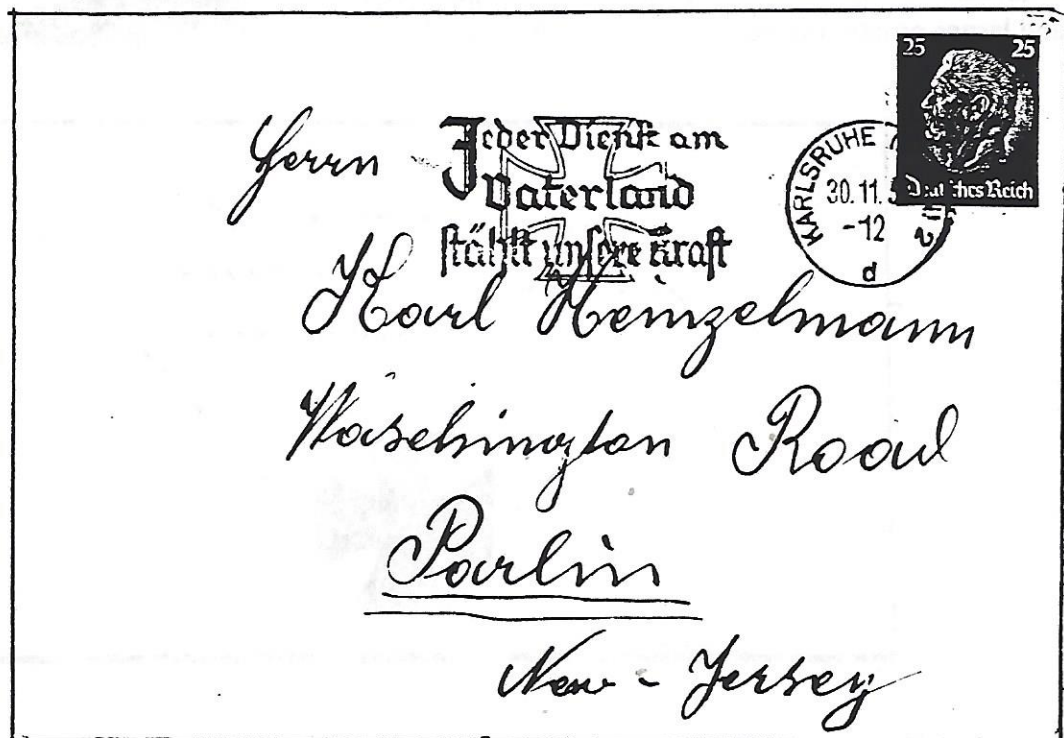


During World War I, Adolf Hitler, a lowly Corporal, won a First and Second Class Iron Cross. (A First Class could only be awarded to holders of a Second Class one - this was laid down in the original statutes governing the medal). His Second Class Cross was won in December 1914 for conduct in action in November of that year. His First Class Cross was awarded in August 1918 for the single-handed capture of a large number of Allied soldiers. This last medal entitled the holder to wear a further cross without ribbon pinned to the left breast pocket.

No doubt Hitler was very proud of these medals, particularly given the situation in Germany during the early 1920s when he began his political career. The wearing of these medals would be valuable in influencing potential followers. This photocard (Fig. 3) of Hitler speaking at an early Nazi Party meeting clearly shows the cross displayed on his left pocket.



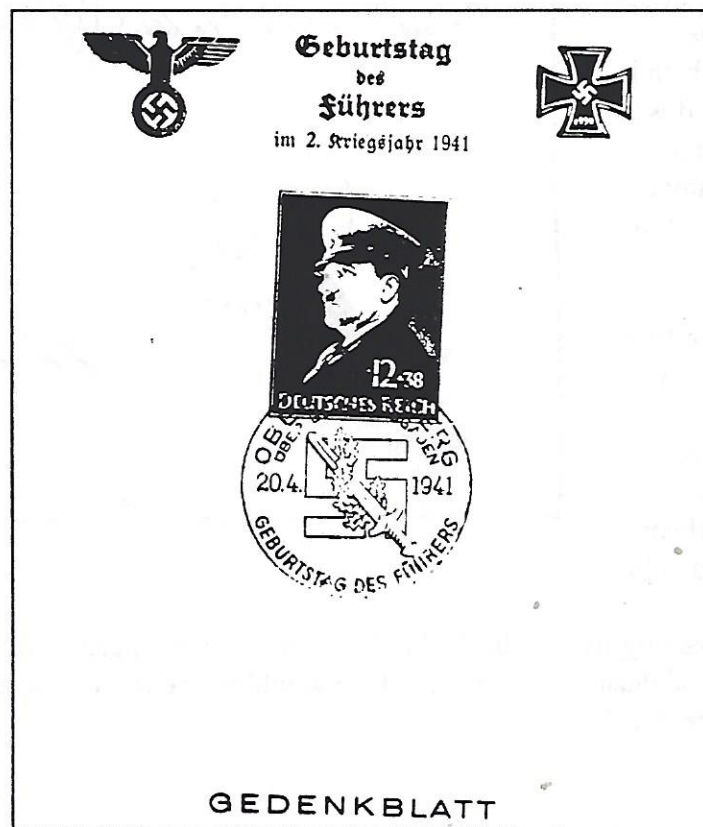
When the Nazi party was in full control Hitler changed the 'Wilhelm' Iron Cross for a more contemporary design - the swastika emblem, representing a badge of the future in no way reminiscent of the previous war and its unhappy outcome. This may be the reason why the Iron Cross does not feature more prominently as propaganda in official postal items during the early stages of World War II. Its value was not entirely overlooked, however, because from October 1939 until the end of the war the unmistakable outline of the cross was used on many slogan cancels. This cover sent to the U.S.A. in November 1939 (Fig. 4) has a Karlsruhe slogan cancel consisting of a patriotic slogan against an iron cross outline in the background.



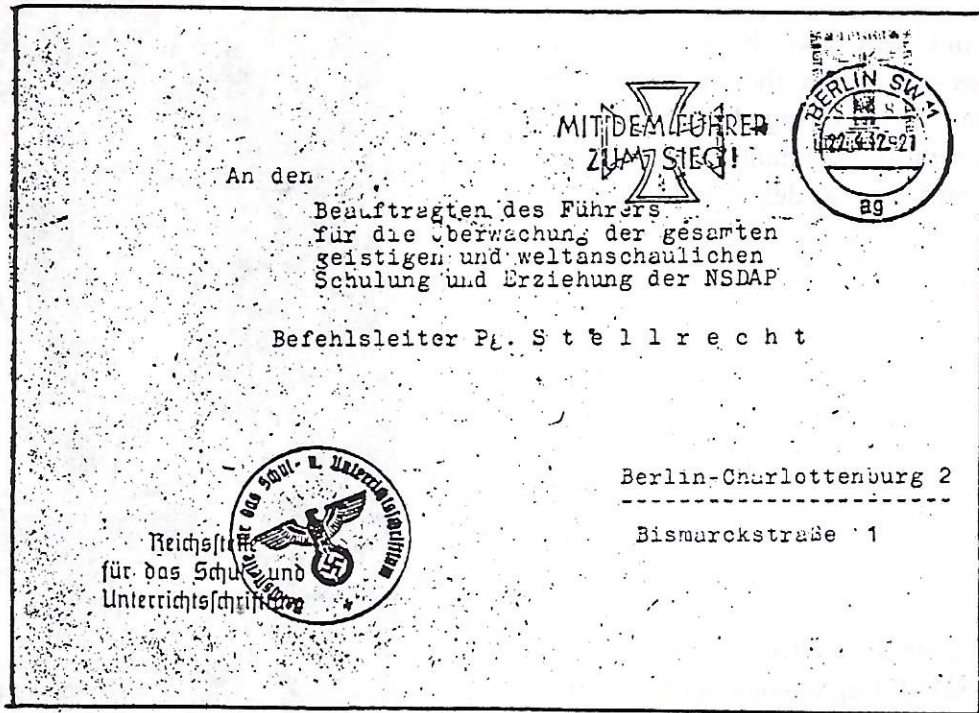
It was not until July 1940 that the complete Hitler Cross - no crown, the 'W' replaced by the swastika and '1914' changed to '1939' made its debut on a semi-official multi-colored postal stationary card. (Fig. 5) designed by Gottfried Klein.



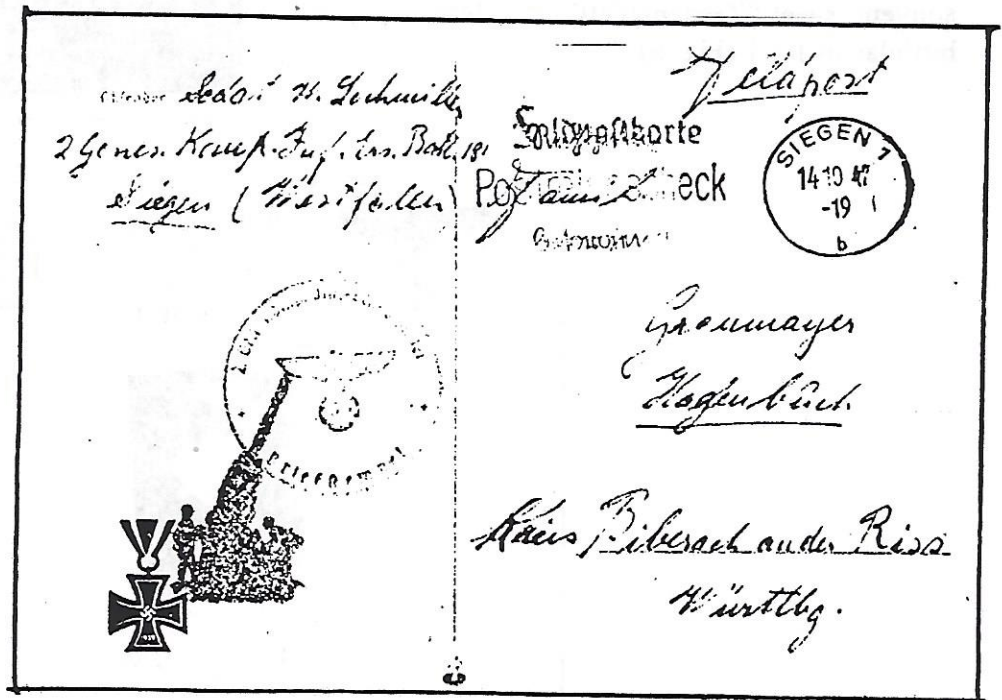
The new 'Hitler' Iron Cross was often paired with the NSDAP Eagle emblem on philatelic items during the war years. An example is this souvenir sheet ("Gedenkblatt") for Hitler's birthday in 1941 (Fig. 6).



While slogan cancels with Iron Crosses are certainly found on civilian mail, they seem to have had particularly wide usage on Official mail, either from civil government agencies or offices of the NSDAP. An example of the latter is the cover (Fig. 7 shown at right) posted at Berlin SW 11 on April 22, 1942. The cancel has the slogan "Victory is with the Führer!" superimposed on the outline of an Iron Cross.



Iron Crosses are also found in the illustrations on privately printed Feldpost cards such as this colored form card (Fig. 8). An Iron Cross with ribbon in black & red appears in the lower left against the silhouette of a Flak gun which is printed light gray. This card was sent in October 1942 from a private in Training Company 2, Infantry Replacement Battalion 181 at Siegen (Westfallen).



This then is the story of the Iron Cross and examples of how a thematic collection can be developed. As there must be additional examples in your collection, why not show them in this publication for all to enjoy?

ED NOTE: This article was originally published in "Germania", the magazine of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society. As several illustrations in this article would not reproduce clearly, other illustrations and text were substituted by the TRSG.

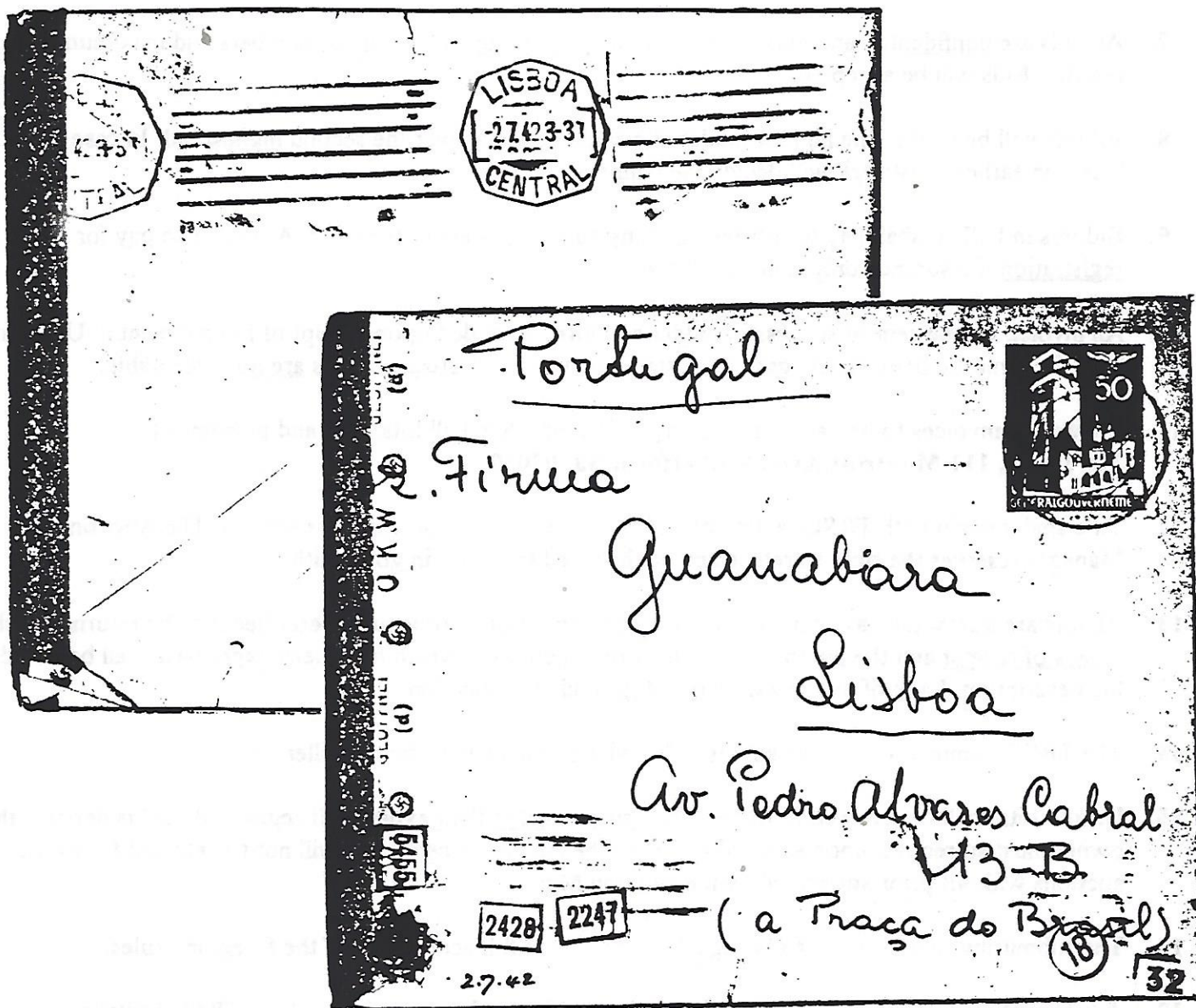
# G.G. Mail to the Workers of Brazil Routed Via Lisbon

by Tom Gobby

The cover shown below falls into the "Sardine" category of indirect mail. The parenthetical Polish note "(a Praga do Brasil)" translates as "to the workers of Brazil". There was a Polish colony of about 180,000 in Brazil at the outbreak of war in September 1939. This cover, addressed to firm in Lisbon, Portugal, was cancelled in Warsaw on June 16, 1942 and routed to the Munich Foreign Letter Examining Office (Code 'd'). At this office the cover was slit open and examined quite thoroughly as can be seen by the the various numbered handstamps applied by censors.

After examination the cover slit was automatically sealed with brown tape and roller stamped reading, alternately, "OKW" (Armed Forces High Command) and "Geöffnet" (Opened).

The cover was then forwarded to Portugal where a machine back stamp was applied at the Lisbon Central P.O. on July 2, 1942



## T.R.S.G. Auction Rules

1. Auctions will consist of Third Reich Germany postal cards, covers, stamps & related items only. A minimum of **25 lots** are necessary to conduct an auction.
2. Only TRSG members in good standing are eligible to participate in auctions.
3. Only lots with minimum estimated value of \$10 will be accepted but a lot may be more than one item.
4. Lots may be submitted as OPEN (\$10 min.) or RESERVE (\$10+ set by owner). Unless owner designates price, lot will be listed as OPEN. Auction Mgr. may add a SUGGESTED BID for grouped lots
5. The Auction Mgr. reserves the right to withdraw any lot prior to sale, or to group two or more lots.
6. Owners must describe their lots briefly and indicate condition. The Auction Mgr. reserves the right to condense, modify or otherwise change the description and/or condition as he deems suitable
7. All bids are confidential and must be submitted by mail only indicating lot numbers and maximum bids.. No Buy Bids will be accepted.
8. All lots will be sold to the highest bidder at a slight advance over the second highest bid. In case of tie bids, the earliest postmark will decide the winner.
9. Bidders in U.S.A. shall pay for postage and insurance. Bidders outside U.S.A. shall also pay for registration if insurance only is not available.
10. An invoice will be sent to successful bidder and lots forwarded upon receipt of full payment in U.S. funds by U.S. domestic bank check, cash or postal money order. Foreign checks are not acceptable.
11. We expect invoices to be paid within 5 days of receipt. Send all lots, bids and payments to:  
**Jim Lewis, 111 Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070.**
12. Title shall remain with TRSG, acting on behalf of owner, until payment is received. The Auction Manager reserves the right to refuse any bid believed to be not in good faith.
13. All lots are guaranteed as genuine and as represented. Lots erroneously described may be returned within 5 days of receipt and the purchase price fully refunded. Lots which have been expertised shall be noted in the description. Lack of expertization is not grounds for rejection.
14. The TRSG commission on lots sold is 15%, which shall be born by the seller only.
15. Unsold lots shall be returned to owners by insured mail at their expense. If registered mail is desired, the owner must so request upon submitting lots to the auction. Unsold lots will not be retained for future auctions without prior agreement by the Auction Mgr.
16. The submitting of a lot and/or placing a bid constitutes full acceptance of the foregoing rules.
17. A listing of auction prices realized will be published in the following issue of the TRSG Bulletin.

## German Military Mail in Bohemia-Moravia 1939-45

by Jim Lewis

### Part 2

#### III.) Departure of the Feldpost:

While the German military occupation of Bohemia & Moravia initially unleashed a storm of international protest, it soon became evident that no military resistance would be forthcoming. Units of the German occupation forces soon settled into their standard routine of formations and drilling.

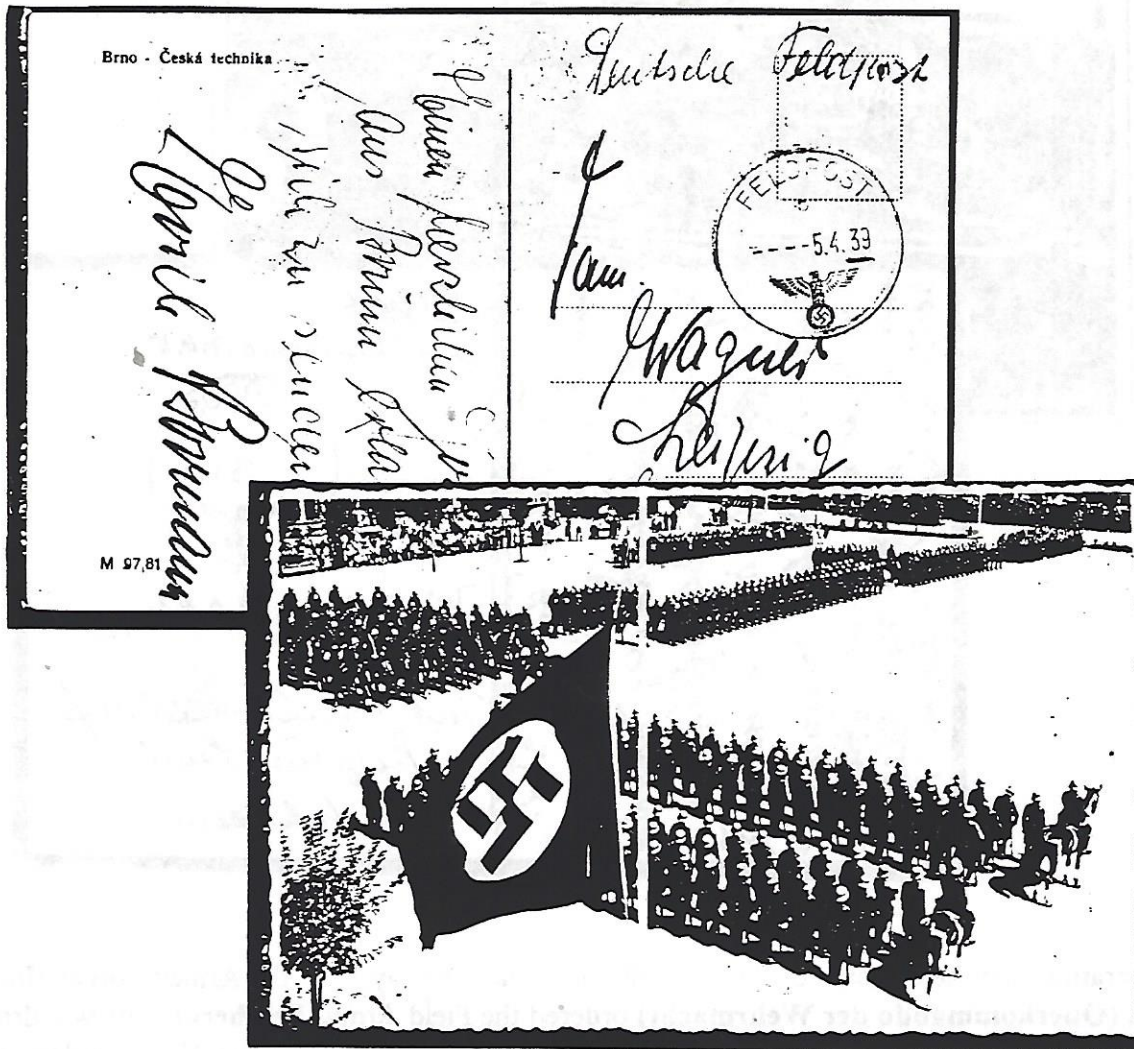
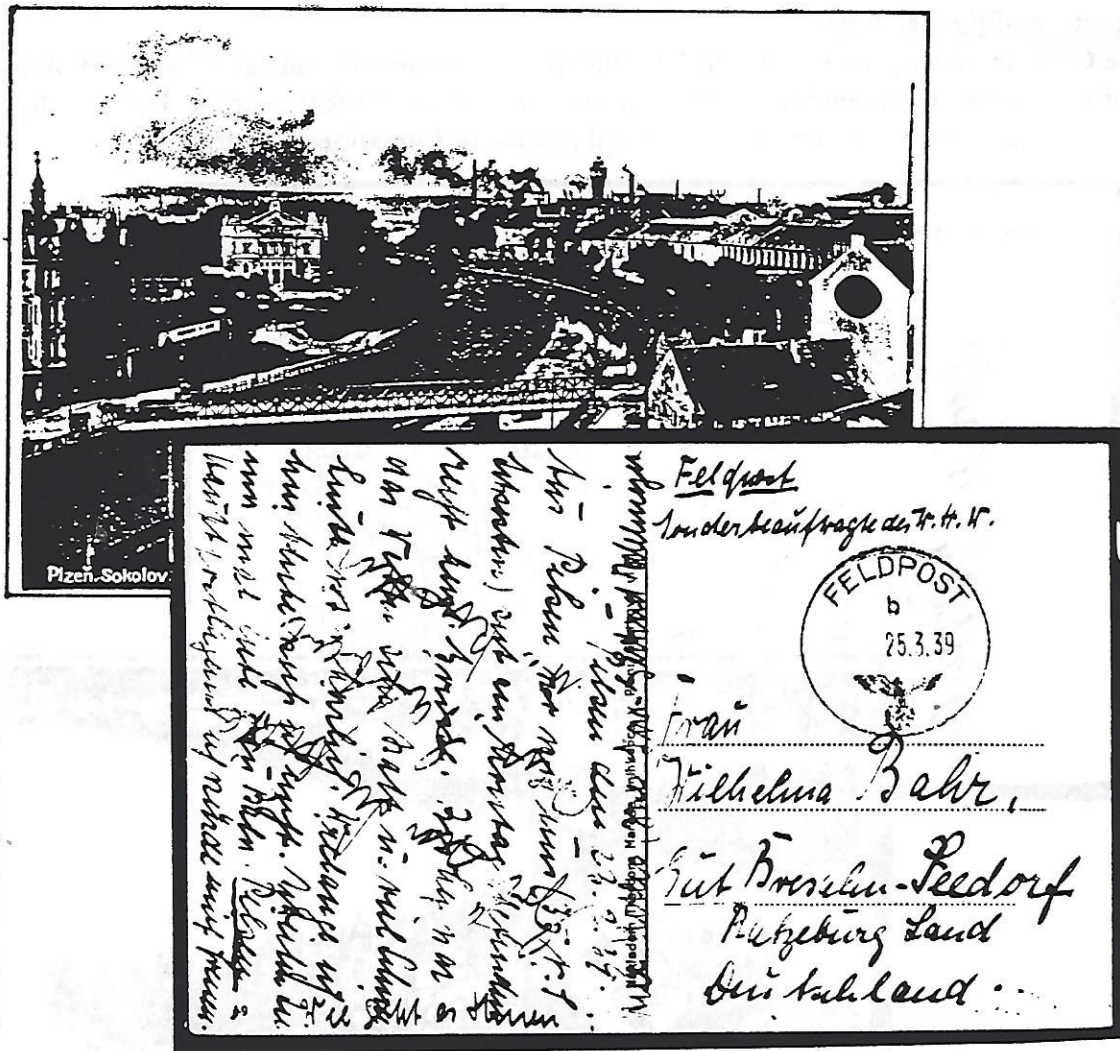


Fig. 4) (Top) Post card sent to Leipzig on April 5, 1939 contains greetings from a German soldier on garrison duty in Brünn (Brno), Moravia.

(Bottom) Picture card showing German troop formation in Brünn .

During the initial period from mid-March to late May 1939, offices of German civilian agencies sent to administer the Protectorate could send and receive their official and personal mail via the German Feldpost Offices rather than the former Czech post offices.

Fig. 5) View card sent from Pilsen, Bohemia to Breslau on March 25, 1939 has manuscript "Sonderbeauftragte des W.H.U. (Wehrmachts Helferinnen Unterkunft)" at top right. This identifies the office of Special Deputy for Army Nurse Billeting, a civilian liaison agency.



With preparations for the invasion of Poland well under way, in May 1939 the Armed Forces High Command (**Oberkommando der Wehrmacht**) ordered the Field Army (**Feldherr**) units withdrawn from the Protectorate and returned them to their home Military Districts (**Wehrkreis**). With the departure of these units and their mobile Feldpost offices, units of the Replacement Training Army (**Ersatzherr**) were moved into the Protectorate to combine their training function with garrison duty. As Replacement & Training units had no military post offices, the newly established Dienstpost offices (see below) were instructed to expand their services to include free Feldpost service for all military units.

#### IV.) Establishment of German Official Postal Service

The German civil occupation authorities were aware that the Czechs opposed their presence and, consequently, decided that their official and classified mail was not to be entrusted to the Czech postal system. A special German Official Postal Service for Bohemia-Moravia (**Deutsche Dienstpost Böhmen-Mähren**) was established in all of the larger and/or important towns in Bohemia and Moravia.



This new postal service accepted general official mail as well as registered and special delivery mail. However, parcels & money orders were not accepted. The facilities of the "Deutsche Dienstpost" were initially restricted to German civilian agencies or departments as well as their personnel. This service was later expanded to the local war essential enterprises which, however, had to obtain a permit.

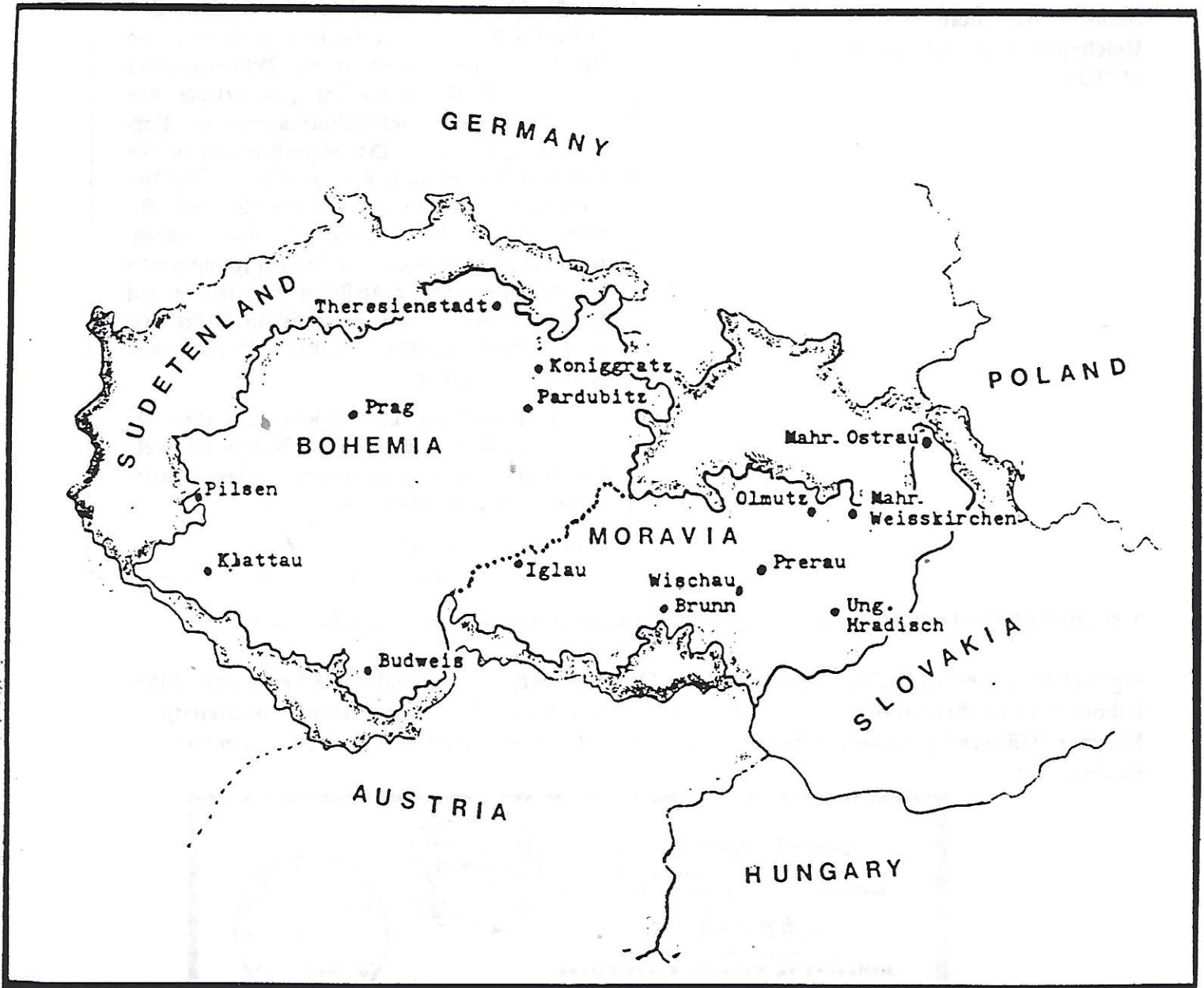


Fig. 6) This map of Bohemia-Moravia shows the approximate location of towns and cities which had offices of the "German Official Postal Service in Bohemia-Moravia".

In order to provide postal service for the units of the Replacement Training Army relocating in the Protectorate, the new "**Deutsche Dienstpost Böhmen-Mähren**" was instructed to expand their services to include official and private mail from all German military units and their personnel.

Fig. 7) Shown here is one of several directives pertaining to military mail in the Protectorate which appeared in the Bulletin of the National Postal Ministry (Amtsblatt der Reichspostministeriums) in the summer of 1939.

**\*) Nr. 665/1939. Zahlungen an Wehrmachtangehörige im Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren**

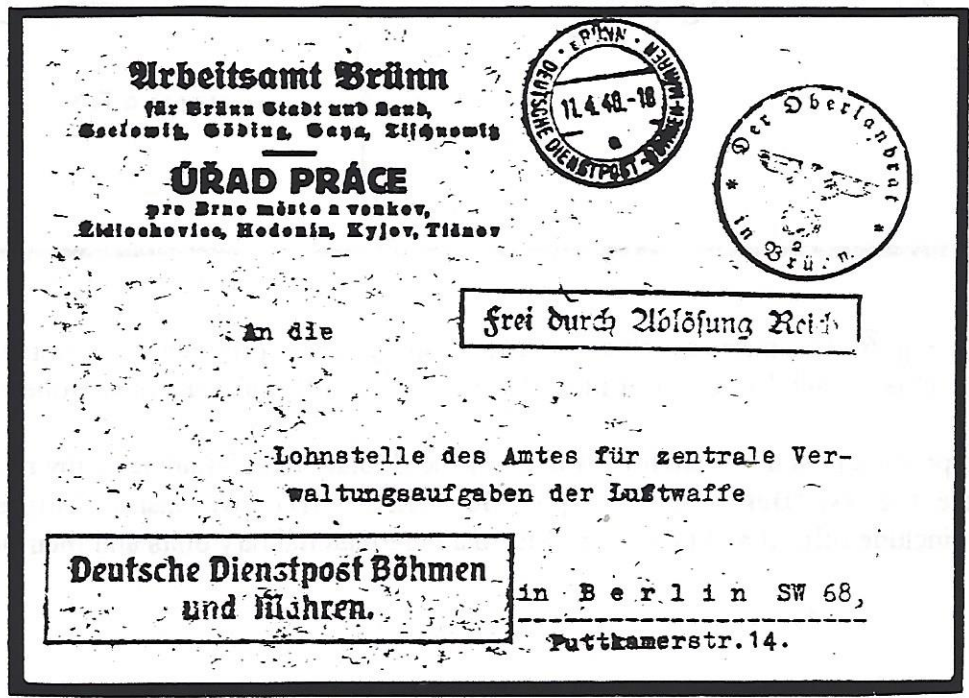
Feldpostanweisungen und Zahlungsanweisungen an Dienststellen und Angehörige hodenständiger Einheiten des Feldheeres im Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren, in deren Anschrift der Bestimmungsort angegeben ist, sind fortan bis zum Betrage von 100 RM je Person und Kalendermonat ohne Paßeintragung und ohne Devisengenehmigung zu den innerdeutschen Gebührensätzen zugelassen. Die Anweisungen werden durch die Dienststellen und Behördenpoststellen der Deutschen Dienstpost Böhmen und Mähren ausgezahlt. Sie sind auf Formblättern des Inlandsdienstes auszustellen und müssen auf Reichsmark lauten. Vor der Anschrift ist der Vermerk "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost Böhmen und Mähren" anzugeben.

Die Dienststellen und Behördenpoststellen der Deutschen Dienstpost Böhmen und Mähren behandeln die Anweisungen wie an mobile Truppeneinheiten gerichtete Feldpostanweisungen.

Va 2771—0 Dev/Schp

Mail from official German agencies required no postage if they displayed an official seal.

Fig. 8) Official seal of District Magistrate (Der Oberlandrat) on bi-lingual printed envelope of the Labor Office (Arbeitsamt) in Brünn, Moravia. The double-ring/date bridge "Deutsche Dienstpost Böhmen-Mähren" postmark is the standard style used by German Official Post Offices in the Protectorate.



#### V.) Military Administration in the Protectorate

The administration of military organizations in the Protectorate was handled through the office of the Armed Forces Plenipotentiary General on the Staff of the Reichs Protector and Commander-in-Chief in Military District Bohemia -Moravia (**Wehrmachtsbevollmächtigter beim Reichsprotector und Befehlshaber im Wehrkreis "Böhmen-Mähren"**).

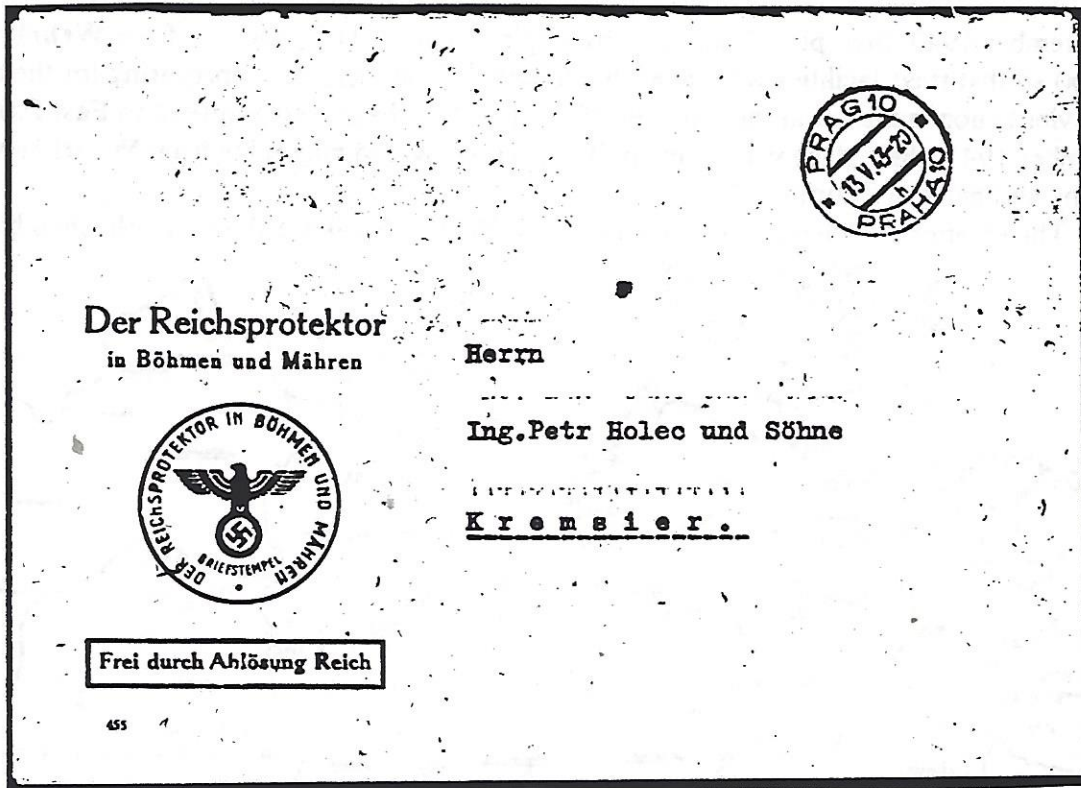


Fig. 9) Official mail in preprinted envelope with seal of the Reichs Protector's Office sent to an Engineering firm in Kremšier, Moravia via Prag civil post office in May 1943.

#### VI.) Replacement and Training Army Units in the Protectorate

With the departure of the Field Army units which had taken part in the occupation, a rather complicated shifting of units from the Replacement Training Army (**Ersatzheer**) took place during the following three years. The aim of these moves was to combine the training function of such units with the further mission of garrisoning the territory and providing a screen of second rate troops which would be able to hold off an attacking force long enough to allow mobile reserves to arrive at danger points.

In the fall of 1939 the boundaries of adjacent Military Districts (**Wehrkreise**) were extended to incorporate portions of the Protectorate as follows:

**Wehrkreis VIII** (Silesia and the former Sudeten districts of Bohemia) was extended to include the northern districts of Bohemia & Moravia.

**Wehrkreis XIII** (comprising northern Bavaria) was extended to include western Bohemia.

**Wehrkreis XVII** (comprising upper & lower Austria) was extended to include the southern districts of Bohemia & Moravia.

In addition to certain Replacement & Training units from these adjacent Military Districts, other Replacement & Training units from remote Military Districts were sent to the Protectorate in order to temporarily place their depot facilities at the disposal of field units being assembled for major offenses. In November 1939, Replacement & Training units from **Wehrkreis V** (Württemberg and part of Baden) were sent to the northern frontier districts of Bohemia so that their depots could be used by units of the Field Army preparing for the Western offensive launched in the Spring of 1940.

In September 1940, their place was taken by Replacement & Training units from **Wehrkreis I** (East Prussia) so that their facilities were available to units of the Field Army preparing for the attack on the Soviet Union launched in the Summer of 1941. When these units returned to East Prussia in September 1941, their place was taken by Replacement & Training units from **Wehrkreis IV** (Saxony and parts of Thuringia).

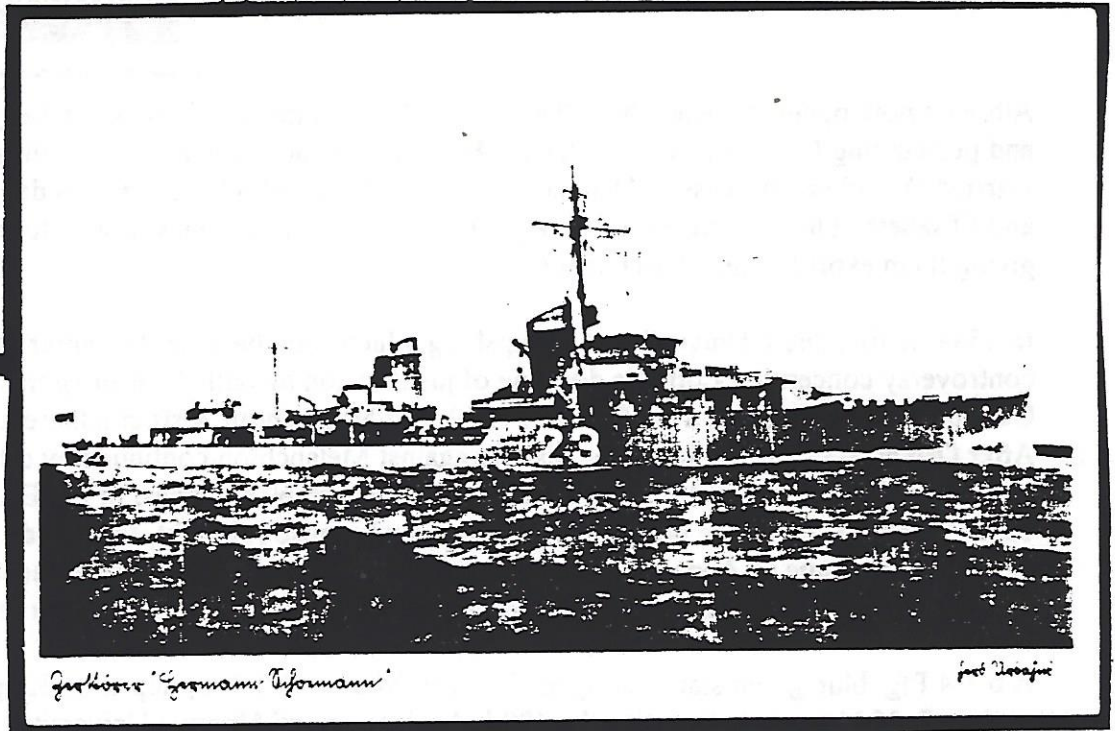
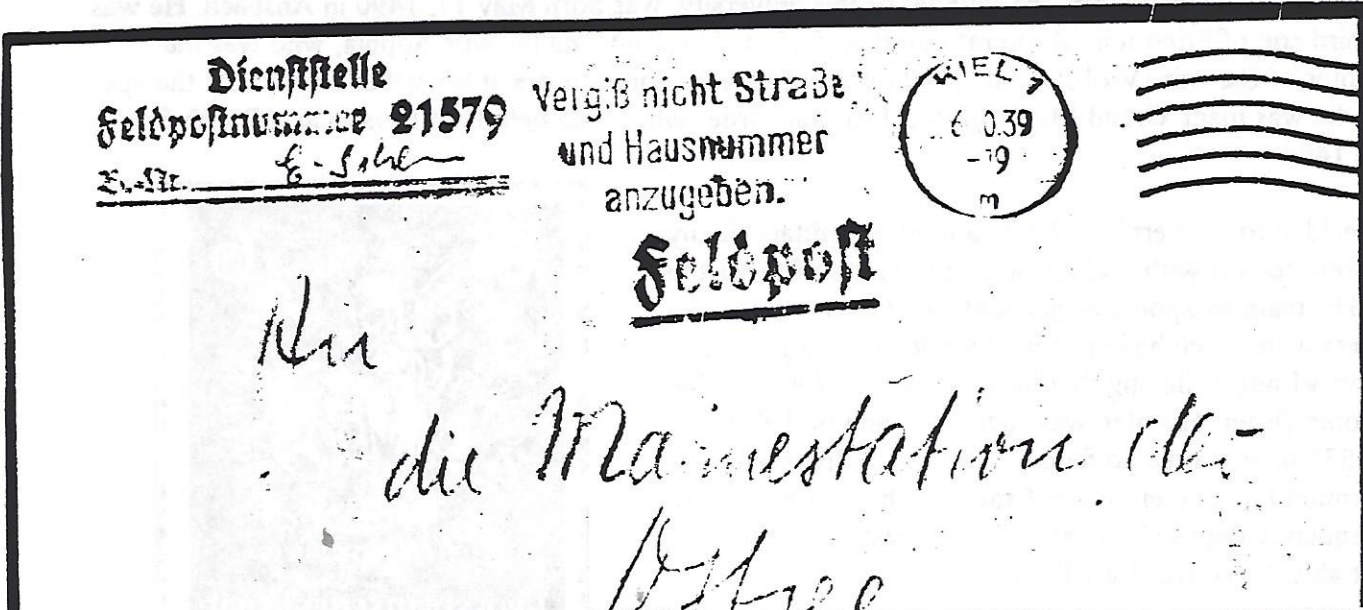
The locations of German Military Districts (**Wehrkreise**) are shown on the map below:



The Protectorate became a Military District late in 1942 under the name "**Wehrkreis Böhmen Mähren**" with headquarters in Prag. This Military District did not set up any Replacement Division Staff and had no Replacement & Training units of its own. While Replacement & Training units from **Wehrkreis XIII** in Bohemia were under control of Replacement Division Staff 193 at Prag, they were subordinate to Deputy Corps HQ in Nuremberg. Similarly, Replacement & Training units from **Wehrkreis XVII** in Moravia remained under control of Deputy Corps HQ in Vienna. The only two Replacement & Training units subordinate to **Wehrkreis Böhmen Mähren** (through Special Administrative Staff 539 in Prag) were Local Defense (**Landeschützen**) Battalion 14 (located at the Milowitz maneuver area) and Battalion 50 located at Tabor. (To be continued)

# NAVY LOG

## Destroyer Z-7 "Hermann Schoemann" - Feldpost # 21579



The seventh of sixteen "Leberecht Maass" (Destroyer Type 1935 - Z1-16) class ships. Built by AG Weser (Bremen), launched July 16, 1936. Displacement: 2,171 tons; Speed: 30 knots; Crew: 325; Armament: five 5" (5 x 1), four 37mm A.A. (2 x 2) guns; eight 21" torpedo tubes.

Sunk by gunfire from Royal Navy cruiser H.M.S. "Edinburgh" in Artic waters on May 2, 1942.

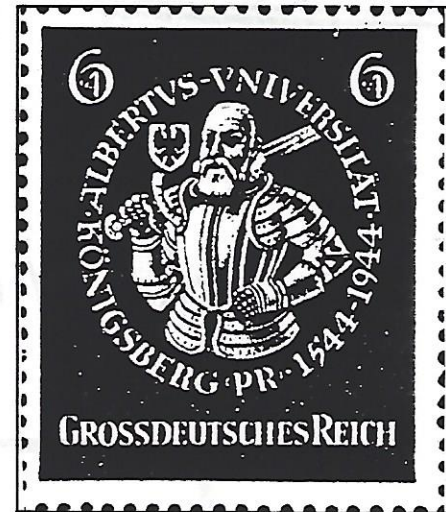
Cover to Naval "Ostsee" Headquarters at Kiel with Kiel machine cancel dated October 6, 1939.

## Story Behind the Stamp: 400th Anniversary of Albertus University

by Kelly Stefanacci

Albrecht von Hohenzollern, the founder of this university, was born May 17, 1490 in Ansbach. He was the third son of Friedrich, Markgraf von Brandenburg-Ansbach and his wife Sophia, who was the daughter of Casimir IV of Poland. The boy was educated under tutors at his father's court. At the age of 21 he was made Grand Master of the Teutonic Order which had held East Prussia as a Polish fief since 1466.

He decided to convert East Prussia to an hereditary duchy and went to war with Sigismund I of Poland to further this aim. His main weapon was his political conversion to Lutheranism which he kept secret while deceiving Pope Adrian VI into believing that he was simply reforming the Teutonic Order. His plan was successful and on February 10, 1525 he was created feudatory Duke in Prussia by Sigismund I in a ceremony at Cracow. The Teutonic Order subsequently deposed him as a Grand Master but they were never able to recover East Prussia.



Albrecht now openly revealed his adherence to Protestantism by joining the League of Torgau in 1526 and persecuting Catholicism in his lands. Although he had taken a vow of celibacy as Grand Master, he married Dorothea, Princess of Denmark on July 1, 1526, who bore him two daughters, Anna Sophia and Elisabeth. The early years of his reign were prosperous and he was able to placate the nobility by giving them expropriated church lands.

In 1544 he founded a University at Königsberg which soon became the center of violent religious controversy concerning Luther's doctrine of justification by faith. The antagonists were his friend Osiander, whom he made a professor in 1549, and Melanchton, a strict adherent to Luther's doctrine. After Osiander's death in 1552, the dispute against Melanchton continued by other preachers until the matter was finally resolved in favor of strict Lutheranism by an appeal of the Estates to Sigismund II in 1566. This also solved the question of the regency because Albrecht, to provide an heir, had married again. His marriage to Anna Maria of Brunswick on February 26, 1550 produced a son, Albrecht Friedrich (1553-1618). Albrecht died soon after on March 20, 1568 at Tapiau in East Prussia.

A 6 + 4 Pfg. blue green stamp designed by Prof. Marten (Mi.896) depicting King Albrecht I was issued on July 7, 1944 to commemorate the 400th Anniversary of Albertus University.

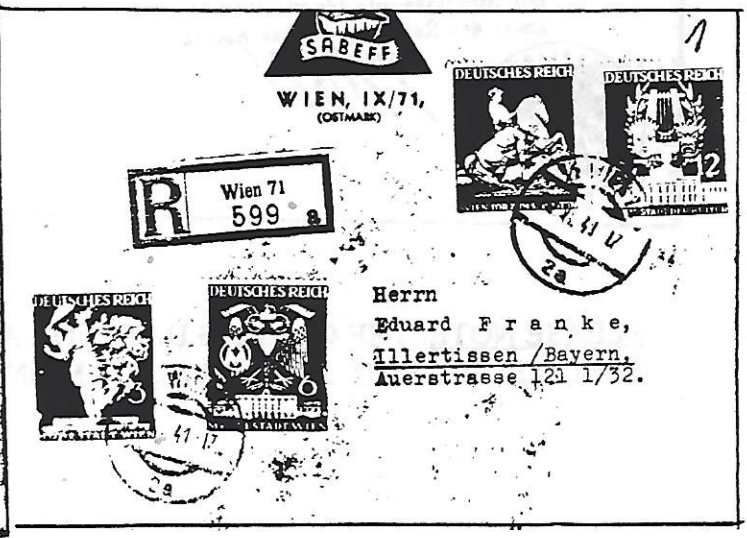
The special cancel shown here was used for one day only, July 7, 1944.

ED NOTE: If you enjoyed this article and would like to know "the story" about other people or places which appear on Third Reich stamps, please send your request to Ye Olde Ed.

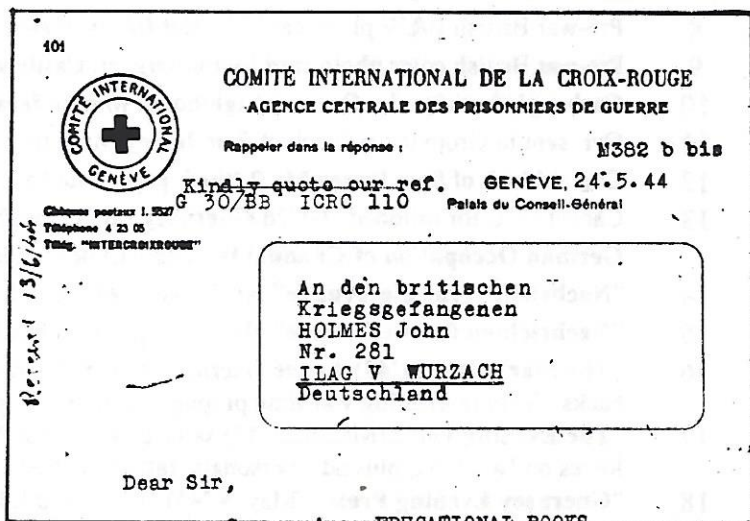
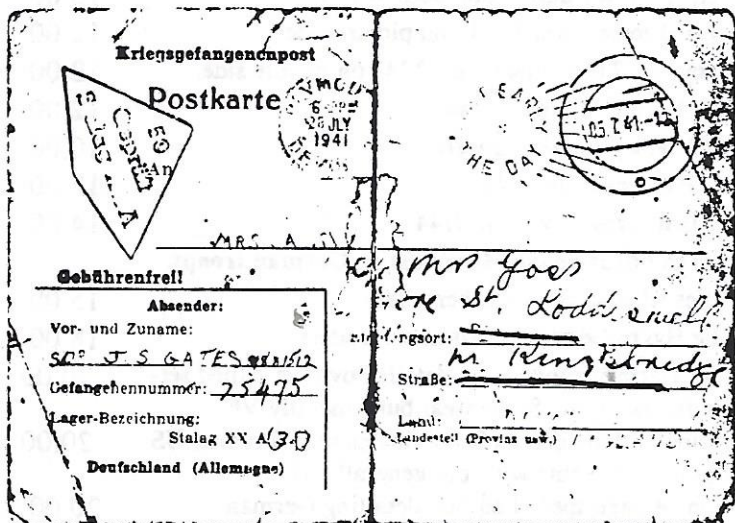


TRSG AUCTION NO. 72

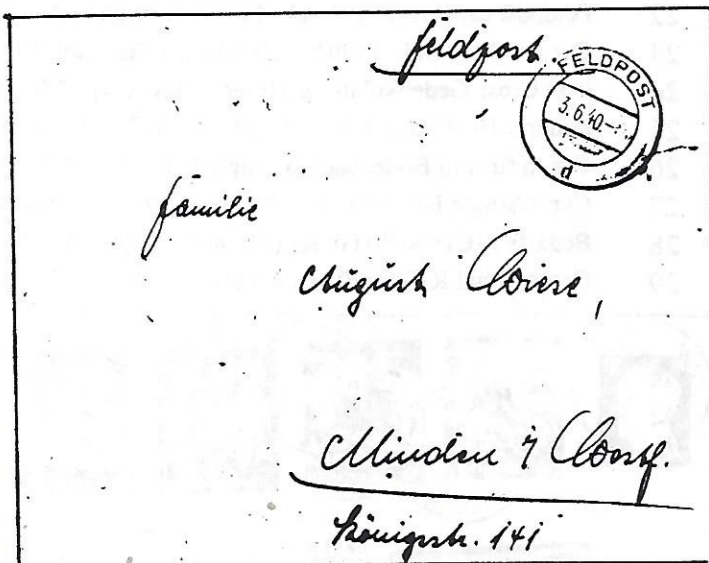
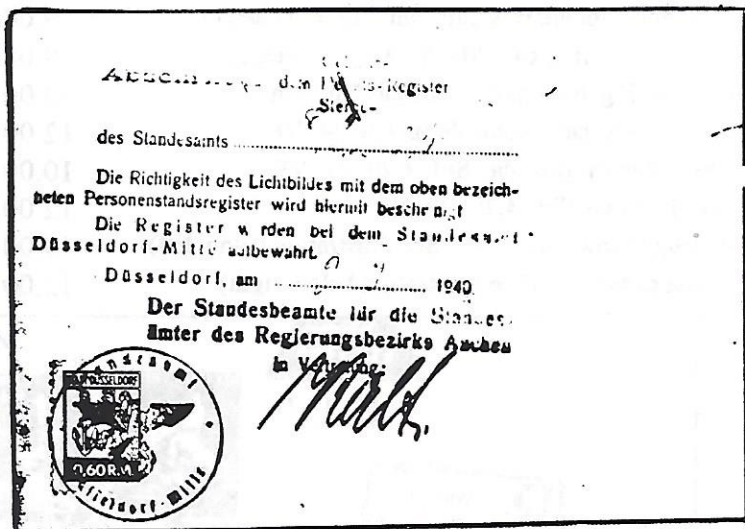
Lot	Description	Min. Bid
<b>German Occupation of Channel Islands L) - next 13 lots w/var. stamps &amp; cancels. VF unless noted o'wise.</b>		
1.	Two diff. Banks Brownsey & Co. B & W photo cards of waterfront w/ Guernsey Mi. 3 tied 4.'44 cans.	\$15.00
2.	Bedarfs cvr to Vale w/Guernsey Mi. 3 reissue tied 9.'44 machine cancel.	8.00
3.	Cachet FDC for 2-1/2d Guernsey Mi. 3 sent to St. Helier, Jersey 4/12/44.	9.00
4.	Three Printed FDC for 1d Jersey Mi. 2 sent to St. Helier, Jersey 4/1/41	15.00
5.	Two Bedarfs cvrs w/Jersey Mi. 2 tied Jersey "cross" cancels w/#s. 4 & 5 June & August '42	12.00
6.	Bedarfs cvr w/ Jersey Mi. 2 tied Grouville double-ring cancel 4.2.'41	8.00
7.	Two cvrs. w/Jersey Mi. 4 tied: 1.) Beresford St. "cross" cancel; .2.) Jersey mach. can. both 6.1.'43	10.00
8.	Pre-war British B&W photo card Portolet Bay w/Jersey Mi. 4 tied Jersey can. 10.'43 on picture side.	12.00
9.	Pre-war British color photo card Mount Orgueil Castle w/Jersey Mi. 7 tied Jersey can. 9.'43 on picture side.	12.00
10.	Cachet p'cd w/view La Corriere Lighthouse w/ pair Jersey Mi. 1 Jan. '42 mach. can.	12.00
11.	Cvr. sent to Grouville w/block of four Jersey Mi. 1 tied Jan. '42 Jersey "cross" cancels.	10.00
12.	Cvr. w/block of four Jersey Mi. 2 (thick paper) tied St. Helier P.O. cans. July '41.	12.00
13.	Cachet FDC for rationed 2-1/2d Guernsey Mi. 3 (rough perf) tied "cross" cans. 4/12/44.	14.00
<b>German Occupation of Channel Islands -II) next 7 lots incl publications for Civilians or German troops.</b>		
14.	"Nachrichten für die Truppe" Nr. 36 May '44 - headline Allies advancing in southern Italy	15.00
15.	"Nachrichten für die Truppe" Nr. 150 Sept. '44 - headline Le Havre German garrison surrenders	18.00
16.	"The Star" (Jan. 21'43) 4 page Guernsey daily published under German supervision details Soviet & Allied setbacks. Very interesting war time propaganda plus ads, personals, sports etc. Some wear but generally VF	20.00
17.	"The Evening Post" (March 31'45) same as above but 2 page Jersey daily details Soviet losses in E. Prussia, US losses on Iwo Jima, plus ads, personals, rationing, Red Cross news, etc. Some wear but generally VF	20.00
18.	"Guernsey Evening Press" (May 9 '45) "Peace and Liberation" 4 page special edition detailing German surrender on May 7 includes message from King George VI and arrival of R.N. destroyers, etc.	20.00
19.	October 1942 issue of "Channel Islands Monthly Review"- this 28 page issue of this journal for Channel Islands refugees in Great Britain details Red Cross messages, etc.	15.00
20.	Same as above but 20 page issue for April 1944 incl. news of German occupation, POWs, fortifications, etc.	17.00
<b>Next 3 lots Feldpost frm Naval ("Kriegsmarine") Artillery units w/ "Sch." Fp. Nos. &amp; mute Fp cancels</b>		
21.	Cvr frm Fp.# Sch. 39979 (Stab/Marine Flak Brigade 8) w/mute ring can. Feb. '42. VF D'siegel.	10.00
22.	Feldpost card frm Fp.# Sch. 10108 (Marine Flak Abt. 211) w/mute double ring can. Jan. '43. F. D'siegel.	9.00
23.	Cvr frm Fp.# Sch. 17803 (Stab/Marine Flak Abt. 234) w/mute double ring can. March '44. F. D'siegel.	9.00
24.	Iron Cross Gedenkblatt for Hitler B'day w/Mi. 772 tied SPC - see Fig. 6 on page 11 in this Bulletin.	10.00
25.	Bedarfs 1934 Rally 6 Pfg. Postal Card w/Mi. 547 added (rate to USA) can. Königsberg 9.30.34. VF	12.00
26.	Cvr to firm in Bodenbach w/single Hitler Mi. 772 tied by Obersalzburg Birthday SPC 4.20.'41. VF	10.00
27.	Cvr w/single Hitler Mi. 691 tied by Regensburg WHW slogan Birthday SPC 4.20.'39. VF	12.00
28.	Bedarfs R-Cvr w/WHW set (Mi. 869-72) plus Mi. 791 tied Neuglobsow cans 5.'44 (See illustration below left)	13.00
29.	Commercial R-Cvr w/Vienna Fair set (Mi. 768-71) tied Vienna cans 6.'41 (See illustration below right).	12.00



Lot	Description	Min. Bid
30.	Bedarfs R-Cvr to Postinspektor Graz w/Wien Fair set (Mi. 768-71) plus Mi. 517 tied Innsbruck cans 4.'42. VF	\$12.00
31.	Cvr to Prag, Czechoslovakia w/Costumes Mi. 592-3 (20 Pfg. surface rate) tied Berlin roller cans 10.'35. VF	\$10.00
32.	Two cvrs: 1) Mi. 652-3,660 & 662 cans. Wolfstein 4.'36, 2) Mi. 764 (pr), 765 & 768 cans Zethau 3.'41 VF	10.00
33.	Late usage - R-cvr to Nuremburg w/Mi. 782 (pr), 785 & 794 tied Furth cans 21.3.'45 VF (See Bulletin cover)	18.00
34.	Fp cvr to Fp# 03463 (Stab/Inf. Rgt. 340) w/scarce D'siegel "Frontleitstelle Saknitz" can. 10'42 Rostock. VF	9.00
35.	Early Feldpost - formula card sent to Hannover frm member Fp# 09109 w/Feldpost can. 8.11.39. VF	10.00
36.	Airmail cvr to USA frm Landerbank Wien w/105 Pfg meter + Wien cans 9.'41. Brit. & German censor. VF	10.00
37.	Form cd frm British POW in Stalag XXA mute can. 7.5.'41 & Plymouth, rec. can. 7.20.41! (See below left)	12.00
38.	Red Cross Geneva message sent 5.'44 to British civilian in Ilag V re. educational mat'l. (See below right) VF	15.00



39.	Düsseldorf revenue stamp on birth certificate copy dated 2.3.'40. Unusual & VF (See below left)	12.00
40.	Cvr w/scarce early double-ring/date bridge Feldpost cancel posted 6.'40. VF (See below right).	14.00
41.	Occupied. France - cvr to Nancy w/Mi. 793 tied Ludwigshafen cans. 7.43, "Ae" pass censor mark. VF	12.00
42.	Lot of 30 different Official cvrs w/var. Dienst stamps & cancels. Mostly mid-'30s usage. Nice generalist mix.	25.00



**PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 72 IS MARCH 22, 1996**  
**SEND ALL BIDS TO: JIM LEWIS, 111 MONTROSS AVE., RUTHERFORD, NJ 07070**