



THIRD REICH STUDY GROUP BULLETIN

JULY 2023, VOLUME LVIII, NUMBER #3 (#228)

Inside:

- The 1937 Nuremberg Rally
- Paul von Hindenburg- the Mourning Stamps
- Calvin Deem's von Hindenburg Covers
- AuctionWatch
- Danzig, Trivia, and more!

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A Great issue lies ahead:

The 1937 Nuremberg Rally –

Perhaps the most successful political rally in history, this rally whipped up nazi support and left philatelic material galore for historians and collectors alike.

Paul von Hindenburg - Noted as the politician who let Hitler obtain power, the story is much more complicated than that. We look at his life, and his philatelic legacy. Calvin Deem has some great covers on the subject.

AuctionWatch – Some great finds out there, with prices cooling down just a bit. Get out here in cyberworld and start bidding. The time is right.

Danzig - A beautiful article on the age of Hevelius, the 17th Century astronomer from Danzig. A beautiful cover issued in 1934 commemorates his life.

And watch out for that Trivia!!

Help! My goal is to keep this website and journal free and easy to everyone. Still, I could use a few dollars to cover expenses. Help us out by donating on PayPal at our website, or by sending a check made out to Chris Kolker to 25 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360. Thank you for your continued support. You are what makes our study group great!

Calling for any and all articles, long or short, introductory material or the work of an expert. We need them all! Simply email me your articles, scan or idea to kolkermd@att.net. Keep calm and keep collecting!

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Keep Calm and Keep Collecting!

To our Esteemed Readers:

It's summertime, but the living is not necessarily easy. In fact, we are quite busy preparing for the Great American Stamp Show in Cleveland, OH this August. This is an important time of year for both the German Philatelic Society and for the Third Reich Study Group. This is where we showcase what we do and what we know in the hopes of creating new interest and buzz. When we've been successful, we've welcomed many new members and donations of both money and philatelic material.

With this in mind, I've been busy preparing publications, sample materials, and pamphlets for the show. This is how we keep our organizations going. If we can introduce ourselves in a positive way to more collectors, especially of a younger age, our future can be bright. If instead, we simply keep to ourselves, one day none of this will happen.

That's where I need your help. Printing all of this material isn't free, so I could really use some donations to offset the cost. Publishing costs have never been more expensive, and it seems like the price rises every day. Simply go on the website and click on either of the buttons that say "Donate", and follow the simple instructions for PayPal. Consider it a small price to pay for the future of our organization. We really are trying very hard for you and for our mutual love of stamps.

We still are in need of more articles or at least philatelic material to publish in our next journal. The present journal has a lot of me in it, and that may not necessarily be a good thing. While I certainly try very hard to give you great information, having different perspectives on material is a must for any publication's long-term success. Anything that you can send or even notify me about would be appreciated. Whether you have a finished article, a few materials you can send either through regular mail or through email, or just have an idea, it all would be appreciated. And if you're interested in writing a column and have an idea, please let me know.

But summer needs to be about more than just all of this work and writing. doesn't it? In that vein, I hope you enjoy our feature articles about Paul von Hindenburg and the Nuremberg rallies. I made the trivia pretty tough except for the first question, and we have some great new fresh material on the auction watch.

If you're in Cleveland for the Great American Stamp Show, please stop by the Germany Philatelic Society Booth. I will be there to promote both our mothership and The Third Reich Study Group. The German Colonies Collector Group will be there as well, so we'll have lots of items to show you and a few to give away. It's going to be a great show, and I am giving a couple of presentations that hopefully will make it to our website.

As always, stay in contact with me if you have any ideas about the journal or the website. The best way to contact me is through kolkermd@att.net.

Keep calm and keep collecting!

Your Humble Editor,

Chris

Part of a Souvenir Sheet from 1933, these stamps commemorate the tenth anniversary of the German Aid for the Needy. From OldLouis Auctions



The 1937 Nuremberg Rally

Christopher Kolker MD



The commemorative plaque of the 1937 Nuremberg Rally

The Nuremberg Rallies' History:

Even though the city of Nuremberg, an ancient Franconian town lying on the Pegnitz River, has undergone massive changes and endured innumerable historical events over its many hundreds of years of existence, for most it is now remembered for one thing: the Nuremberg Rallies.

The rallies, held by Hitler annually from 1933 to 1938, became a showcase and a rallying point for Nazis everywhere. The Nazis designed them to show to the world its strength and whip up public opinion and energy toward the Nazi goals of world domination.

Nuremberg didn't come to host the rallies by accident. Its history with the rallies started in September 1923, when German nationalist factions decided to hold a Deutscher Tag Day. This translates simply as a German day, and Nuremberg was chosen by the nationalists for two reasons. Prominent politicians of Franconia had nationalist tendencies and were willing to host the event, and they considered Nuremberg a hotbed of sympathetic tendencies toward traditional German culture. 80,000 took part in this first rally, and with that kind of turnout, the rallies were in Nuremberg to stay.

Among those who took part were the NSDAP and its later Adolf Hitler. Nuremberg's support impressed Adolf Hitler, and he thought the possibilities of this town being a backdrop for future rallies was immense. He had decided as early as the immediate period after the unsuccessful Beer Hall Putsch of November, 1923 that all future nation-wide rallies would be held at Nuremberg. That one exception was in 1926 when Weimar hosted the annual rally, since at the time Weimar was one of the few places Hitler could speak publicly without fear of arrest.

From 1923 to 1929, Nuremberg hosted five different rallies. Each rally grew in size than the preceding year, although both the 1927 and 1929 rallies each had about 150,000 participants. The Nazis did not sponsor any rallies from 1930 to 1932 as they focused on obtaining power, not exercising it. But as most readers know, Hitler came into power formally in 1933, and, and that exercise of power could begin with annual Nuremberg rallies starting in the same year. Those rallies were held annually from 1933 to 1938, and only the beginning of World War II stopped the rallies.

The Nazis made each rally more grandiose, bellicose, and ostentatious every year. With hundreds of thousands of participants, they certainly sent a chilling message to the world. Philatelically speaking, one of the most interesting rallies was 1937 version, as some of the most identifiable pieces of philatelic material came during that rally. Our article will focus on the 1937 rally, although a treasure trove of philatelic material came from each rally.

By their counting, the Nazi Party considered the rally in 1937, starting on September 6th and ending on September 13th to be their biggest and best up to that date. Nuremberg's slogan was *Stadt der Reichaparteitage*, or city of the Nazi party rallies. The theme of the 1937 rally was the Party Rally of Labor. Speeches focused on the service of labor to the Third Reich and how that labor could help defeat Bolshevism.

The opening rally had an anti-Bolshevik exhibition dedication, and that exhibition became permanently situated in the Old Transport Museum on the rally grounds. On the 4th day, dignitaries laid a foundation stone for the proposed Deutsche Stadium. The stadium, proposed by Hitler himself, was to dwarf the Roman Colosseum. Hitler wanted the stadium to house approximately 400,000, when, this during the time large stadiums housed 100 to 110,000 (the closest American equivalent would be the Los Angeles Coliseum in Southern California, built during the 1920s for originally 75,000 people, with its main claim to fame then of being a spacious stadium

Hitler's stadium would never be built.

On the night of September 11th, Heinrich Himmler leader of the SS, the Nazi secret police, threw a massive party in the SS camp. This marked the first such

celebration attended by foreign dignitaries. For the first time British ambassador Sir Neville Henderson, along with the French ambassador and the American Charge of Affairs attended the rally. In total, 48 foreign Heads of Missions attended.

The following day featured the SS/SA (the SA being the SS's predecessor that was ultimately phased out in favor of the SS), and on the 13th the closing day, a parade honored the Armed Forces. For the first time, a near complete absence of calvary was noted, with the armed forces now almost completely motorized. The world took note.

The Philatelics:



The Eagle slogan cancellation with "e" date stamp, used in Nuremberg 2 post office

A good place to begin is the postal cancellations made for the rally. An original design highlighting Nuremberg and giving the date of the rally was a good place to start. The new design would be used only on automatic cancelation machines in the Nuremberg 2 post offices. The slogan was used in six different machines in combination with a single circle date stamp. Each separate dye was distinguished by one of the six small identifying letters: a, c, d, e, h, or l, set at the top left of the date stamp next to the N in Nuremberg. The 1937 rally marks the first time at the slogan *Die Stadt der Reichsparteitage* in the design in modern capital letters and not in antique German script.



Type I Eagle roller cancellation, "b" type date stamp.

The cancellation used in the b continuous roller canceling machine is found in two distinct types. The type one cancelation is less common than the type 2 and are only found in early dates of the rally, while the type 2 bear all of the later dates.



Type II Eagle roller cancellation, "b" date stamp.

The h cancellation used in the other machine shows a larger break in the Eagles left hand wing. What's even more obvious is the date bridge in the middle of the circular cancellation with the bottom line slightly broken to accommodate the swastika. This type of cancellation seems to have been used through 1938 and 1939, with no record of it being used past May 1940. The latest date ever found is May 20th 1940.

Of course, such an important event couldn't come and go without a commemorative postage stamp. True to Hitler's form, the postage stamp was about himself. The stamp commemorated the Fuhrer's 48th birthday on April 20th 1937. The stamp's miniature sheet was especially overprinted in black with the words *Reichsparteitag/Nurnberg 1937*. The stamp itself was six pfennig and the entire miniature sheet was sold for one Reichsmark. The sheet on which the overprint was made had originally been put on sale on June 10th 1937. Professor Richard Klein had designed the stamp based on a photograph from Heinrich Hoffman. Its perforation was 14 and had a familiar swastika Watermark.



The 1937 commemorative sheet, printed for Hitler's 48th birthday

The commemorative sheets with the overprint first came on sale on September 3rd at a philatelic exhibition in Berlin called "Collecting in Your Leisure Time". It stayed on sale then only from the 3rd to the 5th of September. That exhibition was organized by the German Stamp Collectors Association which had the theme of "*Kraft Dirch Freud*" which translates as strength through joy. They themselves have a special exhibition postmark, and were otherwise we're not really connected to the Nuremberg rallies.

These commemorative sheets with new overprint for the rally were sold on opening day of the Nuremberg rallies and continued to be sold throughout the duration of the rallies. All the post offices at the rally sold them, and they could be canceled with special rally hand-stamps.

But the philatelic material did not end there. A set of eight postal stationary cards had been printed and put on sale to mark the rally's opening. These cards cost six pfennig and had the imprint of the Hitler portrait commemorative stamp without any overprint. The price for each card was 25 pfennigs, which meant that 19 pfennigs went to Hitler's culture fund, just like any of their semi-postal stamps. The left-hand side of each card had a scenic photograph of one of the previous rallies. They thematically featured six different sections of the Nazi movement in eight different views of rally events.









Deutsche Reichspost

8
verschiedene Festpostkarten
mit eingedruckter Führermarke
zum Reichsparteitag 1937



Preis 2 RM
davon 1 RM 52 Rpf für den Kulturfonds des Führers

The envelope for the postcards – Michel 264 01-08

A complete set of 8 cards inside a specially printed envelope cost two Reichsmarks. Each card cost 25 pfennigs, so 8 would go for 2 Reichsmarks, with the Hitler Culture Fund getting 152 pfg. Both the cards and the stamps were valid for postage until December 31st 1938.

During this time, telegrams were still being used. Those telegrams, when delivered, featured yet another opportunity for more propaganda and propaganda art. The 1937 Nuremberg rally was no exception, but no original designs were made. The Nazis used the same designs from 1936, featuring Nuremberg Castle. Messages could be sent for 75 pfennigs for 10 words, and each extra word cost 5 pfennigs. For reasons still unknown, the forms were withdrawn on September 9th even though the rally continued to the 13th.

For the event, extra staff were employed by the telephone and telegraph departments. They laid 7000 kilometers of new lines, including four new lines to Berlin and one each to Bremen, Dusseldorf, Erfurt, and Frankfurt. Yet another line had a link to the overseas telegraph office in Berlin.

The Nazis also provided a mobile telegraph office. It consisted of two vehicles each with a large trailer. One served as a counter room with two serving positions for the sale of postage stamps and had three public telephones. The second trailer was fully equipped to serve as a telegraph office.

A Nuremberg rally tradition was to have a march. The traditional march began with the 1935 rally to show Saxony's support of the Nazi party. It started at the city of Hof and would go to the rally grounds. The march usually took about a week. 1937's march started on August 30th, comprising of two columns marching from town to town towards Nuremberg. Each column had its own postal coach that operated as a branch of the post office of Dresden 7. They used the same official oval date stamp that had been given to it by postal authorities in 1936. The route followed in 1937 was different than the route in 1935 and 1936 as the towns along the way campaigned for the rally march to stop in their town.

On arrival to the rally grounds on September 6, the postal coaches performed their usual function as a temporary post office for the groups to which they were attached. They remained in operation until the end of the rally.

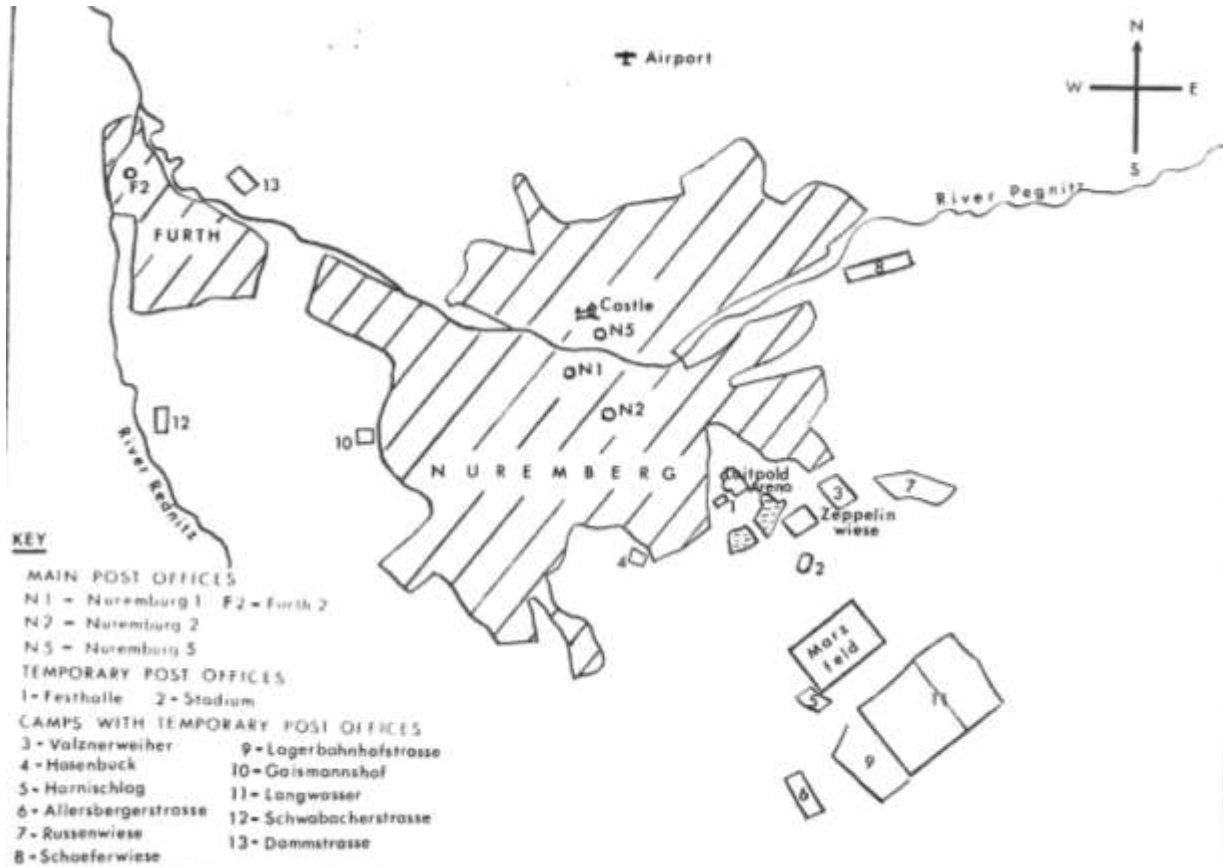


A rather crude map of the path the Nuremberg march took from Hof to the rally grounds in 1937



A more contemporary map of the area of the march, with Frankfurt, Germany to the west, and Prague, Czech Republic to the east.

Since the scale of the 1937 rally surpassed any of the others, organizers knew there would be demand for Postal Services. Play therefore almost double the number of temporary post offices and lighten the load of the main city offices by requiring each temporary post office to cancel its own mail. This marks the first time that each camp post office had its own official date stamp. Blow is a map of where those post offices were related on the campgrounds:



The following table lists a more complete description of the post offices:

Location/Camp	Type	Units Served	Head Post Office
Luitpoldhain Festhalle	Office	National and World Press	Nuremberg 2
Stadium	Office		Nuremberg 2
Valznerweiher 1	Hut*		Nuremberg 2
Valznerweiher 2	Hut*		Nuremberg 2
Hasenbuck Camp	Hut	24,000 S.S.	Nuremberg 2
Harnschlag Camp	Hut	15,000 Political Leaders	Nuremberg 2
" "	Postal Coach		Nuremberg 2
Allersbergerstrasse Camp – East	Postal Coach	17,000 Political Leaders	Nuremberg 2
Allersbergstrasse Camp – West	Postal Coach		Nuremberg 2
Russenwiese 1	Postal coach	8,000 Werk Scharen	Nuremberg 2
Russenwiese 2	Postal coach	15,000 K.d.F.	Nuremberg 2
Schaeferwiese Camp Mögeldorf	Postal coach with tent	11,000 N.S.K.K. men	Nuremberg 2
Lagerbahnhofstrasse Camp – East	Tent	45,000 Hitler Youth	Nuremberg 2
Lagerbahnhofstrasse Camp – West	Tent		Nuremberg 2
Gaismannshof Camp	Hut	Army units	Nuremberg 2
Langwasser Camp 1	Hut	45,000 Labour Corps (R.A.D.) and 80,000 S.A. men	Nuremberg 2
Langwasser Camp 2	Hut		Nuremberg 2
Langwasser Camp 3	Hut		Nuremberg 2
Schwabacherstrasse Camp	Hut	2,500 Political Leaders	Furth 2
Dammstrasse Camp	Postal coach	5,000 Political Leaders.	Furth 2

Two circular accepting cachets have been used by the mobile post offices during the 1937 march. The first was the same one used in 1936. The second one had the word *Gaupostamt*, which translates to district post office occupying the upper section of the outer ring, while the single word *Sachsen* (Saxony) in the lower half was there with cross swords directly above that word. Since the word *Gaupostamt* was used instead of the word *Marchpostamt* probably meant that the second circular



The second circular accepting cachet

accepting cache was to be used throughout the rally and not simply during the march itself. This theory is generally supported by the fact that this second circular accepting caches are usually on postal elsewhere dated September 9th or later.

Since the Nazis made hundreds of commemorative hand stamps during their rule, it's no surprise that the Nuremberg rally of 1937 had two of its own commemorative hand stamps. The first had a symbol of the eagle and swastika as a central motif. Different hand stamps featuring this design were distributed to the post offices in the rally. One was also issued to the philatelic counter staff in Berlin, where collectors could get cards and covers cancelled.

Postal officials used identifying letters to distinguish which post office had placed the hand stamp. However, information linking the handstamp letter to its corresponding post office has largely been lost (see next page):

Identifying Letter	Post Office	Identifying letter(s)	Post Office
No letter	Not Known	“n”	Not Known
“a” Type I	“	“o”	“
“a” Type II	“	“p”	Nuremberg 2
“b”	Nuremberg 2	“qu”	Not Known
“c”	Not Known	“t”	“
“d”	Furth 2	“s”	“
“e”	Not Known	“t”	“
“f”	“	“u”	“
“g”	“	“v”	“
“h”	“	“w”	“
“i”	“	“x”	Nuremberg 1
“k”	“	“y”	Not Known
“l”	“	“z”	“
“m”	“	“aa”	“

Identifying Letter(s)	Post Office	Identifying Letter(s)	Post Office
“ab”	Not Known	“ah”	Not Known
“ac”	“	“ai”	“
“ad”	Nuremberg 2	“ak”	“
“ae”	Not Known	“al”	“
“af”	“	“am”	“
“ag”	“	“an”	“

The Bochmann catalog, used to systematically describe cancellations and hand stamps, note two types of the letter A, with slight differences in the length and width of the wing feathers and the shape of the letter “a”. The Nuremberg 2 post office used the second “a”, but it is not clear who used the first.

At the rally of 1937, 11 men of the party motorized sections, the Nazi party motorized section call the capital NSKK, (the National Sozialistische Kraftfahr Korps). This group had its own special variation of the rally handstamp.



The NSKK
Handstamp of
1937

With this handstamp, the central eagle motif was 2 millimeters shorter from head to tail-tip to allow for the insertion of the word *Reichsparteitag* between the word “Nürnberg” and the top of the motif. The phrase *NSKK-Zeltlager Mögeldorf* in Gothic lettering replaced *Reichsparteitag NSDAP* around the lower edge of the handstamp. Five of these special handstamps were used at this office during the entire length of the rally. One of them had no lettering, and the others had letterings a, b, c, or d. This office used registration labels Nuremberg 2, and its most likely its mail through that office.

The Nuremberg rallies accomplished their goals: Public support in the late 1930s did swing to the Nazis, enabling them to begin their murderous conquests. We will look at some of the other rallies in future articles.

Paul von Hindenburg: His Life and His Philatelic Legacy

By

Christopher Kolker



To some, history mellows out the rough edges, leaving the persona left behind a universally loved hero- think George Washington. Paul von Hindenburg the German Chancellor in the Interwar period, had no such luck. After being considered a World War I hero in the eyes of most Germans, today von Hindenburg holds history's distinction of being the dolt who let Adolf Hitler obtain German power.

How did Von Hindenburg get to such an infamous place? It's a convoluted road, filled with deception, poor judgment, and the rush of popular opinion.

Von Hindenburg was born in 1847 the son of a Prussian Junker, the elite of Prussian society during that time. His mother was middle class, a fact von Hindenburg always concealed during his military and political career. Even during von Hindenburg's earliest years, he had a passion for the military. At the tender age of 11, von Hindenburg served in the Austro-Prussian War, also known as the Seven Weeks War. At age 24 he also served in Prussia's successful Franco-German War that paved the way for German unification.

Von Hindenburg stayed in the military for the next 40 years, moving up the German military's leadership ladder all the way up to 1911, retiring as a general. His career could be described as one with honor, but not distinction. On retirement, it seemed von Hindenburg would fade off into history to be certainly and ultimately forgotten.

World wars have a way of changing that. By 1914 Germany called von Hindenburg back into service, asking him to be the nominal superior of major general Eric von Ludendorff. Early in World War I, Ludendorff successfully pushed back the Russians on German's eastern front. As Ludendorff's nominal superior, a tidal

wave of credit, fame and adulation came von Hindenburg's way, and he became a national rallying point, whether deserving or not.

Because of his so-called success, German leadership named von Hindenburg Field Marshal in 1916, giving him command of all land forces. A studied assessment of Germany situation left von Hindenburg with the impression that he could not decisively win the war with any conventional strategy, so he infamously tried to starve Britain with submarine warfare. This seriously backfired. After as after the sinking of the Lusitania in 1915 and Germany's subsequent constant U-boat harassing of American commerce in the Atlantic, the Americans declared war on Germany in 1917. That brought an influx of US Troops into the western front,



Paul von Hindenburg, Wilhelm II, German Emperor, and Erich Friedrich Wilhelm Ludendorff planning the final drive during World War I

something the Germans could simply not absorb. Ludendorff took the blame, and Von Hindenburg scurried out of the shambles of war as the last remaining national hero serving with honor, distinction, and bravery.

In the eyes of the public, von Hindenburg became the obvious choice

to lead the German withdrawal of France and Belgium. Humiliating for Germany, von Hindenburg humiliating scenario tried to complete the forced withdrawal with as much grace and dignity as he could muster. Von Hindenburg then used these same forces to successfully suppress left-wing radicals in Germany, avoiding a repeat of the Russian chaos of the ongoing Bolshevik Revolution. By 1919, believing that calm was on the horizon, von Hindenburg retired once more.

However, von Hindenburg was once more call back into service. The Weimar Republic, the German interwar government, quickly became a democratic mess plagued with polarization and inertia. Most Germans believed that Germany needed a unifying hero. Von Hindenburg was pressed back into service being elected the 2nd president of the Weimar Republic in 1924, despite being a professed monarchist. Perhaps this sentiment helped him win the election.

The next five years descended into chaos. Von Hindenburg simply couldn't get anything done. Unable to work with the Reichstag, the German parliament, he felt by 1930 he had no choice but to dissolve the Reichstag. During this time, von Hindenburg began rebuilding the German military to the point of compromising social welfare programs. The scenario led to an active armed forces with a discontented general population, a perfect time for a dictator-in-waiting.

By 1932, the German government held new elections with the hope that a new government could restore order. The Nazis did not do quite as well in the 1932 elections as they had previously, losing about 10% of their support. Von



Von Hindenburg greeting Hitler in 1933

Hindenburg ran for president

on the premise that he was the only one to stop the Nazi tide. Even though he was right-of-center in his political thinking, von Hindenburg received most of his support for people in the moderate and left categories, while Hitler won the support of those who voted for von Hindenburg in the past.

Von Hindenburg tried on two different occasions to organize governments after the 1932 elections. Both times they failed and, and by late 1932 Hitler demanded to be part of any government as Chancellor. German Reichstag officeholders organized a compromise government with Hitler as chancellor, his opposition as Vice Chancellor and most of the subordinate posts filled with non-Nazis. Von

Hindenburg agreed to this, but Hitler had the power he needed. Over the next several months through threats, intimidations, and even killings, most of the subordinate posts became quickly filled with Nazi loyalists. Germany became a Nazi state.

This left von Hindenburg as the nominal president of Germany, but with little real power. Nazi loyalists would do what Hitler wanted while not bothering to consult von Hindenburg. While von Hindenburg made a couple of statements trying to gently distance himself from Hitler, von Hindenburg could never mount a counter-movement to the Nazis' power sweep.

Still, von Hindenburg was a revered figure in Germany. Therefore, as long as he did not create division within the German government, he would be tolerated as



president. But by 1933, von Hindenburg had contracted lung cancer and spent his time at home in Prussia convalescing as he grew weaker and weaker. On the day before von Hindenburg died, Hitler had traveled to his home to visit. At his death in 1934, Germany issued the black von

Hindenburg stamps to commemorate his death. And with his death, the Nazi power consolidation was complete.



ESTABLISHED 1882—SEVENTY-SIXTH YEAR... SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY MORNING, AUG. 2, 1934

News Behind The News

By Paul Mullin

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (Special)—The top American editorship (see page 1) on the following several pages of newspaper editors returned to a few days ago.

The inside story was told to the public in the daily edition, who have been an excellent example of the editor's work.

There is no reason, however, why his story should not be told in the most authoritative journal story of Europe from the inside view available.

It is the view that there are no other newspapers in Europe which reveal them of their own accord. The editor's work is not to be done by the newspaper, but by the editor.

Lindy Lands on Pasture as Cows Get Out of Way

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—Lindbergh's flight to Europe was a triumph for the aviation world.

Season's Best Fish Story

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—The season's best fish story is the one that tells of the fisherman who caught a 100-pound cod.

Late News Briefs

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—Jack McArthur sought to recover with the victory of the bank of France.

REVEREND Aug 1 (AP)—The body of a man who had been shot down today in a shallow grave near Berlin.

LAKE Aug 1 (AP)—Edward H. H. of Annapolis was killed today when the auto he was driving on the road between Annapolis and Lottsboro.

PAUL ALTO Aug 1 (AP)—Charges that Secretary of Labor Perkins is a "labor racketeer" were made today by Paul D. Walker.

LOS ANGELES Aug 1 (AP)—Dr. E. H. Williams, former head of the Los Angeles newspaper office, and his wife were arrested today on charges of kidnapping.

VON HINDENBURG DIES; HITLER TAKES CHARGE

ENGINEER ADMITS HE SLEW GIRL

Victim, 26-Year-Old Charles Weiner, Was Champion Mather, Astoria Resident; 'Screaming' Story Banned

WILSONVILLE, Pa., Aug. 1 (AP)—David Flannery, assistant district attorney, today said Robert Edwards, 35, did not only admit to slaying a 26-year-old girl, but also admitted to slaying her mother.

Louisiana Troops Defy Police

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 1 (AP)—Louisiana National Guardsmen today defied police in the city of New Orleans.

Two Drowned as Boat Sinks

SACRAMENTO, Aug. 1 (AP)—Two men were drowned today when a boat sank in the Sacramento River.

Season's Best Fish Story

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—The season's best fish story is the one that tells of the fisherman who caught a 100-pound cod.

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Paul von Hindenburg, German president and war hero, who died today in Berlin, after six days of illness.

GERMAN GENERAL LOSSES LAST GREAT FIGHT

2 Balloons Still Aloft; 3 Downed

THIRD NAZI REBEL DIES BY NOOSE

ROPER ROPED Secretary Taken In By L. A. Sign

ARMY INCREASE URGED BY DEN

LATE SPORTS BRIEFS

WILL ROGERS SAYS

GUARD FORCE CUT; MARTIAL LAW END IN MINNEAPOLIS PREDICTED

WILL ROGERS SAYS

GUARD FORCE CUT; MARTIAL LAW END IN MINNEAPOLIS PREDICTED

Presidency Annexed by Chancellor

Dictatorship Assumes Main Complete With Announcement That Nazi Leader Will Combine Two Offices

BERLIN, Aug. 1 (AP)—Chancellor Adolf Hitler announced today that he would combine the offices of president and chancellor.

Germany People Mourn

BERLIN, Aug. 1 (AP)—The German people today mourned the death of Paul von Hindenburg.

Secretary Taken In

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—A secretary was taken in today by a sign in Los Angeles.

Army Increase Urged

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 1 (AP)—An army increase was urged today by the defense department.

Late Sports Briefs

Will Rogers Says

Guard Force Cut

Will Rogers Says

Guard Force Cut

END COMES FOR LEADER AT 9 A. M. AFTER BRAVE FIGHT; NATION MOURNS

96-Year-Old War Marshal Dies Into Cosmos Just Before He Expires; Remarkable Vitality Attributed Physician; Flags Ordered to Half Mast; Germany Faces New Critical Period as Chancellor Assumes Complete Role

BERLIN, Aug. 2 (AP)—President von Hindenburg died at 9 a. m. today.

Mind Clear to Very End

Patriotic, Dominant, Dauntless

Secretary Taken In

Army Increase Urged

Late Sports Briefs

Will Rogers Says

Guard Force Cut

Will Rogers Says

Guard Force Cut

Will Rogers Says

Guard Force Cut

The San Diego Union's August 1934 announcement of von Hindenburg's death



The complete set of von Hindenburg stamps printed 1933 - Michel 482-95 after variety first printed (467-73) printed in 1932



Michel 548-553 - These particular issues were the only ones used to mourn von Hindenburg's death

The Amtsblatt- (the official announcement)- August 21, 1934

For the period of mourning and after the death of Reich President General Field Marshall Hindenburg 5 Pfg and 6 Pfg postcards and 3 5, 6, 8, 12 and 25 Pfg medallion stamps will be issued with black borders in order to provide a lasting visible tribute.

The supplies will be limited. Sales from Philatelic agencies will commence immediately following the receipt of supplies. The Reichspost Directorates have issued a special directive regarding the supplies.

More on these stamps

These stamps were published on September 5th 1934 for Von Hindenburg, who died on August 2nd. These stamps are perforated at 14 by 14. They were typographically printed on coated paper. Their watermark was swastikas, and these stamps were valid until December 31st 1935.

These stamps are not overprints, except for small quantities of the 8 Pfg value of the original 1933 printed being overprinted with a black border. All other values and the later printing of the 8 Pfg were printed by the flatbed process.

No special postmarks were made for this issue, but Hohenstein had been a pictorial postmark depicting the Tannenberg Memorial since 1927. This memorial was erected to commemorate Hindenburg's great victory over the Russians at Tannenberg in World War I. Hindenburg was buried at this memorial on August 7th 1934. This postmark was often used for those collecting stamps to further commemorate his life and death. However, this postmark was in general use until 1936, and finally replaced by a similar postmark until 1940.

These stamps were for immediate sale upon the individual post office's receipt, and since a few post offices received them on September 4th, these stamps bearing a first day cancellation of September 4th is possible. However, the majority of post offices began selling the stamps on September 5th. This means that the first day covers with either the rare September 4th date or the more common September 5th day are possible.

A couple of varieties do exist. The 5 Pfg exists with the upper border imperforate. There also exist a printing error where an extra line of perforations run through the stamp design itself.

The 8th Pfg exists with two extra perforations on the bottom line of perforation. There is also a printing anomaly where there is a smaller frame surrounding the design than what would normally be found.



1932 Postcard, with the Tannenberg stamp from Reutlingen



1934 Postcard at Hindenburg's death- "The Father of the Fatherlands"



Von Hindenburg Postcard, probably of the early 1930s Germany



October 5, 1934 zeppelin covered with both the common Hindenburg medallion stamps, and its 12 Pfg mourning counterpart stamp with a black border

Calvin Deem's von Hindenburg Covers

Upon hearing that I was working on a von Hindenburg article, Calvin was kind enough to send me a few images of his von Hindenburg covers. Thanks, Calvin!!



Calvin writes: Just obtained this cover with booklet panes made by Bruno Schultz Verlag for 1st NA flight in 1936.



A wonderful collectable cover from occupied Luxembourg in 1940.

Another great cover, this one from occupied Metz, Lorraine, now France, complete with decorative cancellation. This one is dated October 5, 1940:



AuctionWatch

Christopher Kolker

Summer is rapidly approaching, and it seems the auction world knows that. There is a bit less activity and variety going on these days. Prices are softer. That means that if you want to go out and get something, now is your time! A sampling of recent transactions across the world:

Dutch Country Auction – May 2023



Several (100) stamps & covers related to WWII, incl Third Reich, General Gouvernement, French Legion airmails, revenue or organizational labels, sugar & butter ration coupons, Nazi org. letterhead, occupation stamps Bohemia & Moravia and Estonia, several postcards, stamp souvenirs w/ pictorial cancels, more; gen F-VF H/NH/NG/used – pictured is the best of the lot - Est. \$150-200

Opening US\$ 325.00

Sold...US\$ 325.00

Cherrystone Auctions – May 2023

(as of June 17, 2023, 1 Euro € = \$1.09)



Postal Stationery. 1943
10q and 15q
stationery cards,
first one with Korçe
14.9.43 cancel, the
other unused, very
fine, catalog value
is €925 (Cat No.
Michel P2,3)

SOLD for \$280.00



1943 Belgian Occupation (Flanders) by Germany- Flemish Kings, 50fr sheetlet of four, right stamp with perf. shifted into the design, never hinged, very fine (Cat No. Michel XIII var) SOLD for \$140.00



Estonia Occupation 1941 Elwa, 1r Red Army, block of four, never hinged/very fine, signed Vaher, Pruus, with Lobbering certificate. A rare multiple, only 200 printed, cat. €2400 (Michel number 20)



German Occupation of Belgian Wallonia 1941

Set of four sheetlets of four, never hinged, fine to very fine,

Catalog value €750

(Michel catalog Numbers I-IV)





1941 50k brown, brown red overprint, type I, variety "Vi" instead of "VI" (see the blue arrow), used, very fine and scarce, only 25 printed, with 2007 Krischke certificate, catalog value of €2250 (Michel Catalog number 6b IX)
SOLD for \$450.00

German Occupation of Macedonia 1944

1L on 10s orange red, green instead of blue overprint type II, pos.40, never hinged., fine example of this rare variety, with 2004 Karaivanoff certificate, catalog value of €2500 (Michel Catalog number 1FII). SOLD for \$950.00



OldLouis Auctions – April 2023



1937 Third Reich, Germany, Souvenir Sheet (Mi. Bl. 10, CV \$230, MNH)
Opening US\$ 55.00 Sold...US\$ 55.00

(Note: The previously hinged version of this souvenir sheet sold for \$20)



1933 12pf Third Reich, Germany, Tete-beche,
Zusammendrucke (Mi. K 18, CV \$50, MNH) Opening US\$
4.00



1933 Third Reich, Germany, Se-tenant, Zusammendrucke (Mi. W 55,
CV \$40) Opening US\$ 10.00
Sold...US\$ 10.00



1933 Complete Booklet with stamps of Third Reich, Germany, Excellent Condition (Mi. MH 32.4, CV \$330) Opening US\$ 80.00 Sold...US\$ 85.00



1934 Complete Booklet with stamps of Third Reich, Germany, Excellent Condition (Mi. MH 35, CV \$1,040) Opening US\$ 85.00 Sold...US\$ 250.00



1942-43 Military Mail Feldpost, Germany, Airmail, Pair (Mi. 1 U, IMPERFORATED, Full Set, CV \$680, MNH) Opening US\$ 85.00
Sold...US\$ 140.00

Daniel Kelleher Auctions, April 2023



Italian Overprinted Stamps (German occupation World War II of the Slovenian capital Ljubljana) 1944, Winter Help complete, set of six Eagle overprints on unaddressed illustrated Military Post card, all tied by bilingual 14.IX.44 Laibach/Ljubljana postmarks; both stamps and card fresh and clean, Very Fine. Sassone 20-25; €550

Estimate \$150-200
SOLD for \$90.00



Italian Overprinted Stamps (German occupation World War II of the Slovenian capital Ljubljana) 1944, Airmail set complete, all eight stamps with Eagle overprint, tied to unaddressed illustrated Military Post card by bilingual 14.IX.44 Laibach/Ljubljana postmarks; Italian "Per Via Aerea" etiquette tied by three cancels as well, Very Fine.; €450 value

Estimate \$150-200

SOLD for \$90.00

Danel Kelleher, February 2023



Germany large, registered cover cancelled in Berlin on January 2, 1934. Mailed to Cincinnati having transit marks in New York on January 17 and Cincinnati on January 23 where a ten cents precancel postage due stamp was affixed. Winter Relief sheets were the original contents

Opening US\$ 26.00
Sold...US\$ 26.00

Danzig

REPORT



A Salute to the ARGE
on its 55th Anniversary!
Hamm-Pelkum, 25 May 1991

ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT
der Sammler Danziger Postwertzeichen

Editor: John H. Bloecher Jr. 1743 Little Creek Drive Baltimore MD 21207

No. 71
April*May*June
1991

The Age of Hevelius

We are all familiar with the name Hevelius, having seen his portrait on two distinct Ganzsachen cards: Michel P47, issued on 3 August 1934 commemorating the 40th German Philatelic Day, and P48/02, issued on 15 November 1934, along with the Chodoeicki and Schopenhauer cards to complete the set. After Copernicus, Hevelius was Poland's most famous astronomer. His life story is included in this Report, translated from Polish by our Wladyslaw Dziemianczuk. You will encounter the astronomer's name spelled in various ways: in Latin -Johannes Hevelius; in German -Johann Hewel (or Howelcke) and in Polish -Jan Heweliusz. Notice that his caption on the card includes Ratsherr, as well as Astronom. Hevelius was a distinguished member of the City Council, meeting at the old city hall, at the Raduna Canal and one block west of the Great Mill. On the wall of the Main Hall is a plaque commemorating his participation in affairs of the city.

Next DSG Meeting
Indianapolis, IN
September 7, 4PM
Slides of Danzig



Danzig Report



Quarterly Publication of the Danzig Study Group
of the Germany Philatelic Society, Inc.

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oo



The card on the right is message side of P 48/02, shown in color on Page 1. Apparently, Aunt Natalie has succumbed to the Danzig Systosis Syndrome (DSS), for she reports that the last stop on their memorable trip is at wunderschöne Danzig! The stamp color of P 48/02 comes in two flavors: Type a - yellow green, and Type b - blue green. Card P 47 (above, left) lacks the vertical line and wording as on the other, and the ink color is completely red, except for the green 10 Pfg. impression. Hevelius' last appearance on Ganzsachen is in August of 1937, with P 59/02, similar to P 48/02 except for minor wording revisions.

Contributing to this Report: Wladyslaw Dziemianczuk, Duke Day, Bud Hennig, Giles du Boulay, Richard Veneski, Eddie Kraus, Otto Bergman, Roy Dodd, Theo Henn and the ARGE.

Keep the September 6-8 weekend open for INDYPEX. Prospectus and hotel information from: Indiana Stamp Club, P.O.Box 40792, Indianapolis, IN 46240. We'll all be there!

Science Awakens in the 17th Century

There's a rumor in Chicago that one of its most prominent Danzig philatelists still receives mail from King John III Sobieski, one of Hevelius' contemporaries. Whether this individual answers his correspondence, it is not known. With this as a prologue, it's easy to see that we can use some background into this 17th Century Danzig/Gdansk business.

Both of the major players in our story (not the one above) were amateurs. It is impossible to discuss Hevelius without considering his predecessor, Copernicus, a contemporary of Michelangelo (1475-1564). The world had pretty well settled on the logical theory that the solar system (and sun) revolved around the earth, which harkened back to an ancient Egyptian supposition that daylight goes sloshing underground, and then reappears the next morning, much like our modern sewerage systems. Since we men are so important, who could doubt that the universe revolves around us? This theory caught on like a fish hook and the Church decided that it liked it, too. Anyone who thought differently was in trouble. Their common sense also dictated that the original Ptolemaic theory is perfectly OK and should be left alone, as it had been for 1400 years. Don't rock the boat. As an avocation, Copernicus developed his heliocentric theory, with no real interest in standing up in the canoe. It was his friends who insisted that "though my theory of the Earth's movement might at first seem strange, yet it would appear admirable and acceptable when the publication of my elucidatory comments should dispel the mists of paradox." One of Copernicus' disciples, named Rheticus, wrote a First Report of the new system, in the form of a letter to his former teacher, which was printed in Danzig in 1540. Reception to the trial balloon was positive, so Copernicus began the great task of assembling a decade's vast notes and publishing his own great work. Unfortunately, a guy named Osiander took hold of the job after Copernicus became ill and this "aide" overlaid his own Machiavellian theology in the introduction. There was nothing that the dying Copernicus could do to rectify the charade.



So, now the picture of a moving earth, no longer in the center of things, has officially cast its shadow on the world. And some folks don't like this one bit. Just eleven years before Hevelius' birth, Giordano Bruno is burned at the stake for suggesting an infinity of suns and earths.

Since it was considerably dangerous to print a heretical scientific treatise, it became customary to correspond

Science Awakens...

through the mails whenever new information developed. In this way, the scientist could get the opinion of his friend and, later, have the ideas printed and sent out, by the hundreds, to others. It was necessary to have correspondents in other seats of learning, so that ideas could be interchanged, but this could be a very dangerous situation in an age when continuous wars were being fought across Europe. Several scientists ended up in prison for ill-considered words in a technical communication. Sounded like espionage to the censors!

Letters had advantages over large tomes that were easy targets for censorship, and novel observations could be slipped by unnoticed in the ordinary post. There was no regular "parcel post", but there was (even in the 17th Century) a regular mail delivery once a week between London, Paris and Amsterdam. What with plagues, bad weather and wars, the deliveries were erratic and costly. (Can you imagine the complaints the "Postal Service" received in those days?) One enterprising scientist, Oldenburg, developed a better way: by sending reports through diplomatic channels to a code address concocted from his name, "Grubendol, London."

Letters became the preferred method of originating and incubating ideas. It increased the number of men dispersed over Europe who changed their attack on science and its "citadel of truth" to nibbling at knowledge piece by piece.

Oldenburg, as philatelists do today, wrote to anyone who could advance his knowledge. He initiated an exchange with Johannes Hevelius, whose notes on a solar eclipse, seen from his observatory built with beer proceeds, along with his map of the surface of the moon, were published by the Royal Society, of which Oldenburg was now the secretary. It was through this English connection that Hevelius received the special lenses needed for his telescope.

Hevelius measured and calculated the orbits of 938 celestial bodies. In addition to his maps of the moon's surface, a few of his names for lunar mountains (e.g., the Alps) are still in use, and a lunar crater is named for Hevelius. Also, he found time to catalog some 1,564 stars, creating the most comprehensive atlas of the time. After his death, in 1690, his wife published the catalog and atlas together under the name *Prodromus Astronomiae*. Apparently she couldn't complain about Johann's stomping around on the roof (while he was alive, of course), since Mrs. H. was often collaborating with him in his observations.

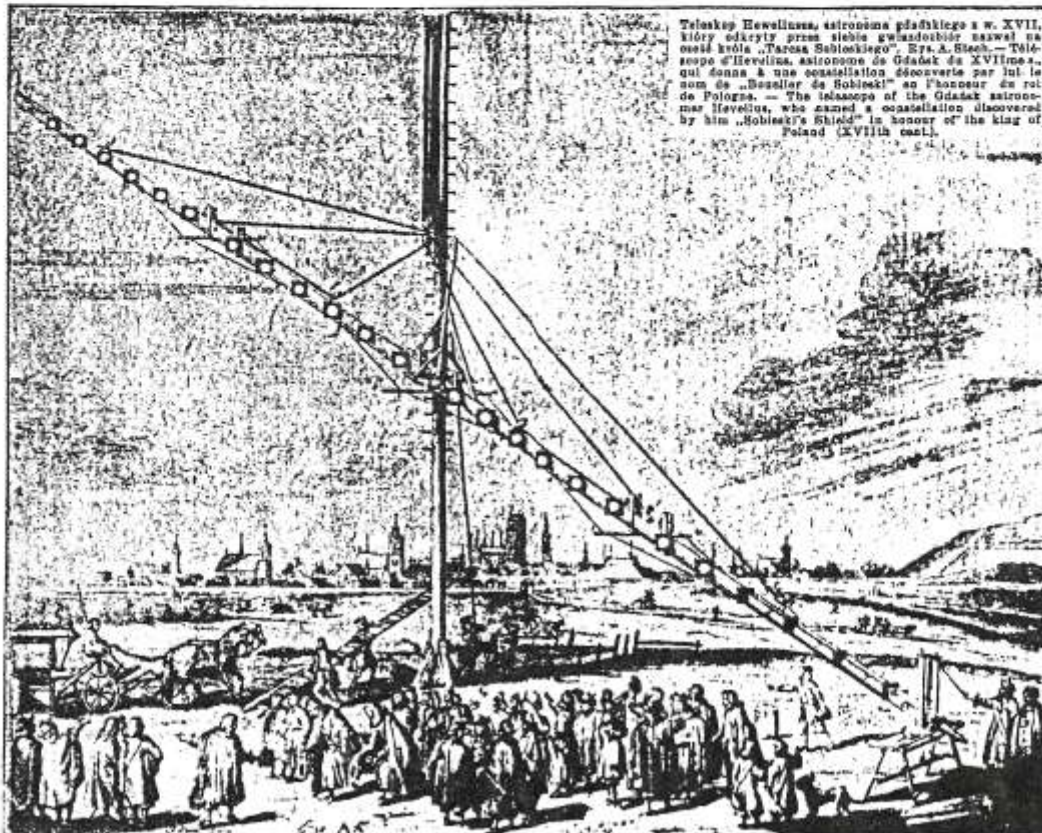
Looking at (or through) telescopes is more spectacular, yet Hevelius preferred to measure celestial positions without the aid of lenses. Edmond Halley stopped by in 1679 and compared a sextant with telescopic sights with Hevelius' sextant with open sights. The latter proved that it was possible to

in the Seventeenth Century

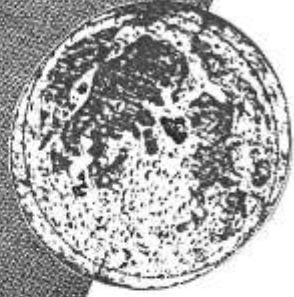
determine stellar positions about as accurately without a telescopic sight as Halley could do with one. He was also the first to watch Mercury pass the face of the sun. No wonder that King John III Sobieski showed a lively interest in the works of the astronomer (and someone from Chicago).

The illustration below may be an earlier experiment by Hevelius, moving his entourage to a location on Bishops Hill, on the west side. In modern times, the railroad station would be in the foreground. The equipment and controlling apparatus appears primitive, compared to his rooftop setup, on Page 6.

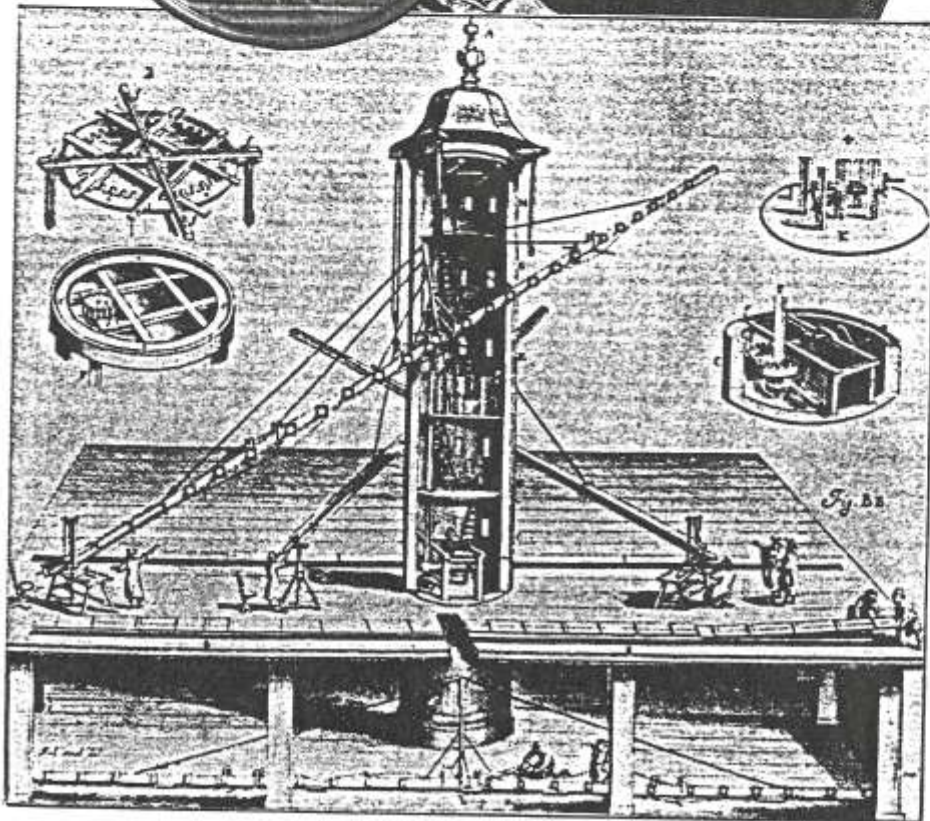
Of importance is the fact that he built long telescopes to escape the defect called Chromatic Aberration. This problem manifested itself as a suffused colored halo during his observations; therefore, Hevelius lengthened the focal length to 30 feet or more, as opposed to Galileo's 3-foot focal length with his two-inch object glass. Hevelius' main scope was 150 feet long, Huygen's constructed one of 200 feet, and a Frenchman built an aerial telescope of 600 feet! Obviously, mechanical problems made them almost useless, except under the very best of conditions. These were exciting times!



Teleskop Heveliusa, astronoma pódzińskiego z w. XVII, który odkrył przez siebie gwiazdobójcę nazwał na cześć króla „Tarczą Sobieskiego”. Era A. Slesch. — Telescope d'Hevelius, astronome de Gdansk de XVIII^e s., qui donna à une occasion l'épave par lui le nom de „Bastion de Sobieski” en l'honneur du roi de Pologne. — The telescope of the Gdansk astronomer Hevelius, who named a occasion discovered by him „Sobieski's Shield” in honour of the king of Poland XVIIIth cent.



*Clockwise, from left:
Medal struck to
commemorate the
300th anniversary
of Hevelius' 1687
death. Engraving
similar to that on
Ganzsachen.*



*Lunar map drawn
by Hevelius shows
the 59 per cent
of the moon that
is visible from
the earth.*

*Drawing of his
Korzenna Street
roof operation
with details of
the mechanism.*



It's Closer to the Stars on Korzenna Street

Translated by Wladyslaw Dziemianczuk ... Edited by Duke Day

The wagons were usually distributing barrels of beer, but they had a different mission this time - they were removing from Korzenna Street some strange looking instruments, among which were exceptionally expensive glass lenses imported from Holland. Each was wrapped separately in cloth and placed with care in cartons, protected by shavings. There were about twenty of them, including the observing ocular - a highly complicated instrument. The wagons, as well as the barrels, had the company name on them: **HEVELIUS**, in Latin, the name of the best beer brewer in Danzig.

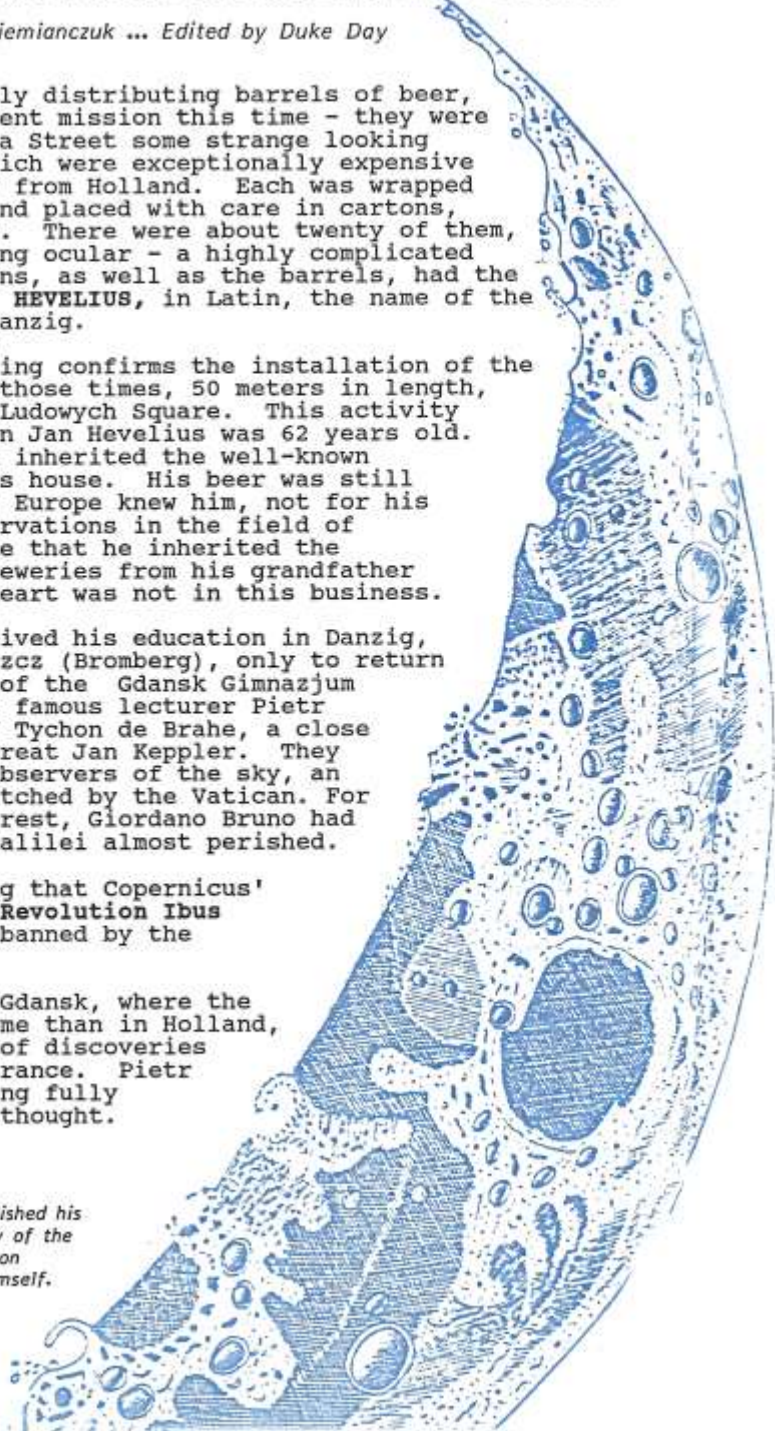
A contemporary engraving confirms the installation of the largest telescope of those times, 50 meters in length, close to Plac Zebran Ludowych Square. This activity happened in 1673, when Jan Hevelius was 62 years old. The Danzig brewer had inherited the well-known company and prosperous house. His beer was still acclaimed, but all of Europe knew him, not for his ale, but for his observations in the field of astronomy. It is true that he inherited the profession and the breweries from his grandfather and father, but his heart was not in this business.

Jan Hevelius had received his education in Danzig, and later near Bydgoszcz (Bromberg), only to return to the lecture halls of the Gdansk Gimnazjum Akademickie, with its famous lecturer Piotr Crueger, the pupil of Tycho de Brahe, a close acquaintance of the great Jan Keppler. They were all passionate observers of the sky, an occupation closely watched by the Vatican. For the same area of interest, Giordano Bruno had to die, and Galileo Galilei almost perished.

It is worth mentioning that Copernicus' fundamental work, *De Revolutionibus Orbium Celestium* was banned by the Vatican until 1835!

Multinational Danzig/Gdansk, where the Dutch felt more at home than in Holland, was open to all news of discoveries and could afford tolerance. Piotr Crueger was benefitting fully from this freedom of thought.

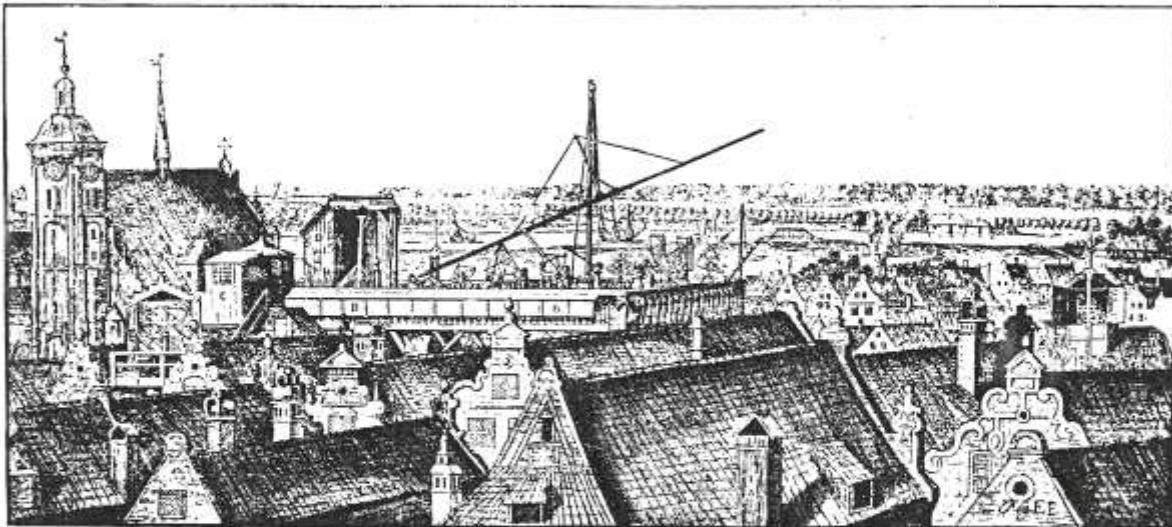
In 1647, Hevelius published his Selenographia, a study of the typography of the moon which he engraved himself.



It's Closer to the Stars...

Having finished his studies in Danzig, Jan Hevelius left for Lejda, a mecca for all types of science, which ignored Rome's prohibitions. He then went to England, and from there to France. Finally, he returned to Danzig; his father was ill, so young Hevelius looked after the family business.

In 1635, at the age of 24, he married a woman who was quite wealthy. His wife brought three buildings into the marriage, and they stood in the area of today's monument to the astronomer. Six years after the marriage, he became a city alderman, then a councillor. He was still occupied with his beer business when he opened a printing house. Then, on the roofs of the houses on Korzenna Street, he built his first platform for an observatory.



*The telescope (Sternwarte) on top of Hevelius' houses on Korzenna Street (Pfefferstadt); from an engraving in his *Machina Coelestis* of 1673. The church at the left is Saint Bartholomew (St. Bartholemj/Sw. Bartłomieja) and is two blocks to the northeast.*

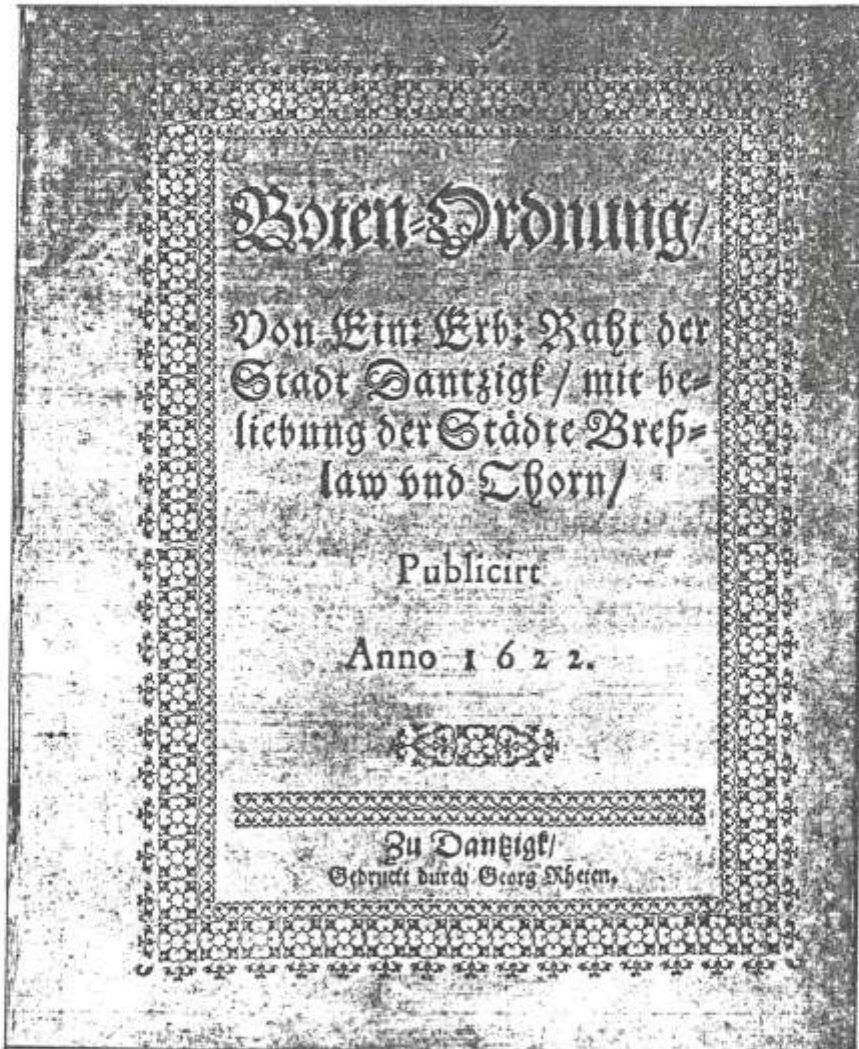
Pietr Crueger taught Hevelius how to make instruments for sky observations, and he improved those skills during trips abroad. Instrument builders continued to proliferate thruout Europe, and people of many backgrounds became fascinated with astronomy. Even though the Jesuits were working hard to contradict Copernicus' theory, not much came out of their struggles.

James E. Gunn, an American specialist of literature from the University of Kansas, writes: "Astronomy became a free science in the middle of the 17th Century, and the looking glass an accessory, unthinkable in social life. The Huygens' lenses were very famous, as well as the French glass ground by Bouilian. There were so many competitors that, in April 1672, Huygens organized a competition in Paris to find out who could read a poster placed at a distance of 1080 feet on the bell tower of St. Paul's Church."

of his second wife, Elizabeth, nee Koopmanin. (Katherine Rebeschke was his first wife.) Elizabeth was reputed to be one of the most elegant women in Danzig and married Hevelius at the age of 16. After the anthropological work was completed, the coffin was preserved and the documented information about the work was placed inside. The burial place was then covered with gravel, leveled, and topped with the reconstructed marble slab. Only the obituary was left from Jan Hevelius' grave with the inscription J.H. 1687,28, which can be seen in the collection of a museum.

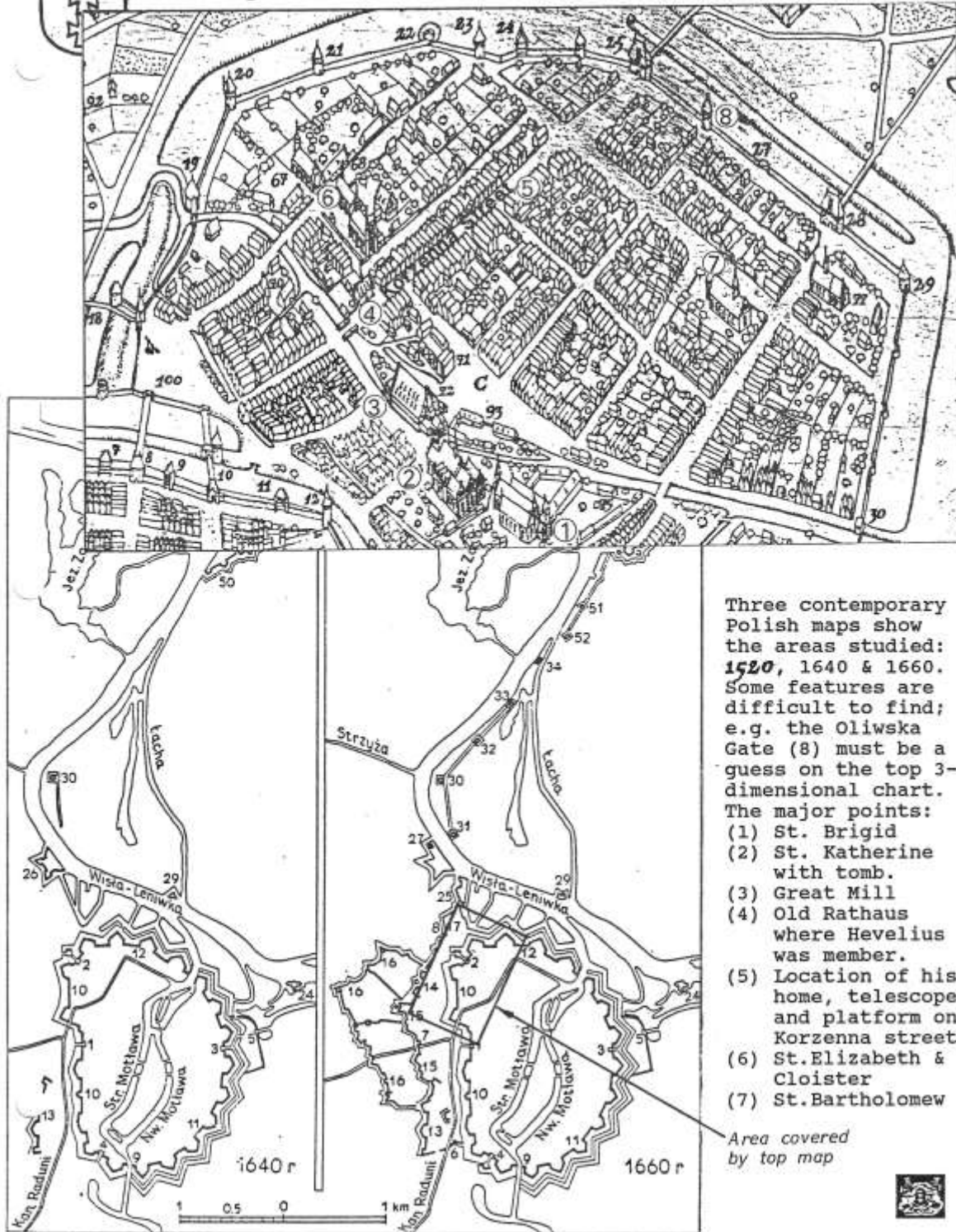


oo



Examples of original letters or documents from the 17th Century are surprisingly scarce. Many exist from the 18th Century, but the above example is one of the few that we've seen from the period under discussion. It is the title page from the Postal Carriers Regulations of 3 June 1622, covering Danzig to Breslau and to Thorn (Copernicus' birthplace). From Bud Hennig's collection; see Danzig Report No. 9 for the entire document.

Danzig Evolves from the Middle Ages



Three modern Polish commemoratives from Wladyslaw Dziemianczuk; two covers with 29.9.'87 date - 300 years after Hevelius' death. Top card has a HEL 1 cancel! (Hel is north of Gdansk.) The old Rathaus (Ratusz Starego Miasta) is where Hevelius served as city councilman.



Zerw. ZG PZF nr 2/87
RSW „P-K-R” PZGraF. Gdańsk Z. 1101/87 N. 4500 egz.



Zerw. ZG PZF nr 2/87
RSW „P-K-R” PZGraF. Gdańsk Z. 1101/87 N. 4500 egz.

Letters to the Editor

1 Thanks for Danzig Report No. 70. It was good to see my notes on Danzig Revenues in print. I do hope that this is of value to fellow members.

I have now received some information from Martin Erler about the 10 Rpf Wertmarke found by Dave Ripley. Martin advises that the stamp is indeed a Municipal issue and that he has others in the series in his collection - two of which, the 30 Rpf and 60 Rpf value, copies are enclosed. Martin believes that there should have been a complete range from 10 Rpf - 10 RM issued with various different printings and perf types, and that they were used during the 1940's (rather than the middle 1930's, as you thought). This makes sense to me, not just on the grounds of the inclusion of the swastika insignia and the lack of the words "Freie und..." before "Hansestadt Danzig" in the stamp design, but also during the Free State period there really would not have been much practical difference between Municipal and State issues. Once the Nazis took over, however, there would have been a need to use some local, city revenue stamps peculiar to Danzig alone, as there was in other German Reich cities.

As further evidence of the period of use, you will note that both of the enclosed copies show incomplete 1940's date stamps. The 60 Rpf value is also cancelled "stand (esamt)" [for Registry Office] indicating it was probably used to denote payment of a marriage license fee or something similar. Martin advises that municipal issues, such as this, were used to denote the payment of various fees, such as for death certificates and registry entries and for payment of local taxes, including a "hotel tax for guests", or "guest tax for spas". (Perhaps they were used at the Zoppot Spa.)

Dave Ripley has certainly made a very interesting and most enviable find. I hope the above information is helpful. Please acknowledge the kind help of Martin Erler of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Fiskalmarken.

- Giles du Boulay
Aylesbury, Bucks, England

Giles



Trivia

In a word: No rest for the weary! By the time you are reading this, you have already read some fascinating articles about Third Reich philately and learned a thing or two. But does that make you an expert? I don't think so. All you have to do is to try to answer the latest trivia from funtrivia.com, and you'll understand that you are still in the learning mode.

Don't say that I didn't warn you. Enjoy!

World War II is our theme today:

1. Adolf Hitler's rise to power in Germany can be attributed to a series of intriguing events, one them being the Reichstag fire. In which year did this occur?

- 1932
- 1934
- 1933
- 1936

2. In 1931, the Japanese invaded the long desired Chinese province of Manchuria, securing vast amounts of natural resources for their people and army. Who was named head of this new asset?

- Takashi Hashiguchi
- Henry Pu Yi
- Jisaburo Ozawa
- Mitsuo Homma

3. On September 1, 1939 Hitler's invasion of Poland began, an act that finally plunged the world into war. The Poles fought bravely for weeks, but an invasion from the Soviets doomed them. On what date did the Soviet invasion occur?

- September 25
- September 17
- October 3
- October 10

4. Hitler's ambitions having turned west in the spring of 1940, led to conquest of France and the hurried evacuation of the B.E.F., French Army and other remnants of Allied units at Dunkirk. A maritime operation of titanic proportions succeeds in the rescue of over 300,000 men. What codename was given to this critical operation?

- Chromite
- Cobra
- Tiger
- Dynamo

5. The Japanese launch a massive carrier-based attack against the United States naval base in Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. Within 24 hours they also bombed Wake Island, Guam and the Philippines.

- True
- False

6. From May 1940 onwards, the British people had Winston Churchill to look up to. Shortly before entering politics in 1900, in what field had he made his living?

- accountancy
- commercial fishing
- shipping owner
- journalism

7. June 1941 marked Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union. Hitler reminded any of his reluctant generals that it was the German people's destiny to occupy these extensive lands. What was this "ideology" named?

- Einsatzgruppe
- Lebensraum
- Verdunkeln
- Untermensch

8. The Battle of the Atlantic was the longest battle of WWII.

- True
- False

9. In a more obscure part of the world in early 1942, this famous American general gained fame after overseeing the retreat from Burma.

- MacArthur
- Merrill
- Bradley

- Stilwell

10. The Battle of Midway began June 4, 1942. This crucial battle in the Pacific Theater led to the sinking of the Japanese aircraft carriers Akagi, Hiryu, Soryu, and the Kaga. The American Navy in turn lost the wounded carrier Yorktown. What American destroyer was also sunk trying to rescue sailors from the Yorktown?

- Johnson
- Hammann
- Hartman
- Exetur

11. Late in October 1942 marked the turn of the tide for the Germans in North Africa. General Montgomery of the British Eighth Army delivered a decisive blow to Rommel's Afrikakorps near the small village of El Alamein in Egypt. Strangely enough, Rommel was absent, back home ailing. Who was in command?

- General Hermann Hoff
- General Lloyd Frenendall
- General Georg von Stumme
- General Karl von Ludendorf

12. America's greatest war correspondent, Ernie Pyle, survived the European Theater only to die while on assignment in the Pacific. How did he die?

- land mine
- shot
- typhus

- malaria

13. Although the race to Berlin was hotly contested from the British and Americans to the west and the Soviets to the east, the Soviets were ultimately given the gratification of taking the German capital. Which Soviet commander is widely given credit for this?

- Sergei Nemchinov
- Vasily Zaitsev
- Georgi Zhukov
- Alexey Gamelin

14. Watching the American flag being raised atop a bitterly contested mountain on Iwo Jima, Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal is said to have stated ... "Holland, the raising of that flag on Suribachi means a Marine Corps for the next ____ years". How many?

- 1000
- 500
- 2000
- 800

15. A fitting conclusion to the Nazi terror took place where it all began. The city of Nuremburg was once home to immense political rallies responsible for spreading Nazi doctrine. It now was used to try Nazi war criminals. How many officials were sentenced to death in the initial hearings?

- 22
- 11

- 12
- 20



Keeping with our Nuremberg theme, a propaganda card from the 1934 rally

Answers

1. Adolf Hitler's rise to power in Germany can be attributed to a series of intriguing events, one them being the Reichstag fire. In which year did this occur?

Answer: **1933**

It took place less than a month after Hitler became chancellor (and about two months after FDR was elected). The Nazis are widely suspected of having caused fire. The event spread panic and made it much easier for Hitler to extend government by decree and to ban the Communist Party from standing at the forthcoming general election.

2. In 1931, the Japanese invaded the long desired Chinese province of Manchuria, securing vast amounts of natural resources for their people and army. Who was named head of this new asset?

Answer: **Henry Pu Yi**

The Japanese justified their actions by citing an act of sabotage on one of their railways (which they staged).

3. On September 1, 1939 Hitler's invasion of Poland began, an act that finally plunged the world into war. The Poles fought bravely for weeks, but an invasion from the Soviets doomed them. On what date did the Soviet invasion occur?

Answer: **September 17**

Nazis and Communists - what a strange alliance! Of course, it didn't last very long.

4. Hitler's ambitions having turned west in the spring of 1940, led to conquest of France and the hurried evacuation of the B.E.F., French Army and other remnants of Allied units at Dunkirk. A maritime operation of titanic proportions succeeds in the rescue of over 300,000 men. What codename was given to this critical operation?

Answer: **Dynamo**

Although the Allies left behind all of their heavy equipment, the bulk of the British Army escaped and were able to fight another day.

5. The Japanese launch a massive carrier-based attack against the United States naval base in Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. Within 24 hours they also bombed Wake Island, Guam and the Philippines.

Answer: **True**

Japan's strategy at Pearl was almost identical to a strategy concocted about ten years earlier, by an American given the assignment of testing the base's defenses.

6. From May 1940 onwards, the British people had Winston Churchill to look up to. Shortly before entering politics in 1900, in what field had he made his living?

Answer: **journalism**

Sir Winston was actually captured during the Boer War while on assignment, but he escaped and found he was already a national hero when he got back to Britain.

7. June 1941 marked Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union. Hitler reminded any of his reluctant generals that it was the German people's destiny to occupy these extensive lands. What was this "ideology" named?

Answer: **Lebensraum**

Hitler defined his vision for the German expansion in "Mein Kampf".

8. The Battle of the Atlantic was the longest battle of WWII.

Answer: **True**

The Battle of the Atlantic refers to the German attempt to blockade Britain - and the British and Allied response to that. This struggle for control over the Atlantic saw thousands of people die and millions of tons of shipping and cargo sunk in a span that lasted for the entire the duration of the war.

9. In a more obscure part of the world in early 1942, this famous American general gained fame after overseeing the retreat from Burma.

Answer: **Stilwell**

"Vinegar Joe" Stilwell was the stuff of legends.

10. The Battle of Midway began June 4, 1942. This crucial battle in the Pacific Theater led to the sinking of the Japanese aircraft carriers Akagi, Hiryu, Soryu, and the Kaga. The American Navy in turn lost the wounded carrier Yorktown. What American destroyer was also sunk trying to rescue sailors from the Yorktown?

Answer: **Hammann**

The Battle of Midway basically ended the Japanese's offensive capabilities in the Pacific.

11. Late in October 1942 marked the turn of the tide for the Germans in North Africa. General Montgomery of the British Eighth Army delivered a decisive blow to Rommel's Afrikakorps near the small village of El Alamein in Egypt. Strangely enough, Rommel was absent, back home ailing. Who

was in command?

Answer: **General Georg von Stumme**

Stumme did not survive the battle, collapsing from a heart attack.

12. America's greatest war correspondent, Ernie Pyle, survived the European Theater only to die while on assignment in the Pacific. How did he die?

Answer: **shot**

An understated, brilliant writer, he was ambushed along with some other men. He was deeply missed then and remains to be. We truly lost a 'buddy'.

13. Although the race to Berlin was hotly contested from the British and Americans to the west and the Soviets to the east, the Soviets were ultimately given the gratification of taking the German capital. Which Soviet commander is widely given credit for this?

Answer: **Georgi Zhukov**

Although General Zhukov was indeed a hero to the Soviet people in their darkest hour, Sergei Nemchinov greatly aided the NY Rangers in their quest for the Cup in 1994.

14. Watching the American flag being raised atop a bitterly contested mountain on Iwo Jima, Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal is said to have stated ... "Holland, the raising of that flag on Suribachi means a Marine Corps for the next ____ years". How many?

Answer: **500**

Iwo Jima was a brutal reminder of what was to come in the Pacific if Japan were to be defeated.

15. A fitting conclusion to the Nazi terror took place where it all began. The city of Nuremburg was once home to immense political rallies responsible for spreading Nazi doctrine. It now was used to try Nazi war criminals. How many officials were sentenced to death in the initial hearings?

Answer: **12**

Twelve were sentenced but only eleven were executed. Hermann Goering escaped the hangman by poisoning himself.



We will leave you with a 1936 Nuremburg Hitler youth propaganda card! Thanks for reading.

For Sale

We do have a few items for sale. They have recently been rebounded and redone. They look great and are definitely worth the price:

Mail Surveillance under the Third Reich by R.J. Houston. 35 pages. \$15.

German Feldpost Operations in the West 1940-1944 by John Painter. 2004. 60 total pages. \$20.

The War of the Springing Tiger by Jeffrey Markem, about Azad Hind stamps and the fight for India's Independence. \$10.

Composition Listing of Organic German Military Units, 1980. \$15.

Each of these are expertly written, filled with details that obviously took scores of hours to research. All proceeds go only to Third Reich Study Group. It is first come /first come serve, and if we get down to one copy, I will get more printed (but that could delay shipping by a week or so if it happens).