



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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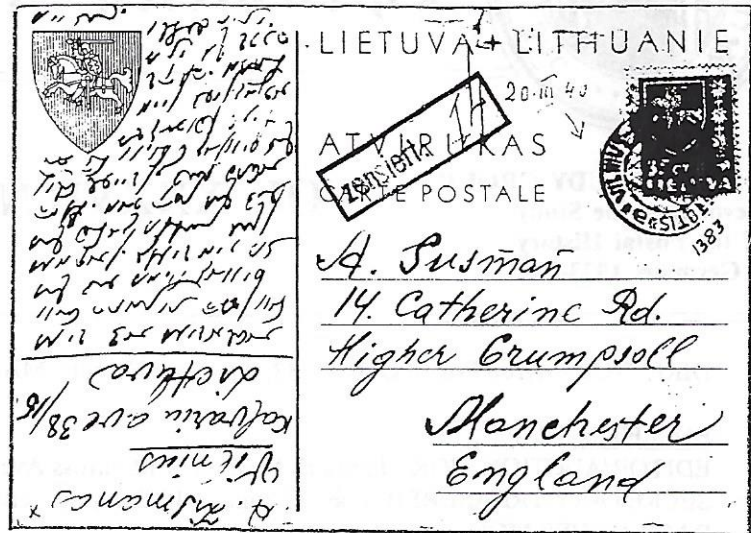
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<p>Abschnitt Coupon – Odcinek</p> <p>Kann vom Empfänger abtrennt werden Peut être détaché par le destinataire Może być rozdzielony odciety</p> <p>Stempel der Abgabe Timbre de la poste Drukarski znak</p> <p>Stempel der Zollverwaltung Timbre de la douane Pieczęć urzędu celnego</p>	<p>001</p> <p>Nomirów über Rawa Ruska (Dist. Galizien) 2731 Generalgouvernement</p> <p>Aufgabeland: Generalgouvernement Pays d'origine: Gouvernement général Kraj nadania: Generalne gubern</p> <p>Wertangabe (In Buchstaben und in lateinischer Schrift) (In arabischen Ziffern) Col valeur déclarée (Les unités en toutes lettres et en chiffres latins) (en chiffres arabes) 100 Wartość (Literami i piśmienniczką łacinną) (cyfry arabskie) 100</p> <p>Paketkarte – Bulletin d'expédition – Adres Pomocniczy</p> <p>Zahl der Pakete Nombre de colis Pakete colis – Päckchen Zolltarifserklärungen Déclaration de colis Bescheinigung in oder Rechtswege certificats ou factures – Zastwiadczenia Art der Verpackung Nature de l'emballage Rodzaj opakowania</p> <p>An <i>W. Schulze (Hr.)</i> A-D <i>W. Schulze Theodor</i> <i>Strajewo Ber. Bialystok</i></p> <p>(Lieu de destination) (Miejscowość) <i>17. Pol. 44. Inw. Kpt 6</i></p> <p>(Straße und Hausnummer) (Rue et numéro) – (ulica i dom)</p> <p>Gewicht <i>800</i> kg</p> <p>Leitvermerk – Achamenanz – Kierunek Weg – Voie – Droga</p> <p>Anschulungs-Postanstalt Bureau d'échange – Pocztowy Urząd Wymiany</p> <p>Zollgebühren? Droits de douane – Opłaty celne</p> <p><small>*) Auszufüllen von der Eingangs-Postanstalt oder der Zollverwaltung des Bestimmungslandes Cadre à remplir par le bureau d'entrée ou par le service de la douane du pays de destination Wypełnia Pocztowy Urząd nadawczy lub Urząd Celny kraju przynależności</small></p>
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STUDY GROUP NOTES

Censor Mark Identification? – TRSGer Larry Nelson sent this cover posted in Vilnius, Lithuania in March 1940 that has a boxed “zensiert” mark not listed in either Reimer or Stich. Could this be early Königsberg? If you can identify mark, send info to Ye Olde Ed.

Correction – the article ‘Ship Ahoy’ in Bulletin 147 was first published in TRSG (U.K.) News Sheet No. 2 in July 1974. Many thanks to TRSG (U.K.) Editor John Rawlings for this correction.



Damaged Swiss Cover – TRSGer Charles J. LaBlonde comments on this article in Bulletin 147. “In more than 25 years of collecting Swiss WW II mail I have never seen the ‘Beschädigt aus Deutschland zurückgelangt’ marking. Regarding the cover itself, 30 centimes is correct postage for WW II Swiss surface mail to Spain. When Germany occupied the remainder of France in November 1942, they specified to Switzerland that surface mail for (and through) Spain was to be routed Basel-Müllheim-Mülhausen-Belfort-Paris-Irun. Germans censored this mail in Paris and the route worked well until late 1944, when the route started to fall apart as the Allies advanced on Paris. Thus, in late 1944 we find surface mail being censored in Berlin, as was this piece. To be complete, the possibility of airmail existed until August 16, 1944 when Swissair stopped flying from Zürich to Stuttgart. One week earlier a Swissair DC-2 had been destroyed on the ground in Stuttgart by Allied bombing. After August 16, airmail from Switzerland went by train via Munich to Berlin for censorship, then via Lufthansa to Spain. There is every possibility that surface mail that could no longer go to Paris went to Berlin on this same train. On August 25, 1944, Switzerland actually suspended all mail for Spain, because the Swiss worried about the viability of the Lufthansa Berlin to Spain connection. This suspension was lifted 5 days later, but only for letters up to 20 grams. The Lufthansa service on the Berlin-Spain line was very sporadic and ended for good in October 1944.

Prices Realized – Auction # 90

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1	\$68.00	15	\$32.00	29	\$35.00	45	\$ 9.00	59	\$12.00
2	68.00	16	30.00	30	22.00	46	34.00	60	13.00
3	40.00	17	38.00	31	12.00	47	10.00	61	14.00
4	78.00	18	20.00	34	38.00	48	16.00	62	18.00
5	82.00	19	20.00	35	12.00	49	10.00	63	38.00
6	78.00	20	18.00	36	12.00	50	17.00	64	12.00
7	32.00	21	20.00	37	25.00	51	10.00	65	12.00
8	65.00	22	14.00	38	18.00	52	10.00	66	12.00
9	104.00	23	20.00	39	9.00	53	12.00	67	34.00
10	30.00	24	18.00	40	12.00	54	20.00	68	10.00
11	110.00	25	20.00	41	9.00	55	28.00	69	38.00
12	80.00	26	14.00	42	38.00	56	13.00		
13	35.00	27	38.00	43	10.00	57	10.00		
14	25.00	28	38.00	44	10.00	58	13.00		

Cover Illustration: one of the lots of Waffen-SS Feldpost in Auction 91 is this whole parcel card sent to a member of the 14. Waffen-Grenadier-Division-SS (*Galizische Nr. 1*) from Niemirow, GG in Oct. '43. As material to this ethnic German division from Poland is quite scarce, we recommend that you bid early!

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 215th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS	
215	956	380	390	435	215	215

Formed upon mobilization in September 1939 (3rd Wave) from 'Landwehr' personnel from Baden and Württemberg. The 215th Infantry Division post office unit (Feldpostamt or FpA) was assigned Feldpost # 19356 to be used as a return address. In addition, this post office was assigned Kenn 956 for registered mail in lieu of its tactical designation FpA 215. It played a minor role in the French campaign and was on occupation duty in central France from late summer 1940 until the end of 1941. During this period the age structure was made normal by way of troop transfers.

Rushed to the northern sector of the Eastern Front, it fought in the Battle of Volkhov south of Leningrad from January to March 1942. It remained in the northern sector until the end of the war. It fought in the Battle of the Narva and took part in the retreat from Leningrad through the Baltic States. It was cited for its conduct in the defeat of the Soviet attempt to overrun the Courland Pocket in late 1944. A new Fp. # 67820 was assigned to Feldpostamt 215 in November 1944. The 215th Infantry Division was still in western Latvia when the war ended.



Cover sent to Military Records Office in Ulm in October 1943 from Fp. # 23526 (Battalion I/Grenadier Regiment 435) via Field P.O. 215 (K-956).

Story Behind the Stamp: Wagner's "Der Meistersinger"

by Kelly Stefanacci

Richard Wagner's opera "Der Meistersinger von Nürnberg" was based on the life of Hans Sachs, who was born in Nürnberg on November 5, 1494. He was son of Jorg Sachs, a tailor, and his wife Christine Schmidt. The boy was educated at the grammar school in Nürnberg and was apprenticed to a shoemaker in 1509. At this same time Leonhard Nunnenpeck, a weaver, taught him the art of the Mastersingers. A Mastersinger was a member of a guild of poets and musicians drawn entirely from the ranks of trades people. The words and music had to conform to strict rules and annual contests were held to select the Mastersinger of the year.

Hans Sachs began practicing his trade as cobbler in 1511 and traveled throughout Germany, visiting Regensburg, Passau, Salzburg, Munich, Osnabrück, Lübeck and Leipzig. He returned to Nürnberg in 1516, where he spent the rest of his life. In 1517 he was elected as Master of his guild and in 1519, he married Künigunt Kreuzer from Wendelstein.

In Wagner's opera, Hans Sachs helps Walther von Stolzen, the handsome young knight, to compose the Master Song that wins the hand of Veit Pogner's daughter Eva as well as membership in the guild. Hans Sachs acted as master of ceremonies during this contest when Sixtus Beckmesser, the town clerk, was defeated.

The real life Hans Sachs was a supporter of Martin Luther and in 1523 wrote a poem "Die wittenbergish Nachtigall" in Luther's honor. Most of his life he composed "Meisterlieder" for use by the Meistersingers and by 1567 he had written 4275 Meisterlieder in addition to 1700 "Spruchgedichte" or stories in dialog form derived mainly from the Bible and the classics. He also wrote 208 dramas, such as "Das Wildbad" (1550) and "Der Bauer im Fegeheuer" (1552) which were very popular in their day. Toward the end of his life Hans Sachs started to publish his manuscript collection of writings in 34 volumes as three folios (1558-61). He died in Nürnberg on January 19, 1576.

A set of nine stamps which depict scenes from Wagner operas were issued on Nov. 1, 1933 for the Winter Relief Fund (Deutsche Nothilfe). The scene depicted on the 6+4 Pfg. stamp (Mi. 502) is from Act II, where Hans Sachs sits in front of his dwelling making shoes for Beckmesser, one of the rivals for the hand of the lovely Eva.



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

Fundamentals of Feldpost Collecting

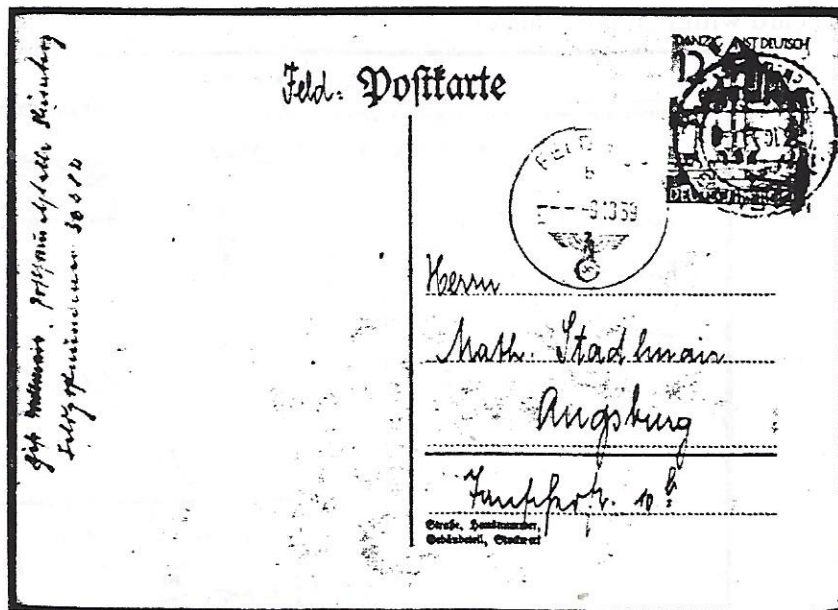
Part 13. German Military, Official & Occupation Posts in Poland

by Benjamin R. Beede

The first stamps for German-occupied Poland went on sale December 1, 1939, exactly ninety days after the beginning of the invasion. The preceding three months, however, had been far from uneventful in terms of postal developments. Since they form the background to the issuance of occupation stamps in Poland during World War II, the events of this period seem to warrant an introductory survey. While Dr. Hermann Schultz discussed many aspects of this topic in Part II of his *Handbuch und Stempelkatalog der deutschen Dienstpost 1939-1945*, his emphasis was primarily upon Dienstpost, that is, the system established for transmitting mail for the benefit of the German occupation authorities, as distinguished from the Polish population.

On September 3, 1939, only two days after Axis forces poured over the Polish boundaries, military mail service (Feldpost) was introduced for the personnel of the German armed forces. The system had already passed its initial trials during the bloodless occupations of Austria and Czechoslovakia. Now, it had to meet the test of war. The Feldpost served both individual servicemen and official agencies of the armed forces. At first, service for individuals was restricted to post cards, letters (either opened or sealed) up to 250 grams in weight, newspapers, postal money orders, and postal check cards. Each item had to bear the marking "Feldpost", the number of the sender's unit (for reasons of secrecy, each unit from company level up was assigned a number, which was used as its "address" in forwarding mail). Also required was the name of the city in which the Postsammelstelle (mail collecting office) for a particular unit was located, although the last stipulation was dispensed with after November 1, 1939. From October 17, 1939, after the fighting had ceased, special cards for postal money orders were issued and ten days later, package service was instituted. Feldpost packets up to 1,000 grams were permitted either as packages or rolled parcels measuring no more than 60 centimeters. For packages weighing more than 250 grams, a 20 Pfg. fee was imposed.

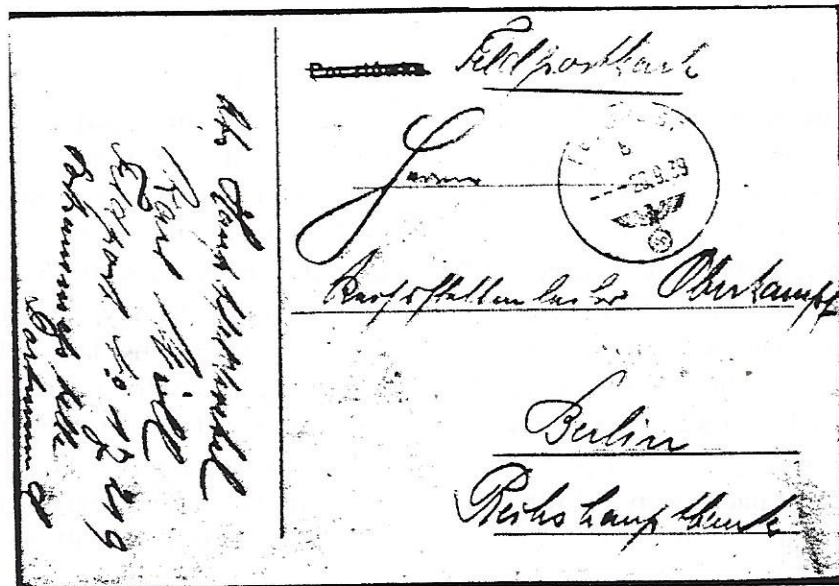
Fig. 1) German post card used in Feldpost traffic. The stamp was unnecessary and was presumably added for philatelic purposes.



Provision for items mailed on official business were somewhat more generous. There were no weight limitations and both registered and insured letters could be sent. On October 4, 1939, packages and packets were accepted for forwarding, provided that an official seal identifying the unit was placed on the package wrapping near the address.

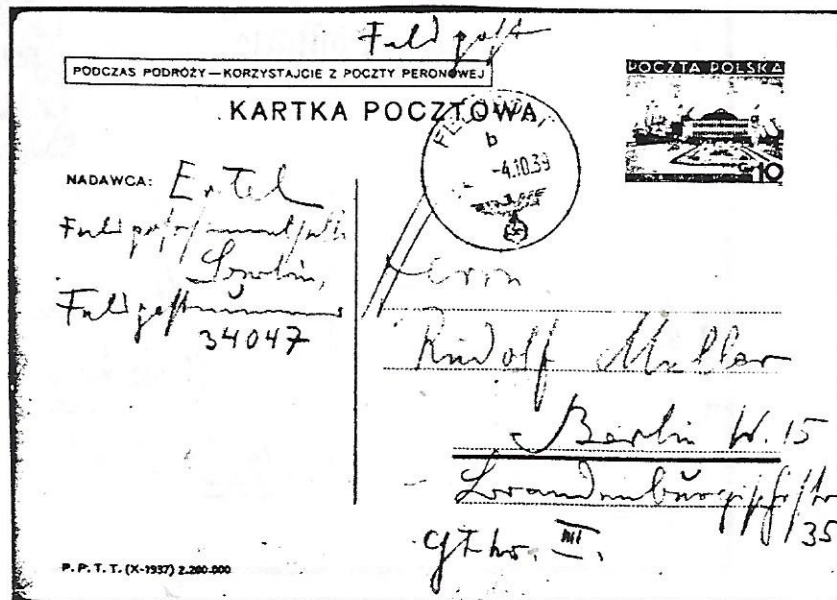
From September 19, 1939, soldiers were provided with cards specially prepared for use in correspondence through Feldpost channels, which could be purchased at the rate of two cards for 1 Pfg. However, apparently these supplies did not meet the demand and servicemen turned to other expedients. Any sort of envelope or card could be used, as long as it was properly marked. Blank postcards of German origin were altered by writing the word "Feldpost" before the inscription "Postkarte" (Fig. 1) Soldiers also purchased cards without stamp imprints locally and utilized them by crossing out all Polish inscriptions. (Fig. 2)

Fig. 2) Polish postcard used by German soldier.



Perhaps most interesting of all are Polish postal stationery items used in Feldpost traffic. These presumably were "liberated" rather than purchased from post office stocks. (Fig. 3)

Fig. 3) Polish postal card with Feldpost cancel



Dienstpost service began as early as September 13, 1939. It was initially limited to postcards, letters up to 250 grams in weight, printed matter to 500 grams, packets to 1,000 grams and registered letters. Each item mailed at a Dienstpost office had to display a St. Andrews cross over the face of the envelope or wrapping. In addition, it had to be inscribed with the words "Durch Deutsche Dienstpost", that is, "By German Official Post." Without these markings, full foreign rather than domestic German postal fees were to be imposed. Not infrequently, however, in the early days of Dienstpost service, senders wrote "Osten Einsatz" or "On service on the Eastern Front" or similar incorrect phrases. Sometimes, even the crosses were omitted. Additional charges, however, apparently were not actually applied. Figure 4 shows a piece of German postal stationery used in the Dienstpost system. Note the provisional cancellation. The number 74 at the bottom of the cancel indicate that it was used at Jaroslaw. The item illustrated in Fig. 5 is an early official stampless cover with the handwritten inscription "Deutsche Dienstpost Einsatz".

Fig. 4) German postal card with provisional Dienstpost cancel

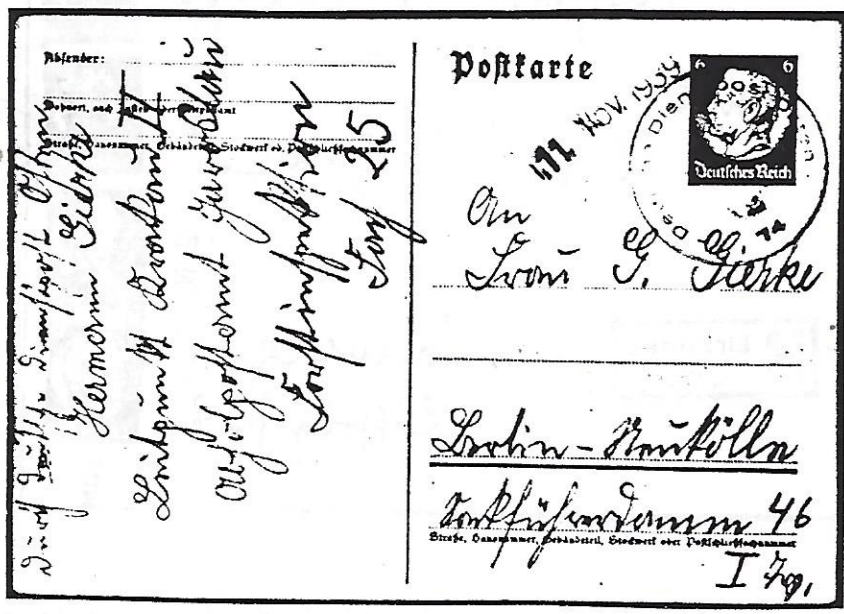
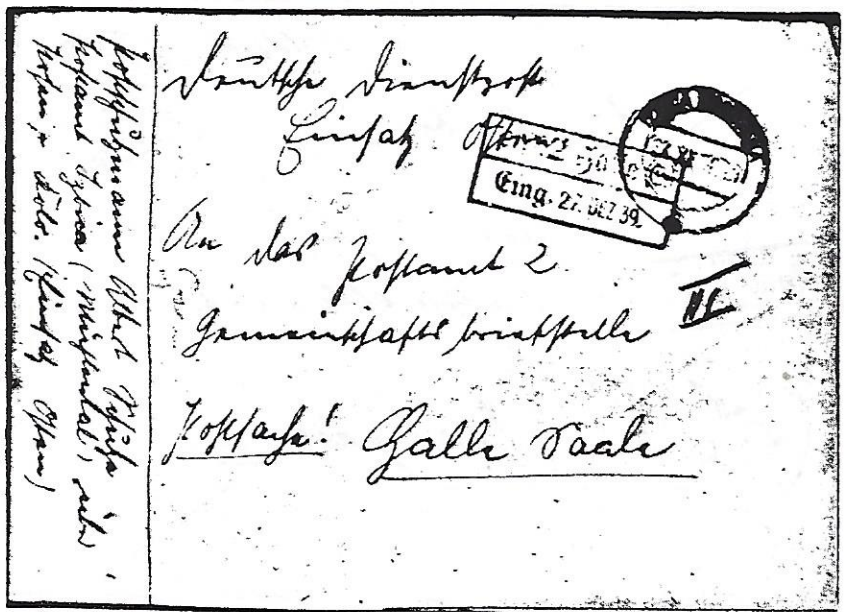


Fig. 5) Stampless Dienstpost cover.



Soldiers stationed near the larger towns could also use Dienstpost facilities and they frequently did so, especially for services not otherwise available to them. Fig. 6 shows a cover mailed at the Brzesko Dienstpost office on November 2, 1939, which received the provisional cancellation and registration label in use there. Note the marking "Feldpost". This was unnecessary since the 42 Pfg. in stamps paid the full fee due on a registered letter. Perhaps the sender thought he should indicate his status or hoped for preferential treatment of his letter. Eventually, after conditions in Poland became somewhat more stabilized, the Dienstpost system assumed responsibility for all Feldpost sendings mailed in the occupied Polish territory on May 15, 1940, thus formalizing an arrangement that began to develop soon after the start of the Polish campaign. (Fig. 7).

Fig. 6) Registered letter sent by German soldier through Dienstpost channels.

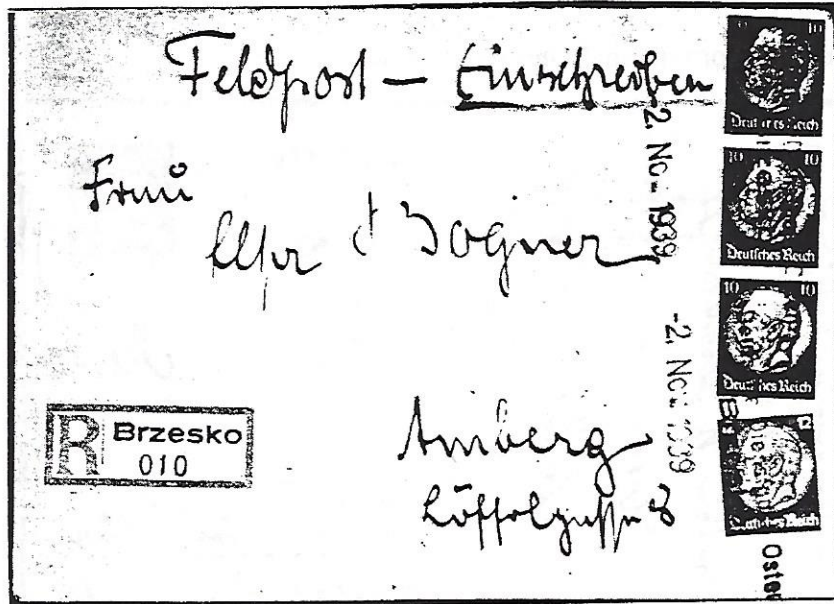
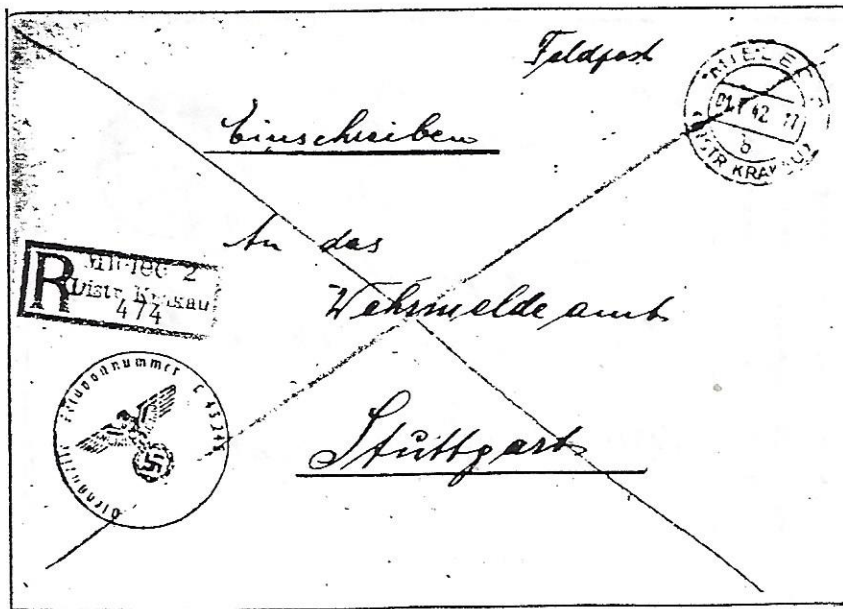
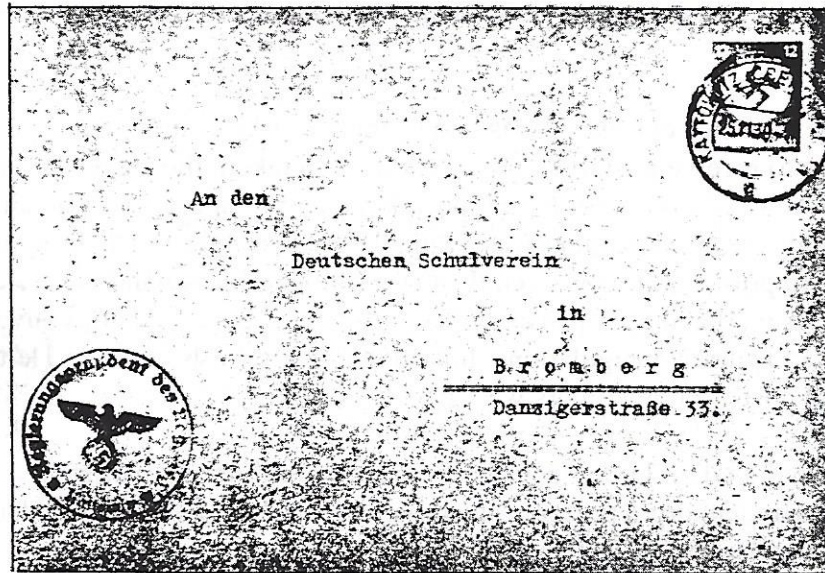


Fig. 7) Feldpost cover processed by the Dienstpost, after it had officially assumed responsibility for all postal sendings by civilian and military authorities and personnel in Poland.



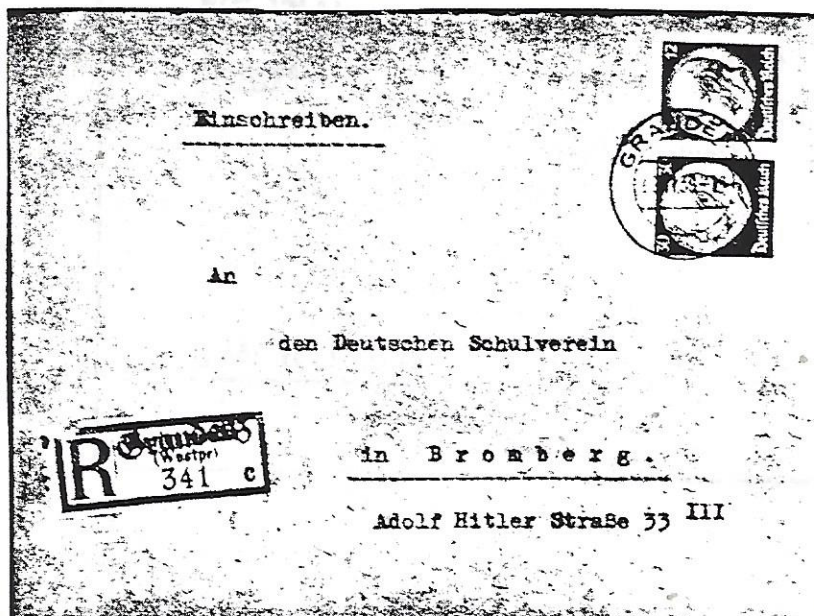
As the fighting neared its end, the question of postal service for both the German and Polish civil populations arose. As early as September 29, 1939, letter and postcard service between Germany and some areas of western Poland, where the German minorities were located, began with inland German postal rates being imposed. (Fig. 8).

Fig. 8) Official cover with German stamp sent from Kattowitz, Upper Silesia, several weeks after the resumption of postal service.



Two weeks later, on October 15, registered mail was also permitted from these areas. By the beginning of November, package, postal money order, and postal check services were also in operation. Due to the destruction and confusion arising out of the war, postal equipment and supplies often had to be brought into Poland from Germany, and as a result some interesting postal history items were produced. Fig. 9 shows a cover mailed at Graudenz, West Prussia, formerly part of Poland, on November 9, 1939. The registration label was originally prepared for use at Marienwerder, which was located in the portion of West Prussia that Germany retained after 1919.

Fig. 9) Registered letter sent at Graudenz, West Prussia, with provisional registration label.

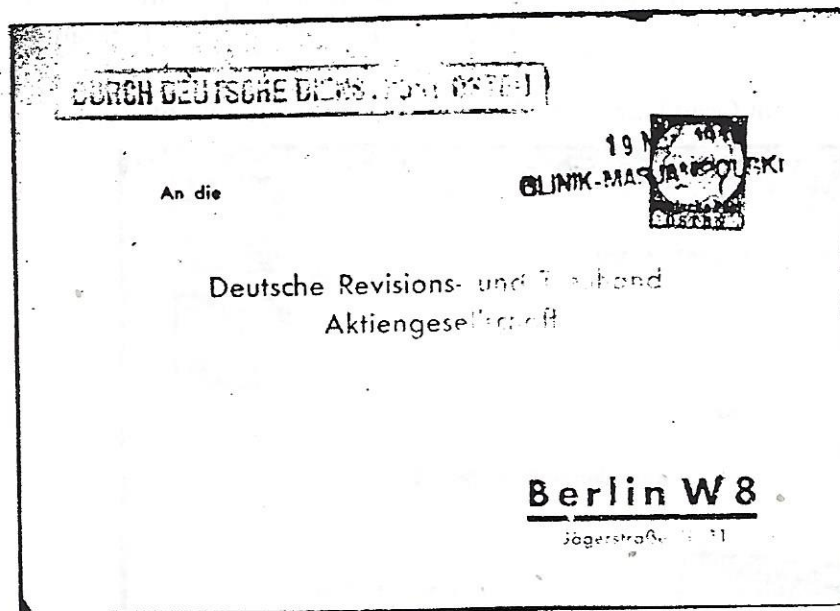


On October 8, 1939, the Germans announced a fateful decision. Poland was to be divided into two portions. One section was to be annexed to the Reich, and the other was to be formed into the Generalgouvernement, a territory under German control, but with some sovereign rights including the privileges of issuing its own postage stamps and currency with denominations in accordance with the Polish rather than the German monetary system. This enactment went into effect on October 26, 1939, and later, further steps were taken to separate the two areas. Up until November 20, 1939, the two territories incorporated into the Reich were still outside German customs union, and mail was subject to custom and currency regulations, but on that date were fully drawn into the German financial and economic system, while the Generalgouvernement continued to be a foreign country for many purposes.

Once the division between the two currency areas had been established, and the decision that a Generalgouvernement was to receive postal sovereignty had been taken, the stage was set for the issuance of occupation stamps. Although both Feldpost and Dienstpost offices were already operating in the Generalgouvernement, neither was available to the Poles, who had no postal service until December 1, 1939. In postal traffic between the Generalgouvernement and the Reich, foreign rates were used, and letters mailed in Germany addressed to towns in the Generalgouvernement were subject to customs and currency regulations. Initially only postcards, unsealed letters up to 250 grams in weight, and postal money orders were permitted.

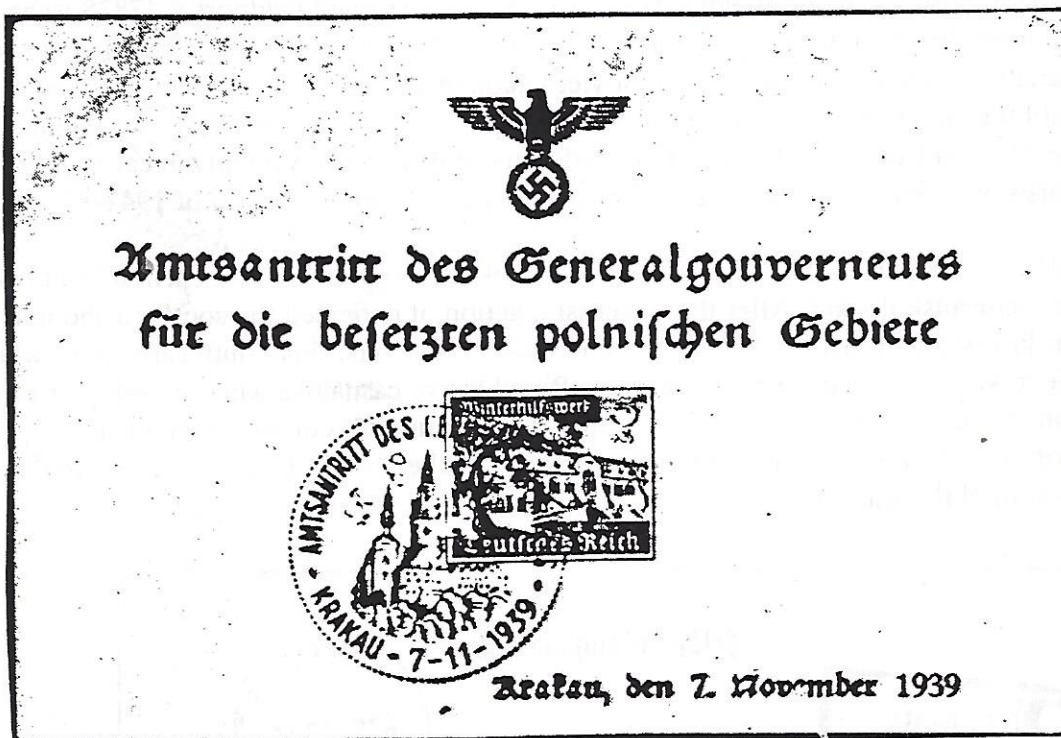
The first stamps were also issued on December 1 and consisted of thirteen overprinted values of the definitive series with Hindenburg's portrait issued between 1933 and 1936. The denominations ran from 6 Groschen (equivalent to 3 Pfg.) up to 2 Zloty (equivalent to 1 Reichsmark). This set remained in use only until September 30, 1940, and between 1940 and 1942-44, was followed by no less than three other series of postage stamps. Provisional cancels remained in use for some time, but seem to be particularly common on Hindenburg stamps (Fig. 10).

Fig. 10) Dienstpost cover franked with Hindenburg stamp overprinted for use in the Generalgouvernement. Note the provisional two-line cancel.



The first commemorative cancellation used by the Generalgouvernement antedated the issuance of stamps by more than three weeks, but its use was restricted to Dienstpost channels, since regular postal services were not operating. This cancel celebrates the installation of Dr. Frank as governor-general at Cracow on November 7, 1939. A special souvenir card was prepared in connection with the event, evidently in a large printing. (Fig. 11). All the cards were "franked" with various denominations of the German 1939 Winter Relief series, which was placed on sale on October 27, 1939.

Fig. 11) Souvenir card issued in honor of the inauguration of Governor-General Frank on November 1939.



One item, allegedly dating from the early days of the war, appears to be of a speculative nature. A three-line overprint "Kametz/ist frei/1-2. Sep. 1939" was applied to one value of the series of commemoratives issued by Poland in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of independence in 1938. An example of this overprint was once in my collection and seems not to have been reported. Because of the lack of information and since the cover to which the stamp was affixed was clearly of a philatelic nature, I suspect that it was no more than a fabrication. In this connection, it is interesting to recall that private parties about the time of the occupation of Memel produced a somewhat similar overprint by the Germans in March 1939.

ED NOTE: This article, which originally appeared in the German Postal Specialist in April 1971, included reference notes that have been deleted here for space considerations.

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:**126th Infantry Division**

by Jim Lewis


POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS
126	635	422	424	426	126
					126

Formed in September 1940 (11th Wave) with personnel from the Rhineland and Westphalia, the 126th Infantry Division post office unit (Feldpostamt or FpA) was assigned Feldpost # 47838 to be used as a return address. In addition, this post office was assigned Kenn 635 for registered mail in lieu of its tactical designation FpA 126. It invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941 and remained in the northern sector until the end of the war. Under the 16th Army, the 126th Infantry Division fought at Lake Ilmen, on the Mshaga River, before Leningrad and in the Battle of the Volkhov in early 1942. Under X Army Corps, it defended Staraya Russa during the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42.

In the spring of 1942 it took part in the relief effort which broke through the Soviet encirclement of II Army Corps in the Demyansk Pocket. After this successful action, it defended the southern shoulder of the corridor that linked Demyansk to the main defense line. It remained there until early 1943 when the Demyansk salient was evacuated. In early 1944 it suffered heavy casualties when it took part in the withdrawal from Leningrad through the Baltic States. The division was down to regimental strength when it withdrew to the Latvian coast in September/October 1944. It remained isolated in the Courland Pocket until the war ended.

Feldpost-Einschreiben


R Feldpost ⁶³⁵
444




Dem

Wehrbezirkskommando

St. Wendel (Saar)



Einheit: Feldpostnummer 23757 

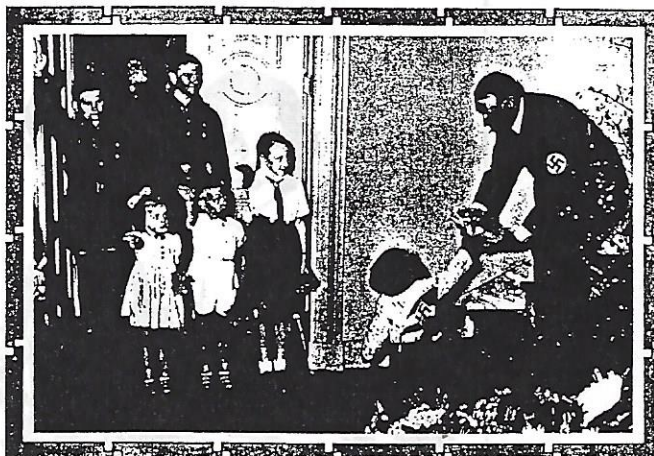
Cover sent to Military Records Office in St. Wendel in July 1943 from Fp. # 23757 (Battalion I/Grenadier Regiment 426) via Field P.O. 126 (K-635).

The Hitler Birthday Cards of 1939-a Minor Mystery

by John Webb

In the five-card set of postal stationery cards issued to mark Hitler's birthday in 1939, card Mi 278/04 (illustrated below) is described in the Harper handbook *"Postal Stationery of Germany – Third Reich"* as "Hitler receiving a bouquet from Goebbels' children". This description needs to be reassessed by English-speaking collectors. The Borek *"Ganzsachen-Spezial-Katalog Deutschland"* uses the description "Kinder gratulieren" and none of the other German sources that I am aware of give any more precise identification of the children in the photograph. The German version is, I believe, the accurate one and, for evidence, one has only to consider the history of the Goebbels family.

Madga Goebbels was born Maria Magdalena Ritschel on November 11, 1901. Hers was a well-to-do family living in the Bulowstrasse in Berlin. In 1904 her parents were divorced and, just two years later, her mother remarried and became Frau Friedlander. Magda's new family lived in Brussels until the outbreak of World War I when they moved back to Berlin. At the end of the war this marriage too ended in divorce but by this time, Magda was almost grown up. At the age of 18 she became engaged to a forty-year old widower named Günther Quandt. They were married on January 4, 1921 and she found herself with a ready-made family of two boys, Helmut aged 12 and Herbert aged 8.



Her own first child arrived on November 1, 1921. They named the boy Harold and he was to stay with his mother when she too secured a divorce in the summer of 1929. At about this time she attended a meeting of the Nazi Party addressed by Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Party propaganda chief and Gauleiter of Berlin. So fascinated did she become by what she saw and heard that, within twenty-four hours, she had become a member of the N.S.D.A.P. Within three months of joining she had come to the notice of Dr. Goebbels and had been placed in charge of his private archives.

By the summer of 1930 the confidential secretary was engaged to her boss and on December 12, 1931 Joseph Goebbels became her second husband. Adolf Hitler himself was one of the witnesses and her nine-year old son Harold Quandt, then a member of the Hitler Youth, attended.

Over the following nine years the couple produced a family of six, five girls and a boy – Helga (September 1932), Hilde (April 1934), Helmut (October 1935), Holden (February 1937), Hedda (May 1938) and Heide (October 1940). All are shown in the photo on the following page, taken in 1942 and printed as a postcard by Albrecht & Meister AG of Berlin.

By 1938/39, when the Hoffmann photograph used in the postal stationery card was probably taken, only the first five of Goebbels children had been born. In early 1939 (the latest possible date for the photograph) these five would have been 6, 5, 3, 2 and less than 1 year old respectively. This leaves only four of the children who could possibly have been involved in the photograph

. The two boys appear to be about 13 and 15 years old and the tallest of the girls (also in uniform) seems to be about seven. None of these three match the age/sex range of any of the Goebbels children. In short, the German sources seem to be correct in emphasizing that the identities of the children depicted on the Hitler birthday card are unknown. It remains possible that one or two of the youngest could have been members of the Goebbels family but most must have been the children of other contemporary Nazi officials. At this stage it seems unlikely that official records will provide any definitive answer.



Postscript: Harold Quandt, Goebbels' stepson, survived World War II and, I believe, died a natural death a few years ago. The six ill-fated Goebbels children, however, were poisoned by their parents in the Hitler bunker on May 1, 1945.

Source: "Magda Goebbels", a biography by Hans Otto Meissner.

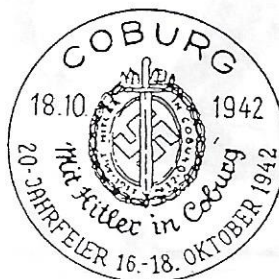
ED NOTE: This article was first published in the Third Reich Study Group (U.K.) News Sheet 91 in December 1997 and is reprinted here with their kind permission.

Special Cancels – Der Führer

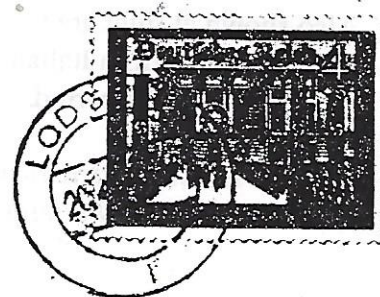
by Bob Ferguson

There are a number of cancels commemorating Adolf Hitler. The cancel numbering scheme is in Julius Bochmann's work "**Katalog der Deutschen Gelegenheitsstem**"

Adolf Hitler Koog # 1	Neulandhalle	1938-1941
Bad Karlsbrunn # 2	Adolf Hitler Turm/Altvater 1492m Kohlensaure und Moorbad	1938-1941
Berlin # 221	Gebt mir 4 Jahr Zeit Ausstellung/Berlin am Funkturm	29 April –20 June 1937
Coburg # 12	Mit Hitler in Coburg/20 Jahr Feier	16-18 October 1942
Danzig # 2	Der Führer Hat Uns Befreit	1 September 1939
Danzig # 3	Grusst Jebelnd Seinen Führer und Befreier Adolf Hitler	19 September 1939
Litzmannstadt # 3	Auf Befehl des Führers Heisst Diese Stadt	11 April 1940
Marne # 1	Nordsee Ausgangpunkt für Adolf Hitler- Koog-Trischendamm	1935-1936
Pasewalk # 1	Weihestate	21 October 1937
Pasewalk # 2	Weihestate Kriegslazarett des Führers "Ich Aber Beschloss, Politiker zu Werden"	20 April 1938
Pasewalk # 3	Weihestate Kriegslazarett des Führers "Ich Aber Beschloss, Politiker zu Werden"	21 October 1938
Schonfeld # 1	Adolf Hitler Warte	1939-1943
Unterweissbach # 1	Mit Adolf Hitler-Turm	1934-1939
Waldbrol # 2	Grundsteinlegung Adolf Hitler Schule	15 January 1938
Wien # 83	Besucht Die Ausstellung "Kampf um Wien"	26 April -2 June 1941
Wien # 84	Ausstellung "Kampf um Wien"	1 May -2 June 1941
Wilhelmshaven # 2	Besuch des Führers	1 April 1939
Machine Cancel # 204	Deine Stimme dem Führer!	21-31 March 1936 in 134 cities



**Auf Befehl des Führers
heißt diese Stadt ab
11. 4. 1940
Litzmannstadt.**



Propaganda Card Corner

Italian SS Recruiting Card

by Carmelo Cosentino

This multi-colored card depicting German and Italian troopers in action is of Italian origin. The card depicts the familiar "SS" runes in red at upper right and on the collar of the German soldier at right. The "double-forked" emblem in white is also on the collar of the Italian soldier. I've never seen this emblem in connection with the Italian Waffen-SS division. Can anyone identify this emblem? The reverse side has "Cartolina Postale" at top with "N.P. aprile 1944" printed vertically in center.



Also shown at right are two SS Recruiting ads from Italian newspapers of the period.

ED NOTE: This article originally appeared in TRSG Bulletin 65 in 1982.

ITALIANI!

L'irredentismo risorge, Trieste ci dà la prova, il cosiddetto Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale si è sciolto.

Non è mai troppo tardi per ravvedersi. L'Italia ha fede nei suoi figli e non dispera, questi ravvedimenti si stanno verificando proprio ora che a molti sembrava tardi.

L'ITALIA RISORGE

La SS ITALIANA temprata e addestrata nei Lager tedeschi, è pronta a tutto OSARE!

Le Unità Armate della SS Italiane sono sorte per opera di quegli ITALIANI che per primi hanno sentito la voce del richiamo della PATRIA che li invitava al COMBATTIMENTO.

PIEMONTESI!

La SS Italiana è pronta ad accogliere nelle proprie file i migliori che ancora sentono l'orgoglio di ridare il PRESTIGIO al POPOLO ITALIANO, con la FEDE, l'ONORE, il COMBATTIMENTO!

Presentatevi al Centro di Mobilitazione

Via Arolvescovado, 2
Torino

THIRD REICH POSTAL RATES

by Bob Ferguson

SPECIAL DELIVERY SINGLE-WEIGHT FOREIGN AIRMAIL LETTER

I.) LETTER (Rate Period: August 1 1938 to May 8, 1945)

Posted: Leipzig, September 29, 1938 to Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy
(Marked "RETURN TO SENDER").

Backstamps:

Amb. Trieste-Milano, 30 September 1938

Amb. Verona-Brenner, 30 September 1938

"Via Espresri", 30 September 1938

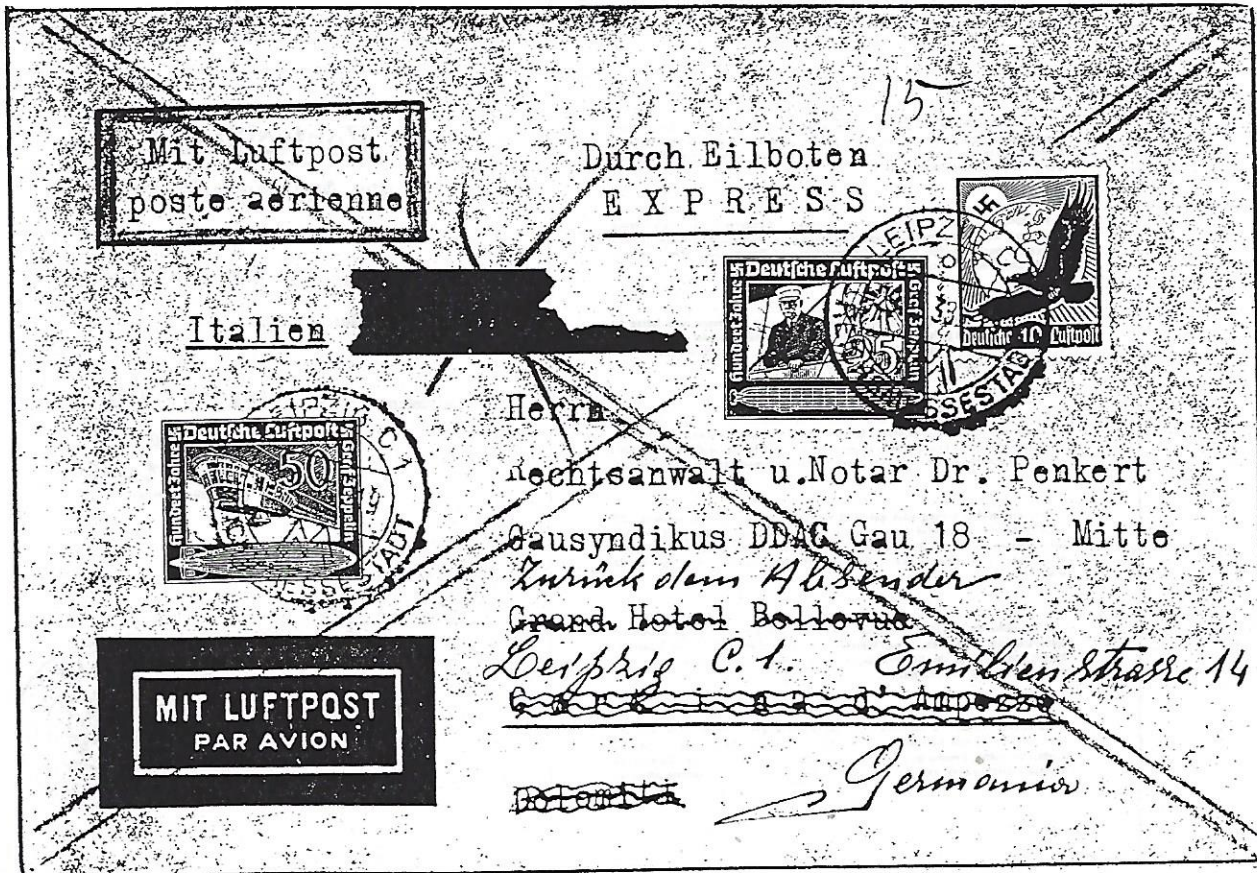
Cortina D'Ampezzo, 1 October 1938

SINGLE WEIGHT SPECIAL DELIVERY FOREIGN AIRMAIL LETTER RATE

Franking (85 Pfg.): 25 Pfg. = Foreign letter rate for weight: 0 - 20 grams.

10 Pfg. = Airmail surcharge for weight: 0 - 20 grams.

50 Pfg. = Special Delivery (Eilbote Exprès) fee.

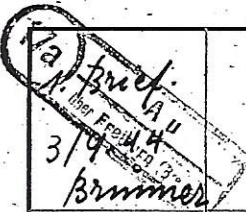


Rejected by Censor - Inadmissible Mail

by Larry Nelson

Control Card for Sending Foreign Mail

Shown below are both sides of a "Control Card for Sending Foreign Letters" issued on April 25, 1944 to Rudolf Heim by the town of Au über Freiburg. The reverse shows an Au P.O. hand stamp on a notation for a letter sent to Brunner (?) on September 3, 1944.

					
1 Brief 28/12.44 Brunner					

Die Kontrollkarte ist nicht übertragbar. Bei Einlieferung des Briefes zusammen mit Personalausweis am Schalter vorlegen. Sorgfältig aufbewahren, da bei Verlust kein Ersatz. Ausstellung einer neuen Karte nur bei Vorlegung der alten Karte.

Kontrollkortet kan ikke overføres til andre. Fremvises ved Indlevering af Brevet sammen med Legitimationsbevis ved Ekspeditionen. Maa opbevares omhyggeligt, da det ikke erstattes ved Bortkomst. Nytt Kort udstedes kun med Fremvisning af det gamle.

Le carnet de contrôle n'est pas transférable. En délivrant une lettre au guichet il doit être présenté avec la carte d'identité. Gardez-le soigneusement, car en cas de perte il ne sera pas remplacé. Le carnet de contrôle ne sera pas renouvelé sinon présentant le précédent.

La carta di controllo non è trasferibile (è personale). Dar in consegna la lettera allo sportello, mostrare la carta insieme alla tessera d'identità. — Stare attenti di non perdere questa carta. In nessun caso ne viene rilasciata una nuova! — La carta si rinnova soltanto a presentazione della vecchia.

De contrôlekaart mag niet gebruikt worden door een ander persoon. Bij aflevering van den brief samen met het bewijs van identiteit aan het loket toonen. Zorgvuldig bewaren, bij verlies wordt géén nieuwe kaart afgegeven. Een nieuwe kaart alleen verkrijgbaar tegen aflevering van de oude kaart.

Kontrollkortet kan ikke overdras. Ved innlevering av brev på postkontoret framvises det sammen med legitimasjonsbeviset. Oppbevar kontrollkortet omhyggelig, da det ved tap ikke erstattes. Nytt kort utstedes kun ved framvisning av det gamle.

La tarjeta de control es intransferible. Al entregar la carta en la taquilla, hay que presentarla juntamente con la tarjeta de identidad. Guárdese cuidadosamente, puesto que no será sustituida en caso de pérdida. La entrega de una tarjeta nueva se hará sólo contra presentación de la tarjeta antigua.

Kontrollkarte für den Auslandsbriefverkehr

Name und Vorname: Heim Rudolf


Wohnort und Straße: Au

Geburtsdatum: 22. August 1913

Rudolf Heim
Eigenhändige Unterschrift

Datum der Ausstellung:
25. April 1944

Nicht übertragbar!

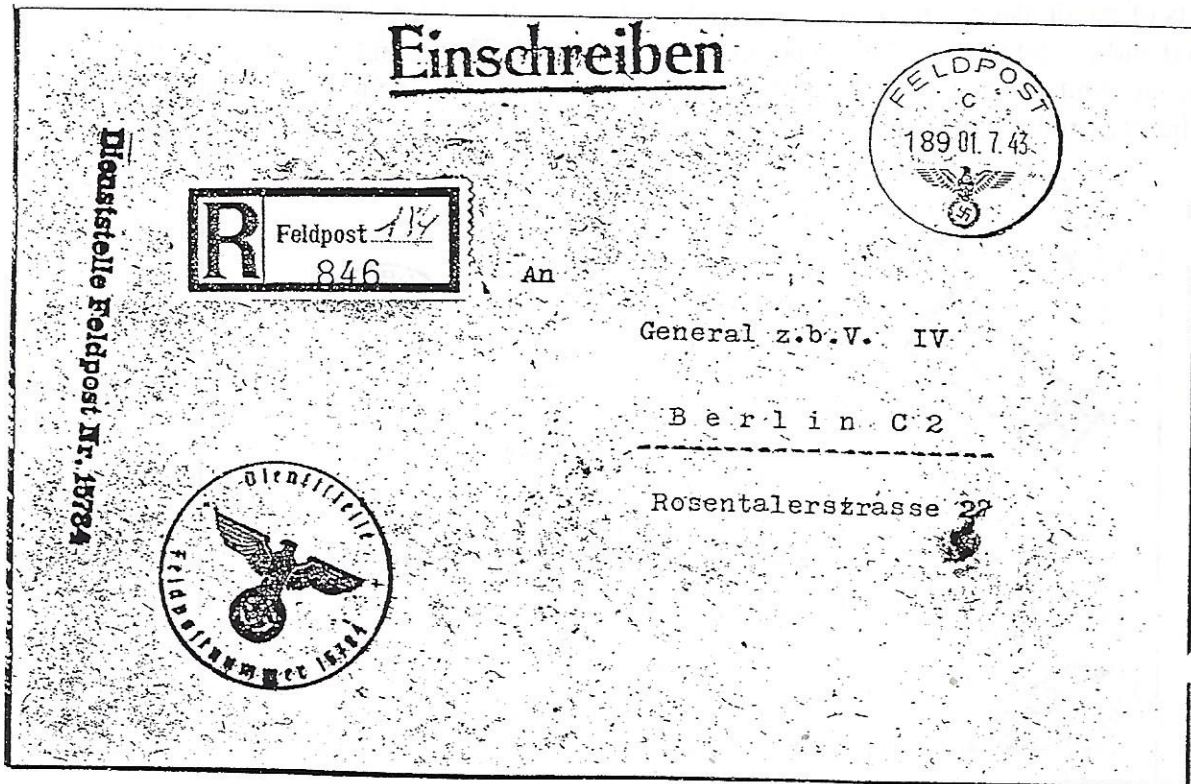


COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 207th Security Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS		COMPANIES	
TACT.	KENN	SECURITY		FUSILIER	AUXIL
375	189	322	374	207	207

The 207th Infantry Division was formed in the summer of 1939 (3rd Wave) and fought in Poland. It attacked from Pomerania toward Danzig and played a major role in cutting the Polish Corridor in the first week of the war. It was part of the eastern reserves of Army High Command (OKH) in Poland in 1940 and was not involved in the western campaign. In the winter of 1940-41, it was converted to a "Sicherungs" (Security) division, giving up one infantry regiment and all of its artillery. The division post office was assigned Feldpost # 38557 to be used as a return address. In addition, this post office was assigned Kenn 189 for registered mail in lieu of its tactical designation FpA 375.

Transferred to the Eastern Front in June 1941, the 207th Security Division performed rear area and Lines of Communication duties for Army Group North. It also saw action as a "mopping up" unit in the Lake Ladoga area and had its headquarters in Tartu, Estonia for much of 1941-44. The 207th Security Division was thrown into the main battle line against the Soviet summer offensive of 1944 and suffered such heavy losses during the Battle of Brody that it was officially disbanded in August 1944.



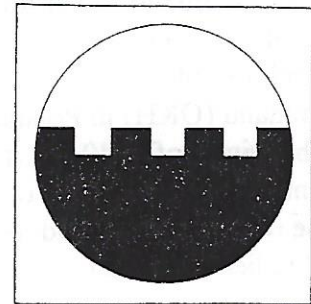
Cover sent to General Office for Special Purpose at Berlin in May 1940 from Fp. # 15784 (Head Quarters of 207th Sicherungs Division) via Field P.O. 375 (K-189).

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:**319th Infantry Division**

by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
319	937	582	583	584	319	319

Organized in Wehrkreis IX in November, 1940 (13th Wave), the division post office (Feldpostamt or FpA) was assigned Fp.# 00357 as a unit return address and Kenn 937 for use on registered mail in lieu of tactical FpA 319. The division emblem was a circle divided into two halves, the bottom half red as a battlement wall. The 319th Division took over defenses of the English Channel Islands the following summer. It was also responsible for the city of St. Malo and a sector of the French coast in 1941.



In 1943 Hitler was so convinced that the Allies would have to take the Channel Islands before they could land in France that he reinforced the 319th Division to a strength of 40,000 men, making it the largest division in the German Army during WW II. In June 1944 the division was part of the Atlantic Wall defense system under LXXXIV Army Corps of the 7th Army under Rommel's Army Group 'B'. The Allies bypassed the Channel Islands when they landed on the Normandy coast and cut off the 319th Division, which remained isolated until the end of the war. Elements of the division were transferred back to the continent before the Normandy Front collapsed and fought in the Cotentin peninsula in mid-1944. The main body of the division, however, surrendered at 7:14 AM on May 9, 1945, seven hours after the official end of the war, having hardly fired a shot in anger during the five years of its existence.

319

25

CE

R Feldpost 937
446

E i n s c h r e i b e n .

Gefallenen = Anzeige:

An den

Ortsgruppenleiter der N S D A P .

für M ü n c h b e r g / Oberfranken

Bahnhofstr. 10 in Münchberg

FELDPOST
937 24.11.42

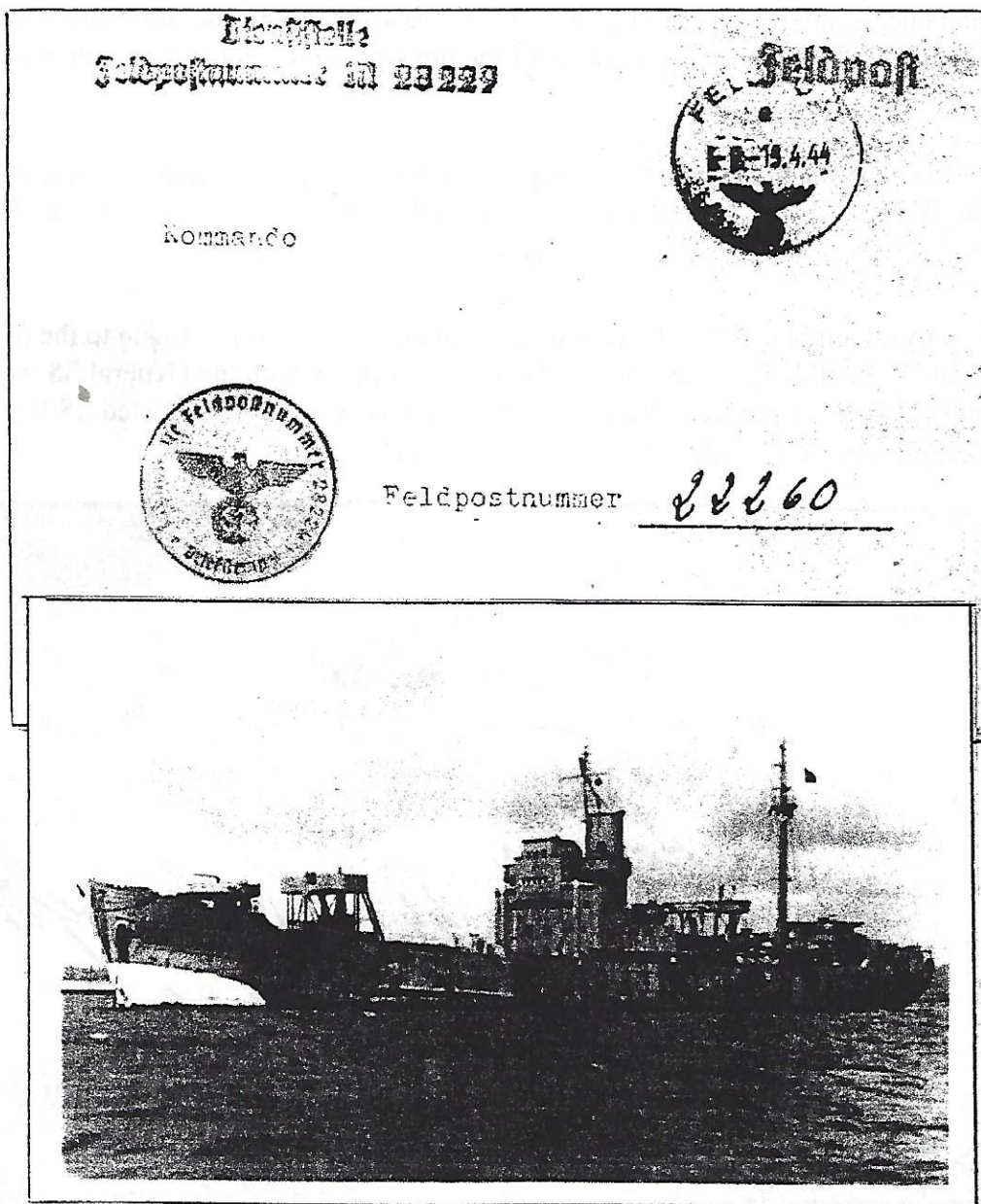
Dienststelle
Feldpostnummer 24200
Dienststelle F.P.Nr. 24200

Cover sent to NSDAP Group Leader in November 1942 from Fp. # 24200 (Division HQ/ 319th Infantry Division) via P.O. 319 (K-937).

NAVY LOG

By Robert Dunn

Auxiliary Minesweeper -Sperrbrecher 1 - Feldpost # 28229



Originally the merchantman 'Saar' built in 1935, converted and commissioned on July 30, 1940. Displacement: 3,261 gross tons. Armament: two 3.5" AA, one 37mm AA, two 20mm AA guns. She was bombed and sunk by allied aircraft in Brest on August 24, 1944.

Waffen-SS Feldpost

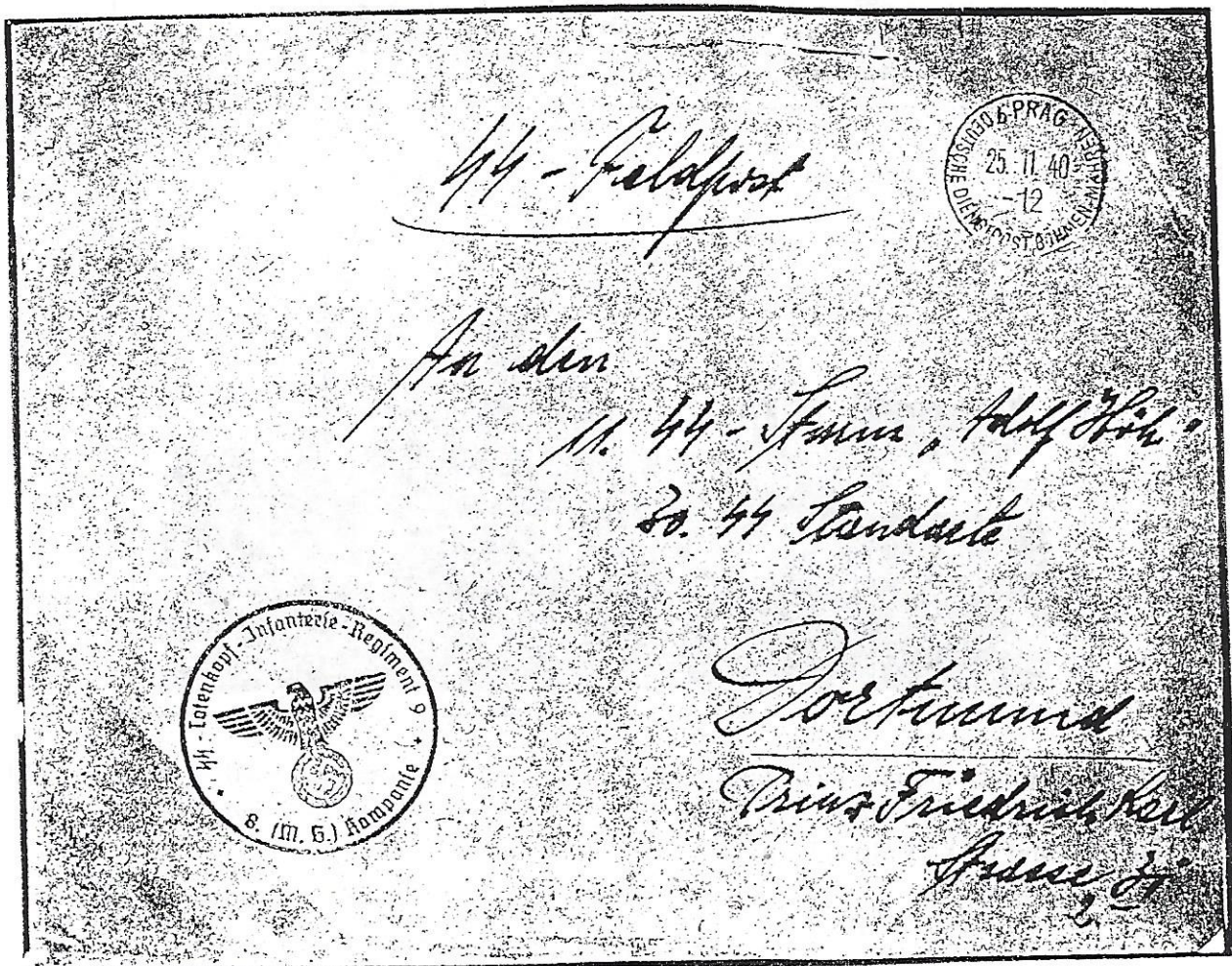
The Totenkopf Standarten

by John Painter

When the war started, Himmler was able to call up over 60,000 men as "Police Reinforcements" as a result of a pre-war agreement with the Wehrmacht. They were used for occupation duties in occupied Poland. They were organized into independent regiments and were available for police operations first in the Polish areas and later in all of occupied Europe. During 1940, however, the SS found it impossible to increase the number of Waffen-SS recruits because of the pre-war agreement limiting the SS to 4% of the available manpower.

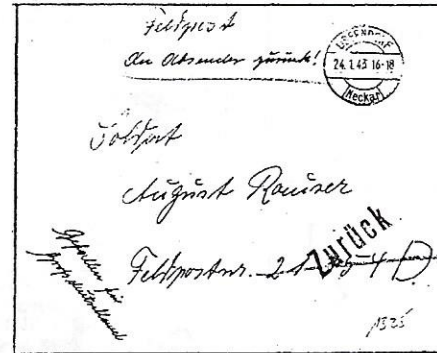
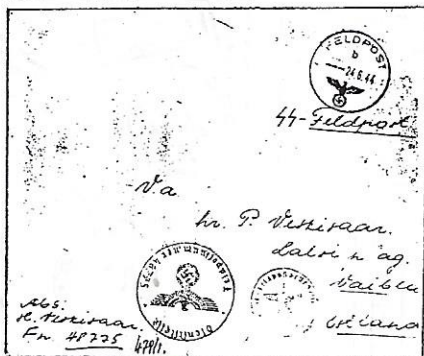
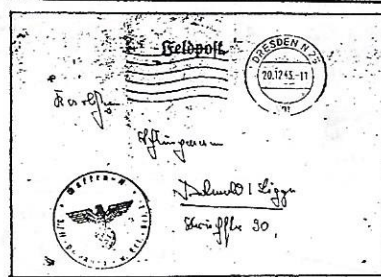
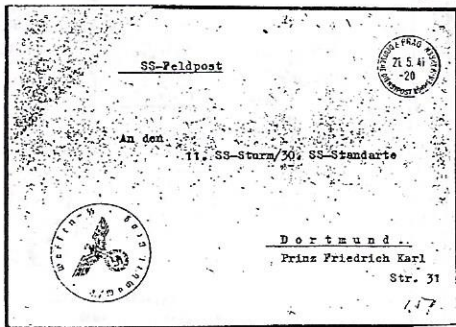
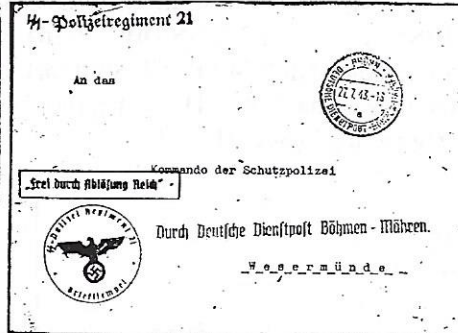
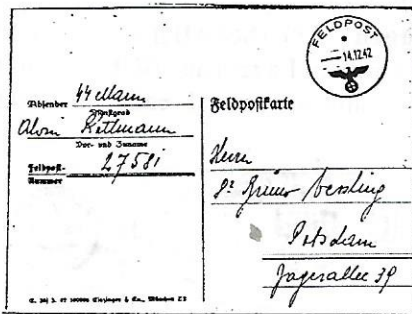
Gottlob Berger, head of the SS Main Office and responsible for recruitment, simply converted these police formations into the Waffen-SS and thereby increased the total strength to over 140,000 men by 1940. So began the rise in strength that was to eventually involve over 900,000 men.

This cover was sent by a member of the 9th Totenkopf Regiment stationed in Prague to the office of the 30th SS Standarte in Dortmund. This was one of 80+ regiments into which the General SS was divided. In 1941 the 9th Totenkopf Regiment was transferred to the Waffen-SS and re-designated SS Regiment 'Thule' when it became part of the 3rd SS Division 'Totenkopf'.



TRSG Auction No. 91

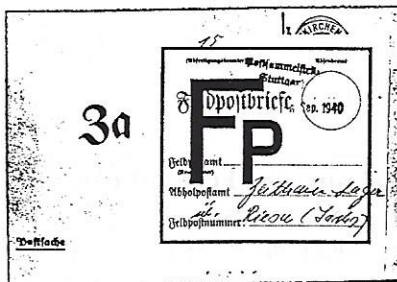
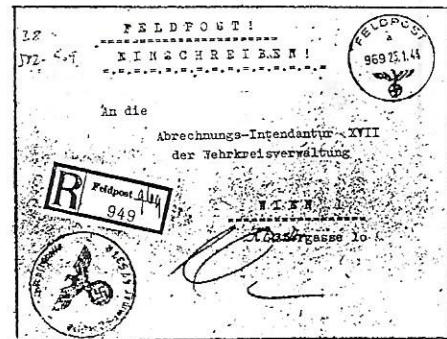
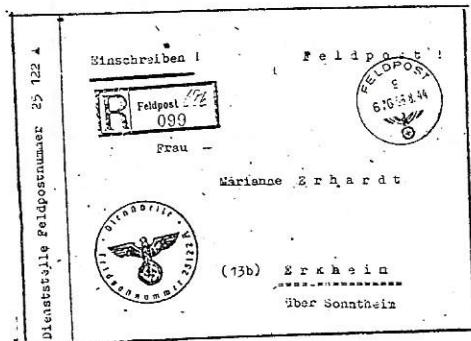
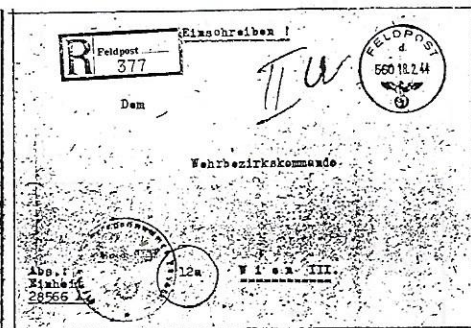
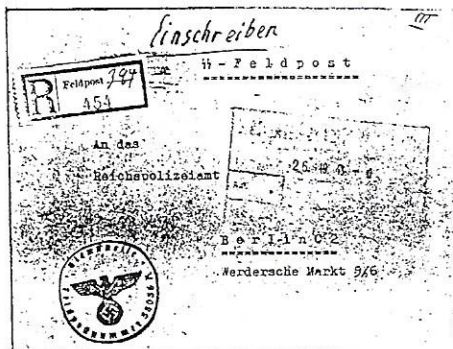
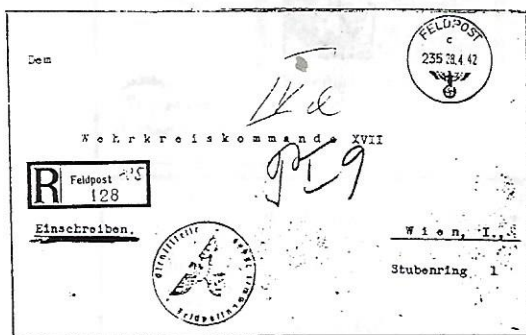
Lot	Description	Min.
First 9 lots are SS covers illus. by Row/Position i.e. Top/Center =TC, etc. VF unless noted otherwise		
1.	Feldpost card sent 12.'42 frm Fp.27581 (Art. Detachment/ 2nd SS Ind. Brig.) (See TL)	\$25.00 *
2.	Fp. cover sent 7.43 frm SS Police Rgt. 21 via DDP B-M (See TC)	35.00 *
3.	Croatia – Legion imperf. S/S on airmail Feldpost cover to Hamburg 1.'45 VF (See TR)	15.00
4.	Fp. cover sent 5.41 frm SS Watch Battalion in Prag via DDP B-M Prag (See ML)	35.00
5.	Parcel card sent to member 14. SS Div. "Galizien" 10.43 (See illustration on Bulletin Page 1)	45.00 *
6.	Fp. cover sent 12.43 frm SS Ersatz u. Ausb. Detachment in Dresden (See MC)	20.00
7.	Fp cvr sent 12.'44 to Fp.13008 (Kol/SS Werfer Abtl.12 of 12th SS Div. 'HJ') via DDP Alpengvor. (MR)	35.00 *
8.	SS Cens. Fp. cvr. sent 6.44 frm Fp.48775 (2 Kp./Pi. Btl. 20 of 20th SS Div 'Estonia Nr.1 ') (See BL)	35.00
9.	Fp. cvr sent 1.'43 to Fp. 21354 (II/SS PGR 7of 4th SS Div. 'Polizei') Return - addressee killed (BR)	35.00



Next 6 lots are Official Kriegsmarine Feldpost covers, VF unless noted o'wise		
10.	Sent 6.'42 frm Marine Intendantur (Naval Superintendent's Office) in Wilhelmshaven	12.00
11.	Sent 12.'41 frm Marine Standortverwendung (Naval Local Garrison Office) in Sylt	12.00
12.	Sent 12.'41 frm Marine Standortverwendung (Naval Local Garrison Office) in Varel	12.00
13.	Sent 4.'44 frm Kdo der Marinestation der Nordsee (HQ/ North Sea Naval Station) in Wilhelmshaven	12.00
14.	Sent 8.'44 frm Kdo der Marine Nachrichtenschule (HQ/Naval Signals School) in Warenmüritz	12.00
15.	Sent 4.'44 frm Marine-Flak-Schule (Naval Flak School) VI in Wesel	12.00

Next 13 lots R-Fp. cvrs frm Army & SS P.O. illus. by Row/Position i.e. Top/Center =TC etc. VF unless noted o'wise

	Kenn	FpA	Date	Fp #	Description	
16.	102	241	2.'42	28798	I Btl./Gren. Rgt. 336 via 161st Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
17.	235	SS-1	4.42	26086	Stab/Feldzeug. Btl. 16 via 1st SS Div. 'LSSAH' P.O. (See TL)	22.00
18.	394	SS-13	10.'43	58056	Flak Abtl. 13 via 13th SS Div. 'Handshar' P.O. (See TC)	22.00
19.	560	SS-3	2.'44	28566	III/Gren. Rgt. 593 via 3rd SS Div. 'Totenkopf' P.O. (See TR)	22.00
20.	646	536	7.'43	44805	Kdo/356th Infantry Division via Division P.O.	9.00
21.	655	342	6.'43	08430	Stab/Art. Abtl. 422 via 342nd Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
22.	665	15	9.'41	09154	II/Gren. Rgt. 106 via 15th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
23.	676	SS-9	8.'44	25122	I/PGR 20 via 9th SS Div. 'Hohenstaufen' (See ML)	22.00
24.	701	323	11.'42	32594	III/Gren.Rgt. 594 via 323rd Infantry Division P.O (No Cancel)	10.00
25.	781	SS-2	5.'43	11707	II/PGR 4 via 2nd SS Div. 'Das Reich' P.O. (See MC)	22.00
26.	822	921	11.'43	454230	III/Art. Rgt.HG via H. Göring Para. Pz. Div. P.O. (See BL)	22.00
27.	874	45	9.'44	28089	I/Art. Rgt. 98 via 45th Infantry Division P.O.	9.00
28.	969	SS-7	1.'44	47537	II/SS A.R. 7 via 7th SS Div. 'Prinz Eugen' P.O. (See MR)	22.00
29.	Scarce Fp facing slip on re-used cvr for bundle sent 9.'40 PSST Stuttgart to Zeithain Lager (See BC)					30.00
30.	Scarce value letter for 1,000 RM posted in Vienna 5.'43, Hamburg rec. cancel and wax postal seals on backside. Bedarfs with correct 82 Pfg postage (See BR) VF					40.00



PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 91 is August 15, 2003.
 SEND ALL BIDS TO: Jim Lewis, 111 Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070