



# 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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DIRECTOR: Myron Fox, P.O. Box 283, Needham Heights, MA 02194

BULLETIN STAFF:

EDITOR/AUCTION MGR.: James E. Lewis, 111 Montross Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070.

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Fred Willshaw, 10408 Avondale Ave., Charlotte, NC 28210

BACK ISSUES MGR.: Kelly Stefanacci, 4 Lowell Court, Freehold, NJ 07728

DISTRIBUTION MGR.: Robert Dunn, 3318 Running Cedar Way, Williamsburg, VA 23188

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**Kriegsgefangenenpost**

LA  
**Kgf.** *Rout Pogatsen* **E.Nr.** *106474*

**des Arbeitskommando Nr. A** *25* *19*


der Firma  
(Gemeinde) *J. R. U. in der Poststelle*

**in** *Österreich* *67*

**Post** *1944*

**Land** *Österreich*

Frei durch Ablösung Reich



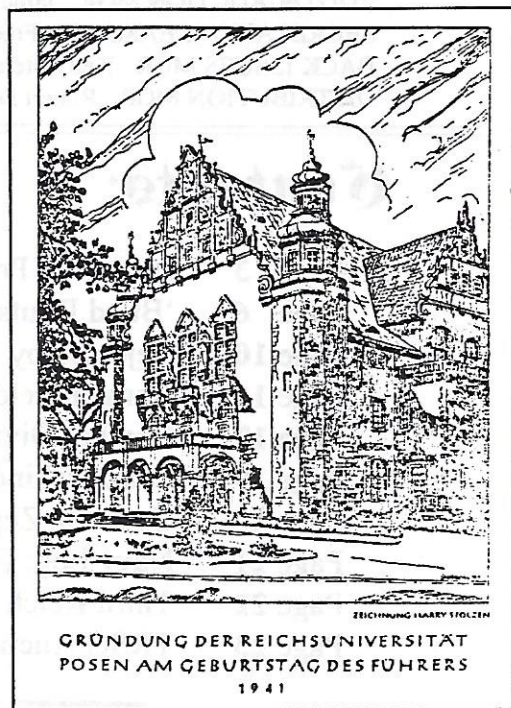


# STAFF GROUP NOTES

**New Features** - with this first issue of 1997 we are initiating two new features which we hope you will find interesting. The first feature, "Inadmissible Mail", provides members with an opportunity to submit examples from their collections of foreign mail rejected by German censors because they violated requirements of the Directive on Communications Service of April 2, 1940. The second feature, "Third Reich Postal Rates", will be based on cards and covers from TRSGer Bob Ferguson's collection. Each feature will include a detailed write-up explaining the postal rate illustrated. Please send all submissions for either feature to Ye Olde Ed.

**Back Issue Policy** - as a reminder, TRSG back issues are only available for the ten years (40 issues) preceding the most recent issue. Back Issues Manager Kelly Stefanacci will currently accept orders for any issue back to Bulletin # 82 (Current Bulletin # 122 minus 40 = 82) @ \$3.00 per issue postpaid.

**Another Hitler Birthday Cancel?** - in addition to cancels listed in Bob Ferguson's "Hitler Birthday Special Cancels" (Bulletin # 121) is a special cancel found on a card commemorating the founding of National University in Posen in 1941. The front of the card (at right) depicts an artist's view of the building and the reverse has an inscription stating that the ceremonial opening took place on April 27, 1941. Hitler's birthday was, of course, on April 20th but, despite the discrepancy in date, both the card and cancel (shown below) include the phrase "Am Geburtstag des Führers". Should this be regarded as an additional Hitler Birthday cancel?



## Prices Realized - TRSG Auction #75

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1	\$12.00	11	\$15.00	20	\$14.00	37	\$17.00	45	\$12.00	51	\$10.00
2	60.00	12	18.00	27	13.00	38	38.00	46	16.00	52	10.00
4	15.00	13	18.00	30	8.00	39	14.00	47	15.00	53	25.00
6	10.00	17	10.00	31	8.00	42	27.00	48	15.00	54	25.00
9	28.00	18	9.00	34	72.00	43	10.00	49	10.00	56	18.00
10	20.00	19	14.00	35	11.00	44	15.00	50	10.00		

**Cover Illustration** - label with pre-printed letter seal of "Kommandantur" (Headquarters Command) of Stalag XVIIA in Wolfsburg was on a parcel forwarded to a "Kriegsgefangenen." (POW) temporarily located in "Arbeitskommando" (Labor Battalion) A 25/G. This is one of the lots of German POW camp mail featured in Auction #76. All these POW items are on pages from a medal winning exhibit and have nice typed write-ups. Good hunting!

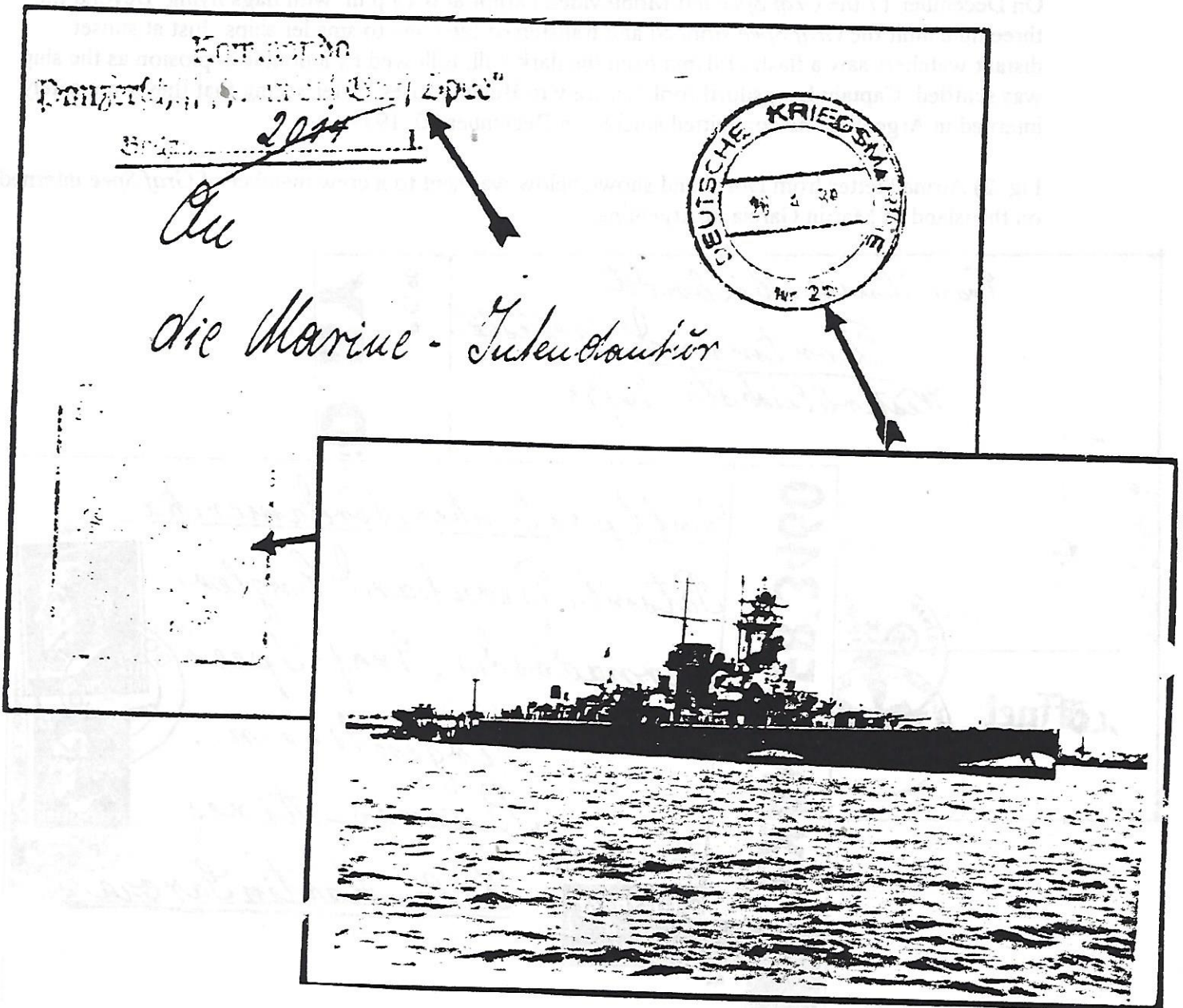


# Pursuit of the Pocket Battleship 'Admiral Graf Spee'

by Jim Lewis

The Treaty of Versailles had restricted German replacement battleship tonnage to 10,000 tons and 11" guns. The German Navy found that by adopting diesel propulsion and electric welding, sufficient weight could be saved to produce a *Panzerschiff* (armored ship) with a potent combination of speed and power. With a displacement of 12,100 tons, a main armament of six 11" guns and a cruising range of 9,000 miles at 19 knots, they could outgun or outrun anything afloat. In the popular Press these ships were called "pocket battleships" because they were neither cruisers nor battleships. The third ship of this class, the *Admiral Graf Spee*, was launched on June 30, 1934.

The *Graf Spee* performed patrol duty during the Spanish Civil War of 1936-7. During peacetime, the *Graf Spee*'s post office marked open address military mail with a "Deutsche Kriegsmarine Nr. 26" cancel as shown on this cover posted in April 1939 (Fig. 1).



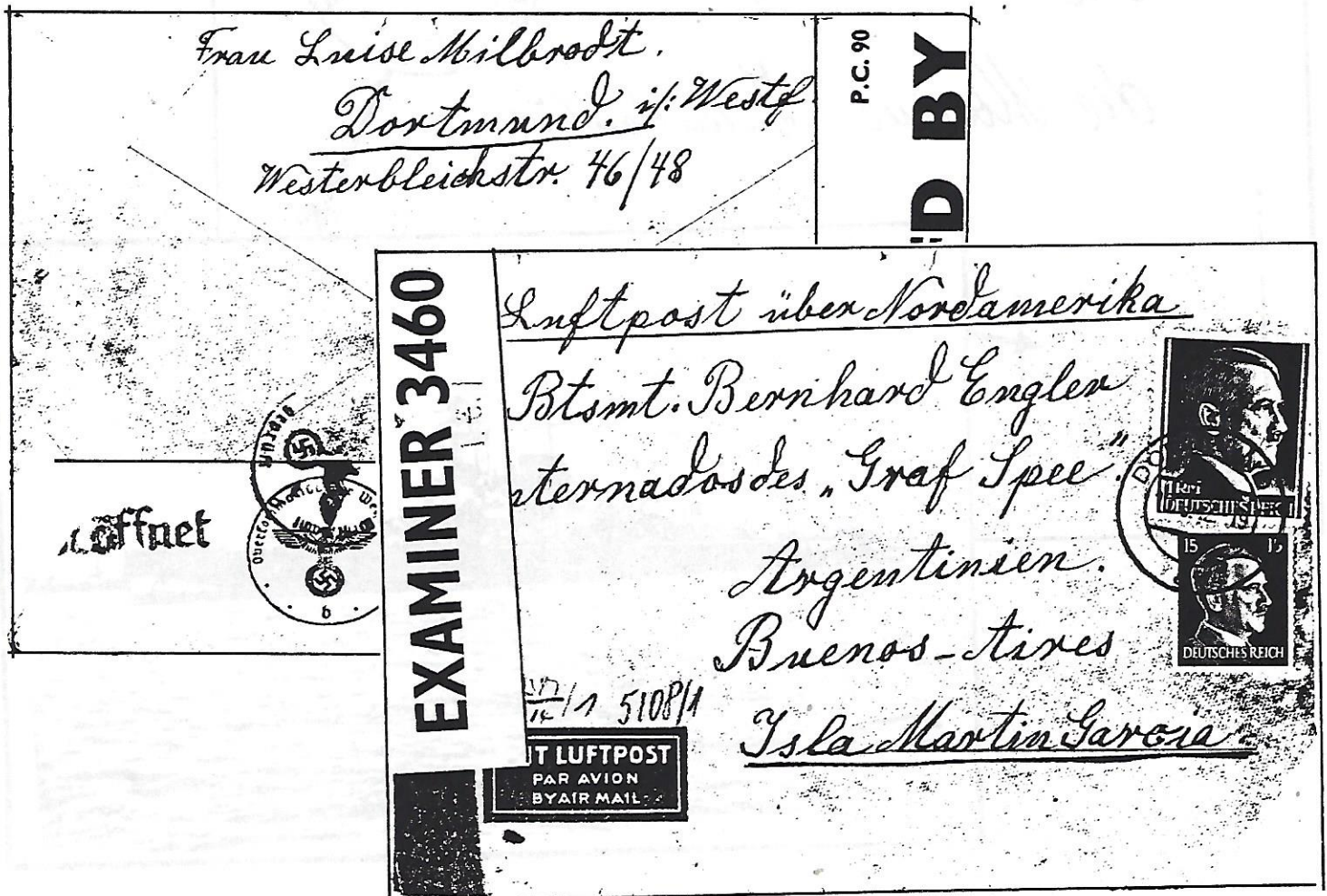


The *Graf Spee*'s area of operation at the outbreak of war was the South Atlantic. She sank her first merchant ship off the coast of Brazil in early October and added several more off the coast of Africa. Scheduled to return to Germany in January 1940, the *Graf Spee*'s Captain Hans Langsdorff hoped to intercept a convoy off the estuary of the River Plate. He took up position and sank one ship on December 7th, raising his total to nine ships totaling 50,089 tons.

On December 13, the *Graf Spee* was engaged by the British cruisers *Exeter*, *Ajax* and *Achilles*. During a 1-1/2 hour battle, while *Exeter* was crippled and *Ajax* had her aft turrets knocked out, the *Graf Spee* sustained significant damage, including thirty-six killed and fifty-eight wounded. Captain Langsdorff retreated up the Plate toward Montevideo in neutral Uruguay and asked the Uruguayan government for two weeks to make repairs. The British officially demanded that the *Graf Spee* be limited to 24 hours for repairs or interned for the duration of the war. Faced with opposing demands, the Uruguayan authorities compromised by allowing the *Graf Spee* three days to make repairs, starting the evening after her arrival.

On December 17 the *Graf Spee* left Montevideo harbor at 6:15 p.m. with flags flying. Beyond the three mile limit the *Graf Spee* stopped and transferred the crew to smaller ships. Just at sunset distant watchers saw a flash of flame from the dark hull, followed by a double explosion as the ship was scuttled. Captain Langsdorff took his crew to Buenos Aires. After seeing that they were safely interned in Argentina, he committed suicide on December 20, 1939.

Fig. 2) Airmail letter from Dortmund shown below was sent to a crew member of *Graf Spee* interned on the island of Martin Garcia in Argentina.



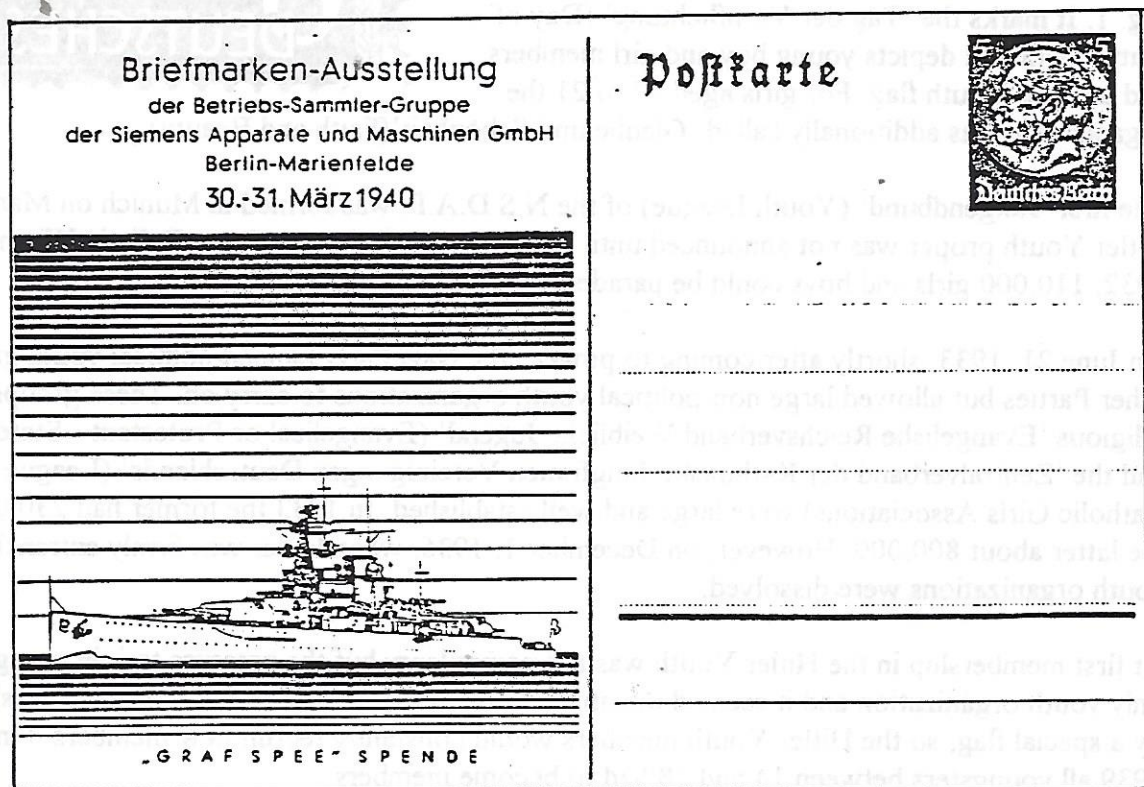


While the first issue of the Field Post Directory ("Feldpostübersicht" or "FpU") has Feldpost # 19290 assigned to *Admiral Graf Spee*, the loss of this ship in December 1939 makes it unlikely that much mail could exist with this coded Feldpost address. Following the loss, Feldpost # 19290 was deactivated early in 1940 but re-assigned in early 1941 to "Artillerie Kommandeur 149".

Langsdorff had fought a fine campaign but a poor battle. The commerce raiding had been conducted with great skill, but his decisions to fight with warships and, once engaged, to allow the more lightly armed British ships to close the range and the *Exeter* then to escape were all errors. His concern for his ship and crew were very human but also very shortsighted, leading him to allow British pursuit while he sailed into "the trap of Montevideo" as he called it in his last letter.

Hitler was upset by the loss of *Graf Spee* and so concerned about the effect on German morale if *Deutschland*, the first pocket battleship, was also lost that he had this ship re-named *Lützow*.

Another item relating to this episode is a 5 Pfg. postal card (Fig. 3) ordered by the huge Siemens Engineering Works in Berlin for sale at a stamp exhibition held on March 30-31, 1940. There is little information on the origin of this card but it is believed that it was sold to raise funds for the dependents of the crew members of the *Graf Spee* interned in Argentina.



Ed. Note: For those with access to a well stocked video store, the very fine 1957 British technicolor film "The Battle of the River Plate" is highly recommended. Apparently re-titled for North American distribution, this film may also be listed as "Pursuit of the Graf Spee". Among the actors are Bernard Lee (later 'M' of the James Bond films), a young Peter Finch (who won an Oscar for 'Network') as Captain Langsdorff, and the U.S. Heavy cruiser 'Salem' as the 'Graf Spee'.



## 'BUND DEUTSCHER MÄDEL' - The League of German Girls

by Richard Hemery

Nazi control over life in Germany began for many in the Hitler Youth. This organization contained roughly as many girls as boys but it seems that far more commemorative material appeared for the latter. The aim of this article is to examine those items commemorating the League of German Girls and provide some background information on the organization.

A girl would first join the 'Jungmädel' (Young Girls League) at the age of ten and then transfer to the B.D.M. proper on or around April 20th of the year in which they reached the age of fourteen. From that time on they were junior Party members with an obligation (if they behaved correctly) to join the Party on the November 9th of their eighteenth year.

The day of enrollment in the Hitler Youth is commemorated by the stamp (Mi. 843) shown here as Fig. 1. It marks the 'Tag der Verpflichtung' (Day of Duty) 1943 and depicts young boy and girl members and a Hitler Youth flag. For girls aged 17 to 21 the organization was additionally called 'Glaube und Schönheit' (Faith and Beauty).



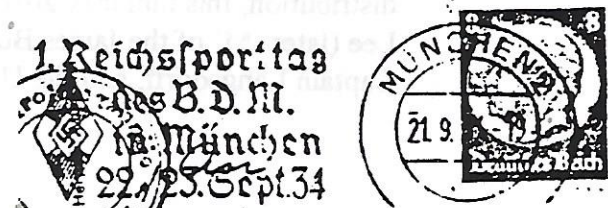
The first 'Jugendbund' (Youth League) of the N.S.D.A.P. was formed in Munich on March 8, 1922, but the Hitler Youth proper was not announced until July 3, 1926, during the Party Rally in Weimar. By October 1, 1932, 110,000 girls and boys could be paraded before Hitler in Potsdam.

On June 21, 1933, shortly after coming to power, the Nazi Party banned political youth groups attached to other Parties but allowed large non-political youth organizations to carry on. These groups, such as the religious 'Evangelische Reichsverband Weibliche Jugend' (Evangelical or Protestant - State League of Girls) and the 'Zentralverband der Katholische Jungfrauen Vereinigungen Deutschlands' (League of German Catholic Girls Associations) were large and well established. In 1933 the former had 230,000 members and the latter about 800,000. However, on December 1, 1936, when Hitler was firmly entrenched, all non-Nazi youth organizations were dissolved.

At first membership in the Hitler Youth was not compulsory but the pressure to join was great. It was the only youth organization and it seemed unpatriotic not to join. Schools with 95% membership were allowed to fly a special flag, so the Hitler Youth members would constantly recruit new members. Finally, after March 1939 all youngsters between 14 and 18 had to become members.

The girls were taught many things and offered exciting activities but their minds were poisoned with race hatred and one-sided history. They were also given an intensive preparation for their future role as mothers and participated in community work such as scrap collecting or acting as maids for large families.

Sports were encouraged and the B.D.M. had its own Sports Meeting, the first, held in Munich on September 22-23, 1934, was commemorated by the special slogan cancellation shown as Fig. 2 to advertise the event.





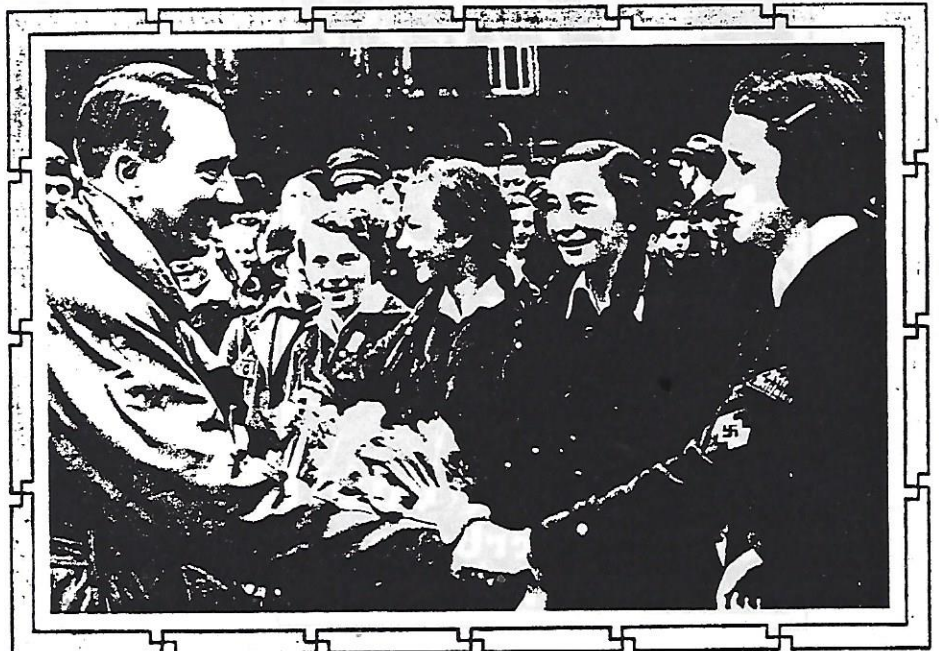
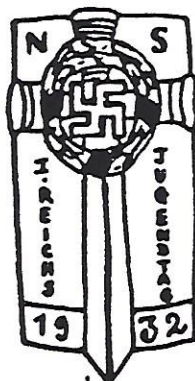
Sports and activities included gymnastics, rowing, cycling, riding, swimming and gliding. Once a year the girls attended a well organized camp but only two of these were commemorated by special cancels. The first, shown as Fig. 3 was used in Zeuschsee, Brandenburg in June 27 to August 5, 1938 to commemorate the 'B.D.M. Kurmarklager' and the second, used in Braunschweig from May 14 - 24, 1939, marked the '4 Reichsführer-und-Führerinnenlager der HJ' (4th Hitler Youth Leaders Camp). By contrast, roughly sixty special cancels exist for camps run for the male sections of the Hitler Youth.



Apart from stamps with a B.D.M. connection, two postal stationery items feature B.D.M. girls. The first (Fig. 4) is the 6+4 Pfg. imprint on a charity postal card (Mi. 256) issued on October 1, 1935. The design, by K. Diebitsch from a photograph by Hans Retzleff, shows an older girl in a white summer blouse, black neck scarf and pigtails (pigtails were not compulsory) in front of Hitler Youth standards.

Other B.D.M. girls are seen on a 6+19 Pfg. postal card (Fig. 5) which was one of a set of five cards (Mi. 278) issued in 1939 to commemorate Hitler's 50th Birthday. The girls are in full uniform, brown jacket worn with blue skirts and white ankle socks. The skirt length changed from ankle length around 1935 to knee length during the war years. The girl on extreme right wears a triangular identification badge in silver on black on her left sleeve showing that she is from the 'West Westfalen' area. As this area was reformed under a new name before 1939, this is probably an older photograph. The number of areas rose from 25 in 1936 to a maximum of 48 in 1943.

Another clue to the age of the photo is the Potsdam badge (Fig. 6) worn by the fourth girl from the right which was awarded for attending the meeting Potsdam in 1932 at which the youngest participant would have been about 13. Here she looks 14 or 15 so the photo probably dates from 1934 or 1935.





There are not too many color post cards depicting members of the B.D.M. One of the most striking is a card designed by Lugwig Hohlwein (Fig. 7) featuring an older girl in front of Hitler Youth standards.

Another card circa 1938 or 1939 designed by Hermann Witte (Fig. 8) shows a pig-tailed girl in uniform with a collection can. The text reads "Build youth hostels and homes".





There are two additional post cards depicting members of the B.D.M. which appear in the series of color post cards produced by the firm of Heinrich Hoffmann to commemorate the Nuremberg Rallies.

A card (Fig. 9) from the 1936 Rally (serial 36/8) is a full face portrait, thought to be by Hans Freedman, of a young girl holding a Hitler Youth standard.

Over her right shoulder can be seen a portion of the old city of Nuremberg.



Another card (Fig. 10) from the 1937 Rally (series 37/8) is an almost full length portrait by Richard Borrmeister of a young girl with blonde pig-tails holding a bunch of flowers. She is dwarfed by the huge eagle which fills the background.



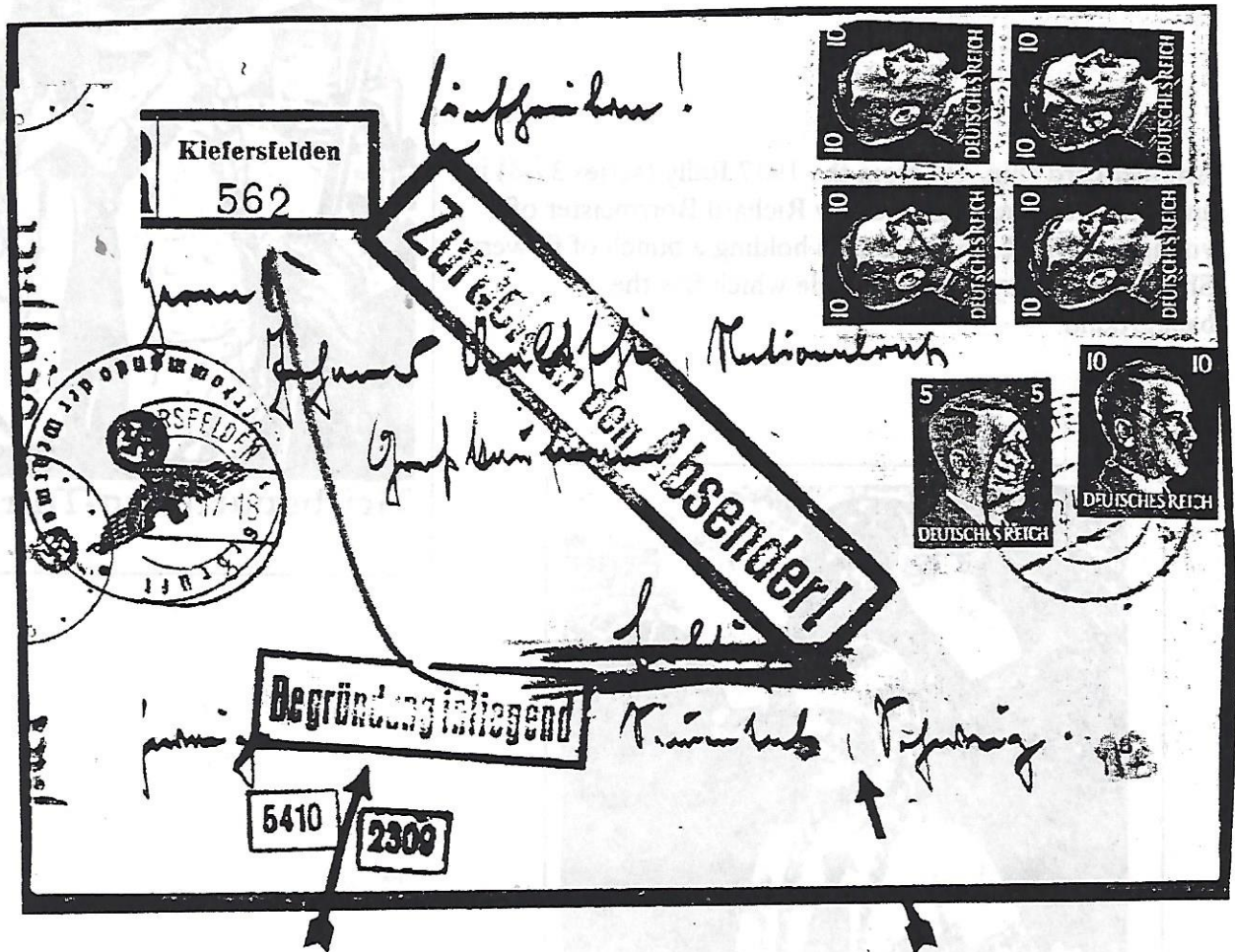
This article was originally published in Group News Sheet 42 of the Third Reich Study Group (U.K.) and appears here (w/ minor changes in text and illustrations) with their kind permission.



## Rejected by Censor - Inadmissible Mail Hand Written Commercial Letter

This new feature will show case examples of mail rejected by Foreign Letter Examining Offices in Germany and cite the appropriate section in the **Directive on Communications Service of April 2, 1940** which covers the reason for rejection.

“Postcards and letters to non-enemy foreign countries must be clear and legible. Commercial letters are only admissible in typewritten or printed form” (Section II-A, Paragraph 2)



REASON ENCLOSED

RETURN TO SENDER

December 1943: Registered cover addressed to a wholesaler in Switzerland was examined and rejected by Munich censor office using rare boxed handstamp “Begründung inliegend”.



## German Military Mail in Bohemia-Moravia 1939-45 (Part 3)

by Jim Lewis

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

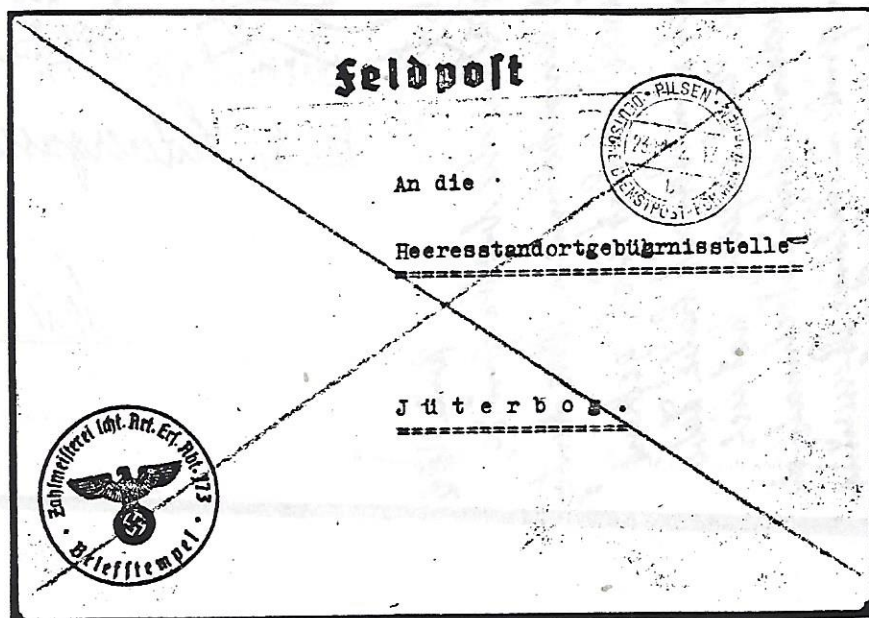
The new military district "Wehrkreis Böhmen-Mähren" constituted late in 1942 had no Deputy Corps HQ but, as detailed in Part 2, it continuously played host to units from no less than five of the old German Wehrkreis. During the course of the war, the two parts of the Protectorate served, in effect, as adjuncts of the two neighboring Wehrkreis and units in Bohemia-Moravia were subordinate to the Deputy Corps HQ XIII in Nuremburg and Deputy Corps HQ XVII in Vienna.

### **Wehrkreis XIII Replacement Units in the Protectorate**

Army "Ersatz" (Replacement) units from this district were relocated to the Protectorate in the fall of 1939 when this military district boundary, comprising northern Bavaria, was extended to include western Bohemia. The following is a listing of these units showing their former locations in Bavaria and new locations in the Protectorate.

<u>Unit Designation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Former Location</u>
Infantry Ersatz Rgt. (Staff) 296	Josephstadt	Regensburg
Infantry Ersatz Rgt. (Staff) 46	Prag	Bayreuth
Infantry Howitzer Ersatz Co. 10	Budweis	Amberg
Infantry Howitzer Ersatz Co. 46	Taus	Bayreuth
Infantry Anti-Tank Ersatz Co. 46	Altbunzlau	Bayreuth
Infantry Signals Ersatz Co. 46	Prag	Bayreuth
Infantry Ersatz Section 72	Pardubitz	Karlsbad
Infantry Ersatz Section 97	Jermer	Eger
Infantry Ersatz Section 213	Laun	Erlangen
Infantry Ersatz Section 260	Prag	Passau
Infantry Ersatz Section 302	Budweis	Weiden
Infantry Ersatz Section 319	Taus	Coburg
+Infantry Ersatz Section 342	Neuhaus	Bayreuth
Infantry Ersatz Section 480	Sclon	Nuremburg
Infantry Ersatz Section 481	Jungbunzplatz	Hof
Artillery Ersatz Rgt. (Staff) 10	Pilsen	Regensburg
Artillery Ersatz Section 103	Prag	Anbach
Artillery Ersatz Section 173	Pilsen	Regensburg
Supply Troop Ersatz Section 13	Klattau	Erlangen

Fig. 10) Cover sent Dec. '42 from Light Artillery Ersatz Section 173 via DDP office in Pilsen.



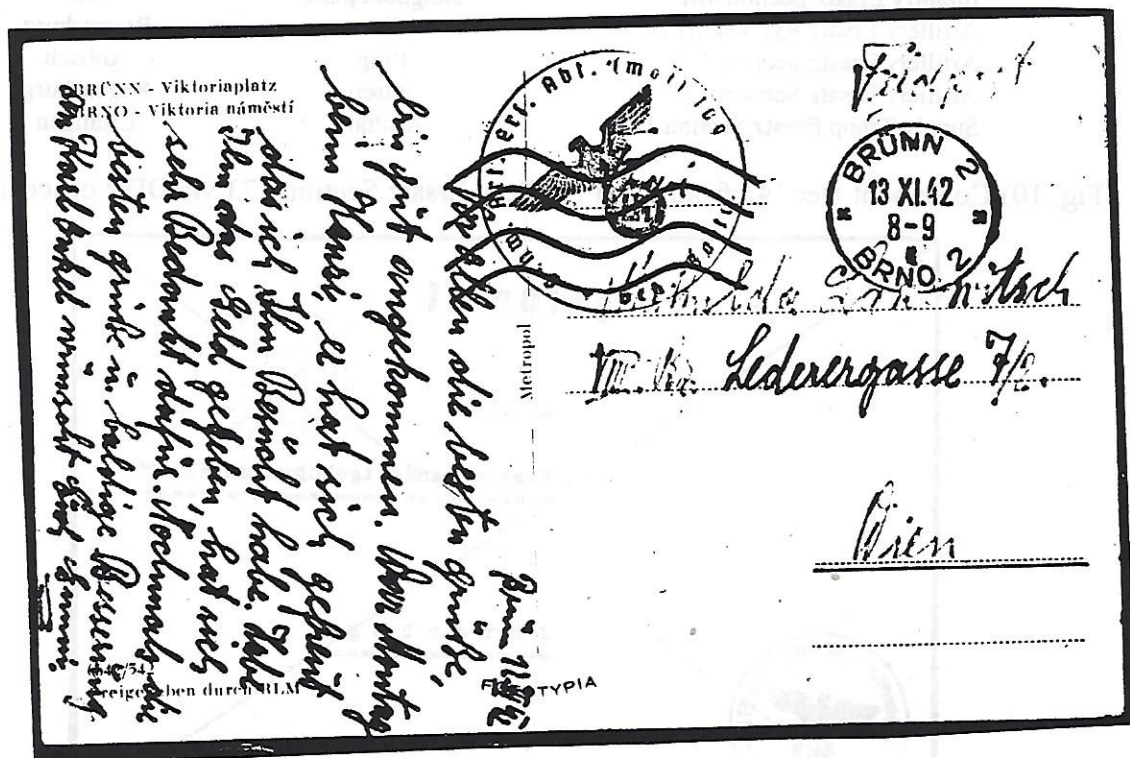


**Wehrkreis XVII Replacement Units in the Protectorate**

In the fall of 1939 this military district boundary, comprising northern Austria, was extended to include the southern districts of Bohemia and Moravia. In 1942 Army "Ersatz" units were transferred to Moravia under control of Replacement Division 177 at Brünn. The following is a listing of these units showing their former locations in Austria and new locations in the Protectorate

<u>Unit Designation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Former Location</u>
Infantry Ersatz Rgt. (Staff) 82	Mahr.-Weisskirchen	Vienna
Infantry Ersatz Rgt. (Staff) 131	Brünn.	Krems
Infantry Howitzer Ersatz Co. 82	Mahr.-Weisskirchen	Vienna
Infantry Signals Ersatz Co. 82	Friedeck	Vienna
Infantry Mounted Ersatz Platoon	Brünn.	Krems
Armored Infantry Ersatz Btl. 2	Mahr.-Weisskirchen	Vienna
Armored Infantry Ersatz Btl. 10	Frankenstadt	St. Polen
Infantry Ersatz Btl. II/131	Olmütz	Engerau
Infantry Ersatz Btl. I/131	Ung.-Hradisch	Znaim
Infantry Ersatz Btl. I/134	Brünn.	Vienna-Streber.
Infantry Ersatz Btl. II/135	Iglau	Ried
Infantry Ersatz Btl. I/146	Kremsier	Wels
Infantry Ersatz Btl. II/486	Kremsier	Horn
Artillery Ersatz Rgt. (Staff) 102	Olmütz	Wiener-Neustadt
Artillery Ersatz Rgt. (Staff) 109	Brünn.	Vienna
Supply Troop Ersatz Section 17	Göding	Stockerau
Engineer Ersatz Co. (mot.) 82	Kremsier	Vienna

Fig. 11) Post card sent to Vienna in November '42 with unit seal of Heavy Artillery Ersatz Section 109 was sent via civil P.O. in Brünn, Moravia.

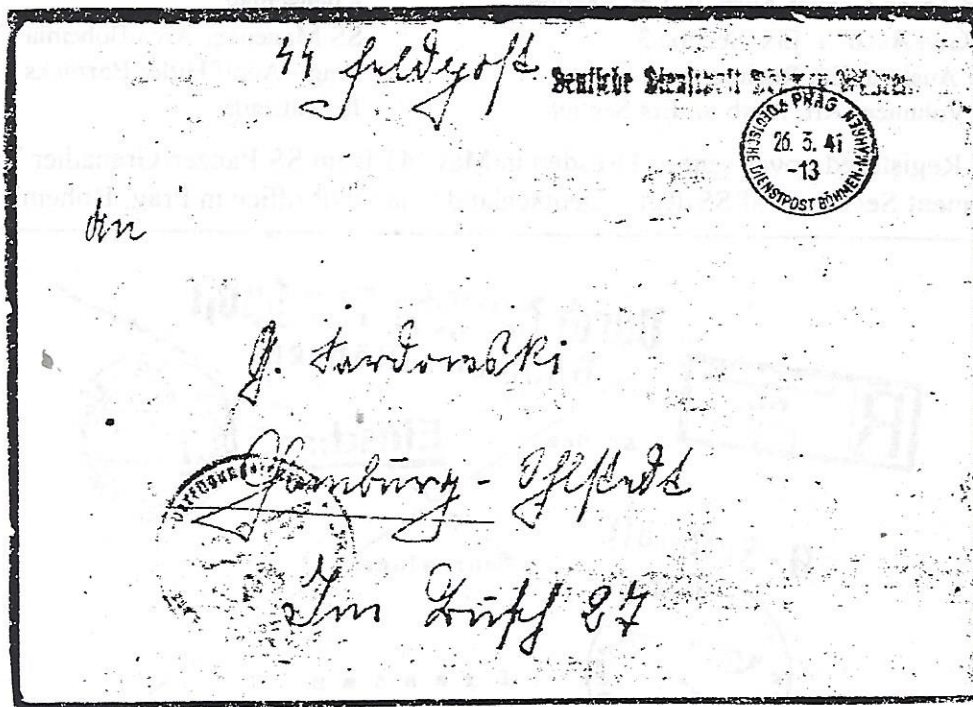




VII.) Waffen-SS Replacement and Training Units in the Protectorate

In May 1940 a special agreement between the German Postal Ministry and Heinrich Himmler, Reichsführer-SS and Chief of German Police, extended Feldpost privileges to Waffen-SS units not attached to the Field Army.

Fig. 12 "SS-Feldpost" cover sent to Hamburg via DDP Prag in May '41 from member of "SS-Verfügungstruppe", an early Waffen-SS division later re-named "Das Reich".



The rapid expansion of the Waffen-SS in 1943-44 and the constant increase in its prestige were accompanied by changes in its replacement and training structure. This involved building up an extensive school system and the transfer of nearly all training facilities from occupied countries back to Germany and Bohemia.

Unlike the Army, the Waffen-SS did not decentralize the control of its replacement system to its regional headquarters in Germany. All replacement and training units, schools and maneuver areas were controlled by the SS Main Operations Department and replacement requisitions from field units were handled by an official Reinforcement Branch (Abt. 1e) of Waffen-SS High Command. The temporary location of a replacement or training unit did not imply any permanent territorial affiliation. Units were subordinate to the area command in which they were stationed for disciplinary, billeting and other administrative purposes only, not for control of either replacement or training.

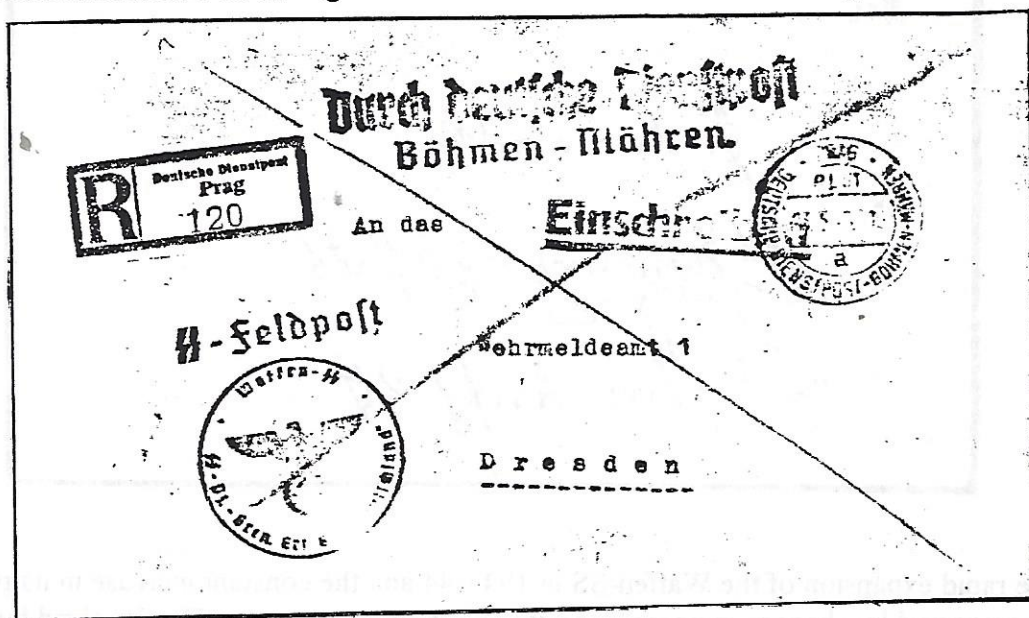
On the following page is a listing of these units showing their locations in the Protectorate.



**Waffen-SS Ausbildungs und Ersatz (Training and Replacement) Units in the Protectorate**

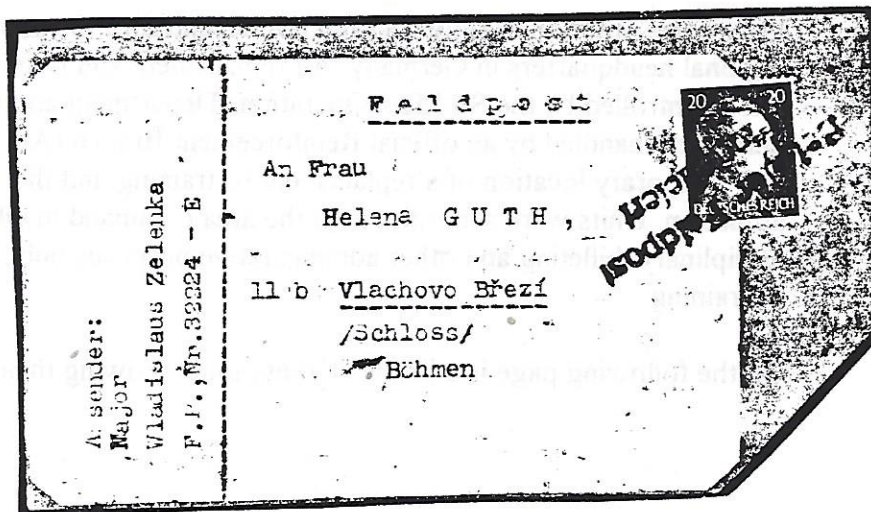
<u>Unit Designation</u>	<u>Location</u>
SS Sniper Ausb. u. Ers. Section.	Panzer Grenadier School Klienschlag
Waffen-SS Rehabilitation Battalion	SS Maneuver Area Bohemia-Chlum
SS Cavalry Ausb. u. Ers. Section 8	SS Maneuver Area Bohemia-Beneschau
SS Panzer-Grenadier Ausb. u. Ers. Section. 2	Prag-Rusin
SS Panzer-Grenadier Ausb. u. Ers. Section 10	Brünn
SS Panzer-Grenadier Ausb. u. Ers. Section 17	Iglau
SS Panzer-Grenadier Ausb. u. Ers. Section 19	Prag-Rusin
SS Armored Troop Carrier Ausb. u. Ers. Section	Klienschlag
SS Assault Gun Ausb. u. Ers. Section 3	SS Maneuver Area Bohemia Chlum
SS Artillery Ausb. u. Ers Regiment	Prag - Adolf Hitler Barracks
Latvian SS Volunteer Art. Ausb. u. Ers Section.	Josephstadt

Fig. 13) Registered cover sent to Dresden in May '43 from SS Panzer-Grenadier Training and Replacement Section 2 of SS-Rgt. "Deutschland" via DDP office in Prag, Bohemia .



The SS "Polizei" Regiments were motorized formations normally used for internal security duties in the Protectorate controlled by SS Area Command ("Abschnitte") XXXIX located in Prag.

Fig. 14) Portion of parcel wrap addressed to SCHLOSS, Bohemia sent by a Major using Fp.# 32224E, identified as Battalion IV of Inspector-General for Police Regiments in the Protectorate. Cancel "Bei der Feldpost eingeliefert" (dispatched by the Feldpost) was used prior to the issuance of military parcel permit stamps.





VIII.) Luftwaffe Replacement and Training Units in the Protectorate

The Luftwaffe had air bases, training schools and other facilities in the Protectorate but I have been unable to find a listing of them. Shown below are examples of Luftwaffe Feldpost handled by the Dienstpost in Bohemia-Moravia.

Fig. 15) Cover sent to Hamburg in June 1940 from member of "Fliegerausbildungsregiment" (Airman Training Regiment) 32 located in **Richthofen Kaserne** (Barracks) in Pardubitz, Bohemia has cancel of DDP Pardubitz. The Richthofen Kaserne is shown on photo card.

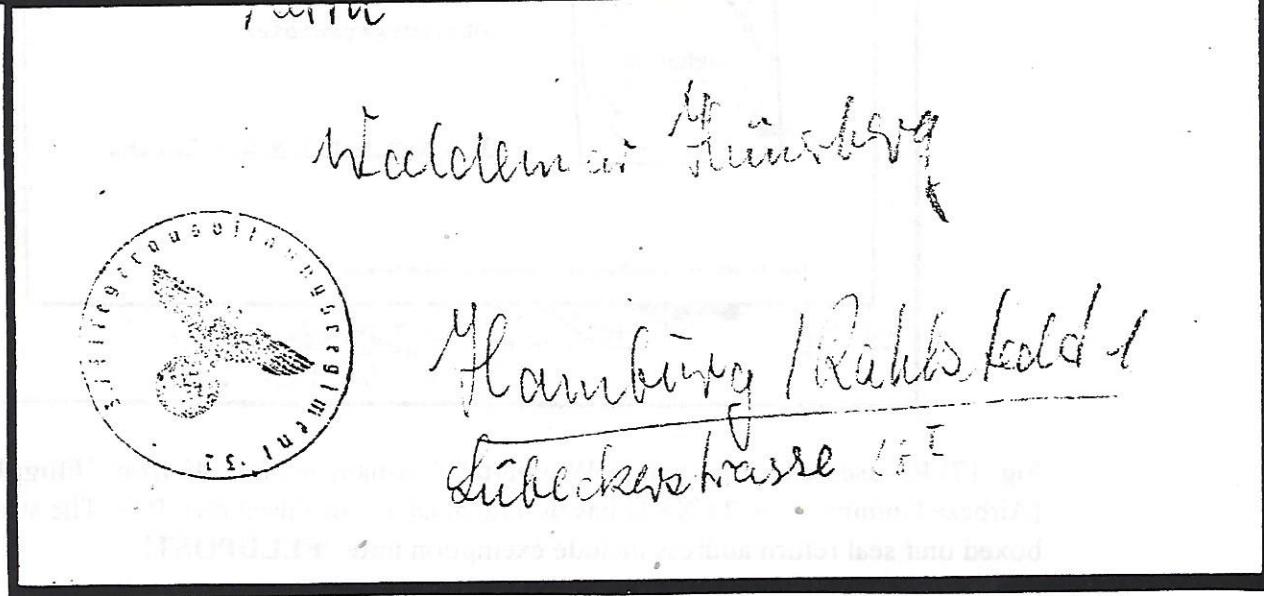




Fig. 16) Official cover sent to Tabor, Bohemia from "Bauleitung der Luftwaffe" (Main Luftwaffe Construction Office) in Feb. '41 has distinctive single ring cancel of DDP Branch Office in Prag-Gbell and boxed routing stamp "Deutsch Dienstpost Böhmen und Mähren". Early exemption note "Frei durch Ablösung Reich" (Free by Government Authority) in boxed unit seal.

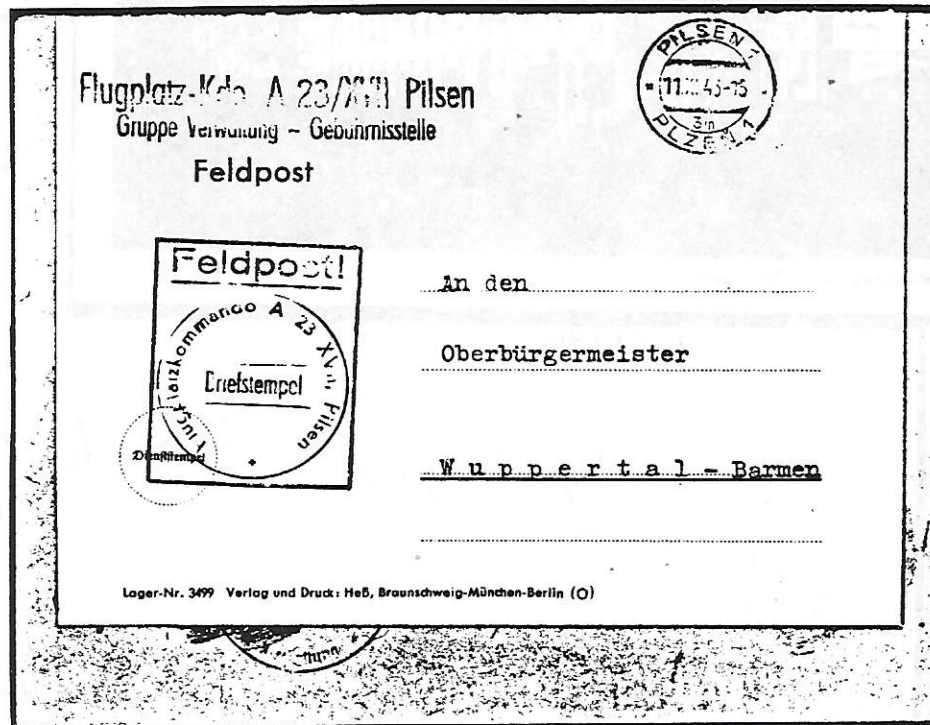
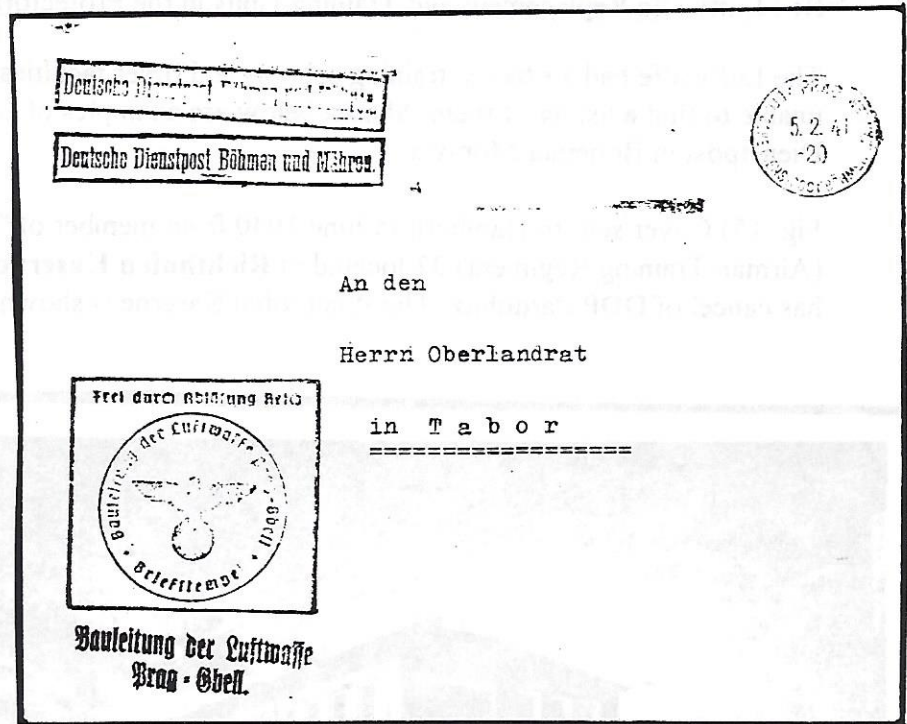


Fig. 17) Re-used envelope sent to Wuppertal, Germany in Nov. '43 from "Flugplatz-Kdo" (Airbase Command) A 23/XVII has bi-lingual cancel of Pilsen civil P.O. The straight line and boxed unit seal return address include exemption note "FELDPOST!".

To be continued.



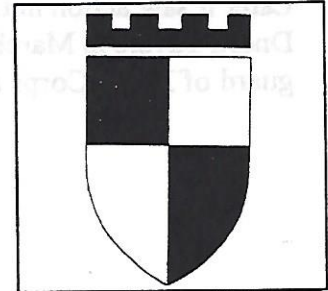
# COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:

## 1st Infantry Division

by Jim Lewis

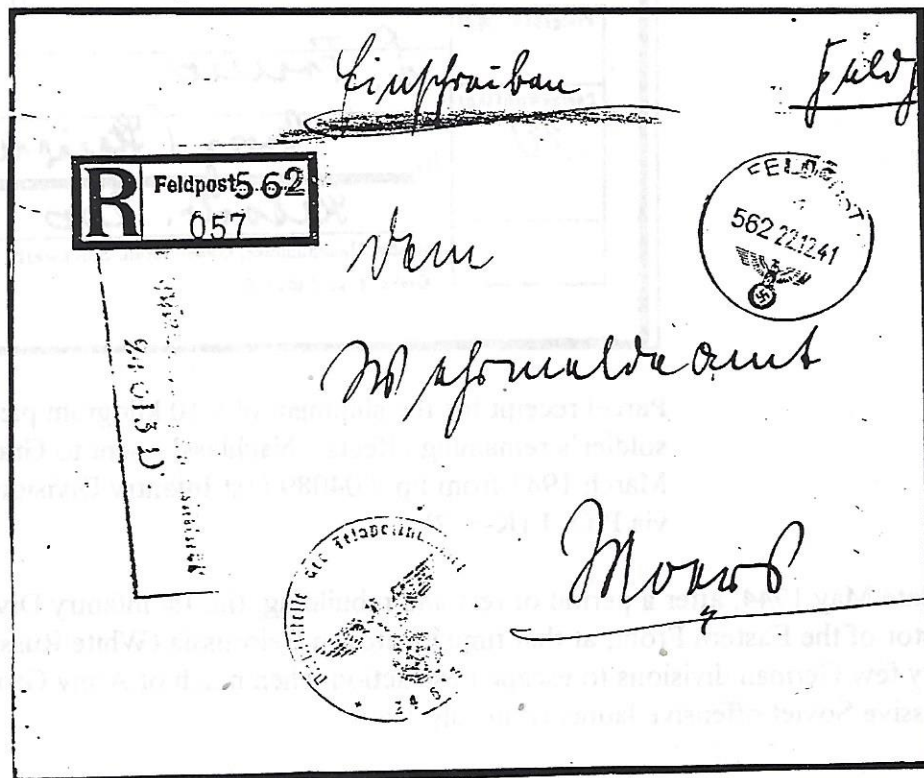
POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
1	562	1	22	43	1	1

This division was formed in East Prussia in 1935 by the expansion of the historic 1st Infantry Regiment of the Reichswehr, shortly after Hitler re-introduced conscription in Germany. It adopted as a division emblem a design (right) based on the Prussian Hohenzollen coat-of-arms, a black and white shield. Black and white were the state colors of Prussia.



It saw its first engagement in the 1939 Polish campaign when it formed part of Army Corps 'Wodrig', which in turn was part of General von Küchler's 3rd Army under the command of von Bock's 'Heeresgruppe Nord' (Army Group North). The division also was lightly engaged in the French campaign in 1940.

The 1st Infantry Division crossed into Russia in June 1941 as part of I Corps of 18th Army under Army Group North and was heavily engaged during the drive on Leningrad. By October 1941 its strength had been reduced by two-thirds but it continued to fight on in the northern sector of the Eastern Front under XXVIII Corps for more than two years.



Cover sent to District Military Command in December 1941 has circular and rectangle letter seals of Fp. # 24613 ( Battalion I / Infantry Regiment 1) via P.O. 1 (K-562).



During this time the 1st Infantry Division took part in the Battle of Lake Peipus, the Battle of Lake Ladoga and the Battle of the German Corridor (east of Leningrad), as well as in the Siege of Leningrad itself.

In October 1943 the 1st Infantry Division was transferred to XXXXVIII Panzer Corps under Army Group South and fought in the Battle of Krivoli Rog in the Dneiper Campaign in southern Russia.

Later it saw action in the Ukraine and was encircled with the 1st Panzer Army between the Bug and Dneistr Rivers in March 1944. In the subsequent break out the 1st Infantry Division formed the rear guard of XLVI Corps and suffered heavy casualties.

440 Feldpost 562		Zur Aufkleben der Briefmarken durch den Absender	
Absender:		562 24.3.43	
Besondere Vermerke des Absenders (s. Rückseite).			
Nachlass K. Altmeyer Post 500 Oberstabswort			
An		Frau	
Freigebühr (Rp)	L. Freund		
Postgewicht (kg)	10		
	in Graz (Steiermark)		
	Riesstr. 200		
(Straße, Hausnummer, Gebäudeteil, Stockwerk)			
Graku 9. 42 3 000 000		C 20 Din A 6	

Parcel receipt for the shipment of a 10 kilogram parcel containing a soldier's remaining effects - 'Nachlass' - sent to Graz, Germany in March 1943 from Fp # 04089 (1st Infantry Division Commander) via P.O. 1 (K-562).

In late May 1944, after a period of rest and rebuilding, the 1st infantry Division was sent to the central sector of the Eastern Front, at that time located in Belorussia (White Russia). The division was one of very few German divisions to escape destruction when much of Army Group Center was smashed by a massive Soviet offensive launched in July 1944.

In October 1944 the survivors of the 1st Infantry Division were still with Army Group Center and ended the war fighting the Red Army in the division's home territory of East Prussia.



## Story Behind the Stamp: Gottlieb Daimler

by Kelly Stefanacci

Gottlieb Wilhelm Daimler was born March 17, 1834 at Schorndorf, Wurttemberg. He was the son of Johann Däumler, a master baker and his wife Wilhelmina Friederika Fensterer. The boy attended grammar school in Schorndorf and then, in 1848, became an apprentice to the gunsmith Raithal. He concluded his apprenticeship in 1852 and, as a journeyman, went to Wurttemberg Technical College. He studied under Ferdinand Steinbeis (1807-1893), who arranged for him to travel to various factories to improve his basic knowledge of machine construction.

He worked at the Grafenstaden factory in Alsace from 1853 to 1857, then studied at the Polytechnic School in Stuttgart from 1857 to 1859. He returned to Grafenstaden, but in 1860 went with another engineer, Max Eyth, to study the Lenoir motor in Paris. They then traveled to England and between 1861 and 1862 visited factories in Leeds, Manchester and Coventry.

Next he worked at the Straub Metal Goods Factory in Geislingen and, from 1865 to 1869, managed their Reutlingen Factory. He paid another visit to Paris to study motors in 1867 and in that year married Emma Kurz (1843-1889) with whom he had three sons and three daughters. In 1872 he became manager of the Deutz Gas Motor Co. at Maybach, which made the Otto atmospheric motor. It was here that he developed, between 1882 and 1885, the first vertical compression engine of a type which could be used for driving motor cars. In 1885 and 1886 he began to construct motors for use in motor carriages, motor boats, railway engines and in the first airship built by Dr. Wölfert.

He founded his own factory at Caanstatt in 1887. In 1890 this became the Daimler Motor Company and manufactured engines until 1895. He married again in 1893 to Lina Schwend (1855-1932) with whom he had a son and a daughter. In 1897 his son Paul, a graduate of Stuttgart Technical School, joined the company and, working under Wilhelm Maybach, began to experiment with the building of motor cars. Gottlieb Daimler died on March 6, 1900 at Caanstatt near Stuttgart. In this same year the company he founded began to produce the Mercedes motor car.

A dark green 6 Pfennig value (Mi. 604) featuring Gottlieb Daimler was one of a pair of stamps (the other featured Carl Benz) designed by Karl Diebitsch to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the motor car. These stamps were issued on February 15, 1936 and placed on sale during the Berlin Motor Show.



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



## Graf Von Zeppelin Special Cancels by Bob Ferguson

The following is a list of specials cancels honoring Graf von Zeppelin. The cancel numbering scheme is that of Julius Bochmann's work "Katalog der Deutschen Gelegenheitsstempel".

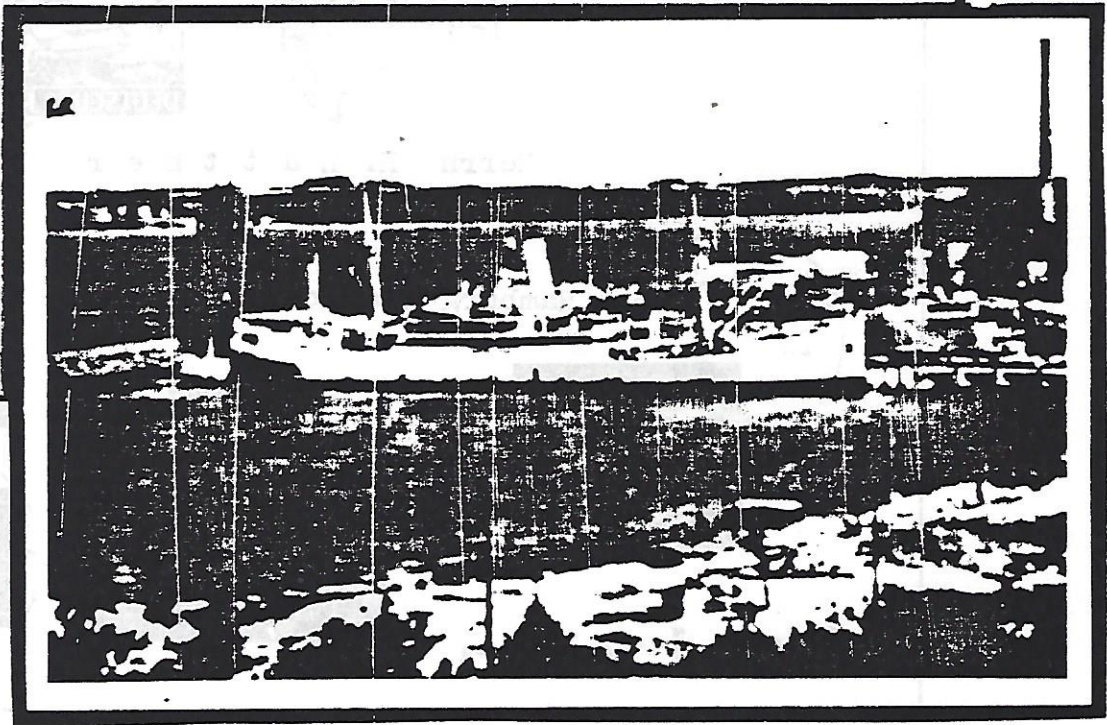
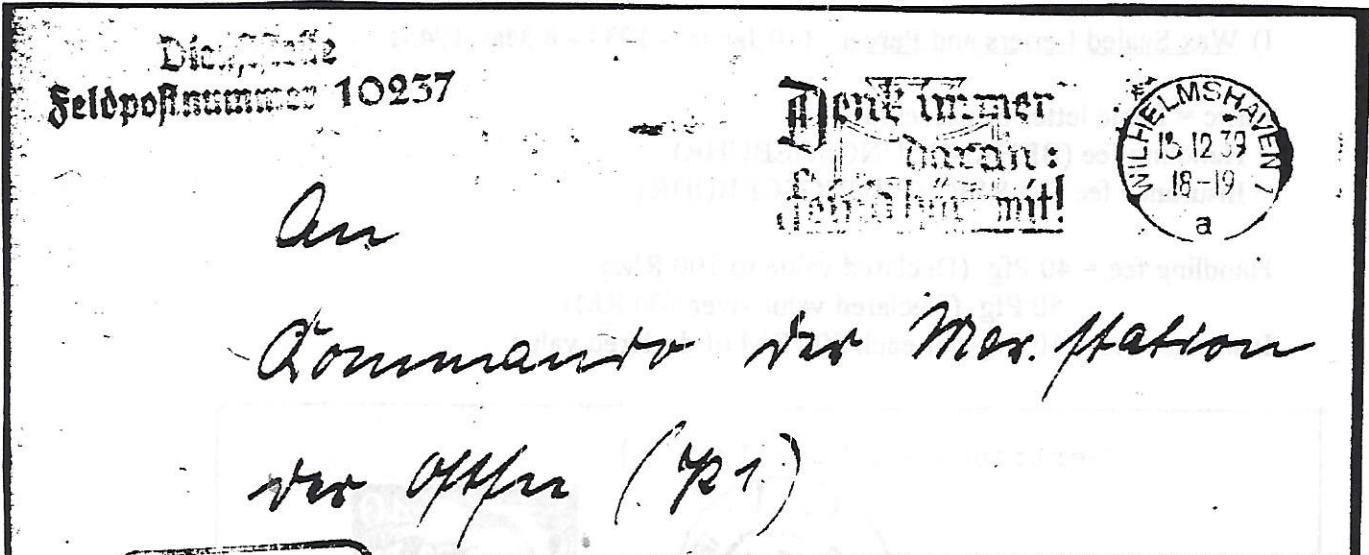
<u>Cancel Number</u>	<u>Text/Date</u>
EGER # 6	1. Zeppelinlandung im Sudetenland/13 August 1939
ESSEN # 35	Zeppelintag/20 August 1939
FRANKFURT (M) # 90	100 Geburtstag des Grafen v. Zeppelin/8 Juli 1938
FRIEDRICHSHAFEN # 3	LZ-130 vor der Fertigstellung
FRIEDRICHSHAFEN # 4	100 Geburtstag des Grafen v. Zeppelin/8 Juli 1938
GORLITZ # 12	Landungsfahrt LZ-130/16 Juli 1939
KASSEL # 33	Zeppelin-Landung LZ-130/30 Juli 1939
KONSTANZ # 4	Besucht die Zeppelinpost Ausstellung Konstanz a. Bodensee, 8-12 Juli 1939
KONSTANZ # 5	Zeppelinpost Ausstellung in des Geburtstag Zeppelins/8-12 Juli 1938
LEIPZIG # 164	Zeppelin-Landung LZ-130/9 Juli 1939
MEININGEN # 2	1. Zeppelin-Landung LZ-130/2 Juli 1939
MUNSTER (WESTF) # 14	Landung des Graf Zeppelin/23 Juli 1939
WALLDORF (HESSEN) # 1	Erholung am Rande des Graf Zeppelin-und Luftschiffhafens Rhein-Main (1938)
WURZBURG # 14	Landung des Luftschiffes Graf Zeppelin/6 August 1939
ZWICKAU # 20	Zeppelin-Landung LZ-130 Sonntag d. 27 August 1939





# NAMU LOG

Submarine Depot Ship "Isar" - Feldpost # 10237



Ex-merchant ship 'Puma' built by Bremer Vulkan (Vegesack) in 1930. Converted to Submarine depot ship by Schichau (Königsberg) in 1938 and re-named 'Isar'. Displacement: 3,850 tons (4,560 tons full);. Machinery: three Scotch boilers, one shaft reciprocating (VTE); Speed: 14 knots

Served the 27th U-Boat Flotilla. Taken over by Russia in 1946 and re-named 'Nyeman'..

Cover sent to Kiel Headquarters on December 13, 1939.



# THIRD REICH POSTAL RATES

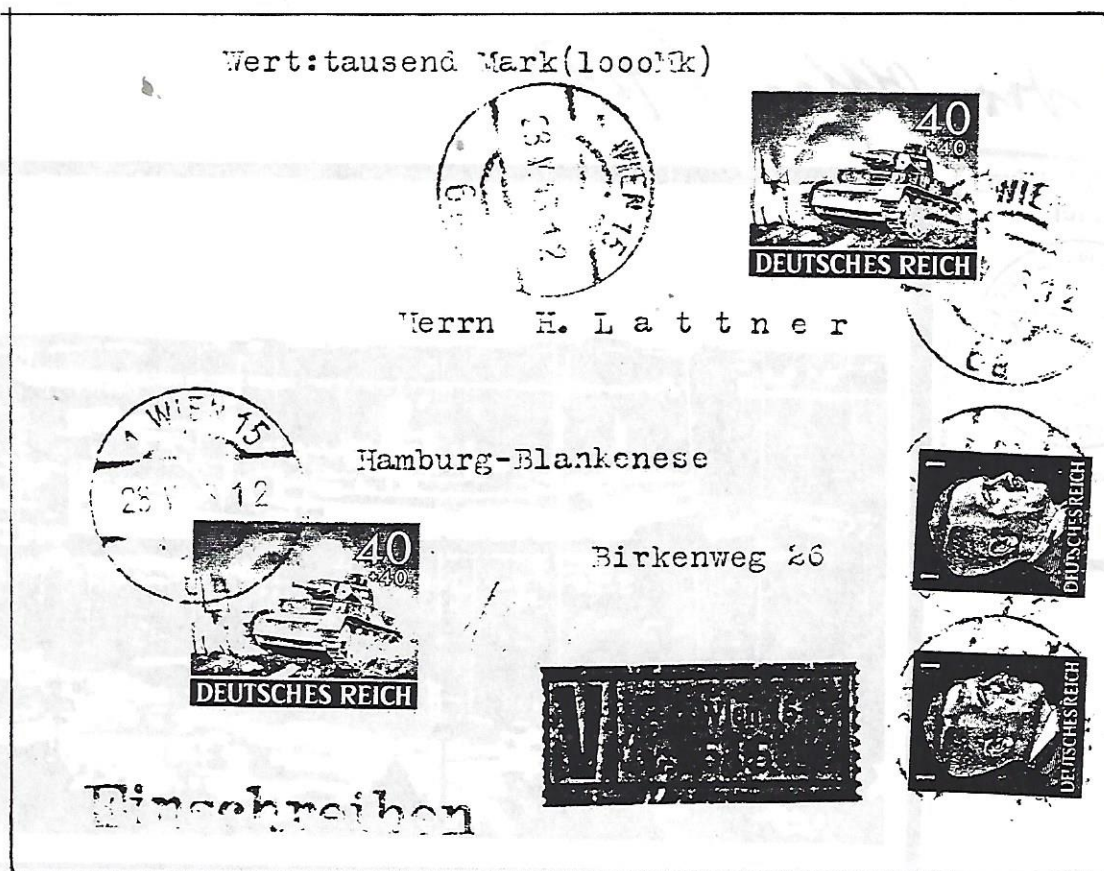
by Bob Ferguson

## INTERNAL RATES: INSURED MAIL (WERTSENDUNGEN)

### I) Wax Sealed Letters and Parcels (30 January 1933 - 8 May 1945)

- Basic = Basic letter or parcel rate
- + Handling fee (BEHANDLUNGSGEBUHR)
- + Insurance fee (VERSICHERUNGSGEBUHR)

Handling fee = 40 Pfg. (Declared value to 100 RM)  
 50 Pfg. (Declared value over 100 RM)  
 Insurance fee = 10 Pfg. for each 500 RM of declared value.



Posted: Wien 23 May 1943

Backstamped: Hamburg-Blankensee 30 May 1943

### SINGLE WEIGHT INSURED LETTER RATE

Declared Value: 1,000 RM

- Franking (82 Pfg.): 12 Pfg. = Intercity letter rate for weight under 20 gram.
- 20 Pfg. = Insurance fee for 1000 RM.
- 50 Pfg. = Handling fee.

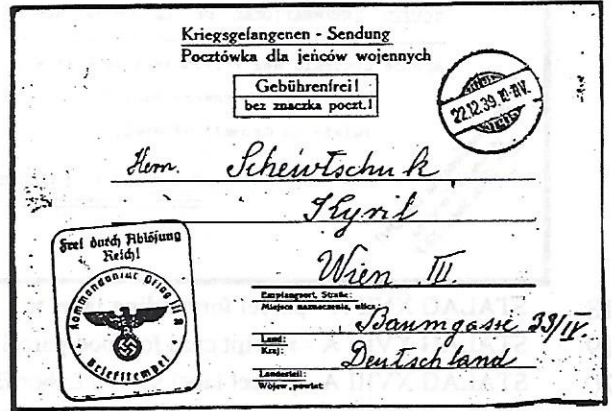


# TRSG AUCTION NO. 76

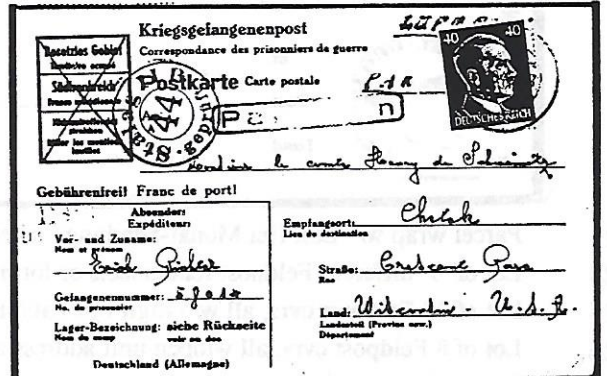
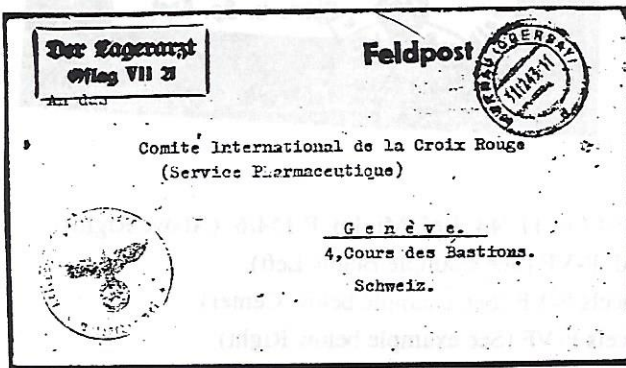
<b>Lot</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Min. Bid.</b>
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First 22 lots are mail from German POW Camps, each on an Exhibit Page with nice write-up.

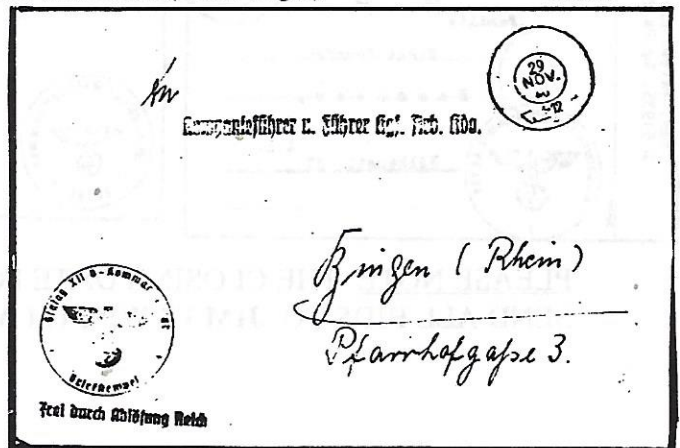
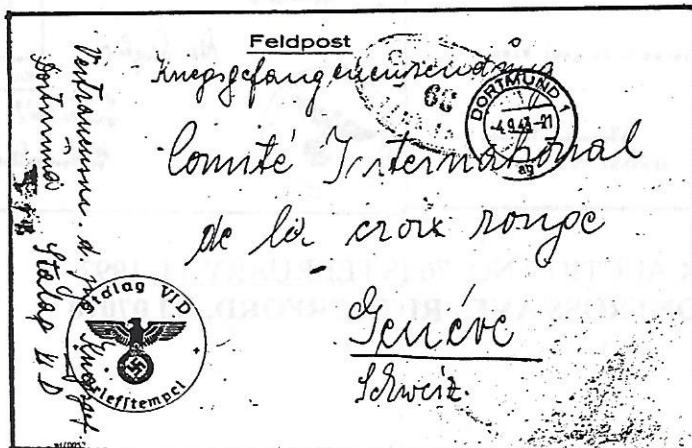
- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 1. | OFLAG II A - early form card to "Polen" sent 12.'39 frm Polish officer. "4" censor                 | \$10.00 |
| 2. | OFLAG II D- form card to Tarnow, GG via DDP Osten 10.'44 , folded in center o'wise VF (Below Left) | 10.00   |
| 3. | OFLAG II C - form card - Polish POW to Litzmannstadt 8.'44 (Woldenburg. in prtd card address)      | 9.00    |
| 4. | OFLAG III A- early German/Polish ltrst form sent 12.'39. Scarce (Below Right)                      | 10.00   |



- |     |   |       |
|-----|---|-------|
| 5.  | OFLAG IV A- early form card to USA from Polish POW 5.'40. VF                                    | 9.00  |
| 6.  | OFLAG VII A- Feldpost frm Camp doctor to Swiss Red Cross 12.'43. Fp unit seal (Below Left)      | 12.00 |
| 7.  | OFLAG VII A- early form card to Warsaw from Polish POW 5.'40. VF                                | 10.00 |
| 8.  | OFLAG IX A/Z- early cvr to Belgian POW w/mute can. 8.'40 (soon superceded by POW form cards) VF | 12.00 |
| 9.  | OFLAG IX B- Feldpost to Brussels 10.'40 from Camp Command HQ.                                   | 12.00 |
| 10. | OFLAG IX B- post card to Polish major 3.'40 (soon superceded by form cards)                     | 10.00 |
| 11. | STALAG II B -airmail card to USA frm french POW w/Mi. 795 (Below Right)                         | 15.00 |

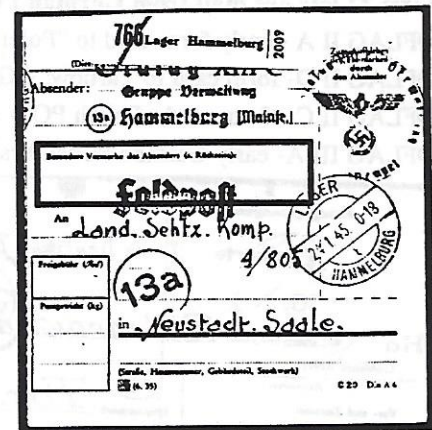
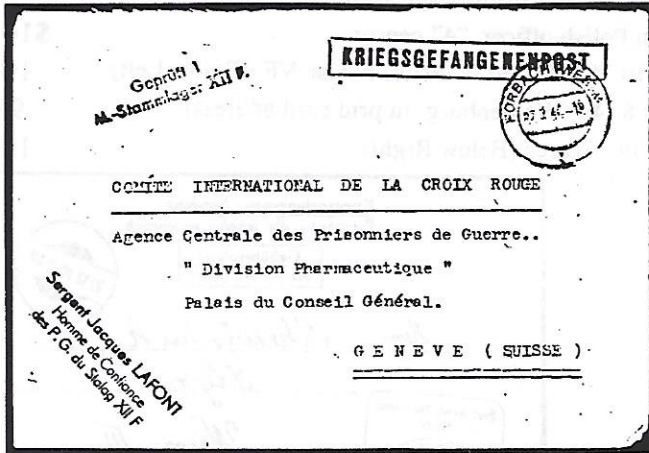


- |     |   |       |
|-----|---|-------|
| 12. | STALAG V C -two inter-camp form cards frm French POW to STALAG XVIIIID, both camp censors | 17.00 |
| 13. | STALAG VI D -official Feldpost to Red Cross, Geneva 9.'43 (Below Left)                    | 13.00 |
| 14. | STALAG XI B -early 2.'40 cvr frm Posen (Wartheland) to Polish POW, boxed "1" censor mk.   | 11.00 |
| 15. | STALAG XII B -military cvr to POW Labor Commander w/11.40 mute cans. (Below Right)        | 14.00 |

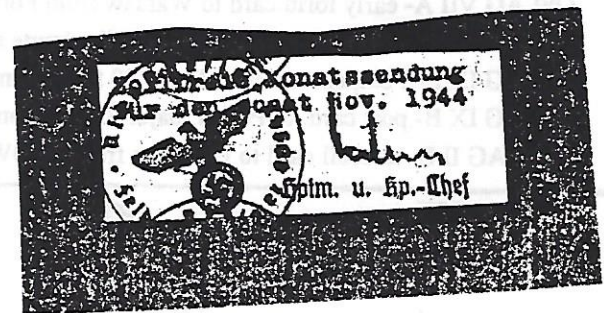
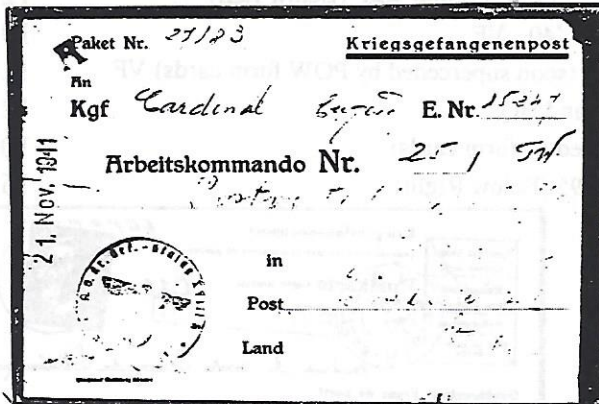




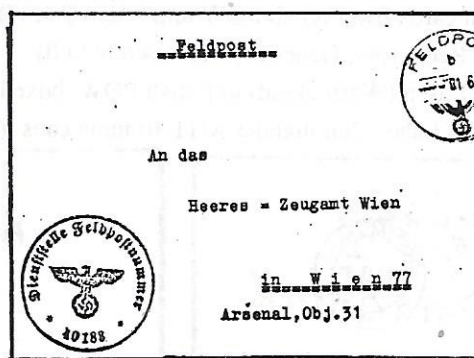
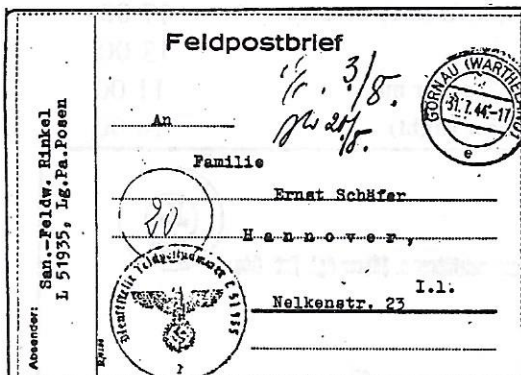
Lot	Description	Min. Bid
16.	STALAG XII F -cvt to Red Cross, Geneva frm French POW in camp pharmacy 7.'44 (Below Left)	12.00
17.	STALAG XIII C -military parcel receipt card sent 1.'45 Lager Hammelburg cancel (Below Right)	13.00



18.	STALAG XVII A - parcel forwarding label to Labor Battalion (see Bulletin cover illustration)	15.00
19.	STALAG XVIII A - receipt card for food parcel sent to Danish Red Cross 11.'43	8.00
20.	STALAG XVIII A - parcel label sent to Labor Battalion Nr. 25 in 11.'41 - Scarce (Below Left)	15.00
21.	STALAG XVIII A - postcard sent Feldpost to Wien frm German guard 6.'41 w/camp Briefstemple	10.00
22.	STALAG XVII D (Stalag 306) - airmail lettersheet to New Zealand 10.'41 w/"Chamois" censor stamp	10.00



23.	Parcel wrap w/ "Zoll frei Monat-Sendung" label frm Fp 00947 in 11.'44 Ref: Mi. Fp. P.154/6 (Above Right)	17.00
24.	Lot of 9 different Feldpost lettersheets or form cards -Cond. F-VF (See example Below Left)	17.00
25.	Lot of 10 Feldpost cvrs, all w/5 digit Fp#s and Feldpost cancels F-VF (See example below Center)	18.00
26.	Lot of 8 Feldpost cvrs, all w/open unit address and city cancels F-VF (See example below Right)	16.00



**PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 76 IS FEBRUARY 14, 1997  
SEND ALL BIDS TO: JIM LEWIS, 111 MONTROSS AVE., RUTHERFORD, NJ 07070**