



Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

January 2024, Volume LIX, Number 1 (#230)

Inside:

- Sudetenland and the *Wie Sind Frei!* Overprinted Stamps
- Forchtenstein Castle
- The last stamp of the Third Reich?
- Fake or Real? You Decide!
- AuctionWatch, Danzig, Trivia, and still more!!

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A great read ahead:

The *Wie Sind Frei!* Overprinted Stamps.

While most of Czechoslovakia felt betrayed by the Munich Agreement of 1938, giving the Nazis control over a considerable portion of their country, a few celebrated. We look at their stamps in this article.

Forchtenstein Castle. In our regular feature stamps of the Third Reich, we look at a beautiful castle that was able to hide its treasures even from Nazi leaders during the darkest days of World War Two.

Fake or Real? You Decide! We will take a look at a possible forgery of the last stamps of the Third Reich. We will then see the designation the last stamps of the Third Reich is not so clear cut . Look and decide for yourself.

Plus a demanding *Trivia*, a great *Danzig* selection, quality items on *AuctionWatch!* and some good things for sale. Enjoy!

Help! I aim to keep this website and journal free and accessible for 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 at 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, scans, or ideas to kolkermd@att.net. *Keep calm and keep collecting!*

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Want to be a columnist and share your viewpoints with the world? Email me your idea at kolkermd@att.net, and you may be the next Dear Abby of stamps!

The Editor's Letter

Dear Esteemed Readers:

Another year goes, and another year comes. But here at the Third Reich Study Group, we remain committed to providing a great journal and the best philatelic information about one of human history's most troubling yet fascinating eras.

We have an excellent journal for you. We begin with the infamous Munich Agreement and then travel to the stunning yet mysterious Forchtenstein castle. We proceed with some copies and the last stamps ever in the Third Reich and even show you a couple of issues that'll make you wonder which ones were the last issues. And to top it off, this month's trivia is nothing to sneeze at.

As an editor with renewed vigor for the new year, I want to ask you: what can we do to improve your experience? Perhaps we can begin to have meetings, officers, or a virtual show and tell. Or, we could, of course, keep it the same. Just let me know what you think by contacting me at kolkermd@att.net.

But whatever is decided, we certainly would like to hear from you about what we can do to make this group work better for you. Please let us know whether you want everything to change or remain exactly the same.

In the meantime, sit back and relax and enjoy another *Third Reich Study Group Bulletin*. Remember, we're always looking for new and fresh material and perspectives. If you ever thought of showing off some of your stuff, there's an article you'd like to do, or if you'd be interested in writing a column about your favorite area, please drop me a line at kolkermd@att.net. I would love to hear from you.

In the meantime, *Keep calm and Keep collecting!*

Your humble Editor,

Chris

We Are Free: The 1938 German Annexation of the Sudetenland and the *Wie Sind Frei!* Overprinted Stamps

Christopher Kolker MD

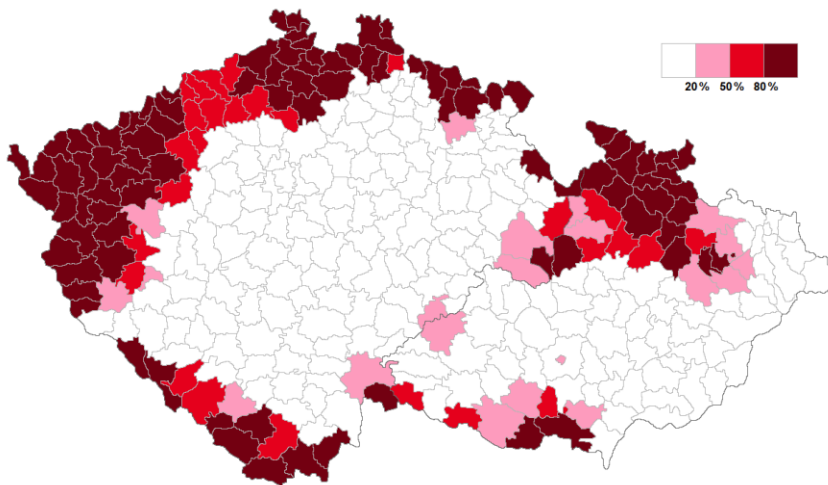


When it comes to the old adage about history teaching us lessons, the 1938 German annexation of Sudetenland has become the classic example. Germany

walked into the Sudetenland, a predominantly ethnic German area controlled by Czechoslovakia, without firing a bullet. And with its annexation, the Allies, led by English Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, declared that it would mean peace in the future.

And, of course, all this backfired severely. Hitler annexed the rest of the country six months later, and of course, World War Two soon began, ensuring Chamberlain's place in history as a prototypical fool. "You can't placate evil" becomes the history lesson of the ages.

But what is the Sudetenland anyway? It's a border area of Czechoslovakia with Germany named after the Sudeten Mountain Ranges. Because of the Treaty of St. Germain, an offshoot of the Treaty of Versailles, in 1920, the newly-formed country of Czechoslovakia was created in the Allies' effort to make the ethnic enclaves in central and Eastern Europe autonomous nations.



This map of Czechoslovakia shows the German-speaking population in 1938. On the northern borders, that percentage could exceed 80% (the maroon areas). This is the Sudetenland, the area to be annexed by Hitler.

Unfortunately, the newly formed boundaries were not always the best conceived. In the area of the Sudeten Mountains, the new boundary left nearly 3 million Germans on the Czech side of the border. In some specific areas, that meant 80 percent of the local population inside Czechoslovakia was ethnic German.

This was an abomination to Hitler. Rising to power in 1933, one of Hitler's primary objectives was to unite all Germans everywhere under his umbrella. Austria became the first victim of its annexation in March of 1938.

By the summer of 1938, Hitler made it clear to the world that he wanted to unify Germans across the Czech border. The Germans drew battle plans to take the area by force, but at the time, even Hitler had concerns about world opinion if he



The Munich Agreement participants: Left to right- Neville Chamberlain, Edouard Daladier, Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, and Mussolini's son-in-law Galeazzo Ciano

invaded Czechoslovakia. Hitler did not feel ready for his war machine to begin.

At the infamous 1938 Munich Conference, the Prime Ministers of Germany, France, Italy, and Great Britain met. At the time, the Czechs had one of the most significant military forces in the world, and they were considered to be well-

trained. They had understood the threat that Hitler posed to their very existence. However, as strong as they were, they could not defend themselves against Germany. Against this background, incredibly, they agreed to Sudetenland's annexation in just a few days.

Unfortunately, it became apparent even before and during the conference that none of the Allies wanted to defend Czechoslovakia. The Soviet Union was never consulted, but the assumption was that they were not prepared to defend

Czechoslovakia. Finding a way to bring in military resources and troops into the Czech area would be nearly impossible, they believed, so the Allies believed annexation had to suffice.

Therefore, Chamberlain and Hitler signed a peace agreement allowing Sudetenland's annexation with promises from Hitler that no further annexations would occur and that no military aggression would commence in Central Europe.

Chamberlain and Daladier, the French Prime Minister, both came to their respective homes to be greeted by cheering crowds. Public opinion was with them, as many believed they had found a diplomatic solution to stop the ominous war machine that Hitler had constructed. Chamberlain said this was "peace with honor. I believe it is peace for our time".

Churchill, the minority leader in Parliament at the time was not impressed. "You were given the choice between war and dishonor. You chose dishonor, and you will have war."

By March 1939, Hitler annexed the rest of Czechoslovakia, proving to the world that he could not be trusted with any international agreements.

The *Wir Sind Frei!* Overprints

The most famous stamp to come out of this is the "Wir Sind Frei!" overprints of existing Czechoslovakia stamps. What made this so famous is that these people were not free at all, but coming under the thumb of very arguably the most ruthless dictator in the history of the world.

Three towns are acknowledged by printing these overprints by Mitchell:

Reichenberg

Mattersdorf (a suburb of Reichenberg)

Rumberg

Despite a much smaller population of Germans, Mährisch-Ostrau in Silesia also printed stamps with the same overprint. Michel in the German catalog doesn't

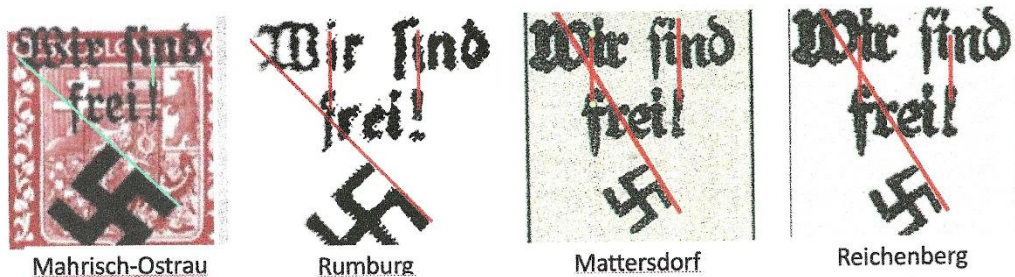
acknowledge this, although experts sometimes feel it should be since it's the same basic overprint for the same purpose. Theirs were printed in early 1939, while the others in the list were printed in late 1938.

Analyzing these overprints to see if they're fraudulent can be more straightforward than you think. Three distinguishing characteristics are important, two of which relate to the swastika.

The first distinguishing characteristic is the angulation of the swastika. In the corresponding photos, you'll see lines drawn by making a line of the upper right borders of that swastika and then extending that line to the letters. The angulation should always be the same for each city of issue. Those that don't meet the criteria are not considered genuine.

The second distinguishing characteristic is the thickness of the swastika. Pay attention to the subtypes discussed below because that should not change for each individual issue. For instance, if the swastika should be thin for an issue and it is not, then that stamp must be considered fraudulent.

The third characteristic is the type and placement of the exclamation point. They are referenced where they correspond to the letters above them. This should also be exact – any deviation from the accepted placement makes the stamp fraudulent. Furthermore, the exclamation mark should be exactly as thick as advertised. Again, if it is not, the overprint is fraudulent.



The overprints and their angulations

Mattersdorf is the most straightforward overprint because they had only one. The tangent angle from the right upper side of the swastika goes through the right loop of the "W." As you can see from the photo, if you go straight up from the

exclamation mark, that line goes between the “i” and the “n.” Anything else from Mattersdorf would be considered fraudulent.

Mahrisch-Ostrau has three overprint types based on the exclamation point, not the swastika:

Michel type 1: The exclamation point is one solid piece with a round top. The tangent line of the right upper part of the swastika goes through the bottom left-hand part of the “W,” and the alignment going straight up from the exclamation point finds itself on the right edge of the letter “i.”

Michel type 2: The exclamation point is in two parts. The top of the point is rounder, and the dot is much rounder than in type one. The alignment of the swastika is the same as the type one overprints.

Michel type 3: The exclamation point is in two points, with the top of the exclamation point quite pointed. The tangent lines are the same as types one and two.



The three exclamation points of the Mahrisch-Ostrau

Rumberg has four subtypes, surcharge type 1 through type 4.

Type one is the standard overprint, in the examples listed above. Notice in the photo that the tangent line from the swastika goes to the bottom left-hand corner of the W, and the exclamation point and the letter “i” above it lines up nearly perfectly. Also note that the right-hand part of the letter “i” in “frei” lines up with the left-hand part of the “f” in “Sind.”

Type two shows a surcharge, and notice how the swastika tangent line goes nowhere near the letter “W.” The swastika will always be thin.

The type three surcharge should always have a thick “100” and a two-piece exclamation point.

The type four surcharge is distinguished mainly by the “W”. Looking at the comparisons, it is different, and I can always identify it by the left most line of that W being a straight slant with no curve to it.



Rumberg overprints #2, 3 and 4



Some examples of authentic Rumberg overprints

Reichenberg had four hand stamps. Three of them positioned the exclamation mark directly beneath the “I” in “SIND.” The exclamation mark is always thick but can be deformed because of wear and tear of the hand stamp. You can’t use the tangent lines of the swastika on this one because, on one of the overprints, the tangent line goes nowhere near the “W,” staying well beneath it.

The 4th does not have the exclamation mark directly lining with the “I,” but’s slightly to its right, but on this fourth overprint, the tangent line of the upper right aspect of the swastika should line up with the top of the middle bar of the “W.”



The second, third, and fourth overprints of Reichenberg – the first is on the previous page

Are there forgeries? As with any overprints, yes, there are. It is a forgery if they don't follow the rules listed above.

But with that said, some are not hard to spot. As we finish, I will leave you with a gallery of overprints on stamps that are on stamps that were not contemporary to Czechoslovakia 1938. These aren't Czech at all, so are, of course, fraudulent:



Above and to the right are a few examples: They are not legitimate if they are on a German stamp





Whether Bohemia and Moravia, Belgium, Lithuania, or Slovakia (clockwise starting from the upper left), it is fraudulent if it is not a Czech stamp!



Stamps of the Third Reich

Christopher Kolker MD



The featured stamp chosen for this issue is Michel 702, Scott B123, 3+2 semi-postal stamp, the first stamp in a series printed on November 18th 1938. The stamp displays Forchtenstein Castle and features a Silver Dwarf Thistle in the foreground. The German government printed the entire series (see below) for the Winter Relief Fund, a fund to help those in need during the winter. However, it's widely assumed some of the money went towards Nazi party functions.

The stamp was made by recess printing with no watermark and was valid until June 30th, 1939.

The Series (*Michel 702-10/ Scott B123-131*):



The Amtsblatt: (Number 123)

#483 \ 1938 Winter relief fund postage stamps back slash postal stationary cards.

For this year, posted stamps supporting the German Winter Relief Fund (WHW) are based on designs by the Berlin artist Axter-Heudtllass, and depict views of Ostmark, together with locally occurring flora.

Stamp face value of:

3 + 2 Pfg Forchenstein Castle (Bergensland) with Silver Thistle

4 + 3 Pfg Flexenstrasse (Vorarlberg) with Spring Anemone

5 + 3 Pfg Zell am See (Salzburg) with Auricula

6 + 4 Pfg Grossglockner with Edelweiss

8 + 4 Pfg Aggstein Castle Ruins (Wachau) with Cyclamen

12 + 6 Pfg Prince Eugene Monument (Vienna) with Hedge Rose

15 + 10 Pfg Ezberg (Steiermark) with Alpine Rose

25 + 15 Pfg Hall (i. Tyrol) with Stemless Gentian

40 +35 Braunau (Oberdonau) with Crocus

These stamps will be issued in sheets of 50.

The stamp value of the WHW postcards is 6 + 4 Pfg and depicts two idleweiss flowers as decoration. Each month a new postcard will be issued; the illustration on the left hand side of the postcards are based on designs used for door stickers, and printed for each month respectively.

However, the design of the stamp is the same for all postcards. The October and November postcards and door stickers will be issued simultaneously; the other postcards will be issued during each appropriate month.

The postage stamps will be sold at all Post- and Government mail offices from the 18th November 1938 until the end of March 1939. Sales will continue at the stamp collectors' philatelic agencies in Berlin W30 and Vienna 1, subject to availability. After the 30th June 1939, the stamps will lose their postal validity.

Some of the postage stamps will be sold simultaneously by the NS Peoples' Welfare Organization. The stamps are steel-engraved printings on paper without watermark, and measure 27.5 X 32.8 mm. The color of each individual stamp corresponds to the equivalent definitive issue with the same face value. Illustrations shown above are magnified by approximately 25%, the October postcard is shown reduced in size.....

... The sheets printed for stamp booklets will be sold by the NS Peoples' Welfare Organization, and can also be ordered, subject to the usual conditions, by writing to the Stamp Collectors' Philatelic Agency in Berlin W30. One sheet consists of 10 booklet panes, each containing five of the 5 + 3 Pfg and 6 + 4 Pfg stamps; the other sheet has 10 booklet panes, each containing five of the 12 + 6 Pfg and four of the 3 + 2 Pfg stamps. Both sheets have tete-bech combinations and the second sheet also contains blank labels inscribed "Become a Member of the NS People's Welfare Organization!". For the individual sheets are 9 and 11 RM respectively, or 20RM for both sheets.



Forchtenstein Castle is in Bergenland of present-day Austria, as these stamps display Austrian scenes. The castle is in the village of Fortuna, near the small

market town of Mattersburg, just a few miles from the Hungarian border. Built by the Mattersburg Barons, the castle was reconstructed in the 17th century and has a notable collection of arms, armor, and art. Its courtyards feature a well sunk 465 feet into the ground, dug in the 17th century by Turkish prisoners.

Forchtenstein Castle's story begins in Spain. In the early thirteenth century, two nobles, Simon and his brother Martin, lived the good life in the Kingdom of Aragon in northern Spain. But they did have one problem: their grandfather had been fighting with the King of Aragon for quite some time. Even though both men owned many castles throughout Aragon, they knew their days at any moment might be numbered.

By 1202, the political situation dictated that the brothers must leave Aragon. However, the king allowed them to take their coat of arms, which, back in the early 13th century, was to leave with honor. The king allowed this as a reward because they fought off the sultan of Tunis for control of the Mediterranean islands Of Majorca and Minorca. Yolanda of Coutenay, King Andrew II of Hungary's second wife, facilitated their move.

Andrew invited this impressive group to settle in what is now Bergenland, an eastern Austrian province south of Vienna on the border with Hungary. He accepted them with open arms, presumably thinking these able warriors could provide much-needed help.

And that help was soon needed. Mongol invasions of Hungary in the 1240s left the now-elderly brothers in peril, but the castle never fell to the invaders.

Simon's lineage continued until the 1400s when the bloodline ran out. Like most valuable property in the area, the Austrian House of Hapsburg came to control the castle. They leased out the castle for nearly 200 years, during which time very little changed with the castle.

For services rendered to the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, Nicholas Count Esterházy received the castle as a gift from Emperor Ferdinand II in 1622. He immediately started renovations, including the famous well that goes 465 feet into bedrock, built by Turkish prisoners from 1660 to 1690.



Esterházy also began the tradition of commissioning portrait paintings that still stand in the castle today. And because it's a castle, arms, and armaments also became part of the castle.

Over the years, one of the many changes was a secure and secret vault area built for the castle's treasures. That most certainly came in handy during the Second World War. During the Nazi Austrian occupation, the artwork and vintage armaments were stored away there, never to be discovered by the Nazis.

This makes Forchtenstein Castle an essential cultural center today. Still owned by the Esterhazys, daily tours showcase the beautiful portraits and vintage armaments stored from the 17th century to the early 20th century.



One of the more stunning displays of the castle showing Forchtenstein artifacts dating from the 17th century

Another room shows the decorative vaulted ceiling, the door with the coat of arms, two portraits above the door, and a few armaments on the right.





The portrait room of its previous owners from the Esterhazy line

Forchtenstein stash of rifles escaped the Nazis during WWII and now stands as one of its claims to fame.



Is It Real?

Christopher Kolker MD

In our last issue, we had a segment on whether a stamp was real or not, we got some favorable feedback, so we thought we'd do this again.

Let's take a look at the last issue of Nazi Germany. That is only somewhat correct, as **X** and **XI** were in the same carton as these when shipped but were never authorized.

Because it is considered the last issue, they are extremely famous, so they're often duplicated. However, the Nazis printed many copies of these stamps, and they were widely sold right after the war as a souvenir, especially for occupying troops, so legitimate copies are available.

Let's look at these two examples. The question becomes a very simple one. Is it real or not? (In this case, they are either both real or they are both fake).



And the answer is.....

They are both fake!

For some of you experts, this may not be a very hard one. The color and the artwork is truly different if you look closely. here's an example of two legitimate copies above and the fakes below.:



What do you notice?

- The color is more orange on the fakes
- The background has more white interruptions on both, but especially with the torchbearer
- The complexion of both soldiers is much more mottled on the fakes.

Other examples exist, but the point is made. With the fakes, the printing is not as crisp, and usually, the color is fundamentally different.

Also, if you find one used, that is considered fraudulent. Readers, correct me if I am wrong, but I do not believe that any of these stamps were used legitimately in the mail. By the time they got to circulation, they could no longer be used for postage.

By the way, what are **X** and **XI**?



Note: **X** is on the left, and **XI** is beneath this writing. These are probably high-quality forgeries, but at least they give you the idea. Some 60,000 of each were printed, but they are rare today and are listed for about \$25,000 each. Scott does not acknowledge them, but Michel does.



Danzig!

I occasionally get asked about why we're still running *Danzig!* Articles. It used to be an incredibly well-run and important study group within the German Philatelic Society. Unfortunately, as time went by, the health declined of those responsible for the publication of its quarterly journal until finally, they just didn't have anybody left to publish it.

Some folks who enjoyed Danzig contacted me a few years ago about restarting the organization. I told them that I was pretty busy with *Third Reich Study Group Bulletin* and being a board member of the GPS. However, I told them that if people came to me and said they would like to start The Danzig publication again, I certainly would help as best I could.

The writers and editors of the Danzig publication for the Germany Philatelic Society did an outstanding job. When I received copies of everything they had done, I realized this was too good to ignore. Therefore, I told some older readers I would always put an article in the *Third Reich Study Group Bulletin*. I tend to err on articles written during the Third Reich's era. However, some articles were so well written that I've included them even when they had nothing to do with our era.

That said, the articles subsequently shown today are shorter, just snippets, but have some very interesting material. They are worth a look, even though they're not very long.

If you are interested in restarting the journal *Danzig!* or just writing an article about the philatelic history of one of the most interesting cities in the world, please let me know. Danzig is a very worthwhile topic.

An invitation from the S.S. that you don't want to Refuse

by Giles duBoulay

This postcard, sent locally on 29.1.1938, is correctly franked with a Danzig 1937 issue WHW stamp, at the printed papers rate of 5Pf.

No doubt the instructions on the front of the card were promptly obeyed, in terms of the immediate reply required, but it was probably deemed unwise to send the card unfranked despite the permission given !

The card is a proforma reply to the WHW office in Danzig noting an order for tickets for a WHW benefit concert given by the **Danziger Schutzstaffel (SS) !**



WHW.-Konzert der Danziger Schutzstaffel
 am 6. Februar 1938, 20 Uhr, in der Messchalle
 Preise der Plätze: 6 2.—, 6 1.50, 6 0.80

Ich bitte mit 2 Karten zu 6 1,50 je Karte zuzusenden
 Herrn: Lebermann, Danzig, Langgarten 87

Außerdem sollen folgende Karten zugestellt werden:

Name	Straße	Nr.	Jahr	Preis



The concert was probably a sell-out !



The Russians in Danzig, 1945

by Giles du Boulay

Genuinely used cards or covers relating to the events of March 1945 in Danzig and the immediate aftermath of the fighting there, are particularly difficult to find. It is not a question of going through a fat auction catalogue, selecting from a list and bidding way over estimate to secure the lot. Rather, years of painstaking searching, legwork and serendipity are the main ingredients in the hunt.

On 30 March 1945 Danzig surrendered to Marshal Rokossovski's 2nd Belorussian Front and the Polish flag was hoisted. Some 39,000 of the defenders died and 10,000 were taken prisoner. Postal communications restarted in the now renamed Gdańsk on 1 April 1945. An airmail connection to Warsaw was re-established on 18 April 1945. All kinds of handstamps and stationery were pressed into provisional use. Letters were censored by the Polish military. Examples of such mail from 1945 are very scarce, but I have been fortunate over the years to find a small selection to illustrate this turbulent period. What has hitherto remained as a gaping hole in my collection, however, is an example of Russian Field Post mail from Danzig in 1945.

For the past few years I have visited the so-called 'Dominican Market' in Gdańsk. Each August about a quarter of the old town area is given over to this enormous 'flea market' where everything from rusty old rifles and helmets, pirate copies of CDs, books, documents, and of course stamps and covers aplenty, abound. It pays to be patient, cautious and methodical in one's search, and to come back day after day, as new dealers arrive. So it was then, sweltering under the sun in Gdańsk this year, that I found the card illustrated here for just a few pounds. The picture side, a perfectly ordinary Danzig view card, was not worth a second glance but the message side, combined with the picture, gripped me with excitement – I cannot tell you how assiduously I searched through the rest of that dealer's box!



Could it be that I had at last found a Russian Field Post card from Danzig? The use of a Danzig view card (produced in Dresden) was insufficient evidence on its own. I needed a translation of the message fast!

I also needed information about the censor mark and the possible Field Post number quoted in the bottom right hand corner under the address. Immediate help was at hand for some of my needs in the form of a Polish dealer friend of mine nearby who had some rudimentary Russian; he was able to read the message and address fairly well: it refers to the sender being "in Germany" – well that narrowed it down a bit !

As soon as I arrived home, I e-mailed Anatoly Kiryushkin, Secretary of the Worldwide Society of Russian Philately, in Minsk, sending him scans of the card. His immediate and knowledgeable reply was a joy to receive.

Anatoly confirms that the card was sent by a soldier to his daughter. The message, dated 6 May 1945, simply reads *"Dear Pauline, I am sending regards from Germany. With a kiss to you and your mother. Your father"*. It was sent by M.A. Bugaevsky, FPO 51847, to P.M. Bugaevskaya, Molotov region, village Gromova, No.196 Apt. 7. The censor mark "Checked by military censor 02766" is clear enough, but the poorly struck cancel, partially obscuring the censor mark, unfortunately, is more or less illegible, but appears to be a Molotov arrival mark. Just below the "Molotov obl[ast]" (transliterated), at the top right hand of the card, there can be seen a faint impression of part of another cancel, which Anatoly believes to be a Russian Field Post cancel.

Anatoly thinks that the card was indeed sent from Danzig or a place nearby. He explains that as soldiers were not permitted to quote their current location in letters, they often used pictorial cards or any other locally printed paper, as a way of circumventing the regulation. He goes on to say *"for example my uncle fighting in Europe used local hotel or shop stationery for writing letters home to let them know where he was"*.

Anatoly also observes that: *"Bugaevsky is a Polish name and it is possible that he was in the so-called 'Kostyushko army' formed from Poles and located in Polish towns. A great part of this army was formed from Polish prisoners of war or from West Belarus/Ukrainian native Poles sent to camps shortly before the war. "Poselok Gromova 196 apt 7" is a strange address and indicates that the place may have been a camp in the Ural area for exiles. The word "Poselok" means a settlement established for migrants. There would have been no need to quote any street name or house number in an address to a small village as everyone knew each other. A place with at least 196 buildings (and seven or more flats in some), but without street names, would undoubtedly have been established over a short space of time, as a camp would have been. "Gromov" is a common name, and it was also common in rural areas to name a village after the first settler, but this would have resulted in either the name "Gromovka" or, possibly, "Gromovo", but not "Gromovg", which means "of Gromov". Although exile camps, in the 1930s, were simply numbered rather than named, it was not unusual for them unofficially to be known by their commandant's name – cynically, this provided a convenient method, in an address, for disguising the fact that a place was a camp."*

Molotov was the name given between 1940 and 1957 to the important industrial, mining and shipbuilding city, and region, of Perm in the middle Urals. Even in the 19th century it was the chief prison depot for the transport of convicts and exiles to Siberia. I assume the

name change in 1940 was in recognition of Vyacheslav Molotov, then commissar for foreign affairs. Molotov was denounced and dismissed from the Politburo by Krushchev in 1957 - which, of course, coincides with the change of name of the city/region back to Perm.

Unfortunately, there is very little information published about Russian World War II Field Post Offices and censor marks. The author would be very grateful for details of any other cards or covers with either the censor number 02766 or the FPO number 51817.



A view of the Mottlau, looking North, toward the Green Gate Bridge. Gates on the east side of the city include the following (L to R): **1** Green Gate @ Lange Markt; **2** Brodtbanken Gate @ Gasse; **3** Natural History Museum @ Frauengasse and Gate; **4** Krantor @ Breitgasse; **5** (Swan Tower, once a part of original wall built by the Knights. (Swan Tower is hidden behind the bridge. This view of Danzig harbor is the way it looked during the time of the mailing of the letters to Bordeaux, shown in the first article herein. Below is a map of the river area.)



Georges Schild: *Paketbegleitkarte* Operations in Danzig Harbour

Last July, we were pleasantly surprised to find Georges Schild in the Hanza Hotel dining room and took advantage of Stanley Sterczewski's invitation to ride with him to Gdynia. Stanley knew of a hill that overlooks the harbour that was once known as *Gotenhafen* during the German occupation. No longer is there a clerk from the Harbourmaster's Office shouting at photographers, as we saw in 1990. Things were more relaxed, giving Stanley a chance to explain to Betty, John and Georges the operation of the harbour that overtook Danzig in shipping during the 1920s. Stanley is at left, Georges at right.



The infamous DR-102, which attempted to analyze the card shown below, drew corrections from John Whiteside, which set the record straight in DR-103. Georges Schild also submitted his study of the subject, which we are pleased to present below.



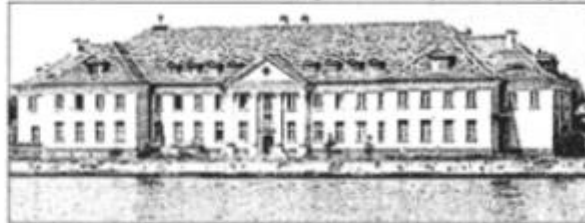
[John Whiteside said that Americans and Brits have a problem with package cards since they are not part of our postal operation. If you are looking for a logical progression of records, you are out of luck. This proves that we hold onto and can explain more easily those events that are most common.] Georges begins his explanation: ● Since there was only one post office in the Danzig harbour, the space behind "From America via Danzig No. ___" is not for the post office designation but for the number of the parcel. (See Georges' copies on next page.) ● The mailing date was obviously not the date 3.13.20, since on that day, the *Paketbegleitkarte* was handled by a postman in Tarnow. The original mailing date must be about 3 weeks sooner, because the parcel came from the U.S. to the Danzig-Polish post office. Since there was no date-stamp yet, we don't know when the parcel arrived from the U.S. or when the *Paketbegleitkarte* was filled in.

So the so-called puzzle is none: The parcel arrived from the U.S. in Port Gdansk, was handled there and sent to Nowy Sacz over Tarnow. The only astonishing point is that the parcel took 3 days for the 35 miles between Tarnow and Nowy Sacz.

[Below are three other forms of *Paketkarten* from George Schild.]

Use of Overprinted Austrian Parcel Cards for Overseas Traffic to the Polish Post Office

There are four different Austrian *Paketkarten* used by the Polish Post in Danzig: two different types of overprint on two different dates in the Fiscal-stampmark: 1900 and 1916, plus the early German type used from the opening of the harbour post office. (If you get to Gdansk, take a ride on the boat to the Westerplatte or Zoppot. You will see the Harbour Post Office on the port side as you approach the Bay, with nothing changed since its inception in 1920.)



<p>Wschólné — Composé dans tout l'Empire et généralisées par distribution.</p> <p>Exemple des Postes postales Trafic du Bureau d'échange</p> <p>Postmark: Gdansk 1916</p>	<p>Osterreichische Postverwaltung. Administration des postes d'Autriche.</p>		<p>Postmarken oder Pa- gale des eingeklebeten Tage Application des tim- bre-postes ou indica- tion de la taxe par jour</p>
	<p>15 p =</p>		
<p>Hierbei Gewicht Wertangabe Valeur-attribue</p>		<p>Degleitadresse. Bulletin d'expédition.</p>	
<p>Nr. 1 A</p>		<p>Zahl der Zolldeklarationen Nombre des déclarations en douane</p>	
<p>Bestimmungsort Lieu de destination</p>		<p>Postmark: Gdansk 1916</p>	
<p>Strasse und Hausnummer Rue et numéro</p>		<p>Postamt Bureau de poste</p>	
<p>Bestimmungsland Pays de destination</p>		<p>12 89 Pays - Port de</p>	
<p>Gewicht — Poids</p>		<p>Zollgebühren Droits de douane</p>	
<p>4 kg</p>		<p>Beförderungswey Acheminement</p>	
<p>1 kg</p>		<p>Bestellgebühr Droit de factage</p>	
<p>1 kg</p>		<p>Total</p>	

Formerly an Austrian card, the bars covering the Austrian eagle are several millimeters longer than the one on page 3. On the back is an arrival stamp of 03.XII.20 and a postage of 22 Mark. The 9-line rubber-stamped message on the front is in violet ink [not red, as on the previous card]. First line reads: "Z Ameryki / przez Gdansk Nr /.../."

Use of an Overprinted German Paketkarte thru the Polish Post Office

2



Back side of card contains receiving stamp from Jedlinski on 7.XII.20. Postage is 34.80 Mark.


At the top/right is a 2-line rubber-stamped "Z Ameryki / przez Gdansk" in violet ink. Additionally, the violet 7-line impression begins with "Odbiorca zaplaci..."; the 9-line impression came much later. The circular stamp at the left is a violet impression from the customs office in Aleksandrowo.



- ❶ Long building is location of the Polish post office that received packages from the U.S., beginning in 1920.
- ❷ Battleship Schleswig-Holstein fired on the Westerplatte from this point. ❸ Location of historic Weichselmünde Festung.

Special Paketkarten for the Polish Post Office on the Harbour

Odcinek.
Stempel kalen-
drowy urzędu wy-
syłającego



Nadawca:
Dr. Anthon...
Przyjmuje

Nadawczy ame-
rykański lub Regi-
stred

W Gdańsku:

2369 z Ameryki
Polski Urząd Pocztowy № 1
w Gdańsku.

№ K-amerykański

Do *Mrs. Birubauer*
w *Ameryce Północnej*
ulica *Stowicka 19*
Miasto *Nowy Sacz*
ostacja pocztowa *6*
Kraj *Ameryka*

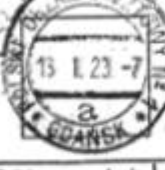
Wystawit: *gr.*
Zbadat: *...*

Waga *...*
kg gr.


REG. 25. (VIII. 921). 500.000.

WOLNE OD CŁA

Stempel kalen-
drowy urzędu wysyłającego



№	Odbiorca zapłaci:	M. f.
1	porto krajowe	
2	przewóz z okrętu	<i>200</i>
3	powe opakowanie	
4	cto (według wyka- zu wypłaconych należności cel- nych №)	
5	należność za cie- nie	<i>100</i>
6	należność za do- wóz	
7	składowe	
8		
9		



Rear of card showing receiving stamp from Nowy Sacz, dated 25.I.23, and postage due stamps for 1,200 Mark. At the top is specially numbered mark on registration label. Cancel of the Post Office 1 in Gdansk with inscription: POLSKI URZAD POCZTOWY № 1 * GDANSK *

This card shows the distinctive lower-case "a" under the date line of the cancel, which was used from 14.09.1922 until 12.11.1924.

On the following pages are several other interesting covers from Georges Schild's collection.

Use of the 40 Pfg Postage-Due (ML34II) on Cover to the DO-X Captain



Written from the Dornier Works at Bodensee to Kapitän Christiansen on board the DO-X when it lands in Danzig on the Deutschlandfahrten 1932 from 06 - 13.07. The assessed postage-due charge was 40 Pfg, but the stamp chosen at the post office was a Type II, with the broken zero.

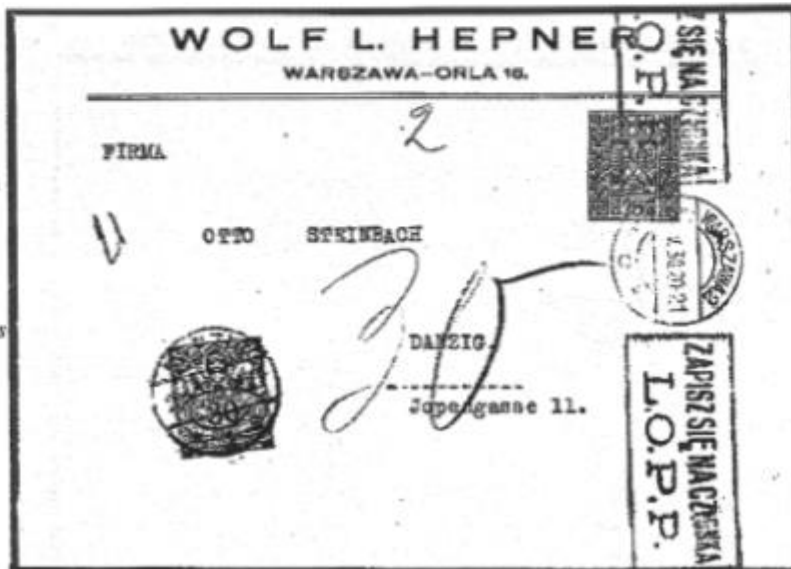
Card from Steegen on 27.10.1923 shows DOUBLE-PENALTY Postage Due



One of the more intriguing aspects of Danzig philately is the practice of doubling of the postage-due rate penalty during the short duration of the highest inflation. Normal rate for a card from the 8th to the 14th of October, 1923, was 2 Mio (2 million) Marks. On this particular card, dated 27.10.23, inflation rates became more fluid and of course, higher, rising from 40 to 400 million Marks from 22. to 25.10. During that last rate increment, postage due was automatically doubled to cover the penalty; with this card doubling the penalty from 398 Mio to 796 Mio Mark. By November 1st, the card rate was 10 Pfg.

Overweight letter from Warsaw, 1930.

Schild's description:
Ubergewichtige Brief
 (Blaue 2 = 2. Gewichtsstufe) mit Strafporto belegt.



1923 Postage Due Stamps issued in new values; Ultramarine/Black

Second printing (issued on 24 Nov.). New design by Buchholz, to replace purple issues Mi. 1 thru 25.

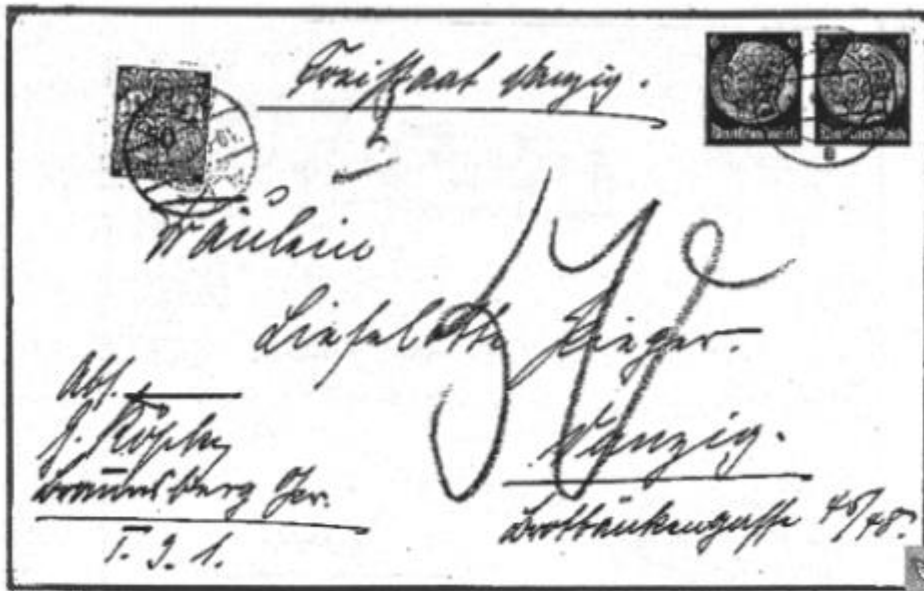
National Holiday Card of 1934



A postage due 20 Pfg. stamp seems out of place, since 6-Pfg covers card rate from Germany to Danzig, and 10 Pfg is sufficient for the Flugpost addition. What is the purpose of the 20 Pfg (Mi. 32) postage -due stamp with oval airmail cancel, applied after landing in Danzig? Apparently, the Danzig post office noticed that the sender was in a hurry, since he added air postage, so they followed through with express delivery, which will cost the sender "only" 20 additional pfennig.

Czech card to Danzig required 15 Pfg additional postage in 1926.





A look at two more of Georges Schild's collection of Danzig postage due covers

Beginning on the next page are ten more pages of Richard Minard's list - Danzig Varieties

AuctionWatch!

Auctions are a bit scarcer around Christmas, as the money has to go to other endeavors. Frankly, I think stamps as a Christmas present hit the spot!

Still, we found some quality items up for bid, with prices probably down a bit. For you buyers, that's good news, and for you sellers, patience may be a virtue.

Let's take a look at some of the best that we found:

Dutch Country Auctions Sale: 349

ZARA Half sheet w/ full set of (13) Zara & Hz line Ovpts on Italian stamps (Sassone #24-34, E3-4), each tied by 12/13/43 Zara cds, handstamp from Trieste stamp dealer on back; Michel #32-38 value for philatelic cover; F-VF

Opened at \$100, SOLD for \$115



Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC Sale: 5203

1935, Schutz-Bach-Handel celebration (Scott 456-458), complete set of pairs, o.g., never hinged, Fine to Very Fine.
Scott \$52 as pairs.

Opening US\$ 7.00

Sold...US\$ 7.00



Old Louis Auctions, October 2023



3d 'Liquidation of Empire' Barbados, Anti-British Propaganda, King George VI, German Forgery (Mi. 14, CV \$110)

Lot 3716

The condition of the items is shown on the images and indicated in the description of the lot below.

Type: Propaganda Forgery

Condition: MNG, no gum as issued **

Opening Bid \$20, SOLD for \$45



12pf United States US Anti-Germany Propaganda, Hitler-Skull, Private Issue Propaganda Forgery, Block of Four (Imperforate, MNH)

Lot 3732

The condition of the items is shown on the images and indicated in the description of the lot below.

Condition: Hinged on margin.

Type: Propaganda Forgery, Imperforate, Margin

Condition: MNH

Opening Bid: \$6 – SOLD for \$40



1942 10r on 1r B. Alexandrovka, German Occupation of Ukraine, Germany (Mi. 15 III, Signed, CV \$1,500, MNH)

Opening bid - \$130 and SOLD for \$1100



1941 1r Alsedziai, Occupation of Lithuania, Germany (Mi. 10, Certificate, Signed, CV \$6,500, MNH)

Opening Bid \$500 – SOLD for \$800



1941 60+40k Pskov, German Occupation of Russia, Germany, Souvenir Sheet (Mi. Bl. 1 Y, Canceled, CV \$3,250)

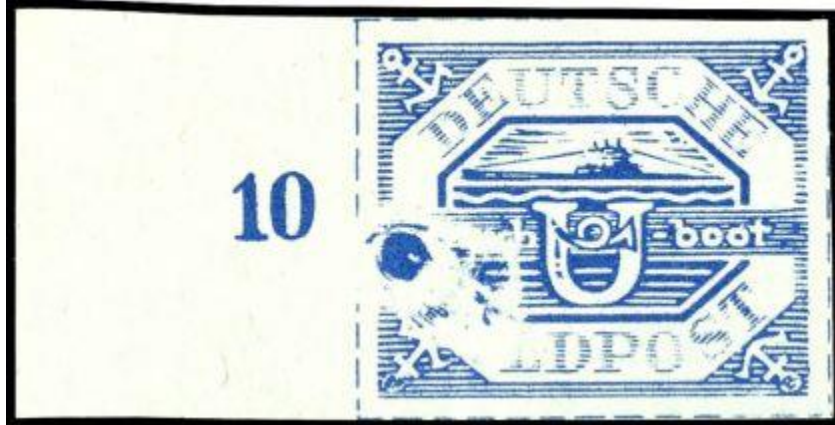
Opening bid - \$35 SOLD – one for \$800, one for \$350



1943 Serbia, German Occupation, Germany, Souvenir Sheet (Mi. 94 - 98, CV \$100, MNH)

Opening Bid - \$50 - SOLD for \$55

Dr. Reinhard Fischer: (note: As of 12/16/23, 1 Euro (€) = \$1.09)



U-boat Hela, registration mark, from the left edge of the sheet with row number "10" = sheet field 101 with plate defect I "large round spot on the left at the middle height so-called water bomb", unused without gumming - as issued, impeccable condition, signed Pfenninger and photo certificate Guido Gabisch BPP "The condition is flawless.", Mi. 1,200€ .-

Started 400€, SOLD 440€



Immediate post WWII stamped "German Conquered" 2, 3 and 5 RM Hitler, perforated L 12 1/2, each with a rare black (!) imprint "Germany's Verderber", (surcharge 300%), certified Zierer BPP, Mi. 2,040€.- Started and SOLD at 350€

Heinrich Kohler Auctions

1943, test print approval
stamp perforated brown-
red, mint never hinged,
flawless, photo certificate
Krischke (1999)

Started 100€,
SOLD 520€



1939 Czech stamp with Nazi
overprint, "We are free!" 10 H. on
parchment paper, mint never hinged,
flawless, signed. Dub and Krischke

Started 80€
SOLD 90€

Universal Philatelic Auctions
(Note: As of 12/16/23, \$1 = 0.79£ = 1.09€)



The rare 1933 Relief Mini Sheet. Michel 508-11 Catalog value of 2300€.

Start at 409 English Pounds, SOLD at 514£



The Famous Brown Ribbon min sheet, celebrating the Brown Ribbon Derby. Michel 621The overprint commemorates the Munich's 1937 race. very fresh, very fine. Valued at 300 Euros as a First Day Cover. Starting at 60£, SOLD at 76£.



Culture Fund min sheet, rouletted margins, very fresh, very fine, Michel 648. Valued at 250€, Starting at 140€, SOLD at 176€.

Trivia

The gloves are coming off a little bit in this issue. While the names may be recognizable, the details and minutiae some of these questions ask for are truly difficult. See how you do recalling the last days of the Third Reich.

The Questions:

1. Why did Hitler choose Karl Doenitz as his successor?

- A. Albert Speer suggested it
- B. He felt betrayed by the German Army and the Luftwaffe
- C. He knew Doenitz to be capable of handling surrender negotiations
- D. He admired Doenitz's devotion to Nazism

2. Who tried desperately to stop Hitler from killing himself?

- A. Joseph Goebbels
- B. Martin Bormann
- C. Eva Braun
- D. Magda Goebbels

3. What message did Helmut Weidling broadcast on May 2, after the ceasefire had been negotiated?

- A. Hitler had betrayed the German people and killed himself
- B. Hitler could take no more, and his heart gave out on him
- C. Hitler had died courageously at the head of his troops
- D. Hitler had fled, but did not give his location

4. Who were considered the most brutal of the German fighters during the Battle for Berlin?

- A. The Waffen SS
- B. The Volkssturm (National Militia)
- C. The Hitler Youth
- D. The Wehrmacht

5. Who was Himmler's intermediary in his negotiations with the Western Allies?

- A. Per Anger
- B. Count Folke Bernadotte
- C. Raoul Wallenberg
- D. Carl Lutz

6. Where was Goering captured?

- A. Berchtesgaden
- B. Bremen
- C. Marienbad
- D. Heidelberg

7. When did Hitler make his last trip above ground?

- A. April 1, 1945
- B. April 21, 1945
- C. April 20, 1945
- D. March 31, 1945

8. What was the primary weapon given to the members of the Volkssturm?

- A. Walther PPKs
- B. Sten Guns
- C. The Panzerfaust
- D. MG 42

9. How was Himmler's identity discovered when he was captured by the British?

- A. He told them who he was
- B. Another one of his captives revealed him
- C. They recognized his face
- D. They didn't learn until after his death

10. What did Hitler do in the Bunker that nobody had ever seen him do before?

- A. Smoked a cigar
- B. Drank liquor
- C. Kissed Eva Braun on the lips
- D. Ate meat



The 1939 set of two Third Reich commemorative stamps issued for the Nazi Emblem Young Workers' Professional Competitions

The Answers

1. Why did Hitler choose Karl Doenitz as his successor?

The correct answer was **He felt betrayed by the German Army and the Luftwaffe**

During one of Hitler's final conferences with his staff, he learned that an attack he had ordered through SS Obergruppenführer Felix Steiner to repulse the Russian onslaught had never even mobilized. At this, Hitler dismissed everyone from the room except for Generals Keitel, Jodl, Krebs, and Burgdorf.

He then flew into a rage, saying that the army had betrayed and fought against his orders from the very beginning. For the first time, he admitted that all was lost. Later that evening, Hermann Goering sent a telegram reminding Hitler of his Order of Succession that made him next in line as leader of the Reich should something happen to him.

He said that if he didn't hear back from Hitler by 10:00 PM that evening, he would consider him "incapacitated", and assume command. Martin Bormann got his hands on the telegram first, and made it sound as though Goering was giving Hitler an ultimatum, and trying to stage a coup. Hitler ordered that Goering be stripped of all offices and expelled from the party.

The Luftwaffe was now out of the picture. The final straw for the SS came when, a few days later, Hitler received news of Himmler's secret negotiations with the Western powers. Heartbroken at the betrayal of "Loyal Himmler", he also ordered his expulsion from the party. The

German Navy was the only branch of the armed forces not proven treacherous, even though they had ceased to be any kind of decisive force long ago, so Grand Admiral Doenitz was named as Hitler's successor. Later, Doenitz blamed Speer for his sudden rise, saying "This is all your fault" while they were imprisoned in Spandau after the Nuremberg trials.

2. Who tried desperately to stop Hitler from killing himself?

The correct answer was **Magda Goebbels**

After Hitler and Braun had said their goodbyes to their closest confidantes in the Bunker and retired to their room to seal their fates, Magda Goebbels rushed up to Otto Guensche, who was guarding the door, and tearfully begged him to let her in. After some hesitation, Hitler came to the door. Magda then fell on her knees and clutched at his jacket, sobbing and imploring him not to leave them alone, asking what was to become of them when he was gone. Hitler said nothing and went back to his study.

At this point Goebbels broke down completely and fell to the floor. It was fairly well known that she had been in love with Hitler for some time, but her reasons for begging him to live were two-fold. Now she would feel compelled to kill her children as well. Several relatives and Bunker visitors had begged her to get the children to safety and at one point, Joseph Goebbels seemed much more inclined to accept the help.

But as Magda had told Albert Speer during his final visit, a world without National Socialism was not a world worth living in. Without Hitler, Nazism as she knew it would die, and her children would follow.

3. What message did Helmut Weidling broadcast on May 2, after the ceasefire had been negotiated?

The correct answer was **Hitler had betrayed the German people and killed himself**

Although Doenitz stated in his radio broadcast that Hitler had gone down fighting for the Reich, General Weidling, however, drove through the ruined streets of Berlin in an armored tank, using a megaphone to broadcast the truth of their glorious leader and ordering all soldiers and civilians to lay down their arms at once.

Factoid: Upon hearing the false news that Hitler had died fighting for Berlin, Irish President Eamon de Valera personally sent his condolences to the German Consulate in Ireland. While his actions were not diplomatically wrong, with Ireland being a neutral nation, they were greatly frowned upon by many of the Allied Powers.

4. Who were considered the most brutal of the German fighters during the Battle for Berlin?

The correct answer was **The Hitler Youth**

Many of the Russians who fought in the Battle of Berlin said that the members of the Hitler Youth they encountered were vicious and merciless in their attacks against them. Most of them had hardly known a world without National Socialism, and therefore had been indoctrinated fully into the "No Surrender, No Retreat" mentality.

They were more than willing to lay their lives down for their leader, and more than willing to take as many Russians with them as they could.

5. Who was Himmler's intermediary in his negotiations with the Western Allies?

The correct answer was **Count Folke Bernadotte**

Count Bernadotte was a Swedish diplomat and Vice-President of the Swedish Red Cross during the war. He was well known for his efforts that saved the lives of more than 15,000 concentration camp inmates in 1943-1944, bringing them through Germany into neutral Sweden at great personal risk. In 1945 he met with Himmler, who asked that he deliver terms to the Western Allies stating that Germany would unconditionally surrender to them, so long as they be allowed to continue resistance to the Soviets. Both Eisenhower and Churchill rejected his offer, though Himmler was convinced Eisenhower would see him personally. (He had even asked his aide, Fegelein, if he should greet him with a handshake or the Nazi salute!) Folke Bernadotte was assassinated in 1948 by the Zionist extremist group Lehi (more widely known as the Stern Gang). They regarded him as a pawn of the British and their allies in the Arab community, and therefore a serious threat to the state of Israel.

Per Anger, Raoul Wallenberg, and Carl Lutz were all also Swedish or Swiss nationals who helped in the rescue of innocent lives during the war. Wallenberg's story is perhaps the most well known. After his efforts saved the lives of over 100,000 Hungarian Jews during the final year of the war, he disappeared in the city of Debrecen in 1945. It is believed that the Russians thought he was a spy. (He received his funding from the US-based War Refugee Board and spoke English well, immediately

arousing suspicion). The Russians' official story is that he died of a heart attack in the Lubyanka Prison in 1947. So many witnesses came forth to say they knew for certain he was not dead in 1947, and the Russians' story changed so many times throughout the years that nobody knew what to believe, but his family and countless others around the world refused to believe he is dead, and are still unsure of the truth to this date. It is most likely he was executed by the Russians at some point. Wallenberg is one of only six people who has been named an Honorary Citizen of the United States by an act of Congress or direct Presidential Authorization. The others are Winston Churchill, Mother Theresa, William and Hannah Penn, and General Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert-DuMotier Lafayette.

6. Where was Goering captured?

The correct answer was **Berchtesgaden**

Goering and his family were holed up on their own property close to Hitler's Berghof, where several members of his staff had also retreated, when the Americans came calling. Goering actually gave a televised interview and seemed rather relaxed during the procedure. A picture taken as he was being driven off to prison showed Edda waving to her father as Emmy clutched her tightly.

7. When did Hitler make his last trip above ground?

The correct answer was **April 20, 1945**

Hitler appeared to the outside world one final time on his 56th birthday, to hand out medals to several members of the Hitler Youth for bravery. It is also the last known time Hitler was captured on camera.

8. What was the primary weapon given to the members of the Volkssturm?

The correct answer was **The Panzerfaust**

The main weapon of the Volkssturm was called the Panzerfaust (Tank Killer), a preloaded recoilless gun with a charge-shaped warhead. Its main use was, as the name suggests, for the destruction of Russian tanks. Overall, the Volkssturm were ill-equipped and undertrained, consisting mainly of old men and boys as young as 11.

There were over a million members, with only around 9,000 guns to go round. Most of them only learned how to use their guns when they were in combat situations. Membership was compulsory, the price of desertion was hanging, no matter what the age or physical condition of the person might be.

9. How was Himmler's identity discovered when he was captured by the British?

The correct answer was **He told them who he was**

Himmler was considered a liability by Doenitz, who was by now heading the new Government in Flensburg. Therefore, he was not wanted when

he asked if he had a place in whatever was to come. He then decided to shave his moustache, put on an eyepatch, and wear the uniform of a member of the Gestapo.

He also obtained false documents giving his name as "Heinrich Hitzinger". The British were suspicious of someone who had their papers in such perfect order in the chaotic atmosphere, and arrested him. Before any kind of interrogation could take place, he removed his eyepatch, said "Ich bin Heinrich Himmler", and bit on a cyanide capsule he had hidden in his mouth. Doctors reportedly tried to stitch his tongue down, pump his stomach, and dunk his head in a bucket of water to revive him, all to no avail.

His body is said to have been buried in an unmarked grave in Lüneburg.

10. What did Hitler do in the Bunker that nobody had ever seen him do before?

The correct answer was **Kissed Eva Braun on the lips**

After Hitler's meeting following the revelation that Steiner had not attacked, he told his two secretaries to change their clothing and be ready to board a plane that would take them away, stating that everything was hopelessly lost. Eva, who had arrived at the Bunker on April 15th against Hitler's orders, rushed forth and said "You know I will stay with you. You could never send me away." He then leaned forward and kissed her on the mouth, to the stunned and awkward silence of those gathered in the hallway. "If only my generals were as brave as you," he told her, before taking her hand and walking away with her.

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 is expertly written, filled with details that took scores of hours to research. All proceeds go only to the 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).



*Keep Calm and Keep
Collecting!*