



# Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

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

VOL. XXXIII No. 2 (Whole No. 131) 1999

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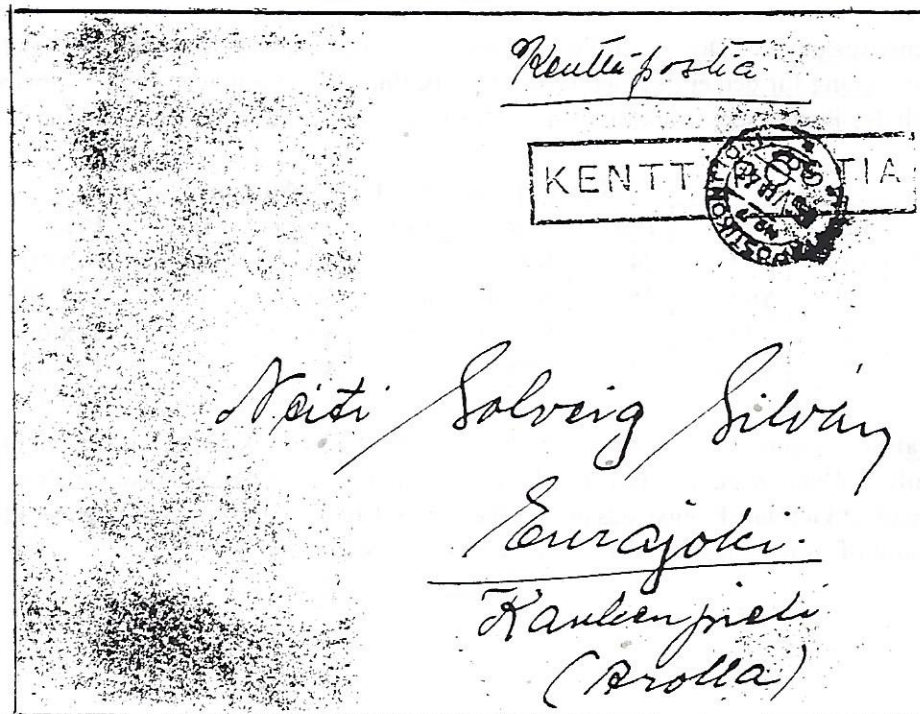
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# STUDY GROUP NOTES

**Long Live the TRSG Auction!** – the Auction Rules appear on page 19 to mark the re-appearance of our auctions and to benefit our newer members. We waited until there was sufficient material for at least three auctions before running Auction 79. However, to assure the continuation of this popular feature, we need the participation of many more members as both buyers and sellers. C'mon gang, dig into those piles of covers and send us something for the auction. To re-cycle is to keep our hobby alive!

**TRSG Meeting at NOJEX** – there will be an informal TRSG meeting held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 29, 1999 at the Meadowlands Crowne Plaza, Two Harmon Plaza, Secaucus NJ 07094. We hope to see many new & old members.

**Alpenvorland-Adria "Stamps"** – several members responded to Dave Ganse's request for information on these fraudulent "stamps" by sending copies of the July, 1984 GPS article "Alpenvorland-Adria Fakes Have Reappeared" by Dr. Werner Bohne & Otto Dekkom. Many thanks, we sent a copy of this article to Dave.

**Private Parcel Cards** - Ben Beede sends this follow-up to the article in Bulletin 130: "Tom Gobby inquired about regulations relevant to package cards with firm names imprinted and showing other signs that the forms had been privately prepared. The cards discussed in his article illustrate two situations. Fig. 5, a package card with a "fee paid" (**Gebühr bezahlt**) cancellation came from a firm that was a **Selbstbucher**. The Reichspost encouraged large postal customers to do as much preparatory work as possible before bringing mail to the post office. In many cases a **Selbstbucher** had a postal meter to frank mail. If a **Selbstbucher** did not have a meter, package cards would receive a cash paid marking or cancellation. Stamps were not to be used on **Selbstbucher** cards/: **Selbstbucher** could have adhesive labels printed with the town name, firm name and running number.

In respect to the package cards franked with postage stamps, the cards themselves, but not the numerical labels, were printed privately for the firms sending this mail. So far, I have not located any regulations on this point, but Stationary stores had common postal forms printed and available for sale or accepted special orders from businesses. From time to time, German auctions offer covers sent by such office supply houses, which mention postal forms among their products.

These procedures were not wartime expedients. The Reichspost established the **Selbstbucher** concept for packages in the late 19th century, and during the early 20th century, similar procedures were adopted for registered and insured and postal money orders and payment forms.

References:

Allgemeine Dienstweisung der Deutschen Post, Anhänge... zum Abschnitt V, 2, Berlin: Reichsdruckerei, 1940.

Kleine Dienstweisung für den einfachen Postdienst, Berlin: Reichsdruckerei, 1943 'Selbstbucherpaketsendungen'.

Handwörterbuch des Postwesens, Frankfurt am Main: Bundesministerium für Post-und Fernmeldewesen, 1953

Prices Realized – TRSG Auction 79

| Lot | Price   | Lot | Price  | Lot | Price   | Lot | Price   | Lot | Price   | Lot | Price   |
|-----|---------|-----|--------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|
| 4   | \$30.00 | 19  | \$7.00 | 24  | \$ 8.00 | 42  | \$22.00 | 46  | \$15.00 | 51  | \$26.00 |
| 5   | \$18.00 | 20  | \$6.00 | 25  | \$ 7.00 | 43  | \$40.00 | 48  | \$47.00 | 53  | \$30.00 |
| 12  | \$14.00 | 21  | \$7.00 | 26  | \$ 5.00 | 44  | \$30.00 | 49  | \$18.00 | 54  | \$27.00 |
| 15  | \$ 7.00 | 22  | \$7.00 | 34  | \$20.00 | 45  | \$65.00 | 50  | \$20.00 |     |         |

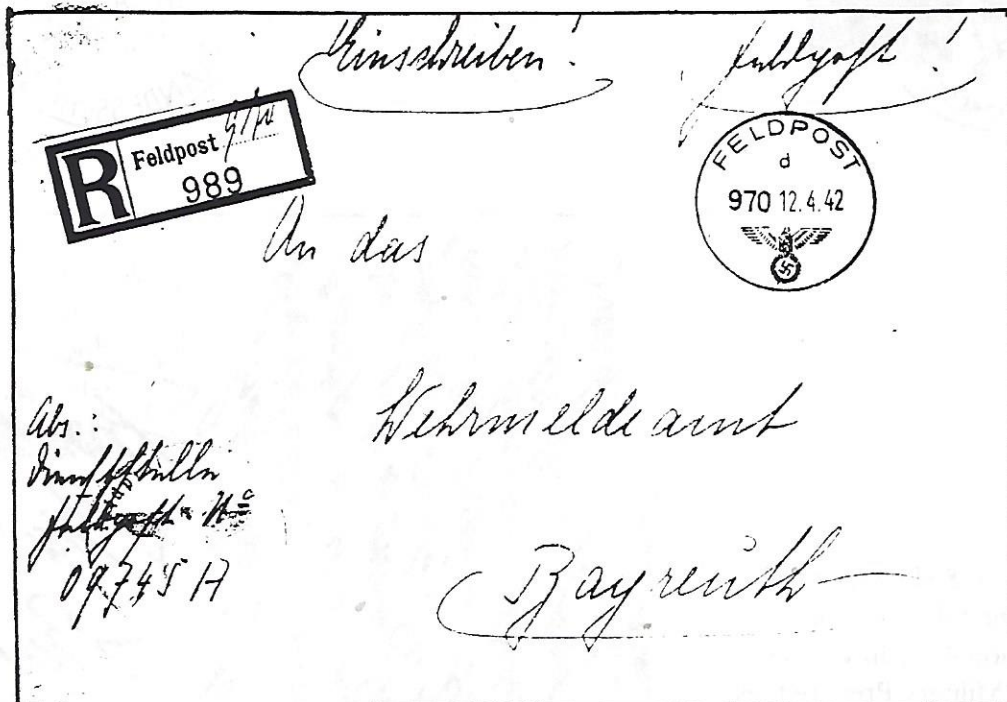
**Cover Illustration** – a very nice example of scarce Finnish Feldpost (Kenttäpostia) from member of 7. Kp. vääpeli 8600 with a July 6, 1941 'Kenttäpostiakontrol' No. 7 cancel. On this date Finnish forces were attacking south toward Leningrad as part of German-Finnish assault on the Soviet Union. This would be a great addition to any Feldpost collection/ exhibit of war on the Eastern Front. This cover is Lot 1 of TRSG Auction # 80. Good Hunting!

## COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 46th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

| POST OFFICE |      | REGIMENTS |    |      |       | AUXIL |
|-------------|------|-----------|----|------|-------|-------|
| TACT.       | KENN | GRENADIER |    | ARTY | UNITS |       |
| 46          | 970  | 42        | 72 | 97   | 114   | 46    |

Formed with personnel from Sudetenland in late 1938, this division fought in Poland and France. Part of Army Group South, the 46th Infantry Division attacked into the Ukraine in July 1941 and penetrated to the Perekop Isthmus in northern Crimea by September. The division defended the eastern approaches to the Crimea on the Kerch peninsula while the bulk of 11th Army lay siege to Sevastopol. During the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42, the division came under attack by two full Soviet armies. Ordered to hold at all costs, the division commander decided to retreat rather than allow his division to be slaughtered. This action so infuriated Field Marshal von Reichnau that he stripped the division of its banners. Within two weeks von Reichnau was dead and his successor, Field Marshal von Bock, ordered the banners returned.

The division took part in the siege of Sevastopol and in the Caucasus campaign of 1942-3, where it formed the rear guard of XXXIX Mountain Corps in the subsequent retreat. Later it fought in the Donets, at Belgorod, in the Battle of Dnepropetrovsk (where it suffered heavy casualties) and in the retreat through the Ukraine. Despite reduced numbers, the division distinguished itself during the withdrawal through Transylvania. By late 1944 the division, now at regimental strength, was in action on the Slovak-Hungarian frontier. The remnants surrendered to the Red Army in Czechoslovakia in May 1945.



Cover sent to Army Records Office in Bayreuth in April 1942 from Fp. # 09745 (Stab II/Infantry Regiment 42) via division P.O. 46 (K-970).

## Innsbruck Shooting Competition Special Cancels by Bob Ferguson

From 1939 until 1944 special cancels were used to advertise and commemorate the Tyrolean Shooting Competitions held at the firing range in Hofer Park in Innsbruck. The cancel numbering scheme is in Julius Bochmann's work "Katalog der Deutschen Gelegenheitsstempel".

|               |                                                    |                      |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Innsbruck #5  | Besucht Das 2. Tiroler Landesschiessen.            | 1-9 October 1939     |
| Innsbruck #6  | 2. Tiroler Landesschiessen Gaupauptstadt.          | 1-9 October 1939     |
| Innsbruck #8  | Besucht Das 3. Landesschiessen Gaupauptstadt.      | 29 Sept.-7 Oct. 1940 |
| Innsbruck #9  | 3. Landesschiessen                                 | 29 Sept.-7 Oct. 1940 |
| Innsbruck #13 | Besucht Das 4. Landesschiessen Gaupauptstadt.      | 29 June-7 July 1941  |
| Innsbruck #14 | 4. Landesschiessen                                 | 29 June-7 July 1941  |
| Innsbruck #16 | Besucht Das 5. Landesschiessen/Heimat in Waffen    | 5-13 July 1942       |
| Innsbruck #17 | 5. Landesschiessen/Anno 1809                       | 5-13 July 1942       |
| Innsbruck #18 | Besucht Das 6. Landesschiessen/Wehrbereit Allezeit | 4-18 July 1943       |
| Innsbruck #19 | 6. Landesschiessen                                 | 4-18 July 1943       |
| Innsbruck #20 | Besucht Das 7. Landesschiessen/Wehrbereit Allezeit | 2-17 July 1944       |
| Innsbruck #21 | 7. Landesschiessen                                 | 2-17 July 1944       |

Innsbruck #17



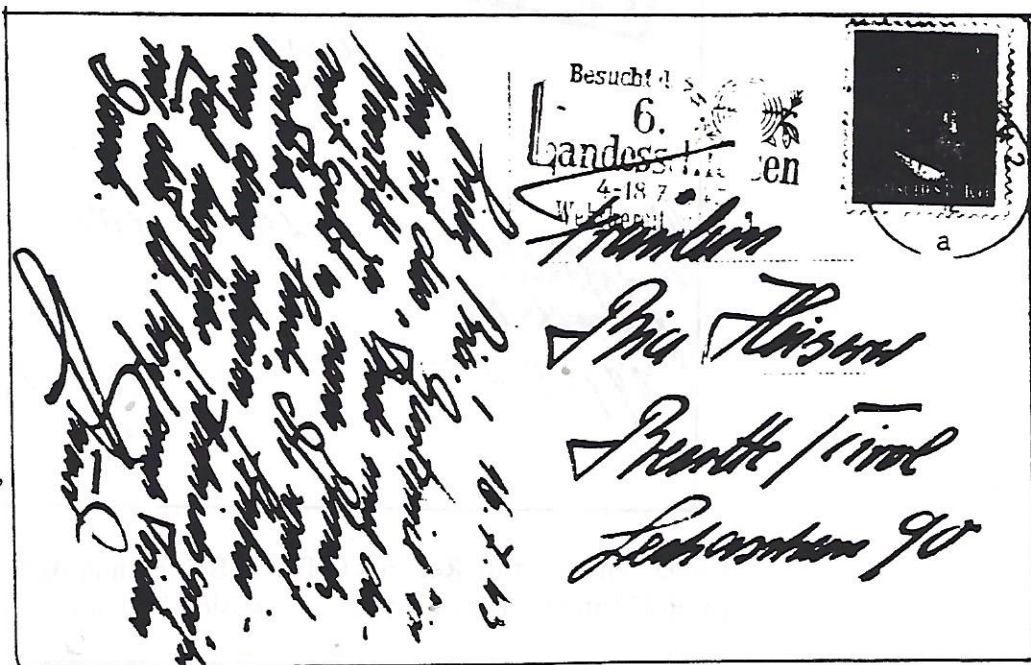
Innsbruck #19



Innsbruck #20



Innsbruck #18 slogan cancel -  
"Attend the 6th Shooting  
Competition 4-18 July 1943  
Constant Military Preparedness"



## Austrian Postal Rates After Anschluss

by Bob Ferguson

The transition from Austrian to German stamps and postal rates took place in stages:

### Postage Stamps Officially Authorized for Use

|                           |                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13 March – 3 April 1938   | Only Austrian issues                                                                                             |
| 4 April – 21 June 1938    | Austrian issues plus six German stamps: 5,6,8,12 & 25pf<br>Hindenburg definitives (there are exceptions to this) |
| 22 June – 31 October 1938 | All Austrian and German issues                                                                                   |
| 1 November '38- 8 May '45 | Only German issues                                                                                               |

Post-Anschluss Austrian Postal Rates can be divided into three periods:

|                          |                                           |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 13 March – 3 April 1938  | Rates same as pre-anschluss               |
| 4 April – 31 July 1938   | Some rates changed; some remain as before |
| 1 August '38 – 8 May '45 | Same as German rates                      |

Mixed franking of Austrian and German stamps was permitted from 4 April to 31 October 1938 at the exchange rate of 1RM = 1.5 Schilling with the exception of 1groshen and 3 groshen issues for which the rate was 1:1.

### Rate period from 13 March – 3 April 1938

#### INTERNAL

| Letters (local or intercity)            | Printed Matter    |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 0-20 gm -----24gr                       | 0-10 gm -----3gr  |
| 20-250 gm -----36gr                     | 10-50 gm----- 5gr |
| 250-500 gm -----50gr                    | 50-100 gm -- 10gr |
| Postcards (local or intercity) --- 12gr |                   |
| Registration fee -- -----40gr           |                   |
| Express delivery fee ----- 30gr         |                   |

#### FOREIGN

##### Letters

|                     | to Hungary | To Romania, Poland, Italy & Czechoslovakia |
|---------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 0-20gm --- 60gr     | 45 gr.     | 45 gr.                                     |
| Each add. 20gm-35gr | 25 gr.     | 35 Pfg.                                    |

Postcards

|      |                                                     |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|      | to Romania, Hungary, Poland, Italy & Czechoslovakia |
| 35gr | 25 gr.                                              |

Printed Matter

|                                |
|--------------------------------|
| 8gr for each 50gm              |
| to Hungary: 6gr for each 50gm  |
| Registration fee -----70gr     |
| Express delivery fee --- 120gr |

Rate period from 4 April – 31 July 1938

**INTERNAL**

|                                      |                 |                              |                    |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Local Letters (or intercity)         |                 | Intercity Letters            |                    |
| 0-20 gm -----12gr/8pf                |                 | 0-20 gm -----12gr/8pf        |                    |
| 20-250 gm -----24gr/16pf             |                 | 20-250 gm -----36gr/24pf     |                    |
| 250-500 gm ---30gr/20pf              |                 | 250-500 gm ---60gr/40pf      |                    |
| Local Postcards --8gr/5pf            |                 | Intercity Postcards--9gr/6pf |                    |
| Printed Matter                       | 0-20gm -5gr/3pf | 20-50gm -6gr/4pf             | 50-100gm -12gr/8pf |
| Registration fee ----- 40gr/27pf     |                 |                              |                    |
| Express delivery fee ----- 30gr/20pf |                 |                              |                    |

**FOREIGN**  
Letters

|                            |            |                   |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------------|
|                            | to Hungary | to Czechoslovakia |
| 0-20gm --- -----38gr/25pf  | 30gr/20pf  | 30gr/20pf         |
| Each add. 20gm---33gr/15pf | 15gr/10pf  | 23gr/15pf         |

Postcards

|           |                                                     |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|           | to Romania, Hungary, Poland, Italy & Czechoslovakia |
| 35gr/15pf | 15gr/10pf                                           |

Printed Matter

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| 8gr/5pf for each 50gm                |
| Registration fee -----70gr/47pf      |
| Express delivery fee --- -120gr/80pf |

Rate period from 13 March – 3 April 1938

Fig. 1) Postcard mailed in Vienna on March 17 has 12 gr postage for internal postcard rate.

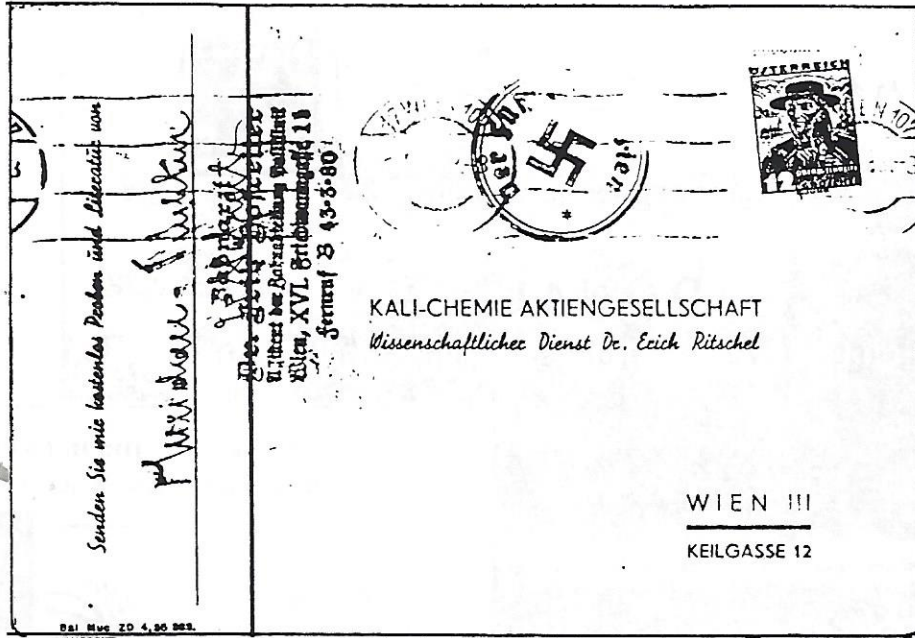
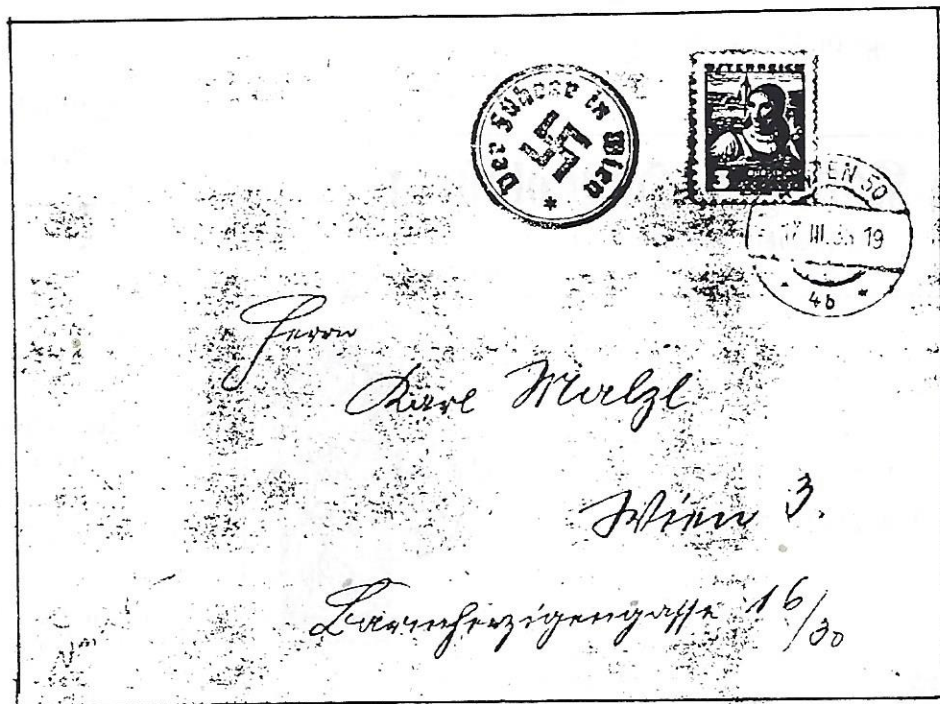


Fig. 2) Single weight printed matter cover posted in Vienna on March 17 has 3 gr postage for weight 1-10 gm.



Rate period from 4 April – 31 July 1938

Fig. 3) Letter posted in Graz on April 9 has 12 gr postage for local single weight (12gr/8pf).

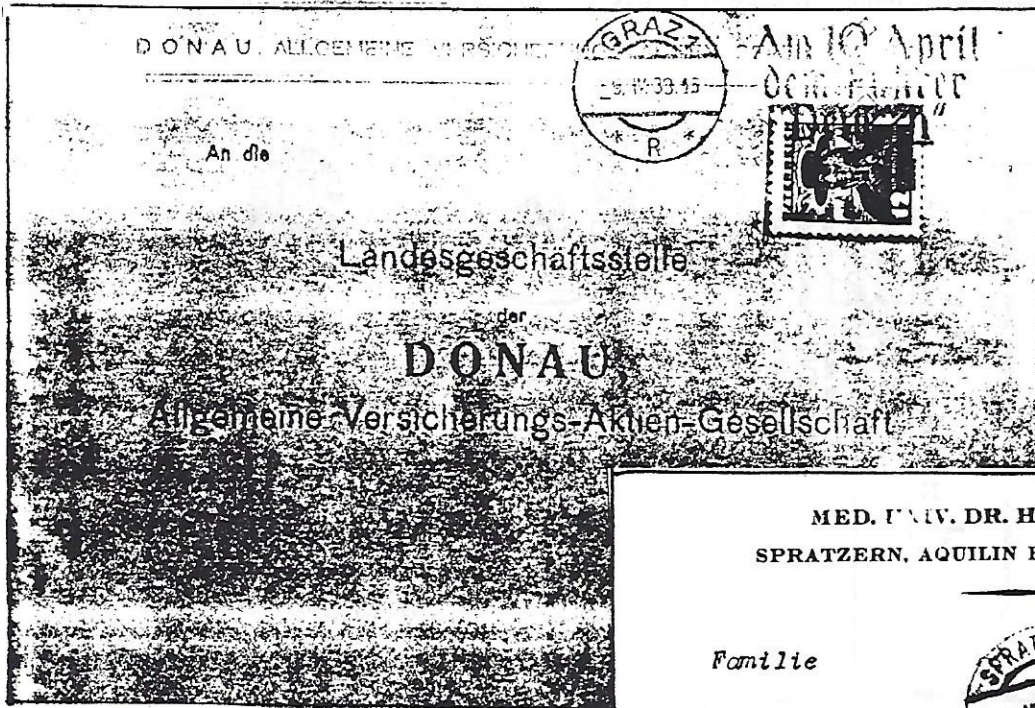
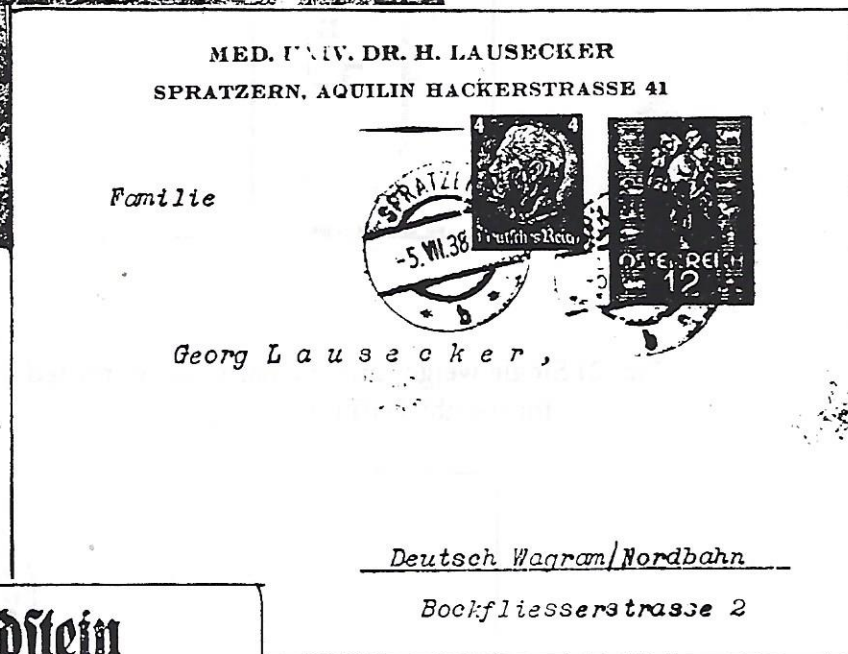


Fig. 4) Letter to Deutsch Wagram posted in Spratzern on July 5 has mixed postage for single weight intercity rate (18gr/12pf).

4pfd (1.5) = 6gr or 12gr (1.5)=8pf.



Deutsch Wagram/Nordbahn  
Bockfliesserstrasse 2

# Franz Statinger, Haunoldstein

Kunstmühle und Sägewerk

Post: Groß-Siering, Nieder-Oesterr. • Telephon Nr. 3 • Westbahnstation: Drinzersdorf

Titl.

Bund der Österreichischen  
Industriellen

in Wien III.,  
Schwarzenbergplatz 4

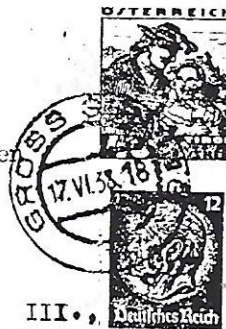
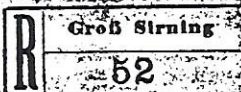


Fig. 5) Registered letter to Vienna posted in Gross Siering on June 17 has mixed postage for singleweight intercity rate (58gr/39pf).

Franking (58gr): 18gr (intercity rate for 0-20gm)  
40gr (registry).

rekommandiert





Rate period from 4 April – 31 July 1938



Fig. 6) Registered letter to Zurich posted in Vienna on June 15 has mixed postage for quadruple weight. Franking (177gr): 107gr for 60-80gm 70gr (registry)

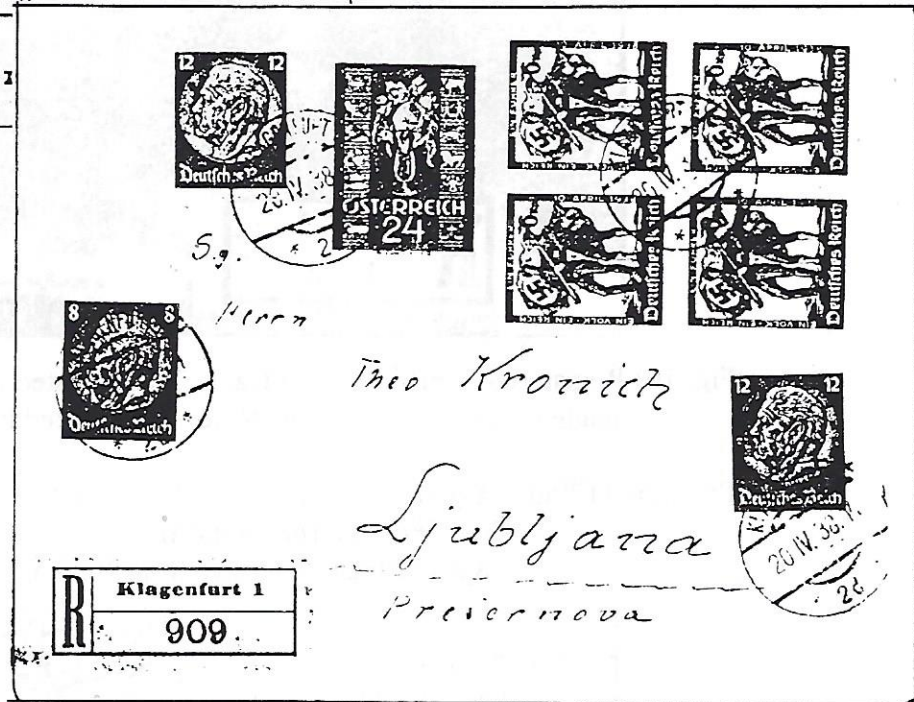


Fig. 7) Registered letter to Yugoslavia posted in Klagenfurt on April 20 has mixed postage for single weight foreign rate (108gr/72pf).

Franking (108gr):  
38gr (weight 0-20gm)  
70gm (foreign registry)



Fig. 8) Letter to USA posted in Gotzison June 10 has 38gr postage for single weight foreign letter (38gr/25pf).

Rate period from 4 April – 31 July 1938

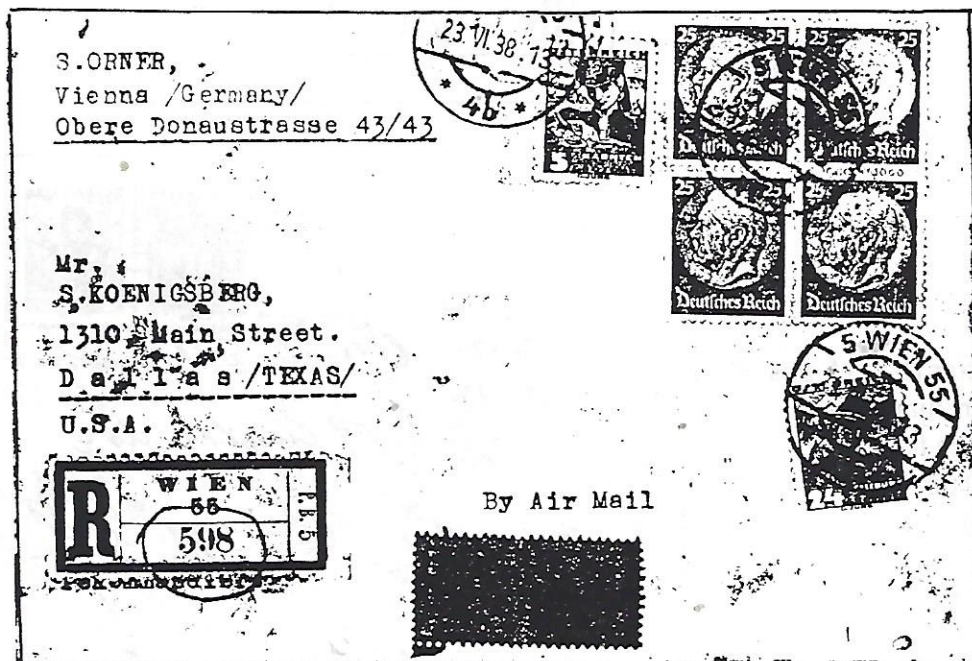
Fig. 9) Registered letter to Gablons, Czechoslovakia posted in Vienna on June 7 has mixed postage for Czechoslovakia double weight rate (123gr/82pf).

Franking (123gr): 53gr (Letter to Czechoslovakia for weight 20-40gm).  
70gr (Foreign registration)



Fig. 10) Registered airmail letter to Dalla, Texas posted in Vienna on June 23 has mixed postage for single weight foreign letter. Note: overfranked by 3gr (1.7%).

Franking (179gr): 38gr (Foreign letter rate for weight 0-20gm)  
70gr (Foreign registration)  
68gr (Airmail surcharge from New York for weight 15-20gm)



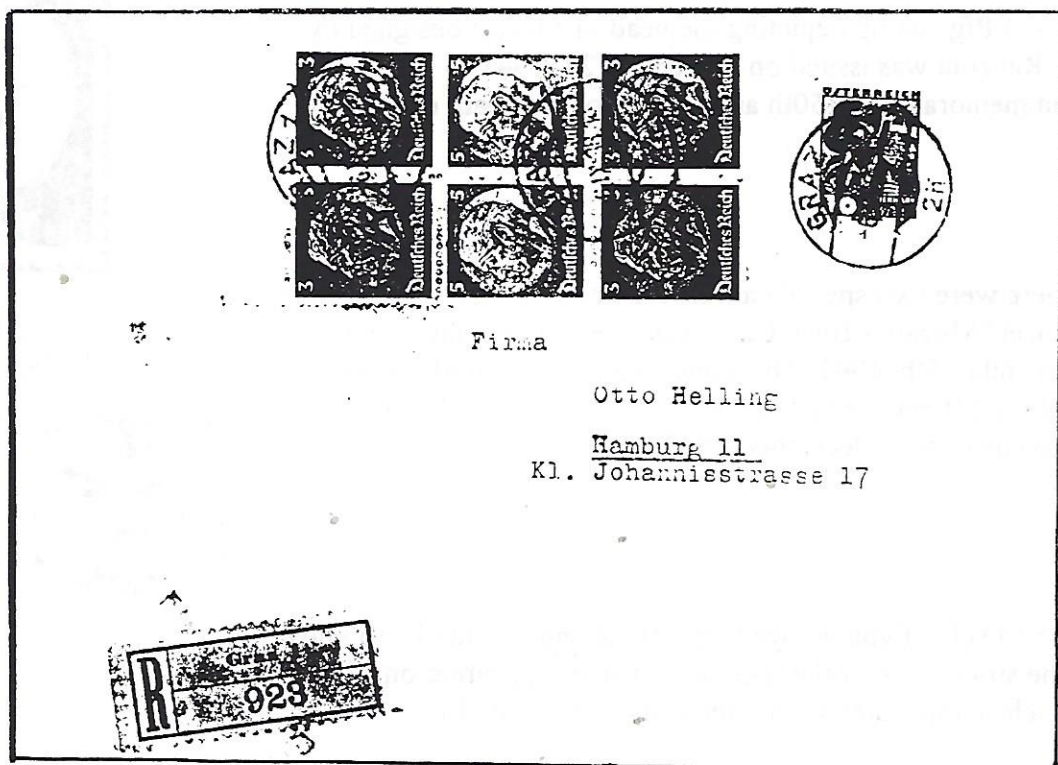
Rate period from 1 August 1938 – 8 May 1945

Fig. 11) Letter to Vienna posted in Eggenberg bei Graz on October 8, 1938 has mixed postage for single weight intercity rate (12pf). Note that 3 Austrian stamps with total value of 15gr = 10pf.



Fig. 12) Registered letter to Hamburg posted in Graz on September 6, 1938 has mixed postage for single weight intercity single weight letter.

Franking (42pf): 12pf (Intercity letter rate for weight 0-20gm)  
30pf (Registration fee)



## Story Behind the Stamp: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

by Kelly Stefanacci

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born January 27, 1756 at Salzburg. He was the son of Leopold Mozart, a musician in the service of the Archbishop of Salzburg, and his wife Maria Pertlin. Wolfgang was a most precocious child. He could play the harpsichord by the age of four and had produced musical compositions by the age of six. His father encouraged his talents and educated him at home; teaching him Latin, German and arithmetic as well as music. Between 1762 and 1765, his father took him and his sister Maria Anna touring the courts and noble houses of Vienna, Paris and London. In 1768 his father was appointed as "Konzertmeister" to the Archbishop of Salzburg.

Between 1769 and 1771 Wolfgang toured Italy, where he won great renown playing in Milan, Bologna, Naples and Rome. For several years he lived in Salzburg and devoted his time to composition. He then traveled with his mother through southern Germany and onto Paris, where he arrived on March 24, 1778. He had little success in that city and his mother died there on July 3rd. He returned to Salzburg in 1779 to become the Cathedral Organist. Finally, in March 1781 Mozart went to Vienna

He married Constant Weber (1763-1842) in Vienna on August 4, 1782. This marriage produced six children but only two of these, Karl Thomas (1784-1858) and Franz Xavier (1791-1844), survived infancy. From the early days of his marriage until his death, Mozart was usually financially strapped and his years in Vienna were mainly spent in poverty. However, in 1785, he was appointed Court Musician and, in 1790, a group of wealthy noblemen provided him with an annual pension of a thousand florins.

During his life he composed over six hundred works; comprising 22 operas, including "The Marriage of Figaro" and "The Magic Flute", 54 symphonies, 18 Latin Masses and much vocal and chamber music. His final work was his own "Requiem" which was composed just before he died in Vienna on December 5, 1791.

A 6+4 Pfg. stamp depicting the head of Mozart designed by H. Ranzoni was issued on November 28, 1941 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the death of Mozart.



There were two special cancels for this stamp. The Salzburg cancel "Mozart's Birth City" was used for one day only on December 5th, 1941. The Vienna cancel was used for the "Mozart Week", a festival of Mozart music held from 28 November to 5 December, 1941.



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

## Sources for the Study of the Postal History of Germany 1933-1945

by Benjamin R. Beede

This survey excludes philatelic works and emphasizes official publications. It is divided into archival collections; bibliographies; laws and court decisions; regulations; encyclopedias; histories; annual reports; yearbooks; periodicals; manuals; statistics; maps; post office directories; postal guides for the public; and other publications. This is simply an introduction, not an exhaustive treatment. Too many postal publications were issued between 1933 and 1945 to list here.

### 1.) Archival Collections

Information about archival materials relating TO THE Reichspost in 1933-1945 is provided in Heinz Boberach and others, '**Inventar archivalischer Quellen des NS-Staates: Die Überlieferung von Behörden und Einrichtungen des Reichs, der Länder und der NSDAP**'. (Munich: K.G. Saur, 1991). Each section of the listing includes a bibliography of more detailed sources of information about the collections described.

### 2.) Bibliographies

The most extensive bibliography of works related to German Postal service is Alfred Koch's '**Schrifttum über das Deutsche Postwesen 1871-1964**' (Hamburg: R.v. Decker's Verlag, G. Schenck, 1966) with a supplement '**1500-1964**', published in 1969. Some additional items related to the Third Reich are in Koch's '**Schrifttum über das Deutsche Postwesen 1965-1970**' published in 1972.

### 3.) Laws and Court Decisions

P. D. Fischer and Erich Staedler's '**Die deutsche Post- und Telegraphengesetzgebung**' (Berlin: Gruyter & CO. 1929) contains many statutes that remained valid into the 1930s and 1940s. The compilers included some notes, but little commentary, on the items assembled in this book. Another collection of postal laws is Max Aschenborn and Karl Schneider's '**Das Gesetz über das Postwesen des Deutschen Reichs**' (2nd Ed. Berlin: Julius Springer, 1928), which provides a mass of notes for the statutes discussed. Most of the book deals with the **Reichspostgesetz** of 28 October 1871, which established the Reichspost. A. Haddenbrock's '**Taschenbuch für Post und Telegraphie 1943**' also includes the texts of some key laws.

Probably no postal law is of more importance for collectors of Third Reich covers than the **Postordnung** of 30 January 1929. One of a succession of such statutes, it was the framework for the postal system during the late Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, and the early post-WW II period. An entire volume of the **Allgemeine Dienstanweisung**, a series discussed in more detail later in this article, was devoted to the 1929 **Postordnung**. The full text of this law also appears in the volumes mentioned in the previous paragraph, except, of course, the Aschenborn-Schneider compilation.

Court decisions related to postal subjects in the Third Reich are contained in Fritz Schuster's '**Postrecht Entscheidungen 1928-1954**' (Hamburg: R. v. Decker's Verlag, G. Schenck, 1955). They provide useful commentary on the legal significance of particular services and the liability of the Reichspost for the loss or damage of items entrusted to it for postal users, among other topics.

#### 4.) Regulations

The Reichspost published an extensive series of books containing postal regulations under slightly varying titles. For the Third Reich era, the series was titled '**Allgemeine Dienstanweisung der Deutschen Reichspost**' (officially abbreviated ADA). The series was divided into sections and volume numbers. For example, "ADA V, 5" meant "Section V, volume 5", which dealt with postal savings. The ADA included illustrations of every postal form. Having these available is very helpful to anyone who wishes to understand German postal operations.

Of special interest to postal historians is Section V, volume 2 (ADA V, 2) which discussed "practical postal service" and included two supplementary volumes. Alfred Koch's '**Der praktische Postdienst in Frage und Antwort**' (Berlin: Verlag Beamtenpresse GmbH, several editions, 1941, 1942 & 1943), a question and answer guide to V, 2 for postal employees is also an interesting publication.

The Reichspost did not issue an index for the ADA, but indexes were privately published. The compiler has a copy of the 7th edition of R. Dietz's '**Sachweiser zur Allgemeinen Dienstanweisung der Deutschen Reichspost**' (Berlin: George König Buchdruckerei und Verlag, 1942). It is an important aid because a subject might be mentioned in several sections, volumes, and paragraph numbers of the ADA.

In addition to the ADA volumes, some **Dienstanweisungen** (abbreviated DA) were issued. A few were simplified versions of ADA volumes, such as the '**Kleine Dienstanweisung für den Bahnpostdienst**', but most were totally independent publications, such as the '**Dienstanweisung für Bezirksaufsichtsbeamte Post**', a set of instructions for Reichspost inspectors.

The ADA and DA were updated by notices in the '**Amtsblatt des Postministeriums**', which was issued every two weeks by the postal ministry through early April 1945. Many regulations that appeared in the Amtsblatt were also published in the weekly '**Postnachrichtenblatt**', which was aimed at postal users rather than postal workers and which continued until early 1944. While the Amtsblatt is more complete for the coverage of regulations, the Postnachrichtenblatt has a good deal of information not in the Amtsblatt. Regulations were also reprinted on a highly selective basis in '**Die Postdienstschule**', a Reichspost continuing education publication. It has useful features not in the other publications discussed in this paragraph, such as essays on particular types of postal service and questions and answers about Reichspost policies and procedures, especially the calculation of postal fees.

#### 5.) Encyclopedias

The two editions of the '**Handwörterbuch des Postwesens**' (Berlin: Julius Springer, 1927/Frankfurt am Main: Bundespostministerium für das Post- und Fernmeldewesen, 1953) are very helpful. The books include articles about virtually every postal topic and contain very useful bibliographies. The 1927 edition portrays the Reichspost much as it probably was in 1933, at the beginning of the Third Reich, and the 1953 edition provides much information on postal operations between 1933 and 1945.

#### 6.) Histories

Karl Sautter's '**Geschichte der Deutschen Post: Teil 3 Geschichte der Deutschen Reichspost 1871 bis 1945**' (Frankfurt am Main: Bundesdruckerei, 1951) is a massive volume on all aspects of German postal, as well as telecommunications, developments during the Deutsches Reich era. Although the book is based on official sources, it is not footnoted. The absence of an index is another limitation of this fine study.

The series '**Post und Telegraphie in Wissenschaft und Praxis**', (issued from the 1920s through the early years of World War II by R. v. Decker's Verlag, G. Schenck in Berlin) consists of dozens of volumes on many aspects of the Reichspost history and their contemporary operations. Especially useful for our purposes are the postal history studies by Konrad Sachwarz. General volumes by Schwarz were '**Die Entwicklung der deutschen Post: Eine Übersicht**' (1931); '**Die Briefsendungen in der deutschen Postgeschichte**' (1935); and '**Zeittafeln zur deutschen Postgeschichte**' (1935). His works on registered mail, postal money orders and other subjects are also extremely valuable.

Another important historical study is Gerd R. Übershear's "**Die Deutsche Reichspost im Zweiten Weltkrieg**" in Wolfgang Lotz, editor, '**Deutsche Postgeschichte: Essays und Bilder**' (Berlin: Nicolaische Verlagsbuchhandlung Beuermann GmbH, 1989), pages 289-320.

#### 7.) Annual Reports

A '**Geschäftsbericht der Deutsche Reichspost**' (1924-1935) and a '**Verwaltungsbericht der Deutsche Reichspost**' (1936-1941) summarized Reichspost progress during the previous year and provided postal statistics.

#### 8.) Yearbooks

The '**Jahrbuch des Postwesens**' for 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941/42 consisted of two parts, first, several hundred pages of lengthy essays on then contemporary postal services and historical studies, and second, a discussion of rate changes for the previous year or two, running from twenty to forty-seven pages. The 1937 volume reviewed rate changes from 1933 to 1937.

#### 9.) Periodicals

This section is the weakest in this guide because the compiler has not had the opportunity to view issues of most of the publications mentioned. Several important periodicals have already been discussed in the section on regulations, so they will not be mentioned in this section. The '**Archiv für post und Telegraphie**' (called Postarchiv between 1940 and 1944) is an important publication, which included lengthy articles on postal topics, both historical treatments and accounts of services and policies as they existed when the articles were written. A postal newspaper was issued in the Third Reich era under the title '**Die Deutsche Post, Wochenschrift das für das Post und Telegraphie**' and, apparently, was published as late as early 1945.

'**Deutsche Postgeschichte**', which appeared between 1937 and 1943, is an attractively produced postal history journal, but the text was very much colored by Nazi ideology.

#### 10.) Manuals

A large number of single-volume and multi-volume handbooks and other guides were issued by the Reichspost, which helped postal officials perform their duties and prepare for promotion examinations.

**'Postleitfaden: I. Leitfaden für den Post- und Telegraphenbetriebsdienst'** appeared in 1931 and remained in use until 1938 when replaced by **'Postleitfaden: I. Leitfaden für den Praktischen Post- und Telegraphenbetriebsdienst'** (Berlin: R. v. Decker's Verlag – G. Schenck, 1938). It was replaced with a much larger edition in 1941. These volumes summarized the Postordnung of 1929 and many portions of the ADA. All editions are highly useful and very convenient sources for anyone interested in German postal history 1933-1945.

**'Postleitfaden II'** appeared in various years, including 1934 and 1941. These volumes gave instructions on how to conduct official correspondence and included the texts of many sample letters and memoranda. **'Postleiten IV/1. Grundlagen des Verwaltungsdienst'** (1942) and **'Postleiten IV/2. Verwaltungsdienst'** (1943) provide extensive information on the administration of the Reichspost during World War II.

Other important official works are the **'Briefpostbuch'** and the **'Paketpostbuch'**, which discussed postal services and the related postal rates in detail. Various editions appeared in the 1930s and 1940s. The **'Weltposthandbuch'** assisted postal workers with questions about service between Germany and other countries, describing as it did, the requirements established by the Universal Postal Union, although the **'Briefpostbuch'** also contained information about foreign service.

#### 11.) Statistics

An extremely important compilation was issued in 1942 by the Deutschen Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung in cooperation with the Reichspost. **'Zahlenspiegel der Deutschen Reichspost'** presents postal statistics of all kinds for the years 1933-1941, month by month, with annual totals. Earlier statistics back to 1871 are included in a more summary form. Statistics for 1942, 1943 and the first three quarters of 1944, along with other years, appeared in **'Zahlenspiegel der Deutschen Reichspost 1871 bis 1945'** (Frankfurt am Main: Bundesdruckerei, 1957). Reichspost policies and procedures concerning statistics were described exhaustively in ADA, XIII. The 1939 edition contains 238 pages.

#### 12.) Maps

These important sources are listed in the bibliographies by Alfred Koch mentioned earlier, but the Koch books seem to be somewhat confusing in respect to maps. The most important postal maps for the Third Reich and other periods were the **'Postleitkarten'**, which illustrated several postal directories (major administrative areas) and their post offices in eleven or more maps. No mention is made in the Koch books of such maps having been published after 1940, although some of them were produced at least as late as 1943.



### 13.) Post Office Directories

Such directories exist for most years of the Third Reich and are very valuable tools for specialists in both that period and the early, post-WW II years. These directories have the title '**Ortsverzeichnis I...**' and are arranged by the names of municipalities in alphabetical order. Each listing shows the level of post office and its association with a postal directorate. The street address for each post office is also given. Many of the postal directorates also issued lists of their post offices.

### 14.) Postal Guides for the Public

A variety of pamphlets and flyers were produced by the Reichspost to inform the public about postal services. Postal rate booklets are probably best known and, certainly, one of the most useful categories. Other introductory booklets dealt with such topics as postal freight and postal savings. Some of the most attractive brochures were those that discussed airmail service and included illustrations of German aircraft and air ships and, sometimes, postal route maps.

Some privately published booklets are also useful to postal historians. '**Wie verkehre ich mit Post, Eisenbahn und Reichsbank? : Handbuch für Schuke und Büro**' (Lübeck: Verlag Hans Oldenburg) appeared in a number of editions. It provided explanations of postal, rail and banking services and illustrations of common postal, railway and banking forms. Heinrich Walter's '**Post Hilft Werben**' (Stuttgart: Verlag für Wirtschaft und Verkehr Forkel & Co. 1937) supplied information to the business community on how to use the Reichspost effectively for advertising purposes. The booklet also discussed the various postal services of special interest to business people.

### 15.) Other Publications

Publications issued by the German railway, the Reichsbahn, and the Deutsche Lufthansa, also contain extremely useful information. The Reichsbahn's '**Reichskursbuch**' supplied information about train schedules, and '**Die Netzkarten und Bezirkskarten der Deutschen Reichsbahn**' provided maps of rail routes in Germany. Lufthansa's '**Reichsluftkursbuch**' supplied similar information about air routes and even furnished a few pages of information about air mail service.

# Rejected by Censor - Inadmissible Mail

by Larry Nelson

## Lack of Sender Address

Section 2. A. 4 of the Directive of May 13, 1940: "All mail to non-enemy foreign countries must bear the complete address of the sender (first name, surname, permanent residence and indication of the street) on the outside."

Shown below is a registered cover that was mailed on April 17, 1944 at a civil post office in Riga, Latvia. The cover has typed instruction for routing via the "Deutsche Dienstpost Osten", which is strange because this was the Dienstpost network in occupied Poland. The cover was turned over to the "Deutsche Dienstpost Ostland" office in Riga, which may have been in the same building. After adding a DDP postmark, the cover was routed to the German censorship office in Königsberg, East Prussia. While this cover was apparently sent for philatelic purposes (the 109 Pfg. postage far exceeds the fee for even a triple weight registered letter) such mail did not violate censorship regulations. However, the postal examiners at the Königsberg censor office did observe that sender had not included their address on the backside of the cover. Therefore, the cover was not opened for examination but hand stamped "20/4 ZURÜCK" ("Return April 20th") with the manuscript notation "unzulässig" (not permitted). As there was no indication of the sender, this cover probably ended up in a dead letter box in Riga.



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

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

## A Summary of Navy Log Features

by Jim Lewis

In the late 1970s, former TRSG Bulletin Editor Bob Houston assembled a very nice exhibit of Feldpost covers from many different ships of the German Navy. What made this exhibit memorable was that Bob included on each sheet a photo postcard of the ship along with a Feldpost cover showing the 5-digit Feldpost number.

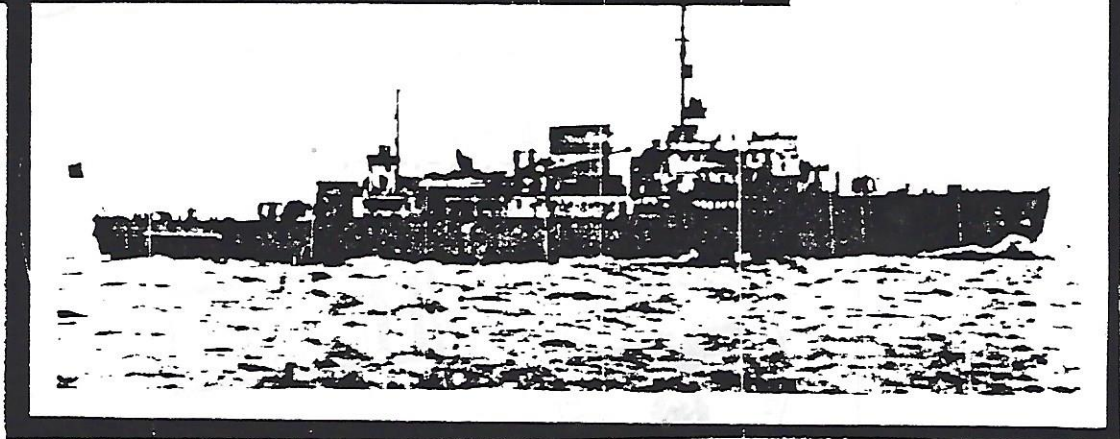
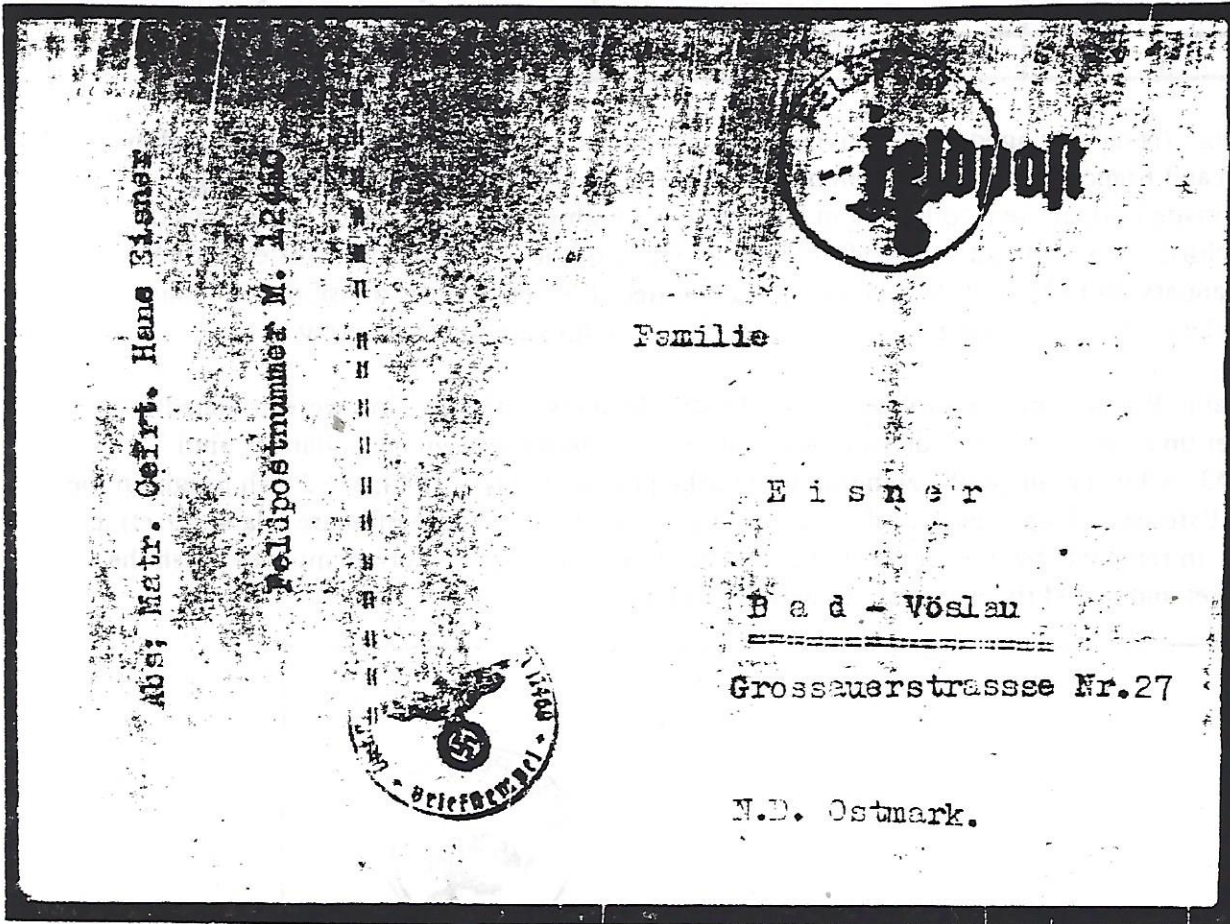
Bob later decided to use this exhibit as the basis for a new TRSG Bulletin feature which he designated "Navy Log". The first "Navy Log" feature appeared in Bulletin 66 in 1982 and in quite a few issues thereafter. When Bob's became very ill in 1984, I was appointed Bulletin Editor and he gave me photocopies of all remaining exhibit pages. However, after he died late in 1984, I did not consider it appropriate to continue "Navy Log".

Subsequently, I asked Jill Houston if she would permit me to continue publishing "Navy Log" under her late husband's by-line. She agreed, so the feature was re-introduced in 1987 (Bulletin 83) and continues to be well regarded by the membership. All of these "Navy Log" features shown below form a fine tribute to an outstanding TRSG member.

| Issue | Identification                      | Issue | Identification                     |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 66    | Battleship 'Gneisenau'              | 105   | Torpedo Boat 'T-1'                 |
| 67    | Merchant Raider 'Atlantis'          | 106   | Destroyer Z-2 'Georg Thiele'       |
| 68    | U-Boat 627                          | 107   | Torpedo Boat 'Jaguar'              |
| 69    | Battleship 'Bismark'                | 108   | Destroyer Z-3 'Max Schultz'        |
| 71    | Battleship 'Schlesien'              | 109   | Destroyer Z-18 'Hans Lüdemann'     |
| 72    | Light Cruiser 'Emden'               | 110   | Destroyer Z-4 'Richard Beitzel'    |
| 83    | Battleship 'Tirpitz'                | 111   | Destroyer Z-19 'Hermann Künne'     |
| 84    | Heavy Cruiser 'Admiral Hipper'      | 112   | Torpedo Boat 'T-2'                 |
| 85    | Heavy Cruiser 'Scharnhorst'         | 113   | Destroyer Z-5 'Paul Jacobi'        |
| 86    | Armored Ship 'Lutzow'               | 114   | Destroyer Z-20 'Karl Galster'      |
| 87    | Battleship 'Schleswig Holstein'     | 115   | Destroyer Z-6 'Theodor Riedel'     |
| 88    | Armored Ship 'Admiral Scheer'       | 116   | Torpedo Boat 'Luchs'               |
| 89    | Armored Ship 'Admiral Graf Spee'    | 117   | Destroyer Z-21 'Wilhelm Heidkamp'  |
| 90    | Light Cruiser 'Nürnberg'            | 118   | Destroyer Z-7 'Hermann Schoemann'  |
| 91    | Heavy Cruiser 'Prinz Eugen'         | 119   | Destroyer Z-22 'Anton Schmitt'     |
| 92    | Merchant Raider 'Stier'             | 120   | Mine Sweeper 'Nautilus'            |
| 93    | Merchant Raider 'Widder'            | 121   | Torpedo Boat 'Löwe'                |
| 94    | Light Cruiser 'Leipzig'             | 122   | Depot Ship 'Isar'                  |
| 95    | Merchant Raider 'Orion'             | 123   | Destroyer Z-8 'Bruno Heinemann'    |
| 96    | Light Cruiser 'Karlsruhe'           | 124   | Destroyer Z-9 'Wolfgang Zenker'    |
| 97    | U-Boat Tender 'Lech'                | 125   | Destroyer Z-10 'Hans Lady'         |
| 98    | Light Cruiser 'Königsberg'          | 126   | Destroyer Z-11 'Bernd von Arnim'   |
| 99    | Torpedo Boat 'Möwe'                 | 127   | Destroyer Z-12 'Eric Giese'        |
| 100   | Destroyer Z-1 'Leberecht Maass'     | 128   | Destroyer Z-13 'Eric Köllner'      |
| 101   | Heavy Cruiser 'Blücher'             | 129   | Destroyer Z-14 'Friedrich Ihn'     |
| 102   | Light Cruiser 'Köln'                | 130   | Destroyer Z-16 'Friedrich Eckoldt' |
| 103   | U-Boat Tender 'Weichsel'            | 131   | Torpedo Boat Depot Ship 'Tanga'    |
| 104   | Destroyer Z-17 'Diether von Roeder' |       |                                    |

# NAVY LOG

## Torpedo Boat Depot Ship 'Tanga' - Feldpost # 12460



This depot ship for motor torpedo boats was launched in December 1937. Displacement: 2190 tons; speed: 17 knots; armament: two 4.1", two 37mm and four 20mm guns; crew: 224.

Taken over by U.S. Navy at end of war, turned over to Danish navy in 1948 and re-named "Aegir".

## COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:

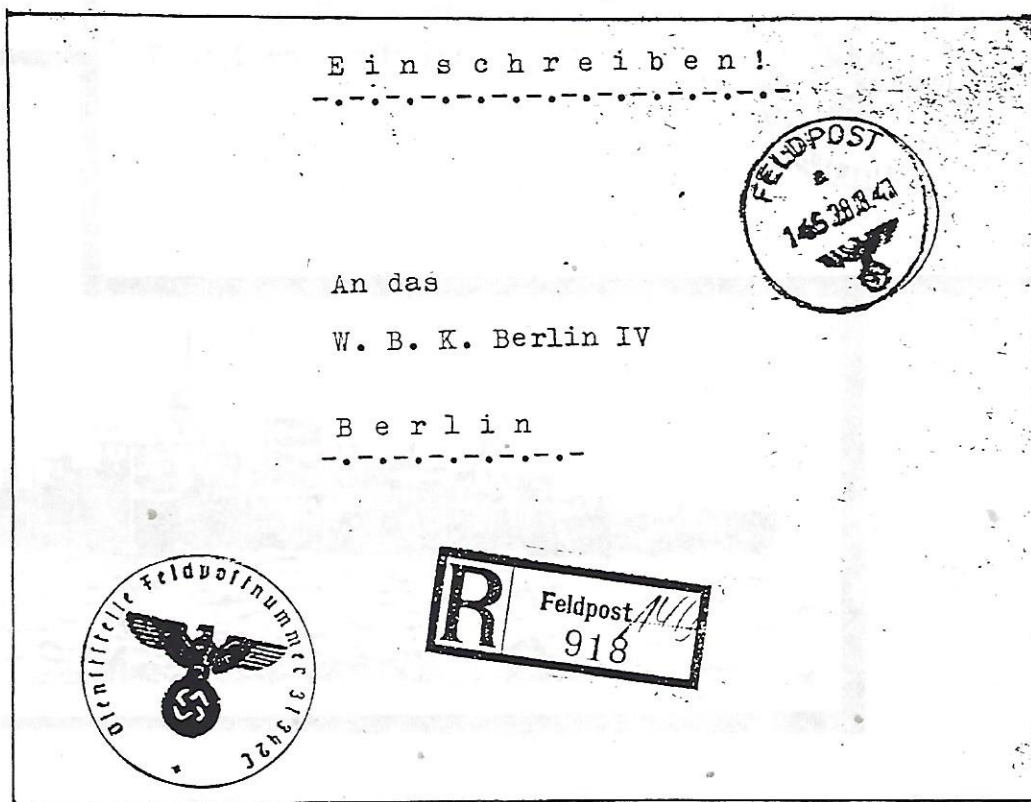
### 218th Infantry Division

by Jim Lewis

| POST OFFICE |      | REGIMENTS |     |      | AUXIL |
|-------------|------|-----------|-----|------|-------|
| TACT.       | KENN | GRENADIER |     | ARTY | UNITS |
| 218         | 146  | 323       | 386 | 397  | 218   |

This "Landwehr" (reservists aged 35-45) division was mobilized in 1939 and distinguished itself in Poland (1939) and France (1940). It was on occupation duty in Denmark in 1941 when its age structure was made normal. Sent to Russia in late 1941, it fought in all of the major campaigns of Army Group North from then until the end of the war. Much of the 218th division was encircled at Kholm from January 28 to May 5 1942 before being rescued. Elements of the division, including the 218th Artillery Regiment, took part in the relief of the Kholm garrison that spring.

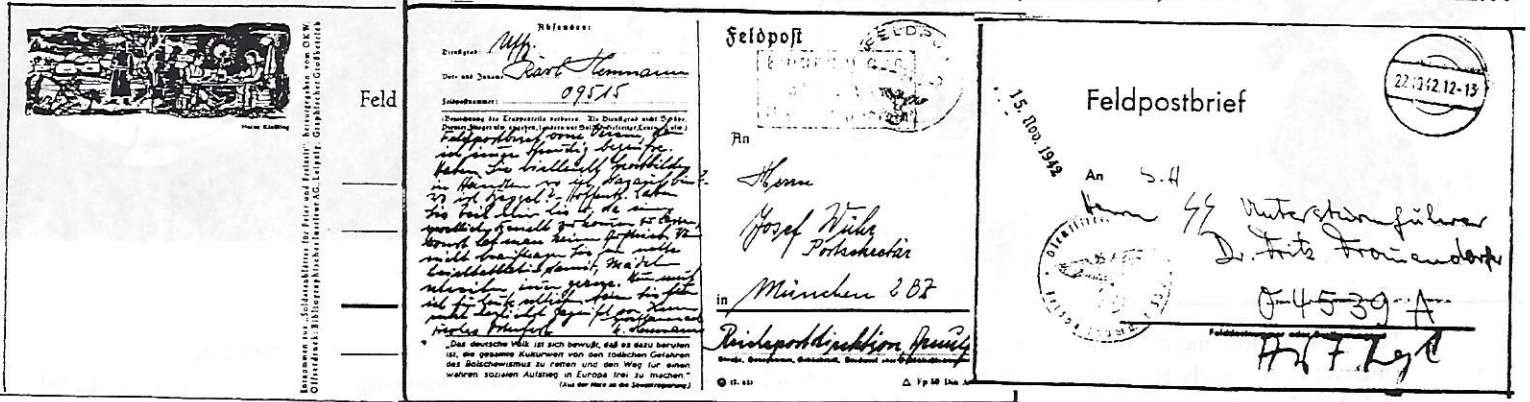
From its arrival in Russia until the early part of 1943-43, elements of the division were attached to a variety of other units, and the entire division was not reunited under its own headquarters until December 1943. After the Siege of Leningrad was broken in late January 1944, the 218th fought in the retreat across Estonia and was cited for distinguished conduct in the defense of Saare Island (Ösel) in October 1944. In remnants by November, the 218th still fought against Soviet attempts to crush the Courland Pocket and ended the war there in western Latvia.



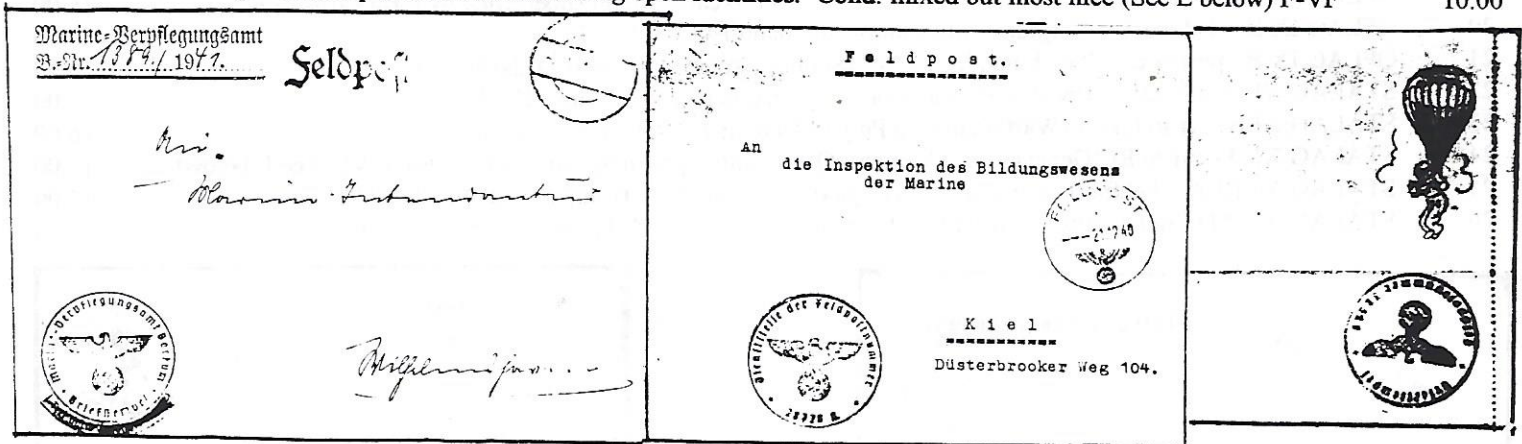
Cover sent to Berlin in August 1941 from Fp. # 31342  
(Battalion II/ Artillery Regiment 218) via P.O. 218 (K-146).  
Division at that time stationed in Aarhus, Denmark.

# TRSG AUCTION NO. 80

| Lot | Description                                                                                                      | Min. Bid. |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1.  | Scarce Finnish Feldpost ( Kettäpostia) sent July 1941 during assault on Soviet Union (see cover illustration)    | 25.00     |
| 2.  | Seven Fp letter sheets w/messages, var. markings i.e. Fp. #s etc. incl. 10.'42 to SS. (See R below) F-VF         | 18.00     |
| 3.  | Five diff. Fp formula cards w/var. markings i.e. Fp. #s etc. incl. prop. message to Soviets . (See C below) F-VF | 12.00     |
| 4.  | Eleven unused Feldpost cards incl.. some with Fp seals or military illustrations (See L below) F-VF              | 12.00     |



|    |                                                                                                           |       |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 5. | Eight unused various style Feldpost letter sheets incl. some with cartoons, etc. (See R below) F-VF       | 10.00 |
| 6. | Six Kriegsmarine Fp cvrsl w/diff. 5 digit Fp #s. Very nice lot w/mostly clear markings (See C below) F-VF | 18.00 |
| 7. | Nine Kriegsmarine Fp covers frm units using open identities. Cond. mixed but most nice (See L below) F-VF | 10.00 |



|     |                                                                                                           |       |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 8.  | Two 1945 Fp ltrshs: 1 frm RAD unit can Waren 1.1.45, 1 frm Pz. Jag. Abt. Can Cilli 16.3.45. Markings F-VF | 12.00 |
| 9.  | Hitler postal cd bedarfs frm Berlin w/SPC 20.4.39 B'day cans. VF (See R Below)                            | 13.00 |
| 10. | NSDAP p'cd soldier carrying wounded comrade w/GG stamp tied SPC Krakau 8.'43 VF (See C Below)             | 12.00 |
| 11. | Mint Postal card 1942 Tag der Brief showing Feldpost activities VF (See L Below)                          | 10.00 |

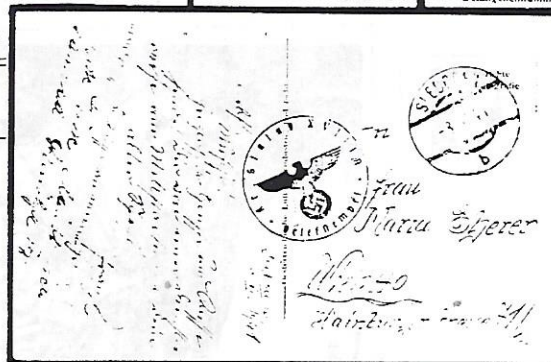
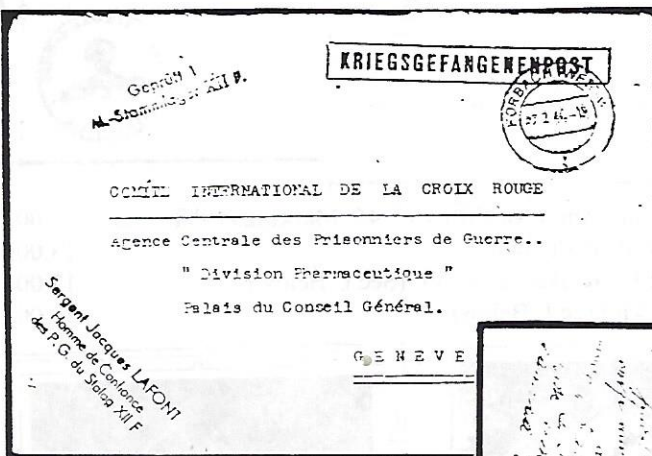


| Lot | Description                                                                                         | Min. Bid |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 12. | Picture card of Sudeten German leader Konrad Henlein w/Reichenberg SPC can 4.12.38 VF (See R Below) | 12.00    |
| 13. | Postal cd w/HJ stamp for 1941 Vienna philatelic show w/ SPC Wien 5.10.41 VF (See C Below)           | 12.00    |
| 14. | Mint Postal card 1948 KDF Cruise w/5 Pfg. airmail indicia (See L Below)                             | 10.00    |



The Next 12 lots mostly early cds & cvrs frm POW Camps in Germany, each on exhibit sheet w/nice write-up

|     |                                                                                                    |       |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 15. | OFLAG II A – early form card to Poland sent 12.'39 from Polish officer w "4" censor marking        | 12.00 |
| 16. | OFLAG II D –form card to Tarnow, GG via DDP Osten in 10.'44, "16" diamond cens. VF except folded   | 10.00 |
| 17. | OFLAG IV A – early form card to USA from Polish POW in May 1940 VF (See R below)                   | 12.00 |
| 18. | OFLAG VII A – early form card to Warsaw from Polish officer in May '40 VF Censor '5'               | 15.00 |
| 19. | OFLAG IX A/Z – early cover to Belgian POW w/mute 8.'40 cans. (Soon superceded by form cards) VF    | 16.00 |
| 20. | OFLAG IX B – Feldpost to Belgium from Camp Command HQ 10.'40 VF                                    | 17.00 |
| 21. | OFLAG IX B –postcard to Polish major in 3.'40 (Soon superceded by form cards) VF VF                | 16.00 |
| 22. | STALAG VI D- official Feldpost to RC Geneva Very nice Stalag Briefstempel! VF                      | 15.00 |
| 23. | STALAG XI B- cvr to Posen (Wartheland) to Polish POW in 2.'40, boxed "1" censor mark VF            | 16.00 |
| 24. | STALAG XII F- cvr to RC Geneva from French POW in camp pharmacy in 7.'44. Unusual VF (See L below) | 17.00 |
| 25. | STALAG XVIII A – Feldpost card frm German guard in 6.'41. Nice Briefstempel! VF (See C below)      | 15.00 |
| 26. | STALAG XVII D (Stalag 306) – airmail ltrst to New Zealand in 10'41. Nice 'Chamois" censor VF       | 13.00 |



PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 80 IS May 28, 1999  
 SEND ALL BIDS TO: JIM LEWIS, 111 MONTROSS AVE., RUTHERFORD, NJ 07070