



Third Reich Study Group Bulletin

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

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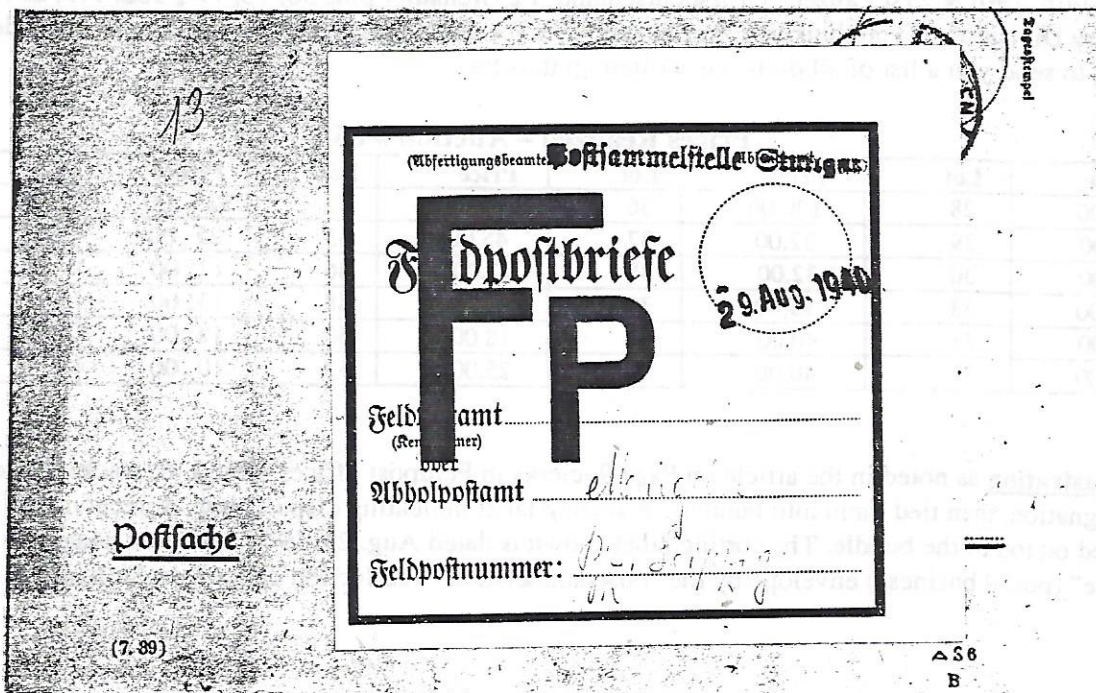
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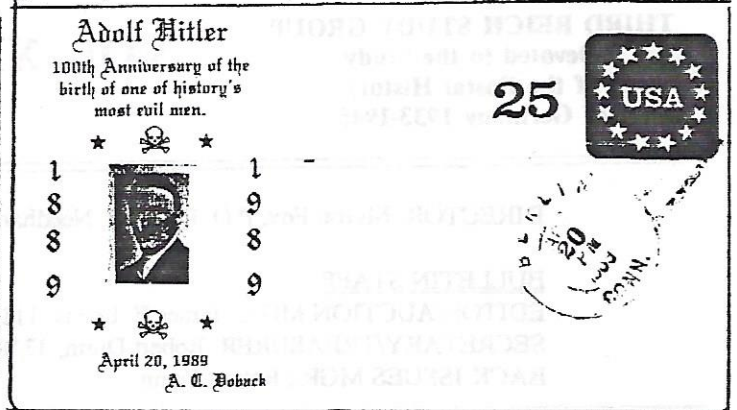
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STUDY GROUP NOTES

Hitler Birthday – as follow up to the Hitler 50th birthday cover shown in Bulletin 1 41, TRSGer John Mattler sent in an Austrian cover for his 90th birthday cancelled April 20, 1979 in Braunau am Inn (left) and a U.S. envelope with cachet for his 100th Birthday which was cancelled April 20, 1989 in Berlin, Connecticut.



Replacement Systems – this follow up to John Painter’s “The German Army Replacement System” (page 4 in TRSG Bulletin 139) is found in *The G.I. Offensive in Europe: the Triumph of American Infantry Divisions 1941-45* by Peter R. Mansoor, 1999, University Press of Kansas:

“Fighting in the Anzio beachhead during the period from Jan. 22 to 28 March 1944, the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division sustained 5,475 battle casualties and 5,441 non-battle casualties, over two thirds of its authorized strength. In 66 days of combat, the division lost 116 % of its riflemen, over 70% to the effects of German artillery fire. Between 11 and 13 July 1944, the German 3rd Parachute Division lost 4,064 men killed, wounded and missing. The Americans could replace their losses but the Germans could not. Few experiences were as terrifying as that of an infantry replacement fed directly into combat. One American officer of the 29th Infantry Division later wrote: ‘On occasion, new men were fed directly into units actually locked in battle. Sent in by night and placed in among dark forms that occupied grave-like holes scooped out behind hedgerows, they could hardly even know where they were. Sometimes a new man died before dawn, and none around knew him by sight or name. Without the sustaining strength of unit pride or comradeship, he had started battle reduced to the final resource with which every man ends it: himself, alone’. After the battle of St. Lo, V Corps Commander, Major General Charles H. Gerhardt, adjusted division policy to ensure that only battalions in reserve positions received replacements.”

Combat Division Profiles – in response to our request for R-cover illustrations, G. Jamieson supplied covers for, 1st, 13th, 14th, 19th & 21st Panzer, ‘Grossdeutschland’ Pz.Grenadier plus 36, 76, 79 , 102, 112, 251, 305, 321 & 357 Infantry Divisions. If you think you may have R-cvrs for our study, please drop a line to Ye Olde Ed and we will be pleased to send you a list of all divisions written up thus far.

Prices Realized – Auction # 85

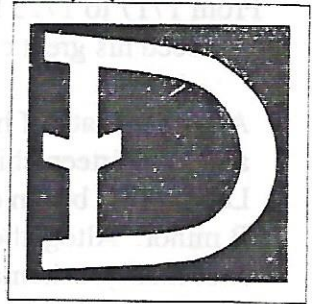
Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1	\$16.00	28	\$20.00	36	\$ 40.00	42	\$25.00	56	\$15.00
2	15.00	29	52.00	37	45.00	43	25.00	58	32.00
14	32.00	30	32.00	38	23.00	46	12.00	60	16.00
24	28.00	33	45.00	39	20.00	48	13.00		
25	12.00	34	40.00	40	18.00	50	12.00		
27	15.00	35	40.00	41	25.00	53	10.00		

Cover Illustration as noted in the article on Page 9, clerks in Feldpost offices sorted & stacked letters for the same designation, then tied them into bundles. A sorting label indicating dispatching & receiving offices was then placed on top of the bundle. The sorting label shown is dated Aug. 29, 1940 and was pasted on a used “Postsache” (postal business) envelope by the “Postsammelstelle” (collection office) in Stuttgart.

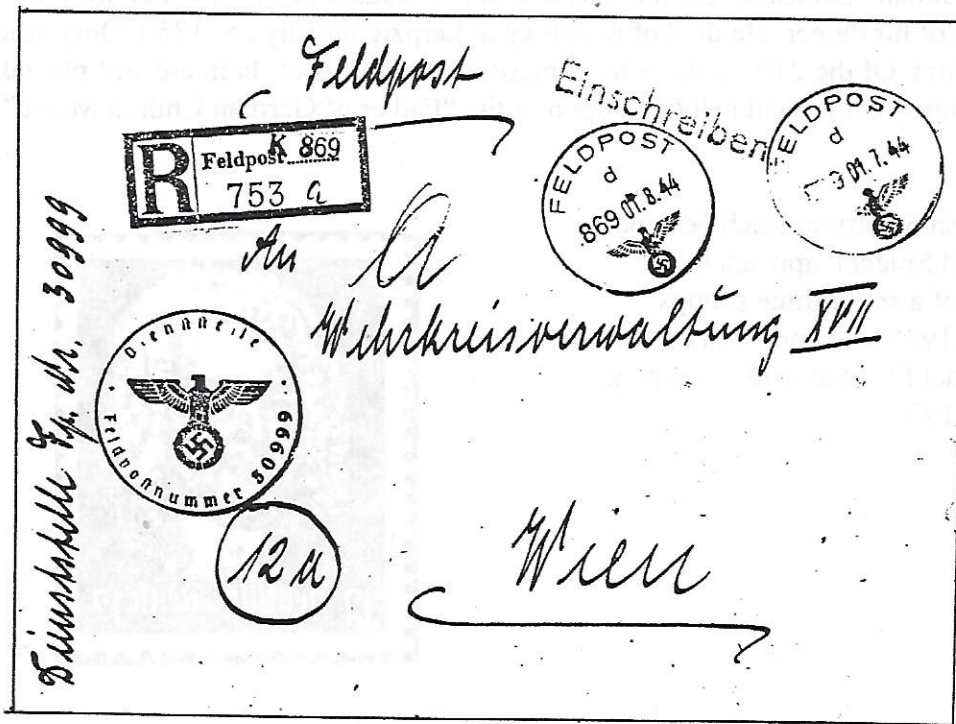
COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE: 376th Infantry Division by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS	
376	869	672	673	766	376	

Formed in France in 1942, the P.O. of the Bavarian 376th Infantry Division was assigned Fp# 41000 as a return address and Kenn 606 as a coded identity. The division emblem was a white 'D' shaped device on a gray background. The division was sent to the central sector of the Russian Front in late spring of 1942 and took part in the fighting on the Dneiper Bend. In November 1942 the division was encircled at Stalingrad and surrendered in January 1943. Almost all of its men died in the battle of Stalingrad or later in Siberian prison camps.



A second 376th Infantry Division was formed in Holland in April 1943. The P.O. was assigned Fp# 58875 and Kenn 869. Sent to Russia later that year, it fought in the Dneiper and Dnestr campaigns and in the Battle of Kirovograd. The 376th Infantry Division was encircled during the Rumanian withdrawal and destroyed, along with the rest of IV Corps and most of the rebuilt 6th Army.



Cover sent to Military District Administration Office in Vienna in August 1944 from Fp. # 30999 (HQ of 376th Infantry Division) via P.O. 376 (K869).

Story Behind the Stamp: Johann Sebastian Bach

by Kelly Stefanacci

Johann Sebastian Bach was born March 21, 1685 at Eisenach in Saxe-Weimar. He was the son of Johann Ambrosius Bach, a court musician, and his wife Elizabeth Lämmerhirt. At the age of nine he was orphaned and looked after by an older brother. In 1700 he completed his studies at St. Michael in Lüneburg. By 1707 became the organist at St. Blasius in Mülhausen and began composing his church cantatas. He married his second cousin, Maria Barbara Bach, that year and this marriage produced seven children. He was transferred to Weimar in 1708 and became Court Concert Master in 1714. From 1717 to 1723 he held the position of Court Musician at Cothen and it was during this period he produced his great central instrumental works including the famous 'Brandenburg concerto'.

After the death of his wife in 1720, he married singer Anna Magdalena Wilcken, who bore him another thirteen children. In 1723 he became Director of Church Music of the Thomasschule in Leipzig and began composing major compositions including the St. Matthew Passion and the Mass in B minor. Altogether, his work composed church music, secular vocal music, clavier and organ music and, finally, schematic music. He became totally blind in the last three years of his life but still continued composing music. His most famous works were his "Passion Music" and his "Preludes and Fugues".

His sons Wilhelm Friedmann, Philipp Emanuel and Johann Christopher became famous composers of symphonic music. Philipp Emanuel became Court Composer to King Fredrick II of Prussia and this led to an invitation to Johann Sebastian Bach to pay a visit to Potsdam in 1747, which he came to regard as the culmination of his career. He died of apoplexy in Leipzig on July 28, 1750. Only nine of his children outlived him. Of the 210 Cantatas he composed, two thirds of them are still played. He was an organist of outstanding ability and is looked upon as the "Father of German Church Music".

A portrait of Johann Sebastian Bach designed by Prof. Ferdinand Spiegel appears in the 12 Phennig value of a set of three stamps issued on June 21, 1935 to commemorate the Schutz-Bach-Handel Festival held in Leipzig from June 16 -24 1935.



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.

Post Office Box 110 – Vienna

by Robert J. Houston

A recently discovered group of twenty World War II German Feldpost covers indicates the possible existence of a forwarding facility or “cover address” used by correspondents of “Volksdeutsche” (ethnic Germans) Wehrmacht members whose homes were outside of the Reich – presumably to conceal this relationship from the local populace. The subject covers have a number of points in common:

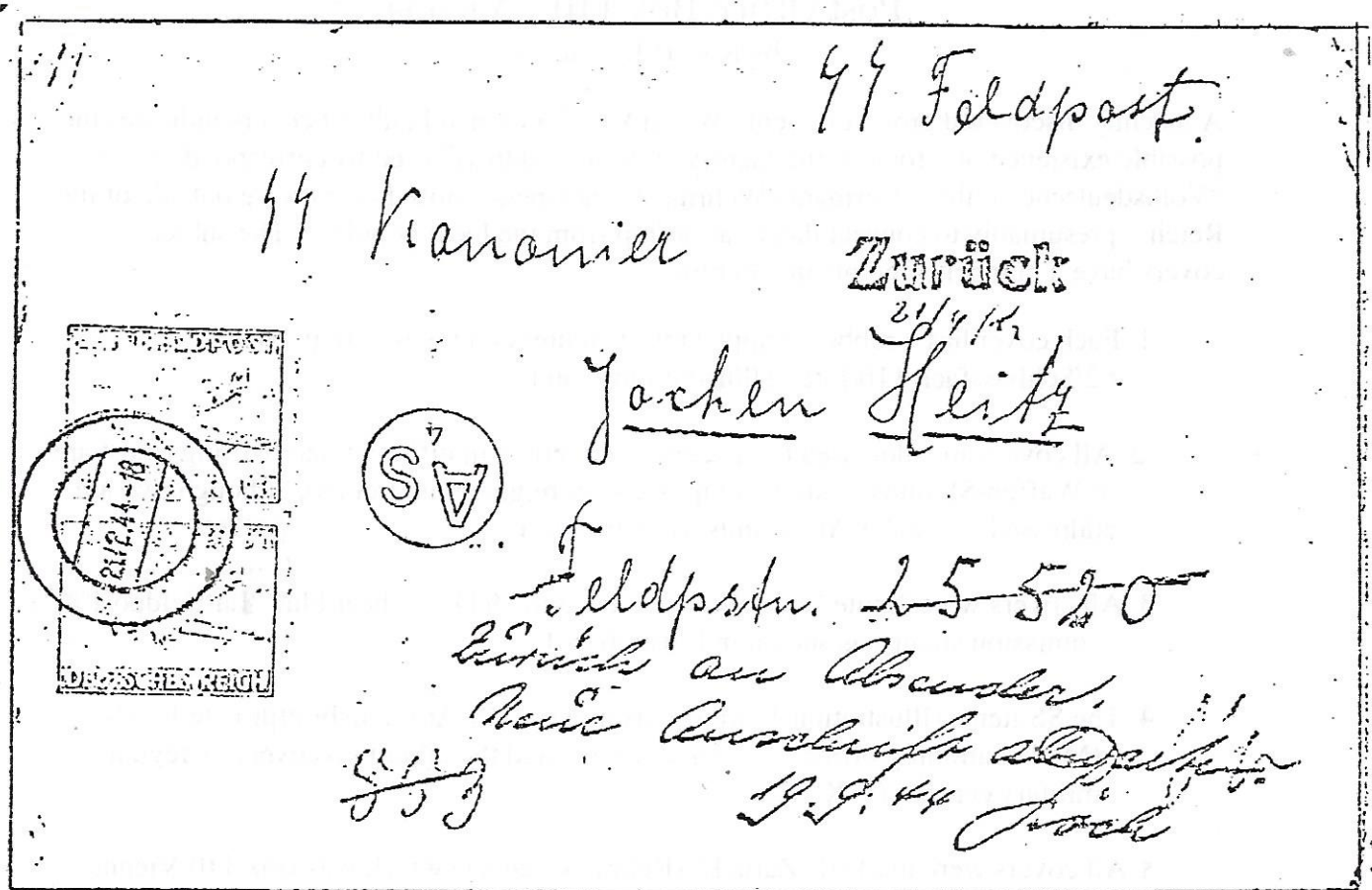
1. Each cover has a rubber-stamped return address on the rear flap “Wien 62/Schliessfach 110/F.R.” (Illustrations 2 and 3).
2. All covers are addressed to different servicemen in different handwriting (most are to Waffen-SS units, mainly composed of foreign/ethnic troops), although two are addressed to regular Army units. (Illustration 1).
3. All covers were “mute” cancelled in Vienna in 1944 and bear blue “Luftfeldpost” admission stamps as shown in Illustration 1.
4. The SS items (Illustration 1) were censored by “SS-Auslandsbriefprüfstelle AS4” (Mail examining office for foreign troops) and the other two covers by regular military censors (O.K.W.).
5. All covers were marked “Zürück” (Return to sender) which was Box 110 Vienna. Returned Feldpost was quite common late in 1944 due to the rapidly deteriorating military situation. (Illustration 1)
6. A few covers have the actual sender’s name & address written on the inside of the rear flap – those readable are in Romania and “Grenzland”.

It appears that an ethnic German family in Romania, for example, would write to their son in the Waffen-SS (a rather unpopular association in Romania at this time) and enclose the entire letter in an outer envelope addressed simply to “F.R. – Box 110, Vienna”. Upon receipt, the letter would be removed by “F.R.” and re-mailed from Vienna to the serviceman at the front. Should return of the letter be required, it would go back to “F.R.” rather than to the actual sender where the ethnic family’s local post office clerk could detect the actual relationship.

Recent correspondence with Vienna postal officials confirms that “F.R.” were the initials of a commercial establishment which held Box 110 from 1938 until the end of the war (exactly the duration of the Nazi occupation). However, they politely insist that to disclose the actual name of the firm would violate postal regulations.

I would very much appreciate hearing from anyone who may have further information on this subject and/or other items of a similar nature.

Illustration 1



Absender:
 WIEN 62
 SCHLISSFACH 110
 F. R.

Absender:
 WIEN 62
 SCHLISSFACH 110
 F. R.

Illustration 2

Illustration 3

Note: This article originally appeared in TRSG Bulletin No. 22 in January 1971.

The Winter Relief Stamps of 1938

by John Giblin

The Winter Relief Fund stamps (Mi. 675-83) issued on November 18, 1938 were devoted to views of Austria, then called the 'Ostmark', in celebration of its annexation. Designed by Axster von Heudtlass to honor each of the nine Gaue, the stamps were recess printed on unwatermarked paper and perf. 14. In an article in the contemporary British philatelic ("The Designs of the Month – Germany" in Gibbons Stamp Monthly, January 1939, p. 63/64) author F. Wall described the stamp designs as follows:

Value	Color	Design
3+2 Rpf.	Brown	Schloss Forchtenstein in Burgenland, a 14th century castle dating from 1340 and one of the homes of the Esterhazys. The flower is the silvery dwarf thistle (<i>Carlina acaulis</i>)
4+3 Rpf.	Slate Blue	The Flexen Road near Bregenz, capital of the Vorarlberg. The section depicted shows one of the avalanche galleries that are a feature of the road. In the foreground is the Spring Anemone. (<i>Anemone Vernalis</i>)
5+3 Rpf.	Emerald Green	A view at Zell am See on the Zellersee, summer and winter sports center, with one of the Austrian Alps in the background. The flower is an Auricula.
6+4 Rpf.	Green	The Grossglockner (12,461 feet), Germany's highest mountain. The flower, the famous star-shaped Edelweiss (<i>Leontopodium Alpinum</i>), is now strictly protected everywhere in Germany.
8+4 Rpf.	Red	A view of the Wachau Valley of the Danube, showing the ruins of Aggstein, a famous castle of the Middle Ages. The flower is the sweet-scented Cyclamen (<i>Cyclamen Europaeum</i>).
12+6 Rpf.	Lake	Vienna. The bronze equestrian statue of Eugene, Prince of Savoy, which stands in the Heldenplatz before the New Hofburg. The flower, not an Alpine specimen, is the Dog Rose.
15+10 Rpf.	Claret	One of the most famous mountains in the world, the iron ore ('Erzberg') mountain in Steiermark. In the foreground is the Hairy Alpine Rose (<i>Rhododendron Mirsutunm</i>) which, as its Latin name demonstrates, is no rose at all.
25+15 Rpf.	Blue	Hall in the Tyrol, famous for its salt mines for seven hundred years and with a town hall, presumably the building shown, dating from the 15 th century. The flower is the beautiful Stemless Gentian (<i>Gentian Acaulis</i>)
40+35 Rpf.	Magenta	Braunau, with the birthplace of Herr Hitler shown at the right of the design. The flower is the ever-popular Spring Crocus (<i>Crocus Vernalis</i>).

This article was published in TRSG (U.K.) NewsSheet 67 in December 1991 and is reprinted here with their kind permission. Ye Olde Ed.



Fundamentals of Feldpost Collecting

Part 10. Military Mail Sorting Labels

by James E. Duffy

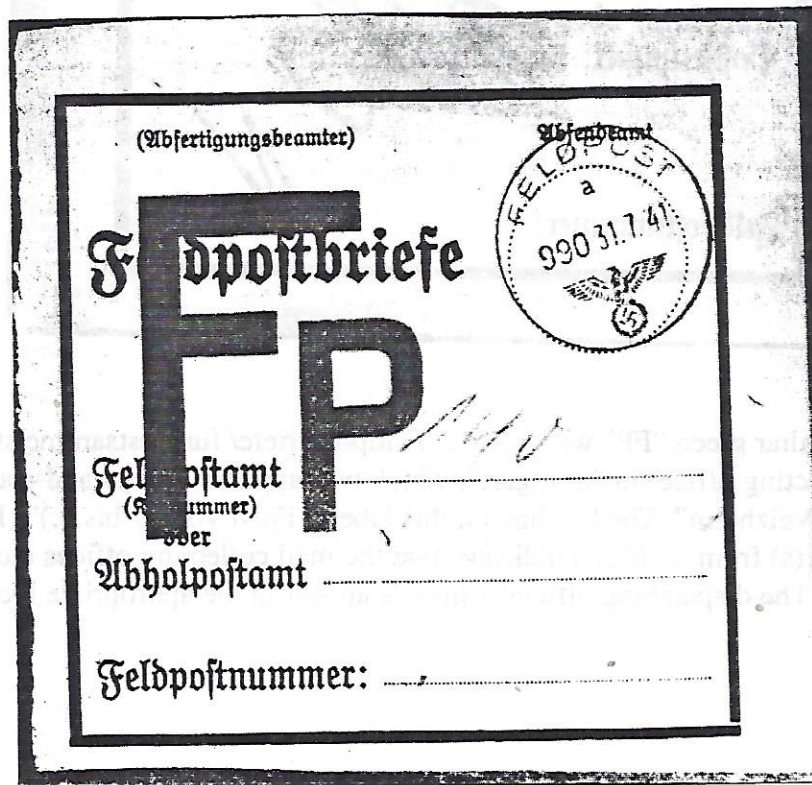
The sorting of mail was but one of the many duties performed by the clerks in the military post offices. This was a manual selection process whereby the postal clerk sorted and stacked letters with the same destination and tied them into bundles. A sorting label (Vorbinezettel)- known as a "facing slip" in the United States Postal Service – was placed on top of each bundle, indicating the dispatching and receiving offices. Small quantities of letters could also be forwarded in a large envelope bearing the instructions...."Military Letter Dispatch to ..." ("Feldpostbriefsendung/natch...").

The average size of an entire sorting label is approximately 100 x 95mm, whereas the printing area is 90 x 80mm. however, these dimensions may vary with different printings. It is apparent that the sorting labels were printed in sheets and separated either by tearing along a straightedge, or by cutting them apart.

The intent of this article is only to illustrate some of the types of sorting labels found, and discuss briefly the variations in the printed instructions.

Sorting labels for letters are printed with a large green "FP" (Fig. 1) with the word "Feldpostbriefe" (military letters) in black. The style and size of the type will vary in many of the printings. Just above the "FP" in the upper left corner is the word "Abfertigungsbeamter" (dispatching official) whose initials indicate that the labeled bundle has been checked.

Fig. 1)



The particular regulation was not stringently adhered to, as you will notice the initials missing on many of the labels illustrated in this article. A circle of dotted lines with the word "Absendeamt" (dispatching office) in the upper right corner indicates where the dispatching post office cancel should be applied, in this case a regular "Feldpost" ring cancel with the code ("Kenn") number 990, dated 31 July 1941.

The instructions continue: "Feldpostamt/ (Kennnummer)/ oder /Abholpostamt" (military post office/ (code number)/ or /collecting station), "Feldpostnummer" (military mail number); for example, the number "140" and city of "Brüssel" handwritten in pencil. The military mail number was omitted.

Fig. 2 shows essentially the same printing construction with variation in the type used. The instructions now read "Kennnummer: ... Abholamt oder /Postleitpunkt:" (code number "355" /collecting station or/ transit office: ...); "Feldpostnummer" (military mail number).

Fig. 2)

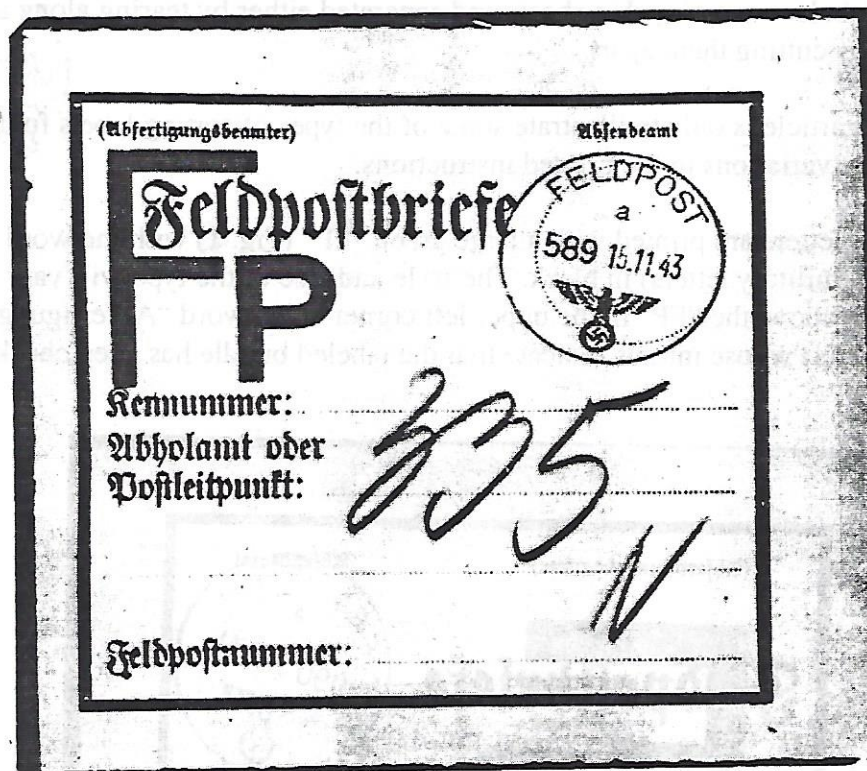


Fig. 3 shows the familiar green "FP" with words "Feldpostbriefe/ fur Postsammelstelle" (military letters/ for mail collecting office) in "Stuttgart", which was applied with a hand-stamp as was the dispatching office "Welzheim". The last line on this label ("FpNr von ... bis...") (Feldpostnummer; military mail number(s) from ... to ...) indicates that the mail collecting offices received mail from many military units. The dispatching official's initials appear in the appropriate location.

Fig. 3)



The Military Airmail Service (Luftfeldpostdienst) also used the sorting labels, which in part, were provisionally produced. The basic label in Figure 4 is almost identical to the label in Figure 2, with one exception. Sorting labels for military airmail use were overprinted with a red "Luft-/Feldpostbriefe" (Military airmail letters). The transit office "Biala Podlaska (Distr. Lublin)" was printed along with the instructions.

Fig. 4)



Fig. 5 is somewhat similar to Figure 3. The words “Luft-/Feldpostbriefe/ für/ Luftfeldpost-sammelstelle” (Military airmail letters/ for/ military airmail collecting office) and “Durch Eilboten” (by special delivery) are printed in red. In Figure 5, the words “Luftfeldpostsammelstelle” and “Berlin” are crossed out, and handwritten in pencil, the dispatching official’s initials, code number “999” and the new destination “Pleskau”.

Fig. 5)



Provisional sorting labels often produced by stamping a piece of paper with the post office cancel and attaching either to the bundle or the dispatching envelope to be sent out. Provisional airmail sorting labels were prepared by printing the word “Luft-“ in front of / or above the word “Feldpostbriefe” on labels for ordinary letters. Sometimes labels of the Reichspost (civilian postal administration) were used with the word “Luftfeldpost” either stamped or handwritten, plus a red “Durch Eilboten” label pasted on.

Another form of military postal stationery is the label for mail sacks (Beutelfahnen). Completed bundles of letters for one destination were put into a mail sack with a label attached to the top.

These labels were printed on heavier paper (e.g. light cardboard) and are larger (100 x 150mm) than the sorting labels. These are also printed on both sides. Fig. 6 shows one side with dotted circle and the notation “(Stempel des Absendeamts)” (cancel of the dispatching office) at the top. Continuing in descending order: “Feldpost/Briefe” (military mail letter); a red bar with the word “nach” (to) almost at center; “Feldpostnummer”; “Abholpostamt”; and the green “FP”.

The reverse side (Fig. 7) of the sack label shows one major difference: the dispatching office in this case would be a “Luftgaupostamt” (Air District Post Office).

Fig. 6)

(Stempel des Abfenbeamts)

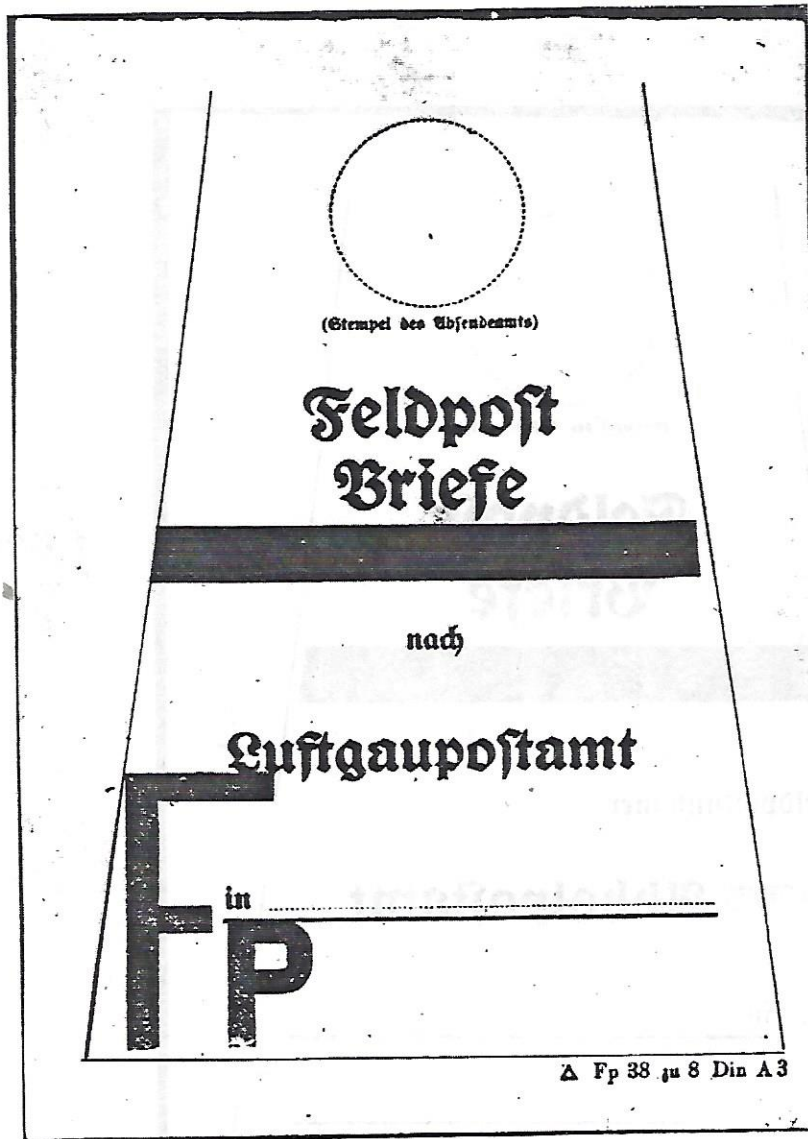
**Feldpost
Briefe**

Feldpostnummer:

Abholpostamt

in _____
.....
.....

Fig. 7)



Sorting labels were also prepared for the dispatching of postal money orders (Postanweisungen).

These two types of military postal stationery, the sorting labels and labels for mail sacks, have had little research conducted in their behalf. Undoubtedly there are many label types, equally with as many printing variations.

Note: This article by former TRSG Editor Jim Duffy originally appeared in the 20th Anniversary issue of the German Postal Specialist. While additional information on these sorting labels & sack tags was subsequently made available in the Michel Feldpost Catalog, the membership should enjoy the initial investigation made by the TRSG "way back when".

East German Fair Special Cancels

by Bob Ferguson

Every year from 1935 through 1944 one or more cancels were produced for the "Deutsche Ostmesse" (East German Fair) in Königsberg. The cancel numbering scheme is in Julius Bochmann's "**Katalog der Deutschen Gelegenheitsstempel**".

Königsberg #7	Deutsche Ostmesse	18-21 August 1935
Königsberg #17	Besucht die Deutsche Ostmesse	18-21 August 1935
Königsberg #19	Deutsche Ostmesse	22-27 August 1936 15-18 August 1937
Machine Cancel #217	Deutsche Ostmesse	Used: 15 July-25 August 1936 in Elbing, Insterberg and Königsberg
Königsberg #20	25, Deutsche Ostmesse	15-18 August 1937
Machine Cancel #265	Deutsche Ostmesse	Used: 5 July-11 August 1937 in Elbing, Tilsit and Königsberg
Königsberg #28	Deutsche Ostmesse	21-24 August 1938 20 -23 August 1939 11-14 August 1940
Machine Cancel #292	Deutsche Ostmesse	Used: 11 July-15 August 1938 in Allenstein, Elbing, Tilsit and Königsberg
Machine Cancel #327	Deutsche Ostmesse	Used: 10 July-20 August 1939 in Allenstein, Elbing, Tilsit and Königsberg
Machine Cancel #359	Deutsche Ostmesse	Used: 8 July-16 August 1940 in Allenstein, Danzig, Elbing, Rastenberg, Tilsit, Zoppot and Königsberg
Machine Cancel #379	Deutsche Ostmesse	Used: 7-15 July 1941 in Danzig, Elbing, & Königsberg
Königsberg #34	Deutsche Ostmesse	12-16 October 1941
Königsberg #35	Ostmesse	12-16 October 1941
Machine Cancel #381	Deutsche Ostmesse	Used: 4 Sept.-15 Oct 1941 in Alenstein, Danzig, Elbing, Rastenberg, Tilsit, Zoppot and Königsberg
Königsberg #38	Deutsche Ostmesse Jährlich im August	1942, 1943 & 1944



THIRD REICH POSTAL RATES

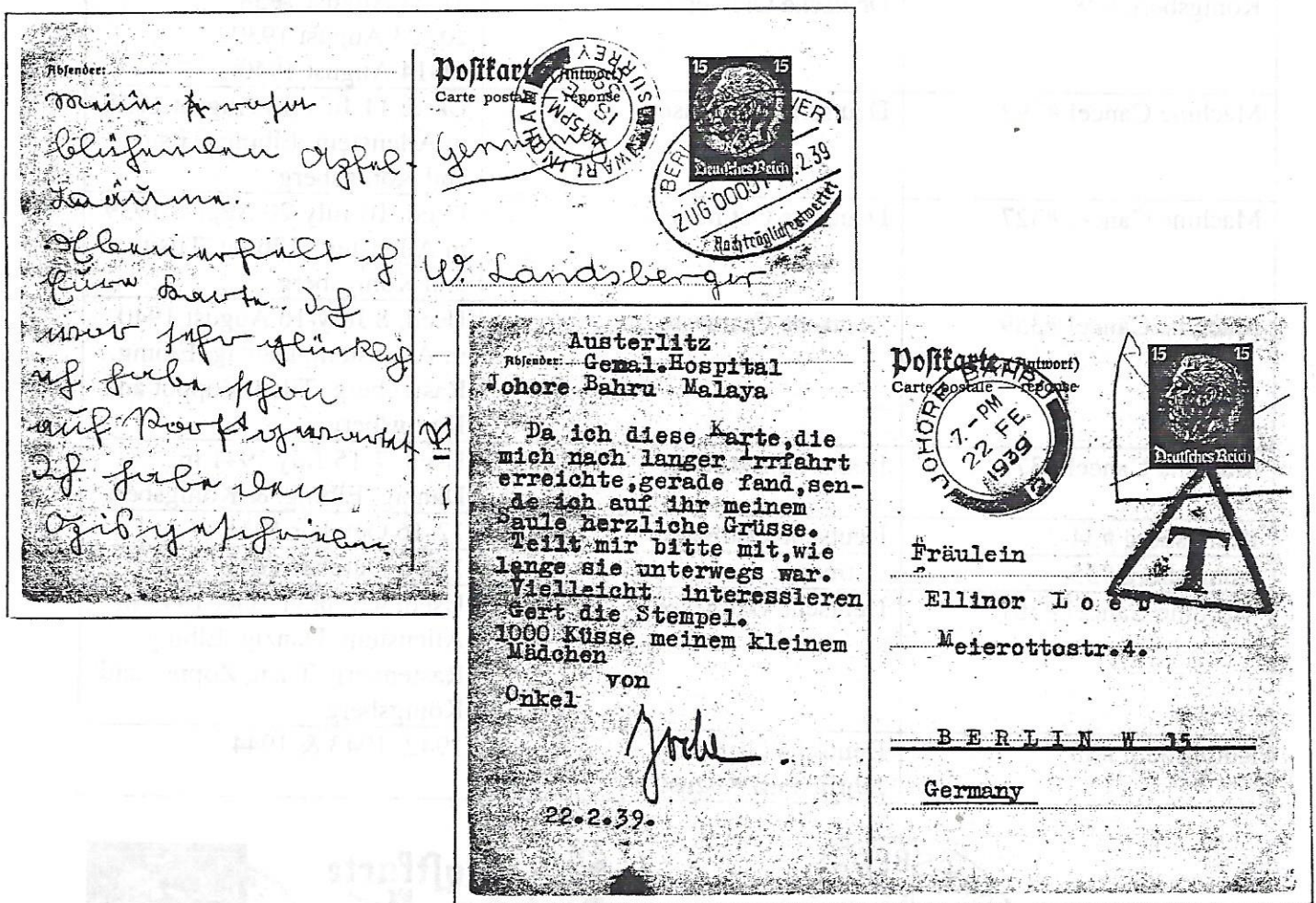
Paid Reply Postal Cards (Antwortkarten)

by Bob Ferguson

Collectors of German postal stationery are familiar with the paid reply postal cards – two attached postal cards, one for the sender, one for the reply and each with indicium. The reply card could either be detached before returning or the double card could be folded back so that the reply card was showing and both cards returned to sender. The Michel catalog lists prices for the used cards in three cases: 1.) Double card, 2.) message card detached (Frageteil) and 3.) reply card attached (Antwortteil).

The reply card of the 15Pfg / 15Pfg paid reply card (foreign postcard rate) is of particular interest since it provides a foreign cancel on the German indicium.

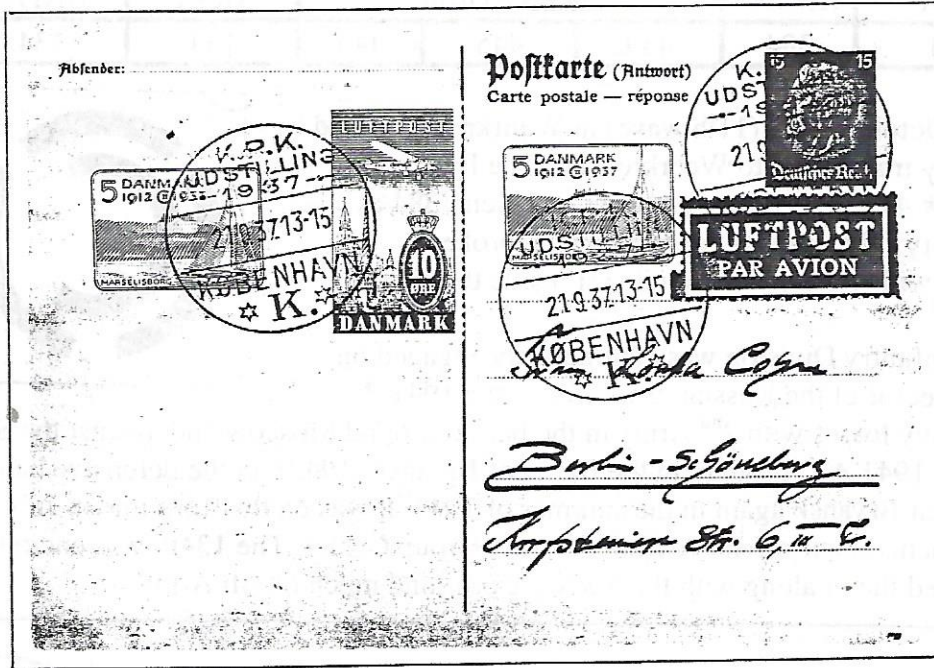
A) Below - reply card posted Warringham, England on February 18, 1939 to Berlin with both an English postmark (which doesn't touch the indicium) and German bahnpost cancel (Nachträglich Entwertet – applied after posting) dated February 20, 1939.



B) Above - reply card posted Johore Bahru, Malaya on February 22, 1939 to Berlin. Apparently a Malayan postal clerk not familiar with paid reply cards added the "T" for postage due.

The reply card of the 15Pfg / 15Pfg paid reply card often has mixed German and foreign frankings and postal markings.

C) Below - reply card posted Copenhagen, Denmark on September 21, 1937 to Berlin with 20 Øre of Danish franking to pay the airmail surcharge.



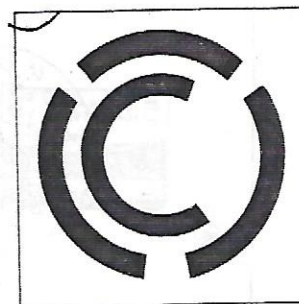
D) Above - reply card posted Sisak, Croatia on February 3, 1945 to Leutkizch with additional Croatian franking.

COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:**134th Infantry Division**

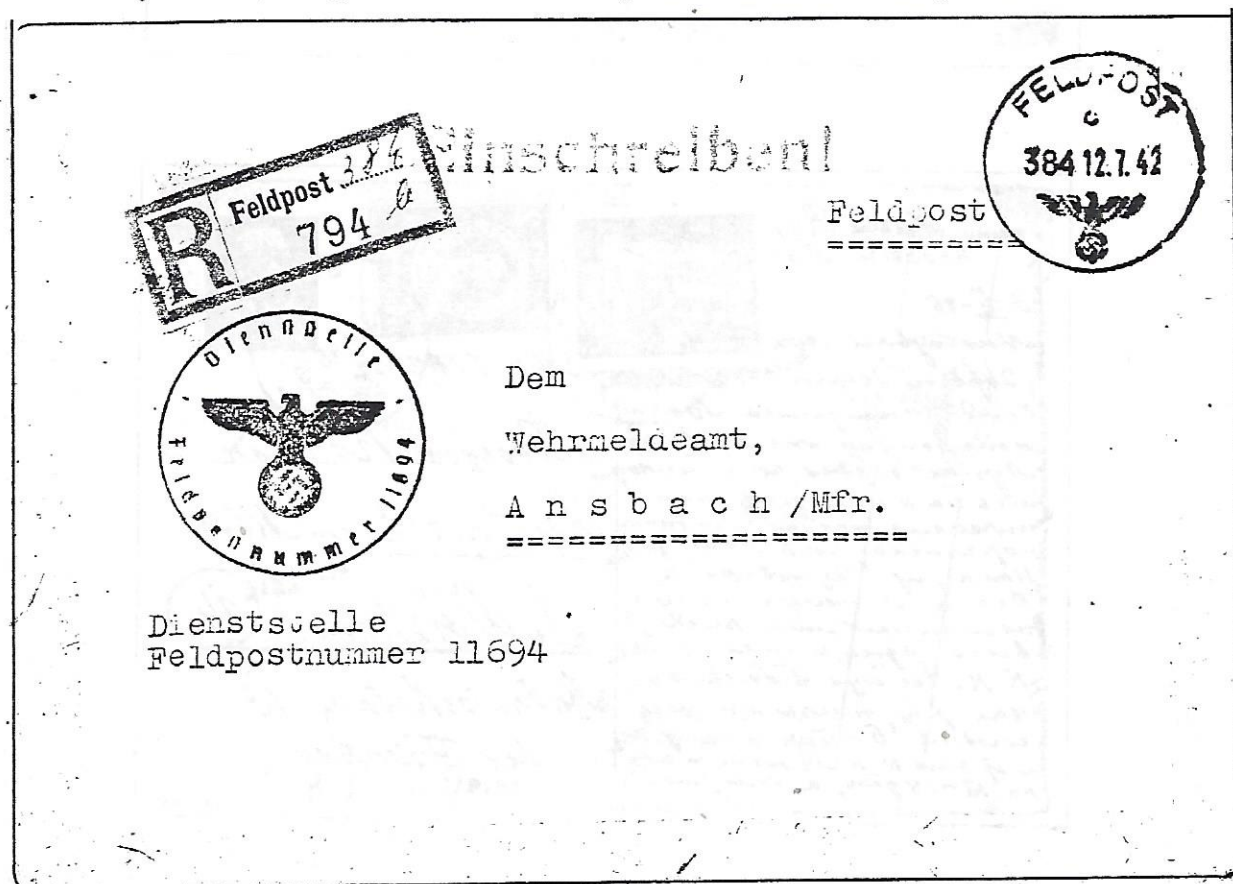
by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS			AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER		ARTY	UNITS
134	384	439	445	446	134

Formed in October 1940 (11th wave) in Wehrkreis XIII and subsequently transferred to Wehrkreis IV. The P.O. was assigned Fp# 47395 as a return address and Kenn 384 as a coded identity. The division emblem was a broken black circle with a black semi-circle set inside the circle.



The 134th Infantry Division was continuously engaged on the central sector of the Russian front from June 1941. It suffered heavy losses with 2nd Army in the battles around Moscow and against the Soviet winter offensive of 1941-42. It fought in the Battle of Bryansk (1942), in the defensive battles around Gomel (1943), and at Bryansk again in the summer of 1943. It was on the front line in July 1944 when the Soviets launched their offensive against Army Group Center. The 134th was encircled near Minsk and was destroyed there, along with the XXXV Corps and much of 9th Army.



Cover sent to Military Records Office in Ansbach in July 1942 from Fp. # 11694 (Rgts. Stab/ Grenadier Rgt. 445) via Field P.O. 134 (K-834).

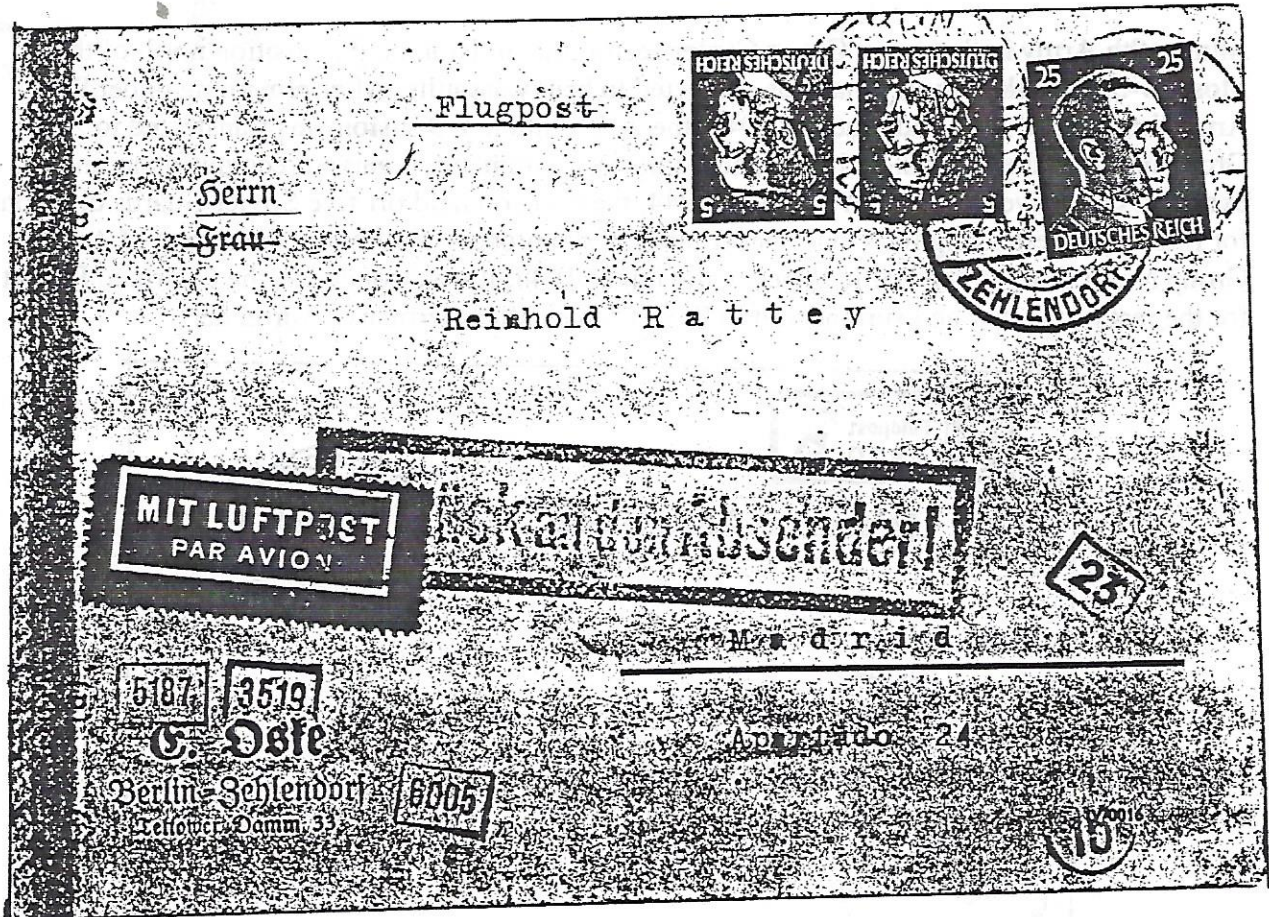
Rejected by Censor - Inadmissible Mail

by Myron Fox

Rejected Commercial Letter

Part IV. "The offices established for examination of communication have the right to exclude mail from transmission without indication of reason". Under this provision, mail is found simply marked "Return to Sender - inadmissible".

Airmail cover to Spain posted at Berlin in April 1943 has rectangular boxed hand stamp "Zurück an den Absender!" (Return to Sender) applied at Munich Censorship office. This item was well examined as shown by the square numbered censor identification stamps i.e. 5187, etc in lower left corner.



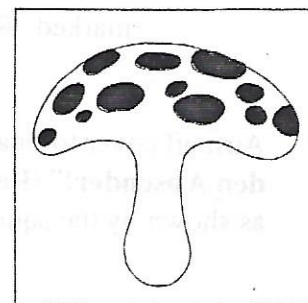
COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:

205th Infantry Division

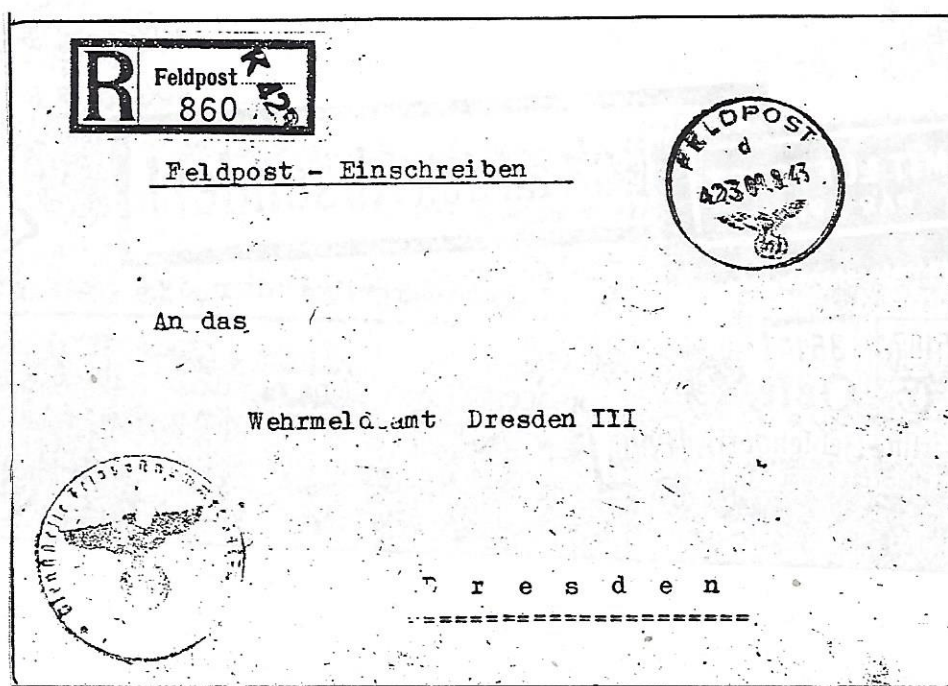
by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
205	423	335	353	358	205	205

This Württemberg-Baden division was activated as a 'Landwehr' (reservists aged 35 to 45) unit in the summer of 1940. Later, younger men replaced most of the older personnel. The P.O. was assigned Fp. # 18033 as a return address and Kenn 423 as a coded identity in lieu of Tactical FpA 205. With an emblem featuring a white toadstool with red spots, the division was known as the 'Pilz-Division' (Toadstool Division). After garrison duty in France in 1941, the 205th Infantry Division was sent to the Eastern Front after the beginning of the Soviet winter offensive of 1941/42.



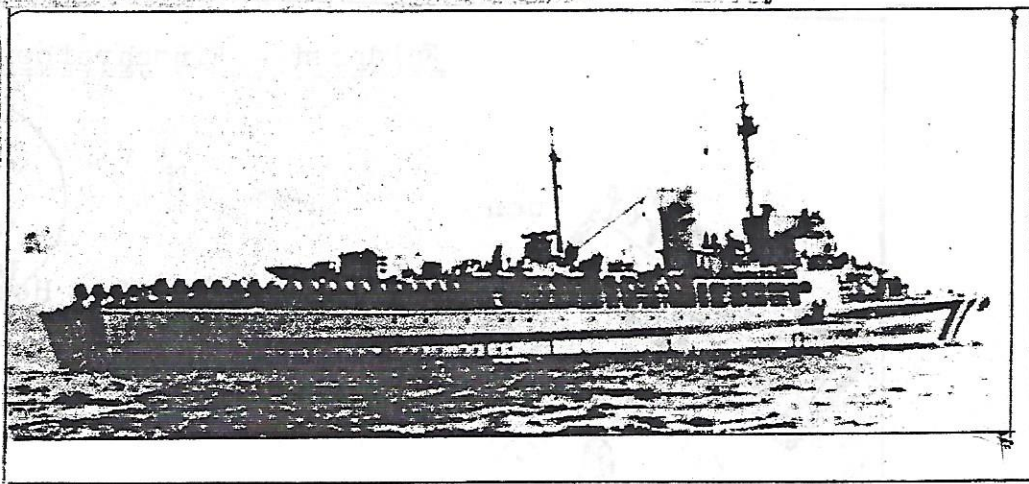
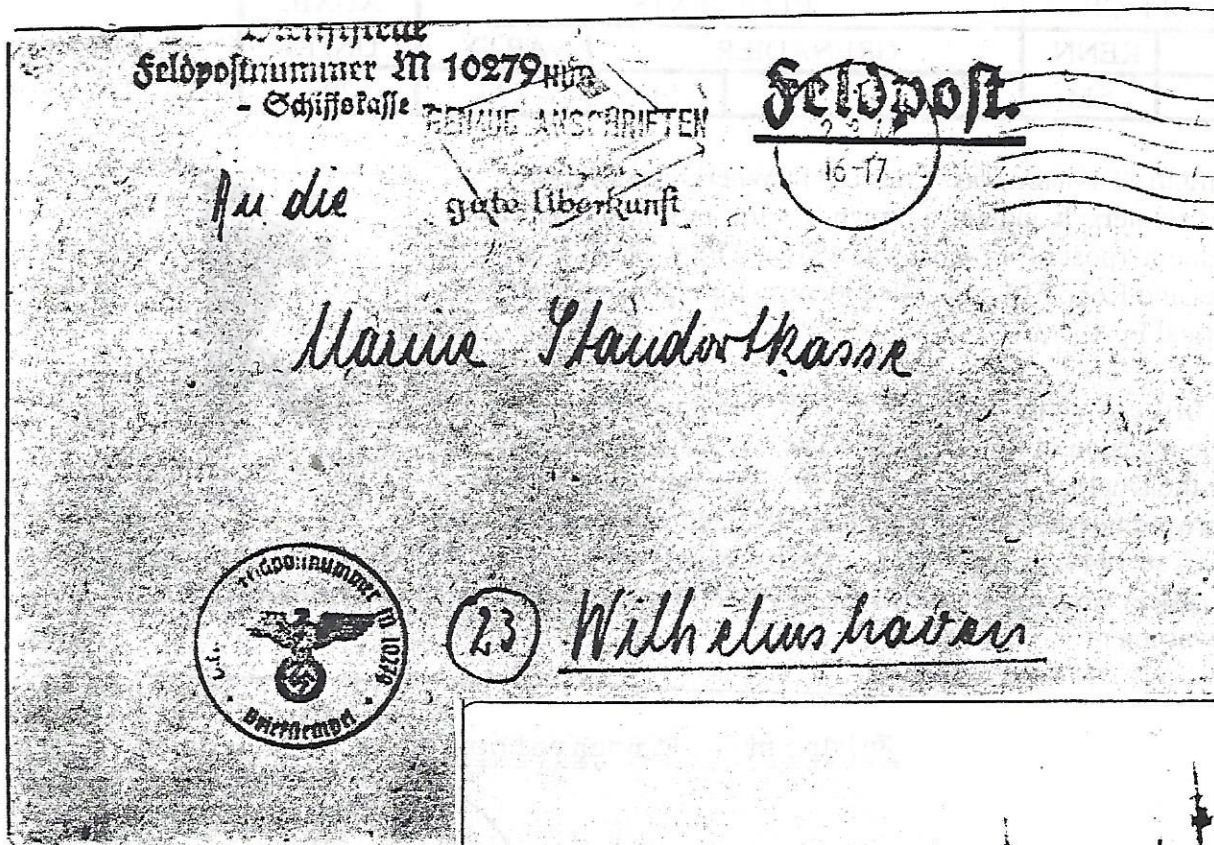
Joining 9th Army in the Army Group Center sector, the division held a position north of the Moscow-Smolensk highway that was subjected to heavy assaults. After remaining under 9th Army throughout 1942 and much of 1943, the 205th Infantry Division was transferred to Army Group North in the autumn of 1943. Under this new command, it gained recognition as an excellent defensive division. In Latvia in 1944, the division held off five Soviet Guards divisions for four days, destroying forty-one enemy tanks in the process. Following the retreat of Army Group North through the Baltic States in the fall of 1944, it was isolated in the Courland Pocket for the rest of the war and surrendered to Soviet forces after Germany's surrender.



Cover sent to Military Records Office in Dresden in August 1943 from Fp. # 34170 (7. Fahr Kolonne of Infanterie Division Kolonne 205) via Field P.O. 205 (K-423).

NAVY LOG

Minelayer 'Brummer' - Feldpost # 10279



Launched in 1932. Displacement: 1,560 tons. Armament: four 4.7", one 3" two 37mm, four 20mm AA guns and 280 mines. Speed: 21 knots. Crew: 218. This is the second *Brummer*. The first sank after being torpedoed by Royal Navy submarine *Sterlet* in the Kattegat, the channel between Denmark & Sweden, on 14 April 1940.

The former Norwegian minelayer *Olav Tryggvason* was first named *Albatros* to commemorate the torpedo boat that sank in 1940, but in 1941 she became the second *Brummer*.

Fate: Bombed and sunk by USAAF aircraft in Kiel on 3 April 1945.

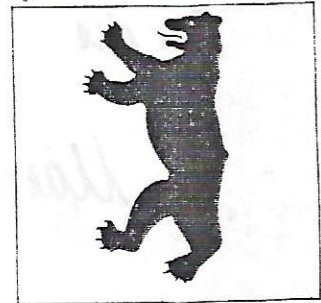
COMBAT DIVISION PROFILE:

293rd Infantry Division

by Jim Lewis

POST OFFICE		REGIMENTS				AUXIL
TACT.	KENN	GRENADIER			ARTY	UNITS
293	514	510	511	512	293	293

The 293rd Infantry Division was organized in Wherkreise III from newly trained soldiers. It adopted a brown 'Berlin' bear as its emblem. The "Feldpostamt" (post office unit) was assigned Fp # 18033 as a return address and Kenn 514 as a coded identity for registered mail. in lieu of tactical FpA 293.



The division first saw action in France in 1940 and joined Army Group Center for the invasion of Russia in June 1941. It fought at Moscow, Kursk and in the Dneiper campaigns. The 293rd Infantry division was virtually destroyed near Uman in December 1943 and was formally disbanded early in 1944. In April 1944, certain auxiliary units of the disbanded division, including the Feldpost office, were transferred to the 359th Infantry Division, which was forming in the General Government.



Cover sent to Personnel Office of Army High Command HQ in Berlin in November 1942 from Fp. # 29354 (Stab, Pionier Bataillon 293) via Field post Office 293 (K-514).

TRSG AUCTION NO. 86

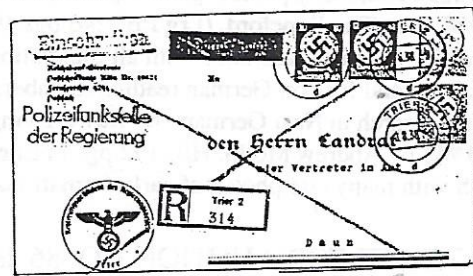
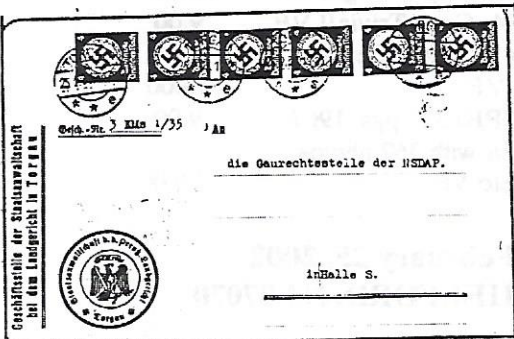
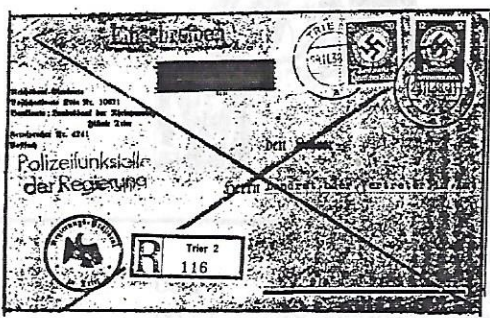
Lot

Description

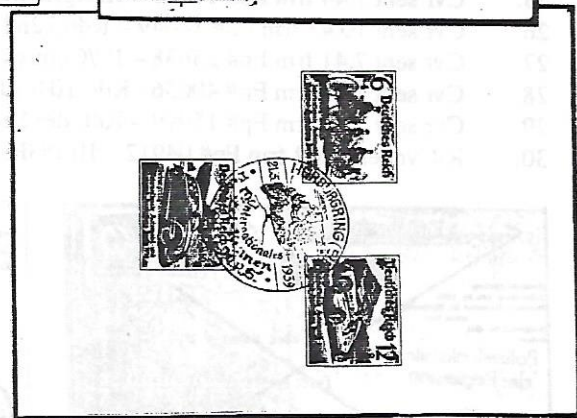
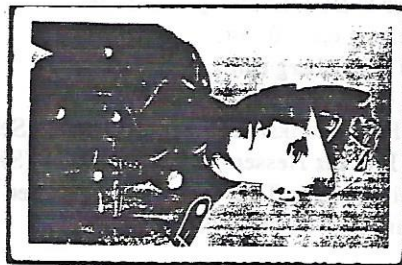
Min. Bid.

Next 14 lots of official mail & 16 lots of Feldpost are at reduced min. bids because seller is consolidating his collection. You won't see prices like this anywhere, so let's get those bids in!!

- 1. Old & new stmps (Mi.126 &133) on cvr frm Geschäftsstelle des Amtsgericht Vonsfelde can 11.'34 \$ 8.00
 - 2. Drucksache cvr w/Mi.133 to NSDAP frm University. Halle-Wittenburg can 2.'35. 7.00
 - 3. Dbl wt cvr w/six Mi.133 frm Geschäftsstellen Saatsanwaltschaft Torgau can. 2.'35 (See bottom row L) 8.00
 - 4. Cvr w/Mi.138 frm Polizeipräsident in Berlin tied 8.'35; NS Kulturgenende slogan can (See top row C) 9.00
 - 5. Cvr w/Mi.133 &143 frm Bezirksverwaltungsgericht Düsseldorf can 10.'35 8.00
 - 6. Cvr w/Mi.133 &38 frm Landrat des Saalfreises in Halle can. 12.'35. 9.00
 - 7. Stmpless 'Nachnahme' (COD) cvr for 42 Pfg frm Gerichtsstase in Dusseldorf can 1.'36.' (See top row R) 9.00
 - 8. Cvr w/pr Mi.135 frm Staatspoizeistelle Hannover to Braunschweig can. 2.'36. 8.00
 - 9. Cvr w/Mi.133 &140 frm Bayer Amtsgericht Freising can 10.'36 8.00
 - 10. Postcard w/Mi.135 frm Preussisches Katasteramt Bendsberg can 7.'36. 9.00
 - 11. Cvr w/pr Mi.136 frm Preuss. Amtsgericht Halle (Salle) can. 3.'38 9.00
 - 12. Express cvr w/ Mi.138, pr. 140 &141 front frm Polizeifunkstelle Trier can 8.'38 (See bottom row C) 8.00
 - 13. Cvr w/pr Mi.138 & 141 frm Oberpräsidium der Provinz Hessen-Nassau can 9.'38 (See bottom row R) 9.00
 - 14. Reg. exp cvr firt w/Mi.138,140 &143 frm Polizeifunkstelle Trier tied 11.'38 can (See top row L) 9.00
- Next 7 lots are Feldpost covers from German units in Yugoslavia
- 15. Cvr sent 5.44 frm Fp# 13540 - O. Qu. Ungarn 7.00
 - 16. Cvr sent 8.41 frm Fp# 16308 - 3. Kp. Pi. Btl. 632 7.00
 - 17. Cvr sent 5.41 frm Fp# 18739 - Verwendungs Stab of Befelsh. Südost 7.00
 - 18. Cvr sent 8.43 frm Fp# 39066 - Feld-Kdtr. 599 V u. Reichsredikasse Belgrad 7.00
 - 19. Cvr sent 11.41 frm Fp# 40145 - Kdo 114th Jäger Division 7.00
 - 20. Cvr sent 10.42 frm Fp# 47895 - Trsp. Kdtr. Belgrad 7.00
 - 21. Cvr sent 4.44 frm Fp# 58850 - Ob. Kdo. Heeres-Gru. F (Ob. Bef. Südost) 7.00
- Next 9 lots are Feldpost covers or enclosures from German units in Greece or Crete
- 22. R-Fp cvr sent 8.43 frm Fp# 10992 - Rgts Stab/Gren. Rgt. 746 on Crete via Fpa 224 (K-743) 7.00
 - 23. R-Fp cvr sent 11.43 frm Fp# 58301 - Nachr. Kp. 831 via FpA 729 (K-480) in Salonika 7.00
 - 24. R-Cvr sent 1.43 frm Fp# 06439 - Oberkdo H. Gru. E Sudost via FpA 560 (K-639) in Athens 7.00
 - 25. Cvr sent 7.44 frm Fp# 01746 - Kriegsmarine Werft Salamis 7.00
 - 26. Cvr sent 10.43 frm Fp# 18049 - Kdo 22nd Air Landing Division 7.00
 - 27. Cvr sent 7.41 frm Fp# 25638 - IV/Gebirgs Rgt. 118 of 6th Gebirgs Division in Greece 7.00
 - 28. Cvr sent 1.43 frm Fp# 40056- Kdo 104th Jäger Division in Greece 7.00
 - 29. Cvr sent 7.44 frm Fp# 15999 - Kdt. der Seeverteidung Lemnos 7.00
 - 30. R-Cvr sent 3.42 frm Fp# 04912 - III/PGR 156 of 16 Pz. Gren. Div. via FpA 66 (K-167) in E. Front 7.00



Lot	Description	Min. Bid
	<u>Next 4 lots</u> are SS Feldpost or related. See illustration noted below.	
31.	SS Notification cd sent frm Waffen-SS HQ in Bamberg in Oct. '43 advising transfer of SS trooper to Dachau. SS briefstempel on front & signed by SS ü on back. VF (See top row L)	\$ 40.00
32.	Cvr to member SS Totenkopf Inf. Res. Btl. Dachau in June 1940 frm 5. (E) Kp. SS Deutschland in Munich. Nice early markings incl. red "Gebührenfrei" and "SS =Feldpost". VF (See top row R)	40.00
33.	Photocd for "graduation" of SS trooper. Not posted but inscribed backside. VF (See top row C)	20.00
34.	Serendipity: Waffen-SS Fp cvr re-used w/ label for R-cvr B'stamped Aug. 1944. F-VF (See mid. row L)	30.00
35.	"Durch deutsche Dienstpost" frm Ger. firm Paris sent Feb. '44. Ref TRSG Bull. 134 (See mid. row R)	35.00
36.	Airmail POW form ltr sent July '44 from U.S. Lt. in OFLAG 64. VF. (See mid. row C)	30.00
37.	Late T.R.! Parcel cd for package frm Rugendorf. b'stamped Feucht April 5, 1944 (See btm row L)	35.00
38.	Sheet w/Mi.695-7 tied by Nürburging SPC 21.5.1939 Scarce stamps/Cancel! (See btm row R)	50.00



	<u>Next 6 lots</u> are TR -related book (HB=Hard Cover, PB=Paper Back) will be sent insured book rate	
39.	Die Geschlagenen by Hans Richter (HB) 287 pgs 1978 German Units in Italy (in German) F	8.00
40.	Nazi Culture by G. Mosse (HB) 383 pgs 1966, many photos, good b'ground on TR stamp dedsigns VF	12.00
41.	World War II Quiz & Fact Book Vol. 2 by Tim Beneford, (Lrg PB) 246 pgs 1984. Great Trivia!! VF	9.00
42.	Censored Mail During the Third Reich - English translation with all illustrations of classic Reimer censorship book in hard cover binder. Essential for non-German reading members! VF	15.00
43.	The German Atomic Bomb: Nuclear Research in Nazi Germany by David Irving (PB) 329 pgs 1967	9.00
44.	A Pictorial History of the SS 1923-1945 by Andrew Mollo, HB, 192 pgs in English with 362 photos 1979. A very detailed history of the SS with many rare photos of early formations, etc VF	20.00

**PLEASE NOTE: THE CLOSING DATE FOR AUCTION NO. 86 is February 25, 2002
 SEND ALL BIDS TO: JIM LEWIS, 111 MONTROSS AVE., RUTHERFORD, NJ 07070**