

Third Reich Study Group Bulletin
James E. Duffy, Editor
P.O. Box 65, Highwood, Illinois 60040

Co-Director: Myron Fox, P.O. Box 283, Needham Heights, Mass 02194

Co-Director: James E. Duffy

Sec./Treas.: Robert J. Houston, 11 Yorktown Drive, Clark, N.J. 07066

Distribution Manager: George A. Lewis, 268 Canterbury Road,
Westfield, N.J. 07090

Auctioneer: Fred Stengel, 1248 Magnolia Place, Union, N.J. 07083

CONTENTS:

- 27 TRSG AUCTION Number 2, RESULTS.
- 29. German Field Post Operations in the West
D. The Occupation of France, continued.
by John W. Painter
- 33 The Palm Tree Cancel - A Pre-Cancel?
by Norbert Kannapin, Itzehoe, Germany
(translation by Sheldon Dunham, Jr.)
- 36 Types of Afrika Korps "Palm Tree" Hand Stamps
by Robert J. Houston, James E. Duffy, et. al.
- 40 The Story of the S/S Maas
by Albert Münch and Norman Gruenzner
- 41 Deutsche Dienstpost - Favor Cancellations.

TRSG AUCTION No. 2, SUCCESS AGAIN!

The Third Reich Study Group's auction number 2 results greatly exceeded expectations, according to Fred Stengel, our Auctioneer. 86 lots of well-rounded material encouraged a record number of TRSG members to send in bids.

The closing date of auction number 2, was August 1, 1975. Traditionally, summer is not the best time to hold an auction, but contrary to this belief, bidding was lively right up to the closing date. It would be hard to believe that there wasn't something to stimulate every TRSG members interest; with many types of Feldpost items, Dienstpost, Censoredmcovers, Courier Mail, P.O.W. material, Occupation covers, Official mail, and a very nice group of Channel Islands items, including seldom offered German and British Red Cross Message Forms.

Auction No. 2, continued.

Some folks when scanning the auction material may have thought, What are German and British Red Cross Message Forms for use in the Channel Islands? Well, if they had been reading the their German Postal Specialists, each month, they would have known exactly what they could have bid on. An excellent article on the "Channel Islands 1940-45 - The Red Cross Message Service" appeared in part in Specialists of Oct., 1974; Jan., 1975; and a follow up in Aug. 1975.

Prices realized for the 86 lots of TRSG Auction No. 2 are as follows:

1. 2.75	19. 6.50	37. 5.25	55. 13.50	73. 3.75
2. 7.75	20. 5.25	38. 3.75	56. 9.25	74. 23.00
3. 2.75	21. 6.25	39. 4.25	57. 15.50	75. 35.00
4. 3.00	22. not sold	40. 2.50	58. 3.25	76. not sold
5. 6.25	23. 6.25	41. not sold	59. 2.75	77. 5.25
6. 13.50	24. not sold	42. 5.00	60. 26.00	78. not sold
7. 5.25	25. 8.00	43. 3.75	61. 5.25	79. 21.00
8. 14.00	26. 3.00	44. 5.75	62. 5.25	80. 10.00
9. 9.00	27. 3.00	45. 3.00	63. not sold	81. 3.75
10. 14.50	28. 8.80	46. not sold	64. not sold	82. not sold
11. 4.25	29. 8.80	47. 5.25	65. not sold	83. not sold
12. 5.25	30. 8.35	48. 14.00	66. not sold	84. not sold
13. 4.03	31. 6.25	49. 3.85	67. not sold	85. 3.50
14. 7.00	32. 4.75	50. 3.25	68. not sold	86. not sold
15. 4.25	33. 5.50	51. 3.25	69. not sold	
16. 4.25	34. 8.00	52. 2.75	70. not sold	
17. 23.00	35. not sold	53. 6.25	71. not sold	
18. 5.25	36. 14.50	54. not sold	72. not sold	

Auction Number 3 will be announced soon. Some material is already in, but there is always a need for more. This is the time to eliminate those duplicates, and hopefully to pick up some material to fill in those missing pages in your collection.

Remember the auction rules were presented in Bulletin No. 32 (Whole No. 32). Mail all lots for the next auctions to the auctioneer:

Fred Stengel
1248 Magnolia Place
Union, New Jersey 07083

* * * * *

This Bulletin will arrive shortly after Balpex. A report on the Third Reich Study Group will appear in the next Bulletin, toward the end of 1975.

GERMAN FIELD POST OPERATIONS IN THE WEST
1940-1944

by John W. Painter

Continued from TRSG Whole Numbers 30, 31, 32, 33, 1973; 34, 1974-1975.

D. THE OCCUPATION OF FRANCE, continued from Whole No. 34, 1974-1975.

Feldpost Offices in Paris (continued from Page 10 (OB West 24)).

2. Army Letter Sorting Offices (ABSt)			
Armeebriefstelle 506		34 433	K-843
(Feld- u. Luftgaupostamt and Marinepostbüro)			
Armeebriefstelle 570		39 866	K-890
3. Feldpostleitstellen (FpLSt)			
FpLSt 500 (1940 to 1944)		21 578	K-567
FpLSt 597 (1941 to 1942)		29 271	K-474
4. Feldpostämter (FpA)			
Feldpostamt 724 Weinholtz		16 125	K-155
Feldpostamt 671		33 429	K-206
Feldpostamt 395 Appel		11 642	K-654
Feldpostamt 571 Brecht		26 891	K-920

In addition to the Luftgaupostamt that was established on August 20, 1940, at the same location as the 506th Army Letter Sorting Office, the postal officials found it necessary to set up a special processing office for the many Navy units that found themselves in France. On March 26, 1941, the Marinepostbüro was set up at the same address as the Luftgaupostamt.

For occupation purposes Paris was divided into three districts; each under the control of a Feldkommandantur (military administration headquarters).

Paris "A" N.W. District (Originally 87th Inf. Reg.) FK 757

1941-1942	1943-1944	K-155
Wachregiment 1	Sicherungs Reg 1	
LSB's 455, 454, 541, 740	I, II, III Bns.	

Paris "B" Southern District (Originally 118th Inf Reg) FK 584
 Wachregiment 3 Sicherungs Reg 6 K-585 (After 1943)
 LSB's 378, 614, 629,
 654, 817 I, II, III Bns.

Paris "C" Eastern District (Originally 70th Inf Reg) FK 758
 Wachregiment 2 Sicherungs Reg 5 K-920
 LSB's 425, 453, 456, 457 I, II, III Bns.

(LSB-Landeschützenbataillon-regional defense battalion).

Since Paris is the communications and transportation center of France it was only natural that most headquarters units would be forced to locate there. Of course we can be sure that the social and entertainment aspects of life in the capital were not overlooked when decisions had to be made as to where units needed to be stationed.

At the end of 1943 there were about 50,000 Germans stationed and working in the Greater Paris area, divided between the various services as follows: Army (22,000), Luftwaffe (15,000), Navy (8,000), SS and Police (4,000), Other (1,000).

During 1943 a new and larger Feldpostleitstelle was developed for use in providing service to the entire theater. In the West an existing FpLSt (Nr. 567) with the standard complement of 54 men was converted to the Hauptfeldpostleitstelle 4 (FpNr.08 616)(Kenn 484) and received additional personnel to bring its strength up to 79. The unit was responsible for transferring mail from the Reichspost to the military postal units, however I have been unable to determine where it was located. One would suspect that elements of this unit would be in Paris as well as Metz and Brussels, however, we do not know. It is quite possible that the unit worked entirely inside the Reich at places such as Frankfurt/Main and Duisburg.

The number of operating Feldpost installations within Paris changes as the result of some transfers and several additions in 1942 and 1943.

GERMAN FELDPPOST OFFICES IN PARIS 1943

Feldpostamt 537	Loinger	42 821	K-132	Bahnhof Montparnasse
Feldpostamt 724	Weinholtz	16 125	K-155	Rue de Jena 96
Feldpostamt 605	Kalbfell	36 385	K-585	Bahnhof Montparnasse
Feldpostamt 582	Appel	10 817	K-601	Bahnhof Ost
Feldpostamt 395	Wende	11 642	K-654	Rue Vaugirard 134
Feldpostamt 571	Brecht	26 891	K-920	Vincennes
Feldpostamt			K-976	St. Germain

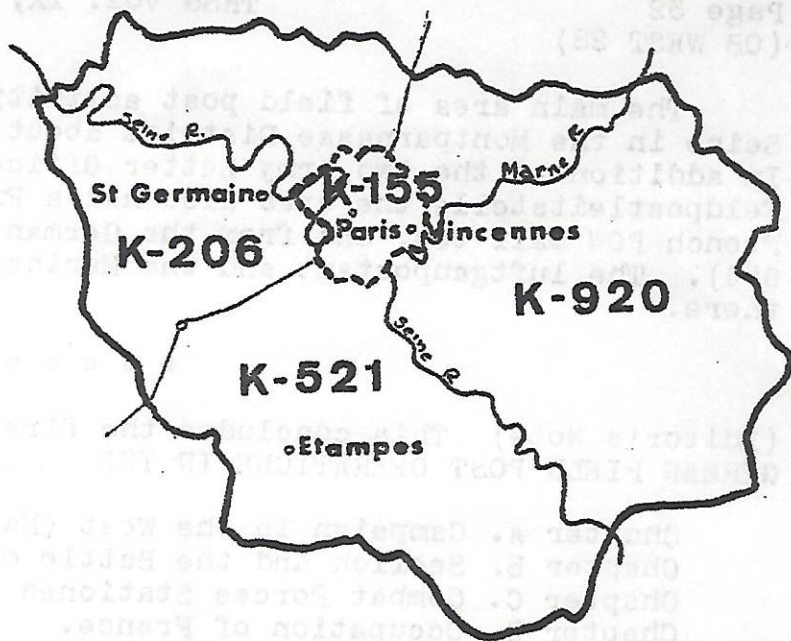
The control of all postal matters in occupied France was the responsibility of the Army Post Master of the Military Governor of France.

Initially the administrative boundaries of Greater Paris included the departments of the Seine et Oise and Seine et Marne. Map A on page 31, shows the territory covered by the field post offices stationed in the area during 1941 and 1942.

During the general reorganization of 1942, the boundaries of Gross Paris were reduced to the city proper and its incorporated suburbs. The increasing number of troops required additional offices. Map B on page 31 shows the location of the various post offices for the 1943-1944 occupation period. One of the more tragic aspects of the occupation is noted in the upper right portion of Map B. It identifies the Drancy Deportation Center which was used to transport the Jewish population of France to the extermination camps in the east.

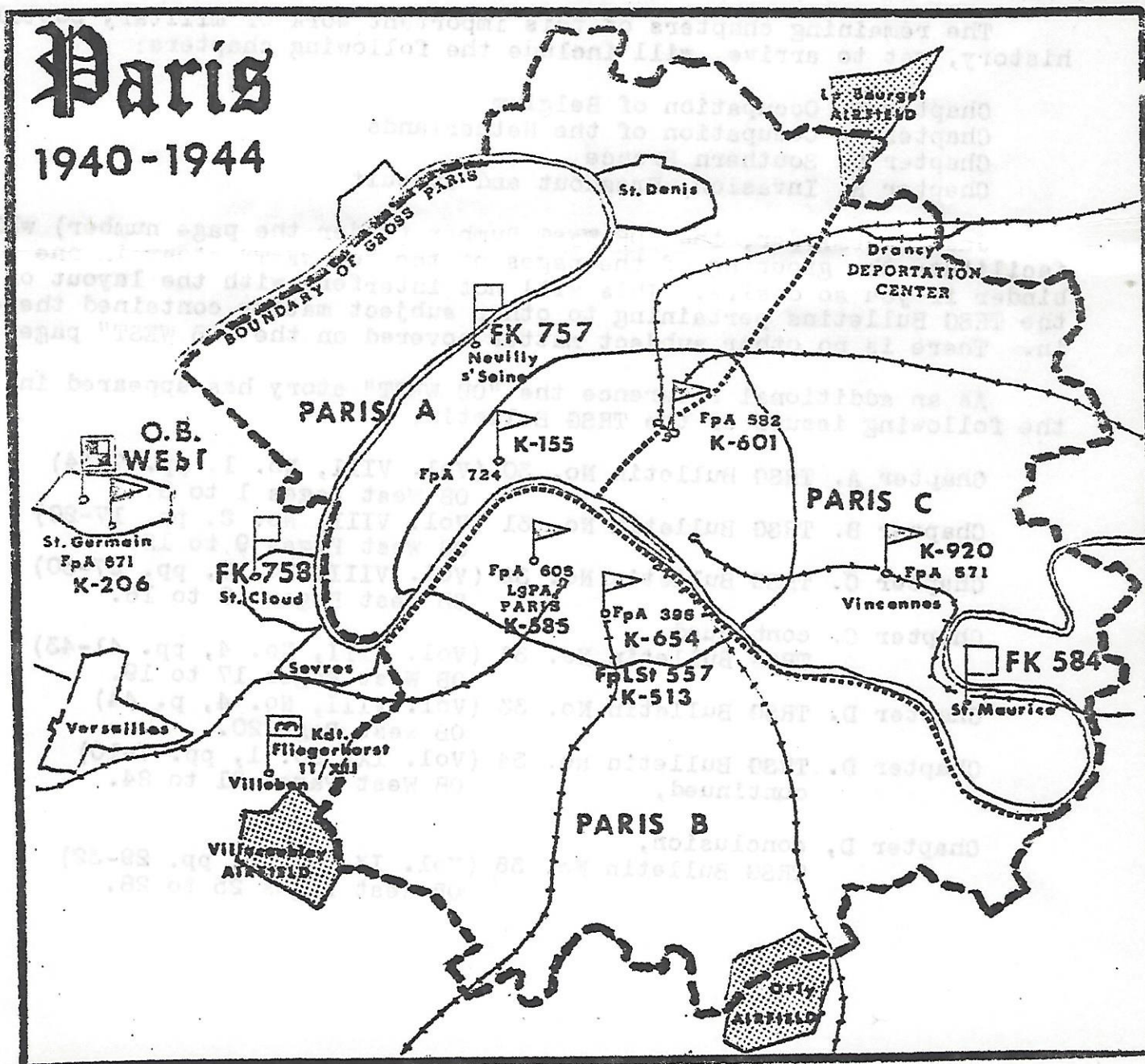
(Map A)

Territory covered
by Field post offices
1941-1942



Location of various
Field post offices
1943-1944

(Map B)



The main area of field post activity was on the left bank of the Seine in the Montparnasse District about one mile south of the Invalides. In addition to the two Army Letter Offices (Armeebriefstellen) and one Feldpostleitstelle the area also had a Field post office for handling French POW mail too, and from the German Prison Camps (FpA 395, Kenn 654). The luftgaupostamt and the Marinepostbüro were also located there.

* * * * *

(Editor's Note) This concludes the first four chapters of John Painter's GERMAN FIELD POST OPERATIONS IN THE WEST which included:

- Chapter A. Campaign in the West (May-June 1940)
- Chapter B. Sealion and the Battle of Britain (July-October 1940)
- Chapter C. Combat Forces Stationed in the West
- Chapter D. Occupation of France.

The remaining chapters of this important work of military postal history, yet to arrive, will include the following chapters:

- Chapter E. Occupation of Belgium
- Chapter F. Occupation of the Netherlands
- Chapter G. Southern France
- Chapter H. Invasion, Breakout and Pursuit

Just a reminder, the "OB WEST Number (under the page number) will facilitate the grouping of the pages of the "OB WEST" story in one binder if you so desire. This will not interfere with the layout of the TRSG Bulletins pertaining to other subject matter contained therein. There is no other subject matter covered on the "OB WEST" pages.

As an additional reference the "OB WEST" story has appeared in the following issues of the TRSG Bulletin:

- Chapter A. TRSG Bulletin No. 30 (Vol. VIII, No. 1, pp. 7-14)
OB West Pages 1 to 8.
- Chapter B. TRSG Bulletin No. 31 (Vol. VIII, No. 2, pp. 17-20)
OB West Pages 9 to 12.
- Chapter C. TRSG Bulletin No. 32 (Vol. VIII, No. 3, pp. 27-30)
OB West Pages 13 to 16.
- Chapter C. continued,
TRSG Bulletin No. 33 (Vol. VIII, No. 4, pp. 41-43)
OB West Pages 17 to 19.
- Chapter D. TRSG Bulletin No. 33 (Vol. VIII, No. 4, p. 44)
OB West Page 20.
- Chapter D. TRSG Bulletin No. 34 (Vol. IX, No. 1, pp. 7-10)
continued,
OB West Pages 21 to 24.
- Chapter D, conclusion,
TRSG Bulletin No. 36 (Vol. IX, No. 3, pp. 29-32)
OB West Pages 25 to 28.

THE PALM TREE CANCEL - A PRE-CANCEL?

by Norbert Kannapin
221 Itzehoe, Germany

(Translation by Sheldon Dunham, Jr. Richmond, VA)

Almost every collector of German material and certainly every collector of Feldpost material is familiar with the palm tree cancel from the time of the Africa campaign from 1941 to May 1943. This cancel exists in various forms and color varieties. As is generally known, the various forms of the cancels are registered by number in the Mainz Index and letters having palm tree cancels can be expertised there.

At auctions, in catalogs and in the minds of many collectors a letter with a palm tree cancel has a very high value - in some cases as high as DM 1000.--!

I now address by question to the public and to the specialists: Why are these letters with the palm tree cancels valued so highly?

In the long period of my activity as a collector and in my extensive research in the specialized field of German Feldpost, I have found no proof of or provision for the use of the palm tree cancel as a pre-cancel, to say nothing of any official order concerning the significance or purpose of such a cancel! Mr. Alfred Clement, of Graz, in his publication "Small Handbook of the German Feldpost 1937-1945" (see page 35, under No. 566), the fact that when the German Afrika Korps ran out of airmail (permit) stamps, the troops were given pre-cancelled envelopes. These envelopes, whose distribution was rationed, served the same purpose as the airmail (permit) stamps. And a few lines further on he uses the designation of - "Pre-cancel for the military airmail shipments from Tunis!" All of these statements are very vague. I might mention in passing that I am familiar with letters with these cancels which came from Libya.

Countless numbers of former military personnel who fought in Africa have replied unanimously to my inquiries that they were not at all familiar with the palm tree cancel and also that they had never been given a military airmail (permit) stamp for sending military airmail letters. Almost all of these statements seem to agree that most Feldpost letters were carried by air anyway. I myself possess some letters from former Afrika Korps soldiers, all with only the normal 28 mm circle Feldpost cancel and the unit seal of the unit concerned. These letters have no military airmail stamp and no palm tree cancel. These letters were forwarded and delivered without hesitation to the addresses. The most recent letter bears the date of April 27, 1943.

In addition to the fact that no official decree existed for its use, instructions relating to secrecy forbade the use of the palm tree cancel. But in contradiction to what has just been said, we have the well-known and widely used sender's cancel DAK 18 436, of Antitank Unit 33/Staff (Pz. Jg. Abt. 33/Stab).

The Palm Tree Cancel, continued.

I have examined very thoroughly the official Feldpost records from 1939-1945 and I have found no provision, order or proof for the use of the palm tree cancel as a pre-cancel. Likewise, in all of my special military literature there cannot be found any proof or justification for the use of this cancel. I nevertheless am of the opinion that this cancel would certainly have been produced in a standardized form if there had been any official provision for the use of such a cancel.

I have also seen envelopes with the palm tree cancel on the reverse side. What is a pre-cancel or permission cancel doing on the reverse side of a letter? And most importantly, all troops would have had to use the cancel.

Based on my many years of research, I have now become convinced that the palm tree cancel had neither limited Feldpost validity nor did it have legitimacy for any type of "special" forwarding such as did the East Prussian Feldpost card!

On the contrary, I compare the palm tree cancel with the "V" cancel. This latter cancel also exists in various forms and color varieties and is found just about as seldom as the palm tree cancel. I also assure that all cancellations were prepared by soldiers who were assigned to rear units. These soldiers had more time for such activities than did those troops who were stationed at the front.

If I should be correct with my statements here, then the palm tree cancel has been valued much too highly and would logically have to be compared with the "V" cancel - and so that no false impression arises, I must admit that I also own letters with palm tree cancels on them!

If, however, some expert or specialist should possess any official documents or official decrees for the legitimate existence of the palm tree cancel as a pre-cancel for the troops in Africa, then I am certainly ready to accept this information. In this regard I would also be very pleased to receive letters about this matter or to see specialized periodicals containing articles which present opposing points of view. At any rate, this matter must be straightened out once and for all, i.e., "Klarschiff muss gemacht werden" as we say here in North Germany.

* * * * *

The palm tree cancel has been a subject of vast interest to collectors of WWII German Feldpost, as Mr. Kannapin so correctly stated. To give additional flavor to the question, the following pages illustrate all of the palm tree cancels known to exist on cover or card.

Bob Houston, our Secretary-Treasurer, sent illustrations of these palm tree cancels to me about 3 years ago, to hold in abeyance for a possible article on this subject. They were not numbered or identified in any way at this time, so I in turn sent copies to a good friend in Germany to determine a numerical sequence or registration of "genuine" covers if it existed.

More on the Palm Tree Handstamps.

I was told that after much correspondence with collectors all over Germany, it was ascertained that all but two palm tree hand stamps were recorded as having been expertised as genuine on cover and they had certificates to back them up. Two palm tree handstamps were definitely listed as "Falsch".

A publication of the 75th Anniversary of the Verein für Briefmarkenkunde von 1885 E. V., Mainz, in connection with MABRIA 1960, 27-29 August, contained an article "Afrika-Feldpost" by Gustav Volz, pp. 73-84. Mr. Volz gives an accounting of the Tunis parcel stamp (Michel Nr.5 (Feldpostmarken), as well as his impressions of the palm-tree covers.

Mr. Alfred Clement (Kleines Handbuch der Deutschen Feldpost 1937-1945) Graz, 1952, lists Mr. Volz among the acknowledgments and cites two literature references: "Das Neueste über die Tunis-Päckchenmarke" (Austria Philatelist 66-67) and; "Tunispäckchenmarke gebraucht" (DBZ - Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung 13/1951).

I believe it was Mr. Volz who conjectured that the palm tree handstamp could be a substitute for the military airmail permit stamp, and also indicated special handling of certain military posts by couriers where necessary.

The Bundesnachrichten magazine of the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten E.V. Nr. 77, 1 July 1967, p. 20, illustrated two palm tree covers that had been certified genuine at an earlier date, and now were identified as not being genuine. The two "un-genuine" palm tree hand stamps are numbers 14 and 20, i.e. types 14 and 20.

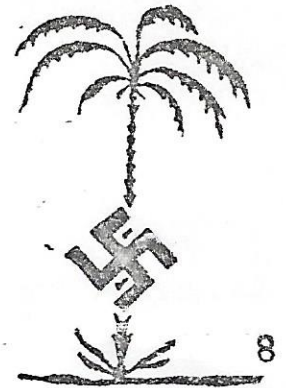
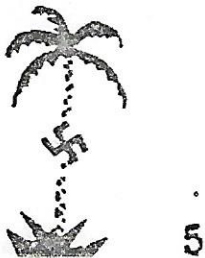
The Michel Deutschland - Spezial Kataloge 1974, lists the palm-tree handstamps as follows: 1941 February/1943 May, Propaganda handstamp for Feldpost mailings from the African battle area. Front or back stamp (hand) of a palm tree design, with or without swastika, pyramids, minaret, or tent, also with D. A. K. (Deutsches Afrika-Korps) or only A. K., etc., in most (cases) black, dark blue and red (rare) colors for Feldpost communications between Tunis and Germany; cancelled with the Feldpost 28mm circle canceller; presently 67 different types acknowledged.

Notice: Because of the rarity of these provisional (issues) it becomes especially important that such pieces be carefully certified to have the date and Feldpost number of units from the African battle area (this is not a literal translation).

Perhaps, the idea of propaganda hand stamps may not be too difficult to accept. The palm tree hand stamps are a variation of the insignia of the Afrika-Korps. Feldpost covers have carried a variety of art work by soldiers throughout the war. With the "esprit de corps" engendered by Rommel, it may well be that the palm tree hand stamps were a reflection of unit pride, having nothing to do with the handling of the mail, and are no more or less than a very rare, and very interesting document of the African campaign, when certified genuine. (Ed.)

AFRIKA KORPS PALM TREE HAND STAMPS

Type number sequence
as registered for certificates





16



17



18



19



20 (FALSCH)



21



22



23



24



25



26



27



28



29



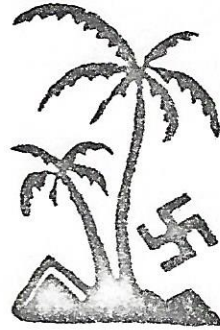
30



31



32



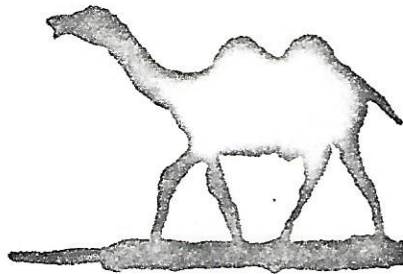
33



34



35



36



37



38



39



40



41



42



43

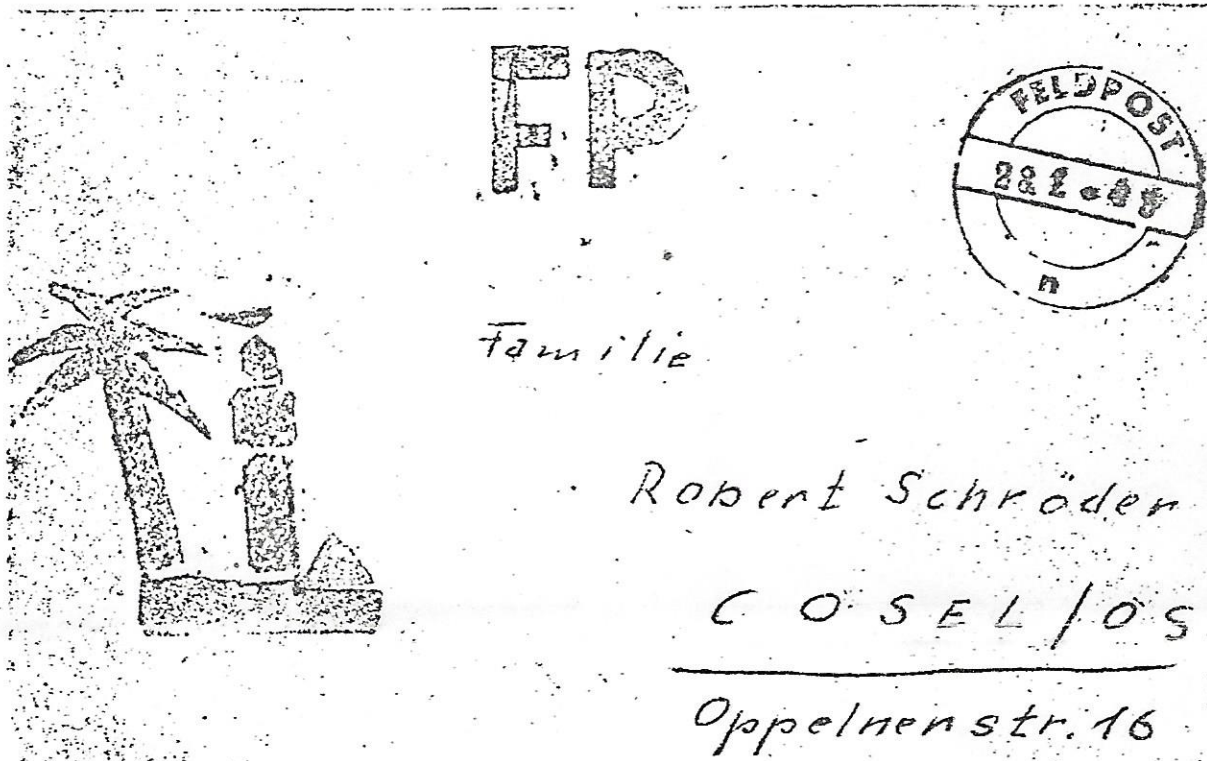


44



45

Although the Michel 1974 specialized catalog states that there are 67 different types of palm tree hand stamps, we are only able to show 45 types at this time. If anyone has information and illustrations of varieties in addition to these, we would appreciate hearing from you.



The above cover is one that was "certified genuine" in 1960. A few years later, it was reclassified as "falsch". The palm tree hand stamp (type No. 14), the "F P" and the "FELDPOST" double circle with date bridge cancel are "falsch". The Feldpost number on the back of the cover, FP 25 201 was not in the African battle area. I bought the cover signed as genuine, and complete with certificate. Caveat emptor!

* * * * *

One of our new members, Wayne Demarest called Bob Houston the other day to suggest that we notify our TRSG membership that there is apparently a flood of the French Volunteers Legion POLAR BEAR SHEETS forgeries being dumped onto the market. (See p. 946 Michel Spez. 1974). This is the "same old forgery", and can be recognized by the formerly prescribed methods. See GPS Specialist April, 1974, pp. 135-136. Wayne says he will be glad to answer questions, etc., on this subject at 585 Bloomfield Ave., Apt. 54, West Caldwell, NJ 07006.

THE STORY OF THE S/S MAAS

by

Alfred Münch and Norman Gruenzner

Recently I came into possession of two feldpost covers which were mailed by a man on a German merchant ship at Jersey and Guernsey Islands. At first glance, the covers seemed like an ordinary feldpost marked envelope from the Second World War. On closer inspection, I finally recognized that the Absenders return address was just a little different from other feldpost covers. The return address was "Abs. A. Münch, II O.D. "Maas" FpN 11 070"; the other cover was the same except that the FpN. was 28 529. The only feldpost marking on the cover was the regular feldpost date stamp (Petersen 5a).

In checking with a number of other collectors regarding what information they had on the German Merchant Marine during World War Two, I discovered that little had been written on the subject. So I wrote Mr. Münch and prevailed upon him to supply the TRSG with a story concerning his ship. He kindly consented and the following is his story:

"When I was a young merchant-navy officer (Second Mate), I received orders to go to Rotterdam and sign on as an officer aboard a recently captured Dutch ship 'Maas'. Two weeks later I was promoted to Chief Officer. The ship was not exactly a stranger to us because she had belonged to our company, Adolf Kirsten of Hamburg, before the war. She had a cargo capacity of about 3,000 tons and carried a crew of 19 civilians and 6 Marines. The Marine detachment was later increased to 20. Their job was to operate the anti-aircraft guns aboard the ship. During the entire time the 'Maas' was on its supply route, we were under the K.M.D. flag, the Kriegsmarine.

On November 22, 1941, I arrived in Rotterdam and signed on as the Second Officer. We remained in the dockyard in Rotterdam for over two months. When we received our orders to sail, we found that our destination was the British Channel Islands. Our course took us through the English Channel and it was there we got into our first fight with three British planes. We were lucky; the bombs missed us.

On February 4, 1942, we reached the Island of Guernsey where we were assigned our first feldpost number, 11 070. It was from the Island of Guernsey that we began our supply run between the Channel Islands and the French port of Grandville. Our cargo included troops, mail and miscellaneous items. On June 12, 1943, we received our second feldpost number along with a change in assignment. Our new feldpost number was 28 529 and our new port was St. Malo on the French coast and St. Helier, Jersey Island.

Our ship was not the only vessel on the supply run between the French ports and the Islands. I recall the 'RO 8', the 'Derfflinger', 'SS Livadia' of the DAL Wörman. The 'Livadia' was destroyed at the end of 1942 by airplanes. There were two or three other small coasters plus many tug boats engaged in supplying islands. At Jersey our ship was unloaded and loaded by French and Spanish prisoners of war. The

Story of the S/S Maas, continued.

Spaniards had been captured as early as the Spanish Civil War.

I left the 'Maas' on December 28, 1943 and went back to Hamburg. Our ship had been bombed shortly before then by twenty-six British fighter planes while we were close to Jersey. The ship was hit by four bombs which killed five men. The 'Maas' made it to the dockyard in Le Havre, where it remained until it was captured by the Allied invasion troops.

I remained in Hamburg for two or three weeks where I received new orders to proceed to Lübeck to take over another newly built ship of our company. The name of my new ship was the 'Celia' and we sailed under the Hakenkreuz flag of the Regular Merchant Marine and not under the K.M.D. flag.

We soon found ourselves in the shipping lanes which stretched from Germany to Norway. Once we reached our Norwegian port we were given the option of using a Feldpost number which was assigned to our ship or using the Dienstpost. The officials also told us that we could use the stamps of Norway on our letters if we wished. Most of the time when I wrote home, I used 'Deutsche Dienstpost Oslo'. The feldpost number which had been assigned to our ship has slipped my memory.

This is how I finished the war, aboard the 'Celia' on the Norway to Germany run. In the summer of 1945, we turn the S/S Celia over to the British. It was at that point that my career in the Merchant Service ended".

* * * * *

Deutsche Dienstpost - Favor Cancellations

One of the challenges for collectors of Dienstpost is to acquire non-philatelic, postally used covers or cards for their collection. Dealers' offerings at stamp shows, as well as auction catalogs are often a parade of one philatelic, cancelled-to-order Dienstpost cover, after another. As we look through these lots of philatelic Dienstpost, we may have wondered if a great number of diligent individuals in Germany worked overtime preparing all these covers and getting them cancelled. Well, this appears to be true, but they weren't alone in this venture; they had some help from the German Reichspost and by official decree.

The first indication of favor cancellations (that I have run across) appeared in the Official Gazette of the German Ministry of Posts (i.e. The German Postal Service) (Amtsblatt des Reichspostministeriums) Number 32, April 21, 1942; Communication No. 1133, page 261.

No. 1133/1942. Favor cancellations of the Deutsche Dienstpost (German Official Mail) Niederlande, Ostland and Ukraine; Repeated requests from German stamp collectors for "Gefälligkeitsabstempelungen" (cancellations to order, or favor cancellations) has promoted a tentative arrangement with the Deutsche Dienstpost in the Netherlands, in the "Ostland" Baltic

States) and in the "Ukraine", favor cancellations will be put into effect on May 1, 1942, namely

- a) in the Netherlands with the Deutsche Dienstpost office Den Haag.
- b) in the Baltic States (Ostland) with the Deutsche Dienstpost Offices, Riga (Latvia), Kauen (Kaunas, Lithuania), Reval (Tallinn, Estonia).
- c) in the Ukraine with the Deutsche Dienstpost Office Rowno (Wolhynien).

Cancellations will be permitted only on ordinary letters and post-cards; no registered mail. The consignment (of covers) must be franked with a) German postage stamps, b) (stamps) with the "OSTLAND" overprint, and c) (stamps) with the "UKRAINE" overprint. Other postage stamps and so-called mixed franking will not be cancelled. The addressee and the sender are to be placed on each cover in the usual manner.

The covers are to be placed in an envelope with the inscription, "Sonderstempel" (specialty cancellation) and sent directly to the Deutsche Dienstpost Office Den Haag. The covers to b) and c), are to be placed in separate envelopes inscribed either "Sonderstempel Ostland" or "Sonderstempel Ukraine", and sent to the Forwarding Office of Stamps for Collectors, Berlin SW 68, to arrange for cancellations from Riga, etc., for those who desire them. On each of the covers to be cancelled at b) specify the place, in pencil, where you want the cancellation to take place (also Riga, or Kauen or Reval). If you wish to have the cancelled covers returned in an envelope, enclose a stamped, return-addressed envelope.

(The last paragraph of this directive refers to post office procedure for handling the above and noting that special requests will not be considered).

.....Amtsblatt No. 25, March 7, 1944, Communication No. 1037, page 114, Favor Cancellations of the Deutschen Dienstpost Ukraine: In accordance with favor cancellations on special postage stamps for the Ukraine, until now were cancelled by the Deutsche Dienstpost Office in Rowno. Since the DDP Office in Rowno was closed, the cancelled-to-order material for the Ukraine, will be transferred to the DDP Office in Brest-Litowsk, effective immediately.

.....Amtsblatt No. 64, July 7, 1944, Communication No. 1110: Favor cancellations: To dispel any doubt, attention is called to the fact, that in the "Ostland" territory, at the Dienstpost Offices in Riga, Kauen, and Reval and in the Ukraine Territory, at the Dienstpost Office, Brest-Litowsk, favor cancellations were permitted only on stamps valid in those territories.

At the Dienstpost Office of the Deutschen Dienstpost Alpenvorland (Bozen, Trient, Beluno) and Adria (Triest) only German postage stamps were permitted to be cancelled.

.....Amtsblatt No. 81, August 18, 1944, Communication No. 1135; Collectors requests for favor cancellations from the territory of the Deutsche Post Osten, due to war conditions can be cancelled only with the usual date stamp. The cancellations were carried out by Post Office Krakau 3 for the entire General-gouvernement. Specialty cancellations can no longer be processed.

(...a brief insight to Dienstpost favor cancellations...)