

AUSTRIA

Edited by Andy Taylor

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EDITORIAL 152

By Andy Taylor

Does size matter?

Ich les' ein Berliner, as JFK didn't say - some of you will read the Guardian newspaper, which has downsized itself from broadsheet into a "Berliner" format as being more suited to today's readership. This set me wondering (yet again) if this Journal should switch from A5 to some other size: the only practicable alternative being A4. One of my most common layouts is a page with two full-width pictures of cards or covers; currently there is only room for a minimal caption and considerable juggling is needed to place the explanation in the main text reasonably near the picture. References such as "below" irritate readers. Tables often look cramped. Meaningful and distinctive titles are too long to fit in one line.

We could use a slightly larger font; the rest of this editorial is in effectively 10-point but this paragraph will appear in 12-point. Perhaps narrower margins (ie wider text)? Some articles could be in 2-column layout. If we became A4 such changes become easy.

On the other hand, an A4 Austria of similar word-count would be floppier and might become dog-eared; it wouldn't fit the green

binders; and it might cost more. Certainly, if a higher print quality was wanted it **would** cost more, as it would have to be typeset and then printed on glossier paper. Ditto for illustrations in colour, or larger font.

What do you, the reader, think?

This is your Journal, not mine! Do you **want** a physically larger object? What aspects of the present format and layout particularly irritate you? Are there any topics you'd like to see featured, but which would be unsuitable to the present format? And last but certainly not least, what if any **additional subscription** would you be willing to pay for a changed Austria?

Südtirol

Hans Moser of PKMInnsbruck writes that they are pondering the idea of making a handbook about postal cancellations from Südtirol starting from prephilately to the present time. Trentino up to the end of WWI would be included. Anybody who might be prepared to assist should get in touch with Andy Taylor; you do not need to speak German.

Forthcoming articles

I have had a heart-warming response to my plea for more articles! From the Tirol a Beginners Guide to Old Letters; from Oregon in the USA a

feature on the Salzburg Festival (disproving the popular belief that no Festivals took place during the Anschluß); from France more about the Austrian Navy in the Far East; from the Netherlands a thesis on Bosnian and Herzegovinan postal rates; from New York a note on Bierauflage; and from Poland via Peterborough the first-ever definitive list of Tarnstempel used in Galizien.

Hello! Yoo-hoo! Are there any budding authors in the UK?

Obituary: John Cottrell

Following a protracted illness, John Cottrell died on Thursday 1 September. He is especially remembered for his efficient and smooth running of the two Fests held at Canterbury, where he also introduced the "one page from my other collection" display. He had a wonderful airmail collection, and when he showed it at Bath he gave a slide show to point out the special features of the various covers, so that we could all see them in a large size before looking at the actual items. This helped clarify some of the finer details - an interesting innovation that no one has followed up since. He was a Gentleman in the old style, always immaculately attired, although sometimes pained by other members who failed to match his standards! The APS's condolences have been sent to Gill.

NOW WE ARE SIXTY

The year 2008 is the 60th anniversary of organised Austrian philately in the UK! A subcommittee collected ideas for celebrating it, which were submitted to the AGM on 9 October – more as an accumulation than a collection! The full report is available from the Editor.

Why do anything?

The general feeling was that the most important objective was to publicise the diversity of Austrian philately and the activities of the Society, thus recruiting new members, rather than celebrations of our or our predecessors existence.

Summary of Ideas so far thought of

A prefix Y: means that the AGM agreed; N: means rejection; and ?: means "further thought needed". All ideas are subject to the availability of funding and effort!

Y: Ask for more ideas which is what I am now doing!

Y: Appoint a Publicity Officer

Brian Presland has agreed to act as APS Publicity Officer, and has been co-opted to the Committee.

Y: Exhibition at 2008 Spring Stampex, in the "Village Green"

Y: Advertise (in targetted areas, eg Gibbons Stamp Monthly)

Y: Write articles for the philatelic press

Y: Publish a Festschrift (a book containing a collection of several learned articles by different authors, sufficiently wide and general within the “Austrian” context to make it worthwhile for other, non-“Austrian” collectors, libraries, etc. to purchase)

Y: On-line discussion group (eg a Google Group)

Y: Involve the Austrian (etc?) Embassy

Y: Foreign Travel (eg visit the cities where 2-3 of the Austrian Empire’s Postal Directorates were located?)

?: Enhance the web site (which, incidentally, is our main source of new members)

?: Republish our existing books (eg an updated Tchilingian & Stephen incorporating the old amendments and subsequent discoveries.

?: Publish a book (eg The Austrian Navy In English; a Compendium on Forgeries; or a critical guide to Austrian philatelic literature)

?: Publicity label (sold or given to members to stick on their mail)

?: Meetings or exhibitions in Austria held jointly with societies there.

?: Incentives (eg £10 voucher valid for APS auctions, back numbers etc – for new members, and/or for those who recruit them)

?: Formal Dinner (eg in London coinciding with a Stampex exhibition)

N: Special Stamp and/or Cancel, UK or Austrian

N: Hold a Conference (talks, seminars etc)

N: Exhibition elsewhere, UK or abroad

N: Do nothing anniversary-related whatsoever

How?

The next step is to evaluate the pruned list, asking for each:

- ☺ Should it be done?
- ☺ If yes, why not do it now?
- ☺ How much, if any, APS money should be spent on it?
- ☺ Who is prepared to make it happen?

The APS President, Martin Brumby, will welcome your comments!

Enhancing the Library

- ❖ If you are willing to consider lending a book you possess to

another member, please send the Librarian a list.

- ❖ If you come across a reference to a book which is not in the Library, consult the Librarian who may be able to locate a copy for you.

Austrian New Issues

The usual twice-yearly report on the New Issues appears later in this issue. The English descriptions are taken from the *Post.at* website. The press releases which used to provide details of paper, colours and perfs have been discontinued, as have the traditional blackprints and their accompanying text.

Some readers have commented that the amount of detail is grossly excessive, especially as it is available via the Internet, and also as it increasingly lacks the technical details that philatelists delight in poring over and classifying by. Others say they find the stamps themselves less and less relevant to the country Austria. What about postal stationery?

The question arises; is this report a good use of the increasingly-expensive space in this journal? Should it be shorn of biographical essays? Are the pictures needed? Would a 1-line-list suffice?

Please send your views to the Editor!

FIELDPOST STUDY GROUP

In Austria 142 David Pearce asked other members interested in forming an **APS Subgroup on WWI Austrian Fieldpost** to get in touch. The group might "meet by post or email", or assemble at some convenient venue, depending on what its members preferred. Insufficient replies arrived, but David has agreed to have another go at setting it up. Please contact him at 20 Dene Road, New Southgate, London, N11 1ES or by email at dmpearce2003@yahoo.co.uk



This cartoon of a Philatelic Philistine was sent by Hannes Margreiter to mark the 2005 Fest

TYROL PHILA

Mag. Peter Zoller

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 Phone/Fax: 0043/512/361532 - Email: tyrol.phila@aon.at

stamps, letters, varieties, proofs, rarities, ...

especially:

AUSTRIA
GERMANY, RUSSIA, ITALIA



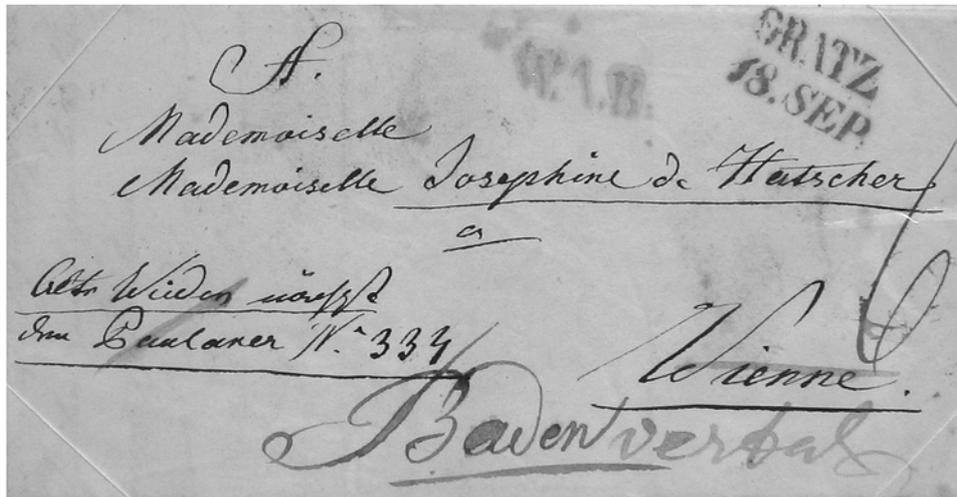
Please request our free Price Lists:

- 1) Austria 1850-2001 **/*/*o
- 2) Germany (please state your exact collective-area)
- 3) Russia, Baltic States

Austria 1850-1900 ; special issue 1850 with letters, cancellations (coloured list for pounds 5.- In advance)

NOTES ON THE DISPLAYS AT HONFEST 2005.

Henry White: Postal markings of Vienna other than cancels.



A collection spanning 1839 to 1866 of non-town/date marks such as redirection, return-to-sender, postal treaty marks, paid and postage dues, including an unusual “due + tax = to pay” mark of 1858. (Mu 3746)



Also, money letter marks, “too late”, “ex officio” and delivery indicators.

John Whiteside: revenues on documents 1900-1918.

Eg Society rules; exhibits in court; residence permits; and two-country franking for registration of the Austrian subsidiary of a foreign company

Bill Hedley: Pressburg (alias Bratislava, Pozsony)

Bill started with a letter to Count Alexander Esterhazy dated 1730! He had soon discovered that there are considerably more pre-stamp cancels in reality than in Müller. Money letter receipt from the Fahrpost. Town name cancel used in the period when this was not normally done. Pressburg / Franco cancels. Reccom dated 1849. Cancels on first four stamp issues and on postal stationery.

Alan Berrisford: Thimbles

A mouthwatering display of how attractive a centrally-struck thimble cancel is

Hans Smith: The Black Sea

The Austrian Lloyd opened insurance agencies around the Black Sea in about 1820. In 1832 they started operating ships, and their insurance offices became postal agencies. (The DDSG had some too.) Hans showed mainly the western side: Burgas, Kustendje, Varna etc. Lloyd seals were used for the first postal markings; later the agencies were formally attached to the Post Office and issued with standard cancellers.

Keith Brandon: The Postmark History of Brünn to 1850

Keith Brandon presented a comprehensive thirty-six sheet display of covers illustrating the postmarks of Brünn from the year of the city's first postmark, 1784, through to the end of the pre-stamp era. As well as the town cancels, the display included the combined town/paid, combined town/registered and official Postal Directorate postmarks, along with arrival/transit strike and a postmark of the Brünn City Post on incoming mail.

Colin Tobitt: The 1945 overprints

Examples, including almost-complete plated sheets.

Joyce Boyer: Semmeringbahn



The Semmeringbahn runs from Vienna to Bruck an der Mur; the display showed cancels from many stations and others commemorating aspects of its history and of the countryside through which it runs. TPOs. Raxalp ski area, accessed from Payerbach, with its telegraph and postablage. The small post office at Küb was opened in 1905 and closed this year just as it celebrated 100 years of service. [A group of five APS members and partners visited the post office during the 1998 visit to Vienna and were made very welcome both in the public and business sections of the post office where we were able to see historic items – see report in Austria 125 pp 29, 31. The building has been taken over by the Payerbach local authority who plan to turn it into a museum. Joyce also showed a postablage used as a receiving mark; and a commercially-used 2005 Edelweiss woven stamp.

John May: TPOs “north of Prague”

Each was shown with a mini-map of the relevant route.

Brian Presland: WWI POWs

Almost every nationality, interned in almost every country – including an Austrian national interned in India.

Geoff Richardson: 1907-9 Cancels

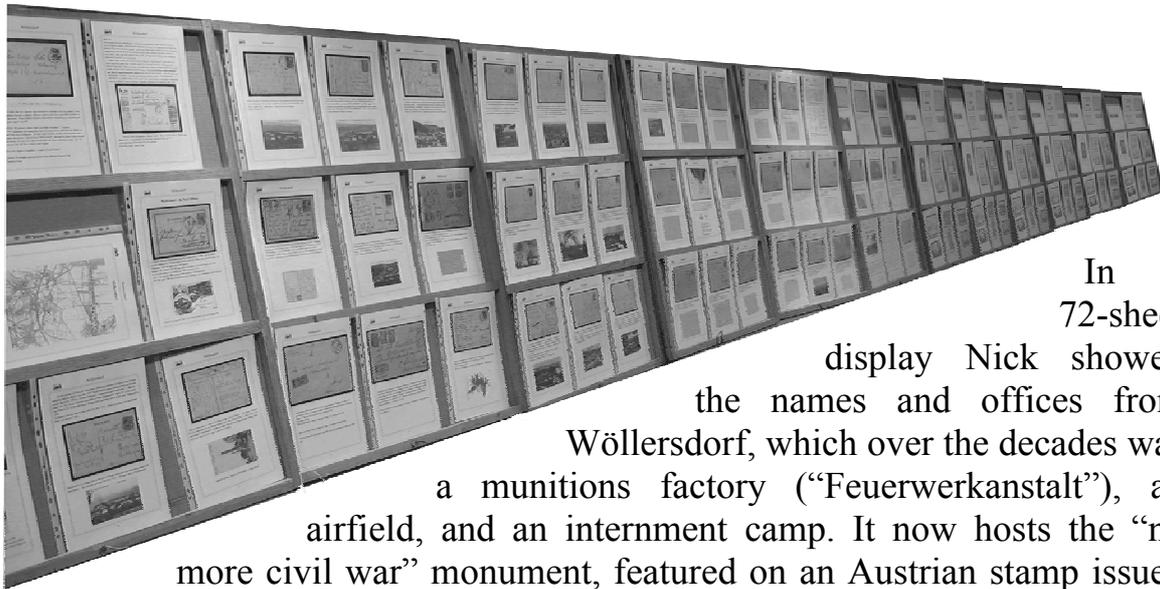
Postmarks from around the Empire.

Geoff Frost: 1945

2nd Republic overprints on Hitler heads: cork obliterations, Graz overprints. Forgeries, doubtfuls and fakes.

James Hooper: WWI Censor marks of Vienna

Some found only on outgoing mail. Many types of resale labels. Police and POW-mail censor marks.

Nick Harty: Wöllersdorf

In a 72-sheet display Nick showed the names and offices from Wöllersdorf, which over the decades was a munitions factory (“Feuerwerkanstalt”), an airfield, and an internment camp. It now hosts the “no more civil war” monument, featured on an Austrian stamp issued on 2nd Feb 1984. On 2nd April 1938 the Nazis moved in, “liberated” the camp, and burned it to the ground. However the Austrian State Archives contain maps of the camp, lists of the internees, the reasons for their detention, and copies or forfeited originals of all their correspondence.

Henry White: Wien + Recommandirt combined cancellations

Starting with the earliest 'V. WIEN RECOM' mark of 1825, all subsequent versions of this combined cancellation were displayed until 1885 when the introduction of the yellow R label made the special 'Recommandirt' hand stamp obsolete.

John Whiteside: Odds and Sods

(1): Meter cancels for bulk postage (see Austria 149 pp15-20). Dutch bulb suppliers had their catalogues printed in and posted from post-WWI Austria as it was very cheap compared with Netherlands prices! (2): Kronen stamps used for groschen rates, from the 1925 currency change until the groschen issues were printed.

Hans Smith: Pola



Hans showed the Postal District of Pola: offices 1, 2 & 3 and the surrounding suburbs and towns. For many years, the Austrians used the cancellers abandoned by the French after Napoleon!

The Sunday Morning Display



John Whiteside showed us 150 sheets on Parcel Post Cards, Forms and their precursors. One of the earliest was a Paketbegleitbrief from Lemberg. Parcel

cards were introduced on 1 Nov 1878 when a new tariff for parcel post charges came into operation, replacing the large paper forms; a similar change for COD parcels took place in 1881. In the same year came the first U.P.U. agreement for international parcels up to 3kg in weight. In 1883, special cards for use on these, with inscriptions in German and French, were employed; and from 1885 similar double cards for COD were put on sale.



The charges until 1890 were written in manuscript on the cards. From 1890, stamps had to be affixed to prepay the parcels charges, which resulted in a re-design of the cards to accommodate them.

The Competition

This year the Festmeister had selected “4 sheets on U”. The winner was Keith Brandon who showed seven pre-stamp covers of Ungarisch Hradisch (now Uherske Hradiste in the Czech Republic). In an exclusive interview afterwards, an overjoyed Keith explained to your intrepid reporter that the combined Müller value of the postmarks was in excess of 1100 points. He also revealed that he had picked them up one-at-a-time at stamp fairs and on the internet over the last three years at an average of £12.50 each, which he considers to be good value for such scarce postmarks.

Hans Smith was second with Udine and Joyce Boyer third with Umhausen. The invisible entry was “U-boat TPOs”, and received about as many marks as your Editor’s entry!

SALZBURG LÄDT ZUR MOZARTPHILA.

by Andy Taylor

The 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth is in 2006, and the philatelic celebrations are centered on ÖVEBRIA 2006. A series of commemorative covers have been produced by the Salzburg 1 section of the ABSV, and as they are likely to be rare here's most of them. They include three Personalised Stamps. In the reproductions, the pastel shades of some of the wording have been transmuted into black so that you can see them!

A final Schmuckblatt is planned for next year, with another Personalised Stamp. These should not be confused with the miniature sheet-of-8 "Mozart in Vienna" scheduled for issue by the Austrian Post Office in January 2006 and the second miniature sheet-of-10 "Mozart in Salzburg" scheduled for June 2006.

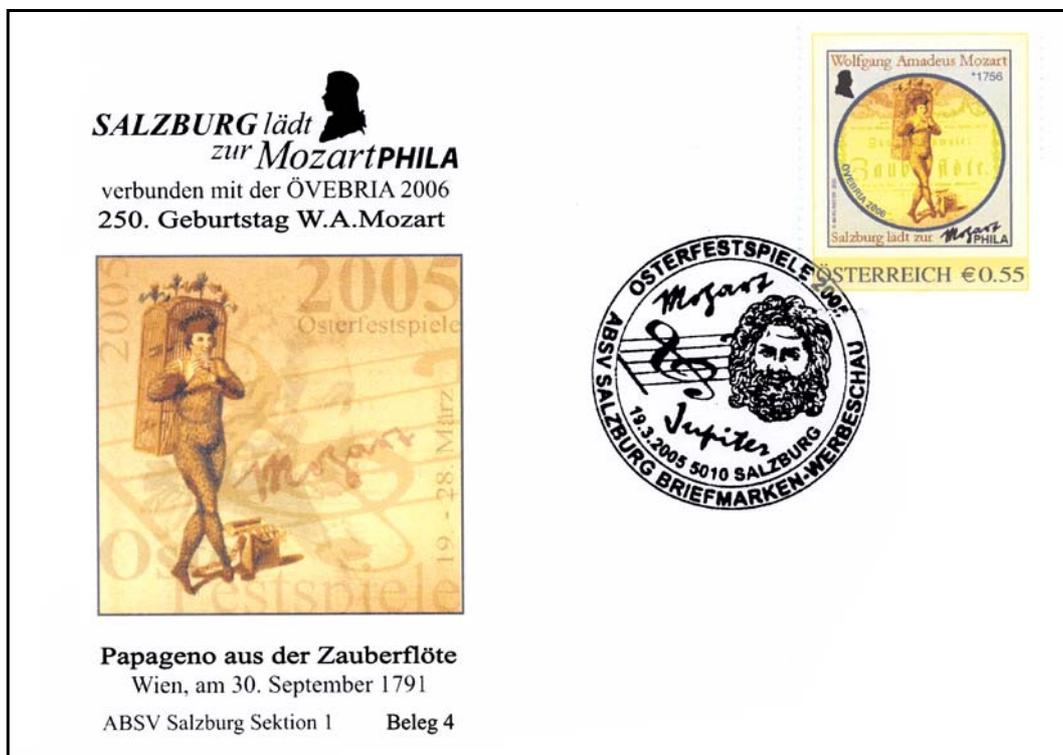
There are perhaps more than enough biographies of Mozart; one with a perspective that I found different is "The Life of Mozart" by John Rosselli, Cambridge University Press, 1998.



The first cover depicts the Mozart family in Paris in 1764: Mozart on the harpsichord, his father on a violin, and his sister Nannerl singing.



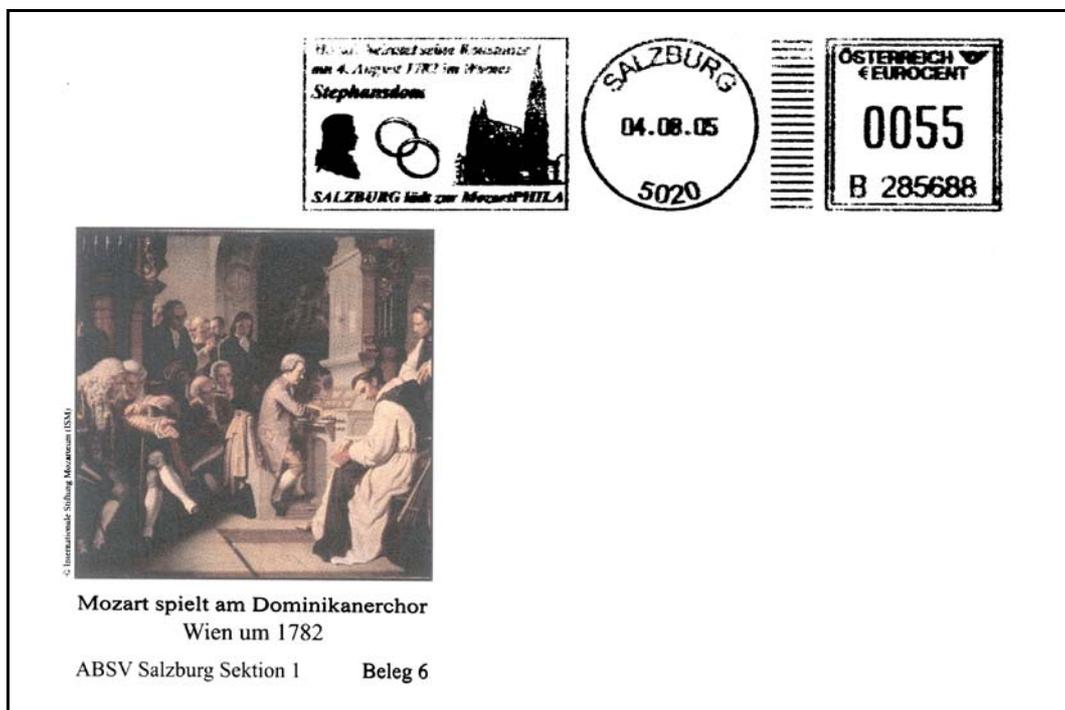
The postmark, blue in the original, and also the illustration, show the building at 9 Getreidegasse, Salzburg in an apartment of which Mozart was born. The fountain is now a block of shops!



The illustration and stamp show Schikaneder as Papageno the bird-catcher in the Magic Flute; the cancel refers to Mozart's 41st symphony which is usually called the 'Jupiter'.



This cover commemorates Mozart's first visit to Paris in 1763.



The postmark, blue in the original, shows St Stephen's in Vienna; the illustration is Mozart playing the organ in the Dominican church in Vienna in 1782, when he was 26.

COURT DELIVERY SERVICE.

by Alan Berrisford

The Civil Courts in the Crown land of GALIZIEN (GALICIA; later Southern Poland) became concerned about the delays incurred in the delivery of mail by the post office to more isolated areas, which was resulting in cases being brought before them before some of the participants had been informed. As a result of this in 1897 an application was made to implement a Court Delivery Service to decrease the delivery time. The cost of delivery being paid by the recipient, the delivery was made by messengers sent out by the various District Courts using whatever means of transport was best. On 1st January 1898 the first stamps were issued for use to denote payment.

The normal Postal service delivery time on the main routes was on a par with other areas of the empire. The delivery problems would appear to have been in the south where the border with Hungary ran along the main ridges of the Tatra-Carpathian mountain range with small isolated communities living in the foothills and mountain valleys. In the east the area to be covered by an individual post office in general was much larger than those situated in more densely populated areas in the north west. As a result the Courts situated in these areas made the most use of this service.

STAMPS

During the period of usage of these stamps (1898-1918) three different values were introduced. The first was the 17½ kr issued 1.1.1898 and invalidated 31.8.1899.



The introduction of the new currency resulted in the rounding down of the delivery charge by ½ kr = 1 new heller; the new rate was 17 kr = 34 heller. The second stamp was thus the 34 heller, issued 1.1.1899 and invalidated 1918.

A lower revised rate of 10 heller was introduced in 1908, so the third stamp was the 10 heller issued on 1.3.1908 & invalidated in 1918 after the war.

| | | Perforation: | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------|-----|---------|---------|-----|
| | | 10½ | 12½ | 12½x10½ | 12½x11½ | imp |
| 1 | 17½ Kr | | | | | |
| a | Blue | Y | Y | Y | | |
| b | Blue/violet | Y | Y | Y | Y | |

| | | Perforation: | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|-----|---------|---------|-----|
| | | 10½ | 12½ | 12½x10½ | 12½x11½ | imp |
| 2 | 34 heller Blue | Y | Y | Y | | |
| 3 | 10 heller | | | | | |
| a | Dark blue (1.2.1908) | | Y | | | |
| b | Blue (1910) | | Y | | | Y |
| c | Dark blue/black, shiny (1912) | | Y | | | |

The stamps were printed on very thin Pelure paper in blocks of 200 (8 horizontal rows of 25). The 10 heller value also exists in proof form imperforate printed on a thicker yellowish paper in blocks of four.

These stamps could be purchased by the public at the Local Court and at selected other outlets, like Tobacconist kiosks etc., and could be sent loose within an enquiry to a court in a different town to be used on any reply.

The stamps were cancelled by a pen stroke or by a court hand-stamp usually in black or violet ink; the catalogues indicate that court hand-stamp cancellations have a higher price.

It is apparent that some courts continued to use up their stocks of obsolete stamps. The Courts at Komarno and Medenica used the 17½ kr stamps with the ½ kr crossed out by a red or black pen stroke or blue crayon to indicate the new rate of 17 kr = 34 new heller. I also have an example of the 34 heller value from the Komarno court with the 34 crossed out and a red ink manuscript 10 applied used in 1910. These provisional usages have to be found tied to a document by a court cachet and the information given proving the date of usage, as it is an easy matter to reproduce these markings on loose stamps.

[Unfortunately, it has proved impossible to reproduce them in B/W illustrations! Ed]

DOCUMENTATION

Before setting off on his delivery round the messenger required as well as the items to be delivered:

- ❖ a form “Arkusz doręczeń” (form 102p.k.) delivery list of the names and location of the recipients;
- ❖ a “Dowód doręczenia” Proof of Delivery Form which was returned to the Court of issue after the delivery and placed in the court records.

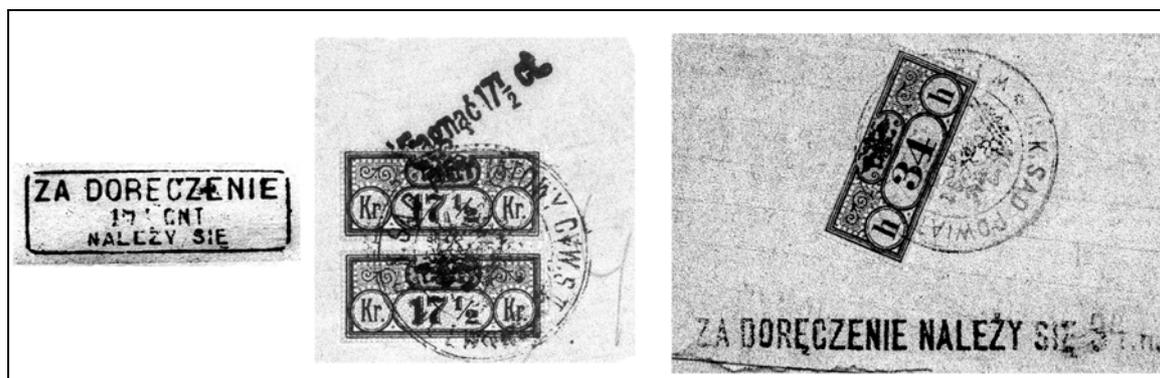
Both of these forms are usually in the Polish language only, printed on buff or bluish/green paper. A Ruthenian-Ukrainian text form was also used.

Two types of the proof of delivery form were usually used (Instruction Nos. 74 & 75); the top section is the same but the bottom section with instructions to the messenger differs in some respects. The forms are large so are illustrated at the end. See also the appended translation, which gives a insight into the rules and regulations governing the delivery.

I also have one form in manuscript originating from the court at Dynow, which appears to have been written onto a plate or stone and printings then made by a lithographic process.

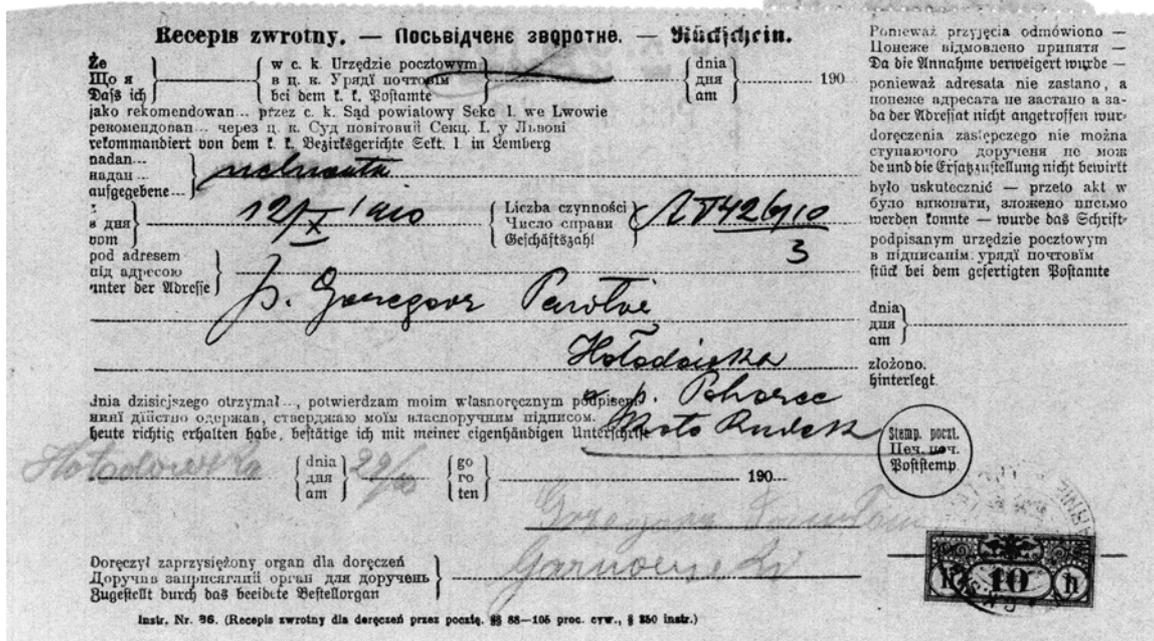
APPLICATION OF THE STAMPS

These were usually to the front or back of the proof of delivery form. In most cases there is some indication of the payment due, in manuscript or a court cachet found in a variety of colours (the currency is indicated in Cents which is the regional name used for the kreuzer). They can also be found on the Delivery List (form 102 p.k.).



Three different payment-indication cachets.
The left-hand one is on the hand-written form shown later.

Documents were also delivered in the large brown R.S. (Rückschein) envelopes with a large detachable flap on the back which was sent back to the court as proof of receipt. These were also used to send documents through the normal postal system. The last two applications are more often found used after 1919 by the Polish courts, probably due to decreasing stocks of various forms. When delivery could not be made direct to the recipient, the proof of delivery forms and R.S. envelope flaps were often returned via the normal postal system.

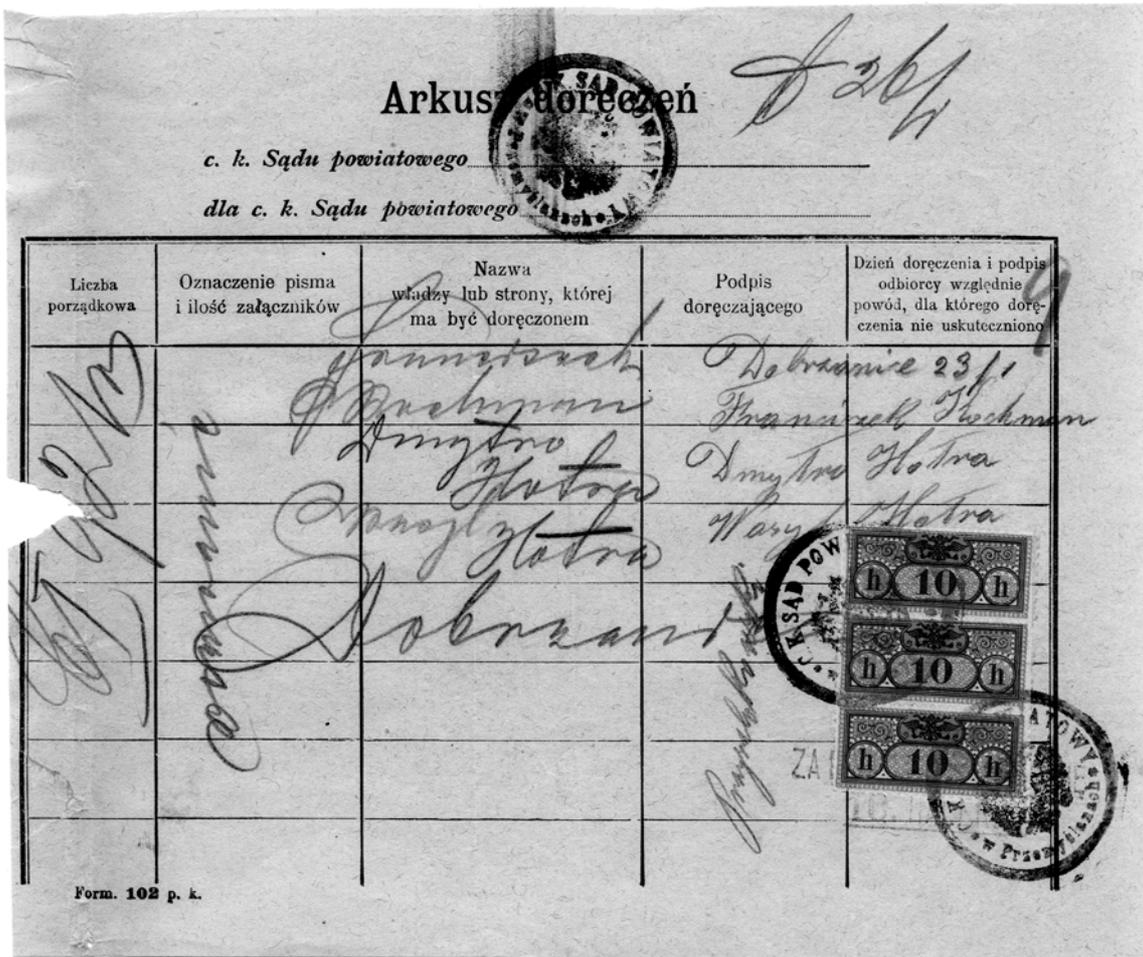


Rückschein flap from an envelope from the court at KOMARNO to HOŁODOWICA near POHORCE near RUDKI; returned by post to Komarno.

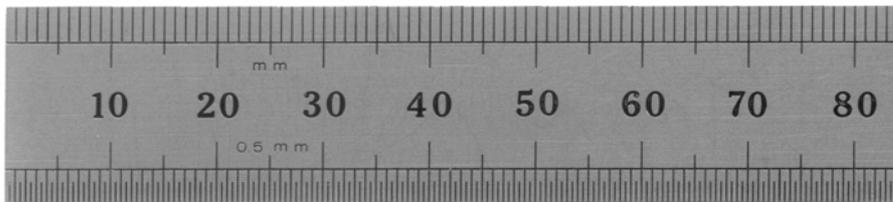
1918 ONWARDS

This service must have proved successful as Courts in the reconstituted state of Poland continued to use this form of delivery until 1939. In the south, existing stocks of these Austrian stamps continued to be used. Until the end of January 1920 a dual currency (Korony/Halerzy, the Polish equivalent of the Austrian currency) was used in former Austrian governed areas. The rate per item was increased to 20 halerzy in late 1918; this was still less than the Polish post rate of 25 halerzy for a letter up to 20g in weight. Inflation started to increase at a rapid rate in the early 1920s and some courts are known to have applied a surcharge cachet on some stamps. Poland produced its own court delivery stamps in 1924 after the end of the inflation period.

For the translation of the proof of delivery forms I am indebted to the late Rudolph Szczurek, former editor of the Polish Philatelic Review.



Arkusz doręczeń form



Dowód doręczenia.

Dowód doręczenia.

Dowód doręczenia.

Examples of the differing type-faces and sizes of the heading of three different specimens of the same form. [ruler in mm] This suggests that these forms (with no intrinsic value) were printed locally as and when required.

Dowód doręczenia.

Potwierdzam moim własnoręcznym podpisem nadszły odbiór doręczone mi przez urząd gminny
 (zastępcę obszaru dworskiego) _____
 służy sądowego c. k. sądu _____
 dla _____
 w _____ przeznaczzone _____
 c. k. sądu _____ z dnia _____
 1907 liczba czynności _____
 _____ dnia _____ 1907

Doręczył _____
 służy sądowy _____
 służy gminny, posłaniec _____

Ponieważ przyjęcia odmówiono — ponieważ adresata nie zastano,
 a doręczenia zastępczego nie można było uskutecznić,

złożono akt dnia _____ 1907
 w urzędzie gminnym (u zastępcy obszaru dworskiego)

Urząd gminny _____
 dnia _____ 1907



Do wiadomości.

Adresat ma zamieścić datę, tudzież odbiór aktu potwierdzić własnoręcznym podpisem z wymienieniem imienia i nazwiska (znakiem ręcznym). Jeżeli adresat nie umie pisać, datę zamieścić uskuteczniający doręczenie; tenże zarazem umieści obok znaku ręcznego odbiorcy jego imię i nazwisko.

Przy doręczeniach przez woźnych sądowych należy w klauzuli stwierdzającej doręczenie, wykresić słowa „sługa gminny, posłaniec”, przy doręczeniach zaś przez organa gminne (organa obszarów dworskich) słowa „sługa sądowy”. Klauzulę stwierdzającą doręczenie podpisze służy sądowy, wymieniając swój charakter służbowy. Jeżeli doręczenia nie uskutecznią służy sądowy, natenczas ma naczelnik gminy (zastępca obszaru dworskiego) wymienić w klauzuli stwierdzającej osobę, która doręczenie uskuteczniła, tudzież klauzulę tę przy wyecisnięciu pieczęci urzędowej podpisać. Gdy on sam uskuteczni doręczenie, ma on to po przekreśleniu klauzuli stwierdzającej potwierdzić, zamieszczając przez siebie podpisaną i w pieczęć urzędową zaopatrzoną uwagę „Doręczył podpisany”.

Doręczenia w budynkach wojskowych (obrony krajowej) lub w budynkach, przez wojsko lub obronę krajową zajętych, można uskutecznić tylko po poprzednim zawiadomieniu komendanta, tudzież za przybraniem przez tegoż przydanej osoby wojskowej (obrony krajowej). Zawiałomienie następuje przez okazanie komendantowi doręczyć się mającego pisma.

Jeżeli adresata w jego mieszkaniu, pracowni zawodowej, lokalu przedsiębiorstwa (kancelaryi) na placu jego robót nie zastano, wolno doręczyć pismo każdemu, organowi doręczającemu znanemu, dorosłemu w mieszkaniu adresata, znajdującemu się do m o w n i k o w i (członkowi rodziny, osobie pozostającej w służbie u rodziny) lub też znanemu organowi doręczającemu w lokalu przedsiębiorstwa, pracowni zawodowej (kancelaryi) adresata obecnemu dorosłemu członkowi rodziny lub funkcyonaryuszowi przedsiębiorstwa, pracowni zawodowej (kancelaryi) adresata. Gdyby także żadnej takiej osoby nie zastano, wolno doręczyć się mający akt pisemny wręczyć albo temu, który adresatowi mieszkanie wynajął, albo tenetu, któremu wynajmujący mieszkanie w dozor oddał, atoli zawsze pod warunkiem, że te osoby w tym samym domu mieszkają i akt pisemny przyjąć są gotowe.

Jeżeli akt pisemny inna osoba, jak adresat, odebrała (doręczenie zastępcze), ma ona podpisać dowód doręczenia swem imieniem i nazwiskiem. Organ doręczający uwidoczni stosunek tej osoby do adresata przez zamieszczenie dodatku do podpisu odbiorcy (ojciec, matka, brat, siostra, syn, córka, pomocnik handlowy, commis, służy, parobek, dziewczka itp.).

Jeżeli akt pisemny w żaden z powyższych sposobów doręczonym być nie może, należy go złożyć u naczelnika gminy (zastępcy obszaru dworskiego). Zarazem ma być pisemne zawiadomienie o tem złożeniu na drzwiach mieszkania lub drzwiach wchodowych do lokalu przedsiębiorstwa lub do pracowni zawodowej przytwierdzone (formularz Nr. 78.) a w razie możności także sąsiedztwu ustnie oznajmione. Na drzwiach wchodowych do lokalu przedsiębiorstwa, gdy tenże jest zamknięty, wolno przytwierdzić owo pisemne zawiadomienie tylko w dzień powszedni.

Jeżeli złożenie u naczelnika gminy uskutecznił doręczający służy sądowy, ma on uskutecznione złożenie na akcie pisemnym potwierdzić.

Instr. Nr. 74. (Dowód doręczenia dla doręczeń przez służy sądowe i organa gminne, §§. 88—105 proc. cyw. §. 863 Instr.) III.

Delivery Form type 74; translation follows

Form 74: PROOF OF DELIVERY ⁽¹⁾

(Dowód doręczenia)

I confirm with the signature by my own hand properly receipted delivered to me by the municipal officer (estate administrator) by court servant of K.u.K. court in the district for in destined by decision of K.u.K court in dated reference day 190...

Delivered by court servant / municipality servant, messenger

Because of refusal - because the addressee was not available and a substitute delivery was not possible - lodged the document on 190.... in the municipal office (estate office) Municipal office date Municipal seal (X)

NOTICE

The addressee must insert the date on the proof of delivery form and confirm the receipt with signature by his own hand, giving the christian and surname. If the addressee is illiterate, the date of delivery shall be inserted by the person delivering the document, who also shall confirm with his own christian and surname the authenticity of the mark made by the addressee.

In the case of delivery being carried out by the court servant, in the clause confirming delivery the words “municipality servant, messenger” should be deleted. In the case of delivery by municipal officer (estate administrator) the words “court servant” shall be deleted. The clause confirming delivery shall be signed by the court servant who will also state his official rank. If the delivery is not carried out by the court servant then the bailiff of the municipality (estate administrator) will detail in the clause the name of the person delivering the document and confirming with the official seal and signature. If he personally delivered the document, he is obliged to insert in the clause words “Delivered by the undersigned” and endorsed with his signature and official seal. Delivery of document to the addressee’s dwelling in a military building (National Defence) or buildings occupied by the Military or National Defence shall be carried out after prior information is conveyed to the commander in charge, who will nominate a military (National Defence) person to accompany the civilian official. He is also obliged to produce the proof of delivery form for inspection by the military authorities. If the addressee is not present in his dwelling, workshop, office or is absent from the site of his employment, it is permissible

¹ (instrument No.74 (Proof of delivery by court servants and by municipal authorities, par.88-105 civil law par.363 Instr. III.)

for all officials to leave the proof of delivery form with the adult member of the addressee household (member of the family, servant employed by the family) or the official is also allowed to deliver the document to the addressee's place of employment or office.

In case no such person can be found, it is permissible for the official to deliver the form and leave it with the addressee's landlord or with the addressee's tenant but under condition that both reside in the same house and are agreeable to receive the form. If the proof of delivery form was left with another person then the addressee (a substitute delivery), this person must sign the form with his/her christian and surname. The official who delivered the document has the duty to note the relationship between the signatory and the addressee (father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, shop assistant, clerk, servant, groom, housemaid etc).

If the proof of delivery form cannot be delivered by any of the above described means, it must be lodged with the bailiff of the municipality (estate administrator). At the same time an official notice must be issued (form No.78) with the information that the proof of delivery form has been lodged and the same affixed to the front door of the addressee's dwelling or the main entrance to his location of employment or office and when it is possible neighbours should be informed of this notice by "word of mouth". Should the main entrance to his location of employment be locked, it is permissible to affix the notice but only during week days.

If the proof of delivery form is lodged with the bailiff of the municipality by the court servant, he should fill in the appropriate clause on the form and confirm with signature by his own hand.

509

Dowód doręczenia.

Potwierdzam moim własnoręcznym podpisem należyty odbiór doręczone mi przez urząd gminny (zastępcę obszaru dworskiego) _____

slugę sądowego c. k. sądu **JAROSLAW** _____

dla *P. Kinny Geinbock* _____

w *Bronnviertel* _____

przeznaczone *Justizamt* _____ c. k. sądu **JAROSLAW** _____

z dnia *1/10* _____ 190*1* -

liczba czynności *Pa: 4/1. 3626/11* _____

_____ dnia *27/3* 190*2*

Doręczył _____
sluga sądowy
 sluga gminny, posłaniec

Kinde Geinbock
Prelnsche

Ponieważ przyjęcia odmówiono -- ponieważ adresata mimo poprzedniego w mieszkaniu, kancelaryi, lokala przedsiębiorstwa, pracy zawodowej pozostawionego (na drzwiach wchodowych do tychże przytwierdzonego) wezwania nie zastano, -- przeto akt pisemny złożony w urzędzie gminnym (u zastępcy obszaru dworskiego) _____

Urząd gminny _____
 dnia _____ 190 _____

Pieczęć gminna.

Do wiadomości.

Doręczenie może nastąpić tylko do rąk własnych adresata. Tenże ma zamieścić datę tudzież potwierdzić odbiór aktu własnoręcznym podpisem z wymienieniem imienia i nazwiska (znak ręczny).

Jeżeli adresat nie umie pisać, datę zamieści osoba skuteczniająca doręczenie; ta osoba również umieści obok znaku ręcznego odbiorcy jego imię i nazwisko. Przy doręczeniach przez slugi sądowe należy w klauzuli stwierdzającej doręczenie, wykreslić słowa, „sluga gminny, posłaniec“, przy doręczeniach zaś przez organa gminne (organa obszaru dworskiego) słowa „sluga sądowy“. Klauzulę stwierdzającą doręczenie, podpisze sluga sądowy, wymieniając swój charakter służbowy. Jeżeli doręczenia nie skuteczniia sluga sądowy, natenczas ma naczelnik gminy (zastępa obszaru dworskiego) wymienić w klauzuli stwierdzającej osobę, która doręczenie skuteczniia, tudzież klauzulę przy wycięściu pieczęci urzędowej podpisać. Gdy on sam doręczenie skuteczniia, ma on to po przekreśleniu klauzuli stwierdzającej potwierdzić, zamieszczając przez siebie podpisaną i w pieczęć urzędową zaopatrzoną uwagę „doręczył podpisany“.

Jeżeli doręczenie do rąk własnych adresata skutecznić się nie da, będzie on pisemnem zawiadomieniem (formularz Nr. 76), które się bądź w jego mieszkaniu, bądź w lokalu jego przedsiębiorstwa lub interesu pozostawi, a gdyby ten lokal był zamknięty, na drzwiach u wejścia przytwierdził, wezwany, ażeby dla przyjęcia doręczenia znajdował się w odnośnym lokalu w dniu i godzinie, które się jemu równocześnie wyznaczy.

Jeżeli adresat wezwaniu temu zadość nie uczyni, należy złożyć akt pisemny u naczelnika gminy (zastępy obszaru dworskiego). Zarazem ma być pisemne zawiadomienie o tem złożeniu (formularz Nr. 77) na drzwiach mieszkania lub drzwiach wchodowych do lokalu przedsiębiorstwa lub do pracowni zawodowej przytwierdzone, a w razie możności także sąsiedztwu ustnie oznajmione. Na drzwiach wchodowych do lokalu przedsiębiorstwa, gdy tenże jest zamknięty, wolno przytwierdzić owe pisemne zawiadomienie tylko w dzień poprzedni.

Jeżeli złożenie u naczelnika gminy skutecznił doręczający sluga sądowy, ma on na akcie pisemnym skuteczniione złożenie potwierdzić.

Doręczenia w budynkach wojskowych (obrony krajowej), lub w budynkach przez wojsko lub obronę krajową zajętych, wolno skutecznić tylko po poprzednim zawiadomieniu komendanta, tudzież za przybraniem przez tego przydanej osoby wojskowej (obrony krajowej). Zawiadomienie następuje przez okazanie komendantowi doręczyć się mającego aktu pisemnego

Instr. Nr. 75. (Dowód doręczenia dla doręczeń do rąk własnych przez slugi sądowe i organa gminne, §§. 106 do 108 proc. cyw., §. 368 Instr.) III.

Delivery Form type 75; translation follows

Form 75: PROOF OF DELIVERY (2)

(Dowód doręczenia)

I confirm with the signature by my own hand properly receipted delivered to me by the municipal office (estate administrator) by court servant of K.u.K. court in the district for in destined by decree of K.u.K. court date 190...

Delivered by court servant / municipality servant, messenger.

Because of refusal - because the addressee in spite of a written notice left in his dwelling place, office, place of employment (affixed on entrance door) was not available, for this reason the document was lodged in the municipal office (estate office) Municipal office date Municipal seal (X)

NOTICE

The delivery has to be into the hands of the addressee only. He is obliged to insert the date and receipt and confirm the delivery with his own hand signature, giving the full christian and surname.

If the addressee is illiterate, the date of delivery shall be inserted by the person delivering the document, who also shall confirm with his own name in full, the authenticity of the mark made by the addressee. In the case of delivery being carried out by a court servant, in the clause confirming delivery the words "municipal servant/messenger" should be deleted, in the case of delivery by municipality servant (estate administration) the words "court servant" shall be deleted. The clause confirming delivery shall be signed by the court servant, who will also state his official rank. If the delivery is not carried out by the court servant then the bailiff of the municipality (estate administrator) will detail in the clause the name of person delivering the document and confirming with the official seal and signature. If he personally delivered the document he is obliged to insert in the clause the words "Delivered by the undersigned" and endorse with his signature and official seal. If the delivery of the document into the hands of the addressee is impossible then he will be notified in writing (form 76) which will be left in his dwelling or place of employment or business. In the case of all locations being closed thus preventing entry, then a notice should be affixed on the entrance door informing the addressee of the day and time of another call by the authorised person to deliver the document.

² instrument No.75 (Proof of delivery by court servants and by municipal authorities, par.105-108 civil law par.363 Instr. III.)

If the addressee ignores the notice, the document should be lodged with the bailiff (estate administrator). At the same time an official notice must be issued (form No.77) and affixed on the door of his dwelling, or place of employment or business and when it is possible his neighbours should be informed by “word of mouth” of this notice. Should the main entrance to his employment location be locked, it is permissible to affix on it the notice but only during week days. If the proof of delivery form is lodged with the bailiff of the municipality by court servant, he should fill in the appropriate clause on the form and confirm with signature by his own hand. Delivery of the document to an addressee dwelling in military buildings (National Defence) or in buildings occupied by the army or National Defence shall be carried out after prior information conveyed to the commander in charge, who will nominate a military (National Defence) person to accompany the civilian official. He is obliged to produce the proof of delivery form for inspection by the military authorities.

Посвідчене доручення.

Стверджую своїм власноручним підписом належне одержане доручення мені через уряд громадський (заступника обшару двірського) _____

через слугу судового ц. к. Молитова суду В. Мезитина

для Гориса Сарашмана

у Чухтеві _____ призначено и ув.

ц. к. м.в. суду В. Мезитина

з дня 23/9 стерт. 2/3 1898 число справи УГ. II 172/98

Книжот дня 25 Lutego 1898

Доручив _____ слуга судовий Григор _____
 _____ слуга громади, некасаю

+ Волос Сарашман

Понеже відмовлено прийняти — понеже адресата не застано, а заступаючого доручення не мож було виконати — не виконано

прото вложено письмо дня _____ 189..

в уряді громадській (у заступника обшару двірського) _____



Form in Ukranian.

POSTAL HISTORY OF THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE IN THE FAR EAST, 1898 – 1920. Second instalment.

By Fred Pirotte

2: POSTAL SERVICES ON BOARD STATION SHIPS IN THE FAR EAST DURING PEACE TIME

Before the Boxer War, the sailors of Austro-Hungarian station ships had at their disposal postal services facilities. This peace-time postal service was defined by the official publication “Instruktion für die Behandlung des Postsendungen der in Fremden Gewässern befindlichen K.u.K Kriegsschiffe - Marine Normalverordnungblatt XXXVII - 21 November 1893” (Official rules with regard to handling of postal items on board the Imperial and Royal warships sailing in foreign waters). This publication was only concerned with mail exchanged between warships and the Austro-Hungarian Empire territories.

The exchange of postal items between Austro-Hungarian warships sailing in foreign waters and the sorting offices located in the Empire (Trieste, Wien and Budapest) was effected by sending several items together in parcels named ‘*dépêches*’ (German ‘Kartenschluss’).

Mail from warships destined for the Empire.

The *dépêches* were posted at the civilian general post offices of the ports of call of the warship, then forwarded to the Empire by sea or land, according to the international processes in force.

Mail from the Empire destined for warships.

When a warship left Pola, each sorting office (Trieste, Wien and Budapest), where the *dépêches* were made up, received the detailed dated itinerary of the ports of call. Two different postal routes could be used:

By sea. *Dépêches* were sent to Shanghai, (1) via Pontafel and Brindisi and then by English or German mail liner or (2) via Pontafel and Naples and then by English mail liner to Port-Said and then by French mail liner. The German consular post office in Shanghai was responsible for forwarding the *dépêche* to the appropriate Chinese coastal ports. The average transportation time was about 20 days.

By land. This method used the railway via Berlin and Moscow, and then the Trans-Siberian railway to Vladivostok or Dairen (Dalny). Depending on the

final destination, the *dépêche* was sent to a Japanese national post office, or to the German consular post office in Shanghai to reach the Chinese harbours having a German post agency; otherwise the *dépêche* could be sent directly to Chinese harbours or other harbours in the Far East by sea. The average delivery time was 15 days.

The use of these postal services was limited to the officers and crew of the station-ship. Only ordinary and registered letters, postcards, printed matter and samples were accepted. The same rules applied to service mail with printed or manuscript note “*Ex Offo*” or “*Portofreie Dienstsache*”.

Postal items complying with these rules handed to the postal officer and sent to addressees in Austria or Hungary had to be franked, at the same rate that applied to inland postal traffic, with Austrian or Hungarian stamps depending on the destination.

Postal items given to the postal officer for destinations in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Sandjak of Novi Pazar or in foreign countries had to be franked at the same rate and conditions as applied to foreign mail in the Empire. They could be franked with either Austrian or Hungarian stamps, irrespective of the nationality of the sender.

Service mail, having official status, was handled in the same way as within the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Parcels and cash-on-delivery items were not accepted and had to be taken by the sender to the post office of the port of call. The postal taxes of the international traffic of the country in question had to be paid.

In 1900, the Austro-Hungarian warships had no dated postmarks, but only round and one-line service handstamps with the ship's name. Cancellation of the franking of any postal item given on board to the postal officer was strictly prohibited. Cancellation procedures had to be performed by the sorting post offices of Trieste, Wien or Budapest when they received the *dépêches*.

For registered items a yellow registration label, on which the serial number was already printed, was affixed on each item. Registered items were listed on an inventory document where the order number was entered. The name of the warship was handwritten or printed with a small service handstamp on the registration label.

Postal rates were as follows: From 1875 to 31 December 1899

Letter up to 20g, 3 kreuzer; from 20 to 250g, 10 kreuzer.

Postcard, 2 kreuzer.

Registration fee, 10 kreuzer.

Printed matter, Hungary only, up to 10g, 1 kreuzer; up to 50g, 2 kreuzer; from 50 to 150g, 3 kreuzer; from 150 to 250g, 5 kreuzer.

From 1 January 1900 to 30 September 1916

Letter up to 20 g, 10 heller; from 20 to 250g, 20 heller.

Postcard, 5 heller.

Registration fee, 25 heller.

Printed matter, Hungary only, up to 10g, 2 heller; up to 50g, 3 heller, from 50 to 100g, 5 heller; from 100 up to 250g, 10 heller.

Note: 1 heller = 1 filler

When a warship left the harbour of Pola for a cruise to foreign ports, the postal officer was required to have at his disposal enough Austrian and Hungarian stamps to last the duration of the cruise. The quantity of stamps was proportional to the number of officers and members of the crew on board of the warship and to the number of ports of call.

This process of exchanging mail between the Empire and station ships in the Far East worked well during peace time. However, it will be shown that, during the Boxer war, postal activity was significantly affected, particularly during 1900.

3: POSTAL SERVICES DURING THE BOXER WAR

3 - 1 Service mail

3 - 1 -1 Service mail of the “Escadre Commando in Ostasien“

On 13 July 1900, it was decided to send two more warships to the Far East: SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth and SMS Aspern. On 16 July, Kontreadmiral Graf Montecuccoli was officially promoted to the rank of Commander of the Austro-Hungarian Squadron in the Far East (K.u.K. Escadre - Commando in Ostasien). Montecuccoli and his staff joined the two warships which left Pola on 23 July 1900 and arrived at the harbour of Taku on 7 September at 1.30 pm. During the afternoon, Montecuccoli and Bless von Sambucci, Commander of SMS Kaiserin und Königin Maria Theresia, conferred on the situation in China. On 8

September 1900, at 2 pm, Montecuccoli and his staff were transferred to SMS Maria Theresia on which the Admiral's pennant was raised.

Before the departure from Pola, or during the cruise, service handstamps were prepared for use on service mail from the Escadre - Commando (SS for Service Squadron).

Type SS-1 One line hand-stamp:

K.u.K Geschwader - Commando in Ostasien

(Squadron Command in the Far East). This was first seen on a telegram form from the Singapore station released to the Squadron when the warships called at Singapore on 20 August 1900.

Type SS-2 Three line hand-stamp on incoming mail:

K.u.K. Geschwader - Commando in Ostasien

Präs.....am.....19..

N°Beilagen.....

(Squadron Command in the Far East / Produced..... on.....19.. / Nr (reference).....Nr of enclosures.....)

Type SS-3 Three line hand-stamp on incoming mail:

K.u.K....Escadre... - Commando in Ostasien

Präs.....am.....19....

N°Beilagen.....

The use of the German word "Geschwader" (squadron) was not usual in the Austrian navy and was omitted in hand-stamp Type SS-3, the handwritten word "Escadre" filling the gap.

Type SS-4 Three line hand-stamp on incoming mail.

K.u.K. Escadre - Commando in Ostasien

Präsam.....19....

N°Beilagen.....

K. u. k. Geschwader-Commando in Ostasien
 K. und k. ESCADRE-COMMANDO für OSTASIEN.

Res.Nr. 119/m.

Fig.2. Type SS - 1 on a service letter

K. u. k. Escadre -Commando in Ostasien
 Präsi. *Takurhede*, am *21. October* 19 *00*
 N. *537* J. T. Beilagen *2*
a. C. P. Müller

Fig.3. Type SS - 3 on a telegram form

K. u. k. Escadre-Commando in Ostasien
 Präsi. *Takurhede* am *1. November* 19 *00*
 N. *613* J. T. *2* Beilagen
M. C. P. Müller
May Zammtridmajour A. a.
Taku. Rhede, am 2/ii 900.
P. Müller

Fig.4. Type SS - 4 on letter from the detachment at Shanhaikuan

3 - 1 - 2 Service mail from the landed detachments

The 'Marineobercommando' had given no thought to postal communications in a situation where a warship had to land detachments in foreign countries. Commanders of the detachments had no handstamps or official paper to identify service mail they intended to send to the Squadron Command or to their mother warship. Whenever possible, they used field telegraph facilities of other allied forces (French, British, German or Russian). When no telegraph facility was available, they wrote their messages on small notepads (Fig. 5) or on un-headed writing paper and looked for any way to forward them to the relevant warship.

Etappe bei Tientsin

Ercan-Edo No 70

11/10

Melde, dass ich seitens des hies. Detachments-Batons in Peking den telegraphischen Befehl erhalten habe, die Etappenstation Tongki einzuziehen.

Johann Müller

Fig.5 (above). Note sent from the detachment in Tientsin and affixed to a sheet of paper which received the arrival hand-stamp before being presented to the squadron commander.

Eisenbahn-Telegraph

Leitung _____ Monat Jan 1901

Befördert an Station _____ Eingegangen von Station Tongku

am _____ von _____ Uhr _____ Min. _____ Mittags an 10 um 6 Uhr _____ Min. _____ Mittags

lis _____ Uhr _____ Min. _____ Mittags

Notizen über Verzögerungen Zwischenfälle u. s. w.

| Nr. | Wortzahl | Zeit der Aufgabe. | Dienstliche Zusätze. |
|------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <u>113</u> | <u>13W</u> | <u>5. 10. 1.</u> | |

Austrian Etappencommando Tientsin.

Fig.6. German telegram form from Tongku by SMS Aspern on 10.01.01 to the Austrian Etappen Commando in Tientsin. Arrival hand-stamp type STT - 1A at Tientsin.

3 - 1 - 3 Service mail from the main land-base (Haupt Etappen commando)

In August 1900, a main landbase was set up at Tientsin after the town had been recaptured. A double oval with double outer line command service hand-stamp was made for outgoing and incoming service mail. Between the ovals was printed: (at the top) **K.u.K. ETAPPEN - COMMANDO** (and at the bottom) **TIENTSIN** (between two small rosettes). Two versions of this hand-stamp were prepared, Types STT-1A and STT-1B (STT for Service TIENTSIN). The minor differences between the two types are:

In Type STT-1A the transverse bar of the second T in TIENTSIN is shorter, whereas in Type STT-1B all the transverse bars of the T are similar.

In Type STT-1A the external line of the handstamp is thick on top of the handstamp and thin on the bottom. In Type STT-1B the thickness of the external line is constant.

In Type STT-1A the line of the internal oval is always interrupted at the level of the left rosette.

Type STT-1A often appears with a large ink smudge in the centre. A comparison of the two types suggests that Type STT-1A was a rubber handstamp. The first recorded date of Type STT-1A is 20 August 1900, as an arrival handstamp on a British-Indian telegram form. Both types were still in use in 1902.

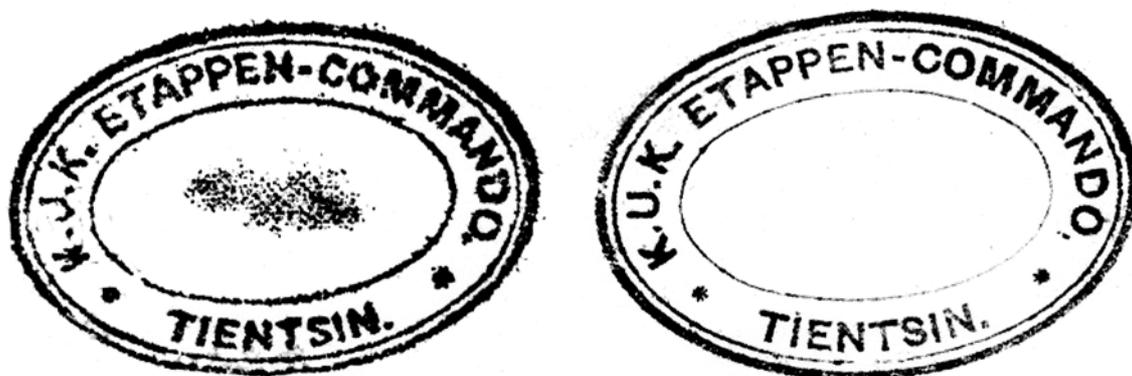


Fig.7. Type STT-1A (left) and Type STT-1B (right).

3 - 1 - 4 Service mail from the detachment in Peking

Because of the political and practical importance of the detachment's presence in Peking after the signing of the peace treaty, a dedicated postal organisation was established. In August 1900, after the arrival of the substantial detachment landed by SMS Maria Theresia, a dedicated handstamp was manufactured for use by the command of the Austro-Hungarian protective forces on incoming or outgoing service mail.

Type SPK-1 (Figs.8 and 9) was a double oval hand-stamp, similar to that of Tientsin. Between both oval lines are the words: (at the top) **Ku. K. Landungs - Detachment Commando** (and at the bottom) **PEKING** (between two small rosettes). The hand-stamp was made during the second half of August 1900 and can be identified by a missing full-stop after the first 'K' of Ku.K.

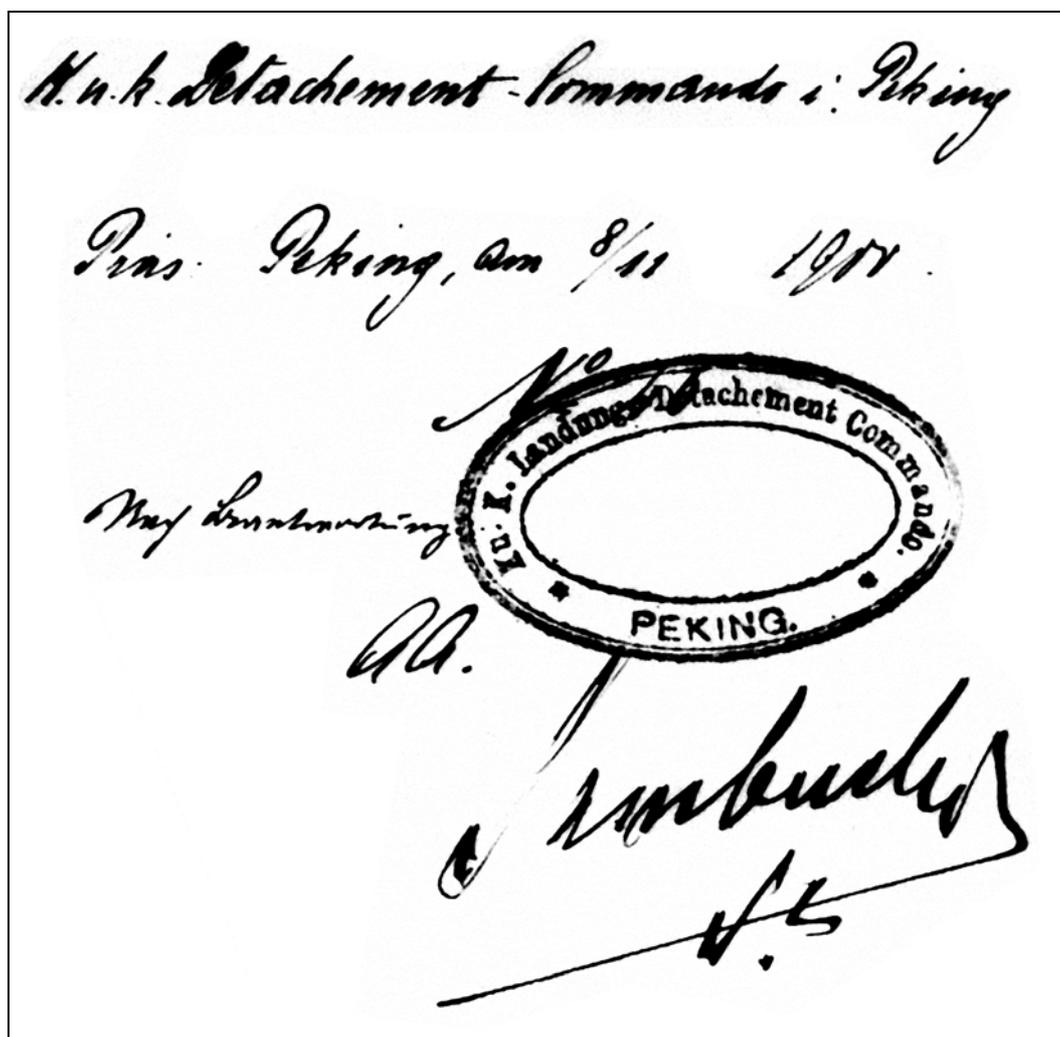


Fig.8. Incoming service letter from SMS ZENTA signed by the commander of the Peking detachment, Bless von Sambuchi with type SPK - 1.

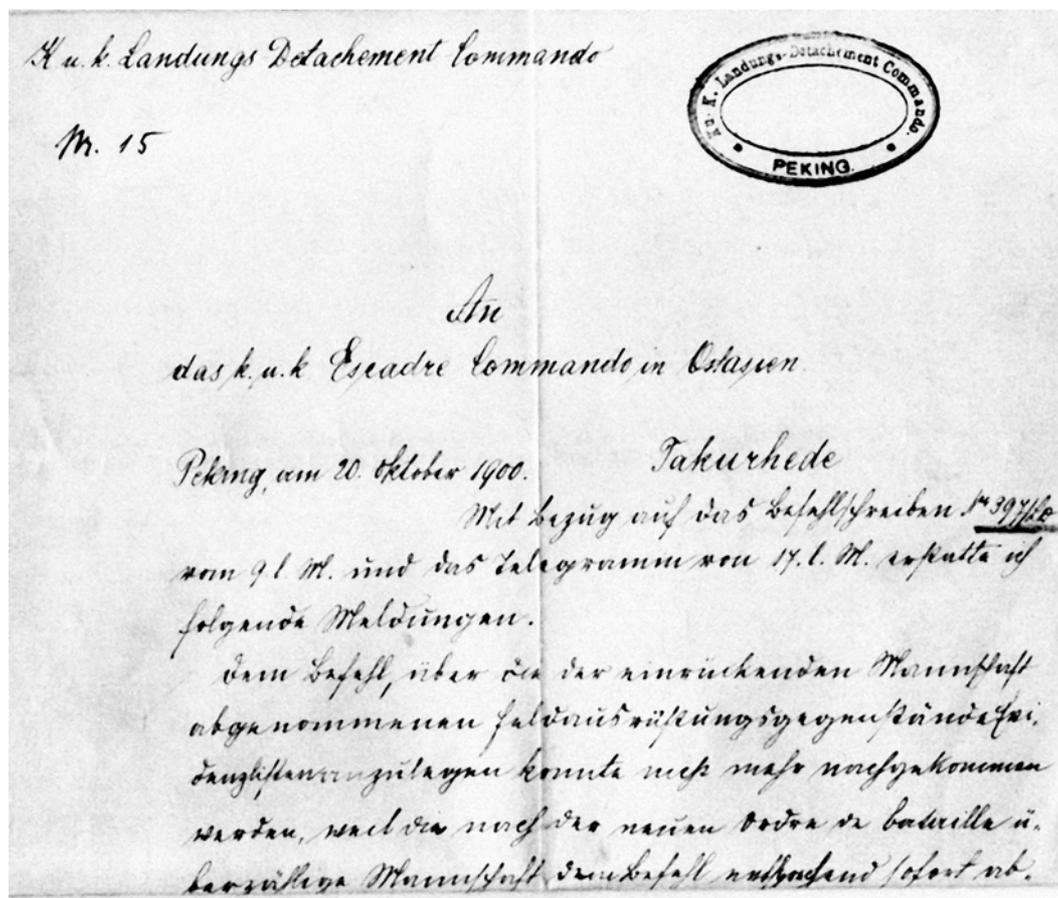


Fig.9. Outgoing service letter to the Squadron at Taku with type SPK - 1

3 - 2 Private mail from 1 June to 25 December 1900

SMS Zenta was the station-ship in the Far East from January 1900. Mail sent by officers and men of the crew was handled according to the procedures described in Chapter 2. Up to the last days of May 1900, SMS Zenta was visiting Chinese and Japanese harbours, in accordance with the detailed dated itinerary. In some harbours, the postal officer received and posted parcels of mail (dépêches). When SMS Zenta was ordered to sail to the harbour of Taku, the dated itinerary was no longer relevant. Three other Austro-Hungarian warships sailed to Taku to make up the Austro-Hungarian squadron in the Far East: SMS Maria Theresia (7 August 1900), SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth and SMS Aspern (7 September 1900).



Fig.10 (above). Registered letter sent by Adjunct Oskar Lorenz to his family during the cruise of SMS Maria Theresia to China. The letter was handed to the postal agent on board the French postal liner SS Sydney. At Port Said, mail for Austria was transferred to a British postal liner for conveyance to Naples, thence to Austria by train. On the back is the arrival postmark Wörschach 16.08.00.

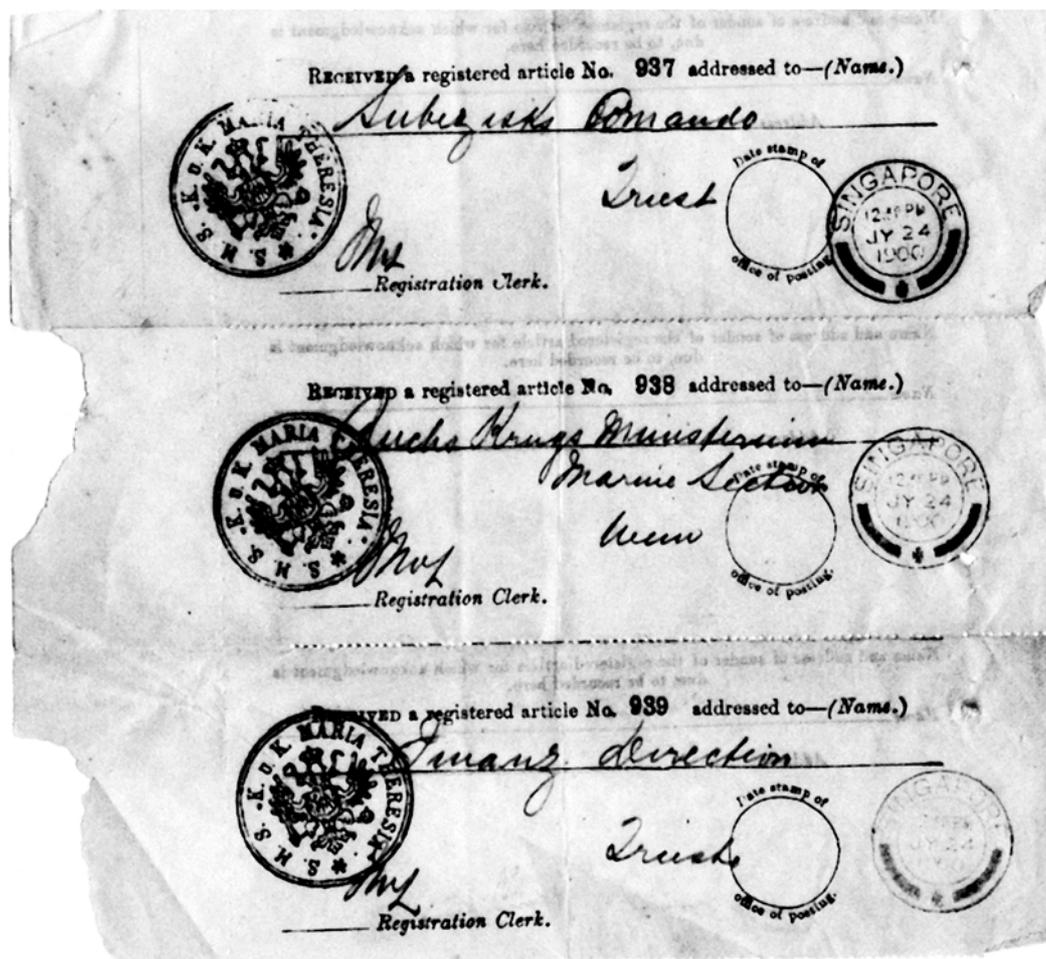


Fig.11. Strip of three receipts for registered letters given by the postal officer of SMS Maria Theresia to the British P.O. of Singapore on 24 July 1900 to be forwarded to Europe by S.S Sydney.

3 - 2 - 1 Officers and crew remaining on board warships

From 2 June to 19 November 1900 SMS Zenta had to stay more or less permanently off Taku to provide support for the landed detachments. Postal services described in Chapter 2 were applicable, however there were no Chinese or foreign post offices ashore to receive incoming mail and despatch outgoing mail. It was necessary therefore to use any opportunity as and when available.



Fig.12. Postcard sent from a sailor on SMS Zenta when at Taku, 20.06.00 (Gregorian calendar). The card was given to the Russian P.O. of Port Arthur to be despatched to Austria by the Trans - Siberian railway. The Austrian stamp was cancelled at Port Arthur on 08.06.1900 (Julian calendar). Arrival postmark Troppau.

The same problems affected other foreign warships which called off Taku. It was only at the end of September that an international postal organisation was set up for transportation of mail from Taku and from the wintering harbour of Shanhaikuan. Concerning Austria-Hungary, incoming and outgoing dépêches used the facility offered by the French line N of the "Compagnie des messageries maritimes" which previously served Indochina and had been extended to Nagasaki and Yokohama from 1886. Simultaneously another French auxiliary liner, S.S. Tanais operated between Nagasaki and Taku/Shanhaikuan.

In August 1900, German, French, American, Japanese and Russian forces secured a free-post concession. British forces had a reduced postal rate (overprinted Indian stamps C.E.F.- China Expeditionary Force). Only Italian and Austro-Hungarian forces had to stamp their mail at the full inland rate.

Having no free post privilege, the Austro-Hungarian forces often preferred using allied postal facilities, either fieldpost or foreign post offices in China, to speed up the mail system.



Fig.13. Postcard sent by Adjunct Oskar Lorenz of the onshore detachment at Taku, 19 November 1900. It was given to the American fieldpost to be forwarded to Austria. Franked with a 5 cent stamp cancelled by the killer postmark, MIL.P.STA.N° 1 TAKU / CHINA (Military postal station N°1 Taku/China). On the picture side is a second dated field postmark of Taku MIL.POSTAL STA. N°1/CHINA. Forwarded on an American ship to Manila (Philippine Islands) where a postmark was applied MANILA. P.I. REC'D 09 DEC.1900 (Manila Philippine Islands / Received). Forwarded to Shanghai and given to the French postal liner Nr 7, S.S. Ernest Simon. Arrival postmark Wien 18.01.1901

Fig.14 (next page). Postcard sent from an officer of SMS Zenta when at Chefoo, 10.11.1900. Given to the Russian P.O. of Chefoo and franked with Russian overprinted stamps cancelled 13.XI.1900. Forwarded to Shanghai where the postmark of the Russian P.O. was applied 16.XI.1900. Given to the British P.O. of Hongkong where its postmark was applied (23.11.1900) and then carried by a British liner. Arrival postmark Fiume, 23 Dec. 1900.

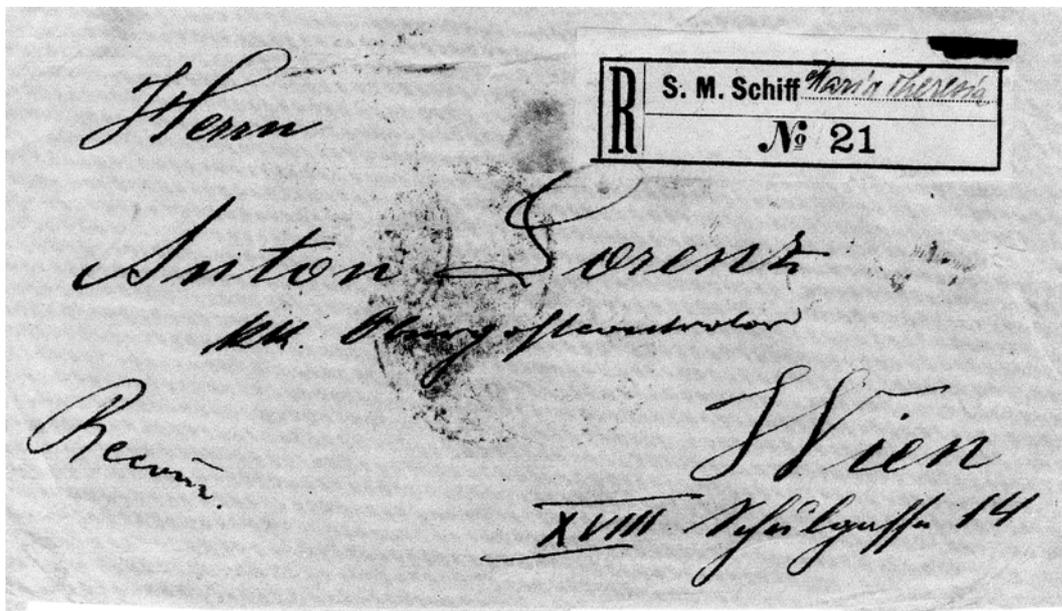
Registered mail had to be given to the postal officers of the Austro-Hungarian warships to be forwarded in the *dépêches* periodically despatched by the warships.

Fig.15 (next page). Registered envelope sent by Adjunct Oskar Lorenz on board SMS Maria Theresia in accordance with the procedures; a yellow registration label with the name of the warship in manuscript. On the reverse, a franking

made up of the 10 heller postal rate plus 25 heller registration fee. The item was included by mistake in the *dépêche* sent to Trieste, probably by the French postal liner S.S. Indus, for forwarding to Wien (t.p.o. Triest-Wien, cancel 06.11.1900). Also on the reverse is the arrival postmark, Wien, 07.11.1900.



Above: Fig 14; below: Fig 15



3 - 2 - 2 Landed detachments

On 3 June 1900, SMS Zenta landed the first detachment which was transported to Peking to secure the besieged legation. Because of increasing violence in the Northern province of China, a second detachment was landed on 7 June 1900. Unable to reach Peking, the railway link being cut, the detachment joined the foreign forces at Tientsin. One part of the detachment joined the Seymour column.

Other detachments were landed when SMS Maria Theresia, Aspern and Kaiserin Elisabeth reached Taku. Mail from the members of the landed detachments had to be collected by the detachment leaders, gathered in a parcel and sent to their warship calling at Taku. However, up to the middle of September, the situation was very confused and in the absence of a signal corps ashore, detachment members preferred to use the allied fieldpost.

3 - 2 - 3 Mail to and from the detachment in Peking

After the liberation of the legations, mail had to be exchanged between Tientsin and warships off Taku using Russian Cossacks, Japanese estafettes and Chinese riders of the Imperial Customs. This solution to the problem was used up to the resumption of rail traffic between Peking, Tientsin and Tongku in October 1900.

From the beginning of October 1900, calm being more or less restored, the exchange of mail between the warships and the detachments in Peking, Tientsin and some areas of military operations, became more effective. Detachment mail could be added to mail of the crews to make *dépêches* and use the postal facilities set up by the allied forces.

3 - 2 - 4 Cruises to Japan

From the end of September 1900, SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth and SMS Aspern made several cruises to Japan for service or repair purposes. On 19 November 1900 official cruises for diplomatic representations started again. SMS Maria Theresia left Taku for Kobe and joined SMS Aspern which had been at Nagasaki since 20 October 1900.

Austro-Hungarian sailors when in Japanese harbours sent postcards home franked with Japanese stamps and despatched by the Japanese post. Before dropping the postcards in the Japanese boxes, a service hand-stamp was often applied on board.



Fig.16. Illustrated postcard sent from Kobe on 2.12 1900, franked with a 4 Sen Japanese stamp cancelled by the international postmark of Kobe (Latin characters). The service hand-stamp S.M.S “Aspern” was applied on both sides. Arrival postmark Wien 7.02.01.

3 - 3 Private mail from 26 December 1900 to 7 September 1901

3 - 3 - 1 Free-Post

On 24 December 1900, an order was issued jointly by the High command of the K.u.K. Kriegsmarine and the Trade Minister allocating the free-post privilege to the private mail of all the sailors and officers of the Austro-Hungarian “Eskadre in Ostasian”.

The free post facility was allocated to non registered postcards and letters up to 70g sent by military and civilian men constituting the crews of the four warships of the Imperial and Royal Escadre in the Far East.

Letters and cards given to the postal officers on board of the warships had to include on the address side the name and rank of the sender; the name of the ship on which the sender was a crew member; and the word “FELDPOST” (Fieldpost). Before being inserted in the dépêche, these free-post cards and letters had to receive the service hand-stamp of the warship.

The dépêches sent to the sorting offices in Europe had to comply with rules described in Chapter 2. Free-post items, when at the sorting offices in Europe, had to receive the “FRANCO” hand-stamp before being forwarded to their destinations however this rule seems to have been largely ignored.

The free- post facility on board of the warships of the squadron was secured by applying the name and rank by the sender in writing; identifying the warship by the use of one of its service hand-stamp (applied by the postal officer); and marking the item “FELDPOST” using a dedicated hand-stamp (also applied by the postal officer).

SMS Zenta used a special provisional hand-stamp bringing together “FELDPOST” and “S ZENTA”. SMS Aspern used three different circular hand-stamps comprising “SMS ASPERN”, “FELDPOST” and, on two of the hand-stamps, the date.



Fig.17. Envelope sent by an officer on board SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth. In full compliance with the rules it has the name and rank of the sender on the flap of the envelope [Lschfr Graf von Thun]; a handwritten “Feldpost”; and the name of the warship given by a service hand-stamp of SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth.

Mail sent from the Empire to the members of the Escadre in the Far East was also granted the free-post privilege. The sender had to write the address as follows: name and rank of the addressee; name of the ship on which the addressee was a crew member; name of the sorting office [ie Wien I/1, Budapest or Triest] from where the *dépêche* was to be forwarded to the Far East; and a handwritten “Feldpost” (Fieldpost).

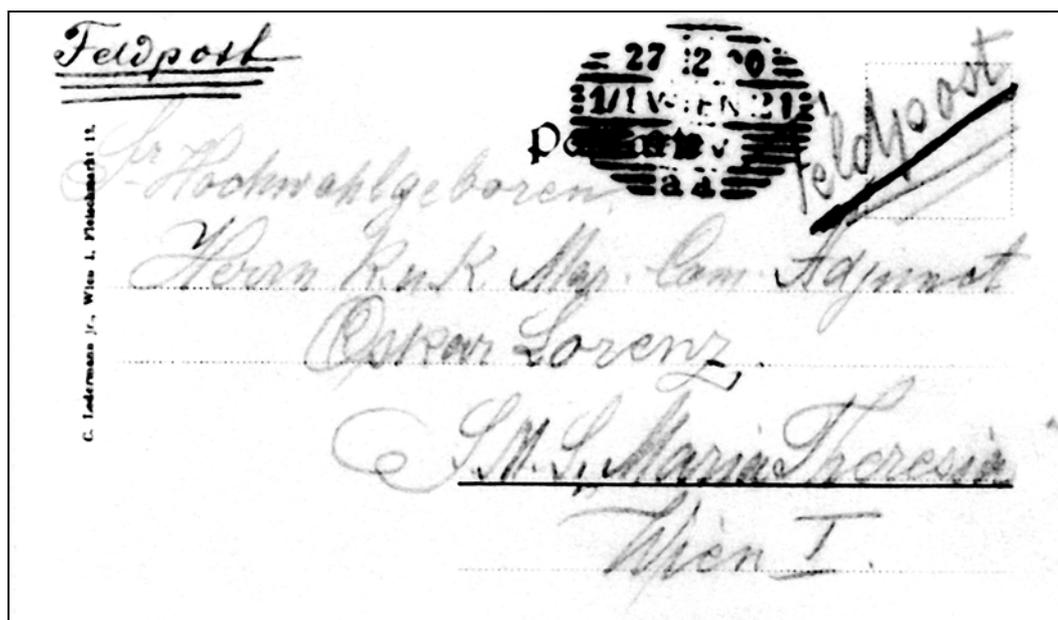


Fig.18. Very early postcard sent from Wien on 27.12.1900. In full compliance with the rules it carries the name and rank of the addressee [Commissar Oskar Lorenz]; name of the warship [SMS Maria Theresia]; name of the sorting office [WIEN I]; and a handwritten “Feldpost”.

Free-post cards and letters sent by the members of the landed detachments had to be collected by their respective leaders and forwarded to the nearest Austro-Hungarian warship. Conversely incoming mail for members of landed detachments would be sent by the postal officer of the warship to the leader of the detachment. The same rules were applied to the particular case of the guard detachment of the Legation in Peking.

To simplify the implementation of the free-post service in the Far East, the Arsenal of Pola was ordered to send a stock of printed free-post cards to the escadre in the Far East. These cards were normally used for service mail, and there were three types.

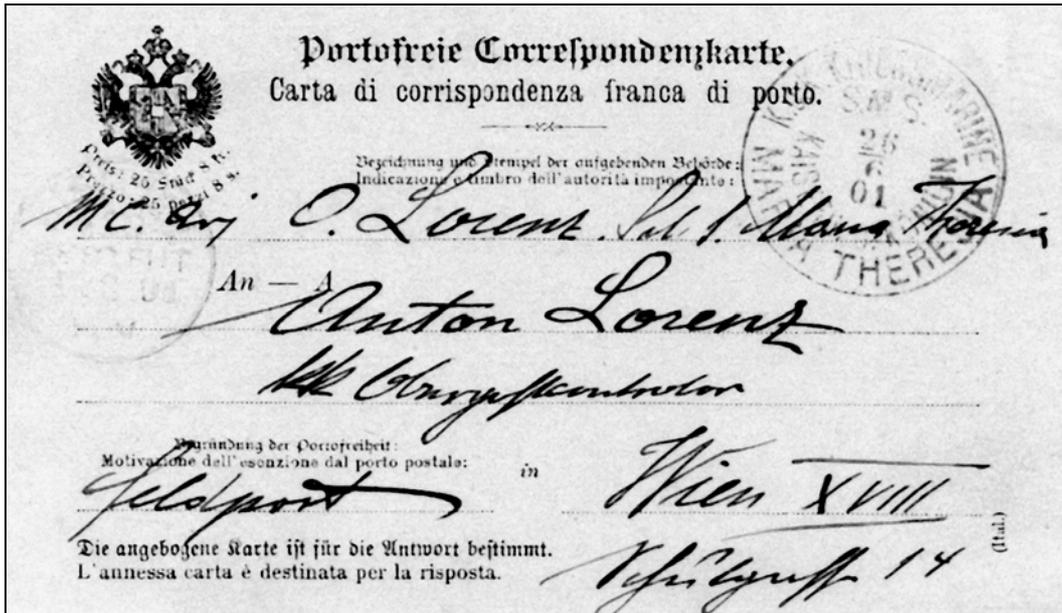


Fig.19 A. Printed folded reply free-post card, type A



Fig. 19 B. Printed free-post card, type B



Fig. 20 Example of a dated postmark

In reply the Trade Ministry pointed out it had ordered the concerned postal services to manufacture postmarks for 19 different warships. These 19 warships included the four warships of the Squadron in the Far East and SMS Leopard and Panther which were cruising in the Pacific. Postmarks were sent to Pola on 26 March 1901 and the order to send them to the Far East was issued on 6 April 1901. They were sent on 12 April 1901. An average sea voyage of 5 weeks meant that postmarks were available at Nagasaki around 15 May 1901 and at Shanghai around 25 May 1901.

The precise dates of delivery to the four warships of the Escadre in the Far East is not known, but the earliest evidence of use of this type of dated postmark on mail was seen by the present author on a postcard of the SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth dated 6 June 1901. From 17 June 1901, cards and letters with the dated postmarks of the four warships can be found. Remark: On board warships, the dated postmarks had to be applied on official mail.

To Be Continued

New Issues - 2005 part 1

By Andy Taylor

All stamps are printed by the Österreichische Staatsdruckerei. The descriptions are taken from the *Post.at* website and *Die Briefmarke*. The press releases which used to provide details of paper, colours and perfs have been discontinued, as have the blackprints and their accompanying text.

New Year's Concert 2005 - Lorin Maazel



€1.00; Issue date 1.1.2005; Issue: 700,000; Photogravure: ultramarine, pale-purple-red, yellow, blue-black, gold; Design: Renate Gruber; Perf 13³/₄x13³/₄;

The second stamp in the series dedicated to Vienna's New Year concerts depicts Lorin Maazel. He was born in the Paris suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine and conducted his first New Year's concert on 1 January 1980 after

Willi Boskowski had turned down the opportunity. He was made an Honorary Member of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in 2002. Maazel began his career at an extraordinarily early age: He was given his first violin when he was only five years old and shortly afterwards started to learn the art of conducting under the tuition of Vladimir Bakaleinikoff. Arturo Toscanini invited the then eleven year old Maazel to conduct the NBC orchestra. As a 17 year old he went to the University of Pittsburgh and studied languages, mathematics and philosophy. The rise of his career was henceforth unstoppable.

10 Years of the Herbert von Karajan Centre



€0.55; Issue date: 14.1.2005; Issue: 700,000; Photogravure: blue-grey, blue, blue-black; Design: Helge Thor; Perf 14

[This stamp exists also in a different brighter colour-way, first seen in Salzburg, and later issued by the Sammler-service to its subscribers as a gift. Ed]

Herbert von Karajan, who was born on 5 April 1908 in Salzburg and died on 16 July 1989 near Salzburg, was one of the most important conductors of all time. One of his main concerns was that the artistic pursuits that had interested him throughout his life should survive him and be

kept safe for future generations. In 1986 he founded the “Télémondial Foundation” to safeguard and administer his artistic estate. As a result of an initiative launched by this foundation, and at the suggestion of Karajan’s wife Eliette, the Herbert von Karajan Centre became a reality and was opened to the public in Vienna on 11 November 1995. The centre is housed in a historic building on Vienna’s Ringstrasse, not far from the Opera House and it ensures that the master’s artistic legacy and his spirit live on in the people.

Stephan Eberharter



€0.55; Issue date: 20.1.2005; Issue: 700,000; Photogravure: ultramarine, pale-purple-red, yellow, black; Design: Renate Gruber; Perf 14x13¾

Stefan Eberharter was born on 24 March 1969 in Brixlegg. He was educated at the special secondary school for skiing talents in Neustift, and progressed to the young skiers’ commercial college in Stams. Victory in the 1988 Austrian Youth Championships and in the overall standings in the European Cup that same year won him a place in the Austrian National Team. In 1991 he was crowned Double World Champion in the Super G and in the Alpine Combination at Saalbach-Hinterglemm. His career had many successes; and setbacks caused by knee injuries. In the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City in the USA he won gold in the giant slalom, silver in the Super G and bronze in the men’s downhill event; he also went on to become overall World Cup Champion and to win the World Cup downhill and Super G events. He continued his run of success with victories in the overall World Cup, and in the World Cup downhill and Super G events, all despite sustaining a knee injury shortly before Christmas. Stefan Eberharter is one of the greatest Austrian skiers ever.

Stamps overprinted with new designs

Following the overprint of the “Schönlaterngasse” Euro 0.51 definitive, the remaining definitives, which no longer corresponded to the new tariffs, were likewise overprinted with the new standard value of 55 cents. Students of the University for Applied Arts in Vienna were invited to compete in the production of the best design. The students of 2 master classes set about the project with great enthusiasm and came up with excellent, innovative and unexpected ideas. The best designs were selected by a panel of judges in conjunction with the Austrian Post AG. Eight definitives were reissued as the new overprinted Euro 0.55 stamps. The overprints are in black and a fluorescent green.

[The quantities issued were whatever could be retrieved from the Post Office system, hence vary oddly! Also, overprint-location-varieties occur because the overprints were registered with the outer edges of the physical sheets instead of with the stamps: $\pm 1\text{mm}$ is the official tolerance but larger divergences have been reported. Ed].



Stamp overprinted with new design: Ski Jumper

Old Euro 0.73 – a ski jumper “flies” over the Steinernes Meer mountain range, denoting the region’s winter sports. Issue date: 25.1.2005; Issue: 11,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Monika Piorkowska

Stamp overprinted with new design: Shadow and Fur

Old Euro 0.87 – with the help of shadows and a drawing of a zebra’s hide the cow from Inneralpbach has been transformed into a “cowbra”. Issue date: 25.1.2005; Issue: 6,500,000; Photogravure; Design: Angelika Rattay

Stamp overprinted with new design: The 3rd Man

Old Euro 0.04 – the “Third Man” steals through the rich pattern of colours of the Schönlaternengasse, casting a shadow over the print of the old value. Issue date: 4.2.2005; Issue: 4,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Karoline Riha

Stamp overprinted with new design: Value

Old Euro 0.58 – an extensive part of the original depiction of the Kellergasse alley in Hadres (Weinviertel) is covered by the overprint of the new Euro 0.55 value itself. Issue date: 4.2.2005; Issue: 7,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Manuel Kiem



Stamp overprinted with new design: Wine Glass

Old Euro 0.17 – the rich pattern of colours of the Kellergasse alley now adorn a wine connoisseur as he tests the bouquet of a wine in a glass. Issue date: 11.2.2005; Issue: 6,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Christine Bradu

Stamp overprinted with new design: Enclosure

Old Euro 0.13 – the Inneralpbach cow now lies contentedly within an enclosure. Issue date: 11.2.2005; Issue: 7,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Michael Wegerer

Stamp overprinted with new design: Helmut Qualtinger

Old Euro 0.27 – Helmut Qualtingers' famous words "Austria is a labyrinth where everyone knows their way around" dominate the scene of the Steinernes Meer mountains. Issue date: 18.2.2005; Issue: 4,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Karin Stöger

Stamp overprinted with new designs: Perforation

Old Euro 2.03 – a perforation splits the image, optically creating a stamp within the stamp. Issue date: 18.2.2005; Issue: 7,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Christian Deschke



100 Years of Rotary: Minisheet of 10

€0.55; Issue date: 23.2.2005; Issue: 2,000,000; Photogravure; Design: Adolf Tuma

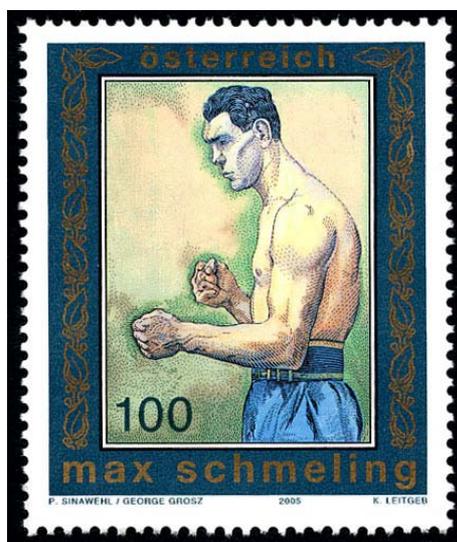
This stamp was issued to mark the 100th anniversary of the Rotary organisation.

Rotary Austria is made up of two districts: The western provinces of Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg form District 1920; District 1910 consists of the remaining provinces together with Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. At present, there are around 120 Rotary Clubs in Austria alone, with around 6,000 members.

As part of its largest project, PolioPlus, Rotary will by 2005 have contributed over 500 million dollars in the campaign to eradicate polio and provided countless hours of voluntary work. In collaboration with the WHO, UNICEF and the CDC (the US health authority), Rotary has developed a model for world-wide partnerships between governmental and non-governmental organisations that has won recognition around the world. The future social projects will focus, amongst other things, on the prevention of drug addiction. This stamp was issued on February 23, 2005, to mark the 100th anniversary of the Rotary organisation.

Max Schmeling

€1.00; Issue date: 1.3.2005; Issue: 1,000,000; Photogravure and Intaglio;
Design: Peter Sinawehl/George Grosz; Artist: Kurt Leitgeb



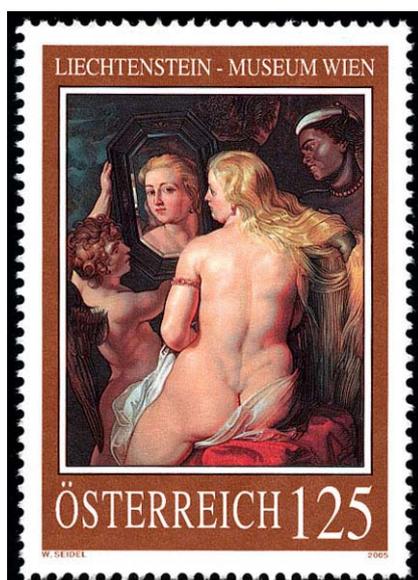
Max Schmeling was born on 28 September 1905 in Klein-Luckow-Brandenburg in Germany. It was a film about the world championship fight between Jack Dempsey and Georges Carpentier that first inspired his passion for the sport. Dempsey became his great idol and role model, the embodiment of the ideal professional boxer. Schmeling won the German Light Heavyweight title on 24 August 1926 and made his film debut in "Looking for a Film Star". From this time onwards he moved in actors' and artists' circles where he was widely admired for his physical strength and posed as a model. In 1927 he won the European Light Heavyweight title, but had to move up to the Heavyweight class the next year. Following his first victories in the USA in 1928 and 1929 Schmeling was put forward as a contender for the World title. In 1930, the German became the first-ever European to win the World Heavyweight title, which he successfully defended the following year. His marriage in 1933 to the Czech film star Anny Ondra marked the beginning of a period of happiness in his private life that was to last until Anny's death in 1987.

However, the bitter realities of the Nazi era were soon to catch up with him: he was “invited” to break with his Jewish manager and disown his Jewish friends. He refused but nevertheless lent his support to the Olympic Committee’s bid to host the Olympic Games in Berlin. For the Nazis, Schmeling’s build naturally represented the ideal embodiment of the strong Arian and they used him as an advertisement and symbol of the superiority of their race, much though he tried to distance himself from this. In 1939 Schmeling won the European title, but he was drafted into the armed forces in 1940 and in 1941 was badly injured in a parachute jump. From around this time he began to use his contacts to help prevent Jews being deported to concentration camps. The affinity he felt for America, now the wartime enemy, landed him in trouble. In 1943 he was wounded and assigned to prisoner of war camp duties till the end of the war.

After the war Schmeling returned to boxing for financial reasons. On 31 October 1948 his career as a boxer came to an end, but the sport did not lose him altogether as he stayed on as a referee. Through donations and endowments he encouraged people who had not been successful in life. He supported the German Sport Aid Foundation from its outset and became a founder member of the board of trustees of German Sport Aid which his friend Josef Neckermann set up in 1967 and which has been responsible for countless fund-raising campaigns. Max Schmeling died on February 2nd 2005. The special stamp is based on the 1926 painting by George Grosz (1893-1959) entitled: “Max Schmeling the Boxer”, oil on canvas, housed in the Axel Springer Hochhaus, Axel Springer Verlag AG, Berlin.

Liechtenstein Museum Wien – Rubens: Minisheet of 8

8x€1.25; Issue date: 7.3.2005; Issue: 1,100,000; Photo-gravure and Intaglio; Design and Artist: Prof. Wolfgang Seidel

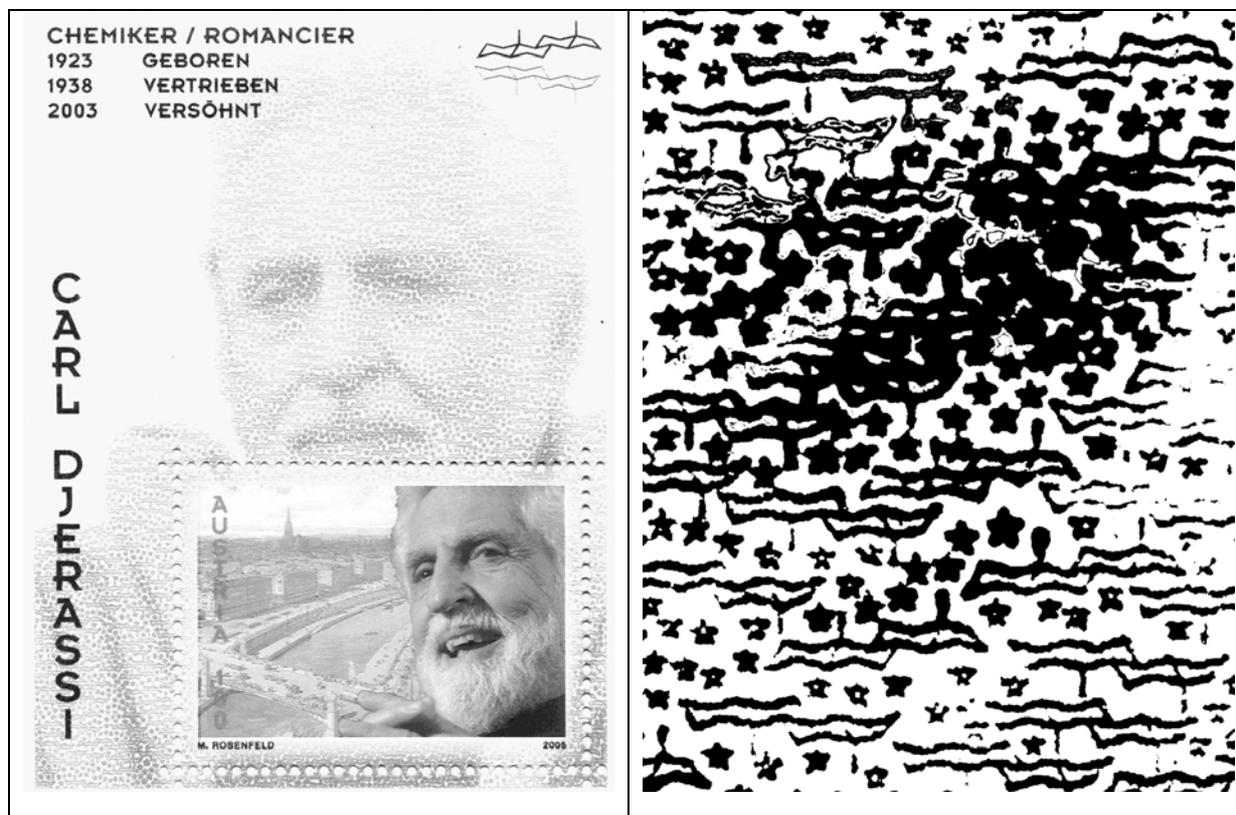


The masterpiece “Venus in front of the Mirror” was painted around 1613/14 by Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640), and appears to have been inspired by the art of antiquity and by Italian painters such as Raphael, Titian, Tintoretto and Caravaggio. Venus has her back to the viewer, looking almost seriously into the mirror held by Cupid and framing the masterful and elegant coquettishness of her face. “Venus in front of the Mirror” by Peter Paul Rubens is probably one of the most famous representatives of the collection of paintings amassed by the House of Liechtenstein, a collection that has been lovingly built up and cased for since the 17th century. The collection is divided between Vaduz and the

newly renovated Garden Palace in Vienna, the Liechtenstein Museum. Prince Johann Adam Andreas I von Liechtenstein (1657-1712), one of the greatest patrons of architecture of his age, had a baroque summer residence built in the Vienna district of Rossau. The gardens were designed by Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach, and represented the first pleasure gardens in Vienna following the withdrawal of the Turkish army. The palace itself, with its rather strict façade, was built by Domenico Egidio Rossi and Domenico Martinelli (1691-1711), and at the Prince's wish was splendidly decorated by the leading artists of the age. Oil paintings by Marcantonio Franceschini (1648-1729), ceiling frescos by Antonio Bellucci (1654-1715), frescos by Johann Michael Rottmayr (1654-1730), stucco by Santino Bussi, vases and sculptures by Giovanni Giuliani (1663-1744) and above all the famous Hercules Room with the ceiling fresco by Andrea Pozzo (1642-1709) make the interior one of Vienna's greatest baroque treasures. In its totality, the Liechtenstein Museum provides an opulent setting and a baroque sensual delight for the objects of the collection displayed here.

Carl Djerassi – Chemist and Novelist: Block of 1

€1.00; Issue date: 8.3.2005; Issue: 400,000; Photogravure; Design: Michael Rosenfeld

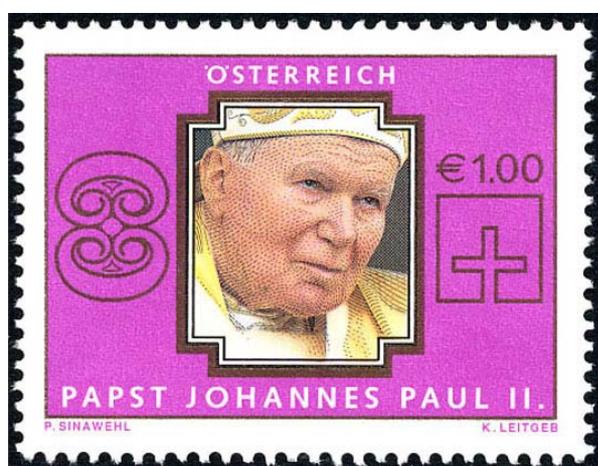


This stamp is the first of its kind in the world: the face in the background is made up of microscopic structural formulae for the enantiomers of the steroid progesterin (*I have greatly enlarged the left eye region in the right-hand picture: Ed*). The biochemist, biophysicist, writer and Professor Emeritus for Chemistry at Stanford University was born in Vienna, on 29.10.1923, the son of two Austrian-Bulgarian doctors. His Jewish origin forced him to emigrate to the USA in 1938. Today, Djerassi describes himself as an agnostic fundamentalist and world citizen, at home in London and San Francisco. In 1945 he graduated in organic chemistry at the University of Wisconsin. In 1951, he synthesised the pregnancy hormone progesterin, the substance that was later to enter history as the active ingredient in the first contraceptive pill. He was awarded the National Medal of Science (for the basis for the development of the contraceptive pill) and the National Medal of Technology (for the development of new methods in the field of insect prevention), as well as countless scientific awards and no fewer than 19 honorary doctorates.

Since the 1980s, Djerassi has mainly worked as an author, examining the human aspect of natural sciences and the personal conflicts that scientists face. His literary works in the genre he invented, “Science-in-Fiction”, include short stories and novels, while the last few years have seen a focus on the stage with “Science-in-Theater” works. In 1982 he set up the “Djerassi Resident Artist Program” foundation in California, which awards working grants in the form of visits and studio space to artists in the fields of graphic art, literature, performing arts and music, from which over 1300 artists have already benefited. Djerassi is also an art-collector, and famous for his Paul Klee collection.

Pope John Paul II

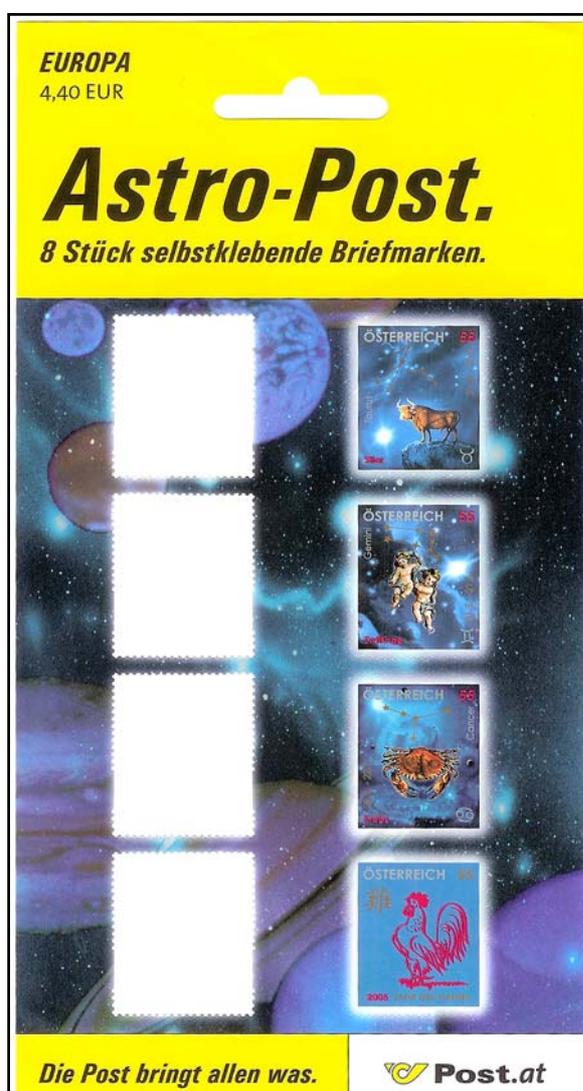
€1.00; Issue date: 14.4.2005; Issue: 1,000,000; Photogravure and Intaglio;
Design: Peter Sinawehl; Artist: Kurt Leitgeb. Year of issue omitted.



Karol Józef Wojtyła, Pope John Paul II since his election on October 16, 1978, was born in Wadowice, a small town near Krakow, on May 18, 1920. Following schooling in Wadowice, he began his studies at the University of Krakow in 1938. After the German invasion in 1939, he was obliged to earn a living as a factory worker. When he discovered his vocation to the priesthood in 1942, he entered the secret seminar established in Krakow by Cardinal Sapieha. On November 1, 1946, he was ordained priest. He was appointed Suffragan Bishop of Krakow by

Pope Pius XII on July 4, 1958. During the Vatican Council he was appointed Archbishop of Krakow by Pope Paul VI on January 13, 1964, and made a Cardinal on June 28, 1967. On October 16, 1978, Archbishop Wojtyla was elected as the first non-Italian Pope for 455 years. He took the name of his predecessor, John Paul I. As Pope, he set up a record of beatifications (1314) and canonisations (476). He created 201 cardinals in 8 consistories. He has accomplished over 100 trips abroad and 150 journeys within Italy. Even during his life, his pontificate was regarded as one of the longest in the history of the church. Pope John Paul II died on April 2, 2005 at the age of 84 years.

Astroset 1



8x€0.55; Issue date: 21.4.2005; Issue: 100,000; **Design: Hannes Margreiter.** The set consists of 8 self-adhesive stamps, 2 each showing the bull, twins, cancer and cock (red), sold on a “Post Office yellow” card. They are printed as one with the background but appear to have die-cut perfs – the illustration (overleaf) shows this where the left-hand column of stamps have been removed.

Old Austria: Imperial Post Office Jerusalem

€1.00; Issue date: 22.4.2005; Issue: 500,000; Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Marianne Siegl; Artist: Gerhart Schmiral

The building that housed the Post Office from 1903 until it was closed on 1.10.1914 is in the Old City of Jerusalem, opposite the Jaffa Gate. The Imperial (Vice-)Consulate installed in 1849 in Jerusalem, at the time part of

Ottoman Empire, maintained its postal links with the home country by means of steamers operated by Österreichische Lloyd serving the port of Beirut. When Lloyd extended its services to cover Jaffa, an Austrian postal service was set up between the two towns. The Austrian Post Office in Jerusalem was opened in 1859 following an agreement between the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Ministry



and the Sublime Porte. The mail was transported by guards from the consulate over the 70km route with packhorses, later carriages. Valuables in the mail attracted robberies by Bedouins, leading to the deaths of both the mail couriers and Turkish gendarmes. This explains why postage was very expensive. At the beginning of the 1870s, a letter to central Europe cost around 1 gold franc. Although France and Russia,

and later the German Empire and Italy also operated post offices in Jerusalem, pilgrims and locals had most trust in the Austrian service. Not even the Turkish sub post office operated by a Jewish resident in the Israelite quarter of the city, which used a postmark in Hebrew letters and allowed a considerable discount on the sale of stamps, was able to compete. The end of the Austrian Post Office in Palestine and the rest of the Ottoman Empire, as for all the other foreign postal installations, came suddenly when the Turkish government used the outbreak of World War I as the occasion for revoking the special rights enjoyed by foreigners and foreign post offices on its territory.

Patron Saints: St. Florian



€0.55; Issue date: 4.5.2005; Issue: 1,000,000; Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Maria Schulz; Artist: Robert Trsek

Saint Florian is the only martyr to have died in Austria who is known by name. Tradition has it that as a boy Florian once miraculously extinguished a house fire with only one small bucketful of water. The story quickly spread among the people and as early as the late Middle Ages his name would be invoked to intercede wherever a fire had broken out. Pictures which began to appear around the same

time depict the saint with his attributes of fire, house, and water pail or jug. Saint Florian is the most revered saint in Upper Austria and is the patron saint of firemen, stove fitters, blacksmiths, chimney sweeps, soap-boilers and brewers. On the 1,700th anniversary of his death Upper Austria's unofficial provincial patron was named officially as patron saint of the Province at a ceremony in the St. Florian Basilica.

In the days of the Roman Emperors Diocletian and Maximian extensive persecutions of Christians were carried out including some in areas which lie within the borders of present day Austria. Saint Florian, born around 250 AD,

was a high-ranking Roman official who had converted to the Christian faith. One day the Roman governor Aquilinus of Lauriacum began the persecution of 40 Christians in the Province of Ufernoricum (Lorch, Upper Austria). Florian immediately set off from Aelium Cetium, present day St. Pölten, to help, but was himself arrested for being a Christian. In spite of all manner of torture he resolutely refused to renounce his faith and to make sacrifice to the Roman gods. He was condemned to death and the sentence was carried out on 4 May 304. First, his shoulder blades were smashed using sharp iron poles, then he was thrown into the River Enns from a bridge with a millstone tied around his neck. According to legend, the soldier who pushed him into the river was blinded for the rest of his life and Florian's body was borne up by the waves on the river and laid to rest on a rock that jutted out above the water. Thereupon an eagle is said to have swooped down and stood guard over the saint's body. Florian appeared to a pious widow and instructed her to find his corpse and to bury it in a specific place. The woman immediately set off to recover the body and buried it in the place she had been instructed. Many miracles, such as healing, occurred at this spot and the grave became a place of pilgrimage. The St. Florian Basilica was later erected on the site.

The Mauthausen Concentration Camp



€0.55; Issue date: 6.5.2005; Issue: 700,000;
Photogravure and Intaglio; Design and Artist:
Adolf Tuma

Throughout the period of Nazi rule in Austria Mauthausen concentration camp was the ultimate instrument of repression used by the National Socialists against opponents or those who did not fulfil the criteria of their ideal race. Mauthausen's function as the only "Level III" concentration camp was as an extermination camp, release from which was deemed undesirable and was in fact prevented by a variety of means for bringing about the detainees' death. The policy of "death through work" resulted in the ruthless exploitation of the

inmates in stone quarries, tunnel construction and other labour. The Mauthausen network of over 40 sub-camps entwined the whole of Austria like a giant spider's web. Over 200,000 people were held prisoner in the concentration camp network. Barely half of those detained survived to see the liberation of the camp by US troops on 5 May 1945.

It was primarily the existence of the "Wiener Graben" stone quarry that led to the choice of Mauthausen as the site of the main camp. Work to set it up was

1945 marks the birth of the Second Republic, when the newly formed provisional government under Dr. Karl Renner proclaimed the reestablishment of the Republic of Austria. On the next day, the new federal government was presented to parliament, and on 1.5.1945 adopted a law reinstating the 1929 constitution. As a symbol of the general reconstruction of Austria, Secretary of State Julius Raab announced that the State Opera House would be reconstructed. The Allies occupied Austria, dividing the country into four occupation zones. On 1.9.1945, the Soviet Union ended its occupation of Vienna, which, like Berlin, was divided up and placed under the authority of a joint administration.

The new government was officially recognised by the four occupying powers on 20.10.1945, and on 25.11.1945 the first free national, regional and local elections were held. The government under Chancellor Leopold Figl formed after the general election was recognised by the Allied Council, and the Constitutional Transition Act was adopted one day later. The next day saw the unanimous election by the new National Assembly of Dr. Karl Renner as the first Federal President of the Second Republic. The struggle for Austria's freedom continued, finally bearing fruit in 1955. Julius Raab, Federal Chancellor since 1953, together with his government delegation, flew to Moscow for discussions in April 1955. These negotiations and their conclusion in the form of the Moscow Memorandum proved to be the decisive breakthrough on the path to freedom. The ambassadors of the four occupying powers began a final round of preparations on May 2, reaching their conclusion on May 13. On May 15, 1955, the State Treaty establishing an independent and democratic Austria was finally sealed in the famous Marble Hall of Belvedere Palace, returning full sovereignty to the country. The document bears nine signatures, those of the Foreign Ministers and High Commissioners of each of the occupying powers, Vjacheslav M. Molotov and Iovan I. Iljichov for the USSR, Harold Macmillan and Geoffrey A. Wallinger for Great Britain, John Foster Dulles and Llewellyn E. Thompson for the United States of America and Antoine Pinay and Roger Lalouette for France, while Leopold Figl signed for Austria. "Austria is free!" was the proclamation that went down in history. The population rejoiced when their Foreign Minister displayed the signed State Treaty on the balcony of Belvedere Palace. The Treaty finally entered into effect on 27.7.1955.

[See also "Austria is free" by Sal Rizza in Austria issue 127]

Life Ball 2005



€0.75; Issue date: 20.5.2005; Issue: 800,000; Photogravure; Design: Michael Rosenfeld

The major charity event, the “Life Ball”, is once again being held in the Vienna town hall. This event, founded by Gery Keszler in 1993, attracts huge interest in the media and its aim is to raise funds for AIDS research. As every year, top models will open the event with a parade of creations by famous international fashion designers on a huge catwalk in the shape of the red AIDS ribbon on the square in front of the town hall. The opening of the ball and the fashion show are not just for those who hold one of the coveted admission tickets, but for everyone. Each year, over 35,000 people gather on the square to experience this glittering spectacle at close quarters. The amazing ball that follows inside the town hall is attended by roughly 4000 guests and celebrities in their outrageous costumes, with live appearances by international stars, performances, dance-floors, a wide variety of entertainment and of course gastronomic delights. The halls and courtyards of this historic building are decorated specially for this ball. The involvement of the artists, models and everyone else is meant as a sign of humanity, tolerance and understanding.

A special surprise at the Life Ball 2005 is the presence of the international top model Heidi Klum, who as part of the 2002 event championed the good cause by appearing on stage. Heidi Klum, a native of Bergisch Gladbach, began her career in 1992 by beating almost 25,000 competitors to win “Model 92”, an RTL TV programme to find a new model. This brought her the coveted model contract, and led to her decision to take up this difficult career, in which she succeeded by sheer hard work and persistency in making it to the very top of the world’s supermodels. She now also uses her international reputation to market selected products that are allowed to bear her name.

Day of the Stamp 2005: Minisheet of 5 + 5 labels.

5x€2.65+€1.30; Issue date: 27.5.2005; Issue: 720,000; Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Marianne Siegl; Artist: Gerhart Schmirl

The “Day of the Stamp 2005” commemorative shows the Vienna-Budapest “Flying boat service” with one of the Junkers F13 used on this route. After the succès d’estime achieved by the Austrian air force in 1918 in establishing the world’s first international airmail service from Vienna to Kiev (Ukraine) via Cracow and Lvov, interested in starting air traffic remained high in Austria.

However, a good dozen attempts to establish an airline failed for lack of capital, the absence of a domestic aircraft industry and the rejection of unrestricted competition for fear of splitting up the already scarce resources of the now tiny Austria.

Nevertheless, the age of civil aviation began for Austria in spring 1922, when the “Compagnie Franco Roumaine de Navigation Aérienne” (CFRNA) began a scheduled service to the Vienna-Aspang airport using a biplane (F-ADCF). The Österreichische Luftverkehrs -Aktiengesellschaft (ÖLAG) finally began operations officially on May 3 1923, when Dr. Bardas-Bardenau was granted authorisation to set up an Austrian airline company. The company began with a capital of one billion Krone, with the Junkers Flugzeugwerke holding 49%, the österreichische Eisenbahn-Verkehrsanstalt (EVA) 50% and Bardas-Bardenau himself 1%.



The ÖLAG’s official flight operations commenced when the first Junkers F13 landed on the Donauwiese at Jedlesees on May 14 1923, flying the Vienna-Munich route (A-2, A-3). A few weeks later, on June 16, a regular service was launched along the Danube from Vienna to Budapest using Junkers F13 aircraft

fitted with floats especially for this purpose. This was the first regular service to be operated in Europe using flying boats.

Europe 2005 - The Catering Trade

€0.75; Issue date: 28.5.2005; Issue: 700,000; Photogravure; **Design: Hannes Margreiter**

Austria and the coffee-house – the one is inconceivable without the other. The origins of the Vienna coffee-house are woven in legend. In 1683, the Turks left behind them sacks of green beans at Vienna's gates. It was allegedly a man named Kolschitzky who took possession of the sacks and opened the first Vienna coffee-house under the name "Zur Blauen Flasche". By 1714 there were 11 licensed coffee-makers in the city, and by the middle of the century, the coffee-house had become a place to read the newspaper, play cards and of course drink the water with the coffee. Under Emperor Josef, coffee-houses gained in popularity of the city, but also said that the elegant inventor of the in Viennese dialect consequence of the Johann, in French regermanised back called to put the weather with the expression "Schani, trag den Garten ausse!" ("Johann, take the garden out!").



The next heyday came during the Congress of Vienna. In the mid-19th century, the cafés-concerts were at their most popular, with Lanner, Strauss and Ziehrer providing the music to dance to. The 1873 World Exhibition in Vienna spread the Viennese coffee-house's reputation around the world. The passion for coffee was so great that the "Herrenhof" even had a painter's colour chart with over 20 shades of brown from which the guests could choose the colour of the coffee they preferred. During the war, recourse was had to ersatz coffee (made from chicory, figs, rye, barley or plum-stones), but the coffee-house was indestructible. It is and remains an institution, a piece of Austria, that no chain of establishments, no matter how large, will ever succeed in banishing completely.

[See the preview illustration of this stamp on page 74 of Austria 148! Ed]

Patron Saints: St. Joseph



€0.55; Issue date: 10.6.2005; Issue: 1,000,000; Photo-gravure and Intaglio; Design: Maria Schulz; Artist: Robert Trsek

It was during the Baroque age that the worship of St. Joseph began to spread. In 1771, Empress Maria Theresia persuaded the Pope to permit a new Holy Day regulation, aimed at reducing the countless local patron saints. The bishops responsible for the province of Vorderösterreich (today's provinces of Vorarlberg, Tyrol, Carinthia and Styria) agreed on St. Joseph in 1772. As patron saint of the House of Austria and of the Holy Roman Empire, he was regarded by the bishops, themselves mostly princes of the Empire, as a good compromise. However, this "imposed" patron saint never achieved the desired popularity in these regions. As a means of giving a Christian meaning to the International Workers' Day, Pope Pius XII declared in 1955 that the feast of "St. Joseph the Worker" would be celebrated on May 1, replacing the saint's day after Easter. In this way, St. Joseph has become a saint for many occasions.

Formula 1 - Jochen Rindt



€0.55; Issue date: 11.6.2005; Issue: 700,000; Photogravure; Design: Charly Frei

Karl Jochen Rindt was born on April 18, 1942 in Mainz. His parents were killed in the allied bombing of Hamburg in 1943, so the child was brought up by his grandparents in Graz. In 1962, he performed so well in a Formula Cooper in Saloon Racing that Ford Austria provided him with an F2 Brabham-Cosworth. His performance won him a transfer to the F1 Cooper team. Rindt also raced in Formula 2, and had already become a legend in Austria when he won the Prix Du Tirol. In 1968, he switched to Jack Brabham's Formula 1 cars, and then at the end of the year to World Champion Graham Hill's Lotus Team. His aim was to win the World Championship and then retire; but following various changes of team he was fatally injured during training for the Italian Grand Prix in 1970 – so that the 1970 championship title was awarded to Jochen Rindt, but posthumously.

Austria's Personal Stamps

by Joyce Boyer

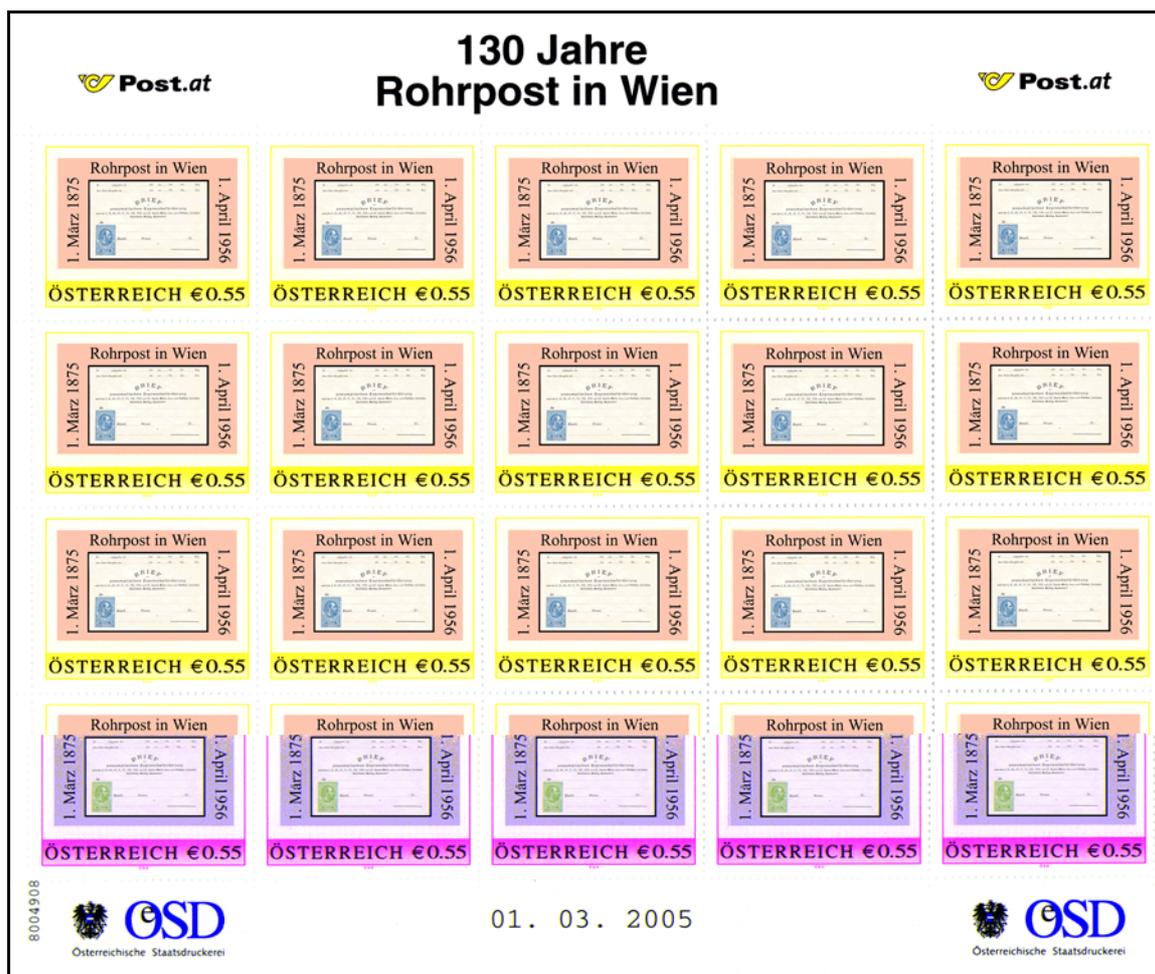
This article is a revised version of one written for the APSUS journal following comments by the writer of an item in their April 2005 edition.

I read the comments at the end of Peter Frick's item in the April 2005 APSUS Journal, pages 20-21 and am sharing with members the information I have discovered about the 'Personal' stamps. Having bought some, I wanted to know more about these stamps so approached the Austrian Postal Authority (Herr Erich Haas) as well as looking at their website www.meine-marke.at

A number of countries, including Great Britain, have produced some form of label attached to the normal postage stamp to make them 'personal' to the user but the label had no postal significance. The Austrian Postal Authority have decided that they would be different and print 'personal' stamps that will be accepted for postal use provided they conform to certain conditions, and all must be printed by the State Printing Works (who produce the conventional issues). So that everyone might recognise the personal stamps, Post.at issued two, one in each format, on 5 December 2003 as part of the 2003 issuing programme.



The stamps may only be ordered by electronic means and are printed in either horizontal or vertical format. The overall size of each stamp is 42x35 or 35x42 mm, with a picture size of 34x21 or 27x29mm and they are printed in sheets of 20, either 5x4 or 4x5. The white margin around the stamps is the size of a stamp [Left & right margins removed in following illustration of a complete sheet. Ed] and contains additional wording. Above the first and last stamp is the Post.at logo and between these the title of the stamp, whilst at the bottom there is the logo of the State Printing Works and the date of printing. Finally in small figures at the extreme bottom left is the number of the issue. The picture is contained within a frame on which the name Österreich and value €0.55 are printed. This frame is printed in a security colour (currently yellow) similar to that used for bank notes and contains a special ingredient to produce their security system.

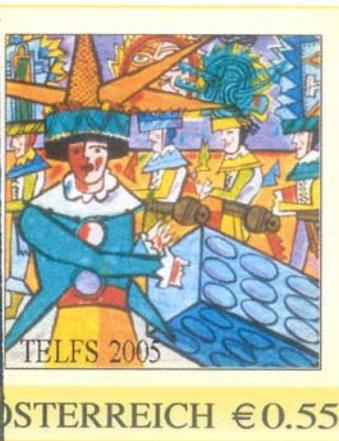


I understand that there is some control over the picture content of the stamps and about 200 designs have been rejected because of problems, including about ten with Nazi propaganda motifs, 150 with pornographic content and about 50 with legal difficulties including copyright of the picture. In this last respect I was shown two postcards one of which would be the basis of the proposed design for a stamp to mark 100 years of the Stubaital railway but the chosen design was refused for just this reason.

Initially the print run was a minimum of 500 sheets (ie 10,000 stamps) but this requirement has been reduced and is now 5 sheets of 20 stamps or 100 items in total. Although each stamp has a face value of 55 eurocents, the cost of having the stamps printed depends on the number of sheets ordered. The minimum order of 5 sheets (= 100 stamps) is €199.56 or just under €2 per stamp; 25 sheets (ie 500 stamps) costs €739.50 (€1.48 each) whilst 500 sheets (10,000 stamps) cost €11,010 (€1.10 each). It is for this reason that they are sold for more than their face value.

Personal stamps are ordered by email and there is a minimum quality resolution for the picture, production usually taking about 4 weeks. The printed stamps are sent to the person ordering them in Austria who can then use them as and when

they wish so there is normally no ‘First Day’. However some issues are ordered for a purpose (special event, birthday or anniversary for example) and can then



have a recognised ‘Day of issue’. As the stamps are sent to individuals they are rarely available from a post office; one exception again being if they are ordered for a special event where the organisers arrange for a Special cancellation and attendance by the post office – see the Telfs Schleicherlaufen Card.

The first Personal stamp was printed in September 2003 and honoured Manfred Paula, the former General Manager of the State Printing Works in Vienna. The print run was 500 or 600 and if you can find this item on ebay or another auction site expect to pay in excess of €100 for it! The first generally available Personal stamp was issued in November 2003 with a print run of 20,000 and was sold at the ‘Post Office in the Clouds’ at the Vienna Town Hall Christkindl Market where it cost €1.50. This was followed by Kosel the philatelic dealer with 10,000 in each format, Richard Zimmerl editor of ‘Die

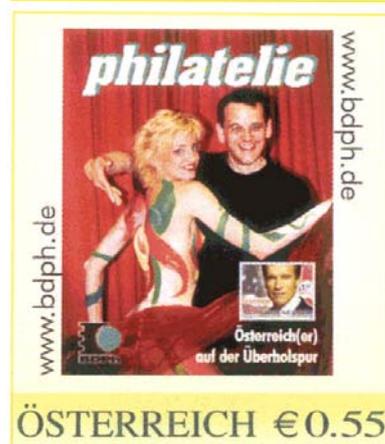


Briefmarke’, (20,000) Christine Steyrer publisher of Netto catalogues, (10,000 in each format), The Favoriten Stamp Club in Vienna, SOS Kinderdorf, 100 years of powered flight and Postbus AG completed the 2003 issues. By the end of 2004 approximately



2,700 orders had been received for personal stamps with about 140,000 sheets (2,800,000 stamps) printed - the equivalent of four of Post.at’s special issues. A further development has been the production of a sheetlet of stamps either with several designs repeated throughout the sheet or, as with that marking 150 years of the police in Austria, 20 different pictures. – could it be that all 20 will also appear in separate sheets?

Many people order a Personal stamp for a reason but some firms use them as a form of advertising - e.g Joh. Schlosser marked the 20th anniversary of his auction house with a series of stamps showing a stamp from each of the first five Austrian issues. Other stamps have been reproduced on Personal stamps. Each member of the Austrian Philatelic Society received a letter earlier this year advertising their recently published book on the Vienna Pneumatic Post. The APS editor designed a Personal stamp showing a Pneumatic envelope from 1880 with a border colour adopted for pneumatic post items in 1908. This was ordered through a dealer in Vienna and affixed to the letters which then had to be returned to a contact in Austria for posting.



The first Personal stamp must have been a success since 'The Post Office in the Clouds' obtained a different one for 2004. Assuming that each order is numbered consecutively there are now over 6,500 issues – the September 2005 issue of 'Die Briefmarke' records number 8006528 (all start with 800).

The first 64 Personal stamps were listed in the Austria Netto Specialised Catalogue 2004/05 and I understand that they are listed in the 2005/06 edition but as I have not yet seen this I do not know if it is selected stamps or all those printed to date. [I am told it is those which had an issue of 1,000 or more. Ed] There are now several catalogues available, both printed and on-line – hopefully the December 2005 trip will clarify which if any it might be sensible to add to the APS Library.

In answer to the question of how one gets examples of Personal stamps, the best source I can offer is through the eBay auction site. Looking at eBay.at & eBay.de recently I noticed a section under Austria for 'Personalmarke' but the downside is that many European sellers do not accept Paypal so payment can cause difficulties and become expensive in exchange charges. However not all sellers use this site and I have found a number when visiting other pages or favourite vendors.



In order to ensure that the details given were generally correct, I sent the first draft of this article to Herr Haas at Post.at and in addition to correcting a couple of points he also gave me some additional information of the changes proposed for 2006. In addition to the yellow frame they will be introducing a blue version which will have the same security levels as now. There will also be the option to have your stamp with any face value between €0.55 to €99.99 although it is not expected that anyone will want the higher values. The idea here is that if you wish to have a stamp to mark a specific event, say your 65th birthday it will be possible to have a €0.65 or €65.00 face value. The cost will no doubt vary according to the number of stamps issued, but ought to be similar to those quoted above plus the extra face value over the existing 55 cents. Post.at also plan for the near future an internet page with the personal stamps listed: to quote Herr Haas “because we saw that – surprisingly for us – these stamps begin to be a special collectors field.”



We welcome the following new members:

Adrian Parsons from Bromsgrove; Allan Turner from Canada; Steve Ellis from Stoke on Trent; Richard Breckon from Pudsey; and Adrian Ritoridis from Nottingham.

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NOTES FROM PUBLICATIONS.

by Andy Taylor

Die Briefmarke:

Issue 8/2005: Peering closely at the front cover of issue 7/2005, I now see that in mid-green ink on a pale green background, and a print size more commonly found in guarantees, it is dual-numbered 7/8 and dated July/August – ie, there is no separate Issue 8/2005. The pages say Issue 7/2005.

Issue 9/2005 (September): exhibitions, events and society news; Karl Hodina; postal history of Klagenfurt; Bratislava (6); Thematics: firemen; Egon Schiele; Meine.Marke for Ukrainian President; Montafonerbahn; new subscription arrangement for **Blackprints** (*no restriction on subscriber numbers; no accompanying text*) and for (*some, chosen on an unspecified basis*) Meine.Marke; Adolf Tuma; Post Office closures and openings; correspondence; latest catalogue issues; Expertising (3); Youth (with Frau Dr Haslauer) etc etc.

Issue 10/2005 (October): Slovenia & Slovakia; exhibitions, events and society news; Austria in 1945 (6); Klagenfurt (2); 50th anniversary of Vienna's Burgtheater & Opera reopening; the "Sattler Panorama of Salzburg" stamp; [provisional?] 2006 New Issues programme (*fans of Motor-racing, Mozart, and Joint Issues will be pleased!*); Post Office openings and closures; Expertising (4); etc etc.

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Feld- und Zensurpost

Issue 82: [posted from Břeclav!] news of meetings, members' successes etc; WWI FPOs used by German forces; Qs & As; W-cachets; more on FPA 451; Etappenpostamt 183 subtypes; U-boat construction in Pola; list of their available and sold-out books.

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreich e.V.

Issue 71: Ebay experiences; possible errors in Michel's listing of colours of 10-gro picture-postcards (1927-30); Krakau-Wien TPO in 1926?; the first Schilling stamps; the 1940s Landscape issues; the kk Postamt in Jerusalem; Levant Hafenstempel.

Czechout

Issue 3/2005: meeting notes etc (*interesting that at their Fest, members complained the dinner was too early!*); posting of valuable items (eg cash), home & abroad, 1918-39; questions and answers; and much else of interest.

Stamps of Hungary

Issue 162: September 2005: News & views; Midpex; Civil censorship post-WWI part 2; Ziarşti 1920 Ujságirók overprints; Qs&As; David Miles "Overprints" book reprinted; etc

Germania

Aug 2005 vol 41 no 3: Saarlouis; a philatelic tour of the changes to Germany's frontiers in 1919-40 (Austria is briefly mentioned); Soldatenbrief "stamps"; (*lovely pictures!*); Stuttgart City Post (v); regional group reports; Q&A; etc.

APSUS Journal

Vol 5 Nr 4: Visit their web site www.austriaphilatelicsociety.com; Qs&As; mysteries of an Italian postcard; proposed Dalai Lama stamp and why Opost may not have wished to issue it; 60th Jubilee Postcards (Sal Rizza); the "punched holes in 1906 Bosnia issue" saga revisited; etc.

Wiener Ganzsachen- Frei- und Post-stempelsammlerverein

Issue 3/2005: Costumes-series frankings continued; more examples of special rates for Krankenkassen printed items (see "Q&A" in this issue of Austria).

Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale

This is reviewed for Austria by Hans Smith. Your editor said in Austria 148 "nothing of interest in issue 128". He erred...

Issue 128: The contents include (a) "The Venice National Philatelic Convention issue (1945) - the debate concerning local issues and overprints in Venetia" by Carlo Ciullo; (b) "Lubliana: April 1941 - April 1945", "A letter from newly recovered Trieste", & "Use of Austrian stamps in the Trieste area on mail carried by ship to local ports", all by Michele Amorosi; (c) "Postal relations between the Papal States and the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia and the Austrian Empire 1852-1870, by Thomas Matha; (d) "Disinfection of correspondence in the 21st Century", by Umberto Bocus.

The Matha article is a brief, well-illustrated account of the postal arrangements between the Papal States and Austria during the period leading up to Italian Independence. The author discusses the necessary changes in routes (and rates) necessitated by wars and political events.

The volume ends with postal history book reviews, including a detailed appreciation of recent articles in "Austria". For those with a good knowledge of Italian, a useful list of magazine articles and books is added. And the usual list of Italian dealers and auction houses is present.

Issue 131: (a) Notice of an exhibition held in Abano Terme, Padua , from 16 April to 1 May 2005 concerning "The Second World War reflected in the posts and philately"; (b) Obituary of Luciano De Zanche: Many postal historians will remember Luciano de Zanche whose pioneering work on the postal routes in the Levant opened up a new aspect of postal history and especially that of the Austrian offices in Turkey. In every sense, he will be greatly missed. (c) "The beginning of the Austrian postal service in the Ottoman Empire": A reprint of Luciano De Zanche's seminal article in *Bollettino* No. 0, 1977; (d) "Letters and postmarks of the Republic of Venice, by Paolo Vollmeier" - Vollmeier is a somewhat controversial figures in Venetian philately after dismissing much of the extant material as forgeries. In this paper he read to the Conference in Padua in April/June 2004, he deals authoritatively with the Venetian posts, with many illustrations, during the pre-Napoleonic period; (e) "The presence of 'Italian Soldiers' in Barlassina from a letter of 1803", by Adalberto Peroni and Gabriele Peroni; (f) "The large-sized date-stamps of Palermo", by Leonardo Di Bella; (g) Bibliographic notes on Italian postal history by Adriana Cartani; New publications; and the usual advertisements (worth examining).

Issue 132: This is a special issue dedicated to the above-mentioned Padua exhibition. Contents: (a) The Second World War in Europe reflected in the posts and philately. (b) Historical note on the origins and consequences of the ascendancy of National Socialism in Germany, by Bruno Bellotti (c) The concentration camps in Germany, by Piero Santangelo (d) 8 September 1943 (Italian surrender – effects on the posts) (e) Allied Military Occupation of Berlin 1945-1948, by Bruno Bellotti (f) Venezia-Giulia 1945-1954, by Michele Amorosi.

Additions to the Library

A supplementary list of all changes and additions since the 2003 yellow-covered list was included with this issue of Austria.

| Ref | Title | Comment | Pp | Author | Pub | Tx |
|--|---|--|-----|----------------------------------|------|--------|
| 397 | Postal History, Bosnien und Herzegowina 1878-1918 | Handbook and catalogue of cancellations, manuscript cancellations, Perfins, Revenue stamps, Postal stationery and the 1914 First War charity issue | 384 | Berislav Sekelj | 2005 | E + |
| 398 | České a slovenské poštovny 1900-1958 | Postablagen in Czech Republic & Slovakia | 674 | Petr Gebauer, Jozef Tekel | 2005 | E + |
| 399 | Postal Arrangements following the Liberation of Prague in May 1945 | CPSGB Monograph 18 | 110 | Robert J Hill | 2005 | E + |
| 400 | Katalog der Stempel Galiziens und der Österreichischen Post in der Freien Stadt Krakau aus der Vormarkenzeit. | A catalogue of pre-stamp marks from the area | | Janusz Adamczyk and Jerzy Bartke | 2004 | G P |
| And the final instalment of the traditional Blackprints have now joined their predecessors. To borrow one, state stamp subject and issue date. | | | | | | |

Recent addition to the CD library.

CD5: Fiftieth Anniversary Displays (1953-2003) by the Czech Philatelic Society of GB.

Notes on book 400

“Katalog der Stempel Galiziens und der Österreichischen Post in der Freien Stadt Krakau aus der Vormarkenzeit”, published Krakau 2004. The introduction etc are in German but both Polish and German is used in the listing: eg under Krakow-Krakau, “Data ustanowienia poczty w Galicji; Bestandsdatum der Post in Galizien”. The book is a catalogue of pre-stamp marks from the area. Marks are illustrated so that the small differences are discernable.

Book Reviews

German North Atlantic Catapult Flights 1929-1935

by James Graue and Dieter Leder, published by Jim & Me Ink, Valleyford WA 99036, USA. Approx A5 size, 236 pages spiral bound, 2004. No ISBN. Many black and white illustrations, colour outer covers. English language text. Available in the UK from Richard Beith, 14 Middlecroft, Guilden Sutton, Chester CH3 7HF at £23.50 inc. UK P & P. Richard writes:

The full sub-title of this clearly presented and printed volume is “*Catalogue of the Airmail of the German North Atlantic Catapult Flights 1929-1935 and Supplementary Airmail Flights to Cherbourg 1919-1939.*” 195 pages are taken up with the detailed catalogue listing. Each flight is given a consecutive 'K' number and a full concordance of these numbers with those used by previous authors is included. For each flight, the vessel and port of destination are identified, the flight cachet is illustrated, the colour of ink recorded, the times of departure and arrival of the catapult plane and the distance flown in km logged. The range of covers carried by each flight is recorded: Inland origin, US Seapost, German seapost, treaty state mail and what the authors call “Courtesy Acceptances”, that is, mail from non-Treaty States. Every variant is given a valuation in USD. The Post-Catapult flights, speeding the mail to the Bremen or Europa at Cherbourg are also listed by date.

The catalogue is preceded by several pages of most useful notes on the postal markings applied to Catapult Mail and a discussion of factors effecting valuation. A directory of aircraft and flight crews is included. There is no bibliography as such, this is a catalogue not a monograph, but details of the four previous publications listed in the concordance, Kayssner (1933 and supplements), Du Four (1963), Stanley-Smith (1990) and Haberer (1992), are given. All collectors of this material will be indebted to the authors for their attention to detail.

Richard Beith

The Allied Military Government stamp issue for Austria 1945

Author/publisher Richard A. Krueger; 54 pages in English; From R. A. Krueger, PO Box 441004, Ft. Washington, MD 20744, USA.; \$25.00 Airmail, \$20.00 surface mail.

This latest book from the author delves into the design, production and usage of the 1945 Posthorn series of stamps which were printed in the USA for use in the three western zones, American, British & French. Included are the un-adopted designs for this issue that were prepared for March 1945. Although many collectors may find this issue uninteresting, with the help of this book and the abundance of material in circulation an in-depth collection can be built up with the paper types, colour variations and the plate numbers not forgetting the plate varieties (missing cords) and perf. imperfections.

The use of the "Provisional Postage Due" usage on this issue is covered prior to the State Printing Works in Vienna producing the **PORTO** overprints that came into use in April/May 1946. These overprints brought with them numerous varieties other than those listed in the catalogues. There are many examples of covers showing different rates, mixed frankings and usage on the post and postal documents.

Colin Tobitt

The Pneumatic Post in Vienna, Volumes 1, 2 and 3

It gave me much pleasure in reviewing this publication for as both a collector of the particular material and a postal stationery aficionado I can understand and appreciate the work that has gone in to this production.

The pneumatic posts of Vienna are covered thoroughly not only from a philatelic point of view but also from the technical one with the mysteries of the pneumatic posts easily understandable by the tyro. It is a credit to the authors that the subject has been so well covered.

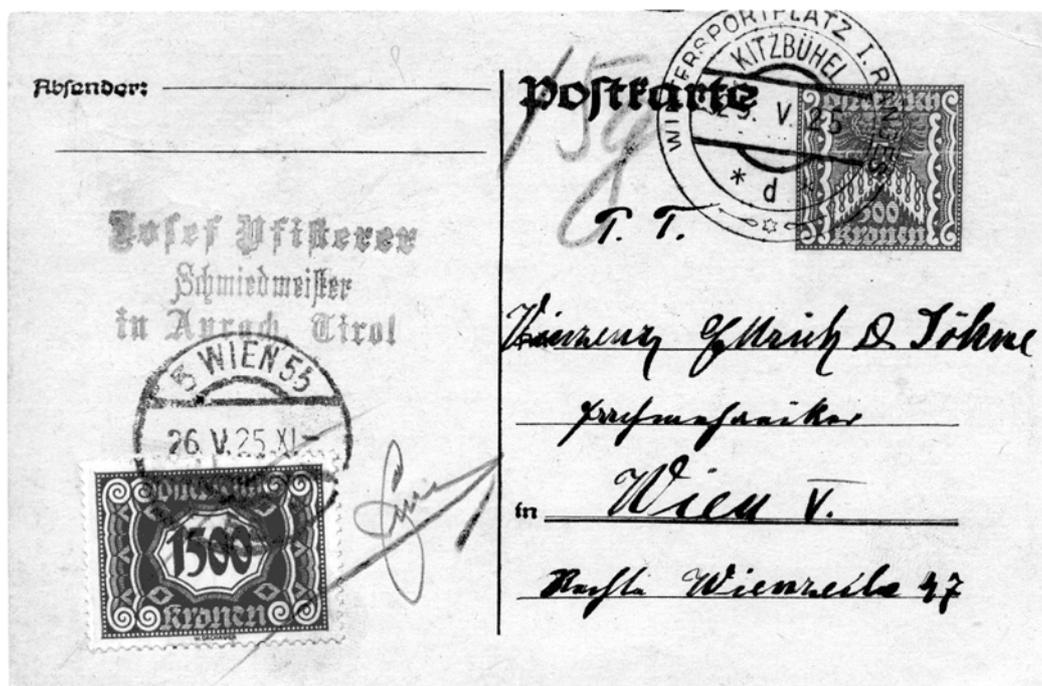
However my main purpose of this review is from a postal stationery viewpoint and this is where the publication excels. All types of the various printings are listed as are all post offices from whence the service was available. The detail is comprehensive and provides for easy checking; the various postal markings are listed together with illustrations of the types.

I can thoroughly recommend this publication to all who are interested in pneumatic posts generally and to all postal stationery collectors of Austria.

Raymond Todd (Australia)

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS, LETTERS...

Postage Dues



This was posted in Kitzbühel on 25.5.25, franked with a 500 kr imprint. To the left of this is “15g” in red crayon. It has had a 1500 kr postage due applied, which was cancelled in Vienna on the 26th. The card is Schneiderbauer 264, which was still valid at that date although the currency had changed. The postage on an inland card, however, had risen to 700 kr on 1.12.24 (becoming 7g at the currency switch) so the item was 2g underfranked. It would then be charged “double the deficiency” BUT there was a minimum. What was it?

Colin Tobitt has clarified my difficulties (ta). The table in Michel is correct for this date (although the last entry for the kronen currency is wrong; it should be 1500 kr not 1000 kr). Bernadini & Pfalz (p283) have printed their tables in the wrong places, as is explained by the erratum slip: the first and third tables should be swapped. With these changes, the authorities agree: the minimum charge in May 1925 was 15 groschen – and this had to be shown with a 1500 kronen Postage Due as the groschen ones were not issued until June 1925!

KRANKENKASSEN RATES IN 1925 - 1938

The special rates for Krankenkassen printed items were discussed in Austria 151 p52. The original table as received contained two errors, in lines 2 & 5, corrected and shown in bold here. Note also that the printed matter rate is that for the lowest weight step, normally 10 gram.

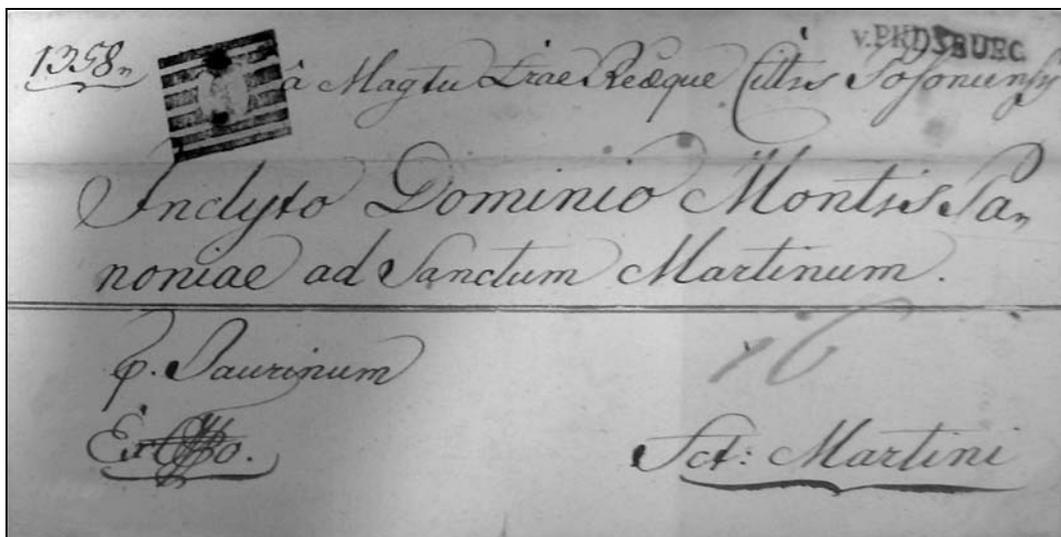
| From | To | PC | Pmat | Sum |
|-----------|-------------------|-----|------|-----|
| 1.3.1925 | 30.9.1925 | 7g | 1g | 8g |
| 1.10.1925 | 30.11.1926 | 8g | 1g | 9g |
| 1.12.1926 | 31.1.1929 | 10g | 2g | 12g |
| 1.2.1929 | 31.8.1932 | 10g | 3g | 13g |
| 1.9.1932 | 30.4.1938 | 12g | 3g | 15g |

Examples have now been found for 11.5.1938 (with 12g + 3g = 15g) and for 9.1.1939 (with 6Rpf + 3Rpf = 9Rpf) confirming that the principle carried on into the Anschluss period. Note that (a) the 3g rate became 2Rpf (b) the 10 gram printed matter rate was abolished on 1 Aug 1938, so the 20 gram rate (which by then was 3Rpf) applied. The “table of 1938 rates” on page 30 of Austria 139 gives the printed matter rates for the 20 gram step.

Franking-machine cancels exist for 1938 which appear to show a rate of 11 groschen – this is actually the 15 groschen rate expressed as 11 Rpf, printed by a machine awaiting conversion to the Deutsche Reichspost imprint.

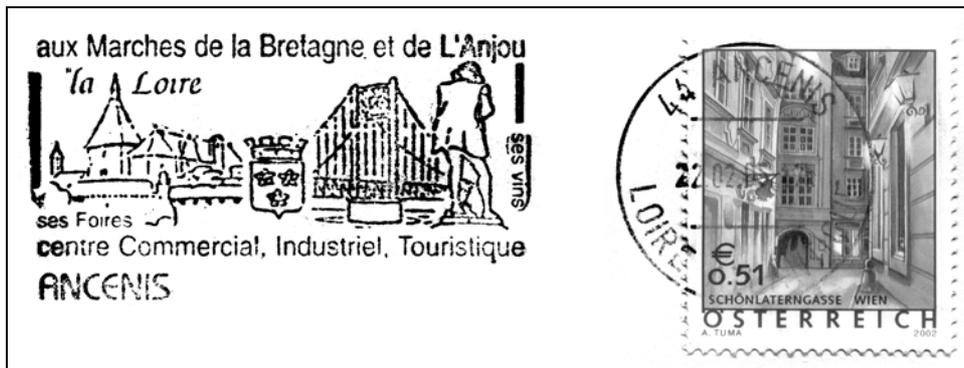
Next question – what happened in 1945??

A curious marking from 1805



This cover was sent from Pozsony (=Pressburg) to Szent Martin in June 1805. As well as a “**V PRESSBURG**” town mark at top right, it has a striped rectangular mark. Does anyone know what this is?

Austria used in France??



This is on an envelope with a French address and fluorescent bar-codes, so it seems to have gone through a postal system. No markings, no dues, nowt!

When is a Correspondenz-Karte not a postcard?

Druckorte Nr. 142.

Correspondenz-Karte

des k. k. Postamtes in *Wien* an die k. k. Post-Expedition in *Adrianopel*
 welcher den *10/5* 18*57* folgende Correspondenzen, worüber die Empfangs-Bestätigung
 mit nächster Post gewärtigt wird, zugesendet werden.

| Verrechnung bei der Aufgabe | | | | | | Zurechnung zur Abgabe | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|-----|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|---------------------------|--|---|-----------|---|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| Nr. | Correspondenz-Gattung | hier eingelau- fene Briefe | Hier eingehobenes Franco für die Beförderung in | | Rectifi- cirtes Betrag | | Nr. | Correspondenz- Gattung | Dort zu be- stel- lende Briefe | Zugerechneter Betrag des | | | | Rectificirter Betrag des | | | | | | |
| | | | Öster- reich | | der Türkei | | | | | auslän- dischen u. österreich. Porto | | auslän- dischen u. österreich. Porto | | | | | | | | |
| | | | fl. | kr. | fl. | kr. | | | | Via- ster | Pa- ra | Via- ster | Pa- ra | Via- ster | Pa- ra | Via- ster | Pa- ra | | | |
| 1 | Ganz frankirte Briefe: nicht recommandirte recommandirte | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Nicht frankirte aus Österreich: nicht recommandirte recommandirte | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Nicht frankirte aus fremden Staaten: nicht recommandirte recommandirte | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Kemtlische und por- tofreie | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Summe | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Abgabebriefe: reclamirte | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

When it's a list of correspondence! (This is "Karte" as in Speisekarte) The above is the top of a large form, listing mail from Vienna to Adrianople in 1857.

Imperf pairs of Crete stamps

A member asks... Austrian stamp issue 1908/14 for use in Crete (values 5 10 15 25 50 Centimes & 1 franc). Imperforate pairs of these are being offered in auctions at tens-of-Euros. The usual German-language catalogues do not list them but the “Hellas” does, at 80 Eu. Are these authentic?



Reply: facts from Henry Pollak, speculation from Andy Taylor...

Summary: the items are almost certainly genuine “favour prints” and a price of 80 Euro is reasonable.

Müller says in his 1927 work “Die Postmarken von Österreich”, p424, that all values of this issues exist imperforate as favor prints. In his 1952 bilingual specialized catalog “Austria 1850 to 1918”, they are listed on page 135, again as favor prints. The imperf stamps are priced individually, not that expensive. The price for an imperf set of six would be between 5 and 6 times the price of the mint regular stamps.

Favor prints from that period of the Monarchy are well known; neither Müller reference mentions them existing as printer's waste. A pair might sensibly be priced slightly over twice a single: they were produced in small quantities, but the market is relatively small so pairs are not substantially more than twice-a-single; and if a pair sold for less than two singles dealers would cut them in half! Müller himself uses the phrase “favor prints” (in German Vorzugsstücke) in his 1952 bilingual catalog. The introduction says at page xiv:

“FAVOR PRINTS. Stamps in colors or perforations differing from the issued stamps, or without a regular overprint, or imperforate instead of perforated, or vice-versa, including unissued values, which were printed during the time of the regular printings of the issue in question. They were either manufactured for high-ranking personages at their request - usually against payment of face value plus manufacturing costs – or distributed to them as a gift. The favor prints were as a rule printed in small quantities (after 1908 averaging 500 sets, part of which were held for museum purposes or in the archives) and were not sold at any post office nor were they available to other persons. From 1908, the recipients were admonished not to use the favor prints for postage, but they were valid for that purpose and can be found used on philatelic mail before 1908 as well as occasionally later.”