

# AUSTRIA

## Edited by Andy Taylor

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☺ **The APS 60th Anniversary year is 2008** ☺

## EDITORIAL 156

By Andy Taylor

Övebria 2006 was held in Salzburg, and as you might expect was thoroughly Mozartian. Two commemorative and four Personalised stamps were produced, along with special meter marks, FDCs with and without attached 2-Euro commemorative coins, and much else. The exhibition attracted many entries; and some mixed comments. The venue was the Residenz, which was undergoing reconstruction yet again, and was rather overcrowded. The frames were 3-rows-of-4, not the announced 4x4 that the exhibitors had planned for; I wonder if additional rows had been added to get all the entries in. Visitors report that the quality of the entries varied widely, from world-class to village-hall; my spies particularly commended a “clear and informative display” of Vienna postmarks. The Palmares was in the Stiegl Bierkeller! I know that the organising team worked extremely hard.

It's 2006, so in 2 years it'll be 2008. So? So the APS is 60 years old, and is planning many activities to mark the occasion – see the next article, and consider how you can play your part in making 2008 “a year to remember”.

**“OeSD produces the world's best stamps”:** Österreichische Staatsdruckerei, the Austrian State Printing House, was honoured with three awards during the 11<sup>th</sup> Government Postage Stamp Printers' Conference. The jury was composed of printing specialists from Asia, Europe, Africa and South America. A large number of stamps was submitted for each of the six categories, and three times the prize for the best stamp was awarded to one produced by OeSD. The trophy and certificates were handed over during the stamp award ceremony in Shanghai on June 30, 2006. The category “Best combination stamp” was won by the commemorative stamp block “Sattler-Panorama” with its elaborate and excellent intaglio design. The award for the most innovative stamp went to the “Swarovski Kristallwelten” miniature sheet with 12 genuine Swarovski crystals. And the “Best multiple issue” award went to the “Catholic's Day” issue.

|  |
|--|
| We would like to welcome the following new members:<br>Dr H Heinzl (Liechtenstein), A Thompson (Alabama), W Dalrymple (Bexley),<br>N Philip (Pensylvania), A Becker (St Neots), R Boarder (Towcester), and J<br>Pedersen (Denmark) |
|--|

## 60 years on

**A**sixtieth anniversary is often associated with the diamond, a mineral renowned for its superlative qualities; the name comes from the ancient Greek *αδάμας* meaning “invincible”. This is appropriate for the APS: 58 years ago on Thursday 1st January 1948, Major Charles Cowie MBE established what is now The Austrian Philatelic Society “for the study and encouragement of philately, pertaining particularly to Austria and related territories” – and in spite of various “alarms and excursions” we’re still here and flourishing.

We plan to mark our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, 2008, in several ways, all aimed at recruiting new members and strengthening our Society for the decades to come. A subcommittee is already working on the details of:

- ❖ Stage a display, either at Spring Stampex or at ABPS Harrogate. This will be many tens of frames, and aimed at persuading the general philatelist to specialise in Austrian philately.
- ❖ Produce a Festschrift, a 150+ sides glossy A4 book of learned articles illustrated in colour.
- ❖ Seek to have a presence at WIPA2008 in Vienna.
- ❖ Enhance the web site.
- ❖ Arrange for articles to appear in the major UK stamp magazines.
- ❖ Along with our partners PKMI, hold a non-competitive Salon in Innsbruck.
- ❖ Facilitate a visit to WIPA and elsewhere, by members, partners, and friends.

Many of these endeavours will only happen if you the members assist your society. In many cases your physical presence, before and during and after events, will be necessary. Articles will be welcomed from all – some reticent experts will find themselves “encouraged” to put pen to paper or finger to keyboard.

Spam, unwanted-commercial-email, junk – call it what you will, several hundred specimens of it arrive on your Editor’s electronic desk every day. If you don’t get a reply to your email try again, ring me up, or use the form on our website <http://www.kitzbuhel.demon.co.uk/austamps/index.htm#INTOUCH>

# TYROL PHILA

Mag. Peter Zoller

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

# **POSTAL HISTORY OF THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE IN THE FAR EAST, 1898 - 1920**

*By Fred Pirotte*

## **Austro - Hungarian detachments**

**in**

## **Peking and Tientsin**

**September 1901 - August 1917**

## **2. Postal History (continued)**

### ***2-4-2 Mail to the detachments***

Parcels of mail for both detachments were delivered by the German post office to the postal officer at the Detachment Post Office at Peking. The postal officer had to sort the items, prepare a parcel of mail for Tientsin addressees and deliver this parcel to the German post office in charge to forward it to the German post office of Tientsin.

Mail to be sent to members of the Detachments was conveniently addressed to Wien 1 by the senders, with different spellings depending on their mother languages. On postal items are found: Hauptpost Wien 1, Granda Posta Viena (Italian), Velika Posta (Croatian) etc.

In December 1903, postal agents at Wien 1 were not aware how to process this particular outgoing mail to secure the inland rate privilege. Normally postcards, letters and also official mail sent free of charge had to be gathered in a closed parcel to be inserted in the mail bag for forwarding to the German PO at Peking. The agents of Wien 1 stuffed mail to the Detachments directly into the mail bag along with other civilian mail sent to other addressees and normally franked at the international rate in accordance with the UPU requirements. On receipt at the German PO at Peking mail franked at the inland rate had to be taxed. On the face of the correspondence the amount of the tax was handwritten in blue crayon [*The German Post Office did not use postage due stamps. Ed*] and on the

reverse was applied a strike of the German postmark. The Detachment's Post Office also applied its postmark on the reverse.

This situation lasted up to August 1904 when the Marine Section at Wien was informed by the German Post that mail to the Detachments was not being processed by Wien 1 in compliance with the agreement signed in October 1903 between the German and the Austro-Hungarian postal Administrations. Processing was then corrected.

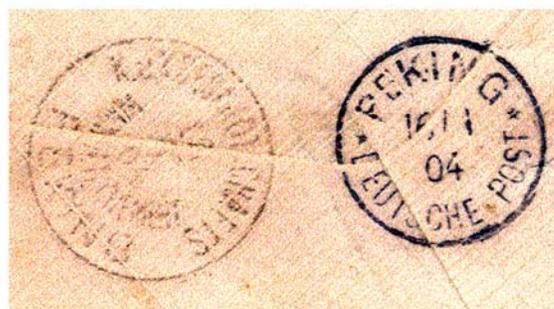


Fig. 24 Letter sent ?.12.03. Manuscript charge of 12½ cents at the German post agency of Peking. On the reverse are the German and Austrian arrival postmarks 16.1.04.



Fig. 25 Letter sent from Romis, 19.03.04. Printed T in a circle and manuscript post charge 12½ Cts. On the reverse, German and Austrian arrival postmarks 1.5.04.

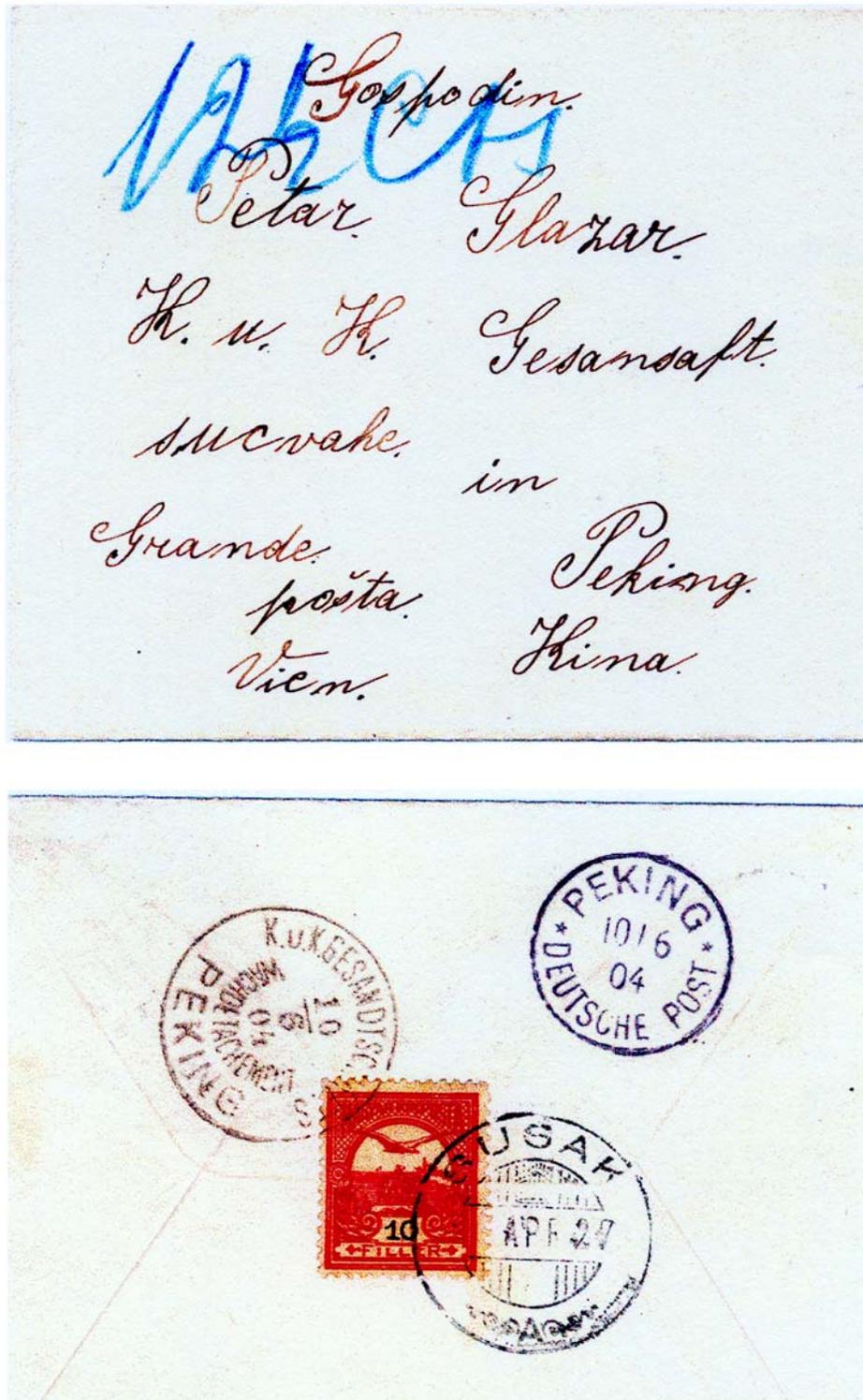


Fig. 26 Letter sent from Susak on 27.4.04. Manuscript post charge 12½ Cts. On the reverse, German and Austrian postmarks 10.6.04.

## ***2-5 Private mail from January 1907 to July 1914***

### **2-5-1 Mail from the detachments**

As indicated in the last paragraph of section 1-3, on 17 September 1907 it was decided to change the name of the units, **Gesandtschafts Wach Detachement** being replaced by **Marine Detachement**. Because of the delay in ordering, making and despatching it to China, a new postmark type PPK-2 could not be at the disposal of the Postal Facility at Peking before the beginning of 1908. The last covers seen by the author with postmark type PPK-1 were dated 18 January 1908. A more precise date will require the study of a large batch of covers around the end of 1907 and the beginning of 1908.



Fig. 27 Dated postmark type PPK-2

#### **Characteristics of postmark type PPK-2**

32.5 x 21.5mm double-circle, inner circle being thicker than the outer, with:

- ❖ **K.u.K.MARINE DETACHEMENT** at top between the circles,
- ❖ **in PEKING** at bottom between the circles,
- ❖ in the centre date one line (month in Roman numerals) between horizontal bars 7.5mm apart and of the same thickness as the inner circle.

Simultaneously new service hand-stamps were manufactured with the new denomination for Peking and Tientsin (see sections 2-2-1 and 2-2-2).



Fig. 28 Letter sent to Pola, postmark type PPK-2 dated 7.X.09.



Fig. 29 Postal stationery sent to Wien. Postmark type PPK-2, dated 28.VI.09.

### An unexpected new dated postmark

At the end of 1913 a new postmark type PPK-3 was sent to the Detachments Post Office at Peking. This postmark had the same general characteristics as type PPK-2.



Fig. 30 Dated postmark type PPK-3

The differences were: (a) a smaller size, 27.5x18mm instead of 32.5x21.5mm [*the illustrations in this article are not to size! Ed*]; (b) counter letter “a” added between the circles above the word “in” of “**in Peking**”. This postmark was always printed in violet.

Generally counter or index letters a, b, c, etc. were added to postmarks when the postal service utilised several postmarks simultaneously at several desks. At the end of 1913 the complement of the detachments totalled about 120. This number did not merit the use of two postmarks.

Patka suggested that this postmark could have been intended for processing money articles. Another possible explanation was that in the possible event of the creation of a postal sub-office at Tientsin, it would have received a postmark type PPK-3 with index letter “b”. Because war broke out this eventuality did not arise.

It must be noted that from 1914, the cancellation of mail was performed only with type PPK-3. The reason for this is not known.

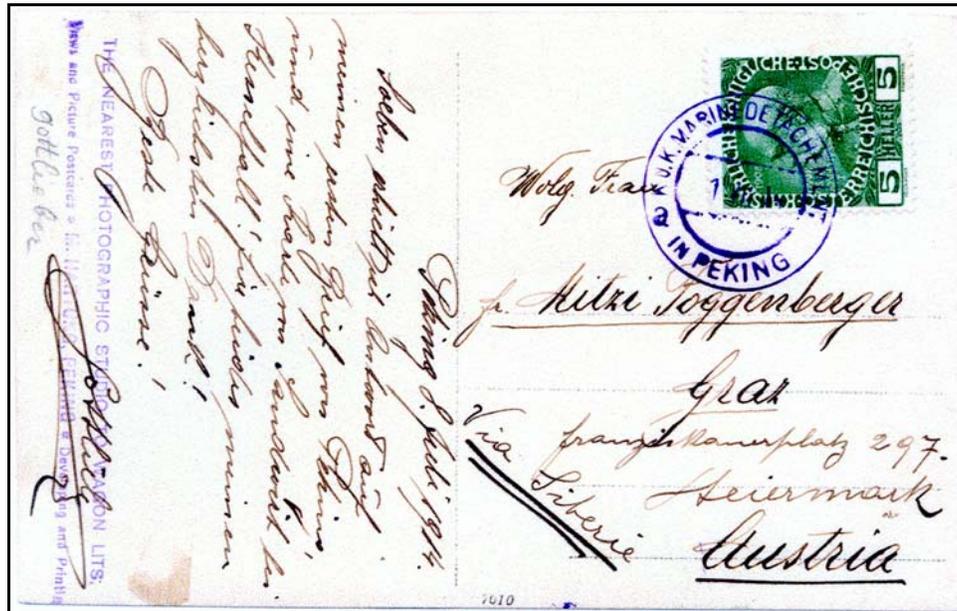


Fig. 31 Photo-card sent to Graz showing the “Boy Emperor” of China. Cancelled by postmark type PPK-3 dated 11.VII.14.

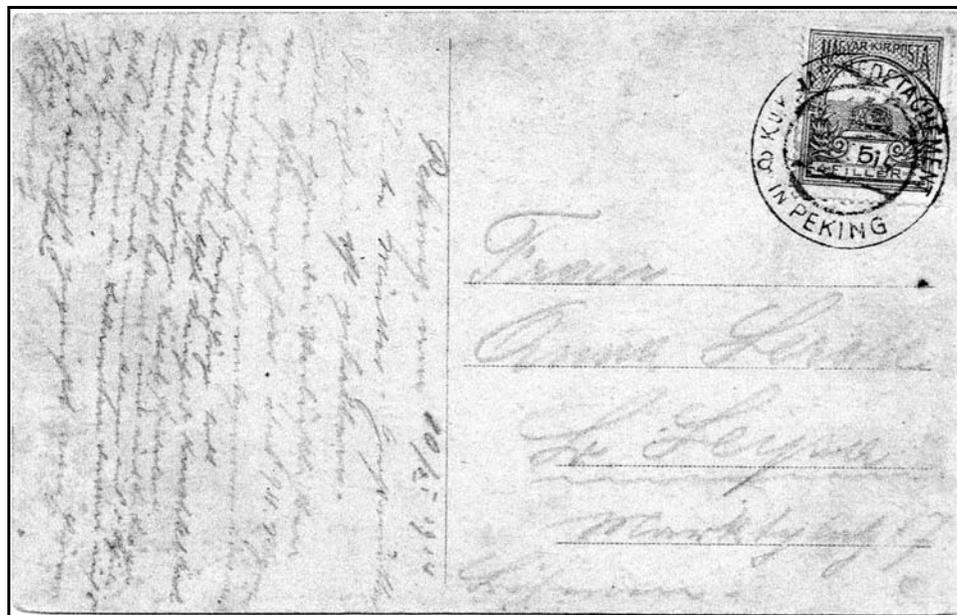


Fig.32 Illustrated postcard sent to Böhmen. Leipa. Hungarian franking cancelled by postmark PPK-3, dated 10.XI.14.

### **2-5-2 Mail to the detachments**

The procedures described under 2-4-2 were applicable.

## ***2-6 Registered mail from and to Peking and Tientsin Detachments***

### ***2-6-1 From 01-08-1901 to end of November 1903***

Registered items were franked by the sender and together with other postal items forwarded in a parcel to the available station-ship. On board, the postal officer applied a registering yellow label printed with a small service hand-stamp giving the name of the warship. Franking was cancelled by the dated postmark of the warship. The only way to recognise that the registered item was sent by a member of the Detachment at Peking or Tientsin is a clear handwritten indication of origin in the text of a postcard or on the flap of an envelope.

During 1902 some registered letters are known from Trieste to Tientsin through the international post. They are franked at the international rate (50 heller) but have no transit postmarks. The interesting point is that at Tientsin these registered letters received the service hand-stamp type TT-1 with the date of arrival in manuscript in the middle.



Fig. 33a: Registered letter sent from Trieste to an officer of the detachment in Tientsin. On arrival hand-stamp type TT-1A was applied on the back of the envelope and the arrival date 25.3.02 written in the centre.



Fig. 33b – reverse side.

### **2-6-2 From 01. 12. 1903 to end of 1907**

Registration was performed at the Detachments Post Office at Peking. A dedicated label was not provided and the common rectangular yellow label used on board all warships was in use at Peking up to August 1917. To indicate that this registration label was not used on board a warship but at the Detachments Post Office at Peking two processes were used:

- ❖ the postal officer wrote on the label the words : *K. u. K. Gesandtschafts Wach Detachment in Peking*, or the same sentence but abbreviated,
- ❖ more commonly the postal officer applied a print of the two-line service hand-stamp type PK-3.

Registered letters without a registration label can be found. In this case there is a print of the service hand-stamp type PK-3 and the registration number is handwritten below. Such a method was probably applied to overcome a temporary shortage of registration labels.



Fig. 34: Registered letter sent to Wien. A registration label was affixed, the words **S.M.Schiff** obliterated by hand and a print of service hand-stamp type PK-3 applied on it. The stamps are cancelled by a postmark dated 31.05.06. A new registration number was applied by hand. On the reverse, the arrival date Wien 12.VII.06.

Registered mail to Peking and Tientsin is rarely seen.

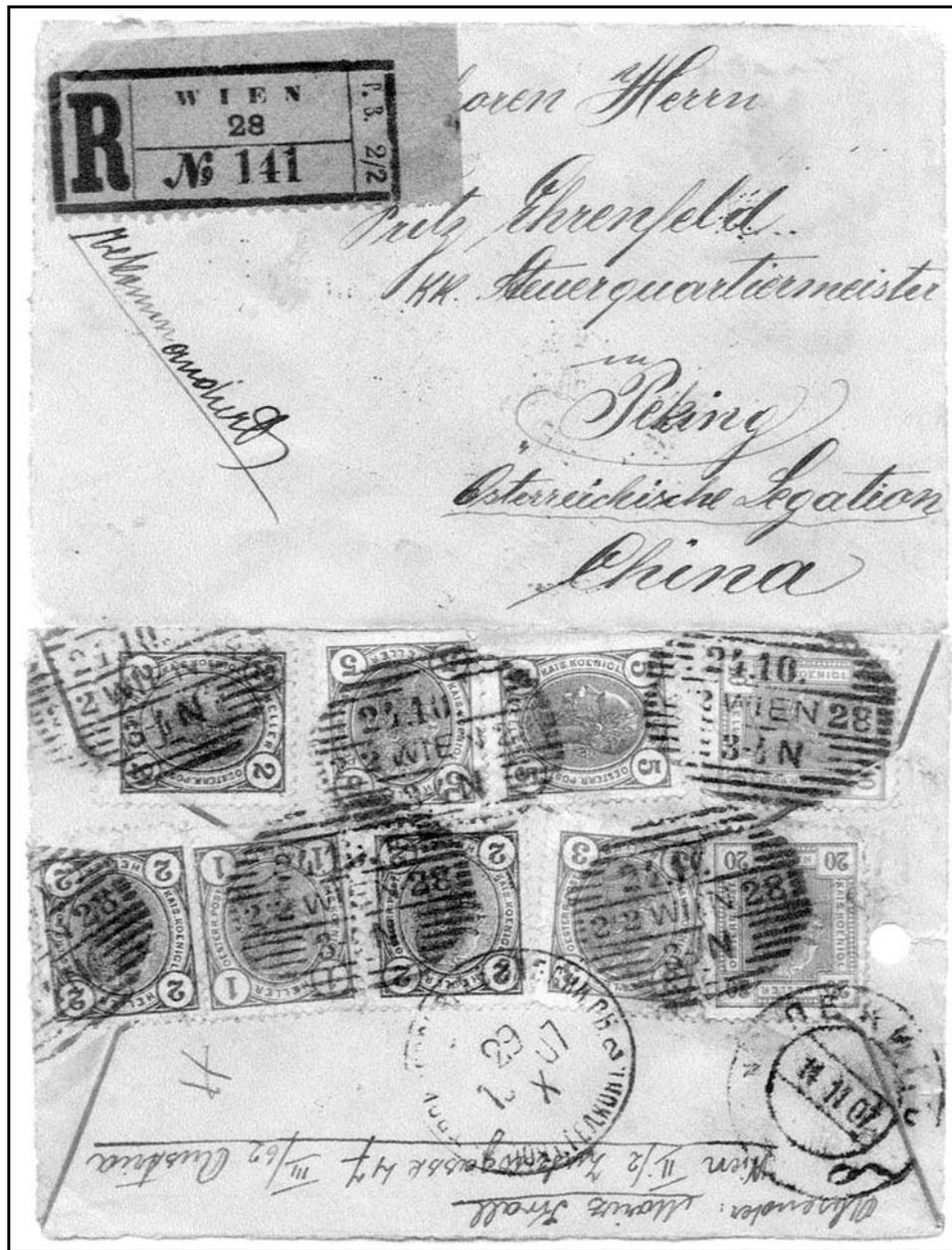


Fig. 35 Registered letter sent from Wien to a member of the detachment at Peking through the international post with a 5-colour franking to the international rate of 50 heller. It was forwarded by the Russian post (Trans-Siberian) and carries the Russian transit postmark dated 29.10.07. Arrival Russian postmark dated Peking 14.11.07.

### 2-6-3 From end of 1907 to July 1914.

On 12 September 1907, following the order to modify the names of the Detachments at Peking and Tientsin, and the manufacture of a new dated postmark and service hand-stamps, it was supposed that a new type of registration label would be issued.

Patka, in his book "K. (u) K. - Marinepost 1798 - 1914, page 468" wrote that a provisional registration label was manufactured at Peking and used from about November 1907 to February 1908. In addition to the usual letters "R" and "N" a framed "K.u.K. Marinedetachment in Peking" was also present. In over 50 years such a provisional registration label has not been seen.

However, a provisional registration label was used during June 1912, probably to overcome a temporary shortage. It is possible that this may be the label described by Patka supposedly manufactured in 1907 (?)



Fig. 36 Registered letter sent to Szekesfehervar (Hungary) with a provisional registration label affixed. On the reverse, a franking made up of seven 5 heller stamps cancelled by postmark type PPK-3 dated 23.07.12.

From 1908 to 1917 two processes were used by the postal officer to correct the indications on the registration labels initially intended for warships:

- ❖ handwriting on the label the abbreviated sentence : *K. u. K. Mar. Det. Peking.*
- ❖ applying a print of the service hand-stamp type PK-7. Because of its length (79 mm), the print extended over the postcard or envelope.



Fig. 37 Registered letter to Friedenau (Berlin). Registration label printed with service hand-stamp type PK-12. Hungarian franking cancelled by postmark type PK-2, dated 02.VI.10. On the reverse the arrival postmark, Friedenau 05.07.10.



Fig. 38 Registered letter to Wien. Registration label printed with the service hand-stamp type PK-12. Cancelled by postmark type PPK-2 dated 09.VIII.11.



Fig. 39 Registered letter to Tarvis. Registration label with handwritten *K. u. K. Mar. Det. Peking*. Franking cancelled by postmark type PPK-2 dated 05.III.13. On the reverse, the arrival postmark Tarvis 07.IV.13.

## ***Registered mail from and to Tientsin***

### **Outgoing registered mail**

The postal officer at the Detachments Post Office dealt with outgoing registered mail sent by members of the Tientsin detachment. The registration label was affixed, service hand-stamp printed or handwritten, the registration number recorded and the stamps cancelled. *See Figs 40, 41.*

### **Incoming registered mail**

Registered letters sent from the Empire to Tientsin through the international post received the following markings:

- ❖ at the Detachments Post Office the dated postmark type PK-2 or PK-3,
- ❖ at Tientsin a service hand stamp, generally type TT-8, and alongside the handwritten date of arrival and the signature of the Detachment's Commandant.

*See Fig 42*



Fig. 40 Official registered letter sent free of charge by the Austro-Hungarian Consulate in Tientsin to Wien. Registration label printed with service hand-stamp type PK-12. Postmark type PK-2, dated 11.X.09. On the reverse the paper seal of the Consulate was affixed.

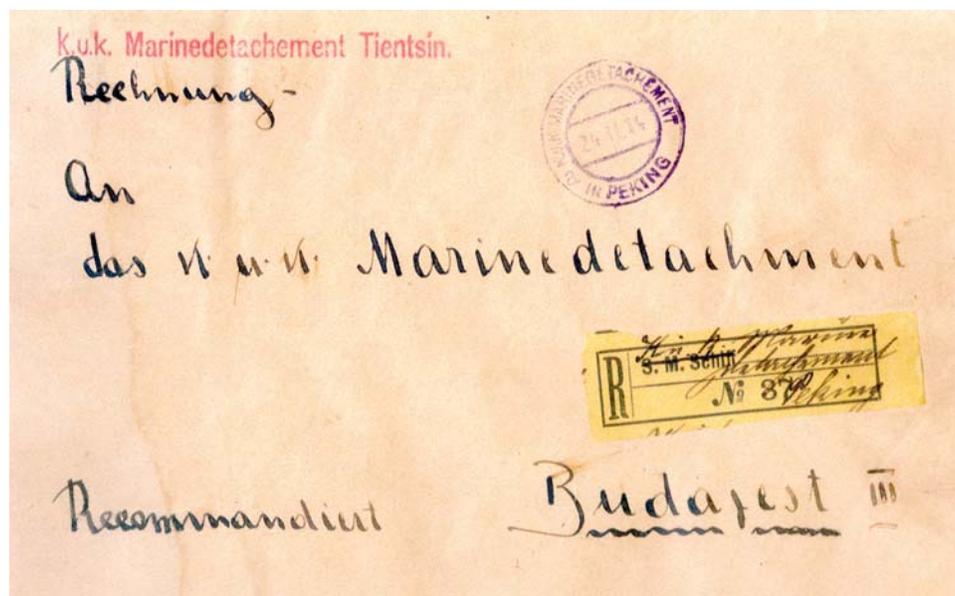


Fig. 41 Official letter sent free of charge by the Marine Detachment in Tientsin to Budapest. Registration label handwritten in Gothic script *K.u.K. Marine Detachment Peking*. Red service hand-stamp type TT-5. Postmark type PK-3, dated 24.II.14. On the reverse, red hand-stamp type PK-8 and arrival postmark, Budapest, 914 Apr.6.



Fig. 42 Registered letter from Wien, through the international post, dated 8.11.13. At the Detachments Post Office at Peking the letter received the postmark PK-2 dated 25.11.13. At its arrival in Tientsin the letter received on the reverse the hand-stamp TT-8 and the hand-stamp of the Commandant of the Detachment, LschLt Mariasevic, together with his signature and the date 27.11.14 (instead of 13).

## ***2-7 Private and registered mail from August 1914 to August 1917***

See Part V.

## ***2-8 Money orders service***

In July 1901 a money order service was provided for officers and sailors on board warships sailing in foreign waters. This service was defined by the official publication: **Instruction für den Postanweisungs-Dienst auf den Schiffen der K.u.K. Kriegs-Marine. Beilage zur Marine Normal-Verordnungsblatte XV - Stück vom 8 Juli 1901** (Rules regarding the operation of the money order service on board ships of the Imperial and Royal Navy).

In November 1903 the Detachments Post Office in Peking was granted the same postal facilities as warships sailing in foreign waters and was therefore able to send and receive money orders. At this post office the Chief Administrator (in German “Rechnungs Führer”) was responsible for the postal money order service under the control of the commandant of the Detachments, independently of the postal officer in charge of the mail.

The amount of a money order was limited to 1000 Kr., and the tax or charge levied depended on the amount and the destination:

- ❖ For money orders sent to Austria, Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina the tax was: up to 20 Kr, 10 heller; from 20 to 100 Kr, 20 heller; from 100 to 300 Kr, 40 heller, from 300 to 600 Kr, 60 heller, from 600 to 1000 Kr, 1 Kr.
- ❖ For money orders sent to the Sandschak through the field post offices the tax was: up to 40 Kr, 20 heller; from 40 to 100 Kr, 40 heller; from 100 to 300 Kr, 80 heller; from 300 to 600 Kr, 1Kr 20 heller; from 600 to 1000 Kr, 2 Kr.

The Detachments Post Office had to get supplies of money order forms at the “K.u.K. Marine Zahlamt” at Pola. The forms to be used for Austria and Herzegovina were priced at 2 heller per item, those for Hungary, Bosnia and the Sandschak, 1 heller per item.

In the Austro-Hungarian territories (Dual Monarchy considerations) the civilian post offices nominated to handle the exchange of money orders with the warships and Peking were Wien I-1 for Austria and Herzegovina, and Budapest 72 for Hungary, Bosnia and the Sandschak.

Thus, postal money orders issuing from the Detachments Post Office were put in service letters addressed to one of the above civilian post offices. The service letters were put together with private and official mail inside the *dépêches* which were forwarded by the German Post Office to the sorting office concerned (Wien 76 or Budapest 72). The sorting office forwarded the service letters to either Wien I-1 or Budapest 4, thence to the post office serving the payee.

When a member of a Detachment sent a money order, he had to fill in the relevant form on the reverse with the:

- ❖ amount of the money order in numerals on the cut-off coupon and in words on the money order,
- ❖ address of the payee,
- ❖ name of the sender,
- ❖ address of the sender “Marine Detachement in Peking/Tientsin”.

The Chief Administrator had to make up the money order with service data, for instance indicating the postal district of the sender “K.u.K. Kriegsmarine”. The money order had to be recorded on “Das Annahmepbuch für Postanweisung”, a record of the money order issued, with one book issued for each postal organisation (Dual Monarchy); and also “Das Ausgabe-Journal über Postanweisungen”, a daily record of money movements. A receipt of sending was issued with a dated postmark of the Detachments Post Office at Peking and delivered to the sender.

| Aufgabe-  -Schein. |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Gegenstand: . . . . .   | Postanweisung Nr. <i>H</i> |
| Empfänger . . . . .   | <i>Seebezirks Kommando</i> |
| Bestimmungsort  | <i>Triest</i>              |
| Betrag . . . . .  | <i>4 K 80 h</i>            |
| Gebür . . . . .   |                            |
| den . . . . . 190 .   |                            |
| Unterschrift des Postbeamten:<br><i>[Signature]</i>   |                            |
| D. S. Nr. 158.  |                            |

Fig. 43 Receipt of sending (form DS. Nr 158) to the (addressee) “Seebezirks Kommando Triest”. Postmark type PPK-1, dated 06.04.04.

When a money order issued in the Austro-Hungarian territories was payable to a member of the Detachments in China, it was sent by the post office serving the sender to the civilian post office nominated to handle the exchange with Peking (Wien I-1 or Budapest 72). The post office concerned notified the Marine Section of the War Navy Chancellery to order the payment to the member of the detachment. This notice comprised a registration number, the name and town of the sender, the name of the payee, the amount of money to be paid and the indication “Marine Detachement Peking”.

This data was typed on an order (“Ausweis”) which received the service hand-stamp of the Chancellery. The order was sent to the Detachments post office at Peking via the dépêche and thence forwarded by the sorting office of Wien.

At its arrival at Peking the order received the dated postmark of the detachments post office.

K. und k. Kanzleidirektion des Kriegsministeriums,  
MARINESEKTION.

AUSWEIS  
-----  
über die vom k.k. Geldbestellamte WIEN 1/1. eingelangten Postanweisungen.

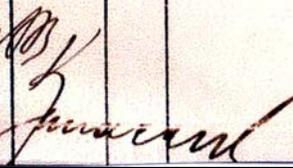
| Portl.<br>Zahl  | Von wem                 | An wen   | Betrag |   | Auf S.M.Schiff               |
|---|-------------------------|--|--------|---|------------------------------|
|   |                         |  | K      | h   |                              |
| 759   | Sandor Veszseis<br>BAJA | Demeter Veszseis   | 5      | -   | Marine Detachement<br>PEKING |
|  |                         | W I E N, am 11. September 1912.  |        |   |                              |
|   |                         |  |        |  |                              |

Fig. 44 Order sent 11.09.1912 by the “Marinesektion” to the Detachments P.O. at Peking to pay 5 Kr to a member of the detachment named Veszseis Demeter. “K.u.K. Kanzleidirektion des Kriegsministeriums, Marinesektion” hand-stamp and postmark type PKK-2, dated 27.IX.12. This order resulted from a money order received by the Post Office Wien I/1, the designated interface between civilian post offices in Austria and post offices on board warships or at the Legation in Peking.

## 2-9 Postal savings bank service

In June 1901 a Postal savings bank service was provided for officers and sailors on board warships sailing in foreign waters. This service was defined by the official publication: **Instruction für den Postsparkassa-Dienst auf den Schiffen der K.u.K. Kriegs-Marine. Hinausgegeben mit Marine Normal-Verordnungsblatt XIV - Stück vom 25 June 1901** (Official rules regarding Postal Savings Bank service on ships of the Imperial and Royal Navy).

In November 1903 the Detachments Post Office at Peking was provided with the same postal facilities as the warships sailing in foreign waters and was therefore able to perform banking operations. The Marine Section of the War

Navy Chancellery advised the Postal Savings Banks of Wien and Budapest that a Post savings bank service was set up at the Detachments Post Office in Peking, where the Chief Administrator was responsible for the service under the control of the Commandant of the Detachments. Two services were provided for the members of the Detachments: a Savings Bank service, and banking operations. Only banking operations are presented below.

Sailors having an account with the Postal Savings Bank could deposit sums of money in their account; transfer sums of money from their account to others having an account with the Postal Savings bank (to settle an invoice for instance); and send a money order to a payee, the amount of money being debited to their account.



Fig. 45 Receipt for the transfer of an amount of Kr 360.30 to the account number 813.555 at the Postal Savings Bank in Wien.

Faulty postmark type PPK-1A dated 06.12.03.

Note: At that time August Frh. von Jüptner was Chief Administrator at the Detachments Post Office at Peking (see Fig. 19 and also signature on the receipt, Fig. 46).



Fig. 46 Receipt for the transfer of an amount of Kr 10 to account number 829700 at the Postal Saving Bank at Wien (Mittheilungen aus dem Gebiete des Seewesens).

Postmark type PPK-1, dated 06.08.04.

[The addressee's full details of "Mittheilungen aus dem Gebiete des Seewesens" is known from another receipt, too faint to reproduce here. Ed]



## QUESTIONS, ANSWERS, LETTERS and SNIPPETS...

### *Korrektions Korner: Austria 155*

Pages 77 – 84 are headed “Austria 154 – Summer 2006” instead of “Austria 155 – Autumn 2006”. The perils of copy’n’paste...

### *It's not in Netto...*



**Query:** This cover has stamps with inverted numbers; I cannot find these listed in Netto. Any help in identifying them would be appreciated.

**Andy's answer:** Please examine the stamps carefully with a magnifying glass. Are they double-thickness, with an upper stamp having its numbers cut out then pasted on top of an inverted lower stamp?

**Reply:** Oh dear. Yes.

## ***Not-released stamps***

**Query:** Why was the 1974 2S50 issue (inscribed “XI Europaischer Gemeindetag 1974”) not released? Are there any other issues which were not released?

**Andy’s answer:** We're talking “prepared for issue but pulled at the last minute”. Poking in the ANK catalogue plus emailing RZ produces the following list; additions and expansions welcomed. The bracketed numbers are those used by ANK.

(1) 1850 first issue, 12 Kr value, blue

(2) 1918 Lemberg FLUGPOST overprint, 7K on 10K, perforated

(3) 1918 Lemberg FLUGPOST overprint, 7K on 10K, imperf

(4) as (2) but with the “7K” omitted

(4) as (3) but with the “7K” omitted

*[Yes, I realise they have used (4) twice...]*

(5) 1922 light blue (green?) 2Kr overprinted FLUGPOST

(6) this number was not used in the ANK catalogue, it says

(7) nor this one

(8) The very first stamp listed after WWII would have been the 3RPfg value of the 1945 Hitler Overprints, in various shades of brown.

(9) 1 RM black-green with the 1945 “many (14-16) vertical bars” overprint

(10) 2RM ditto

(11) 3RM ditto

(12) 5RM ditto

*[Heinzel remarks that the 2, 3, and 5 RM had no valid postal use anyway!]*

(13) 5+3 black/brown 2-flashes-of-lightening intended to be part of the 1946 anti-fascist set

(14) 12+12 grey/blue deaths-head ditto

*[Allegedly, the Allied Control Commission objected to them for some reason - or for no reason except to show that they had the power to.]*

(15) 2S50 issue (inscribed “XI Europaischer Gemeindetag 1974”) scheduled for 8 May 1974

*[There was an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Lower Austria, and quarantine restrictions prevented large gatherings of people.]*

I can't find any later ones.

### ***There it was gone (1)...***

In Austria 154 pp 86-87, Joyce Boyer described an unusual cover she had acquired, posted by the bulb-growing firm of Stassen from their (branch?) office in Innsbruck. This summer, she was able to visit the address, only to find that over the last year or two the area has been re-developed and new office-type buildings erected but not yet completed or occupied.

Innsbruck Merkur Stamp Club have suggested that the extra cancellation on the letter might have been made by or for Stassen to frank their mail especially if they had a considerable amount of mail being posted on that date. However this remains unproven.

### ***There it was gone (2)...***

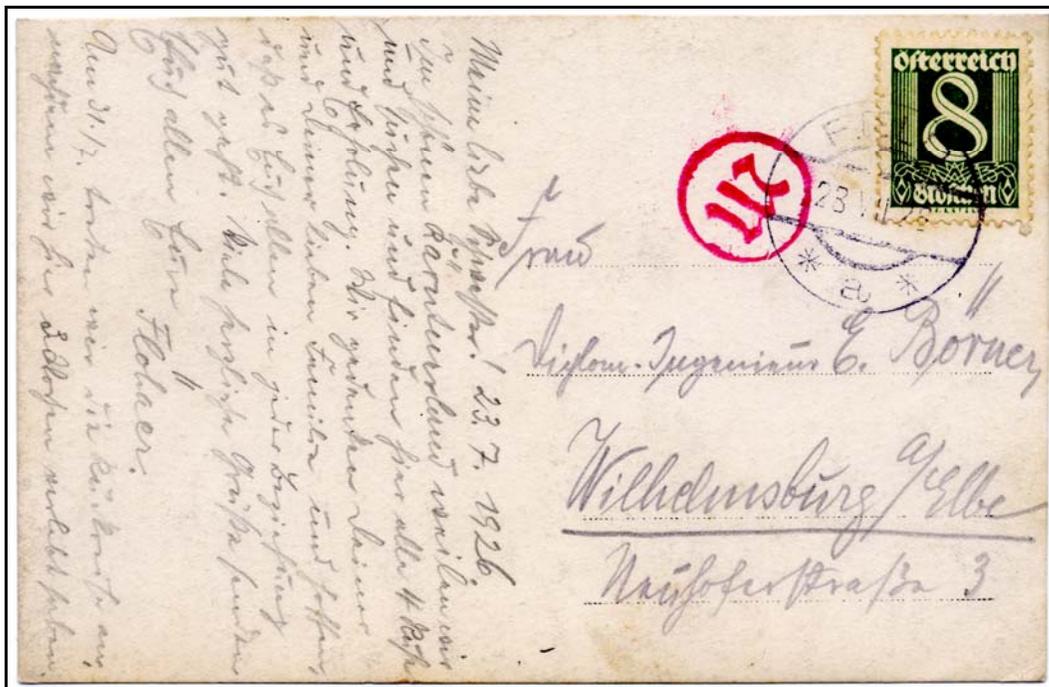
Your Editor saw some highly desirable items at the last York Stamp Fair, but decided not to purchase them as they seemed expensive. A bolder colleague later discovered that the dealer had decided to price everything in Euro, not pounds, and snapped them up! He who hesitates...

### ***APS AUCTION No.84 Realisations***

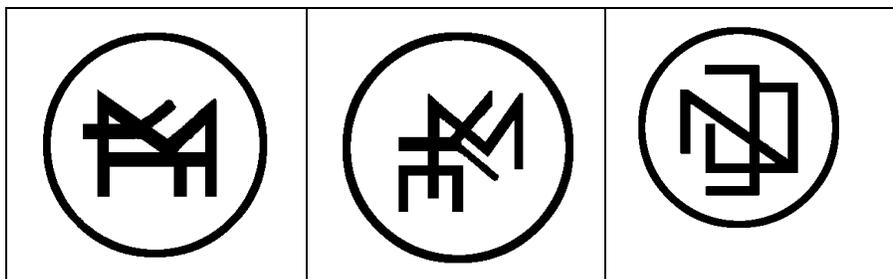
|    |       |     |       |     |       |     |       |
|----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| 7  | £10   | 70  | £13   | 120 | £8    | 181 | £2    |
| 9  | £10   | 71  | £15   | 121 | £8    | 182 | £10   |
| 11 | £14   | 72  | £15   | 124 | £6    | 183 | £10   |
| 17 | £5    | 73  | £12   | 125 | £12   | 184 | £10   |
| 23 | £6.50 | 74  | £6.50 | 126 | £10   | 188 | £2.50 |
| 30 | £6    | 81  | £13   | 127 | £12   | 192 | £22   |
| 36 | £8    | 83  | £8    | 140 | £5    | 193 | £3.20 |
| 43 | £30   | 87  | £8    | 144 | £3.20 | 200 | £6    |
| 45 | £25   | 88  | £10   | 153 | £2.20 | 201 | £3.50 |
| 46 | £14   | 89  | £16   | 157 | £0.80 | 202 | £7.50 |
| 48 | £16   | 91  | £12   | 158 | £1.20 | 203 | £30   |
| 52 | £28   | 92  | £15   | 160 | £2.20 | 204 | £11   |
| 53 | £20   | 93  | £15   | 164 | £4    | 212 | £14   |
| 54 | £22   | 95  | £6    | 166 | £8    | 216 | £9.50 |
| 55 | £16   | 100 | £15   | 173 | £6    | 217 | £4    |
| 57 | £12   | 101 | £12   | 174 | £20   | 218 | £6    |
| 62 | £8    | 110 | £6    | 175 | £15   | 219 | £10   |
| 65 | £9    | 111 | £6    | 177 | £10   | 222 | £125  |
| 66 | £8    | 112 | £6    | 178 | £4    |     |       |

## Unusual markings on postcards

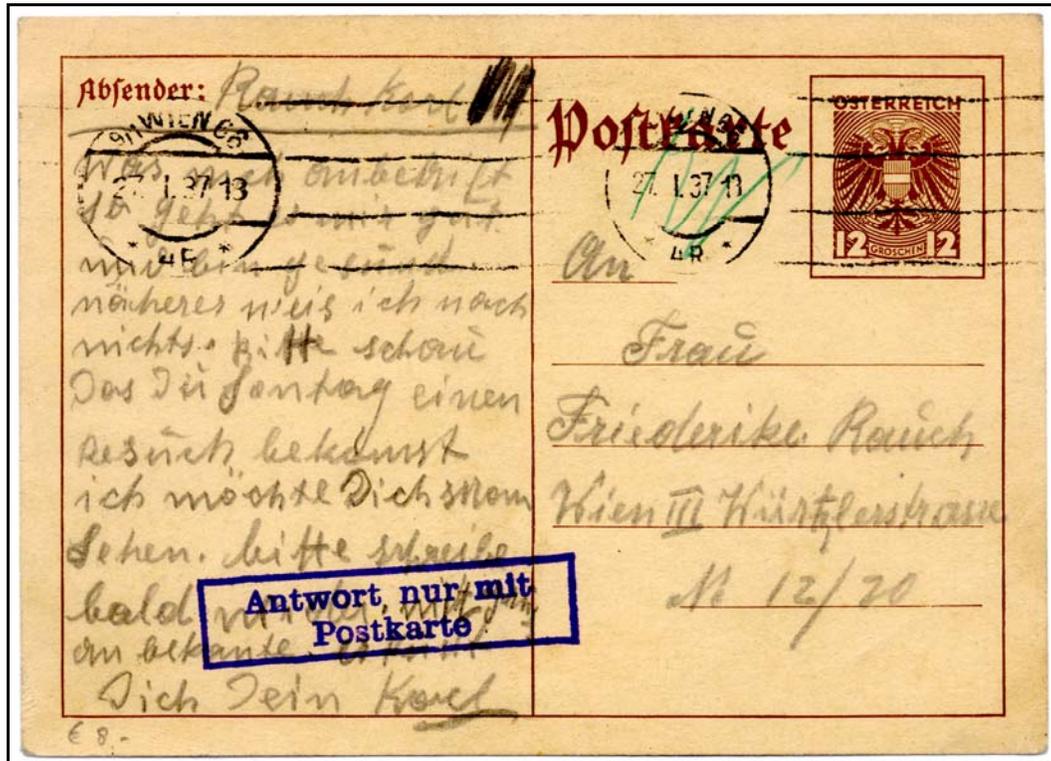
GF writes, *I have recently purchased two postcards that I would like more information about. The first one is a 1928 card from Feld am See in Kärnten to Lower Austria with a red mark that looks similar to an earlier correspondence in Austria in 2000 and at that time the marks were considered Greek transit marks, but this card has been nowhere near Greece. The second is a 12g cancelled at Vienna in 1937 to a local destination in Vienna with a purple boxed Antwort nur mit Postkarte. I cannot see why such a cachet should have been raised.*



The card has a sepia illustration of Feld am See, Kärnten, and is cancelled with a bridge cancel FELD dated 23 VII 26. It is addressed to Wilhelmsburg a/d Elbe, which is a suburb of Hamburg ie in Germany: so it should be franked at the Austrian inland rate of 8 groschen, and it is. The marks GF referred to turned out to be Greek currency control marks: see Austria 134 p74. Typical examples follow; clearly this red M-like mark is not one of them.



Andyguess: Hamburg delivery-round mark? No, it's underneath the cancel. Hut cachet? Please. someone, what is it?



The second card is blank on the back (apart from the rest of the message). It is from and to Vienna, and dated 27.I.37.13. The “**Antwort nur mit Postkarte**” is in strong violet. The card needs and has 12g franking, the inland postcard rate. The cancels are 9/1 WIEN 66 \* 4R \*; and are a Wellenstempel, Stohl type W2563k. The one next the imprinted 12g is crossed out in green crayon.

This “Antwort nur mit Postkarte” has been seen on cards sent from prisons and detention camps, I am told. Perhaps this is to make the reply easy to inspect and stop contraband being included – was Karl Rauch detained?

## *Mail to Saigon*

The card illustrated on the next page was sent by O Budliger in Vienna XIV to Monsieur Legendre in Saigon. It is franked 10h (the correct foreign postcard rate), written in French, and cancelled on 12 VII 1910; it passed through Singapore on Aug 5<sup>th</sup>. [At top left is “C.C.C. Life Member 3314” which is probably irrelevant!]



The question is, by what ship was it transported?

## NOTES FROM PUBLICATIONS.

by Andy Taylor

### *Die Briefmarke:*

**Issue 8/2006:** Fireworks!; Washington 2006; the State Printing Works today; Austria Holidayland (4); thematic: Wildalpen; the first foreign postal stationery of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Republic, and the special rates for printed matter; the latest Automatenmarke machine [the “stamps” have a floral background]; more sold-out stamps; the earliest (1891) delivery cancels; 1945 forgeries; the 1945 Allied Military Currency; Ovebria 2006 in Salzburg; societies etc.; “the end of conservative philately”?; new catalogues & books; etc.

**Issue 9/2006:** Austro-German Philately day at Bad Reichenhall; reader-survey results; towards WIPA2008; thematic: world championship cycling; Klimt; new issues and products; new floral definitives; the Wiesenthal sale; on fakes & forgeries; much foreign & society news; letters; yooof: The Stampers and others.

**Issue 10/2006:** Why expertising?; Sammler-service customer survey; introducing the WIPA General Secretary; the 1920 Kärnten plebiscite; the 1906 B&H Landscapes; the 1945 Homecoming stamp; thematic: lions in heraldry; comments on 1945 items; new issues including stamps-in-rolls; Karl Majörg; Montafonerbahn; a new OPAL machine (with the improbable name “Axiom Bar-codeBlaster”!!); Mitlauferpost; book & catalogue reviews; news, letters etc.

## *Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreich e.V.*

**Issue 75:** New President (nay, entire committee?) **still** sought; unusual mixed-country frankings; late fee; registered and express local letters; many 1-side articles on diverse subjects; on looking for traces of the use of the German currency rather than Austrian in Vorarlberg.

## *Stamps of Hungary*

**Issue 166: September 2006:** News & views; book reviews; Transylvanian hotel posts (Hohe Rinne, Bistra, & Magura) with colour section; a Fiume postcard; the Hungarian Imperial Crown; the continuing saga of Official Stamps between 1921 & 24; and Answers to several questions.

## *Militär und Philatelie*

**Issue 218:** Personal Stamps with a military theme; Austrian troops in peace-keeping activities; etc

**Book:** “The War in Romania 1916-1918” by H Riedel; 93pp A4, many maps, numerous colour illustrations, extensive coverage of postal aspects. Copies available via the Editor.

## *Germania*

**Aug 2006 vol 42 no 3:** World Heritage sites; H v Stephan; Red Cross; labels on mail undeliverable in wartime; regional group reports; Q&A; etc.

## *The London Philatelist*

**Oct 2006 vol 115 no 1339:** on the treatment of a thematic collection, using A3-landscape sheets while complying with the FIP regulations - and winning gold medals with it!

## *Additions to the Library*

| Ref | Title                              | Comment                           | Pp | Author      | Pub  | Tx |
|-----|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----|-------------|------|----|
| 407 | Der Krieg gegen Rumänien 1916-1918 | Many maps & colour illustrations. | 93 | Hans Riedel | 2006 | G  |

# “GRUSS AUS” LITHOS BY SCHWIDERNOCH

By Henry O. Pollak

## *Introduction*

The most popular scenic picture postcards from the Austro-Hungarian monarchy are the lithos produced by one or another of the firms with the name Schwidernoch. The founder, Karl Schwidernoch, came to Vienna from Slovakia in 1891, and lithos with the imprint Lesk & Schwidernoch were first sold during that year. Cards from the next firm, Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf, are found from 1895 onward, and reached the peak of their popularity in 1897. Altogether about ten different imprints using the name Schwidernoch produced lithos, but 95% of all such cards come from the two firms already named, and three other variants of imprints from the same firm: Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Leopoldstadt; Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien 2 (or II); and Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien II, Pillersdorfg. 4. The peak usages of these are from 1898 and 1899. I will say more about the cards with each of these imprints, and other imprints I have seen, later.

Lithos, I am told, required a separate run through the printing press for each colour. This necessitates work of great precision, for which Schwidernoch became famous. Postcard collecting peaked from the 1890s to the early 1900s, and the collecting of scenic lithos has in recent years again become very popular. Most collectors are collectors of particular communities and erstwhile provinces, and Schwidernoch lithos are often prize items in such collections of one's native area, so-called "Heimatsammlungen". A collector of Schwidernoch lithos across the board may have a tough time competing for cards from the most popular provinces.

Within the card-sending population, the popularity of lithos dropped rapidly beginning in 1900, and they were replaced mainly by phototypes, photogravure, and photographs, colourized or otherwise. The Schwidernoch printers laid off much of their staffs, and some firms expanded into scenic photographs, cinderellas for products, charities, and special occasions, posters and, as it seems, almost any variety of printing. But they never regained their market dominance of the late 1890s. I am aware of only one book which contains a few pages of history of the Schwidernoch firms, and that is Karl Killer's beautiful volume on Austrian lithos, more than half of it devoted to Styria. In the process, Killer interviewed a Schwidernoch descendant who was still associated with a successor printing firm in Vienna.

Working far from any documentary sources in Austria, this brief study will take an empirical rather than an archival point of view. I have collected to date about

1500 Schwidernoch lithos, and will try to summarize what I have inferred. The study could be much extended, but the temptation of writing more than anyone (except an addict) would want to know must be resisted.

Having spent a lifetime collecting covers and postal history of Austria, I got interested in Schwidernoch cards by accident. In organizing my 1890 covers, I looked for the earliest picture postcards that I happened to have accumulated, found that they were all printed by Lesk & Schwidernoch, and saw that they were quite attractive. So I started to look for cards from this firm more systematically, and expanded gradually into all the Schwidernoch lithos – where I drew the line. So whatever overall statistical insights I have developed are corrupted by my greater zeal for the Lesk & Schwidernoch cards, by the accident of success in getting cards from various regions, and by the nature of the competition for lithos.

### *The basic facts about Schwidernoch lithos*

#### **What are the different imprints?**

The most common, as I have said, are

- ❖ Lesk & Schwidernoch, Wien
- ❖ Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf
- ❖ Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Leopoldstadt
- ❖ Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien 2 (or II)
- ❖ Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch Wien II, Pillersdorf. 4.

Then there are

- ❖ August Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf
- ❖ Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien
- ❖ T. Schwidernoch, Wien-Hacking (Austria)
- ❖ A.T. Schwidernoch. Hacking Wien XIII
- ❖ A. Schwidernoch, D. Wagram (Austria)
- ❖ A.T. Schwidernoch, Deutsch Wagram

All cards, except Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf and August Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf, are numbered. With very minor exceptions, this numbering does all one could hope for from a numbering system: there are almost no duplications, and just two gaps. Based on the data, one would guess that between 5,000 and 6,000 different lithos were printed.

### ***What do the cards look like?***

The earliest lithos, from the firm Lesk & Schwidernoch, are printed in soft, pastel colours. They typically have one large scene, one or two smaller ones, and an artistic floral bouquet and/or a seal of the community. All the other, later, lithos have sharper detail and livelier colours, and usually a larger number of separate images. These are the most popular with collectors.

The text on 95% of the cards I have seen is German, but that may be a statistical bias and not a fact. Cards printed in Czech and in Hungarian have been the next most common for me, and I have also seen cards in Polish, Italian, Slovene, Croat, Serb, Romanian, and French. Bilingual cards exist, for example from the Burgenland.

Cards after about 1897 come in a great variety of papers and colours. Most cards are multi-coloured on white stock, but you could also get them in full colour on various shades of blue, green, or pink paper. Then there are cards which are all a pale green. These typically have pictures of the moon added to the images, and are called “Mondkarten” (moon cards). It was also possible to get cards all in black, blue, red, pink, sepia, and brown (and probably more). You ordered what you wanted.

As far as I can tell, cards issued by Lesk & Schwidernoch were never later reissued under the imprint of any of the later Schwidernoch firms. Empirically, I think the Lesk & Schwidernoch plates might have been sold to the competing Viennese firm of Schneider & Lux: a number of Schneider & Lux cards have the identical picture but later cancellations than the corresponding Schwidernoch card. Sometimes the same images can be found with no identification of a printer at all. Cards beginning with the Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf series, that is with 1895, may be found reprinted (presumably reordered), sometimes more than once, and in different colour combinations, with different imprints. When they were reprinted, they acquired a number, which the Karl Schwidernoch, Wien Floridsdorf cards did not have. Otherwise, reprints kept the same number, even when the colours and the printer's imprint changed.

Sometimes, the same card was reprinted with the pictures unchanged, but a text in a different language. These may keep the same number. Sometimes, only one of the several images on the card was changed. This often happened when the cards had been ordered by a hotel and/or restaurant, which had its picture prominently displayed. If the name of the establishment changed, or a different establishment ordered cards, that particular picture would change while the rest of the card stayed the same. This usually got the card a new number. There is one Lesk & Schwidernoch card from Ischl with a circular image of a grand

hotel in the upper left-hand corner, but it is either the Kurhaus, or the Hotel Elisabeth, or the Hotel vorm. Bauer. The rest of the card is the same. The numbers are different, and I need to find a Heimatsammler who can tell me how many others there might be!

### ***When did Schwidernoch “flourish”?***

It is interesting to study the dates, either of postmarks or of manuscript notations. About 2/3 of all cards can be dated in this way; the rest are mint, and a few have illegible year dates. I will do the Lesk & Schwidernoch separately from all the other series.

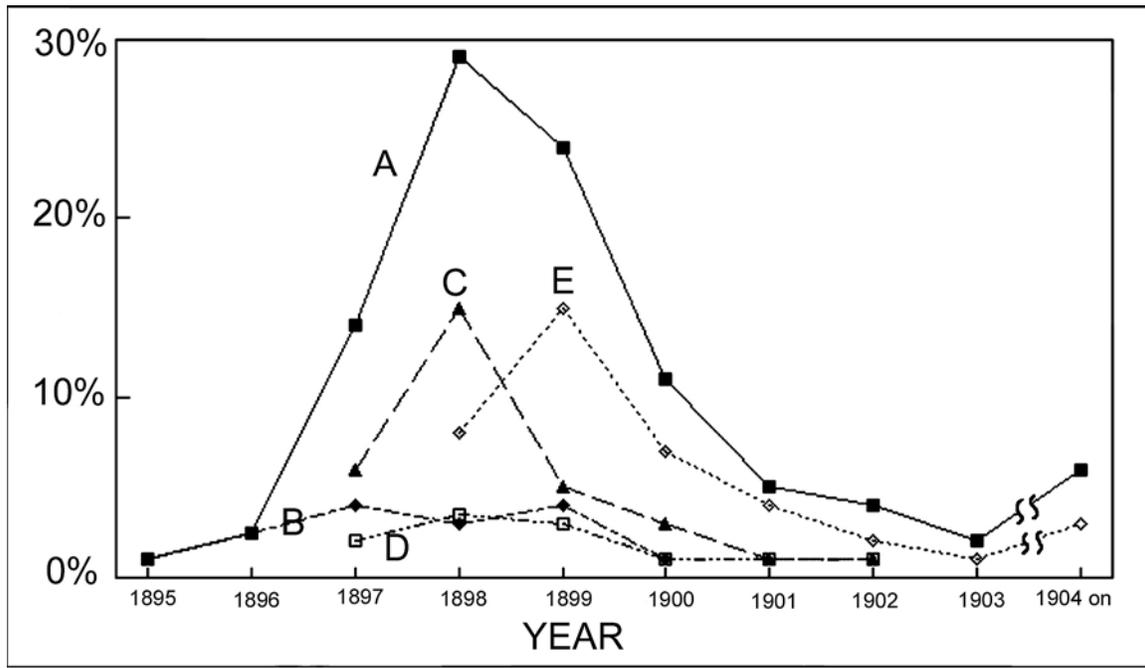
#### **Lesk & Schwidernoch**

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Year 1891       | 4%  |
| Year 1892       | 19% |
| Year 1893       | 7%  |
| Year 1894       | 16% |
| Year 1895       | 12% |
| Year 1896       | 16% |
| Year 1897       | 15% |
| Year 1898       | 8%  |
| All later years | 3%  |

#### **All other Schwidernoch lithos ( an extra decimal place can be justified)**

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Year 1895 | 0.7%  |
| Year 1896 | 2.6%  |
| Year 1897 | 14.5% |
| Year 1898 | 28.9% |
| Year 1899 | 25.8% |
| Year 1900 | 10.5% |
| Year 1901 | 5.5%  |
| Year 1902 | 4.2%  |
| Year 1903 | 1.8%  |
| Year 1904 | 1.4%  |
| Year 1905 | 1.1%  |
| Later     | 3.0%  |

A plot of the latter data, including graphs for the most common imprints, follows.



Y axis: percent of all dated cards

A: All cards (except Lesk & Schwidernoch)

B: Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf

C: Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien Leopoldstadt

D: Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien II (or 2)

E: Kunstanstalt Karl Schwidernoch, Wien II, Pillersdorf. 4

### ***Geographic Distribution***

The firms Schwidernoch produced cards overwhelmingly for the empire, although they certainly solicited orders from other parts of the world. The two most exotic cards in my collection are from Jerusalem and from Samarkand (in French). Two cards from Salonica were pictured in “Die Briefmarke” a number of years ago, and I have a few from Italy and Germany. Within the empire, the statistical distribution for different provinces is totally unreliable, because it depends overwhelmingly on possible sources and on the collecting habits of the competition. What can be said is that Lower Austria and Vienna itself may be less popular than the other states of Austria; Vorarlberg and Südtirol are extremely competitive; and Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia are not as much in demand as Hungary and former Yugoslav provinces. I have no feeling for the extent to which Schwidernoch penetrated Galicia and the Bukovina. The earliest cards I have seen from Bosnia-Herzegovina, a very popular collecting area, are from 1898.

Hint: Let's assume that you are looking for Austria in a stack of "Gruss aus" cards at a postcard show, that most of the cards are from Germany or from Switzerland, and you haven't much time! How do you find Austrian cards, without examining each picture? Answer: Look at the address side instead! It's not only the stamps: most Austrian cards say "Correspondenzkarte", while German and Swiss cards say "Postkarte". You may miss a few this way, but it sure saves time.

### ***The Numbering***

The Lesk & Schwidernoch cards (sometimes they just say L. & Sch.) have very faintly printed numbers that are difficult to read. The numbers appear to go from 200 into the low 500s. Sometimes the same scene serves for greetings from different places: 474 is greetings from the Wachau, 474/b from Dürrenstein (sic), and 474/c from Ruine Aggstein. Why the series seems to start around 200 isn't clear. It might be that the very first cards had neither a mention of a firm, nor a copyright notice, nor a number. Maybe they were produced by Lesk before Schwidernoch became a partner.

What came next were the Karl Schwidernoch and (much less common) August Schwidernoch cards, for which the printing was in Wien-Floridsdorf and which carry no numbers. The Wien-Leopoldstadt imprints that I have seen run from 0843 to into the 2800s; the Wien 2 or II imprints from 0745 all the way into the 5000s, and the Pillersdorfg. 4 imprints run from 2900 to 5500. It looks like Wien-Leopoldstadt were the originals from the 700 to the 2800 range, and Pillersdorfg. 4 for 2900 on up (but lower numbers with that imprint certainly exist), while Wien 2 was used all the way through but not as frequently. How the numbers were assigned is not clear to me. You find long stretches (20+ numbers long) all from the same area, which would indicate someone going to the area, getting orders, and making the sketches or early photos from which the lithos were made. On the other hand, you get stretches of consecutive numbers from all over the place, as if orders came in and were executed on a first-come, first-served, basis. Probably both practices existed simultaneously. Some advertisements and order forms, unfortunately not from the original Karl Schwidernoch firms, confirm these scenarios.

### **The Karl Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf Series**

As I have said, these cards are not numbered. My guess would be that a least 500 different cards were produced with this imprint. There is a greater variety of layouts and styles of lettering than in the later cards. The usage is roughly as follows:

|      |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1895 | 1896 | 1897 | 1898 | 1899 | Later |
| 6%   | 18%  | 43%  | 19%  | 10%  | 4%    |

A style of card which is seen frequently has two main scenes, a picture of an establishment at the upper left, topped by a circular band which contains its name, and a broader view of the surrounding area to its right. The establishment, often a resort hotel and restaurant, was typically also a post office, and the legend stresses this fact. This style is found from many geographic areas, but especially from all parts of the Tirol. I envisage a particularly successful salesman going from one postmaster/restauranteur to the next, showing him samples, and persuading him that he should place an order. Or maybe some postmasters themselves were agents.

### **The Wien Leopoldstadt, Wien 2 (II) and Pillersdorfg. 4 imprints**

About 75% of all Schwidernoch cards carry one of these imprints. Most Wien Leopoldstadt used cards are from 1897 to 1899, with a sharp peak in 1898. The cards with imprint Wien 2 or II have the same distribution of usage, but are not as sharply peaked in 1898. The Wien II, Pillersdorfg. 4 cards are the most frequently seen of all, with heavy usage in 1898, peak in 1899, heavy usage in 1900, and a long tail thereafter.

### **August Schwidernoch, Wien-Floridsdorf**

The relationship among the various Schwidernochs is not known to me. These appear between 1896 and 1900, and form no more than about 1% of Schwidernoch cards. Did Karl leave the Floridsdorf printing works to August when Karl moved to Leopoldstadt?

### **Karl Schwidernoch Wien , with or without Kunstanstalt**

These are found between 1899 and 1908. For these and all others to come, very small numbers.

### **A. Schwidernoch, Hacking Wien XIII and T. Schwidernoch, Wien Hacking**

The first are seen between 1901 and 1907, while the second between 1907 and 1911.

## A. Schwidernoch, Deutsch-Wagram

I have seen these between 1901 and 1908.

### ***How do you write “Gruss aus” in various languages?***

The cards say “Greetings from” as follows:

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| German:        | Gruss aus      |
| Czech:         | Pozdrav z      |
| Polish:        | Pozdrowienie z |
| Italian:       | Un Saluto da   |
| Hungarian:     | Üdvözlet       |
| Roumanian:     | Salutari din   |
| Croat/Slovene: | Pozdrav iz     |
| French:        | Souvenir de    |

*The editor suspects  
that he has missed out  
several accents here.*

## ***Chemistry***

The margins of some cards tend to turn yellow and then brown, which is blamed on a slow chemical reaction with age. The advice I have been given is not to try to mess with it. So far, I haven't noticed any great effect on prices. Books picture these cards with discoloured margins without a hint of apology.

## ***Conclusion***

The author is very grateful to many collectors and dealers, too numerous to list, who have helped him in his search for cards. One dealer, however, stands out especially for answering many questions and helping in many other ways: Markus Weissenböck in Salzburg.

## ***The illustrations***

These are the editor's selection from those supplied by the author.



Pistyan/Postyen is a medicinal spa with a speciality of leg problems.

Marienbad.: Because it's funny. I've seen very few funny ones. It's scenes from the mud baths.



Sanskimost.: Little picture of a family, and because it's Bosnia.

Kindberg: that's a Lesk und Schwidernoch, with the typical flowers and insignia.



Kaprunerthal: very typical design: A restaurant that probably had them made, under a circular partial ring with an inscription. Type often seen from mountainous areas.

Wien Türkenschanze as featured in a recent enjoyable article.



This article is a translation done by Chester Wilson for the APS(US) of pages 18-23 of Dr U. Ferchenbauer's "Österreich 1850-1918 Handbuch und Spezialkatalog, Wien 2000". The APS is most grateful to both Dr U. Ferchenbauer and the APS(US) for permission to publish this article. Minor changes into "British English" by A Taylor! Further similar articles are planned.

## **Austrian Postal History: 1840 to the Universal Postal Union**

**E**ven though his primary goal was a thorough reform of the English postal system, Roland Hill is generally thought of as the inventor of the postage stamp. Only later did he claim to have thought of introducing postage stamps. In his pamphlet "Post-office Reform: its Importance and Practicability", published in January, 1837, he recommended an extensive reduction of postal rates, in addition to speeding the distribution and delivery of mail and simplification of the postal system. Whenever possible the rates were to be reduced to one penny for a letter up to a half ounce in weight without consideration of the distance involved. Hill's suggestions, modified in later writings, resulted in a real "penny post" in England. The victory of these liberal economic ideas over fiscal principles proved irresistible.

The use of adhesive stamps was first proposed by the bookseller James Chalmers of Dundee in 1838 as a way of simplifying the handling of mail. The introduction of the penny post in Great Britain on October 1, 1840, in connection with the world's first postage stamps, provoked an enormous response throughout the entire world. It signalled a completely new vision of the international postal system, which was encouraged by the rapid improvement of transportation and economic growth. In the beginning these postal reforms, especially the tariff reduction, represented a severe drain upon the government's finances, in spite of a dramatic increase in the volume of mail. Therefore the hesitant behaviour of the postal administrations of continental Europe seems all too reasonable. In addition, the European administrations had another decisive motive for waiting: while Great Britain represented a large, self-contained postal district with a single administration, the rest of Europe was strongly splintered. Certainly a thoroughgoing tariff reform was urgently necessary on the continent, too, but removal of the numerous restrictions on movement, above all the countless border- and fee- schedules, needed to be addressed.

Even though the division of Germany and Switzerland most burdened the continental postal systems, Austria was the first to pay attention to the unification of international postal organisations. In 1842 an important simplification of the complicated Austrian postal rates came into effect. Until

then the rate for a letter had been based on the number of Post Stages between the point of origin and the delivery address; afterwards it was based on the distance. A postal treaty signed in the same year by Austria, Bavaria, Baden, and Saxony can be seen as a first step towards unification and price reduction of international mail. Conclusion of a similar agreement with Thurn and Taxis in 1843 connected all of south and central Germany with the Austria postal system. At the beginning of 1844 Prussia also arranged a postal treaty with Austria. In the meantime Switzerland had made great progress towards postal unity. After the war of 1847-48 the new Swiss federal constitution came into effect, article 33 of which transferred the entire postal system of the confederation to the federal government and thereby finally ended the postal chaos in Switzerland.

All these treaties were forerunners to the growing idea of a **German-Austrian Postal Union**, which came into effect on July 1, 1850 after protracted negotiations. The negotiations had been interrupted by the shocks of the revolution of 1848 in Austria, as well as the collapse of the Assembly of Frankfurt. The increasingly stronger political opposition between Austria and Prussia also inhibited completion of the union.

The most important elements of the union, especially in the eyes of philatelists, were the establishment of a unified tariff for sending letters, the collection of fees from the sender, and the means to do so: “postal coupons”, that is, postage stamps. In 1857 “Fahrpost”, the transport of heavier or valuable items by coach, within the postal union was also regulated. Postage stamps had already been introduced by Great Britain in 1840, and in the following years by many other countries: 1843 in Brazil, Geneva, and Zurich, 1845 in Finland and Basle, 1846 in the USA, 1848 in Russia, 1849 in France, Belgium, Bavaria, and New South Wales. Although the treaty meant that transit fees were no longer collected from the public, charges continued to be based upon the weight and distance to be travelled.

Even before the postal union treaty between Prussia and Austria came into force Bavaria, Saxony, and both Mecklenburgs had joined the union. By 1852 all other German postal administrations had attached themselves to the union, so that by this time the union enclosed the entire region of Germany and Austria. Austria tried to build a postal union with the Italian states, but these efforts were strongly influenced by the opposition of Sardinia. Even so, the postal treaty that came into effect on April 1, 1851 with the Grand Duchy of Tuscany formed the basis for an Austrian-Italian postal union. During 1852 Modena, Parma, and the Papal States joined this union. A separate treaty with Sardinia, beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1854, could not however bring about the postal unification of the Apennine peninsula. This was first accomplished following the lost war of 1859; the secession of Lombardy, and Sardinia’s annexation of Austria’s

partners from the postal union, plus the conquest of Naples and the greater part of the Papal States in 1860 and 1861 completed the unification. The postal disunity of Italy was also over by the beginning of the 1860s. Venice, which was still Austrian, and the remains of the Papal States, only became united with the rest of Italy in 1866 and 1870 respectively.

Meanwhile the German-Austrian postal union was held in high regard by the postal administrations of the whole world. Calls for establishment of an international postal union became increasingly louder. The international postal conference that was held in Paris in 1863 brought forth a series of unions and proposals. The war between Germany and Austria in 1866 was an uncomfortable, but temporary, roadblock for efforts towards unification of continental postal systems, as was the Franco-German War of 1870-71. Prussia declared the treaty with Austria void in 1867, and took over the princely Thurn and Taxis post office in the same year. After three and a half centuries the heritage of Franz von Taxis met its end.

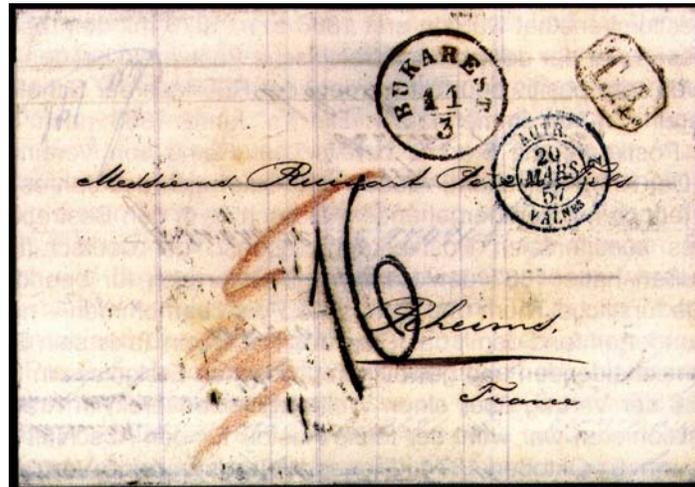
In spite of these dramatic and decisive political events in Europe the treaty for a world telegraph union came into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1866. Its flawless implementation was, indeed, the last incentive for formation of a “General Postal Union” on October 9, 1874. The treaty for this **Universal Postal Union** contained the majority of the desired improvements. The central office was established in Bern. When it came into force on July 1, 1875, the Union included 25 countries with a combined population of about 350 million people.

## Introduction of the Postage Stamp in Austria

**M**oving the mail was much more difficult and therefore more expensive in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century than today. Even after the establishment of the first railways, the majority of post offices used the cumbersome method described below to forward pieces of mail. Use of such a method was encouraged by the lack of treaties between postal systems. The rule was that the sender would bring an unfranked letter to a post office (a *Portobrief* or postage due letter) and leave it to the postal facility involved to collect the fee from the recipient. One post office then “sold” such letters to the next, and at each step the letter became correspondingly more expensive. In the end the recipient had to pay the entire accumulated amount to the last post office, sometimes including “carrying charges” for delivery to the address. Should the recipient refuse to pay or for some other reason the office could not collect the fee, the letter then followed the same series of post offices back to its starting point and the previously determined fee was collected there. Individual agencies added their notations either on the address side or on the reverse of the item. In this way individual

shares of the charges could be calculated based upon weight and complete distances.

Should the sender wish to spare the recipient the payment of the fees for whatever reason, that person could pay the sum in advance either wholly or in part (= *Francobrief* or postage paid). Such letters were marked “*franco*” or “*frey*” by the post office. (The notation “*ganz frey*” indicated that the carrying charges had also been paid by the sender.) When passing the letter on to another post office, the transferring office was supposed to pay the receiving office the so-called additional franking (*Weiter-Franco*). This, in turn, would be noted on the letter in handwriting. Particularly after postage stamps came into use, the hand stamped impressions **PP** and **PD** meant that the charges had been paid partially or completely to the final destination. Even after the introduction of postage stamps it was frequently not possible to pay the whole amount. For example, letters to Spain or Portugal could only be franked through to the French-Spanish border.



Postage due letter, written in Ibraila, posted in Bucharest, sent to Rheims (= Reims, France) via Hermannstadt. Handwritten 6/29 = 6 Kr. from Bucharest to Hennannstadt /29 Kr: 9 Kr. German-Austrian postal union + transit fees through Germany and Belgium plus 12 Kr. for the French portion.

If the letter was to be sent as **registered mail** (*rekommandiert*), the Austrian postal administration required as a minimum the payment in advance from the sender of the appropriate fee. After the introduction of postage stamps, this involved affixing a stamp of the appropriate value to the back of the letter. For this reason postage due letters that carry only a stamp for the registration fee are relatively common.



Registered letter to Württemberg on June 16, 1850, partially paid in cash. Handwritten  $12/4 = 12$  Kr. shared fee to Württemberg + 4 Kr. Bavarian transit fee. 6 Kr. postage stamp for the Austrian registration fee.

The **introduction of postage stamps** led to declining use of the previously normal method of paying postage due, at least for domestic mail. The sender made payment by attaching the “franking voucher” in advance. At the same time the post office’s handling of the mail was made easier. Especially with domestic mail, it was easy to determine whether the fees had been fully paid. This simplification led to a corresponding reduction of the fee schedule. For example, the charges for third level were reduced from 12 to 9 Kr.

Knowledge of the fee schedules is almost more important when postage was paid wholly or partly in cash, since in such cases postage stamps were not used. Instead the sums were written by hand. The numbers are frequently difficult to read, and they often involve various currencies.

In accordance with the postal treaty between Prussia and the USA, for example, after October 1852 letters could only be either completely unfranked or wholly paid to the town indicated with postage stamps. Partial franking was not permitted. The fee comprised 6 Kr reduced postage within the union + 32 Kr. overseas postage = 38 Kreuzer.



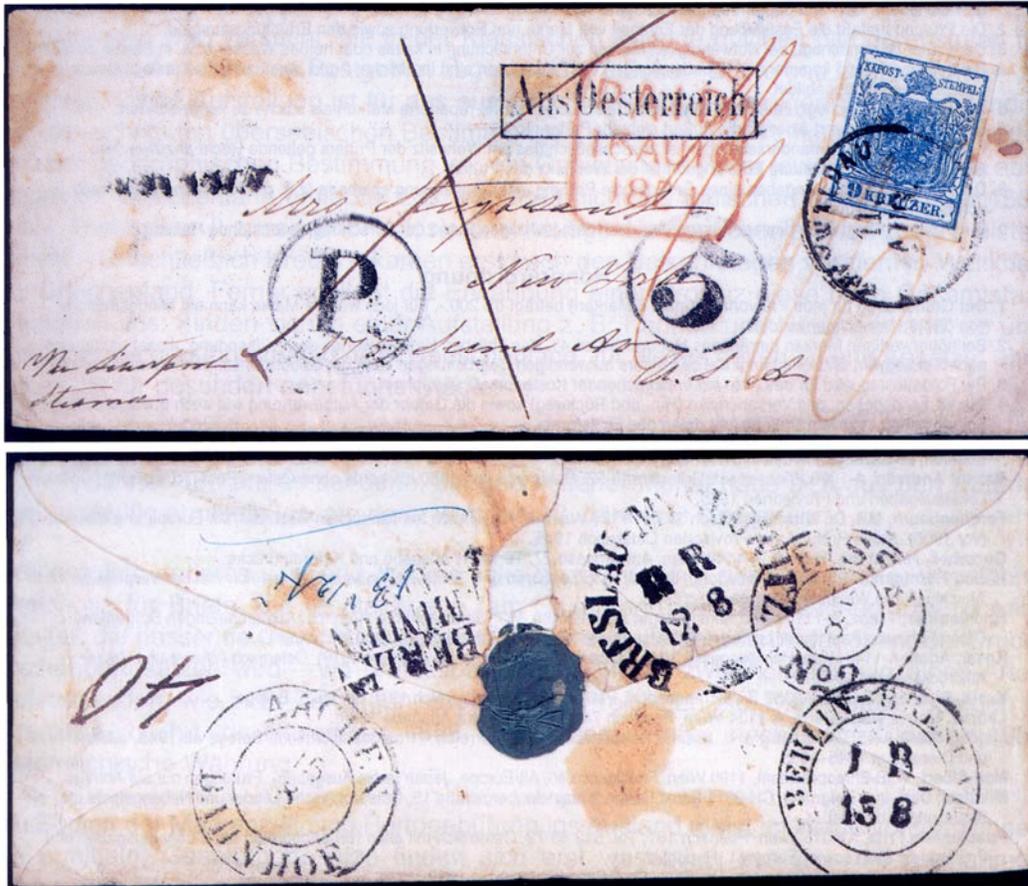
The letter shown above is fully paid in cash. It carries the handwritten notation 32, indicating the foreign portion of the fee, as does the fully franked letter pictured below.



The crossed pen strokes indicate that the letter is completely paid to the town of the address.

Besides the possibilities for cash payment on one hand and complete franking with postage stamps on the other (and in addition to the possibility of paying only the registration fee with stamps on the back; see the illustration above), examples are known of partial cash payment, as the letter below shows. In this case the front side carries a 9 Kr stamp that covers the union postage, while the

back indicates payment for the Belgian-British and the British ocean transport (20 + 20 Kr) by the handwritten 40. On the front side the 5 within a single circle represents the 5 cents fee for postage within the US.



Even though, as already mentioned, prepayment of postage was preferred after the introduction of postage stamps, it was not forbidden in principle to post letters unpaid. Sending mail postage-due remained especially common for mail going to foreign countries, at least until the conclusion of the corresponding treaties. After several years a surcharge was instituted for postage-due letters. Within the German-Austrian postal union this began in May, 1856. Development of a complete system for payment by postage due, with separate stamps for postage due, took a while longer.

## The Posthorn series of 1945

Translated & adapted by A Taylor from an article by Richard Zimmerl;  
with enhancements from H Pollak.

**T**he end of the war in Austria was not a uniform process. While in Vienna the war ended in the middle of April 1945, fighting continued in the west and south, even while in Vienna the Second Republic was being created. And while on 2 May 1945 the first stamps were being issued in Vienna (Hitler-heads with overprinted “Österreich”), Carinthia and Styria were still part of the German Reich.

While the Soviets were interested in a quick re-establishment of the postal service and the postal operations were never fully interrupted, in the western zones the postal service was discontinued for several months. The postal employees were called back to duty, but for the time being were occupied mainly in repair work. Particular value was put on restoring the bureaucracy, and maximum value on order in the cash-box.

In the American zone, postal operations restarted on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1945 in Salzburg and on 4<sup>th</sup> July in Upper Austria; in the French zone on 9<sup>th</sup> July in Tirol and on 30<sup>th</sup> July in Vorarlberg; in the British zone on 16<sup>th</sup> July in Carinthia and on 26<sup>th</sup> July in Styria after the changeover of occupiers. [*Dates from Krueger, “The Allied Military Government Stamp Issue for Austria”: see Austria 152 p79 .*]

On 20<sup>th</sup> February 1945 the American Bureau of Printing & Engraving were instructed to prepare stamps for use in occupied Austria. The design was selected on 3 March, and a die engraved by the 26<sup>th</sup>. Printing was by offset litho; the finished stamps had arrived at Allied HQ by 23 May. The Americans also brought banknotes denominated in “Besatzungsschillinge” (Occupation Schillings) [*for which see Austrias 134 p68, 136 p19, and 149 p26.*]

In the Post- and Telegraphenverordnungsblatt No. 7 of 21 May 1946, these stamps were meticulously if belatedly described: “All the values from 1g to 5S have the same design in colour on a white background, which is trimmed with simple leaf-shaped ornaments: a white Posthorn, which is entwined with a rope having tassels at its ends; in the upper left and right corners the figure of value on a dark background in white; descending from that in both margins is the denomination (GROSCHEN or SHILLING)



and in the lower border the word ÖSTERREICH, all in white block capitals.”.

With the official reopening of the postal service in Salzburg on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1945, the 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 20, 25, 30, 40 and 60 groschen values were issued. It is interesting that the stamps although denominated in shilling and groschen were however still paid for with the Reichsmark. On 15<sup>th</sup> July the 4 and 15 groschen followed, on 13<sup>th</sup> August the shilling values, and very late, on 20<sup>th</sup> November, a supplementary value of 1 groschen. The stamps were valid only in the western zones of occupation; however they were also sold in Vienna to collectors, but only to those who also bought the RMark values of the Arms series.

Occupation of the middle and western Mühlviertel was handed over from the Americans to the Russians in the period 24 July to 8 August, and usage there is very rare. At first there were insufficient of the Russian zone Arms-series stamps available, and the Posthorn stamps continued in use for some time. Mixed frankings are avidly sought; they were later also possible with the Landscapes series stamps.

The highest printings were for the most commonly used values of 6 and 12 groschen for inland postcard and inland letter (in the other states of Austria there were fewer local letters compared with Vienna) with about 49 and 69 millions. The late-issued 1 groschen had the lowest printing, 3.2 million, and the shilling values also had printings barely over 3½ million each. For a full table see Krueger.



Each counter-sheet had 100 stamps. The printed sheets consisted of 4 counter-sheets, separated by narrow gutters which were horizontal and vertical lines as well as short strokes in the corners as cutting guides. The cutting was evidently very inaccurate, so that the lines sometimes appear above, underneath, on the right or on the left of the stamps.

The sheets display one long single-line marginal inscription, beginning about the middle of the second stamp: “(value) GROSCHEN ALLIED MILITARY POSTAGE STAMPS FOR AUSTRIA SERIES 1945”. The late-issued 1 groschen value has a different inscription: “1 GROSCHEN SUPPLEMENTAL AUSTRIAN SCHILLING POSTAGE STAMP SERIES 1945”.

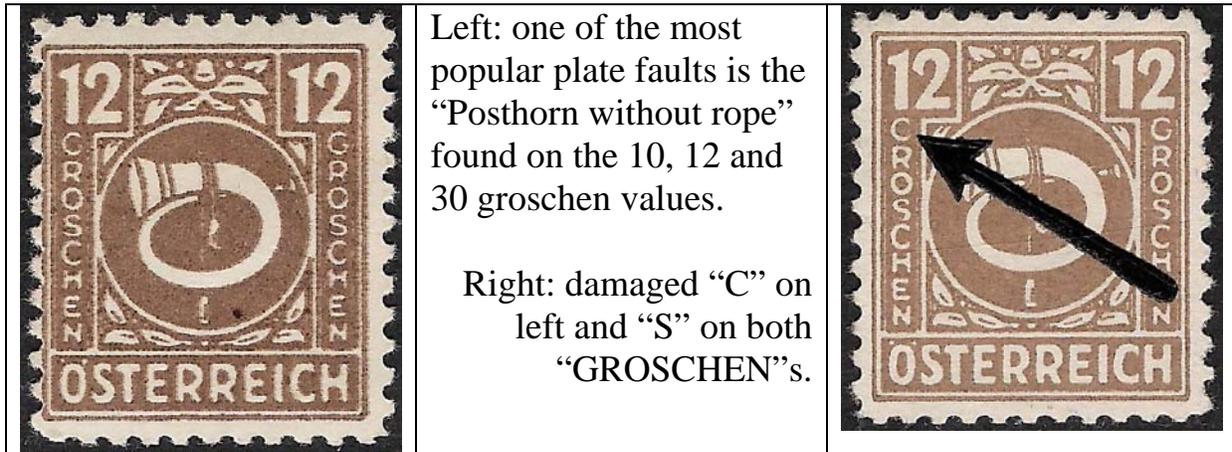


On the right above (or underneath, if badly cut) between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> stamps is a 5-digit plate number. The sequence of the plate numbers does not agree with the steps in value (see Krueger p6 for a list). The 10 groschen value has the lowest plate number, 46494, and the highest is 46916 on the late-printed 1 groschen value.



The stamps were manufactured by lithography. The printing was evidently done with great urgency and not very carefully! There are numerous plate faults, colour shades, and printing errors.

See Krueger; also the Gindl “Posthornserie” catalogue of the “Interessengemeinschaft der Spezielsammler Österreichs” available from Dr. Gorgas, Radelmayergasse 2/8, A-1190 Vienna: see Die Briefmarke 2/2001 p37.



As well as countless coloured or white dots, strokes or rings are found. The perforation is as sloppy as the printing! (OK, there was a war on at the time.) The crude line perf 11 is not very precise, and is in many cases incomplete so that the “confetti” remains [a “dangling chad”!], as can be seen on several of the illustrations.



On this block of ten 1-groschen, many errors are immediately recognizable including the left-hand sheet cut through the first column of perfs of the adjacent pane; badly-centered perfs; blind perfs; white (= missing colour) splodges on three stamps; etc!



Misalignments are quite common, whereby the perforation extends over the design, in rare cases even going through the middle of the stamp. Since with line perforation the horizontal and the vertical perforation are done separately, either or both can be misaligned.

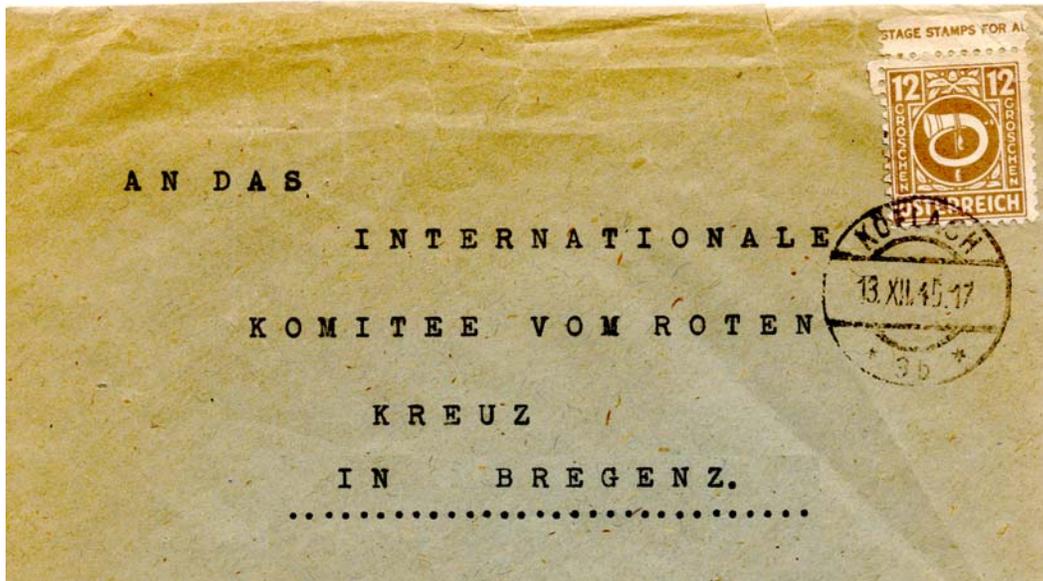
After the issue of the Landscapes series began, the posthorn stamps were withdrawn from sales counters on 20 Nov 1945 (U S zone) and 21 Dec (British & French zones). They were however still valid for franking until 21<sup>st</sup> May 1946. On that date, as Dr Kainz explained (Austria 133 p64), the key regulation was issued as BM.ZI.10/149/1946; it states that “with immediate effect the post horn series stamps are no longer valid for postage”. As soon as a post office knew the content of this

regulation or had a copy of it, it was required to immediately levy a surcharge on a letter bearing a post horn stamp. This is why some offices charge postage due before 31 May 1946 (the commonly-quoted end date). However, these stamps can be found used on internal Post Office forms as late as 1948.

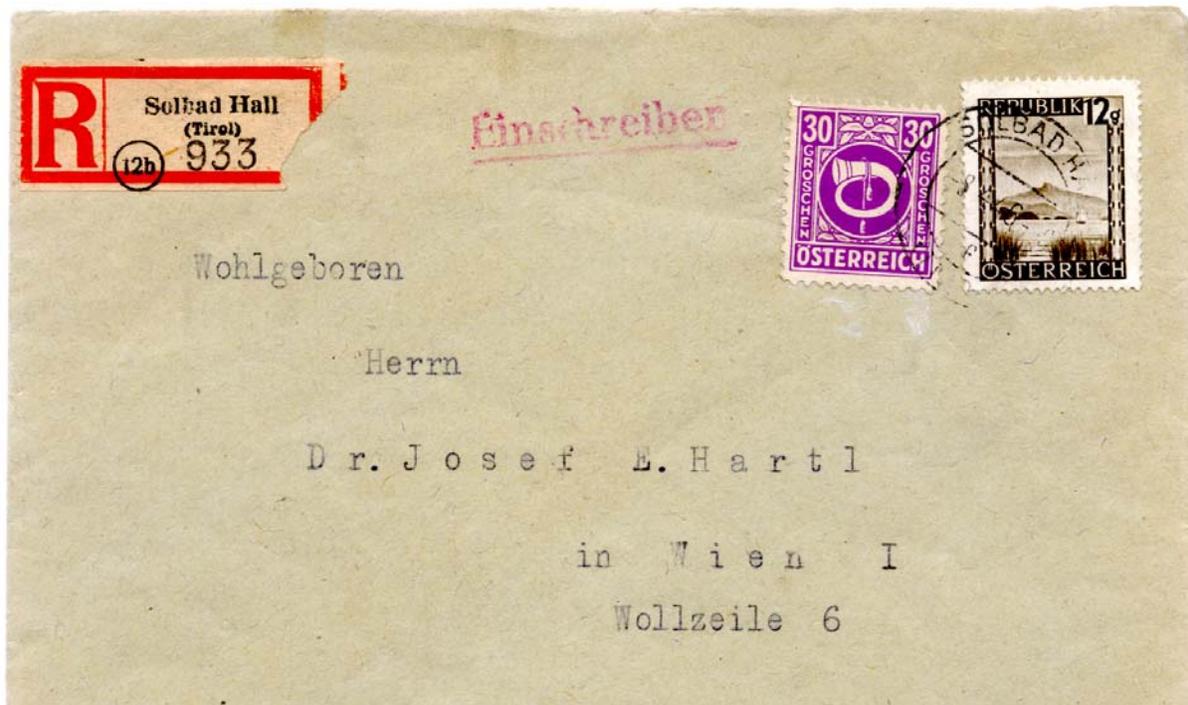
## *Unoverprinted Posthorn used in 1948*



Unoverprinted 60 groschen Posthorn used alongside overprinted ones on a Zustellkarte, an internal Post Office form; cancelled 9 Jan 1948. The delivery fees on the other side came to 10.90 Schillings;  $2 \times 5S + 60g + 10 \times 3g = 10.90$ .

*Examples: posthorns used for postage*

Köflach in Steirmark to Bregenz, 13 Dec 1945



Solbad Hall in Tirol to Vienna. Mixed franking with landscape issue. 8 April 1946; letter rate 12g + registration fee 30g. German-style registration label.

## *Overprinting for use as Postage Dues*

All values (except the 1 and 4 groschen) were issued in 1946 with the horizontal imprint “PORTO” for use as postage dues. These stamps are an Eldorado for plate-fault collectors. Naturally, all the plate faults of the original stamps also occur on the postage dues; in addition very many errors occur in the overprint. Especially expensive are inverted, double, and displaced overprints. Very frequent errors, which occur in all values, are the “thin first O” and the “flat-bottomed second O”.



Inverted overprint



Pair with sideways-shifted overprint



Diagonally-shifted overprint

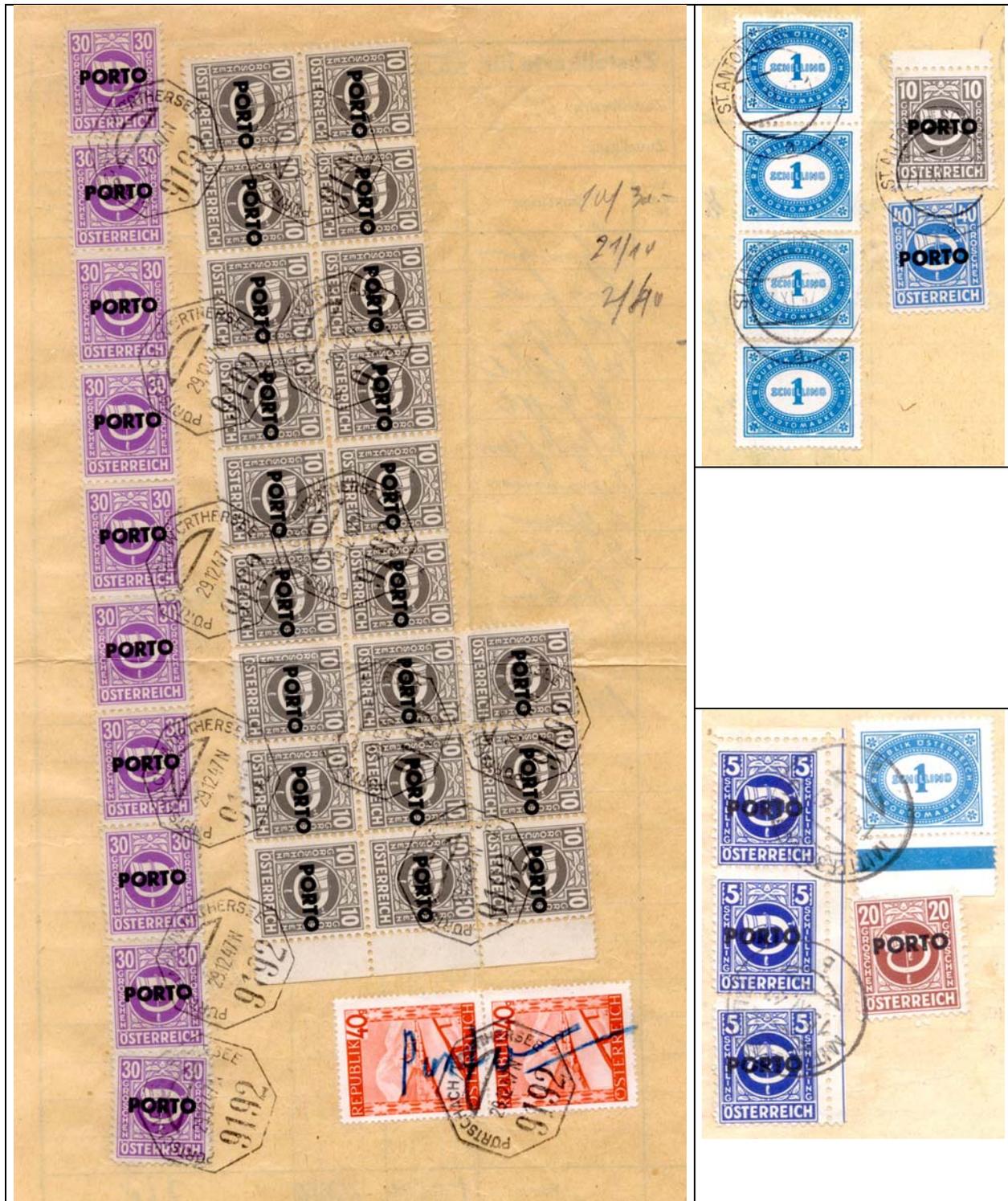


Both “O”s flat-bottomed  
(*ignore the arrow!*)

Damaged letters often occur. One finds extra bars caused by overinking around the typeface; part- or wholly-filled-in letters caused by dirt; and missing parts of letters caused by damaged type. Such pieces are very attractive to collectors!

While the stamps of the posthorn series were withdrawn on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1945 and were invalidated by 1 June 1946, the postage dues remained valid until 7<sup>th</sup> January 1948, and of course in the whole of Austria.

**Examples: "Mixed Frankings" on Post Office forms**



Left: large Zustellkarte dated 29 Dec 1947. Note landscape stamps with handwritten Porto used as dues.

Right, top: (part of the back of a) Zustellkarte dated 27 Nov 1947.

Right, bottom: another, dated 19 Nov 1947. Note guide line on 5S stamps.

**Examples: postage due**

Cancelled 25/7/1947. Treated as underpaid local letter for which the rate was 12g; franked 8g; charged double-deficiency = 8g.



Cancelled 19/2/1947. Inland letter rate 18g, which the recipient had to pay.



Cancelled 18/5/1946. Local letter rate 8g, which the recipient had to pay.



Mixed Porto and Russian-zone franking. Cancelled 5/9/1946. Local letter rate 8g, which the recipient had to pay.

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## New Issues - 2006 part 2

By Andy Taylor

All stamps are printed by the Österreichische Staatsdruckerei. The descriptions are taken from the English version of the Post.at website and radically abbreviated.

### ***Vending Machine Stamps - Gmunden 2006***



The first new vending machine stamps will be available from August 25th to 27th at the Gmunden '06 exhibition. There are two different motifs, tulips and liverwort – these are printed alternately on a roll. (2,000 stamps per roll, i.e. 1,000 of each motif, with a maximum of two rolls in the machine at one time). Incidentally, the rolls are numbered at intervals of five on the reverse. The trilingual vending machine (German, English and Italian) only accepts coins (1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 Cent, 1 and 2 Euro coins). It does not take bank notes or cards. The minimum value is 55 Cent, the largest 3200 Cent. Values lower than 55

Cent can be obtained by paying more than required and receiving the change in the form of stamps. The following values are available individually as standard: 55, 75, 100, 125, 175 and 210 Cent.

### ***150th Anniversary of the Birth of Sigmund Freud***



€0.55; FDC 10 April 2006; Issue: 600,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Abbot Miller. The name Sigmund Freud is inseparably associated with the city of Vienna and Berggasse 19. It was here that the founder of psychoanalysis lived and worked from 1891 to 1938. His former surgery at Berggasse 19 was opened to the public for the first time in June 1971, thanks to the efforts of his daughter Anna Freud. Today, the Sigmund Freud Museum is testimony to the life and work of Austria's most famous 20th century scientist. It was here that Freud produced his interpretation of dreams, his case studies and his works on cultural theory.

### ***Franz Beckenbauer - Portrait by Andy Warhol***



€0.55; FDC 12 April 2006; Issue: 800,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Michael Rosenfeld. Franz Beckenbauer was born on September 11, 1945, the son of a Munich post office official. He played his first international for Germany in 1965, but it was in the 1966 World Cup in England that he came into his own. In the 12 years he was a member of the national team, he was capped 103 times and took part in three World Cups.

### ***Help for Flood Victims in Austria***



€0.75 + €4.25; FDC 21 April 2006; Issue: 2,000,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Adolf Tuma. The Austrian Post Office overprinted an existing definitive (the “Kreuzstein” in the Mondsee lake, nominal 25 Cent). The nominal is now 75 Cent, the postage for the 2<sup>nd</sup>-weight letter, with a €4.25 surcharge for the victims of the floods in the Lower Austrian region of the Marchfeld. Incidentally, this is the second time in the Second Republic that the Post Office has adopted this approach. In 1954, an existing stamp was overprinted, the surcharge being used to help victims of avalanches. The stamp used

was one issued in 1946 and depicted a snowy Alpine scene

### ***Stamp overprinted with new design: Tree***



€0.55; FDC 15 May 2006; Issue: 850,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Adolf Tuma.

The baroque Heiligenkreuz Calvary is one of the most attractive Calvaries in Austria. It was depicted on the 2003 7-cents stamp, which had all been used up. It was reprinted and overprinted immediately “to complete the set”.

## **Falco - Rock me Amadeus**



€0.55; FDC 18 May 2006; Issue: 800,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Peter Konkolits; Engraver: Thomas Schmiedt. With “Amadeus, amadeus...”, thousands sang along at his concerts, catapulting Falco, alias Hans Hölzl (1957-1998), to No. 1 in the hit parades including the USA’s charts. Replacing the dusty Mozart cliché with a new Mozart image had a huge effect on the public. Falco transferred the historic figure into the show business world of his time, using the sound of the 1980s. He died in a car crash on February 6, 1998, and is buried at the Vienna Central Cemetery.

## **Life Ball 2006**



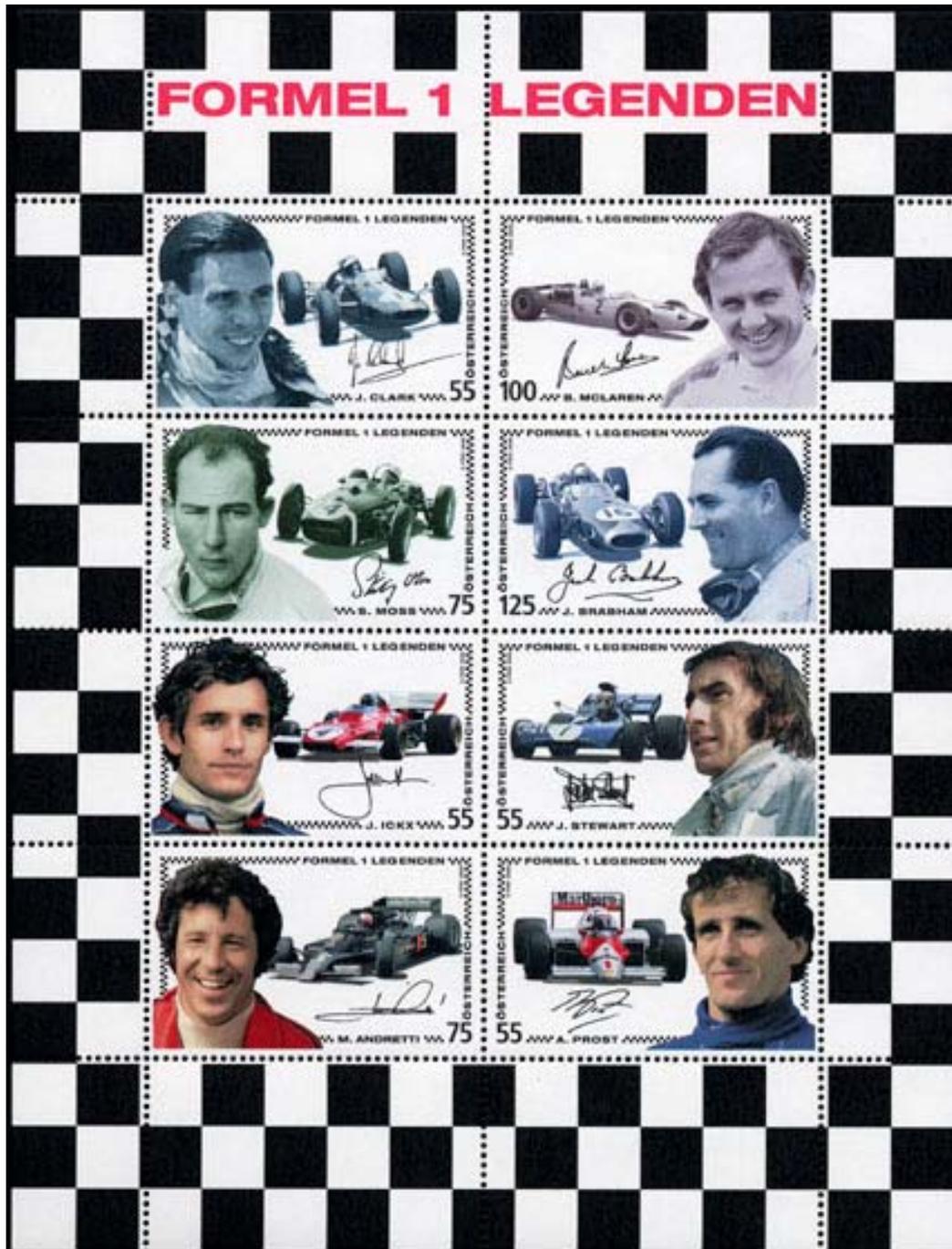
€0.55; FDC 20 May 2006; Issue: 800,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Michael Rosenfeld. The Life Ball, inseparably associated with the topic of Aids and Aids research, is a bright and sumptuous festivity with lots of bare skin, held in Vienna’s Town Hall. One of the star guests in 2006 is the famous model Naomi Campbell.

## **National Customs and Folklore Treasures: Weitensfelder Kranzelreiten**



€0.55; FDC 4 June 2006; Issue: 800,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Maria Schulz; Engraver: Prof. Kurt Leitgeb. The market town of Weitensfeld in the Gurk Valley was granted the right to bear a coat of arms in 1629. Each year at Whitsun, one of Carinthia's most delightful traditions is performed, the Weitensfeld “Kranzelreiten”. It recalls the outbreak of the plague around 400 years ago, and now consists of a running race and a horse race, each between three young men from trading families in

the town. The victor is taken in a ceremonial procession to the statue of the Virgin Mary on the market fountain and is allowed to kiss it – except that every 25 years, the victor's kiss and wreath are bestowed on a genuine May bride instead.

**Formula 1 Legends - Block 2006**

€0.95 in total; FDC 7 June 2006; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Charly Frei. This 8-stamp sheet features the Formula 1 drivers Jim Clark, Stirling Moss, Alain Prost, Bruce McLaren, Jackie Stewart, Jacky Ickx, Mario Andretti, and Jack Brabham.

## ***Austrian Post on the Stock Exchange***



Minisheet of 9 x €0.55; FDC: 8 June 2006; Issue: 1,575,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Michael Rosenfeld. On January 2006, the Austrian Council of Ministers decided to privatise a total of 49% of the Austrian Post via the stock exchange. This launch provides the Post Office with access to the capital market, making it easier for the company to find inexpensive financing for the investments needed to overcome the challenges of the future, secure

existing jobs and supports the creation of new ones. Other post offices such as the German or Dutch enterprises have already shown that stock exchange launch for such an enterprise opens up broad possibilities for growth. The Post Office is and will remain an Austrian institution, a strong entity, and will not be broken up, nor will any parts of the company be sold. The Post Office's service obligation is laid down by the Post Office Universal Service Regulation, and will continue to be secured through the new Post Office Act. [*In their own words... Ed*]

## ***Patron Saints: St. Hemma***



€0.55; FDC: 27 June 2006; Issue: 600,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Maria Schulz; Engraving: Mag. Robert Trsek. Hemma was born around 980, and died on June 27, 1045. In 1174 her bones were transferred to the crypt of Gurk Cathedral, one of the most beautiful Romanesque churches in Austria. The memory of a just ruler gradually developed into the legend of the fair-wage-giver. Saint Hemma is also invoked for a happy childbirth and above all for eye complaints. She is patron saint of Carinthia, and her death anniversary is celebrated on June 27, St. Hemma's Day.

## ***60th Anniversary of the Federal Chamber of Industry and Commerce***



€0.55; FDC: 28 June 2006; Issue: 700,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Michael Rosenfeld. The Chamber of Commerce Act, the statutory basis for the foundation of the Federal Chamber of Industry and Commerce,

was adopted by Parliament on July 24 1946; the first president was Julius Raab. The Act brought together around 130 trade federations in a single organisation, and also set up the Institute for Economic Development. As one of the four major lobbies, the others being the Austrian Trade Union Federation, the Chamber of Labour and the Chamber of Agriculture, it made a major contribution to the reconstruction of the Austrian economy following World War Two. The collaboration between these lobbies, referred to as the “social partnership”, has now become a model for Europe. Today the Austrian Chamber of Industry and Commerce sees itself as a companion and broker of opportunities for business success, its aim being to help create a feeling of optimism amongst Austrians about the future of their country with its skills, talents, and values.

### ***Mozart in Salzburg***



Minisheet of 10 x €0.55; FDC: 30 June 2006; Issue: 1,400,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Monika Piorkowska. Salzburg is the Mozart city, with the house in which Mozart was born, the house where he lived, the Mozarteum International Foundation, the Mozart family grave and so on. Wherever you go in Salzburg, you will find traces of the composer, and the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth is yet another occasion to present the composer as the city's son.

### ***Ottfried Fischer***



€0.55; FDC: 1 July 2006; Issue: 500,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Michael Rosenfeld. Ottfried Fischer, a true heavyweight in the acting business, above all in the field of political reviews, was born in 1953 in Ornatsöd in the Bavarian Forest. He pursued a career mainly as a review artist, and in the mid 1990s was given his own TV show under the name “Ottis Schlachthof”, a political review which he still presents on Bavarian Television, interviewing review artists and giving many a rising talent the first opportunity to appear on TV.

## ***Europe 2006 - Integration of minorities***



€0.75; FDC: 1 July 2006; Issue: 450,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Michaela Büchel. Immigration and the integration of immigrant minorities are at the focus of political discussion in Europe. For the political institutions of the European Union, the integration of migrants aims at giving best possible voice to an increasing plurality of interests and ways of life and a growing ethnic, cultural and religious variety.

This is especially important for young people, who are more affected by exclusion. Around 300,000 children in Austria are either of foreign nationality or have only recently been naturalised.

## ***Day of the Stamp 2006 - The development of Austrian airmail from 1945***



Minisheet of 5 x €3.95; FDC: 2 July 2006; Issue: 600,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Marianne Siegl; Engraving: Prof. Gerhart Schmir. l.

The development of Austrian airmail from 1945 is detailed on the Austrian Post's web site: but for this stamp the author has explicitly declared Copyright in his text so you'll have to read it there for yourself.

## ***St. Anne's Column, Innsbruck***



€0.55; FDC: 26 July 2006; Issue: 420,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design & engraving: Prof. Wolfgang Seidel.

The 13m high St. Anne's Column in the middle of Maria-Theresia-Strasse in Innsbruck was erected to commemorate the defeat of the Bavarian invasion in 1703. It was on the Feast of St. Anne (July 26) that the enemy left Innsbruck. On March 15, 1704, the Tirolean Estates resolved to erect a monument as a sign of gratitude for the deliverance from the enemy.

## ***Locomotives - 100th Anniversary of the Pyhrn Railway***

€0.55; FDC: 19 August 2006; Issue: 600,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Peter Sinaweil; Engraving: Prof. Gerhart Schmirle.



The Pyhrn Pass, 945 m above sea level, is the lowest passage across the eastern Alps, and has been used since the Neolithic Age. In Roman times, the pass was crossed by a post road. In 1901 it was decided to construct a railway from Klaus to Selzthal, as part of the government “New Alpine Railways” project intended to prevent the collapse of the port of Trieste, and the route over the Pyhrn was chosen. The 104 km

long single-track route of the Pyhrn Railway from Linz to Selzthal is still used today, primarily for goods traffic.

## ***Austria– Hong Kong Joint Issue – Fireworks***

Block of 2 x €3.75; FDC: 22 August 2006; Issue: 350,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Adolf Tuma.



The application of “Crystal Fabrics”, a unique invention by the Austrian company Swarovski, to the two stamps of the block creates an innovative philatelic collector product. The light refracted by the crystal produces a glitter effect that is otherwise impossible on stamps and that brings life to the fireworks illustrated. On this Hong Kong Post and Austrian Post joint issue, a set of two stamps presents a panoramic view of Hong Kong’s Victoria Harbour, and of a firework display in the Vienna Prater with its Giant Ferris Wheel.

## ***Austria's fauna: Lynx***



€0.55; FDC: 25 August 2006; Issue: 700,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; **Design: Hannes Margreiter**; Engraving: Kirsten Lubach. Resettlement projects have encouraged the return of the Eurasian lynx, the heaviest of the four lynx species. The lynx is a solitary animal although two females are often found living in a male's territory. There is an all-year ban on hunting lynx in Austria, the animal still

being one of the endangered species.

## ***The way to WIPA 2008 - Giant Wheel***



€0.75; FDC: 26 August 2006; Issue: 540,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Charly Frei

WIPA 2008, the Vienna International Stamp Exhibition, can boast a long history. The successful series of Vienna International Stamp Exhibitions began in 1881, repeated in 1933, 1965, 1981 and 2000. WIPA 2008, from September 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 2008 in the Austria Center in Vienna, is intended as a new highlight of this tradition.

## **The VIENNA INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITIONS:**

**WIPA 1881** was organised by the Vienna Philatelist Club founded in 1880, in only six weeks, and was held from November 13 to 20 1881 in the premises of the Horticultural Society on Park Ring. The stamps were shown in opened albums in glass cases. It was then still possible to collect “all the world” and the collections shown represented a huge value.

**WIPA 1933** took place just over 50 years later, from June 22 to July 9 1933 in the Secession, the Künstlerhaus and the Military barracks. Six special post offices provided special postmarks at the various locations and venues. The special registration labels (“Rekozettel”) for WIPA 1933 were the only ones of their kind in the First Republic. The Austrian Post Office issued the famous WIPA stamp with the post coach motif by Moritz von Schwind.

**WIPA 1965** took place from June 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 1965 in the Hofburg, occupying premises in the Ehrenhof and the Classical Collections, and in the Trade Fair Palace. The exhibition comprised five thousand frames. The Post Office issued a preliminary series of eight surcharged stamps in 1964 and a series with six surcharged stamps in 1965. The preliminary series showed the panorama of the City of Vienna from the tower block in Herrengasse, while the actual WIPA 1965 series showed the development of the letter from Egyptian papyrus to the modern typewriter.

**WIPA 1981** was held on the 100th anniversary of the first WIPA 1881 from May 22 to 31 1981. The venues were again the Hofburg and the Trade Fair Palace. 5,800 frames showed the best that international philately had to offer. The Post Office issued three surcharged stamps. They all showed an image of the Hofburg, but in various stages of engraving. The finished engraving was released in block form. This was both a reference to the venue and a demonstration of the high art of Austrian stamp engraving.

**WIPA 2000** was dedicated to the anniversary of “150 years of Austrian stamps” and was held in the Austria Center Vienna from May 30 to June 4 2000. In order to counteract the gigantomania of the two previous exhibitions, the exhibition was limited to 2,700 frames. The competition exhibition comprised all classes at the highest international level.

### ***Patron Saints: St. Gebhard***



€0.55; FDC: 1 September 2006; Issue: 420,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Maria Schulz; Engraving: Mag. Robert Trsek.

St. Gebhard was born in 949, and was consecrated Bishop of Constance at the age of 30. Frequently charged with political duties by the leading figures of the Empire, he continued the reforms begun by his uncle, attending to the poor of his diocese throughout his life. Gebhard died on August 27, 995, and was soon worshipped as a saint, particularly in Vorarlberg. St. Gebhard is the second patron saint of the Province of Vorarlberg. The stamp shows the image of St. Gebhard on the altar painting in the church of Götzis Meschach.

## Cars - Steyr 220



€0.55; FDC: 9 September 2006; Issue: 500,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Marianne Siegl.

After World War I, the Austrian weapons factory in Steyr was forbidden by the Treaty of St Germain to produce weapons, so successfully switched to the manufacture of motor vehicles. Although the Steyr products were at a high technical level, the small numbers meant that they were also expensive despite modern production methods. Nevertheless there was sufficient demand for an up-market car with increased performance. As a consequence, Steyr developed a luxury car, the Steyr 220 limousine, which went into production in 1937; 5900 cars were built until production came to an end in 1941.

## Motorbikes - KTM R 125 Tarzan



€0.55; FDC: 10 September 2006; Issue: 500,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Marianne Siegl. The KTM Tarzan was the first sports motorcycle to be produced at the Mattighofen plant in Upper Austria. It went into production in 1957, and its 8 hp engine gave it a top speed of 107 km/hr. A noticeable feature of the Tarzan was its large, 18-litre tank, allowing an uninterrupted run from Salzburg to Milan.

## Benjamin Raich



€0.55; FDC: 23 September 2006; Issue: 700,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Renate Gruber. Benjamin Raich, born in 1978 in Arzl in the Pitz Valley in Tirol, hence known as the “Blitz aus Pitz”, has already won six World Championship and four Olympic medals. His change from a technical skier to an all-rounder is the result of the training programme that the Austrian

Skiing Federation developed last year for competitors in the World Cup.

### ***China-Austria joint issue: “Piano” and “Guqin”***



For each: €0.55; FDC: 26 September 2006; Issue: 600,000; Printing Style: Photogravure; Design: Adolf Tuma. The Austrian-China musical friendship is reflected in the joint issue, in the form of traditional musical instruments. For Austria, the choice was of a piano by the world-famous Bösendorfer company, while China presents the guqin, a reference to a three thousand year-old musical tradition. The particular tone and technology, known as the “Vienna mechanism”, make the Bösendorfer piano an instrument that enjoys international recognition.

The Guqin, also called the Seven-Stringed Qin, is a traditional Chinese musical instrument with a history of over 3000 years. The plucked instrument belonging to the zither family creates delightful harmonics, and symbolizes the essence of Chinese traditional music. It was so revered in ancient China that it was given the name of “Ancestor of Chinese Music”. The guqin in the stamp is called the Da Sheng Yi Yin Qin; it was produced in the Tang Dynasty (A.D. 618–907) and is now kept in the Beijing Palace Museum.

### ***Nude on Stamp 3rd value: Youngboy Vienna Austria***



€0.55; FDC: 29 September 2006; Issue: 420,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Cornelia Schlesinger. She uses a decisive visual presentation to realise her individualism in stylistic terms, communicating to the viewer’s imagination the truest meaning of the term joie de vivre and stimulating him or her to enjoy the moment. It is this intention that is also expressed in the male nude “Youngboy

Vienna Austria 2005” on the stamp.

## **German and Austrian 107<sup>th</sup> Philately Exhibition, Bad Reichenhall**



€0.55 + €0.20; FDC: 6 October 2006; Issue: 420,000; Printing: Photogravure; Design: Adolf Tuma. In 1896 the “Federation of Austrian and German Philately Clubs” was founded in Cologne, comprising over 60 clubs from the German-speaking countries. The Federation continued in existence until 1924. In 1921 the Federation of Austrian Philately Clubs was founded in Vienna, followed in 1924 by the “Federation of German Philately Clubs (at Home and Abroad)” in Munich. The latter, following a very eventful existence, was replaced by

the “Federation of German Philatelists e.V.” in 1946. The close friendship between the German and Austrian Federations dates back many years, and has resulted in the resurrection of the tradition of a joint German and Austrian Philately Exhibition. For the first time, the 107th Philately Exhibition is to be held as a joint event of the two federations from 6th to 8th October 2006 in the Bavarian spa town of Bad Reichenhall.



### **Modern Art in Austria - Valentin Oman**

€0.55; FDC: 9 October 2006; Issue: 420,000; Printing: Photogravure and Intaglio; Design: Valentin Oman; Engraving: Prof. Wolfgang Seidel.

The original panel painting shown on the commemorative comes from the “Homo sapiens” cycle painted by Valentin Oman in 2005. Valentin Oman was born in St. Stefan bei Villach in 1935. As a Carinthian Slovene, he grew up bilingually and is at home in two cultures. From 1958 on, he studied painting at the Academy of Applied Art in Vienna, graduating under Prof. Hilde Schmidt-Jesser in 1962. In 1963, he attended the master class in printing under Prof. Riko Debenjak at the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He lives and works as an artist in Vienna and in Finkenstein near Villach. In 2005, at the age of 70, he was awarded the Austrian Cross of Honour for Science and Art, 1st Class. For his life’s work and for his efforts for the Slovene language in Carinthia, he was awarded the Gold Cross of Merit of the Republic of Slovenia.

## LEEDSFEST 2006

*Notes from the displays; more comprehensive ones submitted by the exhibitors may appear in later issues.*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Henry White: Kleinwalsertal                          | (See Austria 131). After WWII, a special rate was introduced whereby mail to Germany was charged at the inland German rate converted to Austrian currency. Whether this has now been abolished by some change in E U rules, or suspended because the rates happen to be identical, is unclear. |
| Rex Dixon: Anschluss Postal Rates                    | Illustrating the three periods, with mixed frankings & concessionary rates   |
| James Hooper: Inflation Postcard Rates               | All of them present and correct!   |
| Andy Taylor: Fee-paying by Postage Dues              | Numerous strange uses of Postage Dues to pay fees, including postage paid by the recipient of official communications.   |
| John Whiteside: Newspaper Tax, 1855-59               | Inland and foreign.  |
| Colin Tobitt: Newspaper Stamps, 1899-1921            | Many unusual examples  |
| James Hooper: Feldkirch Civil Censors, 1914-18       | Shape & colour changes. Time-in and -out cachets, used when complaints about delays required action.   |
| Bill Hedley: Austrian Mails in the Napoleonic Period | A period of peace and of war! Also city posts eg Graz, Oedenburg   |
| Andy Taylor: Hall in Tirol                           | “Somewhere completely different”: a miscellany of items from Hall.   |
| Clive Murray: Montenegro, Austrian Occupation        | Not often seen.  |
| Alan Berrisford: Galicia, pre-adhesive markings      | Effects of Partitions and Congress of Vienna. Numerous different markings.   |
| Martin Brumby –Dalmatia                              | Prephilately to 1850   |
| Geoff Frost- Austrian Airforce in WW1                | Starting with a few observation planes and balloons, expanded to 100 squadrons.  |
| John May: Viscount Airmails                          | Development of the system.   |
| Brian Presland: WW1 Military Mail                    | Some registered. TRANSA FELDSPITAL which has been discovered to be a Field Hospital donated by the Transa family!  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| John Whiteside: Protokolle   | This is a summary of a (usually civil) case by a court. Taxed on amount involved, plus money transfer fee if the judgement was implemented. Additional taxes if you lost the case, didn't turn up etc.             |
| Yvonne Wheatley: Thimble Postmarks of the Czech Lands                            | In 1867 it was decreed that all cancels should show the year – hence most places needed a new canceller, which were mostly thimbles. Groupable by size, style etc. Czechoslovakia alone needed 640 new cancellers! |
| Ernst Oberthaler: Thimble Postmarks of the Austrian Empire (bar the Czech Lands) |  |
| Nick Cranendonk: Wrappers of the DOAV  | These had to cover inland, Germany and Foreign postage. To cope with the huge volume of copies they despatched, the use of precancels was developed.   |
| Barry Clark: Postablagen   | in Bohemia and Moravia   |
| Brian Madeley: Austro-Hungarian Occ'n. Of Serbia, 1916-18                        | including overprinted Fieldpost.   |
| Geoff Richardson: Buildings  | Mostly on commercially used FDCs   |
| John Pitts: An Austro-Hungarian Maritime Miscellany                              | Including the Lloyd; Austro-American; Dalmatian, Austro-Croat and may other lines.   |
| R de Maleingreau: U-boats  | Part of the Kalis-Kohl material  |
| Hans Smith: Ionian Islands   | Illustrating their complex postal history  |
| Alan Berrisford: Bohemia and Moravia   | Postablagen Markings, and the importance of PuTVOB 35 of 1900.   |
| Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: A Postcard to Vienna                                     | The background to Austria 154 pp 77-84   |

### *Sunday's Special Display*

On the Sunday morning we were treated to a world-class display by Fred Pirotte. Fred's life-history was briefly outlined by John Pitts, who writes:

Fred's display started with mail from the very first Austro-Hungarian guard detachment in Peking as early as 1898. The foreign legations in Peking were attacked and besieged in June 1900. The siege was relieved in August 1900 by an International Expeditionary Force which remained until the Boxer Protocol was signed in September 1901, allowing the foreign powers to provide detachments to guard their legations. Up to the signing of the Protocol, sailors and officers of the Austro-Hungarian "Escadre in Ostasian" received the free-post privilege; the display presented service and private material sent during this

period of the Rebellion. During the course of the conflict, the Austrian warships SMS Maria Theresia, Kaiserin Elisabeth, Aspern and Zenta were stationed in the area and occasional service visits to Japan were made by all four vessels. Mail sent during these visits was shown. Service and ship hand-stamps were described and classified according to Fred's own system which has been described in detail in "Austria".

Mail from this period is rare and service mail especially so; some examples displayed were only recently released by the Kriegsministerium in Vienna. This part of the display ended with an example of the boxed "Paketboot" hand-stamp which Fred believes is unique to SMS Aspern. Then followed a detailed section on the postal history of the 2 protective detachments immediately following the conflict (from September 1901), that is the Legation Guard at Peking and base HQ and Command in Tientsin. The role of the station ships was described and illustrated.

The display concluded with mail from (and to) POWs (originally from SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth) in China and Japan during the period 1914 to 1919. The movement of POWs from camps in Japan to China on the declaration of war by China on Austria in August 1917 was explained with the help of several scarce items of POW mail.



Fred concluded his display by paying tribute to the late Frederic Patka, his great friend and mentor, who is remembered particularly for his outstanding book on the subject of the postal history of the Austro-Hungarian Kriegsmarine.

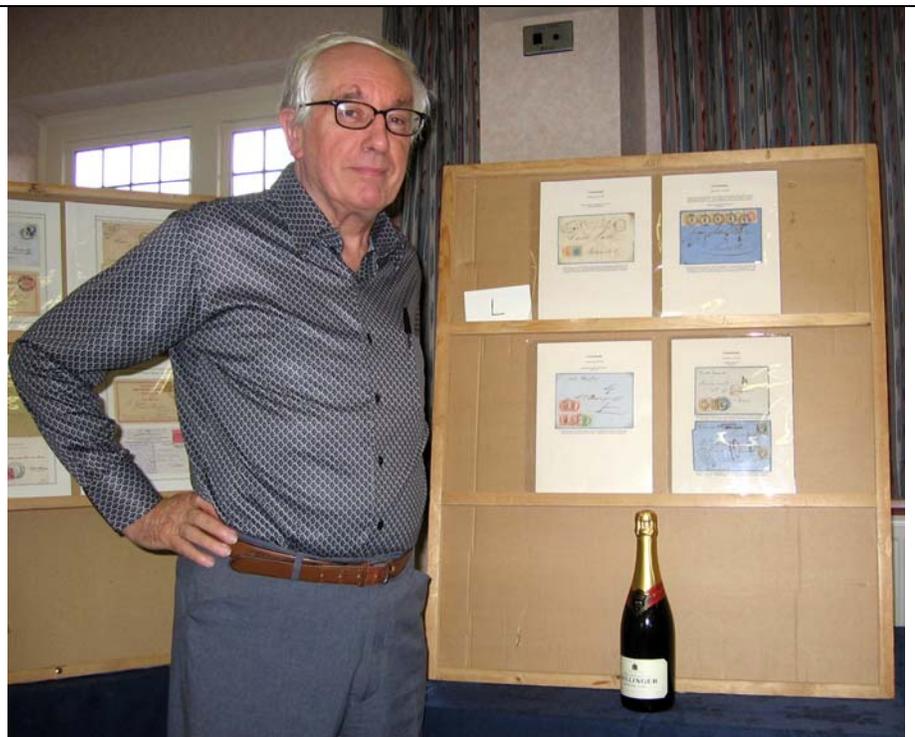
The President warmly thanked Fred on behalf of the Society.

## *Photo-gallery*



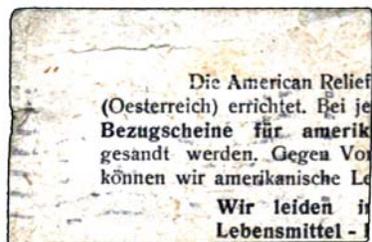
The  
Festmeister  
explains the  
arrangements

The “4 sheets on C” competition was won, as is traditional, by Hans Smith, this time with a display of Constantinople. Coats of Arms came second and Coach Mail third. The 2006 hidden entry was White Cats.



## Post-WWI famine relief in Austria

by A Mangai



Why, asked “JW” in an email, did this piece have both Austrian and British stamps – and what was the “American Relief...” anyway? Time to ask the usual suspects (why is it that 98% of “Austria” is written by 2% of the membership?)! And indeed, although no clear answer has so far emerged to the dual-franking question, much has been unearthed about this and similar items.

It all goes back to the Treaty of Saint Germain, which established today’s Austria while setting strict limits on what it could and could not do.

Austria in 1919 had great debts, little assets, few jobs, many redundant bureaucrats and manual workers – and in particular insufficient coal and food (there had been a severe famine in 1918) and no money to buy any. Claims for war reparations exceeded assets. Furthermore, the surrounding countries, mindful of real and perceived past injustices, saw no reason to assist their former rulers by selling them food or fuel. The new Austria had a population of some 7½ million of whom one-third lived in Vienna. Various organisations, notably the Quakers, were striving to rescue the children in Vienna, whose plight had attracted particular international attention, taking them out of Austria even as far as northern Sweden so that they might have better care and food. It was generally concluded that the Peace Treaty had placed Austria in an impossible position, even with the incorporation in 1921 of the Burgenland which one Minister had described as “Vienna’s garden”.

“Something had to be done” instead of politicians scoring points off each other or promising little and delivering less. Enter the League of Nations, and Herbert Hoover who was chairman of the American Relief Administration, the 1918 counterpart to World War II’s United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Hoover arranged for international loans, persuading the western allies that it was in their interests to prevent a starving Austria turning to communism; and also arranged for the shipment of food.

One aspect of the American Relief Administration activities was to create a system whereby people in Austria could send post- or letter-cards to anyone they knew in America. Several varieties of these cards exist, and examples of three follow. The card invited the recipient to send an “American Relief Warehouse food draft”, which could then be presented at the Warehouse.

The letter card (inscribed Post Card) is franked 80 heller and cancelled NEW YORK 1920; it also has a faint Dec 27 arrival cancel. The postcards are franked 40 heller; one is dated 25 Feb 1920 and the other is uncanceled. These frankings are compatible with the foreign postcard rates (40h from 15 Jan to 14 Apr 1920, then 80h). It is quite likely that these cards would be shipped in bulk from Vienna to America and cancelled on arrival, so the New York cancel is explicable. However, no reason has been found for a 50 heller franking (50h was the inland postcard rate) supplemented by a British one penny!

This envelope was sent in March 1921 from Vienna to Pilsen in the Czechoslovak Republic. The foreign letter rate was 5K then, and on the back are twelve 40h + one 20h stamps (uncanceled) to pay it. The dual-language slogan may or may not have appealed to the recipient.



And just to show that those who forget History may have to repeat it, here is basically the same slogan from the United Nations in 1948.



*Lieber Vorgesandter! Ihre Bitte vom 18.50. letzten Jahres, Sachverhalte in Wien Persönliche Mitteilungen: in. besonders mit Herrn n. Lind nach Amerika ant. Er war ein Sohn des ungarischen Schriftstellers Joseph Heugebauer gebornen Pranter. Ich bin seit 5 Jahren zum 2. Mal verheiratet in. habe 3 Kinder im Alter von 1 Monat bis 4 Jahren. Infolge der ausserordentlichen Lage befindet sich in einer sehr misslichen Lage in. bitte ich für meine lieben 3 Kinder ein Weihnachts-Dollarpaket zu senden. Das sollte dieselbe Folge wie ein sehr liebendes Brief über den österreichischen Vorgesandten. Freue mich in. Hoffentlich kann ich in. freilich auch gerne Herbert Heugebauer Privat i. R.*



*Printed by J. Weiner, Vienna*

**Weihnachts-Dollarpakete!**

Schon seit zehn Monaten werden von den American Relief Administration Warehouses in Österreich Lebensmittelpakete an Inhaber von Lebensmittel-Bezugscheinen ausgefolgt. Bei jeder Bank in den Vereinigten Staaten oder deren Filialen in Südamerika, Zentral-Amerika und Canada können **Lebensmittel-Bezugscheine** (\$ 100 und \$ 500) für **amerikanische Lagerhäuser** gekauft und uns nach Wien gesandt werden. Gegen Vorweisung dieser Bezugscheine in den amerikanischen Lagerhäusern in Österreich können wir **besondere Weihnachtspakete** beziehen, welche außer der bisher gelieferten Lebensmittel auch Kakao und Zucker enthalten.

Auch dieser Herbst findet unsere Ernährungslage nicht günstiger als vorher und die Aussichten für Weihnachten können wenig Hoffnung verheissen.

Helft unser Weihnachtsfest verschönern, indem Ihr einen Lebensmittel-Bezugschein für amerikanische Lagerhäuser an uns sendet.

*Herbert Heugebauer Privat i. R.*  
(Vor- und Zuname)

*Jakominiygasse 12-38, II. Stock*  
(Bezirk, Straße und Nummer)

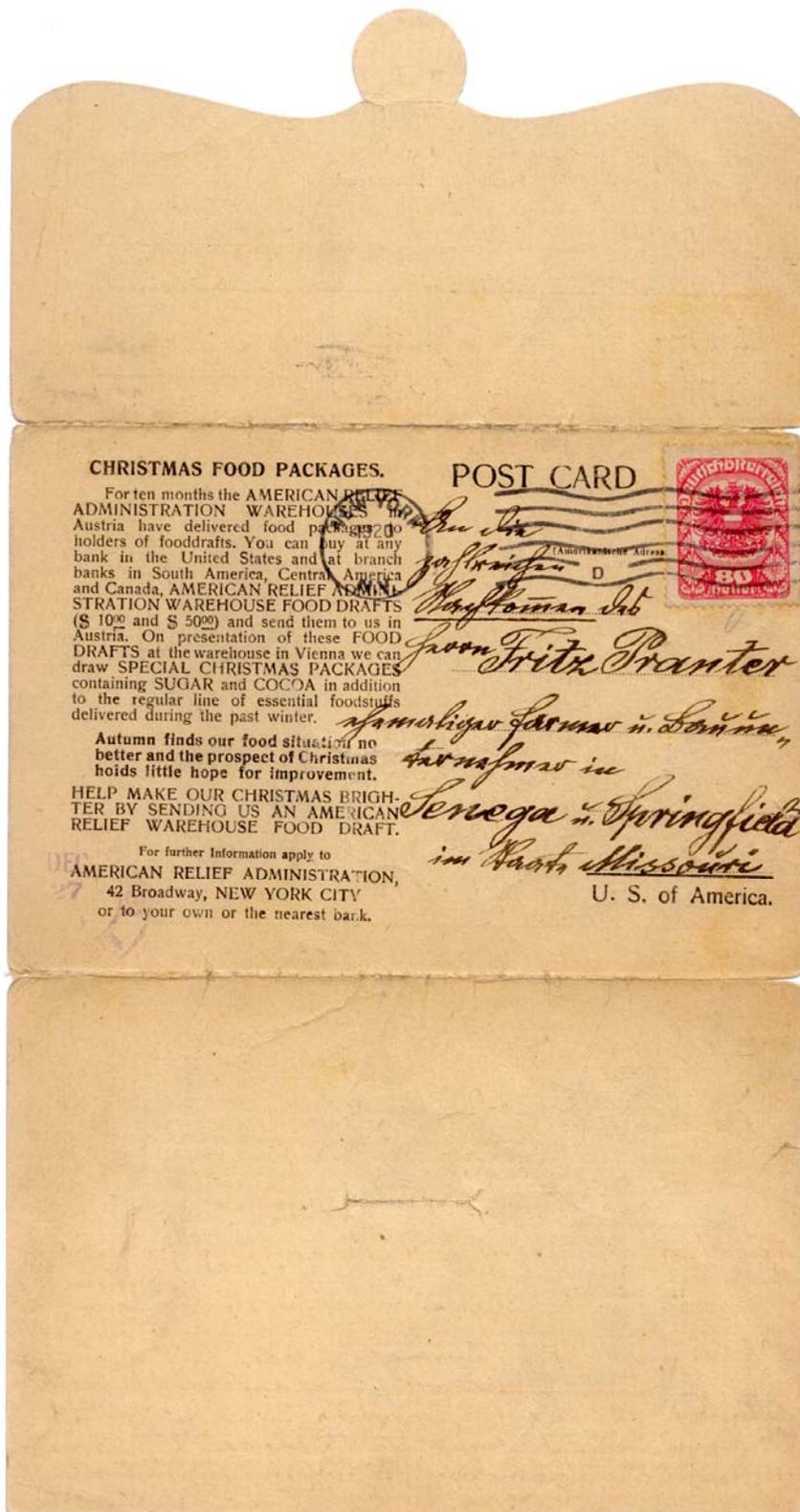
*Graz, Biomarkt*  
(Ort und Land)

Nähere Auskünfte bei der AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION, 42 Broadway, NEW YORK CITY oder bei Eurer eigenen, oder der nächsten Bank.

WICHTIG: Name und Adresse müssen leserlich und ungekürzt geschrieben sein.

*Styria*

Letter-card, cancelled New York 1920: the message side



Letter-card, cancelled New York 1920: the address side

André Stohmann  
 05 WIEN  
 111, Linke Bahngasse 13

**POST CARD**

10 WIE  
 25 11

The American Relief Administration has established an AMERICAN RELIEF WAREHOUSE in Vienna, Austria. You can buy at any bank in the United States AMERICAN RELIEF WAREHOUSE FOOD DRAFTS and send them to us in Vienna. On presentation of these FOOD DRAFTS at the warehouse in Vienna, you can draw AMERICAN FOOD.

We are in great need of food in Austria. Individual food parcels sent from America usually do not reach us. Money does us no good when there is no food to buy. HELP US IN OUR DISTRESS BY SENDING AN AMERICAN RELIEF WAREHOUSE FOOD DRAFT — QUICKLY!

For further information apply to AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION, 115 Broadway, NEW YORK CITY or to your own or the nearest bank.

*P.T. The  
 C.E.  
 Hussman Soap Co  
 Olive Street 2600*

*H. Louis*  
 No. *U.S.A.*

(over)

J. Weber, Vienna  
 213

Die American Relief Administration hat ein amerikanisches Warenhaus in Wien (Oesterreich) errichtet. Bei jeder Bank in den Vereinigten Staaten können Lebensmittel-Bezugscheine für amerikanische Warenhäuser gekauft und uns nach Wien gesandt werden. Gegen Vorweisung dieser Bezugscheine im Warenhaus in Wien können wir amerikanische Lebensmittel beziehen.

Wir leiden in Oesterreich großen Nahrungsmangel. Lebensmittel-Pakete von Einzelpersonen in Amerika kommen meistens nicht an. Was nützt uns Geld, wenn wir dafür keine Nahrungsmittel kaufen können!

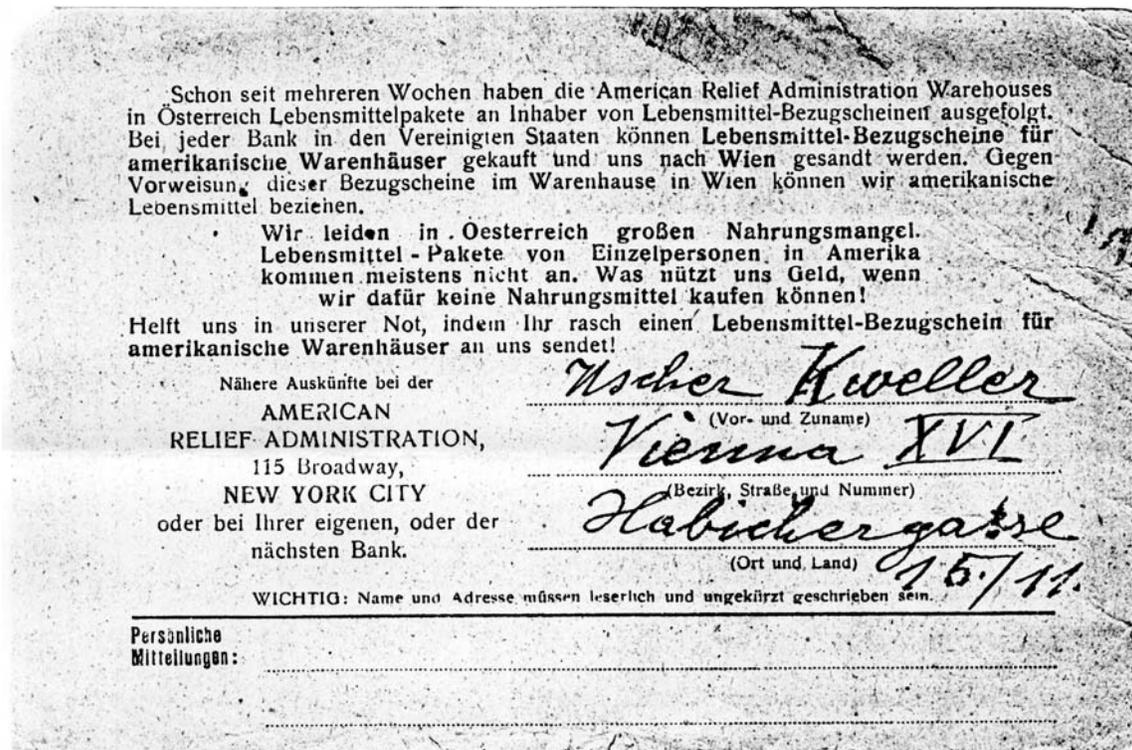
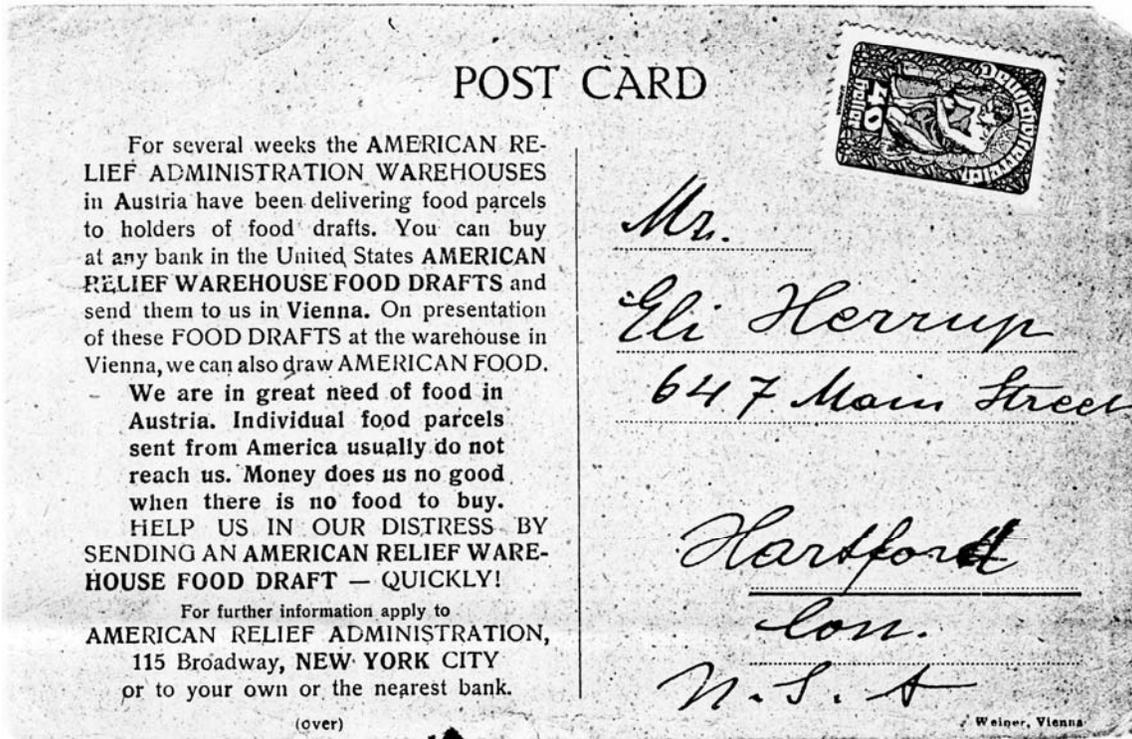
Helft uns in unserer Not, indem Ihr rasch einen Lebensmittel-Bezugschein für amerikanische Warenhäuser an uns sendet!

Nähere Auskünfte bei der  
 AMERICAN  
 RELIEF ADMINISTRATION,  
 115 Broadway,  
 NEW YORK CITY  
 oder bei Ihrer eigenen, oder der  
 nächsten Bank.

*André Stohmann Stamp Dealer*  
 WIEN (Vor- und Zuname).  
 111, Linke Bahngasse 13  
 (Bezirk, Straße und Nummer)  
 Wien III Vienna, Austria  
 (Ort und Land)

WICHTIG: Name und Adresse müssen leserlich und ungekürzt geschrieben sein.

Post-card, cancelled Vienna 1920



Post-card, uncanceled