



A selection of the items discussed in this issue

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Edited by Andy Taylor

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Editorial 216



The Fest weekend planned for Derby had to be cancelled. The hotel couldn't accommodate us due to a last-minute crisis in the kitchen, and the replacement venues offered were too far away for most members to drive. The rapidly-developing crisis highlighted the usefulness of email!

At the AGM held by Zoom on Sunday 26 September, the following were elected as Officers of the APS for 2021-2022. **There were no candidates for the posts of Librarian and Auctioneer.**

David Bravery	CHAIRMAN, PUBLICITY OFFICER
Barry Clark	PACKET SECRETARY
Nick Coverdale	SECRETARY, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
Andy Taylor	PRESIDENT, EDITOR, TREASURER

This means that **the library has now closed**. Unless a volunteer steps forward before the end of this year, its remaining contents will be offered to the members in an auction next Spring; then to the RPSL Library whose contents anybody can access by visiting but only RPSL members can borrow; then to any dealer interested; possibly to Ebay; and finally to the North Yorkshire recycling service.

The full traditional Auction service cannot resume until the Officer vacancy is filled. Until then, email/web/postal "mini-auctions" will be held as and when feasible. A considerable quantity of ex-Library and deceased members' material awaits the discerning buyer!

The AGM marked the end of Joyce Boyer's 20-year tenure as the Librarian, which followed her 4 years as Treasurer. As well as being a very helpful librarian, she has acted as The Voice Of Reason on several occasions. The Committee had unanimously decided to offer Joyce **Honorary Life Membership**, which the AGM approved with acclamation.

More work has been done on our 75th anniversary Festschrift. This has revealed an editorial embarrassment: will the authors of "Heidenreichstein Castle" and "Bos&Herz Landscapes" please tell me who they are, because this small but important piece of data has fallen down the editorial black hole ☹

A Tribute to Colin Tobitt was to have been presented by Geoff Richardson at the Fest. Instead, it was given to the Lewisham Society, one of Colin's local societies. A wide range of Sonderstempeln was shown.

A few members are planning to go to Numiphil in Vienna in early December. Some editorial musings grace the Yellow Pages!

Andy Taylor

A member needs scans of mint copies of some Austrian postal stationery still in use in late 1918 - Postal cards: numbers 213, 214 A and B, 215, 216 A and B, 217a, 217b, 218 A and B; Letter cards: 49, 50; Money order card (Postanweisung) of 1910 (green print); C.O.D. money order card (Nachnahme-Postanweisung) of 1910 (brown print); and Money letter envelope of 1916. NB: these are Ferchenbauer numbers; translations into ANK etc could be arranged. If anyone can help, please contact Andy Taylor.

2021 NEW ISSUES (3rd instalment)

by Dr Colin O'Scopy, MB.ChB.

The information given here is face value ('c' is Euro-cents); issue date; quantity printed; designer; engraver if any; printing method; printer; and sometimes details on the design. Many issues are also available in mini-sheets, blackprints, 'Buntdrucke' (ie printed in different colours from those issued) etc. **NEW!!** The language-choice selection on the Opost web site is now in the black border at the bottom of each page instead of at the top right corner.

Thermenregion - Rotgipfler. 85c; David Gruber; 05.06.2021; 360,000; Offset; Enschedé. In the "Austrian wine regions" series, this time it is the Thermen region in Lower Austria that is the focus. A typical wine from this region is the Rotgipfler, which almost exclusively hails from there. For some strange reason, the picture of the stamp appeared on the cover of the previous issue ☺ The Rotgipfler gets its name from the reddish shoot tips; the wine is white.



Lisl Ponger - Gone Native, 2000. 1Eu75; Theresa Radlingmaier; 18.06.2021; 130,000; Offset; Enschedé. This special stamp from the "Photographic art in Austria" series shows the photograph "Gone Native" taken in 2000 by the renowned Viennese film and photo artist Lisl Ponger.



MKE - Fire Hydrant. 2Eu30; Severin Filek; 18.06.2021; 200,000; Offset; Enschedé. Design enhances technology, as proven by designer Gerald Kiska with this iconic design which dates back to 1993 and was awarded the National Design Award.



Martin Schnur - Ast, 2020. 85c; Regina Simon; 07.07.2021; 350,000; Offset; Enschedé. This year's stamp for the "Contemporary art in Austria" series shows a work by the artist Martin Schnur, who is considered one of the most important indigenous exponents of figurative painting.

Jochberger Hummel. 1Eu00; Kirsten Lubach; 10.07.2021; 360,000; Offset; Enschedé. The first issue in the new series "Rare farm animal breeds" is dedicated to the Jochberger Hummel, a hornless variety of Pinzgauer cattle which has been known for over 180 years. Also available as a herd of 10.



Postcrossing 2021. 1Eu00; Theresa Radlingmaier; 14.07.2021; 165,000; Offset; Enschedé. Postcards connect people and bring us joy – that is the message behind this cheerful, graphically designed special stamp dedicated to the internet platform "Postcrossing"

Granatkapelle Penken. 2Eu75; Karin Klier; 16.07.2021; 240,000; Offset; Enschedé. On the Penkenjoch, high above Tyrol's Ziller Valley, at a height of 2,087 metres above sea level, you will find a truly unmistakable building: the Granatkapelle. It is the design for this year's stamp in the "Modern architecture in Austria" series.



50 Jahre Österreich - China. 4Eu30; Karin Klier; 10.08.2021; 120,000; Offset; Enschedé. Austria has maintained diplomatic relations with China for 50 years – an anniversary that Austrian Post is celebrating with an attractive miniature sheet. *See the presentation article below!*



50 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINA AND AUSTRIA - PRESENTATION WITH FEDERAL MINISTER MARGARET SCHRAMBÖCK AND AMBASSADOR LI XIAOSI

In 1971 diplomatic relations between the Republic of Austria and the People's Republic of China were officially established. Outside the European Union, China is one of the country's most important economic partners. Cultural ambassadors such as the Vienna Philharmonic or the Vienna Boys' Choir help ensure that guests from China are an important part of domestic tourism.

To commemorate this anniversary, Austrian Post has issued a new special postage stamp. This was jointly developed by Dr. Margarete Schramböck, Federal Minister for Digitization and Business Location, Peter Umundum, Board Member for Parcel & Logistics, Österreichische Post AG, and Univ.-Prof. i.R. Dr. Richard Trappl, Director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Vienna, and presented to Li Xiaosi, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China.

“The special stamp adorned with Chinese peonies and Austrian edelweiss blossoms bears the traditional friendship between China and Austria and embodies the expectations of both sides for a better future,” says Li Xiaosi, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China.

Federal Minister for Digitization and Business Location, Dr. Margarete Schramböck, said *“Austria and China have been combining diverse cooperation activities for 50 years. This is particularly evident in economic relations. China is one of Austria's most important economic partners outside the EU, the largest and steadily growing sales market for Austrian products and services in Asia and an important investment location for domestic companies. The anniversary stamp on the occasion of the long-term bond is an expressive sign of the bond and has a high symbolic power.”*

“Post is the most traditional form of reliable communication over long distances and is currently gaining in importance again thanks to e-commerce. It has been connecting the countries and people of the world for centuries. So it is more than fitting that we are celebrating the anniversary of the mutual relationship between China and Austria with our own special postage stamp”, explained DI Peter Umundum, Board Member for Parcel & Logistics at Österreichische Post AG.

“The special stamp on the occasion of 50 years of diplomatic relations between Austria and the People's Republic of China is also a sign of friendship, a reciprocal bouquet of flowers. I hope that the special stamp will delight people in China and Austria, stimulate curiosity about each other and arouse joyful thoughts when, as with Confucius, it comes as a 'friend from afar'”, said Univ.-Prof. i.R. Dr. Richard Trappl, Director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Vienna.

PEONY MEETS EDELWEISS The motif of the stamp block shows the national flowers of China, the peonies, as well as the edelweiss flowers typical of Austria, both in the style of a Chinese painting. The title “50th Anniversary: Diplomatic Relations Austria - China” is also printed in Chinese characters and finished with a special varnish. The graphic design comes from Karin Klier; the special stamp has a face value of 4.30 euros; 120,000 copies were printed. It is available in all post offices, at onlineshop.post.at and at the Austrian Post's collector's service.

The pandas in the Schönbrunn Zoo are also symbolic of the good cooperation between the two countries. They are on loan from China and were depicted as a motif on this stamp of 2003.



European Year of Rail. 2Eu30; David Gruber; 20.08.2021; 200,000; Offset; Enschedé. The European Union has declared 2021 the “European Year of Rail”, thereby shining a spotlight on the train as a safe and sustainable mode of transport.

Steinpilz. 85 eurocents; Marion Füllerer; 27.08.2021; 360,000 in sheetlets of 10; Offset; Enschedé. The second design for the series “Austrian mushrooms” that was launched in 2020 is the delicate porcino mushroom, also known in German as the “Steinpilz”, the “Herrenpilz” or the “Fichtenpilz”. It is one of the most popular indigenous edible mushrooms in Austria.



Eilpost - Spinnerin am Kreuz. 2Eu10; Regina Simon; 27.08.2021; 140,000; Offset; Enschedé. A historic express mail coach passing a stone column that is shrouded in legend, the Spinnerin am Kreuz (“Spinner at the Cross”), is the design that features on this year's miniature sheet for the popular “Historical postal vehicles” series. The illustration on the OPost site is

only a thumbnail.

Just advertised - this is the 2022 entry for the “because they can” Austrian postage stamp. Due for issue on 16 September; more details in next Austria.



Adria Ausstellung Additions

From Henry Pollak

A few notes on the cards from the Adria Ausstellung (see Austria 215 pp 19-20).

The official ones are apparently numbered:

A1: Zara, Porta Terra Ferma	A8: Spalato Gemeindehaus	A15: Lloyddampfer "Wien"
A2: Hafensicht	A9: Trau Klostergang	A16: Lloyddampfer "Wien"
A3: Ragusa, Rektorenpalast.	A10: Kampanile	A17: Lloyddampfer "Wien" bei Nacht
A4: Ragusa Rektorenpalast	A11: Veglia, Porta Marcella	<i>Much to my surprise, I cannot find A18. Maybe I don't have it?</i>
A5: Pirano, Ca Doro	A12: Capodistria, Laandhaus	
A6: Lovrana, St.Georgshaus	A13: Dalmatinische Wohnhäuser	A19: Alt Abbazia
A7: Altstadt	A14: Türkisches Haus	A20: Hafenpartie

A1 – A15 have a different address side from those pictured on Austria 215 page 19 - a 4-line banner "Oesterreichische/Wien Adria 1913/Ausstellung/Offizielle Postkarte". See below. All of A1 – A20 appear to be signed by Kalmsteiner.

A21 – A40 appear to be created by other famous artists. The early 20s are by Bertold Loeffler; they show mermaids and are the most expensive, more than 100 euros each in my (unsuccessful) experience. The A30s seem to be by other well-known artists.

A41 – A100 appear to be painted scenes from the Adriatic coast.

Numbers from the 130s to the 160s are mostly photographs. I have two unnumbered photographic cards of Archduke Franz Ferdinand visiting the exposition, shown below. Numbers are not totally reliable. I have two different cards numbered A132.

Card A138 is a map of the exposition. I also have two photographic cards numbered 21899 and 21980. There are unnumbered cards, apparently not official. The most striking one is of a boy scout (Pfadfinder) doing his good deed of helping a small boy. There is a boy scout building (No. 50) on the map. 1913 may be pretty early for a boy scout post card.

I have written "appear to be" because of the incompleteness of my collection.



Archduke Franz Ferdinand
visiting the exposition.



Where did you get that hat?
 Where did you get that tile?
 Isn't it a nobby one
 In just the proper style!
 I should like to have one
 Just the same as that
 Where 'ere I go they shout "Hello,
 Where did you get that hat?"
 (J J Sullivan, 1888)

The uniform is, we think, an Admiral.

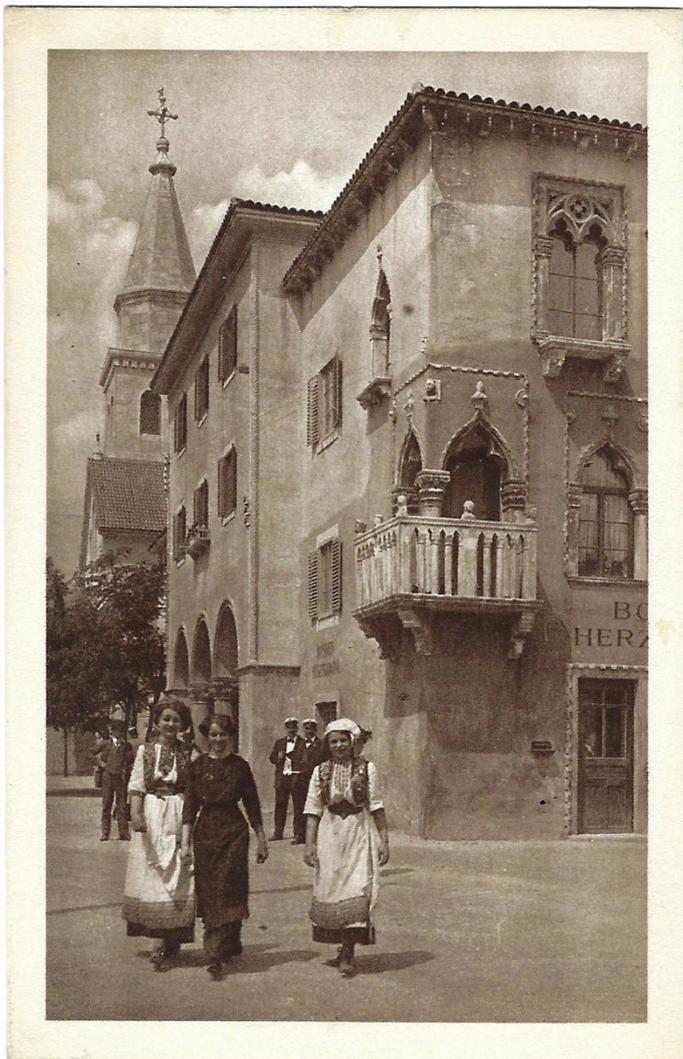


Card A2, front and back





A Boy Scout, doing his good deed for the day! The Boy Scouts had a building at the exposition; the card must have been available there and is cancelled at the exposition.



An example of the 100-series photographic cards.

ČSR overprint used on Austrian Postal Stationery

By Yvonne Wheatley

Czechoslovakia gained its independence from the Austro-Hungarian Empire on 28th October 1918. It had no stamps of its own to use as it was not known when it would become an independent country. Austrian and Hungarian stamps continued to be valid until 28 February 1919 and postal stationery was valid until 14 October 1919. The rate for a postal stationery card in Austria was 8 heller until 1 September 1918 when it increased to 10 heller. The postal stationery card became obsolete so the Austrians sold the cards supplemented by a 2 heller stamp to make up the rate. The Czech Post Office continued the practice usually with a 2 haler Czech newspaper stamp attached.

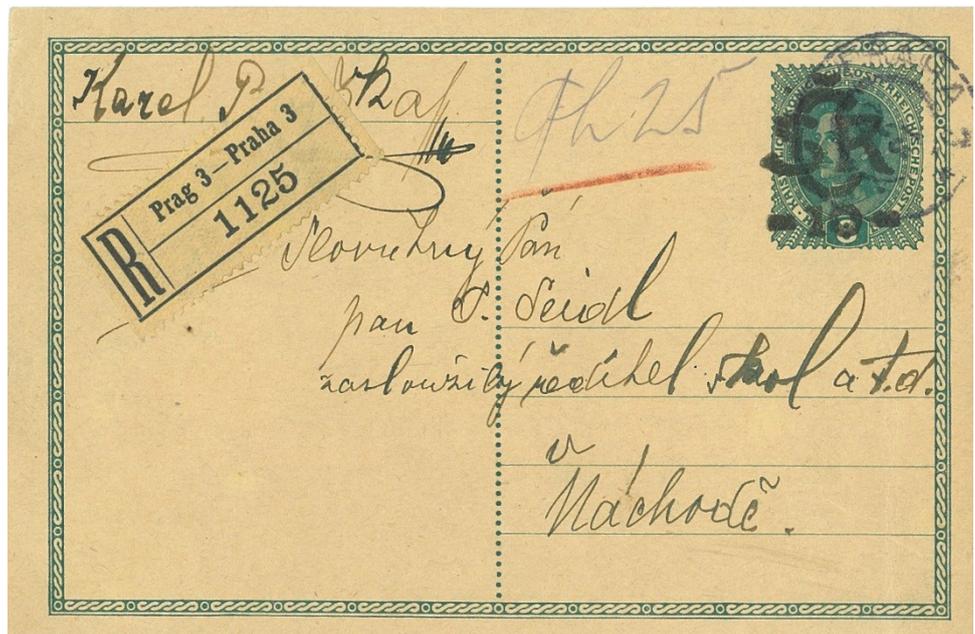


This grey card has been uprated with a Czechoslovak 2 haler newspaper express stamp. It was sent to Berlin; inland rates applied to Germany until the end of 1921.

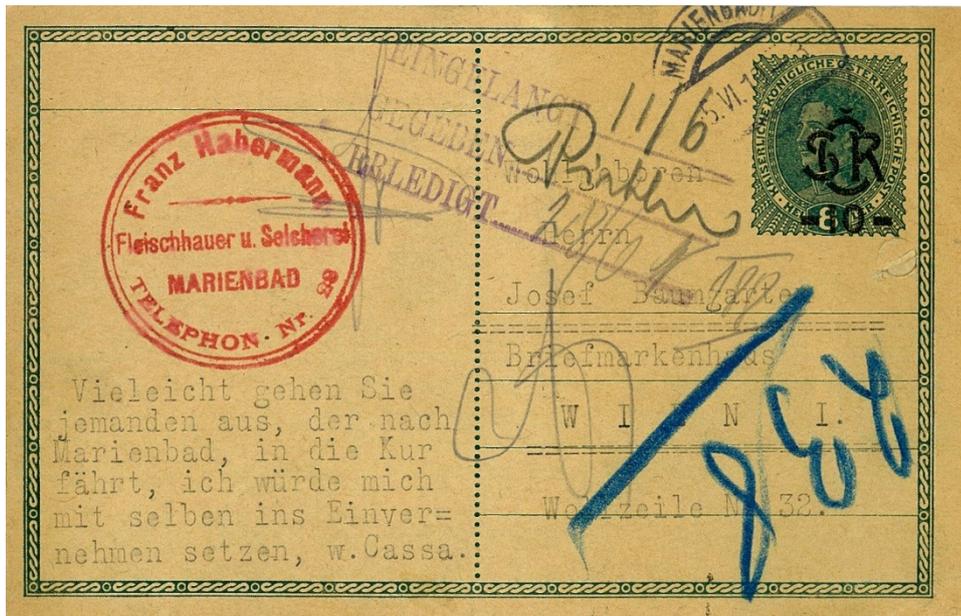
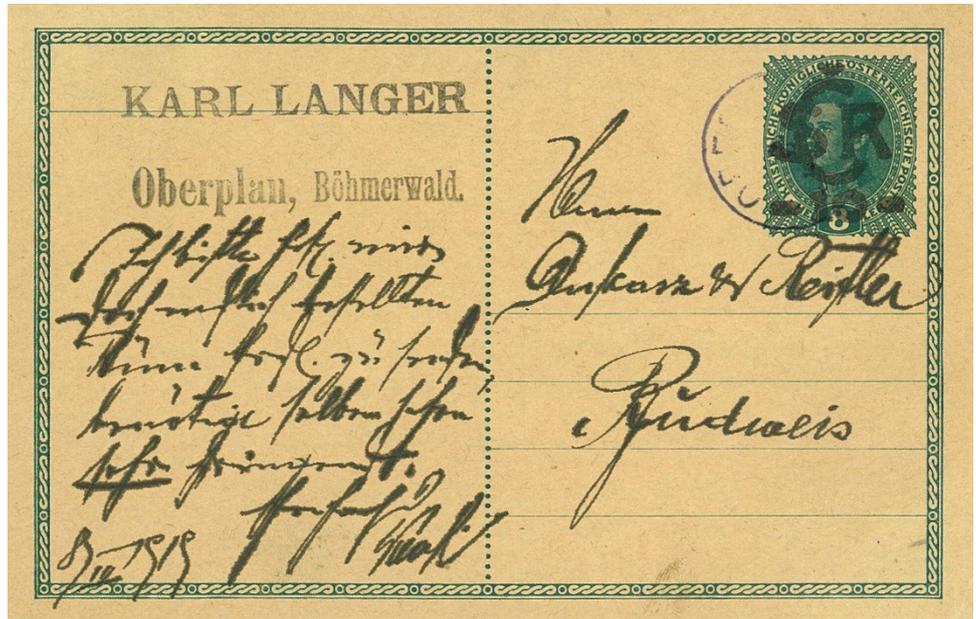
The canceller began life as **MÄHR. OSTRAU 1*** **MORAVSKÁ OSTRAVA** but after independence the Austrian name was excised.

To save attaching stamps to every card, the stock of Austrian postal stationery was overprinted ČSR 10 for use in Czechoslovakia. The overprinted cards were first used on 28 December 1918 and continued in use until 14 October 1919. The “saucer” accent above the C is called a **haček**.

This card has a type 1 overprint with the haček floating above the ‘C’. It was sent from Praha to Nachod on 13 Feb 1919. The internal postcard rate was 10 heller; the pencilled **Fh25** indicates that the registration fee of 25 heller was paid in cash. (Fh = Franco hotove.)



This is a type 2, with a pointed-base haček close to or touching the C. It was sent from Oberplan to Budweis on 8 April 1919.



This card shows a smaller monogram, 18mm tall instead of 23mm.

It's from Marienbad to a stamp dealer in Vienna, complaining about a previous delivery. Being foreign mail posted after 15 May 1919, it should have been franked with 15 heller; but no postage due was charged.

This card shows a simpler monogram of CS / R / -10- It was sent on 8 Jan 1919 from Sangerberg to Vienna, and is correspondence between sausage makers.

This is an early, or even first, date of use.



Austrian Occupations of Italy, 1814-1815

By M Brumby

An almost completely ignored aspect of Austrian Postal History is the mail associated with the Austrian armies in wartime and the various ‘occupation’ administrations set up in war time and sometimes lasting after the formal end of hostilities. This article looks briefly at the Austrian occupation of Italy especially towards the end of the Napoleonic wars, before, during and after the **Battle of Tolentino** 2-3 May 1815. This was the decisive battle in the Neapolitan War, where the Austrian forces roundly defeated the Napoleonic “King of Naples” Joachim Murat (Napoleon's brother-in-law), who was trying to keep (and extend) his throne after the Congress of Vienna which had restored the Bourbon king Ferdinand IV. Both this battle, fought near Tolentino in the Kingdom of Naples in what is now Marche in Italy, and the better known battle of Waterloo, occurred during the “Hundred Days” following Napoleon's escape from exile in Elba on 26 February. Of course, the Austrian re-occupation of Lombardy and occupation of Venetia from late 1813 are also obviously relevant to the Austrian excursion into Italy.



At the left, a modestly sized announcement (roughly A3 size) is headed: **IN THE NAME OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, FRANZ I, WE GIUSEPPE WERKLEIN, KNIGHT OF THE ORDER OF LEOPOLD OF AUSTRIA, HOLDING THE HIGH RANK OF COLONEL OF THE AUSTRIAN IMPERIAL ARMY, CIVIL AND MILITARY GOVERNOR OF THE CITY AND TERRITORY OF LUCCA PIOMBINO, AND OF THE DOMAIN OF LUNIGIANA, AND INTENDANT OF THOSE ARMED IN THESE PROVINCES.** Dated 9 August 1815, the decree closes a Customs House at Colle di Compito and transfers its Officers to the Ponte Maggiore Customs House.

Lucca Piombino was a Principality formed by Napoleon from the Republic of Lucca and the Principality of Piombino (both now in Tuscany, western Italy), with Napoleon's sister Elisa as ruler. Austrian troops occupied the area from 7 April 1814 to 22 November 1817. The Congress of Vienna made it part of the Duchy of Lucca. Napoleon escaped from his exile on the Isle of Elba (the most likely reason Lucca & Piombino had been occupied by Austria in the first place) on 26 February. Really, the document above amounts to fiddling with the stable door after the horse was many fields away.

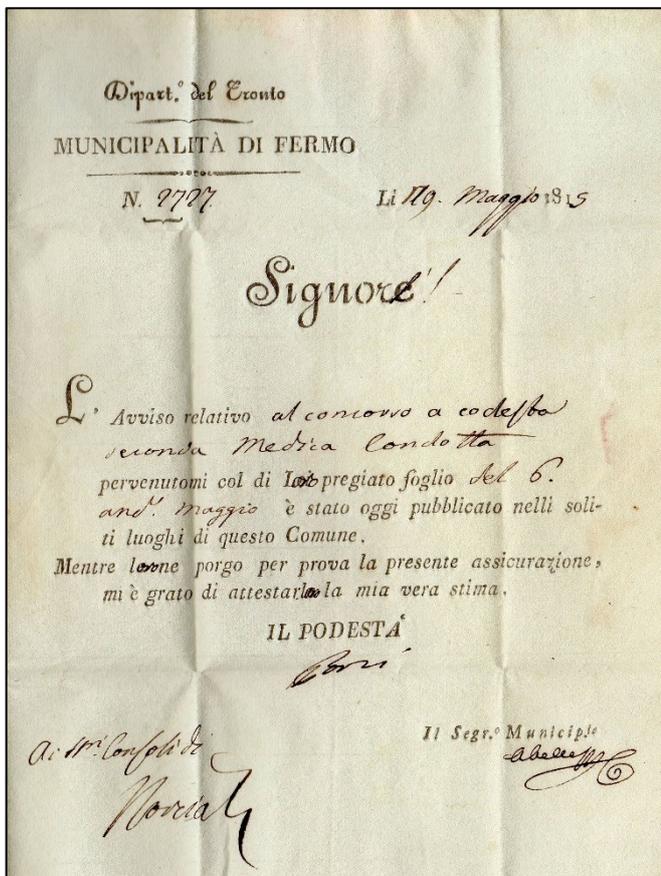
At the right is a huge placard (about A2 size) headed: **“PROVISIONAL AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT OF MARCHE / THE IMPERIAL DIRECTORATE OF THE PREFECTURE OF TRONTO / NOTICE.”** Dated Fermo, 3 July 1815, the decree sets

out in some detail the “immense needs, both ordinary and extraordinary, of the public administration... including the rations, forage and clothing of the occupation forces and of some items to be supplied for demolition of the fortifications and Citadel of Ancona...”, amounting to a quarter of a million Lire, making clear that the Marche citizens would have to cough up! Austrian troops occupied the area from late April 1815 (and besieged Ancona from 1 June till 25 July), after which the area was controlled by the Papal States. Fermo is a historic town and commune in the Region of Marche. The Napoleonic prefecture of Tronto was named after the main river. All this part of eastern Italy was part of the Papal States before and after Napoleon.

These two documents provide some context to the interesting old letters, all from the Marche Region or Emilia Romagna, after Tolentino and between 10 May and 23 June, around a month before the territory was again administered by the Pope, as the restored Papal States.

Official letter dated 29 May 1815 from FERMO (Napoleonic boxed postmark from 1808) to the Consuls of Norcia. Administrative cachet of the Mayor of the Commune of Fermo.

(Ex P. Vollmeier.)



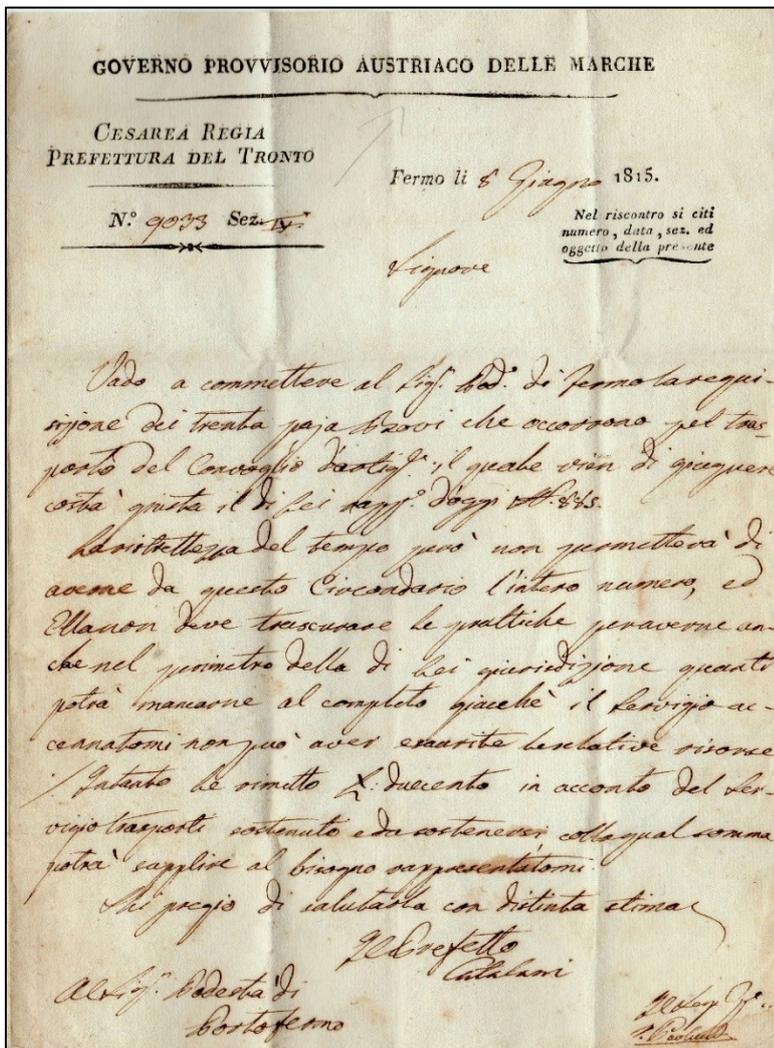
The “29” is per Vollmeier – but I’m unsure. It looks as if the date was originally 10 May but was subsequently changed to the 29th. It seems quite likely that Fermo (and Norcia) were in turmoil, necessitating a delay to the actual sending.

Marked D’Uffo but apparently charged 5 (centes?);

Signed by the Mayor.

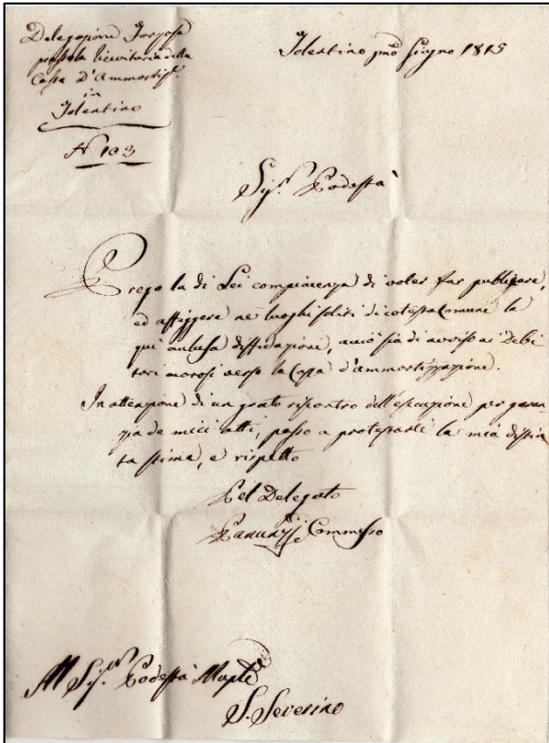
Letter from Fermo to Porto Fermo (now Porto San Giorgio) dated 8 June 1815.

Inverted Administrative cachet "Prefetto / DEL TRONTO / 41" (used 1810-1815). Marked d'Uff.



The letter was from the Austrian Provisional Government of the Marche / Imperial and Royal Prefecture of the Tronto / Fermo the 8 June 1815.

Signed by the Prefect 'Catalani' (c.f. big 'AVVISO' document above.) and sent to the Mayor of the Fermo Port commune.



Letter from Tolentino to San Severino, dated 1 June 1815. Cachet of the DELEGATIONE / IN TOLENTINO / CASSA DI AMMORTIZZAZIONE. From a 'Delegate' in Tolentino to the Mayor of San Severino. Letter marked on front 'D'Uffo'.

The letter is dated Pmo. Giugno = 1st June, almost a month after the Battle of Tolentino (2-3 May), but before Austria handed back control of the area to the Papal States.



Letter postmarked BOLOGNA (Emilio Romagna) dated 23 June 1815 to FORLI, rated '3' (centes?). Although addressed to the Mayor of Forli, one Sig. Luigi Paulucci, it isn't marked as 'Official'. (Ex Paulo Vollmeier)

A contemporary note: Bologna 16 April 1815.

“The Austrians are back

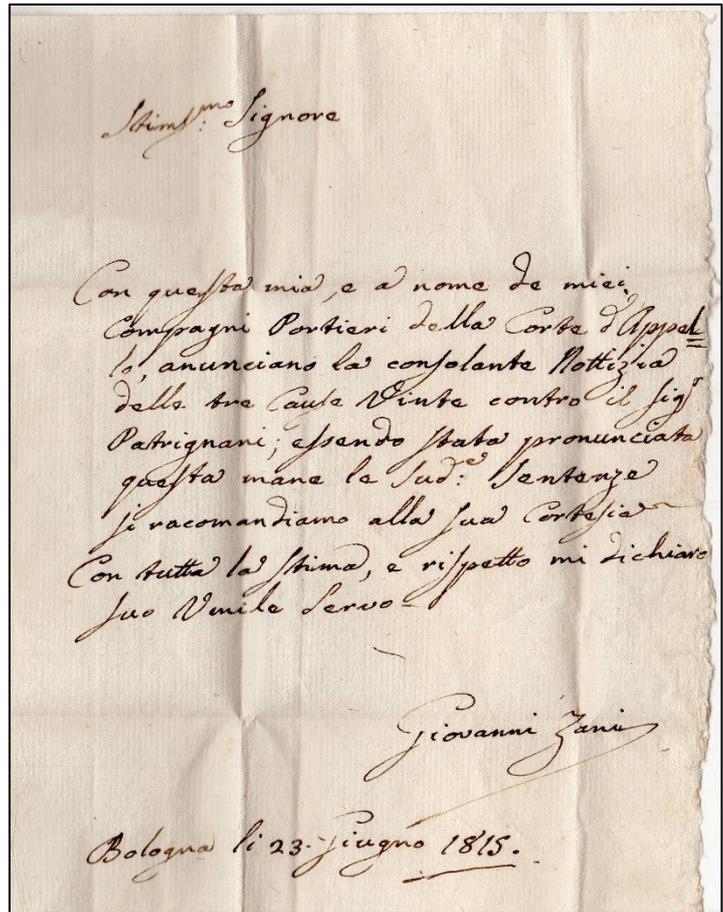
“The doors opened by the Podestà allow the Austrians to occupy the city. The Neapolitan troops began to withdraw the previous evening, after a skirmish with slight losses in Porta San Felice.

“At 10 am Gioacchino Murat left with the general staff heading towards Romagna. Some notables from Bologna followed him: [...]

“The Austrian general Stefanini arrests Alessandro Agocchia (Agucchi), appointed by the King of Naples ‘Prefect of the Rhine’ and remained until the last in Bologna. For the “Journal of the Department of the Rhine” it is the end of “a short delusion, which attempted to bring about the upheaval in the civil and social order”.

“Until 18 July, the city is governed by the Austrian military authority. The troops bivouac under the arcades of Strada Maggiore and the Mendicanti and in the fields of the suburbs.”

From <https://www.bibliotecasalaborsa.it/>



Just a few surviving letters and a couple of documents from the significant but almost forgotten 1815 Neapolitan War. There should be many more; letters home from the Austrian troops and officers would be particularly interesting, although it seems most improbable that such mail would be carried by the Italian postal system. The two documents and one letter here are on official (Provisional Government) printed paper, but only that from Bologna appears to be from a citizen rather than from an administrator or bureaucrat. An old catalogue on the postal markings of the Marche (now probably superseded) suggests that over seventy post offices might have been in existence during the period of the Austrian occupation, including some comparatively significant places, such as Ancona, Ascoli, Fermo, Macerata, Pergola, Pesaro, San Severino, Senigallia, Tolentino & Urbino. Then there will obviously have been postal activity and offices in Tuscany, Lazio, Naples, etc.

<p>Administration of Government of the Marche in Ancona</p>	<p>Vice Prefecture of Tolentino</p>	<p>Delegate of the I.R. Austrian Govt. of the Department of Metauro (Senigallia)</p>
<p>Some administrative marks identified as specifically Austrian by Gallenga in “I Bolli Delle Marche”</p>		

Other Austrian occupations and administrations in Italy 1700-1850

The history outlined above is far from the whole story of Austrian military action and administration in Italy between 1700 and 1850. Obviously the main components are the occupation of Lombardy (& Milan) for almost the entire period 1706 – 1800 and of Venetia 1798 – 1805, and then the Kingdom of Lombardy – Venetia from 1813 – 1866 (albeit Lombardy was lost from 1859). We'll now look at some others.

War of Spanish Succession (1701-1714):

May 1701, Prince Eugene of Savoy & Imperial army moved into N. Italy and by Feb. 1702 occupied Carpi, Chiari and Cremona; although mostly recovered by France that year and by 1706 Austrians forced back to Trentino.

July 1706 Prince Eugene marched on Turin (from Verona – Rovigo – Ferrara – Carpi – Reggio – Parma – Piacenza – Pavia – Alessandria) and broke the French siege by the Battle of Turin on 7 September. The war in Italy ended with the Convention of Milan in March 1707 confirming Austria's control of Milan, Mantua and Modena. By September 1707, Austria had also seized the Spanish Bourbon Kingdom of Naples and in 1708 the island of Sardinia. The Treaty of 1713 Utrecht (one of those ending the conflict) confirmed Austrian control of Naples & Sardinia but gave Savoy the island of Sicily.

By 1720 it was apparent that the House of Savoy was not able to maintain their control of the rich island of Sicily. Despite protests, Savoy was given the poor island of Sardinia by Austria, who received Sicily "in exchange"! (Confirmed by Treaty of the Hague). The same treaty gave Gibraltar to Great Britain.

See also "*Österreich - Großmacht im Mittelmeer? - das Königreich Neapel-Sizilien unter Kaiser Karl VI. (1707/20-1734/35)*" by Franz Pesendorfer, Böhlau, Wien 1998.

The War of the Quadruple Alliance (1718–1720):

Spain attempted to reverse losses in War of Spanish Succession. Captured Sardinia, failed to capture Sicily.

War of Polish Succession (1733-35):

Austria lost control of Milan to France & Savoy November 1734 until November 1735, lost Naples & Sicily

Charles of Parma (later Charles III of Spain) gave up Parma to Austria, but received Naples and Sicily from 1734. Austria also lost part of the Duchy of Milan west of the Ticino, including Novara and Tortona.

War of the Austrian Succession (1740-48):

Austria occupied Modena 19 May 1742 and retained it until Feb 1749. Fighting extended from Velletri, south of Rome, to the Alps. Piacenza, Parma and Modena were lost. Brief occupation of Genoa 6 Sep 1746 - 7 Dec 1746.

The Seven Years War (1756-1763):

No direct impact in Italy.

The French Revolutionary Wars (1792-1802):

“Napoleon Bonaparte began his first campaign in Italy in April 1796 and in less than a year, evicted Austria from the Italian peninsula. The Austrians agreed to the Treaty of Campo Formio (1797), ending the First Coalition against the Republic.” (Wiki). Austria gained Venetia and Dalmatia but lost Lombardy.

In The War of the Second Coalition (1798-1802), the Allies initially pushed the French back out of Italy. Austria held Venetia, and during 1799-1800 occupied Emilia Romagna, Lombardy, Tuscany, Ancona. But Napoleon again attacked the Austrians in Italy in spring 1800, leading to French victory at the Battle of Marengo in June 1800. The Austrians again had to seek peace, Treaty of Lunéville in 1801.

The Napoleonic Wars (1803–1815)

The effects of the Napoleonic wars on Austria in Italy are considered above. It should also be noted that Austria lost control of Venice (and Dalmatia) from December 1805. In April 1809, there were minor but significant victories by the Austrians over the French at Sacile & Pordenone in Venetia-Giulia. However, for most of 1803-1815, Austria's problems were elsewhere, not least in Austria & Vienna itself!

Revolutions of 1820-21

The activities of the revolutionary ‘Carbonari’ in Sicily & Naples forced Ferdinand I King of the ‘Two Sicilies’ to promise reform, but in 1821 the Holy Alliance (Austria, Prussia, & Russia) intervened and Austria occupied both Naples and Sicily from March 1821 to March 1827. There were also ‘Republics’ declared in 1820 in Pontecorvo & Benevento (both Papal enclaves between Rome and Naples), put down in 1821 using Austrian troops. (Percy Bysshe Shelley’s sonnet “Political Greatness” was apparently inspired by the Benevento Republic.)

Revolutions of 1830-31

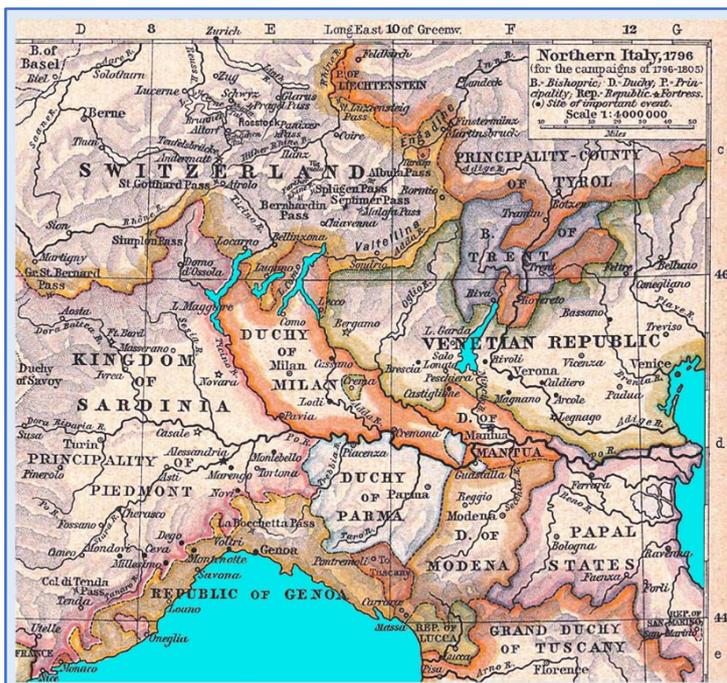
Initially encouraged by announcements by the Duke of Modena and French king Louis-Philippe, Ciro Menotti and other revolutionaries plotted an uprising in Modena. The Duke realised that his throne was in jeopardy, abandoned the Carbonari, arrested and executed Menotti and called in the Austrians to restore order. Other insurrections sprang up in the Papal Legations of Bologna, Ferrara, Ravenna, Forlì, Ancona and Perugia and in the Duchy of Parma. These successful revolutions adopted the tricolore and proclaimed the “Province Italiane Unite”, leading Pope Gregory XVI to ask Austria for help. In spring 1831, the Austrian army crushed the rebels in every province.

Revolutions of 1848-49

Already in July 1847, because of agitation, Austrian troops had occupied Ferrara. This was a foretaste of the ‘Year of Revolutions’ across Europe. Then revolt in Lombardy and the ‘Five Days of Milan’ (from 18 March) when Radetzky was forced to confine his forces to barracks and then withdraw to the “Quadrilatero” (the fortified zone between four fortress cities of Verona, Legnago, Mantua and Peschiera del Garda). At the same time, Venice was taken and held by a ‘Republic San Marco’ until 1849.

King Charles Albert of Piedmont-Sardinia declared war on Austria in March 1848 and attacked the Quadrilateral, but was roundly defeated by the Austrians at the Battle of Custoza on 24 July 1848, signed a truce, and withdrew his forces from Lombardy. Austria then controlled northern Italy, with the Revolution defeated. Austria also occupied much of Emilia-Romagna & the Marche from 1849.

That brings us to the end of the prephilatelic period and also emphasises that, in many Italian eyes, Austria was the very face of reaction to their aspirations. It may be assumed that there survives, somewhere, postal-historical evidence of most of the activity touched on above. In many cases, information is hard to find, even using the combined might of Google & Wikipedia. Of course, Italy is only one area of activity by the Austrians and the Imperial armies. So, “Austrian Italy” was not just Lombardy-Venetia. The Austrians controlled Sicily for 15 years, Naples for 20 years, Sardinia for 9 years. Many cities in Emilia-Romagna were occupied, or at least garrisoned, on many occasions and often lasting for many years. Plenty of things to look for!



Before:
Northern
Italy in
1796

Update to “The Europa Issues of Austria”

The original article appeared in Austria 194; this page updates the information from 2018 onwards.

				
2018	2019	Bundeswappen	2020	2021

EUROPA 2018 – Bridges. The 2018 EUROPA stamp is dedicated to “Bridges”. Austria chose the Schemerl Bridge in Vienna, where the Danube Canal branches off from the main river. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the death of Otto Wagner, the Schemerl bridge on the Nussdorf weir in Vienna was selected for the commemorative stamp. Spanning 49 metres over the Danube Canal and towpath, the bridge links Nussdorf in Vienna’s 19th district with the Brigittenauer Sporn in the 20th. It owes its name to the architect and hydraulic engineer Joseph Maria Schemerl von Leythenbach, who as Hofbauratsdirektor drew up a plan for regulating the Danube in 1810, although this was never implemented. The Schemerl bridge was built between 1894 and 1899 as part of the Nussdorf weir and lock system. Just upstream the Danube Canal branches off from the Danube, with the weir regulating the amount of water that enters the Canal. Otto Wagner designed the system; the bronze lions on the pillars at each end of the bridge are by the sculptor Rudolf Weyr.

EUROPA 2019 – National Birds. The EUROPA stamps are intended to promote the common interests and goals of, as well as cooperation between, the European postal companies. The topic for the 2019 EUROPA stamp is “national birds”. As an Austrian “national bird”, a young white-tailed sea eagle adorns this year's EUROPA stamp on this topic. Adults have grey-brown plumage, a yellow beak and a short white tail. In flight they can be recognized by their characteristic board-like wings with spread-out end feathers. The white-tailed sea eagle is the largest eagle species in Europe; and the female is significantly larger than the male.

White-tailed eagles need to be near bodies of water where they hunt for fish and waterfowl. In Austria they have been considered extinct since the middle of the 20th century, but have been successfully resettled in the east of the country in recent years, including in the Donau-Auen National Park. Due to traps, collisions with vehicles, poisonous bait, lead-containing hunting ammunition (which they ingest with carrion), and the destruction of their habitat, they are still at great risk and are listed on Austria's “Red List” as threatened with extinction.

This eagle is sometimes stated to be that forming part of the coat of arms of Austria; others state that it’s a Black Eagle. The actual coat is defined by law, not by colour or species! Das Wappen der Republik Österreich (Bundeswappen) *The coat of arms of the Republic of Austria (federal coat of arms) consists of a free-floating, single-headed, black, gold-armed and red-tongued eagle, the chest of which is covered with a red shield with a silver crossbar. The eagle wears on its head a gold walled crown with three visible battlements. The two claws are linked by a broken iron chain. In his right talon he carries a golden sickle with an inwardly turned edge, in his left talon a golden hammer.* The “silver crossbar” may be a heraldic term; it’s invariably shown as white.

EUROPA 2020 – Ancient Postal Routes. Each year, PostEurop's Stamps & Philately Working Group selects the EUROPA stamp theme; for 2020 it was “Ancient Postal Routes”. The Austrian stamp shows the Fugger Palace in Innsbruck, former headquarters of the Thurn & Taxis postal organisation.

In the 18th century, the Counts of Thurn and Taxis acquired the baroque palace in Innsbruck's Maria-Theresien-Strasse. It owes its name to Hans Otto Fugger, who had it built in 1679 according to plans by the court architect Johann Martin Gumpp. The design was based on Italian city palaces, especially those from Genoa. The classical ceiling fresco “The Judgment of Paris” by Martin Knoller from 1786 adorns the ballroom on the first floor, which is why it is also called the Paris Hall. Soon the palace was used not only for residential purposes, but also as a post station. Even when the State of Tirol acquired the Palais Taxis in 1905, postal operations continued until 1908. Today the building houses, among other things, the Kunsthalle Tirol for contemporary art.

EUROPA 2021 – Endangered National Wildlife. Austria chose the wolf; the stamp was issued on 8 May and discussed in Austria 215.

What's a Postcard?

One of Austrian philately's frequently-asked-questions is, what is a postcard? Or, why has something that looks like a postcard been charged (or dued) as a letter? Two extracts from obscure documents (Brief-Post tariffs) may be relevant. Thanks to Mag.phil Eva Sinnmayer for finding them.

1899 - Special provisions for individual types of correspondence

Officially issued correspondence cards, privately produced correspondence cards are also permitted, provided that they resemble officially issued cards in terms of format and thickness of the paper.

The designation of the correspondence cards with the title "*Correspondenzkarte*" or "*Postkarte*" or "*Carte postale*" printed or written at the top of the address side, or the equivalent designation in the language of the country of posting, is generally required, except in domestic traffic. Correspondence cards without a title will not be objected to in domestic traffic.

In international traffic, reply-paid correspondence cards must have the title "*Carte postale avec réponse payée*" on the address side of the first part and the title "*Carte postale réponse*" on the address side of the response part. The same designation is required for traffic with Hungary, the occupation areas and Germany.

In addition, each of the two parts of the reply-paid correspondence card must meet the conditions prescribed for the simple correspondence cards.

The correspondence cards must be sent open. The two parts of the reply-paid correspondence cards are folded over each other and must not be sealed in any way. Apart from the address details, the stamps, the address of the sender, which may be handwritten or printed using a printing process, and any postal information, no remarks may be made on the address side. Only the reverse side is intended for written communications.

The address can be written, printed or attached to a sticky label, which must not exceed the dimensions of 5 centimeters in length and 2 centimeters in height. In the same way, the sender of a reply-paid correspondence card can add his own address to the reply card.

Announcements and illustrations can be printed on both sides of the correspondence cards. However, the images etc. on the address side must in no way hinder the clarity of the address information and the affixing of the stamps and postal service notes.

Apart from the address labels and postage stamps mentioned, no other objects may be attached or glued to the correspondence cards.

Correspondence cards with the intent of indecency, defamation or other criminal acts, or on which images or other additions are attached that have an indecent, defamatory or politically demonstrative character, are excluded from the postal service.

Correspondence cards that do not meet the stipulated shipping conditions are treated as letters and the additional postage that is required for insufficiently franked letters (*to the same address*) is added.

However, correspondence cards originally addressed internally to the country of posting and forwarded to another country will benefit from the reduced tariff (*for postcards cf. letters*) if they meet the conditions stipulated for sending the correspondence cards internal to the country of posting and do not exceed the regulated dimensions.

Evidently the 1899 Tarif wasn't clear enough, so a rewording appeared in 1907. Valid from 1 October, it said:

1907 - Special provisions for individual types of mail.

In addition to officially issued correspondence cards (one-way with an indicium of 5h or 10h, reply-paid cards with an indicium of 5h or 10h on each of the two halves), correspondence cards produced by private industry are also permitted if they have met the following specification.

The correspondence cards have the heading “*Korrespondenzkarte*” or an equivalent designation (*Postcard, Carte postale, etc.*) at the top of the front. No heading is required for plain cards made by private industry. The cards may not be larger than 14 centimetres in length and 9 centimetres in breadth and not smaller than 10 centimetres in length and 7 centimetres in breadth. They must be sent open, that is, neither in a sleeve nor an envelope. The correspondence cards must be made of cardboard or paper of sufficient strength so as not to hinder handling.

The postage stamps must, as far as possible, be affixed in the top right-hand corner of the front. *) The address of the recipient as well as the postal service information (Registered, return receipt, etc.) must also be affixed to the front, of which at least the right half is reserved for this information. The back and the left part of the front are at the disposal of the sender, subject to the provisions of the following paragraph.

It is forbidden to attach or attach any items to the correspondence cards apart from the postage stamps. However, the name and address of the recipient as well as the name and address of the sender can be affixed to stickers, which for foreign transmission may not exceed two to (*by?*) five centimetres. It is also permitted to affix vignettes or photographs on very thin paper to the back and the left part of the front, provided that they are completely glued to the card. For domestic transmission, and for transmission to Hungary, the occupied area and Germany, other stickers are also permitted on the back and on the left half of the front under the conditions specified in point 3 on pages 34 and 35. Correspondence cards, the content of which indicates indecency, insults or other criminal acts, or on which images or other additions are made that are indecent, defamatory or politically demonstrative in nature, are excluded from the delivery of mail.

Reply-paid correspondence cards must have the words “*Carte postale avec réponse payée*” on the front as a heading on the first part and “*Carte postale réponse*” on the second part. For transmission to Hungary, the occupation areas and Germany, the synonym “*Postkarte mit bezahlter Antwort*”, “*Antwortpostkarte*” and the like is required. Furthermore, both parts must comply with the other provisions applicable to the simple correspondence card. They are to be folded over and must not be closed in any way. The sender of a correspondence card with a paid reply is free to put his name and address on the front of the reply card by hand or by means of a sticky label. The franking of the reply card with the postage stamps of the country that issued the card is only valid if both parts of the reply-paid card have been received together from the country of origin and if the reply part is sent from the country to which it was sent by post to the destination in the mentioned country of origin. If these conditions are not met, it will be treated as an unfranked correspondence card.

Correspondence cards that do not meet the above conditions in terms of designation, size, external features, etc., will be treated as letters.

*) However, cards on which the postage stamps are exceptionally affixed to the back are not to be objected to.

Aspect ratio

These regulations do not specify the aspect ratio of a postcard. The largest permitted card is 14x9cm = 1.555:1; the smallest is 10x7cm = 1.43:1. A square card cannot comply with the rules; hence neither can a circular card.

Prof. Otto Zeiller, 1913-1988 ¹

Otto Zeiller was born on April 19, 1913 in Vienna-Favoriten, the youngest of seven children. His father was a postman, and the family were extremely poor. His family noticed his artistic talent early on, and he received his first drawing lessons from his eldest brother Leopold. Attending the Academy of Fine Arts was unaffordable, so he attended the technical college for photographers and graduated successfully in 1931. Otto Zeiller worked as a press photographer with Conrad Swatosch from 1931 to 1938. Hiking in the Vienna Woods with numerous nature studies provided a welcome balance to everyday professional life in Vienna during the interwar period.

In 1938 Otto Zeiller married his childhood friend Stefanie. The following year he was called up for military service and used as a **Kantineur**² on the Western Front. Sick with tuberculosis at the end of 1941, he used the one-year stay in the hospitals in Krumau and Budweis for a variety of portrait studies and etchings. Released from military service, Zeiller was able to begin a six-year course at the Academy in Vienna in autumn 1942 after passing the one-week entrance exam and then taking the master classes of Professors Carl Fahringer, Heinrich Dimmel and Sergius Pauser. In addition, he studied old master technique and conservation with Robert Eigenberger. Son Stefan was born in 1943 and daughter Irmgard in 1946.

While at the Academy, he became friendly with Gerhard Stengel. Stengel himself later became famous as an aquarelle painter, but told his friend to learn more about the art of drawing. As there was little money available for his studies Zeiller drew many town views of Vienna and these were made into a kind of postcard, and this inspired him to carry on with this type of work; he also carried on with painting. In the last few years of the war he became more and more interested in the structure of the Stephansdom in Vienna, especially the light and shade of the interior, the impressive balcony construction and the roof with the beautiful Gothic ornaments. He carefully drew the interior of the roof, and the resulting six large-format sheets are historical as well as artistic documents, which because of their importance were acquired by the Museum of the City of Vienna in 1951.

Stephansdom was badly damaged during allied air raids and part of the roof was damaged by fire. When it was rebuilt, the sketches which Zeiller had made were examined and these were so precise and detailed that the architects were able to re-construct the roof exactly as it was before. Zeiller designed the 1977 stamps commemorating the 25th anniversary of the reopening. It is no surprise that the stamps of Zeiller with the Stephansdom were some of the most beautifully designed stamps, because he was so precise in his work, putting on paper every detail within the many stamps he designed.



During stays in Hallstatt between 1946 and 1948, Zeiller created landscape studies, portraits, as well as drawings of the old mining and representations of archaeological excavation pieces, on behalf of the director of the Hallstatt Archaeological Museum, Friedrich Morton. Recommended by Herbert Boeckl, the Rector of the Academy of Fine Arts, Zeiller carried out commissioned work for both the Russian and American military command until 1955. This included fresco work in the Vienna Hotel Regina and an oil painting of the construction of the monument in honour of the fallen soldiers of the Red Army, the so-called “Russian monument” on Vienna's Schwarzenbergplatz.

From 1956 to 1968 Otto Zeiller worked as a landscape and architecture painter for the Lower Austria State Museum under curator Rupert Feuchtmüller. During this period he created 144 oil paintings, watercolors and

¹ Thanks to Stuart W Hogg for inspiring this article!

² One who manages, or works in, a canteen or an armoury.

graphics, which can still be seen at exhibitions today. He also worked for private clients, for example creating in 1961 his largest-ever painting for the foyer of the Hotel Royal in Singerstraße, measuring 5.70m x 3.60m. It shows “Historical Vienna before the 2nd Turkish siege” after this engraving by Folbert van Alten-Allen.



From 1962 to 1988, Philawiki lists 163 Zeiller designs; in total over 200 postage stamps for the Republic of Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Vatican were created based on designs and motifs by Otto Zeiller. These include a set of 8 in 1964 for Wien Lädt zur WIPA 1965; all of the definitive stamp series “Beautiful Austria”; Austrian monuments, abbeys and monasteries in Austria, as well as the special stamp “200 Years of the Burgtheater”. The three stamps issued for the 1981 WIPA are all his - and were prize winners, see below.



Otto Zeiller moved to Lower Austria, where he lived in Gablitz from 1968 to 1973 and designed the market town's coat of arms. He then lived in Stockerau, together with Maria Siegl, who herself worked as a designer of postage stamps for the Austrian Post and the Principality of Liechtenstein after the turn of the millennium.



Otto Zeiller's commemorative stamp in honour of the orientalist Freiherr Joseph von Hammer-Purgstall was awarded the "Grand Prix de l'Exposition WIPA 1981" - and was thus named the most beautiful postage stamp of 1981 in the world. Zeiller said about his stamp a year before the international award: "the new Hammer-Purgstall stamp has become a complete success - at least for me. Finally a stamp that I have nothing to complain about. The experiment to create a portrait as a miniature has succeeded. ... Praise also from the state printing office. I believe I have succeeded in creating the best stamp to date!" He also praised Maria Laurent for the stamp's engraving.

Otto Zeiller's artistic skills led to a special teaching activity in his later years: on behalf of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank, he gave drawing lessons to two of its employees for two years once a week, each for a whole afternoon, during which they studied nature as the focus. At the time of the perfection course, the two students were already artistically and professionally successful. The first was Gerhart Schmirl, copperplate engraver at the Oesterreichische Nationalbank's securities printing company, who also played a leading role in the creation of numerous postage stamps for the Austrian state printing organisation. The second was Robert Kalina, designer of all Austrian Schilling banknotes since 1982. Kalina also achieved great international fame as a designer of the euro banknotes in 1996 after his designs had been selected from 44 submissions.

Prof. Otto Zeiller died in Stockerau on 16 April 1988, just before his 75th birthday, and was buried there. His works have been recognized in numerous exhibitions (Dorotheum, Archdiocese of Vienna, Belvedereschlössl Stockerau, Postsparkasse Vienna and many more) and with the following awards:

1970 - Philately Oscar, "Premio Assagio" in Rome;

1973 - Award by the Federal President of the professional title of Professor;

1977 - 1st and 2nd prize in the competition for Europa-CEPT;

1981 - Awarded the Austrian Cross of Honour for Science and Art; "Grand Prix de l'exposition WIPA 1981" - most beautiful postage stamp in the world.



The three "phases" of the design form the approach-to-WIPA1981 stamps.

On April 20, 2013, on the occasion of Prof. Otto Zeiller's birth centenary, a special exhibition opened in the Gablitz Museum. The rich work of the versatile artist could be illustrated through pictures, postage stamps and photos. His daughter Mrs Irmgard Benesch presented the museum with a folder containing wonderful images and lots of information about her father. Mayor Ing. Michael W. Cech and other contemporary witnesses also had their say and reported on their encounters with the artist. The speech by Irmgard Benesch was particularly memorable. A record of the event is here:

https://www.gablitz-museum.at/fileadmin/downloads/recherchen/2014/Zeiller_Broschuere.pdf



Issue of 1972 marking the 25th anniversary of nationalisation of electricity supply



Three vehicles from the Imperial Coach Collection: sledge; landau; state coach.



1971 issue marking the 25th anniversary of nationalised heavy industry.



The WIPA 1981 stamp as a block.

Further reading:

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otto_Zeiller

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Landschaften_aus_%C3%96sterreich_\(Briefmarkenserie\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Landschaften_aus_%C3%96sterreich_(Briefmarkenserie))

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%96sterreichische_Baudenkm%C3%A4ler_\(Briefmarkenserie\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%96sterreichische_Baudenkm%C3%A4ler_(Briefmarkenserie))

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stifte_und_Kl%C3%B6ster_in_%C3%96sterreich_\(Briefmarkenserie\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stifte_und_Kl%C3%B6ster_in_%C3%96sterreich_(Briefmarkenserie))

Have you ever wanted to have a list of all the Austrian stamps designed and/or engraved by somebody? You can trawl through the Stanley Gibbons or Michel (but not ANK) catalogues, making a list manually or electronically. Or, you can use <https://philawiki.post.at/ArticleFilter/Index> and profit from other's work. It's not guaranteed 100% correct and complete, but then few lists are. In this case it introduces the little-known designer Ott Zeiller! Note: in Windows 7, it works with Firefox but not with Chrome or IE.

NOTES FROM OTHER JOURNALS

Note that most of the items described are not retained long-term by the Society, although copies may be available for a short period.

Die Briefmarke

2021/7-8: Marcophilately and Thematics (ii); 100 years of Burgenland's complex history; endangered animals; July & Aug's commems; the quarter's Dispenser stamps; and as always, each issue contains events and cancellations; society news; new issues etc etc.

2021/9: a bumper issue, containing a 32-page supplement with details, floorplans, and exhibitor lists for Multilaterale and Övebria2021, held in St Pölten this September. Also: programmes for the Mondsee and St. Paul im Lavanttal symposiums in October; postal history from the Reformation and the Counter-reformation; 100 years of Burgenland; centenary of Weiden-am-See; extensive society reports with more-than-usual Meine Marke;

Germania

Vol 57 Nr 2: (In error, it says Vol 58 on the cover!); The 3 Mark Germania booklets, Part 2; Official mail in German-occupied Poland part 7: The Post Office; Insufficiently prepaid mail to an official body; etc etc

Vol 57 Nr 3: German international return-to-sender labels Part 2: After World War I; 150th anniversary of the Deutsches Reich and Reichspost; German military medical services in the First World War; Did you know? Catapult ship Westfalen (good sketch of it in action), Germans support the Boers, National Assembly, 1919.

ARGE Feldpost Österreich-Ungarn

A further batch has reached me, to follow the last reviews which were in Austria 211, summer 2020. I've agreed that future issues will be sent to me electronically.

#138, 2020/1. Meeting reports; questions and answers; an interesting back side; the Austro-Hungarian military mission to Persia, late 19th cy; WWI items with a large coloured script D; POW mail from a camp near Vladivostok; the maps that accompanied "Why Italy must have her frontier on the Brenner"; a huge range of war charity items; and many shorter but interesting articles.

#139, 2020/2. Wants, questions, answers; FPA8 in depth; The Austrian Air force on the SW front, Oct & Nov 1918; Maschinenwärter Hornof writing home; etc etc;

#140, 2020/3. Wants, questions, answers. "Why Italy must have her frontier on the Brenner" now in German; not so much 'postal history' but 'the history behind the post'; the Adelsberg Grotto; Grado in WWI; War Bonds; fieldpost during the 1866 war in what is now Italy; the Anglo-Canadian-American Intervention in East Siberia, 1918-1920; some of the ArGe's publications; etc.

#141, 2021/1. The 1859 France/Sardinia vs Austria war; the Skoda 305mm mortar; the missing persons bureau in Zurich; East Siberia part 2; etc.

#142, 2021/2. Society information; Wants, questions, answers; patriotic labels and what was on the back; WWI - who declared war on who, and when; where it was fought; peace treaties; fieldpost arrangements exemplified by Belgium; post to/from interned and house-arrested Serbs in Austria-Hungary (8pp) gems from the Austrian archive; more on the Skoda 305mm mortar (aka 30.5cm) and Prof. Neumann; a 3-riing dumb cancel from Arco; Italian POWs in Russia (12pp); PPE from Semperit Gummiwerke in 1915; book reviews; etc etc.

Stamps of Hungary

Nr 226 September 2021: Editor's corner; Timeline to Trianon, Part 11: 1 July 1921 – 30 September 1921; On the trail of the 1919 overprints, part 18: the 'Occupation Française' issue of Arad, Part B; Means of claiming postage due during the Hungarian hyperinflation of 1945-1946 Part I, by Florent Tricot; Q&A

THE APS BOOKSHOP

To purchase any of these items, **contact the Editor**. If you pay by credit card, it will appear as “German Railway Society” or “GRS” on your card statement.

CDs

- ❖ *All CDs cost £10 or €15 including postage to anywhere in the world.*
- ❖ “**The History of Austrian Revenue Stamps**” by Dr. Stephan Koczynski. Enhanced and published on CD in fully-text-searchable form. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-07-4.
- ❖ **1910 Post Office Index.** This is the “*Verzeichnis der Post- und Telegraphen-Ämter in Österreich, Ungarn und in Bosnien-Herzegovina sowie der österreichischen Postanstalten im Fürstentum Liechtenstein und in der Levante*”, published in Vienna in 1910. It lists all the Austrian post offices open anywhere at that date; with symbols indicating the facilities available at each. The CD contains deep-cleaned pictures of the original pages, not searchable text. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-08-1.
- ❖ “**Rohrpost**” – **the pneumatic post in Vienna.** Second completely revised edition, now in web-site format in full colour with numerous added appendices. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-10-4.

Books

- ❖ “**The story of the Austrian Post up to 1850**”. 380pp. A4 hardback in full colour. ISBN 978-0-900118-11-1. Price £39; member’s price £32. P&P £4 in UK, elsewhere at cost.

Other items

- ❖ **Back numbers** of “Austria” are **£1** each to members (**£5** to non-members), subject to us having stock. Some may be facsimiles or second-hand originals. Be aware that they will not be reprinted when copies run out. Postage extra at cost. Bulk orders by negotiation.
- ❖ **Issues from 127 onwards** are available as PDF files, either on CD for £10 per CD, or by web transfer for £5 per transaction.
- ❖ Some back numbers of *Austria* are available to read on the APS website. They are selected from issues 127 onwards; we do not have electronic versions of previous issues. Go to the APS home page <http://www.austrianphilately.com/index.htm> and select [Index of the APS Journal “Austria”](#) in the left-hand box. webmaster@austrianphilately.com would welcome comments on this feature.

Book Reviews

The story of the Austrian Post up to 1850.

I think you can only review a book like this if you have a good knowledge of the topic – I don’t. These are my thoughts as someone who has always wanted to add some pre-stamp covers to my collection but had no idea how to go about it or even what there is to collect. I think this is the target audience.

The appearance of the book inspires confidence. 375 large pages, hundreds of photos of covers, each with its markings clearly explained. A seven-page contents list allows easy navigation.

The first 30 pages describe the development of the postal service from its beginnings to 1850.

Part two covers a number of potential collecting areas: inland letters, registration, postal agencies etc. The section on registration, for example, consists of 15 pages and 26 photos covering rate changes, receipts, manuscript markings, handstamps and postmarks. Each chapter has a bibliography.

Section three looks at each province and highlights how the postal arrangements differed from Austria as a whole. Some are only a couple of pages with a map, brief history and a note that there were no unique postal aspects. Some are longer, Hungary has nine pages and includes a very useful chart of postal rates in 1848 to 1849. Each entry has a bibliography.

The final section includes articles on, for example, weights, measures, currencies and the old names for months. There is a very helpful guide to the writing of letters and numbers and a list of the various marks to be found on old covers.

I think the book is aimed at the collector who is new to a specific area. Once you have decided what to collect, more resources will be needed. Did it work for me – absolutely as I now feel confident to add some pre stamp material. I will be taking it to meetings of other societies and suggesting they produce something similar.

The authors are to be congratulated on a fine piece of work, as should be the APS for backing it.

Ken Dyke

Hungarian Postal Markings 1751-1850 by Dr Jan A. Rompes.

ISBN NR 9789464027211. Self-published by janrompes@gmail.com. Hard bound, 326pp, map, numerous colour illustrations, 30 cm, price €60 + shipping (€17 registered to UK). German / English language.

The prephilatelic postmarks of Hungary are very attractive and varied and are of great interest to collectors, not only of Hungary, but also of Slovakia, one office (Jablonka) in Poland, large areas of Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia and Austria. In fact, during the period 1751-1850 all of the Kingdom of Hungary was part of the Holy Roman Empire, and later after some shenanigans with one Napoléon Bonaparte the Austrian Empire. Of course, the brief period of the 1848-49 Hungarian Revolution is also of great historical & philatelic interest, although Hungary had to wait until the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867 (German: Ausgleich, Hungarian: Kiegyezés) for some measure of independence.

Dr Rompes new treatment of Hungarian postal history and postmarks from this period is most welcome, albeit preceded most notably by Térfi Béla (1943), Edwin Müller (1960), Kostyán Ákos & Makkai László (1966), Bér, Makkai & Surányi, (1983) and Gudlin Tamás (2004). All of these have some merits and a few drawbacks. I am pleased to have all (except Térfi) on my shelves. It might be noted that Gudlin orders his listing primarily by the location text in the canceller, very useful in some cases but not if you are trying to understand which cancellers were used when, at the many offices whose name changed over the years. So the most obvious comparison is with Bér, Makkai & Surányi, and it is a shock to realise that the latter has now been in my library for nearly 30 years!

Many of the listings are similar although it is impressive how many new handstamps (and even offices from which postmarks were previously unknown) have been added, together with other extra information. This speaks volumes for the work that Dr Rompes and other students of this period have done, including a careful examination of Térfi's own collection in the wonderful Budapest Stamp Museum. So the actual catalogue listing is somewhat longer and updated, although some fake or forged cancels have been judiciously pruned out.

On the other hand, the treatment by Bér et al of the various rates and postal practices is usefully expanded and richly illustrated by good colour reproductions of many more old letters from Rompes' own collection and occasionally from other collaborators. The deciphering of the many rate marks, postmasters' instructional marks, annotations in transit and so forth is most helpful and will, I'm sure, explain many mysteries! It is also nice that some of the unfortunate errors in the earlier book (e.g. the table on p.107) have been eliminated.

Some small things listed by Bér et al don't feature in the new book. Their listing of (un-named) Registered and 'Franco' handstamps, for example. And neither book sheds much light on letters travelling externally (to France, Germany, Italy, Russia, etc). But being able to decipher internal mail will be an essential first step in understanding any of the rare external items that you are lucky enough to find.

But one feature of Dr Rompes book is particularly welcome. The 1983 book by Bér et al was unfortunately rather poorly printed and bound. After many years of use, my copy is in rather a sorry state. The new book is handsomely and strongly bound and printed on good quality paper. Although taller, it will sit nicely with Gary Ryan's luxury

books on 1850-67 and 1867-71, giving pleasure to all serious philatelists. For those who specialise in this fascinating area, it will be indispensable.

Martin Brumby.

Austrian post offices in the Levant - Werner Schindler

Anyone who has read the 564 pages of this extensive work - presented in the style of an EDITION D'OR volume - will know why history and especially postal history fascinate so many people today. Although this book is based on the author's own collection, what he has made of it thanks to the Köhler/Corinphila publishing team breaks all the constraints of previous EDITION D'OR and EDITION SPÉCIALE volumes. The result is a perfect mixture of comprehensive information, richly combined with interesting, valuable and attractive covers from the period covered. But Schindler does not stop there. He also takes the next step with regard to what is often referred to today as "social philately". He includes contemporary illustrations of all kinds, reproduces original texts, maps, paintings of people, photos and much more, which brings to life the otherwise "dry" historical material.

Schindler treats the complex subject-matter chronologically. He begins with the early development of the Levant up to the Congress of Vienna, then shows the developments on land and sea and discusses the early postage rates as well as the introduction of stamps. This alone takes up almost 300 pages and it is fascinating to read how the progress of industrial development was in tune with the expansion of postal routes, the available means of transport and destinations served. Of course, the Austrian Post Office's position in the interplay of powers at the time is not neglected either, as it - like so many others - always endeavoured to increase the Habsburg claim to expansion as far as Asia and Egypt. International postal links to Europe and overseas, postal treaties along various routes were the result and here it is also fascinating how the author deals with these important aspects on an almost global scale. The last 50 years of these developments - from the General Postal Union to the beginning of the First World War - are dealt with more briefly in comparison, but show the new stamp issues in different currencies and new postal services as well as the renewed economic changes.

This book is not a compendium, that is, not a concise textbook, it is an encyclopaedia of the Austrian Post and the Habsburg claims in the Levant - an encyclopaedia which has not existed in this form and with this content until now. The author is up to date, as is made clear by the sources he has evaluated and the state archives used, which today are gradually digitising their holdings. As a competent postal history expert, however, Schindler knows how to put facsimiles of old postal treaties in their overall context instead of reprinting them page by page, as is often the case, and he describes documents in such a way that one can learn from them. He is aware of and interprets the correspondence of large companies and trading houses, he knows about treaties and their backgrounds, but he does not simply leave them isolated in space, but interprets them against the background of previous and subsequent historical events, so that an overall picture of this complex matter emerges.

The author and publisher can only be congratulated on this book. It is a reference book in the best sense of the word, a monograph, not a documentation of a collection. But the book shows what you can do with a collection and what you can use it for. In short: philately meets history. The two are no longer separate!

Wolfgang Maassen (AIJP)

Available from Corinphila at 99 CHF (Swiss Francs) which is about 80 GBP.

Bosnia Herzegovina Booklets Rediscovery, with some Mystery.

By Royal Gelder

While reviewing an extensive Austria collection, two seldom-seen Bosnia Herzegovina Landscape booklets were discovered. Below are colour front cover scan of each of the two booklets found in the collection. To the author's knowledge, these rare items have eluded public view for many years, possibly since 1962. Any additional information provided by any reader would be sincerely appreciated.

These booklets were produced by the Austrian State Printing House in Vienna at some point on or after the issuance of the Bosnia Herzegovina Landscape issue, which was put on sale in Sarajevo November 1, 1906. The only photograph known to the author is that published in the February 1962 issue of *American Philatelist*, in an article "Bosnia: 1906 Issue", by L.L. Howe ¹. Further research is on-going, but as with so much of Bosnia Herzegovina philately during the Austrian Occupation of 1878-1918, factual records are few.



The first booklet is known as the military version, indicating 1K 42h value on cover. It contains three panes of four Landscape 5 Heller stamps, and two panes of four Landscape 10 Heller stamps. This totals 1K 40h with the 2h balance levied for cost/convenience. The interleaving is intact between each pane. The languages used on the booklet cover appear to be, reading top to bottom, German, Slovenian, and Serbian.

The second booklet is labelled with only an enlarged value tablet and is missing one pane of 5 Heller stamps and one pane of 10 Heller stamps. Interleaving is intact for a full complement of panes as in the military

version. This example has been referred to as the civilian version.

The reference to these booklets in the AP article is in context of the panes therein being the only example of 'issued' Landscape stamps having any selvage, included on the left of each pane to afford room for the booklet staple.

Howe alludes to one military and two civilian versions being known. Howe's description of the missing panes in the civilian version matches the condition of the found example.

So far, I find no reference to these items in any catalogue. They appear to have been an unrepeated trial of Bosnia booklet production. With Bosnia's 1906 Landscape issue being the direct forerunner of the Austrian Jubilee series of 1908, the author wonders if these booklets were similarly the forerunners of the first Austrian booklets issued in May 1908, which contain 5 and 10 Heller Jubilees.



Intact with the collection were Dr. Ulrich Ferchenbauer photographic certificates for each booklet.

The author has found little in the philatelic press about them, although research is ongoing. Perhaps readers may be able to provide more information of their whereabouts over the years? My email is rwgelder@gmail.com

¹ Reprinted from the February 1962 issue of *The American Philatelist* with the permission of the American Philatelic Society

More on circular 'stamps'

By Roger Morrell

Readers may be interested in further information on the circular 'stamps' shown in previous editions of 'Austria'. The official government charity organisation for wounded servicemen operated out of the Kriegsministerium (War Ministry), and pressured the public to donate in several different ways. One of these ways was to sell 'stamps', or more strictly, charity seals. The double postcard below shows what is on offer, and how to order them.

Name des Bestellers: _____

Genauere Adresse: _____

Korrespondenz-Karte.

An das

**k. u. k. Kriegsministerium,
Kriegsfürsorgeamt
(Stempelabteilung)**

**Wien, IX.,
Berggasse 16.**

Der Kriegsfürsorgestempel.

Dieser Stempel wird je nach Wunsch auf Rechnungsformulare, Briefpapiere oder sonstige Drucksorten zu 4, 10, 20 oder 100 Heller schwarz aufgedruckt oder wie nebenstehend dreifärbig als Karte in künstlerischer Ausstattung schwarz, gelb, blau in Päckchen zu je 100 Stück à 4 oder 10 Heller, eckig oder rund in Versand gebracht.

Für Fakturen, Briefpapiere oder sonstige Drucksorten.



Als Verschlussmarke in Tafeln, perforiert, künstlerisch ausgestattet, je 25 Stück à 4 oder 10 Heller.



Prägestempel für Visittkarten, Briefpapier, Kuverts etc. zu 4 oder 10 Heller.

Ich Wir bestelle(n)

..... Stück **Stempelmarken, rund** . à 4 Heller

..... " " " . à 10 "

..... " " " eckig . à 4 "

..... " " " . à 10 "

Ich Wir beabsichtige(n)

..... Stück **Rechnungen**

..... " **Briefpapier**

..... " **Kuverts**

..... " **sonstige Drucksorten**

..... " **Visitkarten**

behufs Abstempelung mit dem Kriegsfürsorge-stempel à 4, 10, 20 oder 100 Heller an das (nicht Gewünschtes bitte zu streichen)

k. u. k. Kriegsministerium, Kriegsfürsorgeamt, Wien, IX., Berggasse 16, zu senden und ersuche(n) um Bekanntgabe der Übernahme-stelle in meinem Wohnorte. unserem

Falls der Prägestempel gewünscht wird, ist dies gefälligst speziell bekanntzugeben.

Eine neue Aktion des Kriegsfürsorgeamtes.

Durch eine neue, mit außerordentlichem Beifalle aufgenommene und von vielen Seiten mit Begeisterung unterstützte Aktion des Kriegsfürsorgeamtes ist es jedem Einzelnen gegönnt, die Soldaten auf dem Kriegsschauplatz und die Witwen und Waisen der gefallenen Krieger zu bedenken, ohne daß ihm ein empfindliches Opfer oder irgendeine Unbequemlichkeit zugemutet wird.

Der Vorgang bei der Abstempelung ist weder umständlich noch zeitraubend. Die Drucksorten werden durch Organe des Kriegsfürsorgeamtes, das nur durch eine Korrespondenzkarte verständigt zu werden braucht (Wien, IX., Berggasse 16), abgeholt und nach gegebener Abstempelung kostenfrei wieder zurückgestellt. Der gleiche Vorgang wickelt sich in allen Provinzstädten ab, in welchen das Kriegsfürsorgeamt seine Vertretungen hat, und die über Wunsch sofort schriftlich bekanntgegeben werden.

Auch Briefpapiere und Visittkarten von Privatisten werden vom Kriegsfürsorgeamt (Abteilung 8) mit dem Kriegsfürsorgeprägestempel versehen, der für diesen speziellen Zweck so sorgfältig hergestellt wurde, daß er sich sehr elegant ausnimmt und eine Zierde der Visittkarte darstellt, wie umstehend zu ersehen ist. Nicht unerwähnt darf die Kriegsfürsorgekarte bleiben, die in ihrer künstlerischen Ausstattung sicherlich allgemeinen Beifall finden wird.

Der Kriegsfürsorgestempel wird sicherlich bald in den weitesten Kreisen populär werden und der Unterstützung der Soldaten im Felde sowie der Fürsorge für die Witwen und Waisen unserer gefallenen Helden bedeutende Summen zuführen.

Jedermann, der sich dieser wohlthätig-patriotischen Aktion anschließt und Rechnungen, Briefpapiere, Visittkarten etc. zur Stempelung übergibt, eine Anzahl fertiger Karten kauft, oder diese Aktion in Bekanntheit propagiert, tut nur seine Pflicht als edelgestimmter Patriot und wohlthätiger Bürger, unterstützt dadurch die Soldaten im Felde und die Witwen und Waisen der Gefallenen.

In addition to the round 'stamps' available in packs of 100 at 4h or 10h, a black version could be imprinted on letter-paper or invoices, etc., with values of 4h, 10h, 20h, or 100h.

The rectangular 'stamps', described as Verschlussmarken (seal stamps), were available in sheets of 25 with 4h or 10h values.

Finally, there was also an



impressed 'stamp' of value 4h or 10h suggested for use on visiting cards, invoices, letter paper or envelopes.

The reverse side contains some persuasive text about donating, plus an order form that can be returned to the Kriegsfürsorgeamt.

A second way of fundraising was direct mailing. The folded circular below, issued in July 1915, describes on the front all the worthy applications to which the fund receipts are applied, including retraining for alternative careers, the purchase and fitting of



K. u. k. Kriegsministerium
Kriegsfürsorgeamt.

WIEN, im Juli 1916.

Helfet den Kriegsinvaliden!

Das unter dem Protektorate Ihrer kaiserlichen und königlichen Hoheiten der durchlauchtigsten Frau Erzherzogin Zita und des durchlauchtigsten Herrn Erzherzogs Karl Stephan stehende Kriegsfürsorgeamt des k. u. k. Kriegsministeriums richtet im Verein mit dem von ihm berufenen, mitgefertigten Komitee an alle warmfühlenden Menschen den dringenden Appell, mitzuhelfen, damit für die armen Kriegsinvaliden (Offiziere, Militärbeamte und Mannschaften) ein bleibender Hilfsfonds gebildet werden könne. Die Hilfsaktion, welcher dieser For schon die k. u. k. Kriegsverwaltung Vorso im wesentlichen erstrecken:

1. auf die Anschaffung, Instandhaltung, Lebensberufe der Invaliden an sonstigen Ersatzstücken (Prothesen, physiotherapy, sending invalids for 'cures', and assistance for the blinded. Inside, the second sheet gives the names of all the worthies on the 'Committee'. Enclosed with this leaflet is a pre-printed standard money order for donations, headed 'Invalidenfonds' & shown on the next page.
2. auf den Unterricht im Gebrauch der hilfswesen Heranziehung der Hilfsmittel und Organe zur Erlangung einer
3. auf die physikalische Nachbesserung eigenen Anstalten (Invalidenhilfsanstalten)
4. auf die Gewährung von Unterstützung für den Gebrauch von Heilbädern usw
5. auf die Blindenfürsorge.

Zur Bildung dieses Fonds werden erl oder auch Gegenstände der Kunst und des Holz und Elfenbein, Teppiche, Gewebe, Kristall usw.), welche jetzt oder zu einem späteren Zeitpunkt durch freiwillige Versteigerungen oder durch freihändige

Die Kunstobjekte oder Gegenstände des Kunstgewerbes werden im Komitee-lokal, III., Löwengasse 47 (Telephon 10997) dankbarst entgegengenommen, oder auch über telephonische oder anderweitige Verständigung abgeholt.

Die Namen der hochherzigen Spender werden in periodischen Ausweisen veröffentlicht, ebenso wird über die Verwendung der gewidmeten Objekte und eingegangenen Gelder Ausweis gelegt.

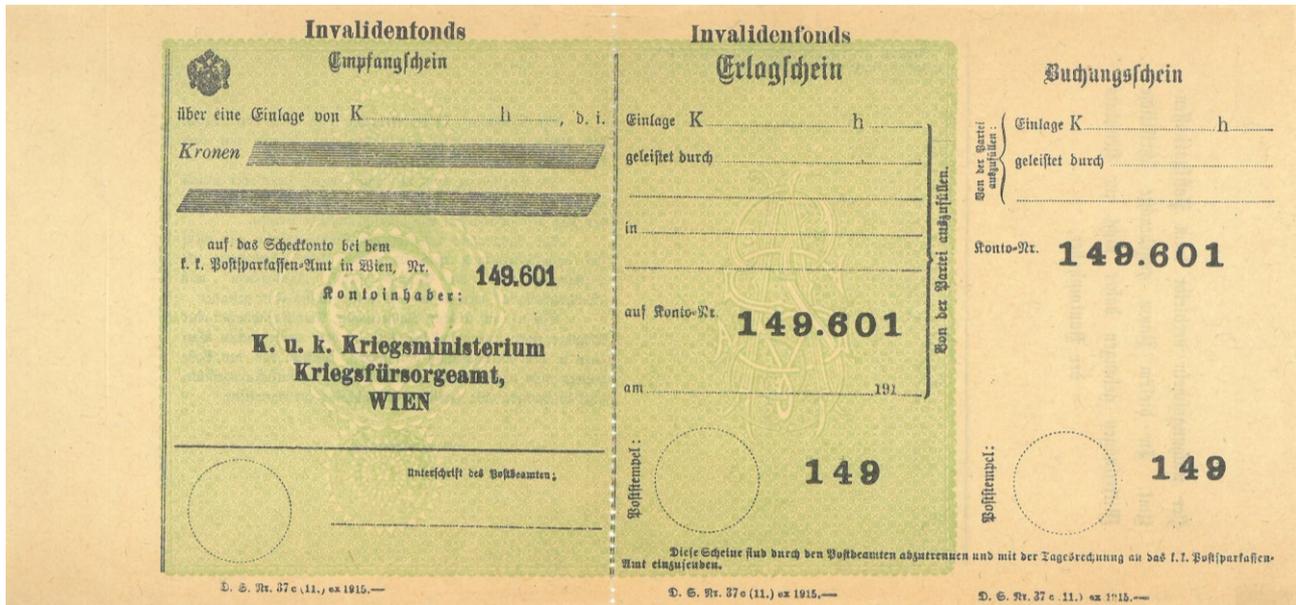
Der Vorstand des Kriegsfürsorgeamtes:
F.M.L. Löbl.

Das Komitee:

<p>Rudolf Graf Bellegarde Ministerpräsident a. D. Graf Bienert-Schmerling Direktionsrat August Bittner Dr. Gustav Bloch Oberbaurat Artur Ritter von Boschan Ferdinand Graf Chorinsky Professor Dr. Johann Clairmont Professor Hugo Darnaut Professor Dr. Friedrich Dimmer Generalkonservator Prof. Dr. Max Dworak Präsident der „Concordia“ Dr. Siegmund Ehrlich Hofrat Prof. Dr. Baron Eiselsberg Professor Dr. Oskar Förderl Legationsrat Baron Franckenstein Hofrat Professor Dr. Fuchs Chefredakteur Dr. Friedrich Funder Hofrat Ernst Ganglbauer Ministerialrat Edler von Gasteiger Direktor der Gemäldegalerie des Allerhöchsten Kaiserhauses Dr. Gustav Glück Guido Baron Haerdtl G.M. Ritter von Henriquez Ernst Baron von Herring-Frankensdorf Hofrat Prof. Dr. von Hochenege Regierungsrat Josef Hoffmann Nikolaus Prinz Hohenlohe Generaloberstabsarzt Dr. Ritter von Kerzl Hofjuwelier Theodor Köchert Bankdirektor Edler von Kraßny Gesandter Ritter von Kuczynski Horace Ritter von Landau Bankpräsident Prof. Dr. Julius Landesberger</p>	<p>Hofrat Dr. Eduard Leisching Ministerialsekretär Dr. Lederer Regierungsrat Prof. Dr. Lorenz Dr. Hans Ritter von Mauthner Karl Mayer Regierungsrat Prof. Alexander Mell Simon Ritter von Metaxa Eugen Ritter von Miller zu Aichholz Gesandter Baron Musulin Oberbaurat Karl Redlich Gesandter Baron Riedl Erster Restaurator Hermann Ritschl Sektionsrat Ritter von Rohrer Louis Baron Rothschild Professor Dr. Moritz Sachs Leopold Satori Präsident des nied.-österr. Gewerbevereines Adolf Schiel Regierungsrat Professor Anton Schmid Professor Ferdinand Schmutzer Paul Ritter von Schoeller Regierungsrat Dr. Ritter v. Schubert-Soldern Präsident der internationalen Pressevereinigung Wilhelm Singer Karl Baron Skoda Professor Dr. Hans Spitzky Sigismund Baron Springer Hofrat Graf Steinach Josef Graf Wallis Bürgermeister Dr. Richard Weiskirchner Kaiserlicher Rat Siegfried Franz Weil Max Graf Wickenburg Hans Graf Wilczek</p>
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PAUL GERIN, WIEN II.

strong peer pressure to show that the public were taking this seriously, with individuals being required to donate by local mayors and similar officials.





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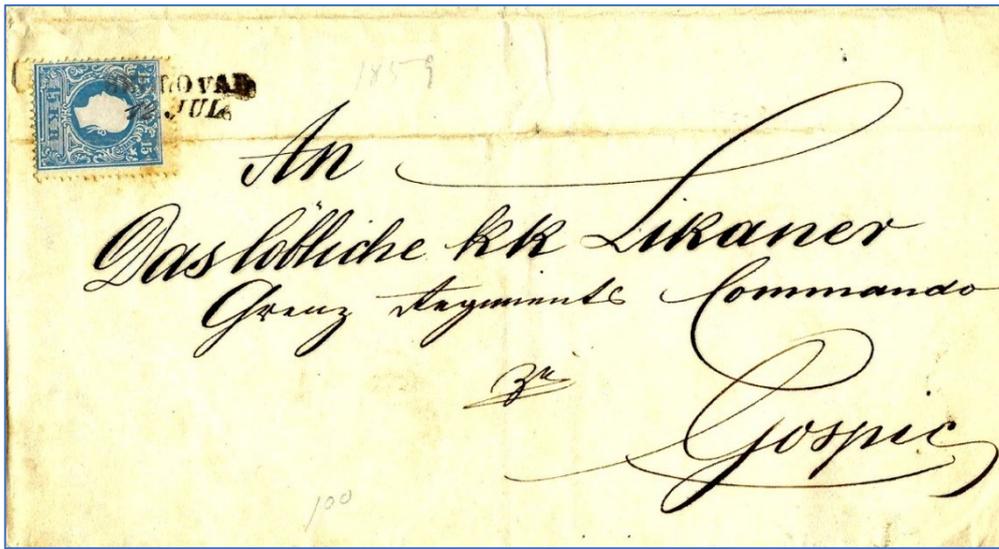
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THE SOLFERINO LETTER

by Henry Pollak, Roger Morrell, et al



<p>Löbl. kais. königl Likaner Regiments Commando!</p> <p>Da ich aus den Zeitungen entnommen habe dass mein im löbl. Regimente gedienter Gatte Oberstleutnant von Zagitsek am Schlachtfelde zu Solferino geblieben ist, so stelle ich dem löbl. Regiments Commando das ergebenste Ansuchen, mich seine hinterlassene Wittve von seiner Todesart von den Umständen unter denen er geblieben ist, gütigst verständigen zu wollen. Unter einem zeige dem löbl. Regiments Commando an, dass Oberstleutnant von Zagitsek einen ii Jahr alten Sohn Carl hinterlassen hat, der sich mit mir in Belovar befindet. Weiter ersuche ich gefälligst dahin zu wiiwrken, dass vom Nachlass die Uhr, drei Ringe, ein Säbel sammt Gurtel und Porteépées und allest was zum Andenken an den verstorbenen mir oder meinem Sohne dienen könnte, <i>in natura</i> belassen, und einer Veräußerung nich unterzogen werde. Betreffend dieser Bitte habe ich mich unter einem an das löbl. II. Baons Kommando des löbl. Regiments nach Italien gewendet.</p> <p>Die Verständigung über dieses mein Ansuchen wolle mir durch löbl. Warasdiner-Kreuzer Regiment zukommen gemacht werden.</p> <p>am 11. Juli 1859</p> <p>Marie von Zagitsek / Oberstleu. Witwe</p> <p>An das Regiments Commando zu Gospić.</p>	<p>(To the) löbl k.k. Likaner Regimental Commando¹</p> <p>Since I read from the newspapers that my husband, Lieutenant Colonel von Zagitsek, who was serving in the regiment, did not return from the battlefield at Solferino, so I submit to the Regimental Commando my respectful request to inform me, his widow who was left behind, of the manner in which he died, of the circumstances under which he stayed. In particular, I inform the Regiments Commando that Lieutenant Colonel von Zagitsek left behind a two-year-old son Carl, who is with me in Belovar. I also kindly ask you to ensure that from his possessions the watch, three rings, a sabre with belt and porteépée² and everything that could serve in memory of the deceased to me or my son are left 'as is' and not disposed of. Regarding this request, I turned first of all to the 2nd Battalion's Commando of the Regiment in Italy.</p> <p>The information concerning my request arrived via the Warasdiner-Kreuzer Regiment.</p> <p>Dated 11 July 1859 (<i>ie 18 days after the battle</i>)</p> <p>(signed, in different handwriting - compare the Z) Marie von Zagitsek, Lieutenant Colonel's Widow.</p> <p>To the Regimental Commando, Gospić.</p>
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¹ The Commando of a regiment is its commanding officer or his staff - the people who issue the orders. Here, it was sometimes written Commando and sometimes Kommando.

² A porteépée is a decorative sword-strap, serving originally to prevent the sword falling out of the user's hands - especially important if he was mounted! - but before 1859 came to denote the wearer's rank.

The letter (shown below) has a 30kr and a 6kr revenue adhesive stamp, diagonally crossed out in ink and cacheted with an eagle surrounded by XXXX KK LIKANER all in a circle - presumably the regimental receipt mark. 36kr is a very common revenue fee for a document not explicitly concerned with a sum of money. In this instance it is probably an Eingabe - a petition - which the recipient is required to answer (not necessarily positively!). We suspect that the document was drawn up by the family lawyer, written out by a clerk on a piece of stamped paper (the writing is on top of the adhesives), signed, and posted. The postal adhesive is cancelled BELOVAR. (This is the modern Bjelovar, not the Belovar now absorbed into Zagreb.) Interestingly, there is no return address.

The Battle of Solferino

Wikipedia tells us that Solferino was a village in the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia. The Battle of Solferino, part of the Second Italian War of Independence, was fought on 24 June 1859 between about 130,000 Austrian troops and 140,000 French and allied Piedmontese troops. It was the last major battle in world history where all the armies were under the personal command of their monarchs.

The Austrian forces were personally led¹ by their militarily inexperienced 29-year-old emperor, Franz Joseph; the French by Napoleon III; and the Piedmontese by Victor Emmanuel. Although all three combatants were commanded by their monarchs, each was backed up by professional soldiers. The Austrian high command was hindered by the rivalry between the Chief of Staff, Heinrich von Hess, and the Emperor's Adjutant General Karl Ludwig von Grünne. The Austrians eventually lost. After the battle, the Austrian Emperor refrained from further direct command of the army².

This battle, a particularly gruelling one lasting over nine hours, would have a long-term effect on the future conduct of military actions. The Swiss Jean-Henri Dunant, who toured the field following the battle, was motivated by the horrific suffering of the wounded soldiers abandoned on the battlefield to begin a campaign that would eventually result in the Geneva Conventions and the establishment of the International Red Cross.

Side	Strength	Killed	Wounded	Missing, captured	total
Austria	130,000	2,386	10,807	8,638	21,831
		2%	8%	7%	17%
French & Piedmontese	140,000	2,492	12,512	2,922	17,926
		2%	9%	2%	13%
Everybody	270,000	4,878	23,319	11,560	39,757
		2%	9%	4%	15%



Kapelle San Martino

The % numbers are % of the starting strength.

<p>Auf einem Hügel oberhalb von San Martino ist der Museumsbereich für die Schlachten von San Martino und Solferino. Die Kapelle liegt ausserhalb dieses Bereichs. Im Innern der Kapelle sind auf der rechten Seite die Tafeln mit den auf habsburgischer Seite Gefallenen und auf der linken Seite die Tafeln mit den Gefallenen Italiens. Auf beiden Seiten weitere Tafeln. Die Gruppierung und Sortierung wurde - wie auf den Tafeln dargestellt - beibehalten.</p>	<p>On a hill above San Martino is the museum area for the battles of San Martino and Solferino. The chapel is outside this area. Inside the chapel, on the right-hand side are the panels with those who died on the Habsburg side and on the left-hand side the panels with the fallen of Italy. <i>(there are)</i> Further panels on both sides. The grouping and sorting - as shown on the boards - was retained.</p>
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¹ Army Order n.34. “Today, in assuming the supreme command of the armies facing the enemy, I want to continue at the head of my brave troops the struggle which Austria was forced to wage for its honour and good right. Soldiers! Your dedication to me, your value so splendidly demonstrated, give me the guarantee that under my guidance we will achieve the successes that the country expects of us. Verona, 18 June 1859, Francesco Giuseppe.”

² Counterfactual history: if Franz Joseph had died at Solferino, his successor would have been the 3-year-old Gisela (1856-1932), whom failing the 1-year-old Rudolf (later of Mayerling fame), under a Regency Council. History would have been different - presumably!

All senior officers are listed in “*Die k.k. bzw. k.u.k. Generalität 1816-1918*“ von Antonio Schmidt-Brentano. Österreichisches Staatsarchiv. However, Hermann wasn't senior enough to be included. He had a relative who was, Carl Zagitsek von Kehlfeld, a GeneralMajor, who died 2.1.1850 so not at Solferino. Hermann could be his son?

The next tables are from http://www.denkmalprojekt.org/2021/san-martino-della-battaglia_kapelle_region-lombardei_provinz-brescia_1859_2-armee-5-korps_i.html which lists the names of the fallen; only officers had their rank shown. Only two of the Frontier Regiments are shown as having lost members:

Grenzinfanterieregiment 1 Liccanner Grenzer

Dienstgrad	Name	Vorname
Leutnant	CANAK	Budislaus
Leutnant	LONCAR	Basil
	MARISCHITZ	Saul
Oberstleutnant	ZAGITSEK VON KEHLFELD	Hermann

Grenzinfanterieregiment 3 Oguliner Grenzer

Dienstgrad	Name	Vorname
	GLOVACS	Theodor
	GRETRICH	Nikolaus
	JURA	Jaxis
Hauptmann	KRAGULIAC	Hermann
	NOCHMER	Stiko

From a member of ArGe Feldpost: Oberstleutnant Hermann Zagitsek von Kehlfeld war Angehöriger des 1. Likaner Grenzinfanterieregimentes. Diese Einheit gehörte 1859 zur 2. Armee, 5. Armeekorps. In der Gedenkkapelle in San Martino della Battaglia ist er auf der Opfertafel seines Regimentes angeführt.	Lieutenant Colonel Hermann Zagitsek von Kehlfeld was a member of the 1 st Likaner Border Infantry Regiment. This unit belonged to the 5 th Army Corps of the 2 nd Army in 1859. In the memorial chapel in San Martino della Battaglia he is listed on the memorial tablet of his regiment.
Die Militärgrenze war die Bezeichnung für das vom 16. bis zum 19. Jahrhundert militärisch organisierte Grenzgebiet des Habsburgerreiches zum Osmanischen Reich in Südosteuropa. Zur Zeit ihrer größten Ausdehnung im Jahre 1850 umfasste die Militärgrenze ein Gebiet von 50.000 Quadratkilometern und erstreckte sich zuletzt über eine Länge von 1850km.	The military border was the name given to the border area between the Habsburg Empire and the Ottoman Empire in southeastern Europe, which was organized militarily from the 16 th to the 19 th century. At the time of its greatest expansion, in 1850, the military border covered an area of 50,000 square kilometers and extended over a length of 1850km.
Sie bestand aus den vier Generalaten der Kroatischen (1538–1878), Slawonischen (1702–1878) sowie Banater (1742–1872) und Siebenbürger Grenze (1764–1851) mit den dazugehörigen Grenzregimentern. Diese Regimenter wurden 1769 mit Nummern versehen und galten als reguläre Infanterie. Grenz-Infanterie und -Kavallerie kämpften daher auch außerhalb der Militärgrenze.	It consisted of the four Generalates ¹ of the Croatian (1538–1878), Slavonian (1702–1878), Banat (1742–1872) and Transylvanian border (1764–1851) with the associated border regiments. These regiments were numbered in 1769 and were considered regular infantry. Border infantry and cavalry therefore also fought outside the military border.

In the 1856, 1857, and 1858 editions of the Militär-Schematismus of the Austrian Empire (see ²) he is listed as Zagitzeck v. Kehlfeld, Herm. M GIR5. This means Militär Grenz Infanterie Regiment #5, which is the Kreuzer

¹ A Generalate appears to be either an area of Habsburg territory or the Commanding Officer thereof, who had the special privilege of immediate direct access to the Emperor, rather than having to submit his problem in writing and/or through an intermediary.

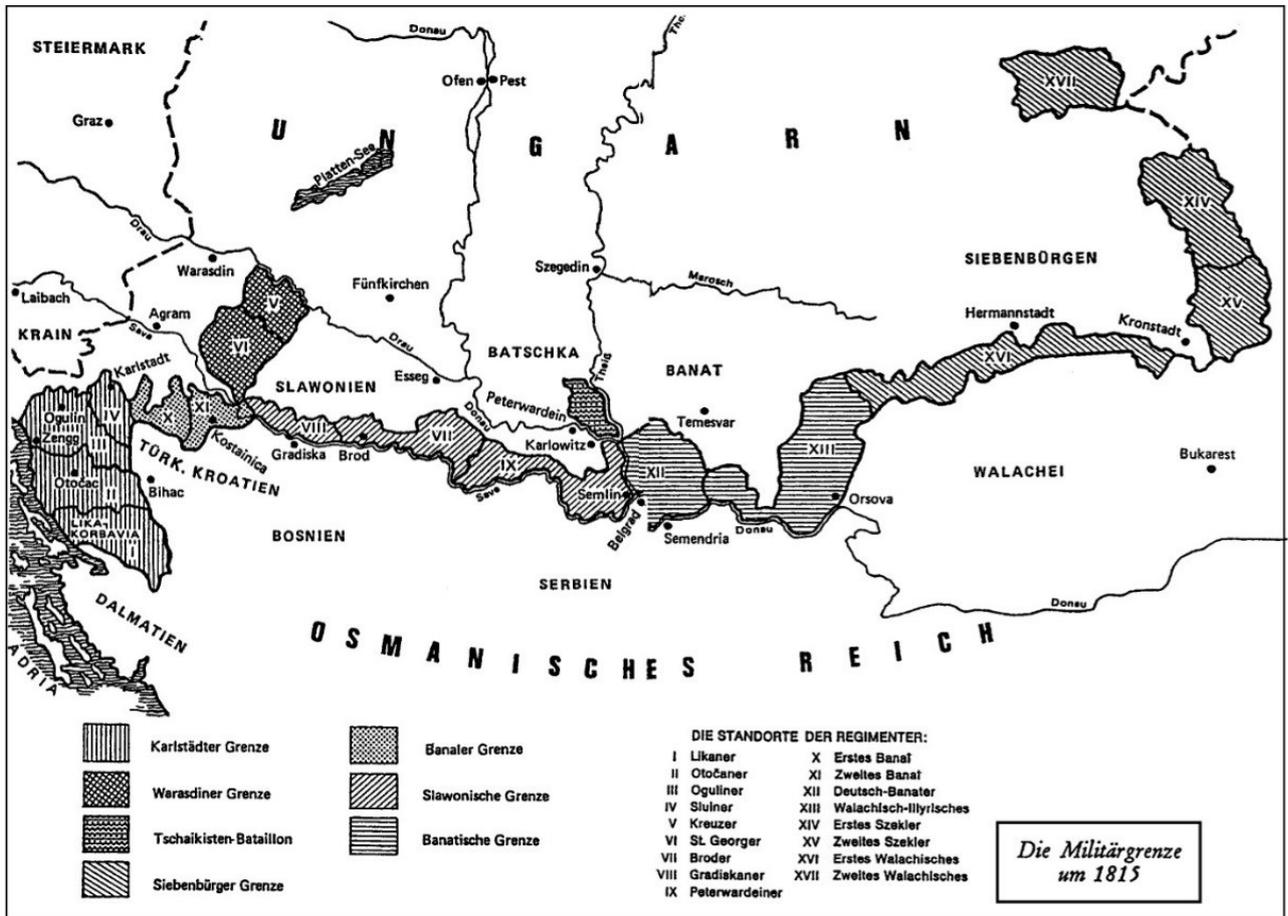
² https://library.hungaricana.hu/en/view/MilitarAlmanachSchematismus_1857_or_1859_or_1859

Regiment in the Warasdiner Grenzland (Varaždin), based in Belovar. He was a Major in this regiment; each regiment had only one Oberst (≈Colonel) and one Oberstleutnant but usually three Majors each leading a Battalion. The Oberstleutnant of the Likaner Regiment is listed as Michael Kassumović for 1857 and 1858; by the end of 1859 it was Mathias Ellger, and Kassumović had been promoted to Oberst of GIR11.

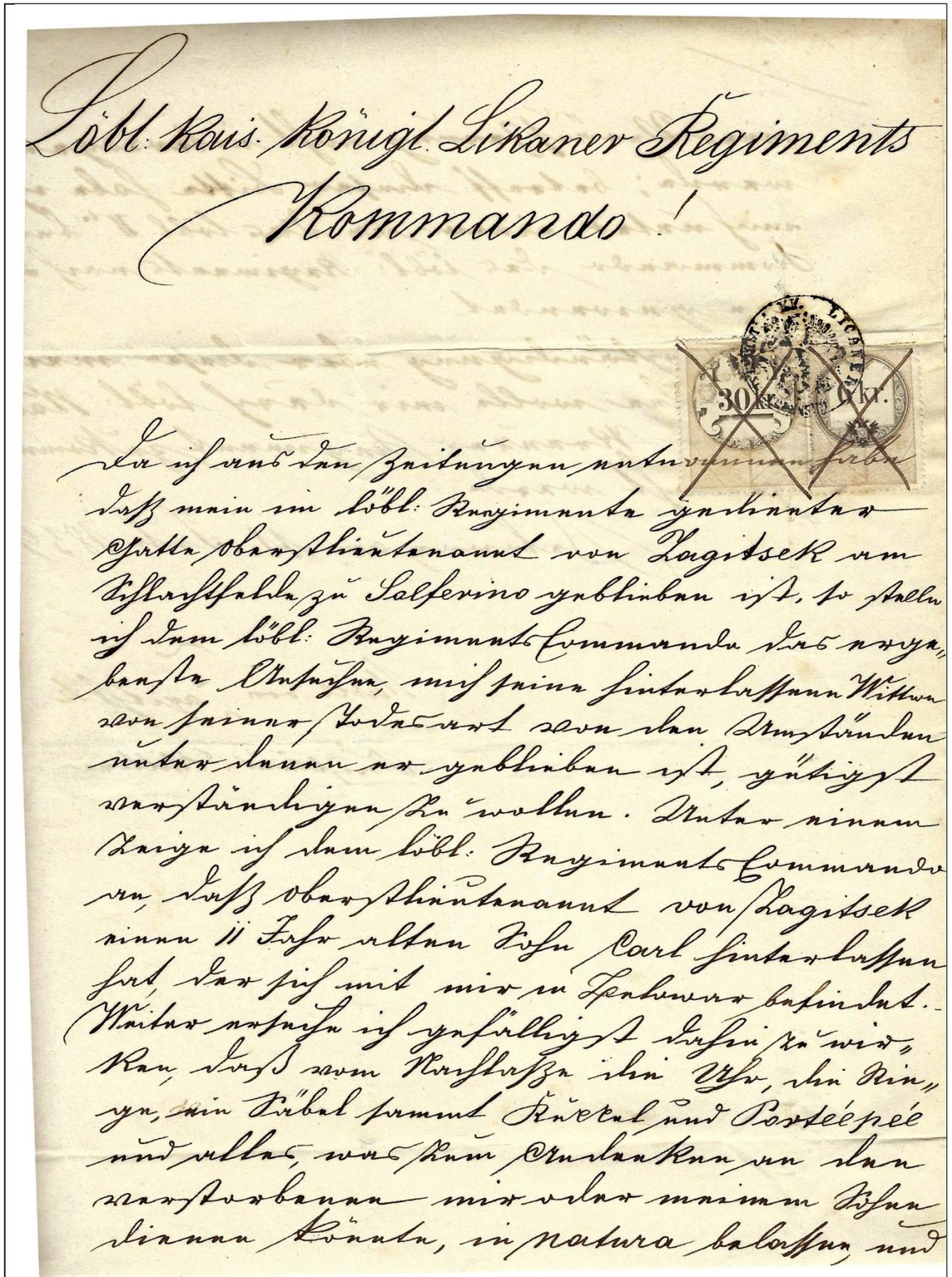
Speculation: this move left an Oberstleutnant gap in the Likaner; Zagitzeck v. Kehlfield was promoted to fill it, only to be killed at Solferino. His widow applied to the Kreuzer Regiment but was told she needed to ask the Likaner HQ at Gospić.

The Frontier Regimental line-up

- Karlstädter Grenzland (Karlovac)
 - I. Likaner Regiment (Lika) (from 1769: No. 60)
 - II. Ottochaner Regiment (Otočac) (No. 61)
 - III. Oguliner Regiment (Ogulin) (No. 62)
 - IV. Szluiner Regiment (Slunj) (No. 63)
- Warasdiner Grenzland (Varaždin)
 - V. Kreuzer Regiment (Križevci) (No. 64)
 - VI. St. Georger Regiment (Đurdevac) (No. 65)
- (The Tschalkisten and Siebenbürger regiments slotted in here)
- Banater Grenzland (*Banska krajina*) (Banovina)
 - X. Erstes Banater Regiment (Glina) (No. 69)
 - XI. Zweites Banater Regiment (Petrinja) (No. 70)
- (And other regiments held the line to the East - see the b/w map)



The letter:



eines Kränzes gewürdigt nicht unterzogen
 werden; bezaugt dieses Litta habe ich
 mich nicht einem von des löbl. II^{ten} Luvs
 Kommando des löbl. Regiments, nach dem
 hin verwendet.

Die Staatsbürgerschaft über dieses mein
 Ansuchen wolle mir nach löbl. Majestät
 eines Kränzes Regiments zu kommen
 gemacht werden.

Rahow, am 11. Juli 1839

Marie von Fagitzek
 Oberlieut. Wilken

