

THE CHARITY STAMP (WOHLFAHRTSWERK) OF 10.9.1945.

A charity stamp was issued on 10 September for use in the Russian Zone where it was valid until 10 November 1945. Bearing a postal value of 1RM plus a charity surcharge of 10RM, it was designed by Hans Ranzoni d. J. to show an Austrian man returning homewards from a Nazi concentration camp through an Alpine landscape. The sun is rising behind the Austrian mountains above which flies the white dove of peace. The stamp was printed on white un-watermarked paper by the photogravure (Rastertiefdruck) process in sheets of 50 (total issue 684,822 pieces; presumably some sheets had damaged-in-printing stamps removed), narrow perforated 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x14 $\frac{1}{4}$. The charity surcharge was applied to relief work in Vienna. Two errors are known with this stamp; the more common one having the first R in ÖSTERREICH with a long tail on the 11th stamp in the sheet. The stamp is also known imperforate on the left.

