



The Third Reich Study Group

NEWS SHEET

Group Leader:

Tony Hickey, 3 Yester Drive, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 5LR

No. 190

September 2022

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Dear Member

The Third Reich Study Group Meeting

30th April 2022

A Report by Tony Hickey & Albert Jackson

This was the 1st meeting of the T.R.S.G. this year with 17 members attending. My display of "Nuremberg Rallies 1923 – 1938" was dedicated to our former leader John Rawlings who has now left the G & C.P.S. due to ill health. John and his wife will soon be moving to Retford, Nottinghamshire to be with their son and daughter in law. One of John's first philatelic loves was the postal history of the Nuremberg Rallies, so much so that he and Michael Passmore published a detailed book on the subject in 1980, which was then updated in 1993. John's enthusiasm for this period of German history, and of course his excellent book, gave me the inspiration to also collect it, not knowing then how vast the subject was. I wasn't able to take any photos of the display but I have now scanned a few copies for the News Sheet shown below.

Tony Hickey



Top left: A postcard from the 'Deutscher Tag' 1st – 2nd September 1923.

Above: A propaganda card sent on the 2nd September 1933 from Nuremberg.

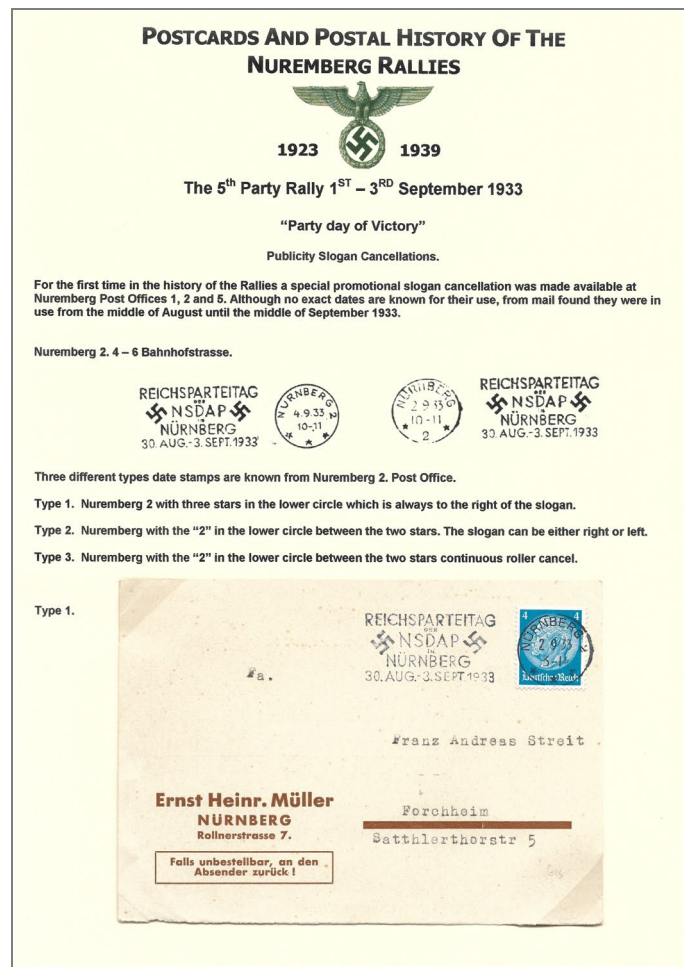
Left: Another card from the 'Deutscher Tag' in 1923 showing the leading delegates from the Armed Forces watching the march past of Para-Military groups in the Market Platz.

Dear Member (cont.)

Left: 'Party Day of Honour, Greetings from Nuremberg, Heil Hitler'. 13.9.1936.

A privately printed postcard sent from Nuremberg on 8th September 1936 to Friedr. Schäfer in Frankfurt bearing a 6Rpf Rally Commemorative, the inland postcard rate.

Below: A whole page from the display showing the special cancels issued for the first time by the Reichspost for the 1933 Rally ("Party Day of Victory").



As no one was delegated to make a vote of thanks for Tony's excellent display to the Third Reich Study Group, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the members present to say how much we appreciated what is without doubt one of the best collections on 'The Nuremberg Rallies' one could hope to see. Not only were there numerous coloured and black-and-white postcards that are so evocative of the rallies, but Tony also showed us extremely rare examples of VIP tickets, ID cards and illustrated telegram forms. Letters to and from the rally grounds, most with special postmarks, prompted complimentary comments from the audience followed by lively conversations during viewing. This was a most fitting tribute to our friend and colleague John Rawlings who was the inspiration for Tony's collection and display.

Albert Jackson

Our thanks go to Tony and Albert for this report.

State of the Membership

New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to our Study Group. They are:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Trevor Morriss | - | Coventry, CV5 6QF |
| John Hingley-Hickson | - | Sedgebrook, Lincolnshire, NG32 2ES |
| Alan Price | - | Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK5 6GN |
| Raymond Parker | - | Bury, BL9 8EP |

Our total membership now stands at: 167

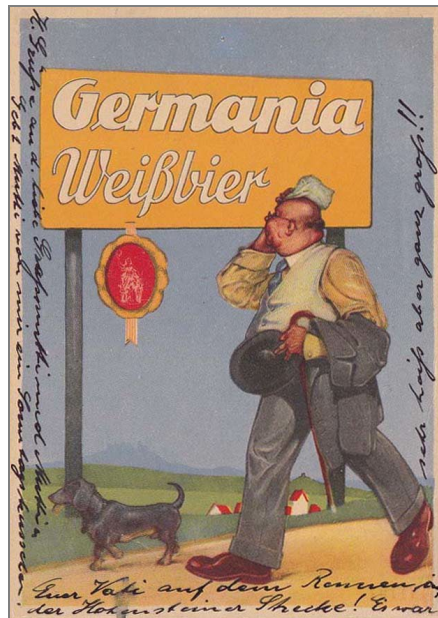
Enquiries

New Enquiries

Enq. 7/22 Our member, Philip Townshend, recently got in touch with me about a card he had recently purchased that has left him a bit perplexed (shown below). Here is what Philip would like to know:

I bought the attached postcard the other day, attracted by the picture side. Now I notice that it was sent by a father to his two sons (jokingly referred to as 'Schueler und Lausbuben' = schoolboys & rascals) in August 1938 at a 'Kinderheim Jungbunn' (I guess a summer camp -- rather than children's home -- for the Deutsches Jungvolk, 10 - 14-year-olds prior to joining the Hitler Youth) at Wyk on the island of Foehr. I also notice a tiny double-ring mark tying the stamp under the postmark -- all I can make out is '...AMT 1'. I wonder if this has anything to do with the DJ? Any ideas?

Kind regards,
Philip



The small cancel in question.

Enq. 8/22 Tony Quinn, one of our members from London, got in touch with this query:

"A couple of queries of a "Cinderella" nature on stamps that have come my way, the first, Fig. A: a 2RM stamp inscribed "Deutsche Wechselsteuer" (German Currency Exchange Tax) and 'cancelled' by "30 Aug. 1938".

New Enquiries (cont.)

Enq. 8/22 (cont.) My query is: is the stamp a payment of tax, if so, was the stamp affixed to a document or card or in a passport, perhaps yourself or a member can enlighten me, the stamp is unmounted mint.

Figs. B & C: 2 large blocks of un-denominated value numbered together from a 'part sheet' with embossed national emblems.

I have been in possession of the above for many years without knowing their purpose. I submitted them to the TRSG membership some years ago but the reply was somewhat vague, that they were involved in the censorship of "foreign mail". Perhaps today's membership may be more forthcoming.

Regards, Tony



Fig. A



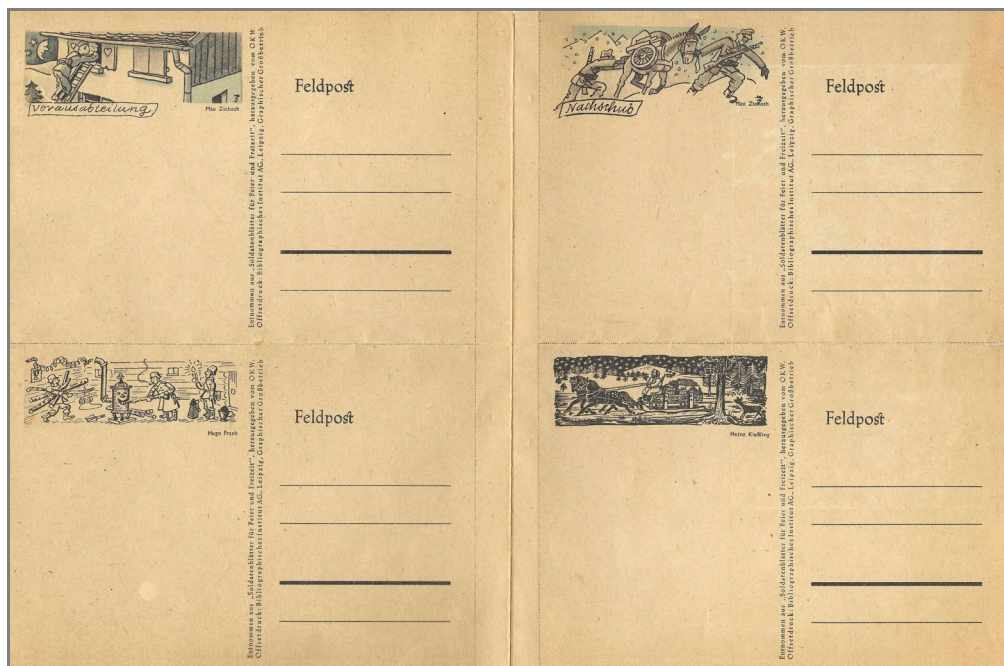
Fig. B



Fig. C

Results of Enquiries

Enq. 6/22 After my enquiry in our last News Sheet in June, Tony Hickey got in touch with a scan of the same feldpost cards that I showed in that issue (shown below). They seem to show that the cards were indeed produced in sheets of 4 and cut by the purchaser. Thank you, Tony.



The ‘Viktorias’ Censors of Bohemia & Moravia in 1941

by
Bob Jones

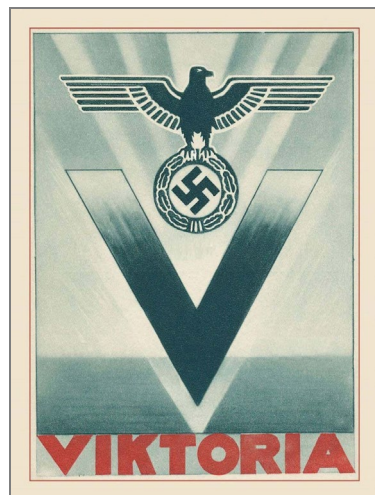
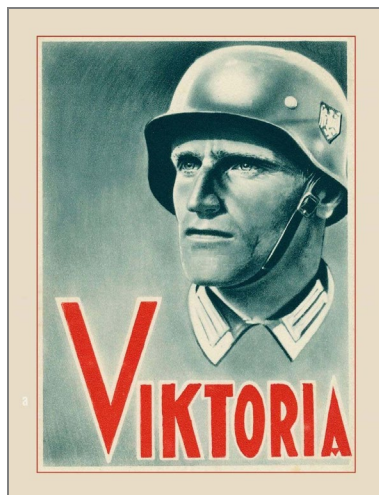
During the occupation of Bohemia & Moravia, the post office created ‘Viktoria’ cancels and cachets to advertise the positive message of victory in the territory. This article is about the actual red cancels used by the post office in the territory in 1941 and not the cachets.

It’s worth noting, in passing, that employing the ‘V’ sign as a gesture of defiance and solidarity was first suggested in January 1941 by the liberal Belgian politician, Victor de Laveleye. He encouraged the use of the symbol because V stood for both victoire (“victory” in French) and vrijheid (“freedom” in Dutch). On 19th July 1941, Winston Churchill first endorsed the “V for Victory” effort in a speech to his compatriots. The gesture was one of those unlikely strokes of genius that, while by their very nature symbolic, occasionally serve to unite and inspire millions.



Above from left to right: Belgian politician Victor de Laveleye and his ‘V’ sign. Centre: Alongside Victor de Laveleye, we find Fernand (Nand) Geersens who used the nom de guerre ‘Jan Moedwil’ a Dutch-speaking speaker who translated and interpreted Laveleye’s texts for ‘Radio Belgique’ broadcasting from London. On the wall behind them is seen the ‘V’ sign above a world map flanked by pictures of Prime Minister Churchill and American President Roosevelt. Right: A more common picture of the ‘V’ sign by Churchill outside No.10 Downing Street.

In 1941, Germany launched the “Viktoria” propaganda campaign celebrating German conquests. As part of this campaign, the “V-for-Victory” logo was used on cinderella stamps and as a cancel. Viktoria cinderellas were commonly issued by local authorities, including military units and associations. Germany proper did not use a ‘V’ cancel as such but Bohemia & Moravia did.



Above: Two of the posters from the German “V-for-Victory” campaign.

The 'Viktoria' Cancels of Bohemia & Moravia in 1941 (cont.)

The post office designed a 'Viktoria' cancel to be applied in red ink and used in 15 towns and cities across Bohemia & Moravia.



SST 58
Used from: 28/7 – 31/12



SST 59
Used from: 30/7 – 31/12



SST 60
Used from: 29/7 – 31/12



SST 61
Used from: 30/7 – 30/12



SST 62
Used from: 30/7 – 30/12



SST 63
Used from: 31/7 – 30/12



SST 64
Used from: 30/7 – 31/12



SST 65
Used from: 30/7 – 30/12



SST 66
Used from: 30/7 – 31/12



SST 67
Used from: 30/7 – 30/12



SST 68
Used from: 29/7 – 31/12



SST 69
Used from: 29/7 – 31/12



SST 70
Used from: 29/7 – 30/12



SST 71
Used from: 29/7 – 30/12

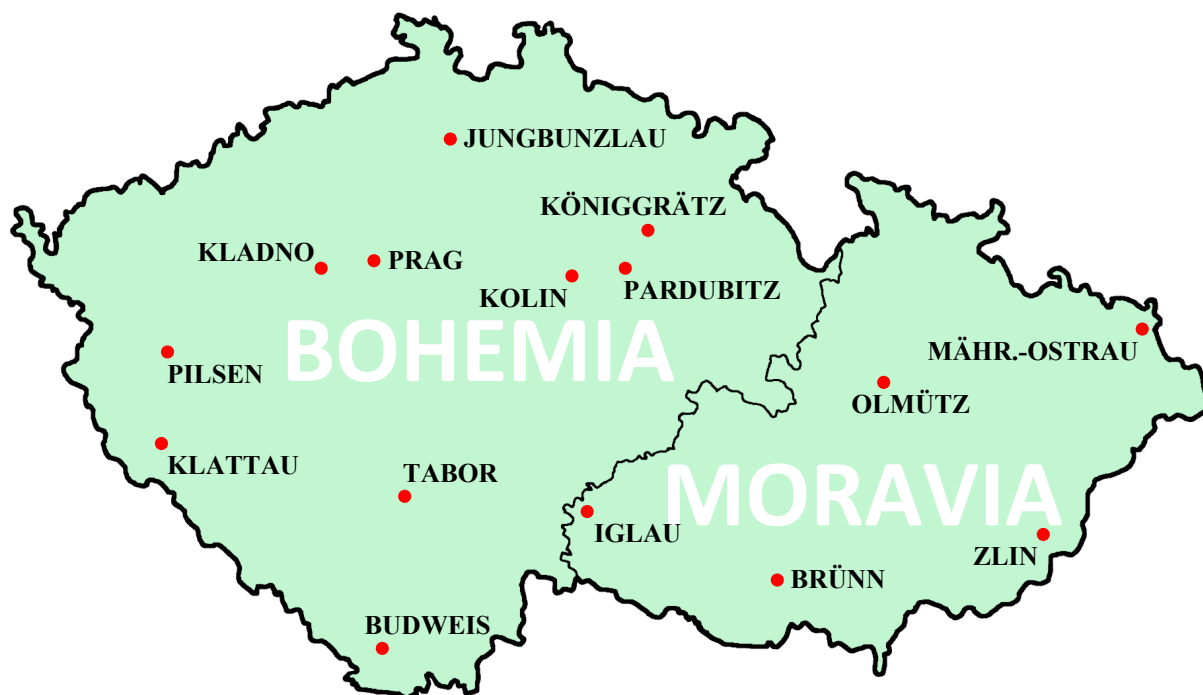


SST 72
Used from: 28/7 – 30/12

All catalogue numbers and dates of usage are from the 'Engel Böhmen und Mähren Stempelkatalog'.

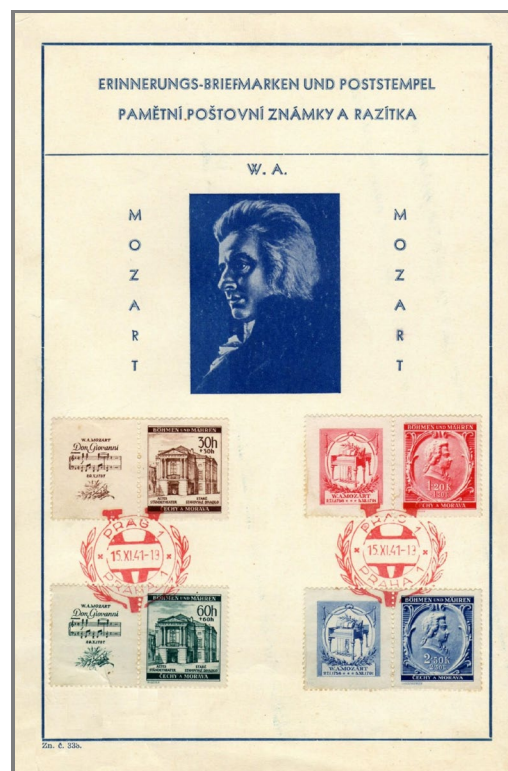
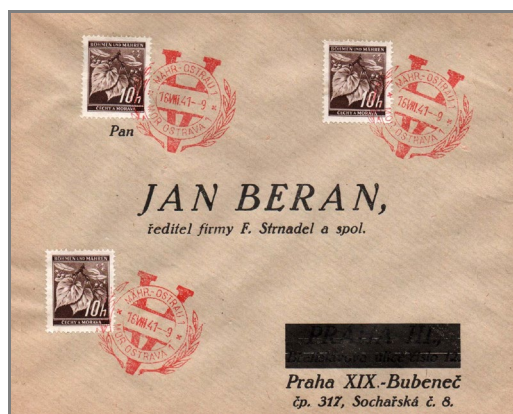
The 'Viktoria' Cancels of Bohemia & Moravia in 1941 (cont.)

Below is shown a map of Bohemia & Moravia with all the 15 towns and cities to show the areas covered where this propaganda program was in effect.



All towns and cities shown in the map above are identified by their German spelling.

These red 'V' cancels are plentiful on the market, the hardest part is finding 'clear' cancels to collect. The items shown below, covers, cards and souvenir sheets are typical of what you might find.



Acknowledgements:

Engel Böhmen und Mähren Stempelkatalog.

The internet for the historical background and the 5 images on the first page.

All other images, cancels, card, cover, souvenir sheet and map are all from the author.

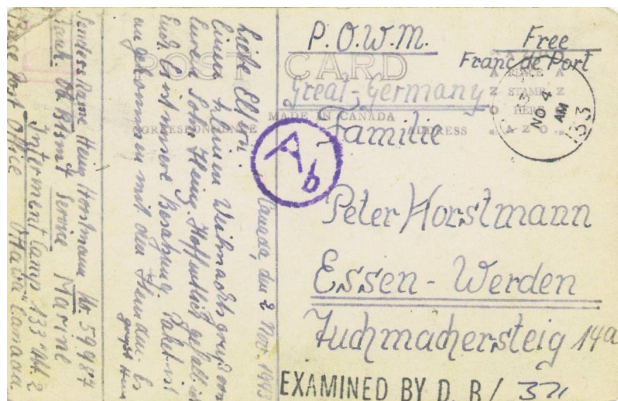
Forces Postal History & Postcards. WW2 German POW Mail. Canada 1943. “Germania” Blockade Runner / U-Boat Supply Tanker.

by Keith Lillywhite

The photographic postcard shown at right (Fig. 1) was sent as Prisoner of War Mail by Ober Bootsmann Heinz Horstmann from Internment Camp 133 Base Post Office, Ottawa Canada to his parents in Essen-Werden Germany.

The postcard shows members of the “Germania” crew who were interned in the Camp thought to be at this time at Ozada Alberta. (9-month period 1943-44), later to be moved to Lethbridge Alberta.

Fig. 1



The front of the postcard (address side), shown at left, bears the Camp Postmark dated 4th November 1943, the Examiners Number 371 and the German Censor Mark Ab. (Fig 2)

Fig. 2

The sender was captured after the “Germania” was intercepted on the 15th December 1942 by HMS Tanatside (L69) Type III Hunt-Class Destroyer (Fig.3 at right) and HM Sloop “Egret” and after one shot the Tanker was scuttled by the captain and seventy-one crew members were taken onboard the destroyer who hastened the end of the “Germania” with a torpedo.

On examination of the prisoners, they were found to have U-Boat crew members amongst them in uniform and it appeared that the ship had been supplying U-Boats and had travelled to South America at some time.



Fig. 3

Authors Note: It is known that the “Germania”, a 9821-ton Tanker, was a Blockade Runner which also acted as a U-Boat Supply Ship. She left Bordeaux on the 12th November 1942 after a Royal Marine attack on the harbour. Three other ships, who left days earlier for a journey to Japan were all to be sunk. No further details and photos of the ship appear to be in the public domain.

Acknowledgements:

Postcard from the author’s own collection.

Photographs are from the internet.

Historical background is from the ‘Atlantic Star 1939-45’ by David A. Thomas & ‘Axis Blockade Runners of WW2’ by Martin Brice.

Reichskommissariat Ukraine

by
Bob Jones

Historical background:

During World War II, Reichskommissariat Ukraine (abbreviated as RKU) was the civilian occupation regime (Reichskommissariat) of much of Nazi German-occupied Ukraine (which included adjacent areas of modern-day Belarus and pre-war Second Polish Republic). It was governed by the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories headed by Alfred Rosenberg. Between September 1941 and August 1944, the Reichskommissariat was administered by Erich Koch as the Reichskommissar. The administration's tasks included the pacification of the region and the exploitation, for German benefit, of its resources and people. Adolf Hitler issued a Führer Decree defining the administration of the newly occupied Eastern territories on 17th July 1941.

Before the German invasion, Ukraine was a constituent republic of the Soviet Union, inhabited by Ukrainians with Russian, Polish, Jewish, Belarusian, German, Romani and Crimean Tatar minorities. It was a key subject of Nazi planning for the post-war expansion of the German state. The Nazi occupation of Ukraine ended the lives of millions of civilians in The Holocaust and other Nazi mass killings: it is estimated 900,000 to 1.6 million Jews and 3 to 4 million non-Jewish Ukrainians were killed during the occupation; other sources estimate that 5.2 million Ukrainian civilians (of all ethnic groups) perished due to crimes against humanity, war-related disease, and famine amounting to more than 12% of Ukraine's population at the time.



At top: Position of Reichskommissariat Ukraine in Europe.

Above: A detailed map of the area.

Left: Reichskommissar Erich Koch from a Winterhilfswerk Lottery card from 1933/34.

Right: A photograph of Erich Koch and Hans Frank, Governor-General of the General Government of Occupied Poland.



Reichskommissariat Ukraine (cont.)

A poster in Ukrainian declaring
“Hitler the Protector”.



The “Protector’s” plan is underway as Ukrainian women are
loaded into freight cars in Kiev for slave labour.

During the occupation the Reichspost had the definitive stamps of Germany issued in August 1941 and also the 10 & 12Rpf values from 1942 (typographic printing) overprinted ‘UKRAINE’ for use in Reichskommissariat Ukraine. These are shown below:

UKRAINE

Enlarged overprint.



Above left: 2 postal cards from Germany with a 5Rpf & 6Rpf indicia with the ‘UKRAINE’ overprint.
Above right: a ‘reply’ postal card from Germany also with an overprinted 6Rpf indicia.

Reichskommissariat Ukraine (cont.)

Above: The 4 special postal cards printed for the 1942 'Tag der Briefmarke' with an overprinted 3Rpf indicia.

Below is shown some of the covers and other items available to collectors:



Left: A cover sent registered from Rowno (Wolhynien) Ukraine to an address in Posen (Poland) on 5th May 1942. It is franked by 5, 12 and 25Rpf overprinted Ukraine stamps.

Right: Another registered cover sent from Werchne-Dnieprowal to an address in Aschaffenburg Germany on 18th November 1942 correctly franked (42Rpf).



Left: A parcel card sent from Rowno to a bank in Kiev, Ukraine on 19th May 1943. The card has 2 x 80Rpf overprinted stamps on the front and 6 x 40Rpf stamps on the back making a total of 4RM for the service.

Reichskommissariat Ukraine (cont.)

Below is shown 2 items sent from the Ukraine in 1943. The top item, a postcard, was sent on 25th May 1943 from Prosskurow to 'Postamt Herne' in Westphalia. The second item at bottom is a cover sent on 2nd August 1943 from Saporoshje to the same address (Postamt Herne). Both items were sent via Deutsche Dienstpost Ukraine (official mail).



If anyone has more information on these 2 items, I would like to hear it.

Acknowledgements:

Michel Deutschland-Spezial 2003 catalogue.

Michel Ganzsachen-Katalog Deutschland 2005

Internet for historical background, map & photographs.

All other images (stamps, postal cards and feldpost card and cover) are from the author's collection.

Varieties of a Bohemia & Moravia Souvenir Sheet

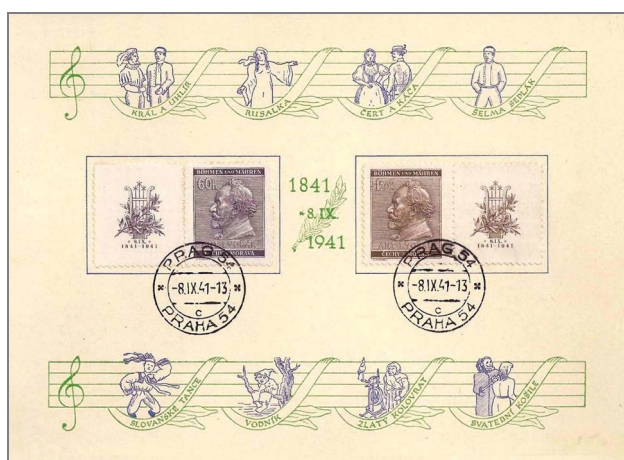
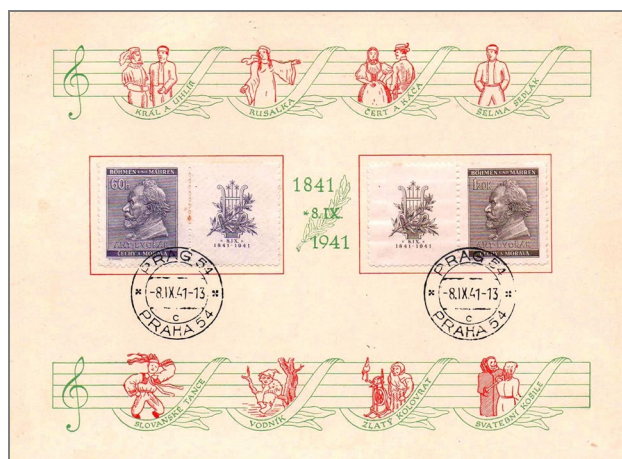
by
Bob Jones

In an article that I wrote in our last News Sheet, June 2022, about Antonín Dvořák, I showed on the last page of the article a souvenir sheet with characters from his operas. I have since then found 2 more souvenir sheets of the same type but with changes in colours. Below is shown the 3 different colour combinations I now know of.



Left: Type 1.
Treble clef, stave and dates in blue.
Opera characters in red.

Right: Type 2.
Treble clef, stave and dates in green.
Opera characters in red.



Left: Type 3.
Treble clef, stave and dates in green.
Opera characters in blue.

If any members have other colour combinations of this souvenir sheet, please contact me at:
bobjones53@blueyonder.co.uk

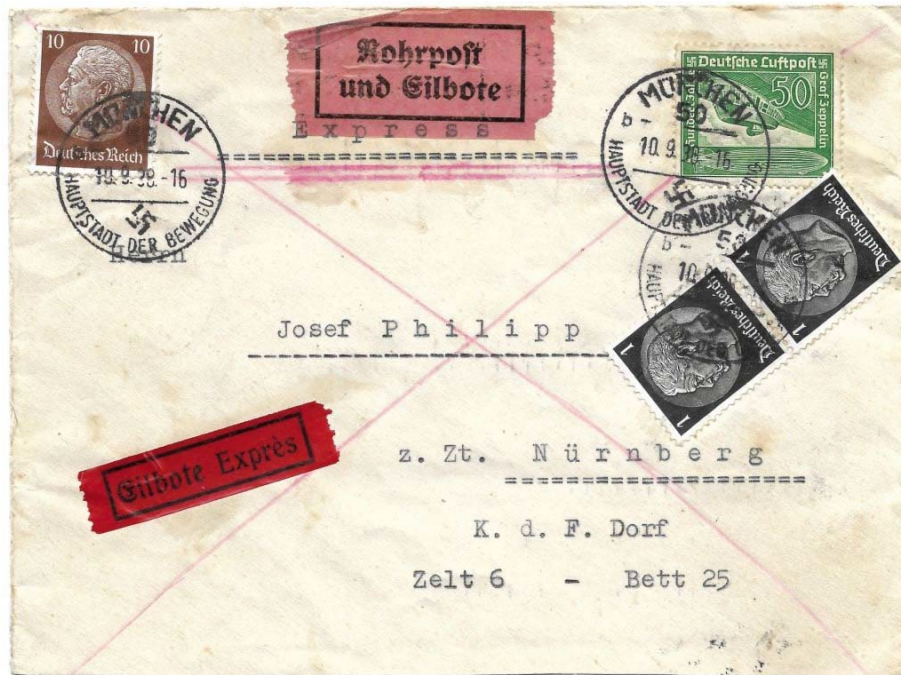
Another New Acquisition

by

Tony Hickey

A cover sent to the 1938 Rally in Nuremberg

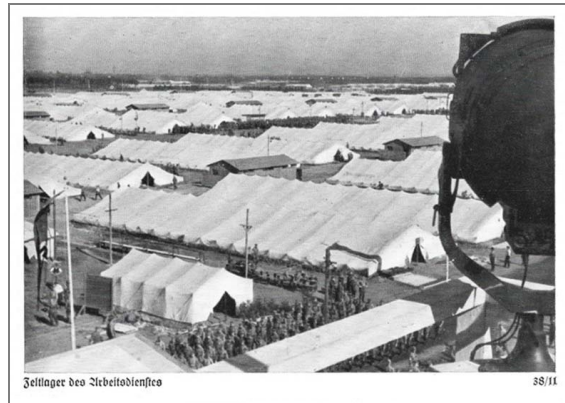
I recently was able to purchase from a fellow member of the G & C.P.S. a cover sent on the 10th September 1938 from Munich to the 10th Party Congress in Nuremberg. One would think that it was something very important and urgent as the letter was sent Express at 40Rpf, and to quicken it a little more, a Rohrpost fee of 10Rpf was also paid. The letter was sent by Maria Philipp to Josef Philipp in tent 6 bed 25 in the KdF Dorf in the north east of the rally grounds. The letter was posted in Munich at 16.00 and arrived in Nuremberg at 22.00 on the same day.



The KdF Stadt was erected in 1937 when wooden buildings used in the 1936 Berlin Olympics were relocated to the rally ground adjacent to the Zeppelin Field. These five wooden halls were used as accommodation for women serving in the R.A.D. along with being restaurants for the many visitors to the Congress. The R.A.D. tented area for men housed members of the R.A.D. and the D.A.F. Werkscharen (Construction Personnel).



K.d.F. Stadt.



R.A.D. Tented Area.




Cover and postcards are from the author's collection.

Anniversary of Occupation in Bohemia and Moravia

by
Bob Jones

The map below shows the original Czechoslovak border in early 1938 and the areas lost by November of the same year.



-  Sudetenland: Czech territory ceded to Germany at Munich, 30th September 1938.
-  Czech territory given to Hungary by Germany and Italy at Vienna, 2nd October 1938.
-  Czech territory annexed by Poland, 1st November 1938.

After the resulting agreement at the Munich Conference had granted Germany control over considerable parts of interwar Czechoslovakia, the remainder was formally subordinated to German rule in March 1939. While Slovakia became a separate satellite state of Germany, the remaining Czech lands were turned into a protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia under German domination.

German troops crossed into Bohemia on 15th March, and Hitler arrived in Prague Castle in the evening. The next day, he declared the new Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, which lasted until 8th May, 1945, when Germany surrendered, ending World War II. An image of Hitler looking down from Prague Castle on that night onto Malá Strana, the old part of the city, was featured on postage stamps issued in 1943 to mark his 54th birthday (see right).



To celebrate the anniversary of Hitler's visit to Bohemia and Moravia (the only one he would make), 2 special cancels were issued for use. The 2 cancels are shown here below at full size.



Engel SST 13

Left: The cancel used for one day only in Prague on 16th March 1940 and had 3 'hammers' used, 'a', 'b' & 'c'.

Right: The cancel used for one day only in Brunn on 17th March 1940 and had 2 'hammers' used, 'a' & 'b'.

Both cancels measure 36mm in diameter. and are made in German and Czech languages.



Engel SST 14

Anniversary of Occupation in Bohemia and Moravia (cont.)

Hitler arriving at Prague Castle on the 16th March 1940.



Hitler driving through Brünn on the 17th March 1940.

The second anniversary of the invasion on 15th March 1941 was commemorated with a similar special cancel issued by the post office. There was a total of 6 cancels used from different towns/cities. These are all shown below:



Engel SST 42
(Hammers 'a', 'b', 'c' & 'd').



Engel SST 43
(Hammers 'a', 'b', 'c' & 'd').



Engel SST 44
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 45
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 46
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 47
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



As Hitler arrived at Prague Castle in 1939, the new tenant, the 'Butcher of Prague', Reinhard Heydrich, was unveiled to the Czech people in 1941. The picture at left shows Heydrich taking the salute at Prague Castle. Heydrich is the figure closest to the camera.

Anniversary of Occupation in Bohemia and Moravia (cont.)

The post office decided to create special stamps to mark the third anniversary of occupation of Bohemia & Moravia by simply overprinting 2 stamps from an earlier issue. The 2 stamps chosen were the 1.20K and 2.50K values from the 1942 definitive printings (Mi. 68b & Mi. 71b) at right. The Reichspost had a simple 'Reich eagle' with the dates 15. III. 1939 above and 15. III 1942 below. The 2 overprints were printed in contrasting colours to the stamp colours, in blue on the 1.20K carmine red value and in red on the 2.50K cornflower blue value.



The post office also decided to create more of the special cancels to commemorate the event. A total of 8 special cancels were created, all 36mm in diameter and used for the one day only. They are shown below.



Engel SST 86
(Hammers 'a', 'b', 'c' & 'd').



Engel SST 87
(Hammers 'a', 'b', 'c' & 'd').



Engel SST 88
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 89
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 90
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 91
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 92
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').



Engel SST 93
(Hammers 'a' & 'b').

It is interesting to note that the 2 cancels issued for use for the first anniversary and 5 out of the 6 cancels issued for the second anniversary, all have the town/city names in both German and Czech languages. The last 8 special cancels are all in the German language only. No doubt a sign of 'planned' things to come?



Right: The picture shown is the start of the State funeral ceremony of Reinhard Heydrich held on 7th June 1942 at Prague Castle.

Heydrich succumbed to wounds he received at an assassination attempt on 27th May 1942 in Prague.

The Nazi dream was starting to crumble.

Anniversary of Occupation in Bohemia and Moravia (cont.)

Below is shown 3 philatelic items used for collectors to obtain the different special cancels.



At left is shown an un-addressed cover specially printed for the 1st Anniversary in 1940. It has a picture of Prague in blue at left of the cover with 'First Anniversary of Führer's visit to Prague' in both German and Czech languages with the date 16. 3. 1940.

It has 4 definitive stamps affixed with the special cancels from both Prague and Brünn used.

At right is shown a blank, un-addressed cover with 6 different value definitive 'Linden leaf' stamps affixed with special cancels from all 6 different cities/towns used.



At left is shown another un-addressed cover with 6 definitive stamps affixed along with 2 'newspaper' stamps at bottom. The 8 stamps are cancelled by the special cancel from the 8 towns and cities mentioned earlier for the 3rd anniversary.

Acknowledgements:

Michel Deutschland-Spezial 2003 catalogue.

Engel Böhmen und Mähren Sonderstempel 1939 – 1945 catalogue.

Background for Prague and pictures on second and third pages are from Wikipedia.

The last 2 covers shown on this page are from internet auction sites.

All other pictures (stamps, cancels and cover at top of this page) are from the author's own collection.

It has been long awaited but now we can start announcing our regional meetings once again as they are slowly beginning to emerge.

Diary Dates for Regional Meetings

London Group	3 rd September	To be announced.
South Central Group	8 th October	To be announced.
South West Group	15 th October	"Hitler Youth", a display by Tony Hickey.
TRSG	22 nd October	"Members displays".

The Covid-19 situation is easing and most of the regional groups are restarting their programmes. However, you should contact the organiser, or consult the website, before attending any meeting. Many of our members will be hampered by the national and local train strikes so all meetings should be checked before making any plans.

Epilogue

So, September's issue is done and dusted and the articles written by myself are prompted by issues faced by not just collectors but everybody around the world. I am talking about inflation. During these times where the prices of energy, fuel, food and just about everything else is increasing daily. Many collectors in our chosen field do have options. Some of the stamps, cards and covers from areas overrun by Germany are still quite inexpensive to purchase. Areas such as Ostland, Ukraine, Alsace (Elsass), Lorraine (Lothringen) and Luxembourg are an option for those of us whose pockets are not as 'deep' as they once were. So, this could be a great opportunity to diversify and discover new interests in our field. This issue has articles on Bohemia and Moravia (2 articles) and Reichskommissariat Ukraine. Over the next few issues of our News Sheet, I have planned articles on Alsace, Lorraine, Luxembourg and the Reichskommissariat Ostland. I am hoping that our membership will find them interesting and remember, our hobby does not have to be expensive and collecting these areas will show that.

Our membership is slowly increasing but it is still increasing.

Our next issue will of course be our December 'bumper' issue (28 pages) and I will still need as many articles and enquiries as possible to fill the pages.

Cheers,

Bob Jones



**WE ARE STILL SEARCHING
FOR ARTICLES, QUERIES
OR ANYTHING OF
INTEREST FOR OUR NEWS
SHEETS.
PLEASE SEND IN WHAT
YOU CAN !**