



The Third Reich Study Group

NEWS SHEET

Group Leader:

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

No. 192

March 2023

In this issue :

STATE of the MEMBERSHIP and SPECIAL OFFER ON LAST YEAR'S PRINTED ISSUES:

A list of New Members to the Group, and your chance to own last year's News Sheets in printed format!
page 2

ENQUIRIES:

New enquiries looking for answers. Send your queries in to the membership for answers.
pages 3 – 6

A SPECIAL OFFER FOR U.K. MEMBERS:

A great deal on philatelic literature from a former member.
page 7

WILHELM OHNESORGE:

An article by Tony Quinn.
pages 8 – 9

PUTTING FACES TO THE NAMES:

An article by Bob Jones.
pages 10 – 11

WEHRMACHT MANOEUVRES FELDPOST IN 1937:

An article by Gary Eden
pages 12 – 14

THE GERMAN "CASE BLUE" OFFENSIVE IN RUSSIA 1942:

An article by Keith Lillywhite.
pages 15 – 16

THE HOTEL DEUTSCHE HOF NUREMBERG:

An article by Tony Hickey.
pages 17

A NEW SOUVENIR SHEET FOUND:

An article by Andy Steventon.
pages 18 – 19

DIARY DATES & EPILOGUE:

page 20

Dear Member

It is with great regret that there are at present no meetings to report on due to the pandemic and its associated restrictions. We can only hope that soon meetings will once again resume and we can report on the wonderful displays shown at these meetings and maybe inspire members to contribute.

State of the Membership

New Members

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

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Paul Chater | - Henham, Essex, CM22 6AW |
| Rod Allwright | - Brampton, Cumbria, CA8 1AG |
| John Sinfield | - Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 8AE |

Our total membership now stands at: **165**

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST !

Here is your chance to get all 4 of last year's News Sheets in printed A4 format for one low price!

I have a small quantity of copies of the News Sheets from March, June, September and December last year (2022) left over from the printer after our members that receive the printed copy were catered for.

These News Sheets are professionally printed on A3 paper, folded in half (to A4 size) and stapled to form a 'booklet'.

Anyone who would like a full set of these (4 copies) please get in touch with me via email, letter or a phone call to reserve your set as soon as possible as supplies are very limited.

The total cost for the 4 issues sent to a U.K. address is £14.50.

Payment can be made by personal cheque (drawn on a U.K. bank) made out to me personally (Robert Jones) and sent to my home address:

45, Durham Avenue, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 1RE
or by Paypal to: bobjones53@blueyonder.co.uk
There are no fees if you use Paypal!



Enquiries

New Enquiries

Enq. 1/23 Our member Wayne Hastings got in touch with the following:

I was wondering if I could ask either yourself or the members a question regarding a recent card I acquired at a local fair, shown below. It was part of a bulk lot and I must admit it was the 'Hoffnung' label that caught my eye.

After doing my research the post mark is my concern. The design of the postmark was used for the propaganda flight over the Rhineland, but the date on the card is the 23rd of March not the dates of the flights 26th to the 29th. Ian Nutley's article in News Sheet No.82 mentioned the 26th to the 29th was the second occasion this 'on-board' hand stamp had been used and was wondering when the first occasion was and what the event was.

My second concern is the printing of 'LUFTSCHIFF' in which the 'S' and 'C' appear to be larger than the other letters and examples I have seen of the Rhineland flight all letters appear even.

Any help would be greatly appreciated to determine if this is a fake or not.



Thanks.

Wayne Hastings

Enq. 2/23 A query from our member Albert Jackson asks:

As a *Dienstpost* collector I bought this cover in the hope I would eventually make sense of it: but I am still baffled! The rural post-office handstamp looks genuine enough, as does the provisional registration label. The letter was posted from Zembowo (the Germanized pronunciation of Żębów), a sub post office of Neutomischel. Both were in the Nowy Tomysł district of the Wartheland, formerly part of Poland before the 1939 German annexation of the territory. According to the receiving postmark on the reverse, it did pass through the postal system to its destination, Grätz (Grodzisk Wielkopolski), also in the Wartheland.



New Enquiries (cont.)

Enq. 2/23 (cont.) So far so good. The handwritten designation *D.D.P.O.* suggests it was carried by *Deutsche Dienstpost Osten*, but there is no official handstamp to corroborate this. In any case, the *Dienstpost* service in the annexed territories was being phased out as early as January 1940, though the service did continue much longer in rural districts. This mail was delivered some time in 1942. Mail can be found with *D.D.P.O.* markings as late as 1943, but this does not necessarily mean the service actually handled it. *Zugelassen* means 'authorised'. Could this be evidence of late handling by the *Dienstpost*?

If this registered letter was in fact genuine *Dienstpost* mail, that does not explain why it is franked to the value of 1 RM 59 Pfg. And why would it be necessary to cancel the stamps a second time with what appears to be a provisional canceller made from a bottle cork?

What am I missing? Has anyone an explanation, or should I finally consign it to the 'rubbish' box?

Enq. 3/23 Our member Richard Fleet would like to ask the following:

I just purchased a cover with the NSDAP propaganda Hitler label. I have two others in my collection on piece as well as the strip of five labels that contain the Hitler label. The original label measure 22x28mm and is perf 13.

This new cover the with Hitler label is quite larger measuring 34x42mm. It also is perf 13. The cancel on the cover is difficult to make out, the beginning letters "BER" which by the return address I take to be "Berlin" and dated 5.10.34.



I would like to know if anyone else has seen this size label on cover before and have any additional information on its creation.

Many thanks, Richard

New Enquiries (cont.)

Enq. 4/23 Our member Gary Eden got in touch with this enquiry:

I am attempting to create some kind of list / inventory of the Feldpost Humour cards which have been previously detailed in the News Sheet. I have attached some new cards which members may not have seen so far but will also try to write an article on the humour cards. Do you know of anyone who is able to decipher Suetterlin that would be happy to help, as I find this script very difficult.

The cards are relatively new to me and are by the artist H W Gipfer. There are no serial numbers or printer's details on the reverse and seem to relate to the German occupation of Poland in 1939.



Hope these are of interest and I will try and move on my article in time for the March news sheet or June's.

Cheers, Gary

Enq. 5/23 To finish off this edition of our News Sheets 'Enquiries' section, I have the following question:

I have collected sheet 'corner blocks' for some time and only recently re-visited my collection to realise that my collection of 'Hindenburg Memorial' stamps (shown below) had 2 types of the 8Rpf value blocks. I have the type with the vertical lines printed in the top margin but this value also comes with the plain margin like the others shown. I would like to know if any of the other values also came from sheets with the vertical lines?



Results of Enquiries

The following 3 'Results of Enquiries' were sent in by our member Rex Dixon:

Enq. 9/22 I think this is simply a philatelic overfranking. The three stamps to make up the 42Rpf fee for a registered letter to 20g are a very odd choice of denominations, not one a postal clerk would choose but a stamp collector might. The extra 9Rpf serves no function.

Enq. 10/22 The 1920 UPU Congress decided that colour coding would represent the first unit of weight for each class of service: green for printed matter, red for postal cards and postcards, and blue for letters. (Prior to that, colour coding represented monetary value, which was tantamount to the same thing.) The UPU had no interest in the colours used within a postal administration for domestic services. For Germany, the basic foreign printed matter rate was 5Rpf, for which the Reichspost issued green stamps and green postal cards. The 6Rpf rate was purely for inland use within Germany, so the Reichspost could choose any colour it liked for them -- for the Hitler Head definitive it chose a rather unexpected colour. I think the change from green to brown in the 'Get to know Germany' postal cards was simply that the pictures, mostly photographs, looked better in brown. The olive-green colour used P 241 might be because it printed better on a chalk-coated card; or it might be that it worked better with the illustration.

Enq. 12/22 You will see that the Berlin O 17 postmark bears the words 'Nachträglich entwertet', which translates as 'subsequently cancelled'. These postmarks were used whenever the originating post office failed to cancel a stamp and a later office, typically the delivering office, noticed that a stamp had not been cancelled. The special wording was to show that the postmark did not reflect the place and time the mail item had been posted.

Enq. 11/22 After my own enquiry in our last edition of the News Sheet regarding the 'Luxemburg' overprinted postal cards with the photos printed on the back, I have picked up 3 examples for myself. It would seem that there are no rules on which of the cards have any particular photo on the back, they are apparently quite random. Here is what I have:

Backs



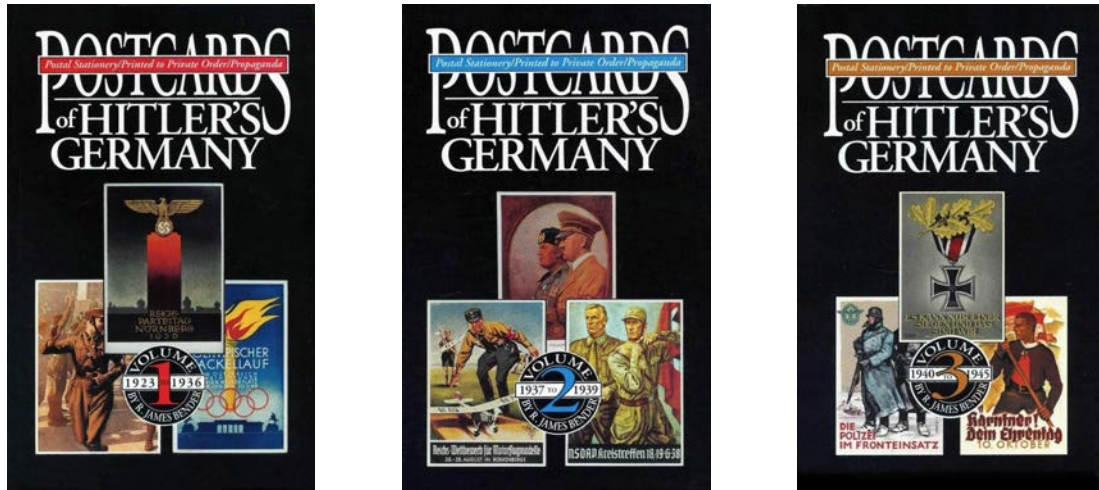
Corresponding fronts



A SPECIAL OFFER FOR U.K. MEMBERS

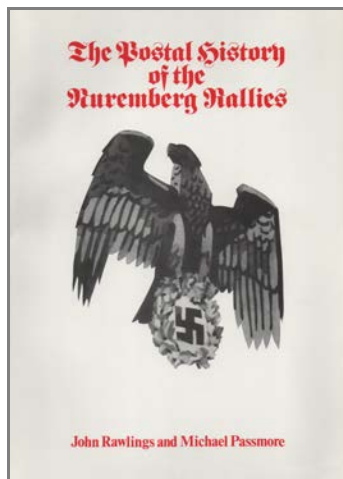
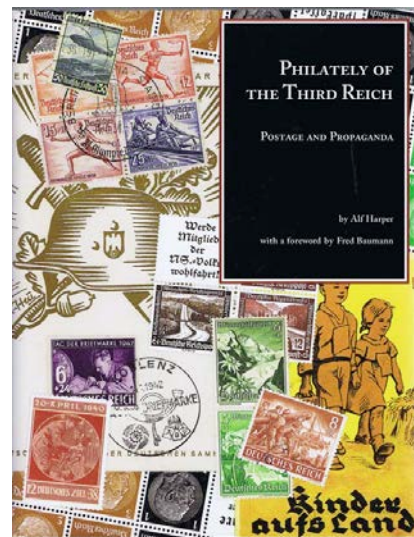
One of our long-standing members has had to resign from our Group for personal reasons and has sent some literature from their library for me to sell and donate all money raised to our Group's coffers.

For sale are the following books:



Above: The 3 volume Bender's – 'Postcards of Hitler's Germany'. These hard-back books are highly sought after and the condition of these books is excellent-like brand new! The asking price for this 3-volume set is £90 plus postage.

The book at right is Alf Harper's 'Philately of the Third Reich'. It is a hard-back book with dust cover and again in excellent-like brand new condition. The asking price for this book is £35 plus postage.



The book at left is a soft-cover book from John Rawlings and Michael Passmore. Their work is entitled 'The Postal History of the Nuremberg Rallies' (1st edition). The book is in excellent condition, however, inside the cover, the book has been dedicated 'For Helen, wishing you happy collecting', and signed by John Rawlings. This asking price for this book is £20 plus postage,

Anyone interested in these books please contact me a.s.a.p. as they will be sold on a first come basis. I can be contacted by email: bojones53@blueyonder.co.uk or by phone on (0151) 523 2565.

Thankyou,

Bob Jones.

Wilhelm Ohnesorge

by

Tony Quinn

A small contribution regarding casualties of the Reichspost and the Reichspostminister Wilhelm Ohnesorge, probably somewhat unfamiliar to most of us.

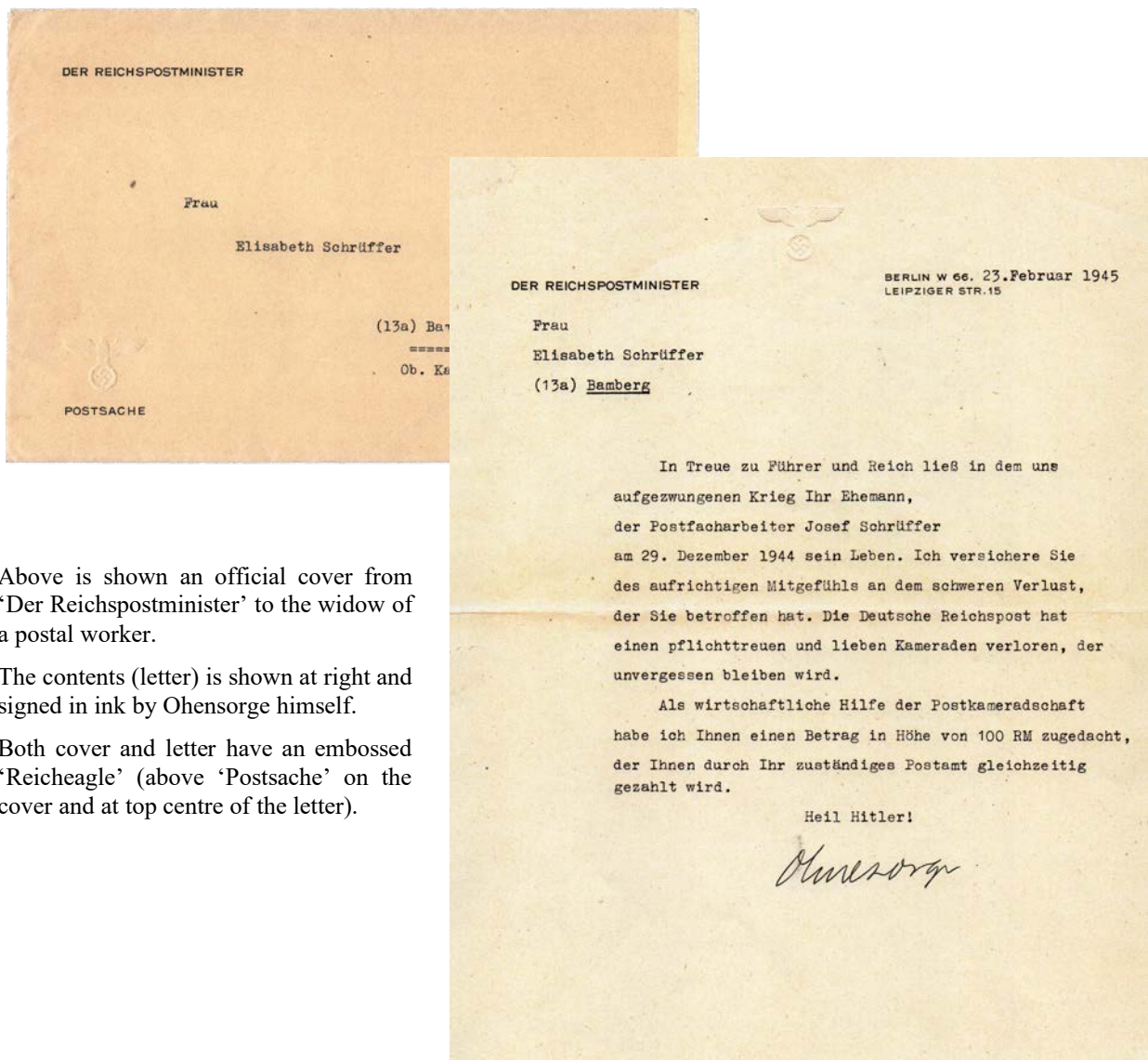
Wilhelm Ohnesorge born 8th June 1872 in Saxony-Anhalt and began his career in 1890 with the Imperial Post, he later studied Physics in Kiel and Berlin. During the 1st World War he was head of the Postal Service in the Imperial H.Q.

Ohnesorge first met Hitler in 1920 and they became good friends thereafter he joined the NSDAP (Nr. 42) a very early member (a holder of the Golden Party Badge). By 1929 Ohnesorge was President of the Central Office of the Reichspost and when Hitler took power Ohnesorge was named State Secretary and later Reichspostminister (1937).

The Post Office under Ohnesorge was heavily involved in research into; Wire Signals, Radio, T.V. Broadcasting, Signals Coding and funded the research unit working on the German Atomic Bomb.

Ohnesorge survived the war and faced "Denazification Proceedings", however, the charges were dropped for some unknown reason.

His post-war life remains undocumented, he died aged 89 in Munich on 1st February 1962.



Above is shown an official cover from 'Der Reichspostminister' to the widow of a postal worker.

The contents (letter) is shown at right and signed in ink by Ohnesorge himself.

Both cover and letter have an embossed 'Reichseagle' (above 'Postsache' on the cover and at top centre of the letter).

Wilhelm Ohnesorge (cont.)

The letter, in translation, reads:

Mrs.
Elisabeth Schruffer
(13a) Bamberg

In loyalty to the Führer and State, the Postal Specialist Worker Josef Schruffer, your husband, has laid down his life on 29th December 1944 in this enforced war. I assure you of my sincere condolences on the heavy loss which has befallen you. The German Reichspost has lost a dutiful and dear comrade, who will not be forgotten.

As economic help from the Postal Comrades Association, I have sent 100 RM, the aforesaid sum is available to you through your appropriate Post Office at the same time as other payments.

Heil Hitler !

Ohnesorge (Ink signature)



Above is shown a page from a 1939 calendar "Nazi Officials/Personalities of the Third Reich".

Hope this is some use to the Membership !

Tony

Acknowledgements:

Biographical notes from Wikipedia.

Letter, envelope and photo from my collection.

Putting Faces to the Names

by

Bob Jones

Starting a few News Sheets ago, members started sending in articles about putting faces to the names. I thought that I would give it a go when I found in my collection a simple cover from Reichskommissariat Ukraine. The cover was not sent to a named person but to a 'titled' person. In this case the cover was addressed to "den Herrn Reichsarbeitsminister" in Berlin and sent on 6th May 1943 from Dnjepro, Ukraine. The cover is shown below.



After a very simple search on the internet, I found out who held this position in Berlin during the time of the cover being sent. This is what I found:

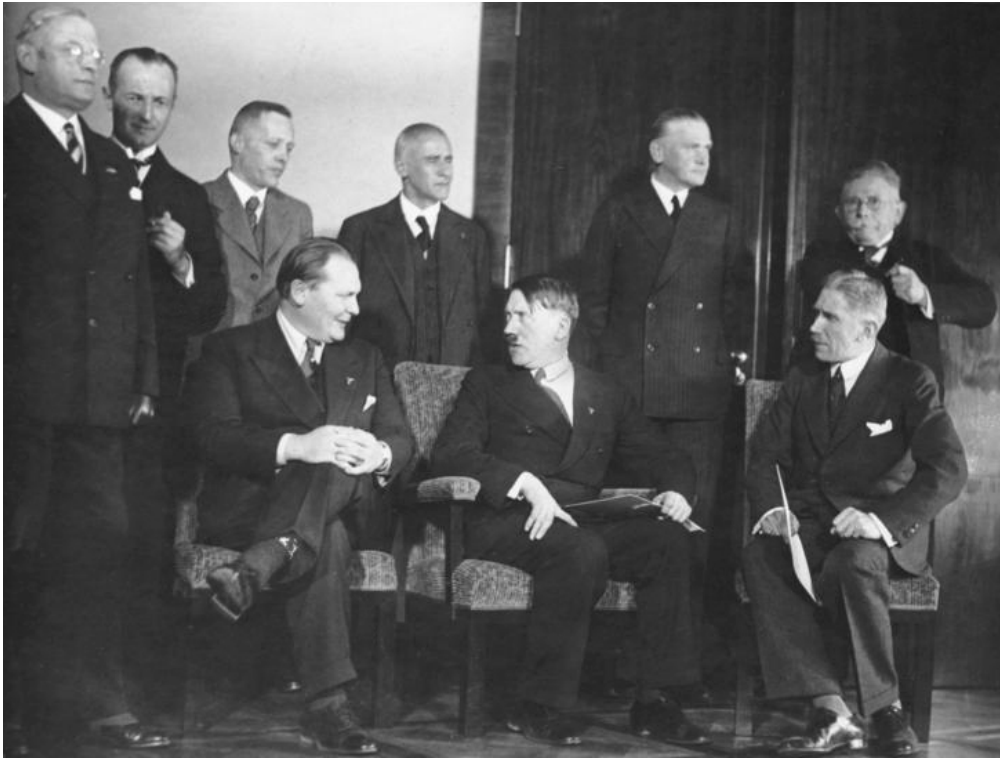
Franz Seldte (29th June 1882 – 1st April 1947) was a German politician who served as the Reich Minister for Labour from 1933 to 1945. Prior to his ministry, Seldte served as the Federal Leader of Der Stahlhelm World War I ex-servicemen's organisation from 1918 to 1934. Ideologically, he identified as a national conservative.

During the negotiations for the Chancellorship of Germany between Franz von Papen and Hitler in mid-January 1933, Seldte threw his vote and Der Stahlhelm behind Hitler, after which, Papen acquiesced to Hitler's demands. On the day of the Machtergreifung on 30th January 1933, Seldte joined the Hitler Cabinet as Reich Minister for Labour, once again outdoing his long-time rival Duesterberg. In the run-up to the elections of March 1933 Der Stahlhelm together with Hugenberg's national conservative German National People's Party (DNVP) attempted to make the Kampffront Schwarz-Weiß-Rot ("Black White Red Combat Front") into the dominant political camp on the right, but ultimately failed as it only gained 8.0% of the votes cast. Nevertheless, Seldte obtained a seat in the Reichstag parliament as a DNVP "guest".

On 27th April 1933 Seldte finally joined the Nazi Party and merged Der Stahlhelm into Ernst Röhm's Sturmabteilung (SA) militia – de facto placing it at the disposal of Hitler. In August 1933, he was awarded the rank of SA-Obergruppenführer and later was appointed Reichskommissar for the Freiwilliger Arbeitsdienst employment program, but was soon superseded by his state secretary Konstantin Hierl as leader of the Reichsarbeitsdienst organization.



Franz Seldte from a WHW Lottery card from 1933/34.

Putting Faces to the Names (cont.)

Hitler's first cabinet in 1933.

Back row (left to right): Franz Seldte, Labor Minister, Dr. Günther Gereke, Reich Commissioner for Job Creation and Eastern Settlement, Lutz Graf Schwerin von Krosigk, Reich Minister of Finance, Wilhelm Frick, Reich Minister of the Interior, Werner von Blomberg, Reich Minister of Defense, Alfred Hugenberg, Minister of Economics and Food .

Front row (left to right): Hermann Göring, Reich Commissioner for Aviation and the Prussian Ministry of the Interior, Adolf Hitler, Reich Chancellor, Franz von Papen, Vice Chancellor.

Seldte also was made a member of the Academy for German Law. In March 1934 Seldte was made the federal leader of the Nationalsozialistischer Deutscher frontkämpfer-Bund (Stahlhelm) (English: National Socialist German Combatants' Federation (Stahlhelm)) (NSDFBSt), a successor organization of Der Stahlhelm, which however was soon disbanded. In 1935 he requested to be released from official responsibilities, but Hitler refused.

Throughout his tenure as chief of the Labor Ministry, Seldte never enjoyed the full support of Hitler, who did not think he was worth much. As a result, members of the Nazi hierarchy began encroaching on his areas of responsibility and Seldte was marginalized accordingly. For instance, Hermann Goering's Four-Year Plan which he began to implement in late 1936, ran roughshod over Seldte's Labour Ministry altogether. Seldte, without substantial power, remained Reich Minister for Labour until the end of World War II and was also a member of the Prussian government under Minister president Hermann Göring as State Labour Minister. Even after Hitler's suicide and the nomination of Grand-Admiral Dönitz as his successor, Seldte kept his post, being accordingly named Labour Minister.

As Reich Minister for Labour, Franz Seldte was one of the signatories of the Work Order Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung der nationalen Arbeit) from 1934, which introduced the Führer principle (Führerprinzip) in factories and significantly restricted the rights of employees.

The legacy left by Seldte was that in Nazi-era Germany, streets were named after him in several German cities, among them his hometown Magdeburg and Leverkusen. In Forst (Lausitz), the football stadium at the water tower was named Franz-Seldte-Kampfbahn. In Oberhausen, the square behind the main railway station was named after him.

Acknowledgements:

Historical background is from the internet (Wikipedia).

Photo of Hitler's cabinet in 1933 is from the Bundesarchiv.

The WHW card of Seldte is from the collection of Rex Dixon.

The cover is from the author's collection.

Wehrmacht Manoeuvres Feldpost in 1937

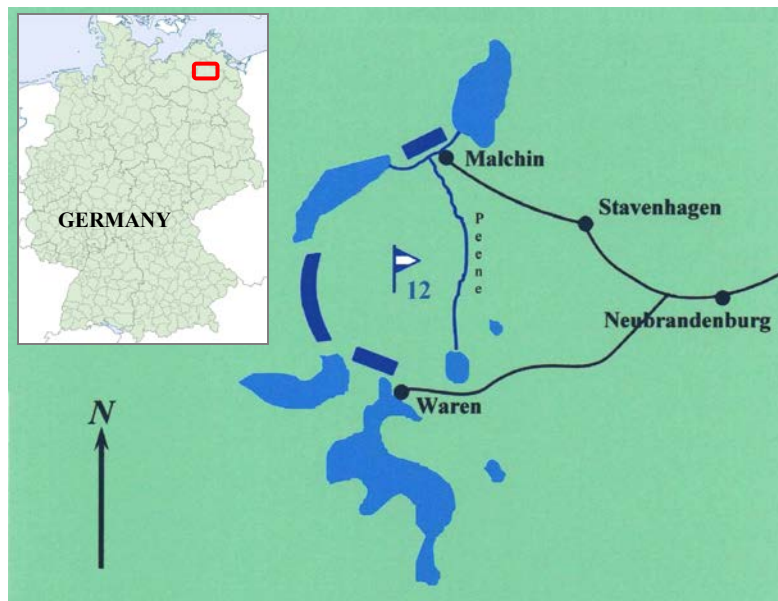
by

Gary Eden

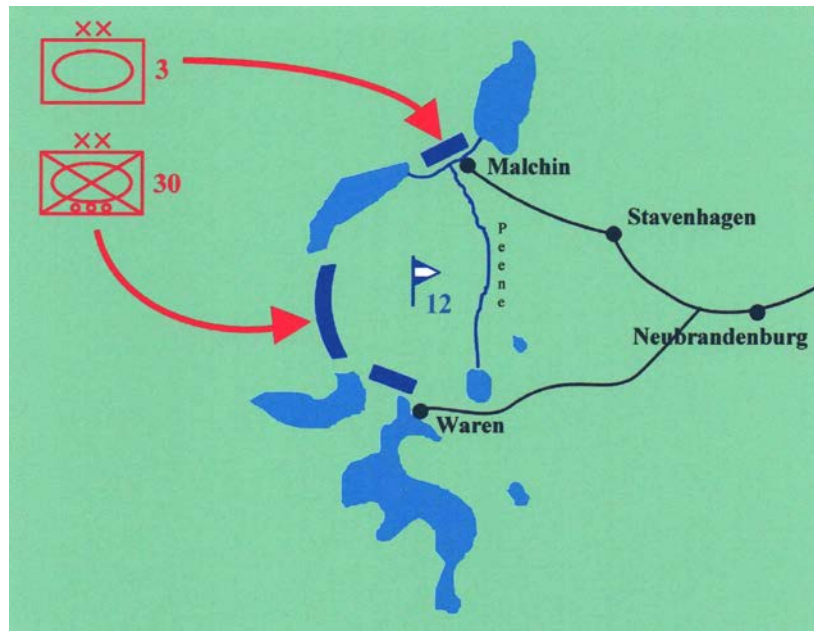
I recently purchased a single feldpost card off eBay, with my interest largely sparked by the date on the card, 20.9.1937. I shared this 'find' with fellow collectors here in the north-east via an email group, which also includes Rex Dixon and Tony Hickey amongst others. What I had failed to see when looking at the postcard, was that it was a used card from the Wehrmacht Manoeuvres in September 1937. With additional information shared by Rex, it is clear a full explanation had previously been written up in News Sheet 24 of the Third Reich Study Group; The 1937 Manoeuvres by R. J. Houston, which had been missed by myself.

In researching the Manoeuvres a little more, I found the following information, which seems at odds with that in the Houston article.

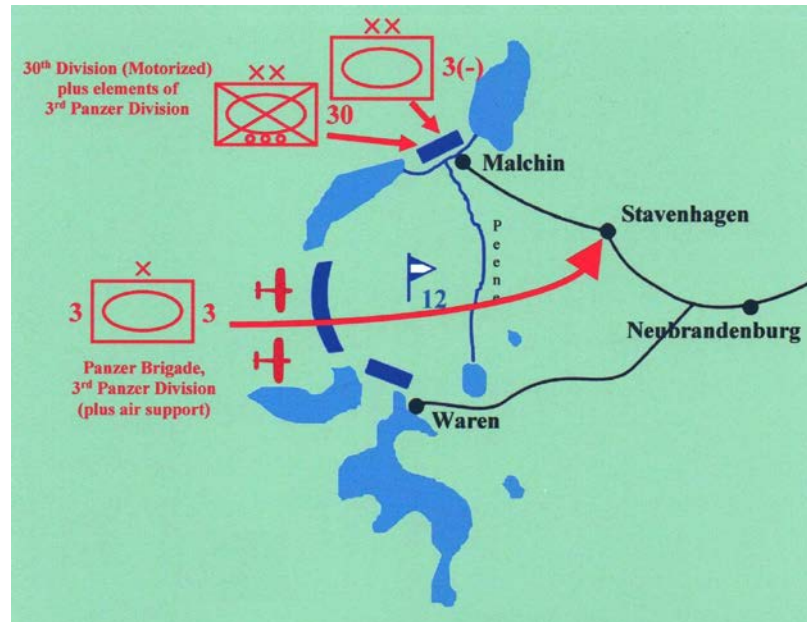
The following information comes from History.net, by award winning American historian Robert M Cimino. The Wehrmacht's "Great Fall Manoeuvres" of 1937 introduced a new formation in the German battle array, the "Panzer Division." It was built around tanks, but also contained a full array of supporting arms—infantry, artillery, engineers, supply troops—all of which could move at the speed of the tank. It was a new animal, being formed only at the end of 1935, and this was the first big field test. There was a definite aura of excitement, and indeed, the 1937 manoeuvres were the largest exercise held in Germany since the end of World War I, attended in person by Hitler, Mussolini and a whole host of foreign observers.



As always in a German manoeuvre, a "Blue force" faced "Red" in an imaginary theatre of war, this one held in the rolling hills, lakes, and streams of Mecklenburg, the epicentre of the so-called North German Plain. Blue, in the East, held a bridgehead over the winding Peene river near Lake Malchin. Red, to the West, had to attack the bridgehead and had the 3rd Panzer Division in its order of battle for that purpose. Any doubts about the ability of a mechanized formation to mix it up in high tempo operations—and there were doubters, many of them—vanished almost immediately.

Wehrmacht Manoeuvres Feldpost in 1937 (cont.)

Moving up 100 kilometres from the army reserve to its assault position in a single day (September 19th), 3rd Panzer Division launched its assault on September 20th. It sent its motorized infantry brigade forward to help the 30th Infantry Division (also motorized) engage the bridgehead frontally, while swinging its Panzer Brigade around Blue's extreme left in the South. Working in close liaison with airpower, the panzers broke through the Blue position. Lacking specific orders but seizing an opportunity that suddenly presented itself, the Panzer Brigade then drove on to the town of Stavenhagen, reaching it, and scattering Blue's headquarters, and cutting off Blue's supply route into Malchin.



Having encircled the entire bridgehead, still without pausing, Red now assaulted it concentrically. Blue reinforcements were late in arriving due to a vigorous Red air interdiction effort. As a result, midway through Day 4 of a scheduled seven-day manoeuvre, Red had smashed its Blue foe.

In the manner of these things, there were debates about whether the umpires were playing fair—specifically, whether they underestimated the effect of defensive anti-tank fire. In order to soothe ruffled feelings, the 3rd Panzer Division was ordered out of the manoeuvre, which continued as a fairly standard infantry versus infantry encounter.

Beyond testing the capabilities of the Panzer Division, the manoeuvre was an almost perfect distillation of the "German way of war": high tempo, independent decision making and a great deal of risk, in this case rushing 3rd Panzer Division into combat "off the march" and splitting it in two for the purposes of the concentric attack.

Wehrmacht Manoeuvres Feldpost in 1937 (cont.)

The Information provided by Robert M Cimino, clearly suggests that the 'Red' Force were victors and that the mode of operation, speed and daring of the attack fuelled German military thinking, in that it encapsulated the theory of Blitzkrieg in an operational setting.

The following are cards now in my collection, with the first card being the one which started my journey into this interesting area and epitomises what being in a friendly society can provide – greater understanding and assistance from our fellow collectors.

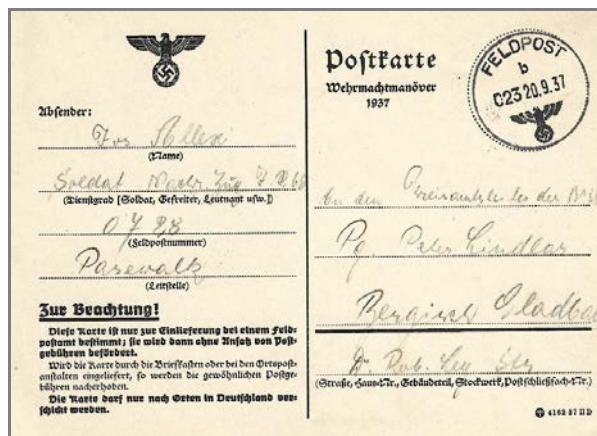


Fig 1 - The card at left was sent to the District Leader of the NSDAP in Bergisch Gladbach, on the 20th September 1937, the first day of the manoeuvres. The card identifies the *Leitstelle* (control centre) in Pasewalk, the Feldpost datestamp bears the tactical number 023 which was attributed to the 23rd *Infanterie Division*, with Feldpost number 0728, which were part of the 'Blue' force.

Fig 2 - Manoeuvre Feldpost card at right sent on the 23rd September 1937 from Feldpost number 0925, which was assigned to 3rd *Kompanie Nachrichten Abteilung 50*, 10th *Armee*korps. Mail from *Feldpostamt 410* (Tactical number 410 in the Feldpost cancel) of the 10th *Armee*korps was through *Leitstelle* (Control Centre) Güstrow. The 10th *Armee*korps were assigned to the 'Red' force, led by General der Kavallerie Wilhelm Knochenhauer, as part of the military manoeuvres. The card was addressed to Beuthen, Upper Silesia.

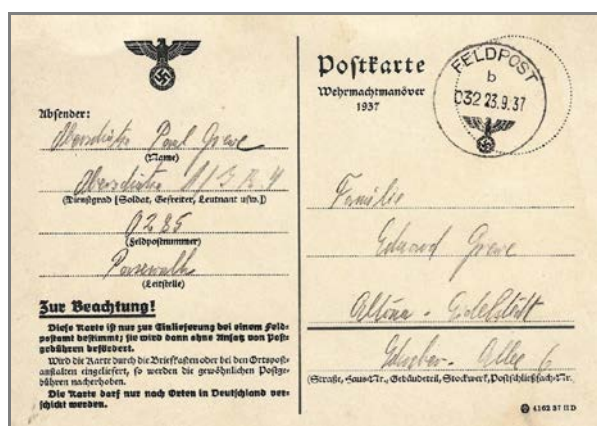
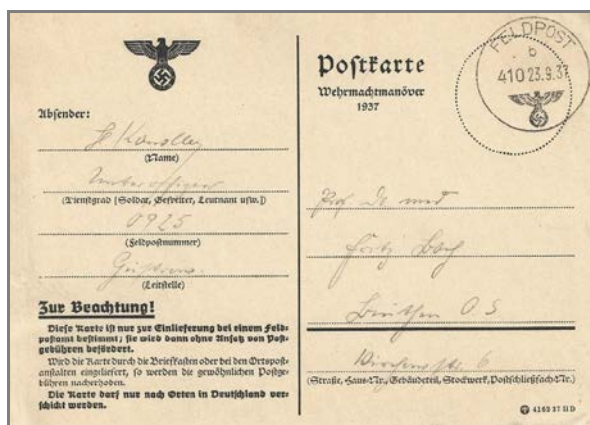


Fig 3 - Official Manoeuvre Feldpost card (left) sent on the 23rd September 1937 from Feldpost number 0285, which was assigned to 1st *Kompanie Infanterie Regiment 4*, of the 32nd *Infanterie Division*, II *Armee*korps, I *Armee*. Mail from *Feldpostamt 32* (Tactical number 032 in the Feldpost cancel) of the 32nd *Infanterie Division* was through *Leitstelle* (Control Centre) Pasewalk. The 32nd *Infanterie Division* were assigned to the 'Blue' forces, as part of the military manoeuvres. The card was addressed to Altona-Eidelstedt.

Sources and acknowledgements:

Meet the Panzer Division: The German Maneuvers of 1937 article by Robert M Cimino on History.net

The 1937 Manoeuvres by R. J. Houston – TRSG newssheet no. 24.

Figs 1, 2, 3 from authors collection.

Photo of Hitler and Mussolini at the manoeuvres- Thewordofmatus.com

Other info - Michel Deutsche Feldpost 1937-1945.

Two Examples of Mail Relating to The German “Case Blue” Offensive in Russia 1942

by

Keith Lillywhite

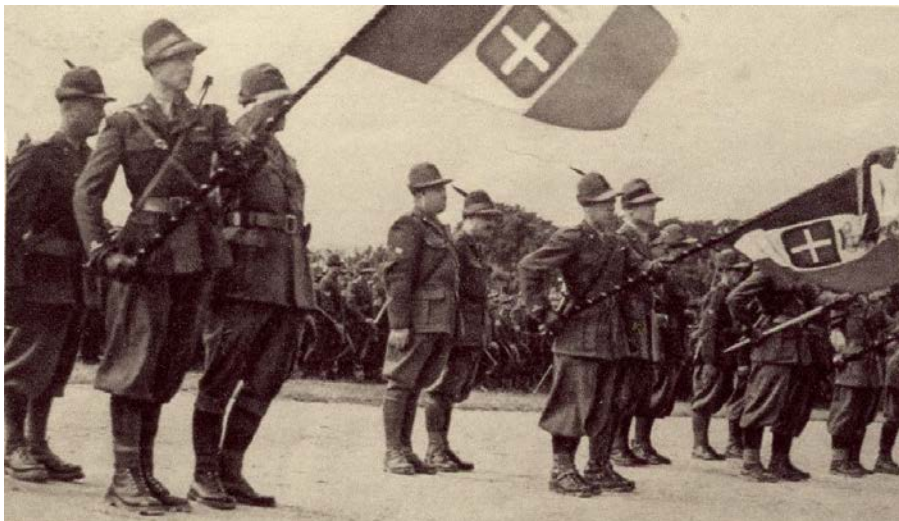
11th Artiglieria di C.d A. Alpino”

117th Gruppo da 149/13 – 12th Batteria.

Part of the German “Case Blue” Offensive in Russia 1942.



The above Italian Armed Forces Lettercard sent from Vorosilovgrad in Russia bears a Poste Militaire No 108 Postmark dated the 18th August 1942 and the Units Timbro Postale (Postmark). The Unit were 12th Battery of the 11th Alpine Artillery Corps part of the 117th Group fighting in the Don Offensive German Code Name “Case Blue”. The Italian Alpine Troops were sent by Hitler to fight on the Don across open land the conditions which were completely unsuitable for Mountain Warfare trained and equipped troops.



Italian Alpine Troops in WWII.

The German “Case Blue” Offensive in Russia 1942 (cont.)

Post “Case Blue” German Offensive in Southern Russia
Luftfeldpost Rejection Cachet. 1944.

The above cover was sent as Luftfeldpost but was rejected as the addressee was no longer qualified for the service as he was no longer at the Eastern Front. The cover bears a boxed Luftfeldpost rejection Cachet and a two line “Return to Sender new address awaited” Cachet.

The addressee of this cover would have been a member of the 323rd Infantry Division that took part in the German Offensive in Southern Russia in 1942-3 Codename “Case Blue”. The Division took heavy casualties and was withdrawn with the remnants formed into Reserve Infantry Battalion 323 held as Stab Kompanie 1 – 4.



Junkers JU 52 was used for the transport of mail to the Eastern Front,

Acknowledgements:

Covers from author's collection.

Photographs from the internet.

Postal Protection Units

by

Tony Hickey

On the 7th March 1933, Reich Minister of Posts and Transport Paul Freiherr von Eltz-Rübenach (1875-1943) ordered the deployment of an armed mail guard to secure the Post Office's transport facilities against raids and communist excesses, since neither the police nor the Reichswehr were able to do so. By June 1933 instructions to regulate general conditions for this new unit were issued.

Postal workers who were members of the S.A. and S.S. were not allowed to be used as auxiliary police officers but could be used for mail protection. Although by September 1933 a communist insurrection was ruled out, mail protection remained in place and by December the unit comprised of about 26,000 men. In 1937 von Eltz-Rübenach, a non-party member and a devout Catholic, was asked to tender his resignation due to his refusal to accept the Party Golden Badge and his differences with Hitler over the rising conflict between the Church and the State.



Paul Freiherr von Eltz-Rübenach



Julius Dormmüller

The Ministry of Posts was awarded to Wilhelm Ohnesorge and the Ministry of Transport to Julius Dormmüller, both NSDAP members. During 1937 an agreement was reached between the Reichspost and the Wehrmacht regarding the strength of an Enhanced Postal Protection Unit in the event of war which was set at 29,000 men. However, at the beginning of 1939 the Postschutz consisted of 40,000 men who were now also in charge of the Postluftschutz and Air Raid Precaution for the Reichspost.

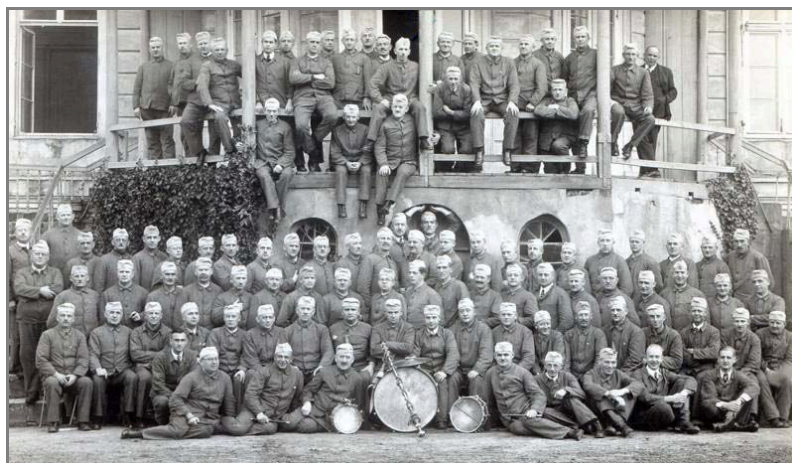
In 1942 the Postschutz was put under the command of the Allgemeine S.S., becoming the SS-Postschutz with Gottlob Berger (1896-1975) as its head.



Gottlob Berger



At left:
Naumburg,
Saxony – Anhalt
One of Eight Postschutz
Schools



Postschutz Commemorative 1944
(Mi. 892)

At left:
Postschutz-Lehrgang Vogelsang
The back of this photo reads:
Training camp for civil servants, 18th
course - Vogelsang Castle near
Ueckermünde in Western Pomerania, 1936.

A New Souvenir Sheet Found

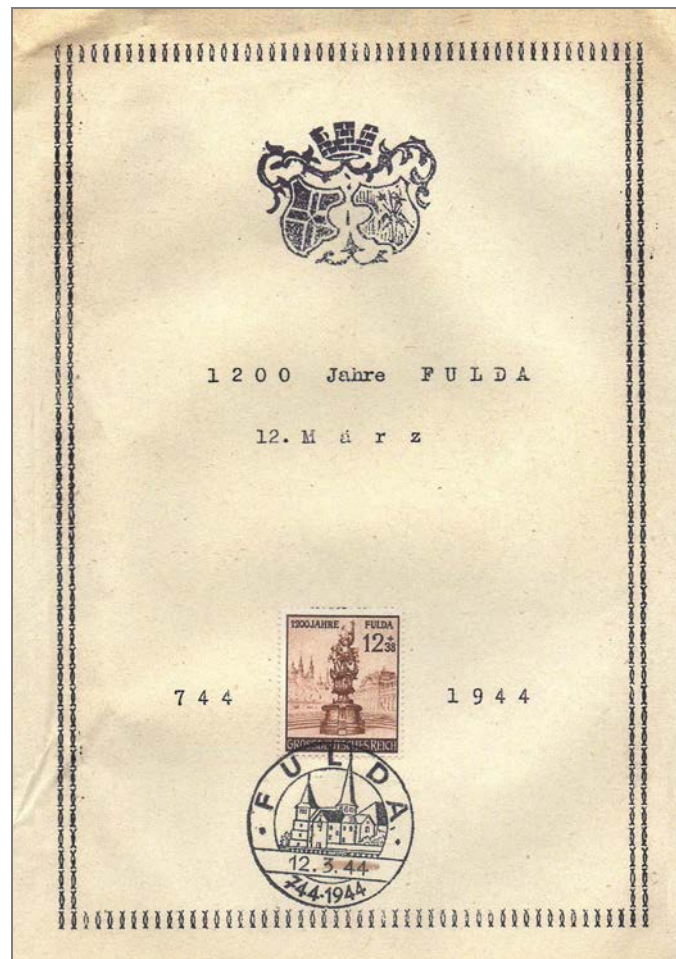
sent in by
Andy Steventon

Section A

No.89

Stamp issue: 1200th Anniversary of Fulda (*Mi.886; S.G.874*).
Issue date: March 11th 1944.

Sheet: A-89(d)



Printer: Unknown.

Handstamp: The fixed date handstamp used in Fulda on March 12th 1944, to mark the towns's 1200th anniversary.

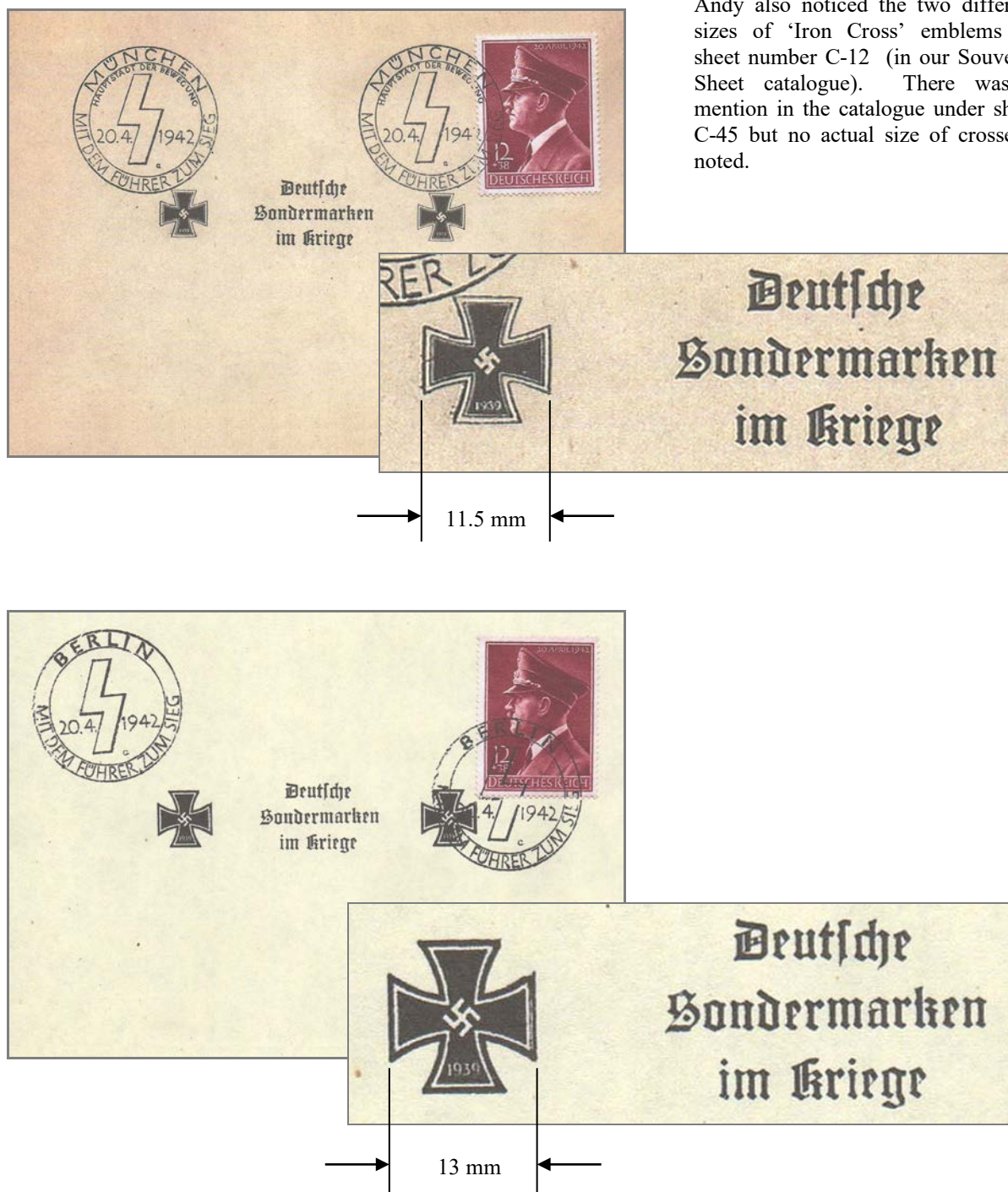
Sheet size: 148 × 208mm.

Design & Colour: Printed in black on coarse, yellowish or blue -grey paper. Appears to be have been made on a typewriter.

Event: The 1200th Anniversary of Fulda.

Price: Unknown.

Sponsor: Unknown.

A New Souvenir Sheet Found (cont.)

Thank you for your observations Andy. Bob Jones

It would be good at this point to mention that on page 7 of this News Sheet, there are books for sale. From the same member, I now have a set of the 'Souvenir Sheet' papers, in A4 size from the original series. Our member would like to find them a good home and they can be yours for the cost of postage. There are quite a few of these pages so postage will not be cheap (under £5 I believe) but still reasonable. If interested please contact me via the details at the bottom of page 7.

Ed.

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	4 th March	“Aspects of Inflation”, a display by Maggie Thompson.
South East Group	1 st April	“Danzig in WWII”, a display by Giles du Boulay.
Tyne-Tees	22 nd March	Display title TBA, Gary Eden.
	26 th April	“Danzig in WWII”, a display by Giles du Boulay.
	24 th May	Display title TBA, Charles Grainger.
T.R.S.G.	29 th April	“Official Mail of the German Occupation of Poland” and “Working for Germany”, displays by Albert Jackson.

For the first time, notification of ‘ZOOM’ meetings:

Zoom meetings are held on Saturdays at 14:00 (UK time) – see details in Germania and on Members’ message board

Forthcoming Zoom Meetings:

18 th March 2023	The Deutsche Nothilfe – Rex Dixon.
20 th May 2023	Bring, Show and Tell.
19 th August 2023	1936 Berlin Olympics – Steven Gerrard.
21 st October 2023	The NSKK – Simon McArthur.

The Covid-19 situation is easing and most of the regional groups are restarting their programmes. However, with constant train disruptions with industrial strikes etc., you should contact the organiser, or consult the website, before attending any meeting.

Epilogue

Here we are in a New Year and hopefully, a lot to look forward to. In this issue you will have noticed that there are some books for sale from a member who, unfortunately, has resigned due to personal reasons. This could introduce us (or more like our News Sheet) to a new avenue of literature. If anyone has any philatelic Third Reich literature that they do not use anymore, please get in touch with me and we can arrange advertising it to our members (obviously at a discounted price).

Cheers,

Bob Jones

PLEASE..... MAY I HAVE SOME MORE?

Members, please send in any queries or articles you may have and help to keep our News Sheet alive and fresh.

