

Also, in the "generalities" sphere there are things that I, as a purist, do not find completely to my liking. Examples; (1) I think the term "DP" is often used in a general sense. I have found the terms "DP", "persecutee" (Jewish), "refugee", and "expellee". I think Richard has included some of these other cases under "DP". (In all fairness I must admit that many of the source documents contain the same type of problems--this is what makes it truly difficult, and requires a researcher to do much reading and cross checking. I am constantly frustrated by the fact that the first two documents I find on a subject contain apparently contradictory information, and I wind up have to search for 6 months before I feel I know something which I thought should take me a week to learn).

up having to research for 6 months before I feel I really understand something I thought I could learn in a week. Of course maybe the solution is read only one source book--that way you get no contradictory information. Well, off my soapbox and back to Richard.) (2) I think that sometimes planning documents or documents raising items of concern were presented as things which were actually implemented or existing. I do not have such proof, but as I said above, perhaps Richard found further information (if so, it is not foot-noted).

Don't take my criticisms as meaning this book is not worth reading. As I said at first, it is, and there is a lot of good information in here.

* * * * * FRENCH ZONE * * * * *

First, a couple notes by Roland Fluck (one an update to the censorship information):

FRENCH ZONE NOTES/Fluck: A couple of years ago I mentioned that the first day of issue for the Schurz stamps (Baden: Michel #50-52) was 23.8.49 rather than the 24.8.49 listed in Michel. The other day I got a letter from Germany and the consensus is now that the first day of issue is 24.8.49. So don't throw away your 24.8.49 covers. (Since I have some of these stamps with 23.8.49 cancels that were expertised by Schlegel and Dr. Bohne, I still wonder about the correct date.) Stay tuned for any other changes in this slow moving and uninteresting drama.

For those interested in FZ censors (both of you), in the June '83 issue of the newsletter, the article on censorship in the northern sector of the French Zone listed the latest known strikes of the Kaiserslautern censorship to be from August 1946. I've just come across a cover from 12.10.46 that bears an ornamental G.C.2 oval in blue and a black 56 Zensorstempel.

Roland's notes were sent to me in a letter dated 23 August, 1983 (we've had only 2 bulletins between then and now) and in the meantime there are developments to report.

Roland has gotten his doctorate degree and obtained a job teaching in a college, still in Colorado. Unfortunately, he has dropped out of the GPS, so is resigning his membership in our group. Says he is pursuing Colorado postal history; hasn't completely given up on the Germany, but with the teaching and all just doesn't really have much time to devote to the Germany.

In any case, Roland will be helping us very little from now on. So, we need someone to furnish information on the French Zone under the guise of "French Zone Subgroup Director". Any Volunteers? (consider this an invitation Abe, I should be writing a personal letter, but am now working here, so I might as well make a public request).



* * * * * OBLITERATIONS * * * * *

Notes Concerning Previous Articles

Concerning the Heidenau cover discussed in last issue (p. 4-6) Col. Halle writes:

"The Heidenau cover addressed to Worms was accepted at the window, but then on closer examination was found to be undeliverable as there was no transportation capability.

"The town name worms is crossed out and the handwritten line above reads 'keine Befoerderung' = no transportation. Under the stamp, also handwritten, is the notation 'zck.' which means return.

"In other words the cover was returned to the sender as undeliverable."

All correct. However, the cover was in the postal system almost 2 months (21 July to 20 September). The question raised was "why was a consignment to Worms accepted at all by the post office at this time?" (really this was the implied question). However, this was even a secondary issue.

The primary issue of this cover is why was a Hitler obliteration accepted (or appears to have been accepted) in RPD Dresden on 31 July? Utter impossibility. In RPD Dresden registry, which started on 1 July, cannot coexist with Hitler obliterations, which ceased on 20 June.

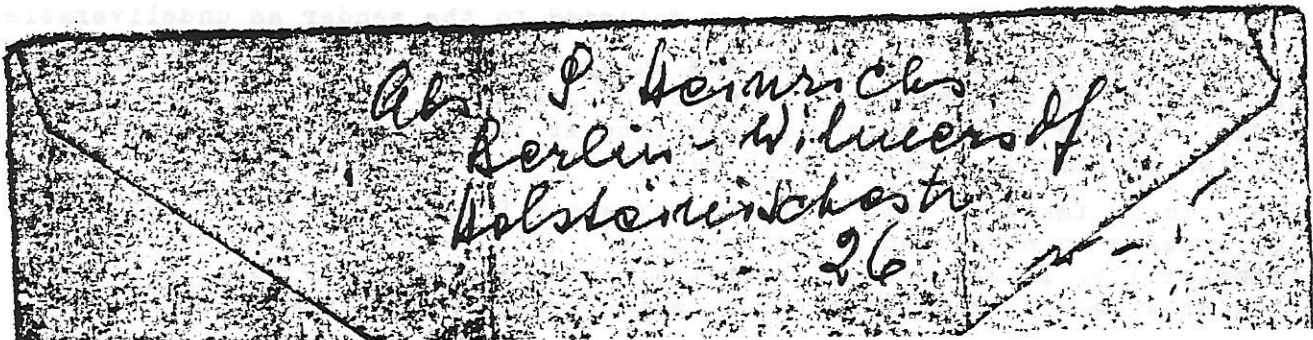
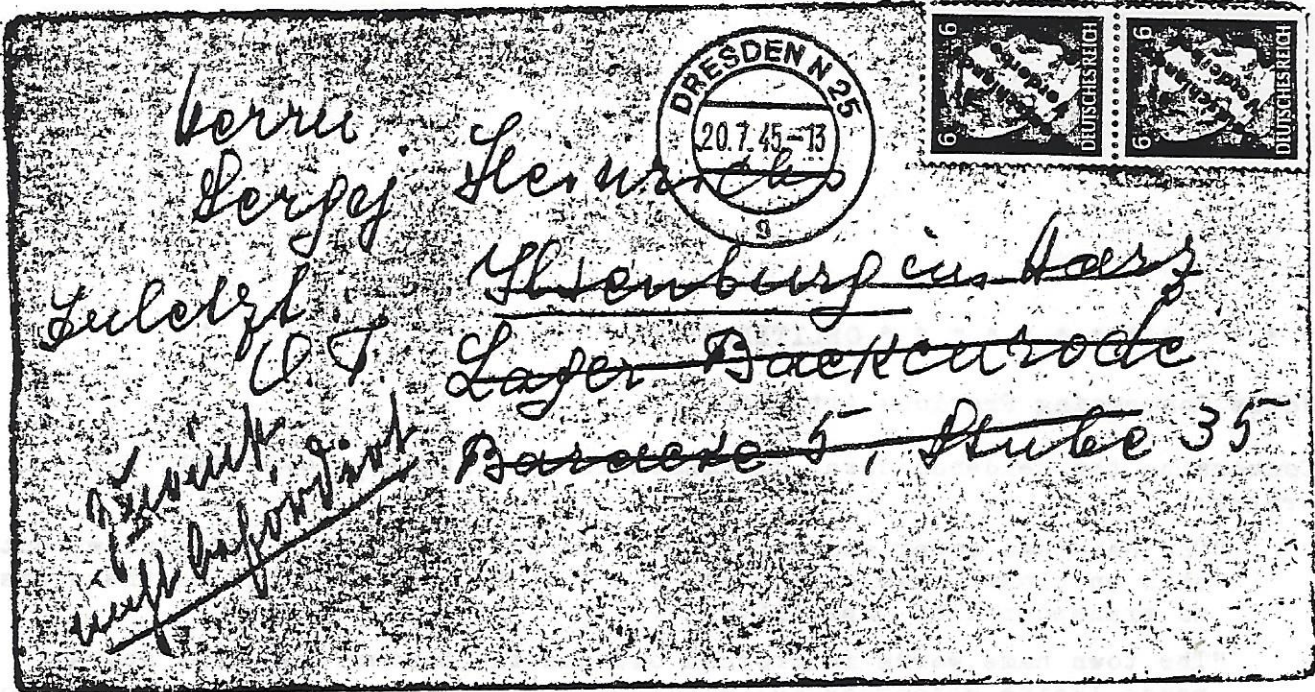
An Interesting (attempted) Use of Meissen Stamps

Dick Imus sent the item pictured with the query "any thoughts on this?". He noted it was postmarked in Dresden, addressed to Ilsenburg(Harz) in RPD Magdeburg, and inscribed "Zürück, Nicht Befördert" (return to sender, not forwarded).

I cannot explain this cover; but can make another observation. Of course the stamps are not canceled because they were not valid (obliteration usage had ended in RPD Dresden on 20 June-20.6-but by special dispensation the use of the Meissen machine overprints was continued until (I think) 3 August in Meissen--and maybe the subordinates of Meissen). Anyway, the stamps were not valid, so what paid the postage? I see no indication at all that the postage was paid.

Why the cover was not forwarded is also a mystery. The Americans were in Ilsenburg until 1 July; perhaps Dresden was not aware that Ilsenburg was now under Soviet control. Or maybe they were aware of this but mail was not being forwarded for some other reason. Anyone have any ideas?

Also note the return address is Berlin. Apparently the sender had gone to Dresden (via Meissen?) and posted this cover. It would be interesting to really know all the facts behind this cover.



Saxony Obliterations from "Chemnitz 15" on Letters
of the "Chemnitzer Reformbetten-Fabrik" and others

by Erhard Rehn

translated by: Ingeburg L. Fisher

reprinted from: ARGE LOKNOT Rundbrief 38/1981

In the search for genuinely used commercial covers with red obliterations, one repeatedly comes across covers, imprinted on the front with "Chemnitzer Reformbetten-Fabrik Hermann Müller Chemnitz-Hilbersdorf" or with the inscription "Ausschuss zur Veranstaltung der militärischen Motorrad-Prüfungsfahrt 1913". Additional covers, including postcards, exist with addresses as listed below.

To forestall any comments: These abundant covers are not genuinely used commercial mail but instead favor obliterations and favor cancellations with the appropriate date cancel of Chemnitz 15 or Chemnitz 15a (editors note: these are 2 different cancellors of the Office Chemnitz 15, there was not a Chemnitz 15a postal facility).

Genuine postal dispatch never took place, the addresses were added later arbitrarily in order to make it look like genuine use.

The obliterations themselves are varied. Round obliterations (blots), as well as rectangles, including those containing an empty circle, seem to have been preferred, whereby the obliterations, to a large part, were done in red.

Along with the regular Hitler definitives, se-tenant combinations thereof, as well as many of the officials were used for franking.

Officials with Saxony obliterations can only be considered genuinely used when they were overprintedsm (obliterated) by those departments which were the only ones permitted to do so. Witness covers used by district commissioners, health- and forestry departments, sanatoriums and nursing homes, etc. Anything else should be considered "contrived". (Editors note: I think "applied to an envelope" better than "overprinted" in line 2 this paragraph).

Not always were true rates affixed, so that overfranked covers exist.

The covers are addressed in the same handwriting. The following addresses are known, however the listing may not be complete:

1. Heinrich Abel, Goldfischwerke Oberlungwitz
2. Alfred Dost, Chemnitz 15, Margaretenstr. 25
3. Erhard Dost, Chemnitz 15, Margaretenstr. 25 -- also E. Dost
4. Gottfried Dost, Chemnitz 15, Margaretenstr. 25
5. Frau Hill-Böcker, Niederwiesa
6. Frl. Betty Heinitz, Chemnitz 15, Margaretenstr. 28
7. Fam. W. Hübschmann, Chemnitz, Weststr. 44
8. Photohandlung Köhler, Thalheim (Erzgeb.)
9. Frl. Ursel Kluge, Chemnitz 15, Zeppelinstr. 14
10. J. Lorenz, Chemnitz 15, Margaretenstr. 25

- 11. Frl. Sonja v. Malachowsky, Chemnitz, Reichenhainerstr. 37
Frl. Sonja v. Malachowsky, Chemnitz, Reichenhainerstr. 48
- 12. Frl. Liselotte Meisel, Auerbach i.V., Postamt
- 13. Gardinenhaus Alb, bzw. Albert Mückel, Thalheim (Erzgeb.)
- 14. Frau Agnes verw. Müller, Chemnitz, Margaretenstr. 25

The frequency of the address "Chemnitz 15, Margaretenstrasse" has to be considered as well as the two different addresses given under Nr. 11.

A few covers carry on the reverse a rubber handstamp "Alfred Dost" as additional return address.

According to information received from the DDR, Herr Dost was an officer of the Chemnitzer Reformbetten-Fabrik, thus one can call all these contrived covers the "Dost-Complex".

Illustrations of DOST covers follow.

The image displays four postage covers, each with a stamp and handwritten text. The covers are arranged in a grid-like fashion with arrows pointing to specific details.

- Top-left cover:** Features a stamp with a circular postmark containing the date "15.5.45" and the number "15". The stamp itself has "30" in the top corners and "CHF" on the left. A handwritten "H.P." is at the top.
- Top-right cover:** Handwritten address: "Betty Heintz", "Chemnitz 15", "Margaretenstr. 25". The stamp area contains the text: "Ausschuß zur Veranstaltung der militärischen Motorrad-Prüfungsfahrt", "Geschäftsstelle", "Curt Müller, Chemnitz-Hilbersdorf, Margaretenstraße Nr. 27." An arrow points from the handwritten address to this text.
- Bottom-left cover:** Handwritten address: "Sonja v. Malachowsky". The stamp area contains the text: "Ausschuß zur Veranstaltung der militärischen Motorrad-Prüfungsfahrt 1913", "Geschäftsstelle:", "Curt Müller, Chemnitz-Hilbersdorf, Margaretenstraße Nr. 27." A handwritten "H.P." is at the top.
- Bottom-right cover:** Handwritten address: "Chemnitz", "Reichenhainerstr. 48". The stamp area contains the text: "Ausschuß zur Veranstaltung der militärischen Motorrad-Prüfungsfahrt 1913", "Geschäftsstelle:", "Curt Müller, Chemnitz-Hilbersdorf, Margaretenstraße Nr. 27." A circular postmark contains the date "15.5.45" and the number "15".

Annotations and details:

- An arrow points from the handwritten address "Margaretenstr. 25" to the printed address on the top-right cover.
- Text below the top-right cover: "Here year indication '1913' obliterated!" with an arrow pointing to the "1913" in the stamp area.
- Text below the top-right cover: "KZ 40" with an arrow pointing to the stamp area.
- Text below the bottom-right cover: "KZ 40" with an arrow pointing to the stamp area.

**Chemnitzer Reform-
betten-Fabrik**

-- Hermann Müller --
- Chemnitz-Hilbersdorf -
Klarastr. 26. — Telephon 4571.

*Gardinenhaus
Hb. Mückel
Talb. emu (Bozz)*



Overfranked cover: 3 x 4Pfg. Hitlerstamps
2 x 16Pfg. with red obliteration
Date cancel Chemnitz 15 with early date of 15.5.45

**Chemnitzer
Reformbetten-Fabrik**

Hermann Müller
Chemnitz-Hilbersdorf
Klarastr. 26 :: Telephon 4571
♦♦♦

Tippelbrief



*Herr
F. Lorenz
Chemnitz 15
Mars. Arbeiterstr. 25*

Overfranked cover: 24Pfg. black obliteration (blot)
Date cancel Chemnitz 15a, 30.6.45

A.M.G. Potpourri

by Joe Schirmer

For quite sometime now, I have noted that there is a scarcity of good auction materials pertaining to A.M.G. I know of 2 A.M.G. dealers who have auctions with good A.M.G. materials; but one seldom sees this material being placed by the various auction houses. However, many of the German auction firms usually have a few items of A.M.G. in their auctions, and I have been able to obtain a few good pieces. Perhaps this trend is telling us that while there is basically no real shortage of A.M.G. materials; it does indicate that it is being held.

The Washington printing is basically a perf. 11--but various examples of other perforation sizes ranging between 10 and 12 have been found. In my own collection I have some examples running between $10\frac{1}{2}$ thru $11\frac{1}{2}$. These variations were no doubt the result of wear on the perforating combs or poor maintenance of same. I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has various varieties of this perforation.

We have heard some talk there may be a re-issue of the famous DROSSARD-KALWEIT catalog. We have also been told that there would be an A.M.G. Handbook. I have been in contact with Herr Drossard and am waiting for his answer to these items.

For these of you who delight in searching out varieties, and if you have any copies of the 80 pfg., check the ink and paper under your UV lamp. THERE is now known, 2 types of ink and 2 types of paper...let me hear if any of you have found this variety.

Some years ago, Erich Haide writing in his UNIVERSAL POST, of 1 August 1948, writes of the "tack marks" discovered in the 3 pfg. American printing plate #45865. He shows a very good drawing of a full sheet & gives the locations in each of the 4 sheets as to where the "tack" marks appear. Haide speaks of these marks as "Klischee-Nagel" in Leiste unter PO--literally translated "cliche in bar below PO". Who can enlighten me further on this situation?? Do any other writer or catalog cover these "tack" marks??



R Berlin 8
940

Einschreiben

Dr. Kurt Geier
① Berlin NW 7
Schließfach 62



NORDLAND
Deutsche Schneekettenfabrik
G. m. b. H.
Berlin W 35, Kurfürstenstr. 14-16

The cover shown in the illustration was recently acquired from a friend. What does make this cover a mite unusual, is that it was mailed in the Soviet Zone of Berlin --from one PO to another, The cover was mailed from the PO designated Berlin W8 with an arrival cancellation at the PO designated NW7. We can presume that this mailing is theoretically possible as the same postage stamps were used in the West and East Zones from 1945 to 1948. Has anyone similar covers?? Another thing is to what the letters "k" and "xx" in the lower part of the two cancellations means? Is it a method of designating the canceller?? Was it a code to identify the clerk doing the cancelling?? Can anyone help to clarify this area??

There has been a rash of robberies occurring in various German post offices nearly 1.8 million DM in stamps being stolen. And to date, none of the stamps have surfaced anywhere. Suffice to say that regardless of value, our collections are valuable to us; so keep your mouth closed in front of strangers if you want to help prevent crimes.

It is my intention, within the very near future to be contacting all A.M.G. collectors for the following reasons:

if you are active in A.M.G. collecting
 what A.M.G. literature you possess
 what can be done to liven the interest in A.M.G. collecting
 etc.

You will be sent a form to fill out and we ask your cooperation. This is all part of a logtime study and the tabulated results will be published herein at later date.

And so for the Holiday Season; I would like to wish each of you a most prosperous New Year and to thank those of you who have aided me in my working with A.M.G.

 Editors comment:

See my notes on the unnumbered page following item (5). Apparently someone else does care about postal devices--Joe asks some questions about the identifying letters in the canceller. Funny, this was one of the first questions I asked Al Heinz when I first met him, back in the early 60's. These kind of "dumb details" really should be documented somewhere.

To answer Joe's question--it is just a canceller identifier (I think; I haven't seen this well documented). When one has seen enough mail from one postal facility he can see which cancellers were used on "actual" mail, and which were used on philatelic souvenirs. Apparently at least the large offices had 8 or 10 cancelling devices on hand. Why do some cancellers have 1 letter and some 2 letters? Why is sometimes there 1 letter on the left and one on the right (just an earlier canceller design)?

Did any of you see the comedian Galliger's routine "Why?--I don't know!" We should know a lot of this stuff; it's basic.

I have some info to pass on which is not really worth including as part of the bulletin. Since this shipment is going to weigh a ton anyway, including this page isn't going to hurt postage costs a bit.

I have accumulated a lot of information in my searches to understand the cork obliterations, which I am willing to pass on if anyone wants it. Listed below are some of the topics I think should be addressed or articles I have prepared. Your comments can influence the order in which these projects/articles will be tackled/appear or whether they are worth doing at all. Write if you have any strong feelings.

- (1) Already prepared and printed (so you'll get this sooner or later)
Pictures of all known Bezirkstemples from RPD Chemnitz, June-August 1945. Presented on little sections of map which allow a reconstruction of the boundaries of RPD Chemnitz and names every postal facility in the RPD as of May, 1944.
- (2) prepared--if printed needs 2'x3' paper and will cost 75¢ per copy
A map showing the location of all postal facilities in Land Saxony, May 1944. Facilities identified by size (Postamt/Zweigpostamt/Poststelle I/Poststelle II) and postal subordination shown (RPD Bezirk and Postamtbezirk). American front shown (useful to see where the front split Postamtbezirke). Only Pöstämter named.
- (3) prepared
A discussion of the German administrative areas defining Land Province/Regierungsbezirk/Landkreis/Stadtkreis and Gau/Parteikreis. Contains two Maps. picks up end of World War I and discusses boundary changes up thru 1944.
- (4) pretty well prepared (courtesy Gene Marshall)
The introduction to the May, 1944 Ortsverzeichnis I; original and translation. If desired we can include the relation of the Ortsverzeichnis I to the "Postleithefte" and "Kraftpostkursbuch"--including sample pages of all 3 books. This latter has not been started.
- (5) proposed research project (seeking someone to lead it)
a "Postal Dictionary". How many of you know the meaning of Postamt/Zweigpostamt/Poststelle I/Poststelle II/Posthilfstelle/Haupt, Leit, Abrechnungs, Ueberleitungs-postamt, the difference between Zweigpostämter K, L, and M, etc.? If you translate "Postamt" into "post office", then look up "post office" in an english dictionary, I claim you get defined a completely different concept than what is often meant by "Postamt"--big problem in translation.
both items 4 and 5 help us understand the internal working of the German postal department and is often useful information when one runs across internal postal forms. Example: in the Nov. 1982 issue, p.54, I pictured an internal postal form. Who really understands this form--where did it originate? where was each rubber stamp, cancel and handwritten entry on this form made? In all honesty, I'm not 100% confident that I know. Are others interested in this or is it not important? Are there people out there who know these things?
- (6) pretty well completed
Information on the postwar recreation of CPD Halle and the truncation of RPD Leipzig.

Well, what do we want to do?