



GERMANY PHILATELIC SOCIETY POST WORLD WAR II STUDY AND RESEARCH GROUP

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Editor's Remarks

1976 Was Free!!!!

I've been doing a very poor job of getting out bulletins. With no doubt, last year was not worth \$4. Therefore, I'll absorb the cost of the little I did do, and we'll just push the dues you paid for '76 up into '77 and call it even.

I'm going to do my best to get out 6 bulletins this year, so send in information. I'd especially like to urge any translators to try to get material in. I have half an article on Belgian Feldpost in Germany, but that's it. So send in anything, even if just something for the Member's mart.



AMG Study Group report

Director: Harold E. Peter
 120 S. Spruce Street
 Wood Dale, Illinois 60191

It has been some time since I ran an ad in the Specialist to look for collectors interested in the issues and postal history of the American and British occupied zones of Germany. The response was discouraging as only a few answers from the general membership of the GPS was received. Little did I realize that within our Post World War II Study Group we do have a large nucleus of interested collectors. Out of 70 members, 21 have indicated an interest, and nine a more than passing interest in the AMG period, giving a grand total of thirty collectors.

The questions expressed by the few collectors responding to my ad were primarily for information, such as publications and material. The question as to where can I find material is difficult to answer. It is my opinion that if you want hard to get items, either in stamps or postal history items, you will have to look into German auctions. But do not expect to find bargains; when something is offered, the prices are high. The German auction starting bids are the starting bid prices, and the auction houses will not register bids for less (and some houses send you a dirty note if you bid less than the starting bid, but there are a very few houses which have unreserved auctions).

Dealers specializing in this issue are few, however, there is Joseph V. Bush, P.O. Box 665, Bonita, Calif. 92002. Do not always expect an answer, or at least not a speedy one, it does happen though. Then there is Johannes Klink KG, 2600 Niebüll, Postfach 27, West Germany. Here caution is advised, since this dealer has "manufactured" AMG's. However, as of late, to the best of my knowledge, he has not sold any of these items. Then there is always the find you can make at the local, regional and national shows.

The helpful publications are: Allierte Militär Post Deutschland Spezial Bearbeitung and Katakog by Johannes Klink. The latest is the third printing in 1959. The AMG Catalog and Handbook by Bush-Halle may be obtained from the address above (Bush's address). Also the Michel special catalog contains some information. For up to date and occasional material offered by members, although expensive, a source is the German Study Group, whose leader is: Manfred L. Drossard, Kirdorfer Allee 26, D-5152 Bedburg, West Germany. This group has about 50 members, with very few providing articles for the bulletin. Therefore, this group almost failed due to the tremendous workload carried by one man, Mr. Drossard. They publish periodically a bulletin in the form of a small booklet. The membership fee is DM 18.- per year. There are of course numerous articles which appeared in various magazines, mainly in Germany.

Please let me know of what you like to read or hear about, and I will try to provide articles or answer in the bulletin. I will also answer specific questions, provided I have the answer, however, a SASE is appreciated.

The director and another member of the German AMG Study Group, Manfred L. Drossard and Gerd R. Kalweit have very recently published a comprehensive up-dated specialized AMG catalog. The Announcement trans-

lates as follows:

SPECIALIZED CATALOG OF AMG ISSUES OF GERMANY AND ITS USAGES.

Written by Drossard-Kalweit of Bedburg and Vienna. 67 pages and tables, looseleaf with binder \$7.00. It is the first time since the late 50's that the essential new researched data of the issues have been updated and published. With more than 800 main catalog numbers, the AMG issues and its specifics are cataloged. An additional 200 catalog numbers show the systematic postal historical usage. Also has chronological time table of events, table of postal rates and table showing correct postage rates according to the denomination of stamps.

I (Harold Peter) have ordered a number of the catalogs and any member interested in securing a copy please order with check or money order from me, address above. Please allow sufficient time for delivery.

That's the end of Harold's AMG report. Other notices by him are to be found in the announcements section-ed.



POST WORLD WAR II CENSORSHIP MARKINGS OF BERLIN
SOME NEW INFORMATION AND A THEORY

by Anthony K. Brooks, GPS #3989

The May/June 1974 issue of the bulletin of the GPS Post World War II Study and Research Group reproduced a May 7, 1947, letter (serial No. IA 6250-0) from the Main Administration for Posts and Telecommunications of the American and British Zones of Occupation addressed to OPD K81n and OPD Hamburg. The directive pertained to a special postmark to be applied to all correspondence called in for censorship but released without being examined. The special metallic dies were not to exceed three-eighths of an inch in diameter. The directive further stated that the two designated OPD's would be advised of the date on which the dies were to be put in use in the British Zone of occupation in Germany.

Illustration 1 reproduces the special "released unexamined" die assigned to OPD K81n that utilized the number 10 inside a three-eighths inch circle. A number "20" was assigned to OPD Hamburg. It has not been seen by the author (nor anyone else to the best of my knowledge-ed). Illustration 2 portrays a similar strike reported by Arthur C. Hecker on covers originating from the British sector of Berlin. To date, the author has seen these two dies only in black. However, they could exist in other colors of ink. Tables I and II summarize information reported by members



Illustration 1

Illustration 2

4.
of the Berlin Study Group concerning Illustration Nr. 2.

TABLE I - COVERS WITH THE NO. 30 ON FRONT OR BACK SIDE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SENDING POST OFFICE</u>	<u>RETURN ADDRESS</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>
1. July __, '47	Charlottenburg 2	Wilmersdorf	USA
2. Sept. 23, '47	Charlottenburg 4	Charlottenburg	USA
3. Sept. 25, '47	Charlottenburg 2	Charlottenburg 4	USA
4. Nov. 4, '47	Charlottenburg 2	Charlottenburg	USA
5. Nov. 9, '47	Charlottenburg 1	Charlottenburg 1	USA
6. Dec. 6, '47	Spandau	Ø17 (East Berlin)	USA
7. Dec. __, '47	Charlottenburg 1	SBZ	USA
8. Jan. 20, '48	NW87	Heiligensee (French)	USA

TABLE II - WITH NO CENSOR MARKING

1. Mar. 14, '47	NW87	NW87	USA
2. July 9, '47	Spandau 1	Spandau	USA
3. Aug. 15, '47	Charlottenburg 1	SBZ	USA
4. Sept. 16, '47	Spandau 1	SBZ	USA
5. Nov. 1, '47	Charlottenburg 1	Charlottenburg 1	USA
6. Dec. 8, '47	NW40	NW40	USA

The following characteristics are noted:

- 1) All marked covers were posted in the British Sector of Berlin
- 2) All covers recorded to date had a USA destination
- 3) Not every cover meeting the above 2 criteria has the newly identified censorship marking

Don Slawson¹ states that U.S. Civil Censorship Division "C" operated in the U.S. Sector of Berlin for two years from September 10, 1945, until September, 1947. However, the censor marking depicted in illustration 2 above has been proven to be in use at least until January, 1948.

It would seem quite logical to assume that the censor's marking shown in illustration 2 was used in the British Sector of Berlin for the same purpose as the die used in West Germany and depicted in illustration 1. While all covers bearing the "30" found to date were posted in the British Sector and mailed to points in the U.S.A., it hardly seems logical that use of this die should have been so restricted. It would also seem logical that covers mailed to foreign destinations other than the U.S.A. should exist. Does anyone have any covers or other evidence to support this contention?

The size of the Berlin die is approximately 12cm. or just slightly smaller than one-half an inch - thus not complying exactly with the previously referenced directive to the OPD's of Köln and Hamburg. This suggests that a separate directive was sent to the proper Berlin authorities. Does such a directive exist? This also suggests that the Berlin and Köln dies were produced by different (local?) manufacturers.

¹Don Slawson: "Censorship Markings of the U.S. Zone of Occupation", Post WW II Study and Research Group Bulletin, Vol. 8, No. 2, 1974, pg. 6.

The period of use for the Berlin die seems to correspond roughly with that noted for covers in the author's collection with the OPD Köln strike. Can anyone report earlier, later or different use of what appears to be a newly identified British Sector of Berlin censorship marking for "released unexamined" foreign destination mail?

OBLITERATED NAZI ISSUE NOTES

by Donald E. Slawson

Have a few things to discuss. First, I was planning on reporting auction results of Locals in the Bob Weisz auction of Nov 19-20, but lost the list of prices realized. All I had written down were the obliterated Nazi issues, so I'll report that here.

Lot	Cat (DM)	Price (\$)
Fredersdorf #26 used	50.-	15.-
Glauchau #1-19 nh, signed	140.-	46.-
#1-18 hinged	80.-	12.-
#20-29 nh, signed	650.-	230.-
Gottleuba #1-21 nh, signed, #20 rounded corner	600.-	140.-
#22 nh, signed	150.-	42.-
Holzhausen #1-3 nh, signed	100.-	38.-!!
Perleberg #1-5 (6pfg-#2b) nh, signed	200.-	75.-!!
Pirna Officials #166-177 used on pieces		55.-
Ravensburg #I, III-XVIII nh	under 120.-	26.-
Strausberg #1-6 og	60.-	19.-
#7-30 nh	150.-	46.-

All in all, very good prices. This material seems to be good. Sure have to agree with Harold Peter's observation that nothing in German auctions goes cheap. There is a healthy demand for this material. Once in a while you can get a good buy in an auction in this country, but I would advise not to delay picking up wanted items in the hope of someday obtaining a bargain, because they come seldom. Buy what you need at today's price and keep an eye out for bargains. If you do eventually find the bargain, pick it up for trade or sale.

A few issues seem to be incorrectly valued in Michel. The Meissen handoverprint set # 2-24 unused is seldom available either in auction or in dealer's lists. I have missed this set on bids of \$125.- in this country and DM 300.- in Germany. Incidentally, this set seems to be more common (at least appears more often on the market) used than mint.

The Perleberg set Mi. # 1-6 also seems to be more common used than mint. The overprint shown on the right in Michel seems to be the most common, especially mint, although I have not noticed a big price difference in the three overprints from dealers. I just have not seen too many of the left or center pictured overprints offered in mint condition.

Schwarzenberg type I overprint definitely seems to be offered less often than the type II. This is interesting, given the fact that in Michel they both carry the same price. It's possible to get a set of type

II relatively easily, even at a good discount from Michel, but try to find an unused set of type I.

Incidentally, while on the general subject of prices, if you're willing to put up with some hinge marks or remnant or even some natural gum disturbances, you can save a considerable amount. For example, in Germany I got a set of Schwarzenberg type II, hinged, for less than half Michel value.

If anyone can help me I am seeking a set of Meissen and Schwarzenberg type I. Guess right after a blurb saying these are scarce is not the best place in the world to seek these, but if anyone has a spare, or a set they want to sell, let me know.

I'll try to put a little something of interest in here each issue. As Harold stated in his AMG section, if any of you would like me to cover anything specific let me know and I'll do my best.

Fore-runner Issues, GROSSRÄSCHEN

by Herbert Stephan

reprinted from the ~~Book~~ Arge Rundbrief Nr 24/1976
translated by Dick Zerbe

As a result of collectors who specialise in locals, and in particular, those who specialize in the fore-runner issues of Grossräschen, the Schwaneberger Verlag, publisher of the Michel catalogs, felt obliged to revise its position on the period of time during which the "V 2" issue was sold at postal counters.

Originally, the introduction to the fore-runners issues stated, "According to Dr. Merk, sales at the post office counters began around the end of July. Cancellations with dates beginning with June 28 have always proven to be forgeries."

The revised statement reads, "Sales at post office counters began about the end of July. Cancellations bearing dates beginning with 28 June, 1945 exist. Up to now, cancellations for the period beginning 28 June have always proven to be forgeries."

In previous issues of the Michel Specialized, the "V 2" issue (the triangular COD label) was listed among the fore-runner issues as "1945, beginning in late July", corresponding to the introductory statement. In the 1976 edition of the Michel Specialized, the listing states "1945, beginning early in July". This new version corresponds to the facts, and, at the same time, confirms that the fore-runner issue "V 2" was used at the counter prior to the "V 1" issue, the rectangular "Wertpaket" label.

In view of the fact that most collections are based on the present Michel numbering system, it would serve no purpose to re-number the stamps at this late date. However, it would seem mandatory that the previously cited introductory sentence should be deleted.

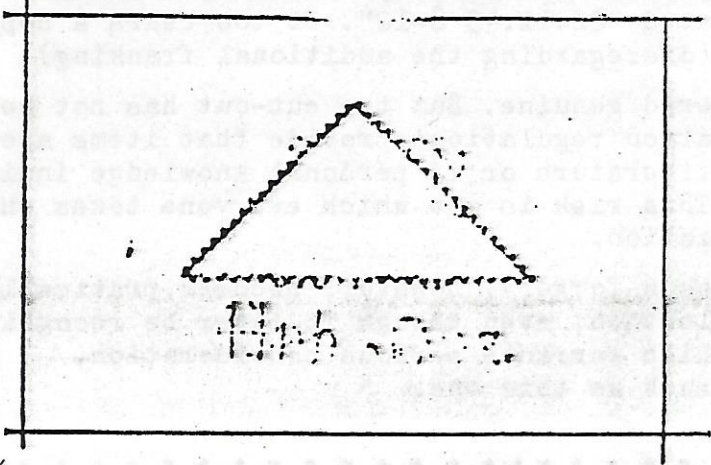


Illustration 1

Illustration 1 shows a cover cut-out dated 2 July, 1945, which generally conforms to the "V 2" listing, and the three line cancellation depicted in the Michel Specialized (PA/Grossräschen/Geb. Bez.).

Abfender: _____

Empfänger: _____

Nr. 45 Feldpost

Postamt: _____

Postnummer: _____

22.11.45 3

Merkado & Langussis
Briefmarken

Berlin - Karow

Etage Hausnummer, wo zubereit, Stochwerk oder Postfach
Nachnummer

Großräschen
762

122

Einschreiben

8.

Illustration 2 depicts a postal card sent by a dealer, and which bears the local cancellation dated "22.11.45 8-12". It too bears a copy of the same "V 2" fore-runner (disregarding the additional franking).

Both items must be considered genuine. But the cut-out has not been expertised, since the expertization regulations provide that items are to be marked as forgeries if the literature or if personal knowledge indicates that the item is not genuine. This risk is one which everyone takes when submitting an item for expertization.

An item, once designated as a forgery, however, becomes practically unworthy of inclusion in a collection, even though it later be recognized as genuine. This is a matter which warrants serious consideration, especially in regard to items such as this one.

ODDS AND ENDS

Notice from the leader of the leader of the German Emergency Cancellation Group - translated by Harold Peter

Since about two years ago the research of the German emergency cancellations group was reactivated and has found support by many active collectors and study groups. Over 50 collectors were searched and many hundreds of photo copies for classifications were made. Last year a list of the after 1945 re-used old German , as well as the single ring "Reichspost" cancels was issued. Now work is being done to compile all emergency cancellations of the makeshift (emergency) rubber cancels for all towns, villages, etc. of all the occupation zones starting with "A". Up to now cancels of the following towns, partly with varying types, have been classified:

- Aachen, Aalen, Abtshagen, Adlig Reetz, Ahrensböck, Allersberg, Allig (?), Alpen (?), Altenberg, Altenheim, Altenkirchen, Altentretow, Alt-Glietzen, Altranft, Altreez, Altruppin, Altwrietzen, Altzeschdorf, Ameln, Angersdorf, Ankershagen, Annaburg (?), Arnsdorf, Arnstadt, Ascha, Asbach (?), Asperg, Assel, Augustfehn, Axien.

Makeshift or emergency cancels of the above and possible others still unknown are of great interest for continuous research. Collectors with interest in this research are requested to make their cancels, with Xerox or photo copies, known to the group leader:

Horst Kahl, 2 Norderstedt, Parrellestr. 13b, West Germany
This group is part of the Poststempelgilde Rhein-Donau.

Notice of Handbook of Gebuhr bezahlt Cancellations - received from
Harold Peter

I have received a notice on the first part of the Handbook on Barfrankaturen (Gebühr bezahlt). The book will eventually contain 300 pages and about 80 illustrations. It will be issued in looseleaf form in 4 parts. The first part has about 80 pages with 300 illustrations and a 10

page register. Price is about \$7.50 which includes shipping (DM 15.50).
If paying by check bank charges are about \$1.

Can be ordered from:

Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft
Deutsche Barfrankaturen und Notentwertungen ab 1945
Rostockstr. 19
3300 Braunschweig

(I think this is Hans-J. Richter -ed)

The German Gebühr bezahlt/ Emergency cancel group seems to be pretty active. If anyone is interested in joining, Harold Peter has sent me (Slawson) a couple application blanks. You may get these from me, or write directly to the people involved. As near as I can figure, it is one group divided into the two distinct parts.

The leader of the Barfrankaturen (Gebühr bezahlt):

Hans J. Richter
3300 Braunschweig
Rostockstr. 19

The leader of the Emergency Cancellations:

Horst Kahl
2000 Nordeestedt 1
Parallelstr. 13b

Notice concerning Thüringen issues - from Al Geisser

Anyone with a special interest in Thueringen, who would like to add his (or her) knowledge, or share his findings, and is able to read german, has the opportunity to join the german Arge at this time.

They are well advanced in registering mint and used material, that is eventually going to be published, so there is a chance to get in on the ground floor. The Arge is headed by a former Thueringan, who is very knowledgeable. There is a chance to swap or buy if one is interested. Application blanks are available from:

Al Geisser
3316 Raymond Dr.
Doraville, Ga. 30340

Next, a small article (an "Articalette"?) from Harry Meier

THE LAUTERBACH PROVISIONAL

In June, 1945, when there was no post nor railway traffic, the Landrat (leader-I think equivalent of our county supervisor) of the district of Lauterbach in Upper-Hesse created a motor car service within the district and to some cities outwardly. This service was used for supply and for expedition of letters (20 grams for 10 Pf).

Issuer: The Landrat

Authorized: by the Military Government

Printed: By Druckerei Freidrich Ehrenklau in Lauterbach

The provisionals were sold by the Landratsamt Lauterbach or the Bürgermeister (mayor) of the village in the district. 40,000 were printed (5,000 sheets of 8) and 16,000 were used. The remainder (24,000) were sent to the Lauterbach Museum.

The provisionals were used within the district and for letters from the district to some places outwards from the district which were on the route of the cars. They were used from June to 30 September, 1945. They were always used alone and never with other stamps, and were canceled with the seal of the Landratsamt or the Burgermeister. The use of a regular pos type cancel is a falsification.

* * * * *

MEMBER'S MART

(Putting this in because I have nothing else)

Wanted: by Donald Slawson

I need a lot of Glauchau varieties. If anyone has any of these mixed in their set, and don't really care about them, I'm willing to trade an ordinary copy and throw in something else.

- "Black dot" on right of stamp; 4,5,6,15,16,50,60 and 80Pfg values
- "Black dot" on left of stamp; 3,10,10engraved,4,5,12 and 42Pfg values
- Chip in left bar of "u" in "Glaue"; 10,10engraved,5,8,12,15,16,20 and 24 Pfg.
- "Thin horizontal bar"; 10 and 10engraved values
- "damaged "ei" in "Kreis"; 4,5,6pfg values
- "High cube + thin bar" (Michel III); 4,6blue-violet,and 8Pfg values

Also after:

- Meissen-the handoverprint set unused
- Schwarzenberg- type I overprint set unused
- Fredersdorf- Hitler set, also commemorative issues

Guess that's about it. Still have some space, but nothing to go there, so will end this page a little short.

DES