



GERMANY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

POST WORLD WAR II

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translated by Inge Fisher

I was hoping to have an issue out in November, but it's now almost the end of December. I'm dating this issue as the first for 1985 and we can forget 1984.

News:

- (1) John Barbour has been appointed Co-director
- (2) (also mentioned by Joe Schirmer) Jurgen Schmid of Waldmohr has died of cancer, a most unfortunate loss. In some of our recent issues you can see I quoted him often and he was very helpful in carrying on a dialogue--very logical in his approach to problems. I enjoyed him very much. He wrote english better than I and was very, very good about helping with problems. Like Joe, I will miss him very much.
- (3) I will prepare (I hope) a financial report by next issue (prior to end of April) so we can see where we stand financially. I'm anticipating we have enough money to cover 1985 but we will see. I'll furnish a sheet for each individual so each knows exactly where he stands (many have paid several years ahead).
- (4) Roland Fluck (French Zone) has indicated lack of time (new job)--hope we can get him to change his mind, because he furnished many interesting pieces. Can anyone take his place? (A lot of what he furnished was translated from German).

Please write me concerning announcements I missed. I promise to read my mail (yes Al, I have the new membership applications you sent).

A POT-pourri OF A.M.G.

by: Joe Schirmer
A.M.G. Section Editor

I note that very slowly, but surely, the foreign auction houses and dealers are raising their prices for A.M.G. items. But in defense of this price rise, I must tell you that the majority of the items offered, have been choice pieces and I do consider myself fortunate to have been able to obtain some long wanted pieces. Most US auction houses (and dealers) seldom have anything really worthwhile to offer, and I have found that when they do have items, they tend to over-price them greatly. What many collectors do not know, is that many US dealers and auction houses can and do get choice items from European dealers, and then offer them for re-sale here.

Jurgen Schmid of Waldmohr, Germany, a long time friend and a most knowledgeable collector and writer of A.M.G. died recently in September after a long illness. He was one of the hard workers with ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT-AM and I exchanged much data with him over the years. He shall be missed.

Bob Dunn has taken over as head of the GPS Postal Stationery Group, having relieved John Matschinegg who headed the Study Group for many years. Thanks John for your cooperation. I am in the process of doing an article on A.M.G. postal Stationery for the new director Bob Dunn for their spring issue.

A new Michel Postal Stationery catalogue is due sometime in February 1985. Michel also is now selling floppy discs that work with most American home computers that based on their catalogue system gives collectors an inventory list, etc. Write them if you are interested. And there are strong rumors that sometime in 1985 a new and revised Drossard-Kalweit A.M.G. catalogue will appear..as you know this is one of the bible's of A.M.G. I have contacted Mr. Drossard in Germany and am waiting his reply.

If you like good auction materials, then contact the Ram Stamp Co. in Ohio. Bob Molbert does publish a very complete and nicely priced A.M.G. auction catalog. Why is the 15 pfg. stamp of the Washington printing so costly..anyone know the answer? Who has a copy of "DEUTSCHE NOTFRANKATUREN 1945-46" (German Emergency Prepay of Postage). I would like to borrow a copy.... now on to some honors garnered by some of G.P.S.ers; Harold Peter, the President of G.P.S. while serving recently as the U.S. Commissioner to the big show in Madrid, Spain (Espana '84) won himself another medal for his outstanding A.M.G. collection--this time it was a large Vermeil--and Harold also won a Gold at Balpex. Our Bulletin Editor Don Slawson also won himself a Vermeil at Balpex. for his Cork Obliterations. And my friend Jackie Alton the GPS Publicity Director, a former collector of A.M.G. won herself the Grand Award at the recently held Complex Show for her excellent showing of Germany--Cologne 1591-1899--nice going you all.

For a literature listing I am preparing, I would like to hear from you with a list of what A.M.G. literature and catalogues you have. I would like to share this information with all our Study Group readers.

From G.P.S. membership lists and the American Philatelic Society lists, I have the names and addresses of approximately 255 collectors of A.M.G. How active in this area they are, I do not know. But with the idea of stimulating more interest in the collecting of German A.M.G. I am preparing letters to every one listed asking each of his A.M.G. interests; still active; inviting them to join our Study Group and also their willingness to exchange data with our members. More on this as results appear which shall take sometime, I fear.

Who has a copy to borrow of the Herbert Stephen book "Handbook of the Usage Registry Labels as 30 pfg. Stamps from 8 May 1945"?? This data was also written in one of the Bulletins of the LOKNOT Study Group in 1977. (See Michel Specialized Catalogue pg. 931).

M.C. Gilhousen, the Librarian of the G.P.S. is a long-time collector of intelligence-propaganda stamps and is willing to share his information with those of you who may be interested. I have asked M.C. to send me enough data so I can do a column on this area of German philately for our next Bulletin issue. If any of you have any of this data that you wish to share with our members, please contact me.

To date, the "lords of the catalogue"—Scott Publishing Co., has no intention of revising their poor and inaccurate listing of Germany A.M.G. issues. (for that matter, none of the A.M.G. issues of Austria, France, Italy, Korea or Trieste "A" are being considered either). Believe me, the entire A.M.G. areas of the Scott catalogues needs revising and accurate listings. Why not drop Scott a line and give them your views....mention my name (hah).

I am always available to help all our readers with whatever A.M.G. questions, problems, thoughts, etc. they may have. Call me; write to me; come visit me—I just might be able to answer your questions. I am always pleased to receive copies of any literature, auction catalogues, price lists, catalogues, etc. that has anything pertaining to A.M.G. listed therein. And of course, photos of newly discovered varieties, cancellations, etc. is always welcome—I'll see that the proper G.P.S. people see them and record them, etc.

I am not especially fond of giving so-called philatelic tips, but I would like to advise any of you who do not have the 80 pfg. stamp with the 4 different perforations; had better get them—they are getting scarce and going up in price; especially the 11 x 11½ perforation. Fortunately I have them and 3 of the 4 on cover.

As many of you know, I have recently returned to A.M.G. collecting after a hiatus of approximately 2 years—a hiatus caused by foot operations and business dealing. When I returned to collecting, most of my collector friends, dealer friends and collectors of other areas, came by and helped me greatly with much materials... stamps, covers, literature, advice, names and addresses; etc. (whatever). To all of you who helped me so much and so freely, I send my sincere thanks and can assure you that my door is always open to you guys (and gals).

For the next issue of our Bulletin, I think I'll throw a nice technical article at you readers. Least I forget, if any of you see Don Slawson, ask him how he won his "Golden Hammer Award" from me.....

Saxony Obliterations - OPD Dresden - On Registered Cover

by Hans Findeisen, BPP
translated by Ingeburg L. Fisher

(Reprinted from LOKNOT Arge RUNDBRIEF #40/1982)

Illustrated below is a cover which was offered by two different auction houses. It also was the cause of several telephone calls to me because collectors of obliterations and ARGE members know:

Registration in the OPD Dresden only started on July 1, 1945

Obliterations on the other hand were permitted in OPD Dresden only until June 20, 1945, and included mail found in the mail boxes on the first emptying on June 21, 1945. Later mail was always returned. Consignments deposited in mailboxes were charged "Postage due".

6102 P 42 Pfg. Hitler, m. Schwärzung, a. R-Brief der Commerzbank von Heidenau. Selten. (45)

XVIII 200.-



P 6009 42 Pfg. Hitler, m. Schwärzung, a. R-Brief der Commerzbank von Heidenau. Wohl nach Ablauf der Verwendungszeit, trotzdem reiner Bedarfsteleg. Gepr. Zierer.

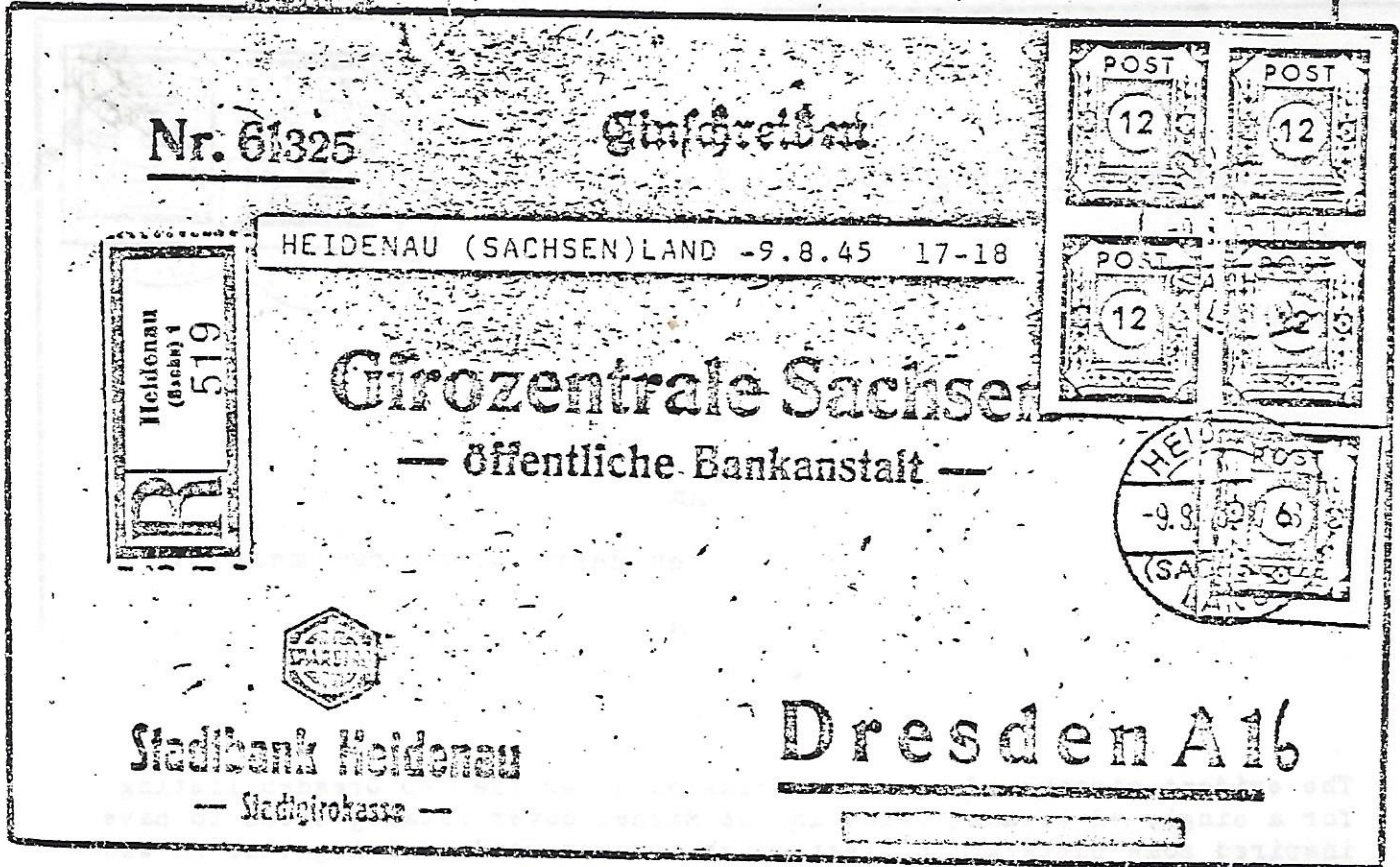
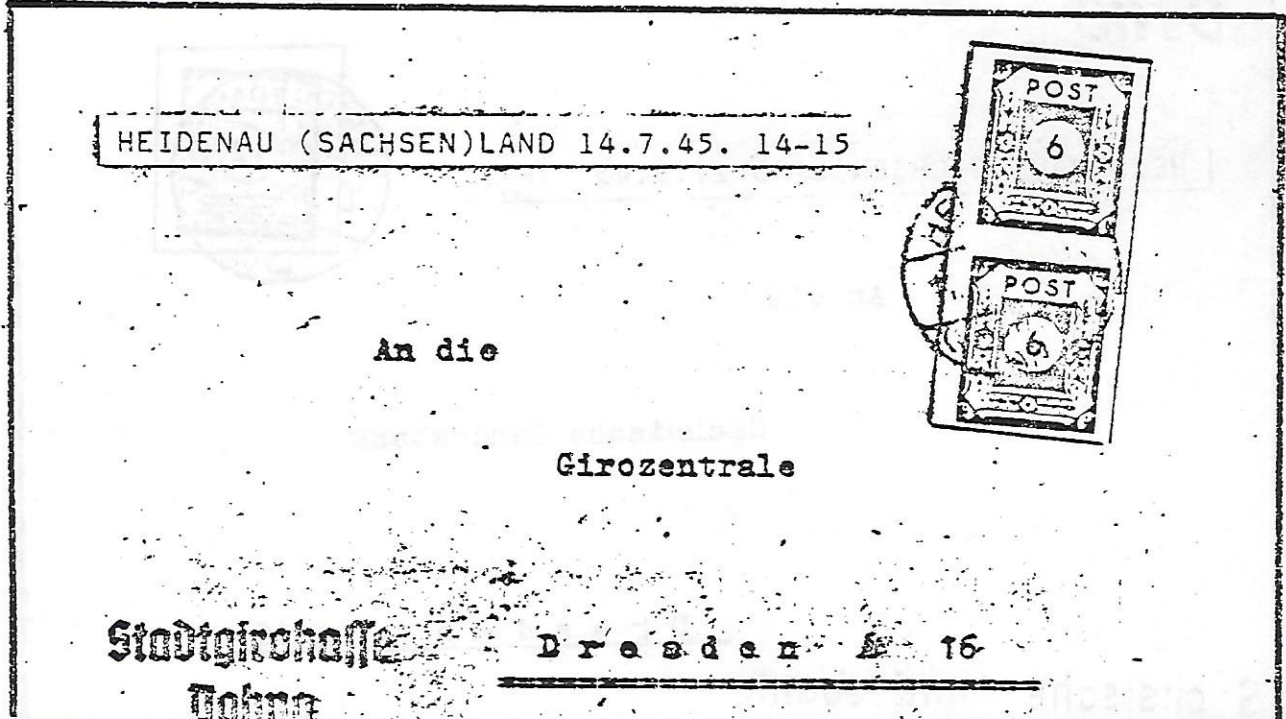
40, XVIII Brief 200.-

Already the description in the auction catalog made clear that the described cover cannot possibly exist.

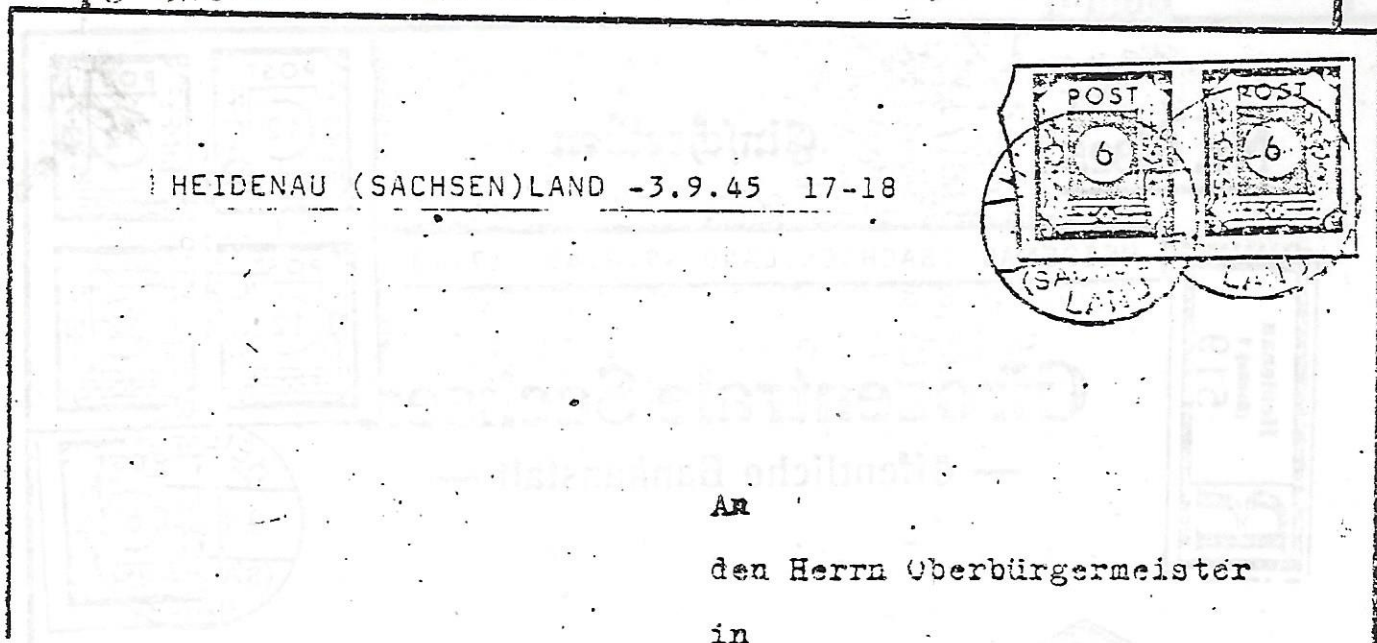
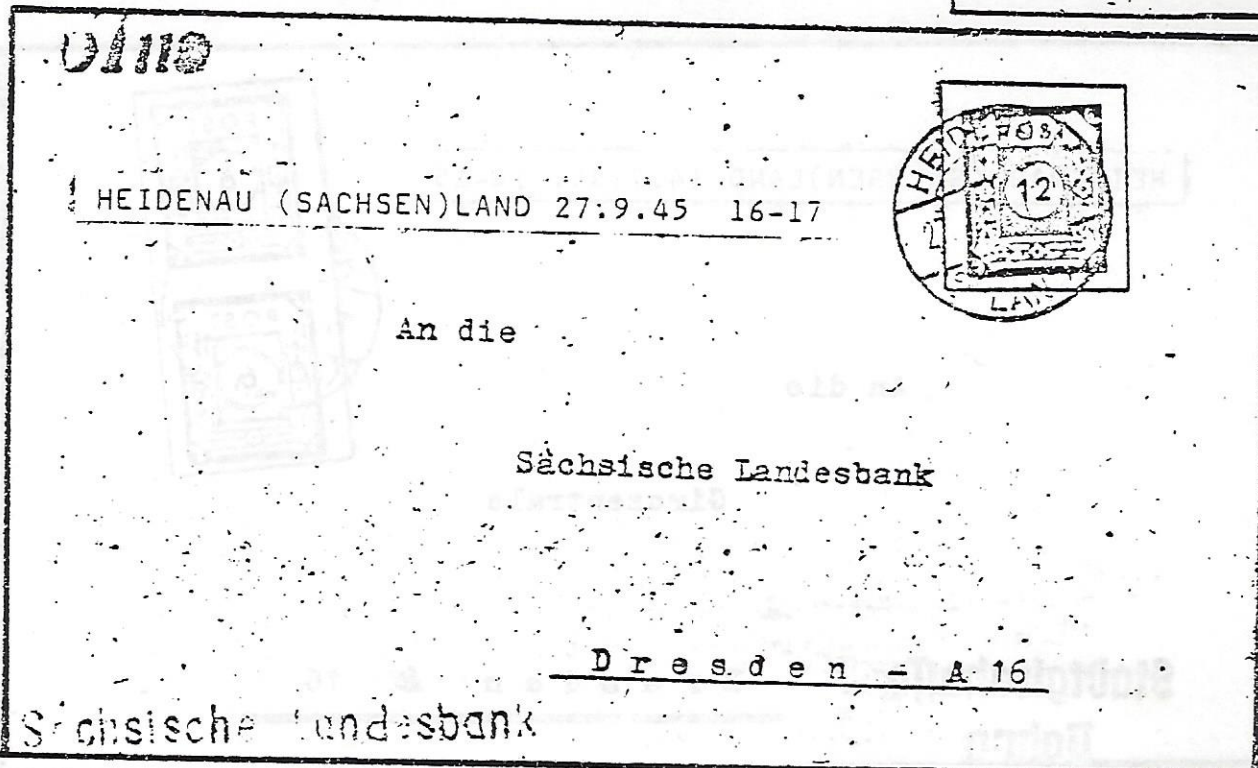
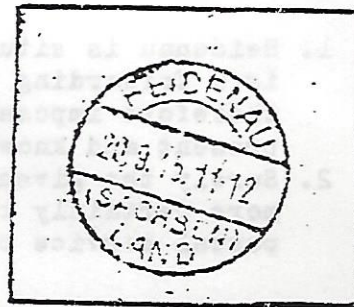
1. 42 Pf. Hitler with obliteration on registered cover from the Commerce Bank in Heidenau, Rare.
2. 42 Pf. Hitler with obliteration on registered cover, Commerce Bank in Heidenau, although after expiration of permitted usage, still strictly commercial. Expervised Zierer.

Inspection of the piece makes the affair even more dubious. Under strong diagonal lighting and magnification, the cancellation date of July 31 can be clearly recognized. The year date is totally obliterated and cannot be seen. The address is even more puzzling:

1. Heidenau is situated 4 km southeast of the city limits of Dresden and is a forwarding post office with a large collecting district. It is therefore impossible that postal directives should not have been present and known there.
2. Surely the given return address at the Commerce Bank and surely even more certainly the servicing postal clerk knew at that time that any postal service between the SBZ and Worms (Fr. Zone) was impossible.



3. The cover has the here illustrated backstamp of September 20, 1945. This Heidenau (Sachsen) Land canceller was used during the time in question on mail which was posted at the postoffice window and franked with the regular and valid postage stamps as shown by the illustrated covers.



The evident mistake of a price inclusion under the OPD Dresden listing for a single 42 Pfennig value in the Michel cover catalog seems to have inspired some putterer to create such a cover. And in doing this he was not even clever enough to use an "Einschreiben (register) handstamp which exists in every bank.