



GERMANY PHILATELIC SOCIETY 1945-1948 LOCALS STUDY AND RESEARCH GROUP

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

STATE OF THE "LOCALS" STUDY GROUP

Quite a few years have passed since Col. Halle relieved me of my duties as GPS librarian so that I may organize the "Locals" study group. At that time, locals were not very popular and only a few GPS members responded to my "let's organize" call. The majority of those that did were in search of information but could offer very little themselves. As a consequence progress was slow but not without success.

Progress was made in several areas. Quite a few articles were published in the "Specialist" and elsewhere. Five color-slide programs were submitted to the GPS library and copies of three of them were furnished to the Royal Canadian Philatelic Society. The five programs were:

1. East Zone Cork Marks, 1945 by Ben Beede

36.

2. Postwar Berlin by H. C. Meier and R. S. Zerbe
3. Postmaster Provisionals, 1945 by A. Heinz
4. Postmaster Provisionals of Grossraschen by A. Heinz
5. Provisional Cancellations, 1945-46 by H. C. Meier

One GPS handbook (Freudenstadt) has been published; a second one (Grossraschen) is ready for printing; and a third (Gebuhr bezahlt) is being readied for publication, hopefully in 1972.

Several more are under active consideration and include:

1. OPD Mecklenburg-Vorpommern by John Barbour
2. Corkmarks by Ben Beede and Don Slawson
3. Birkenfeld by Al Geisser
4. Demmin and Altentreptow by P. Rossbach-Emden
5. City Posts by Myron Hill
6. Postal History 1945-46 by H. C. Halle and A. Heinz

Considerable success has been achieved in promoting interest in the upper echelons of the philatelic fraternity. No longer are our exhibits dismissed as "below par" but are now considered as serious contenders for top awards. Several grand and gold awards have recently been awarded to Locals members in exhibitions of national and international scope. These, in the final analysis, speak for the stature of our efforts.

The interest of the Locals group was initially confined to only postmaster provisionals and the title "Locals Study Group" appeared appropriate then. It no longer does. Since then (1956) the scope of our interest has broadened to include all postal history aspects of the post-war period not specifically covered by other GPS study groups. It was discovered that this broader interest was absolutely essential to a proper setting for the postmaster provisional family. May I recommend, in this respect, my treatise: "Postmaster Provisionals, the stars of the Postal History Complex" published in the GERMANEX 1969 Directory.

What I'm trying to convey is that there is a need for a name or title change. "Locals" is too confining. Our name should reflect the scope of our interest and I suggest "Postwar Postal History". Let's hear from you.

One final thought. I have been director of the Locals Group for some 14 years and it is time for a change. No organization can stay healthy if its leadership remains static. Here too, I would appreciate your comments.

Have fun at BALPEX.

A. Heinz
Director

Letters to the Editor

Inge Fisher has been researching old Specialist issues with the idea of preparing an exhibit of Berlin from 1945 through the currency reform, so the "Excerpts from the MG of Germany Communications" in the last issue hit her just right. Unfortunately it also caused her some problems. Referring to old Specialist issues: "... In all I could find the start of postal service for postcards and unsealed letters ... was on 2 August 1945 and on 22 Sept. 1945 sealed letters up to 50gr. were allowed. Then on 15 Oct. 1945 complete (or mostly so) service for Berlin and the Soviet Zone was possible. And 24 Oct. 1945 marked the date for mail service to all occupied zones. Since the Allied Kommandantura is mentioned I assume that this included the U.S. Sector also. But according to the table on page 33 (of our last bulletin-ed.) for Berlin intra city mail service (cards and letters) did not start until 6 August 1945, yet interzonal (both Russian and others) started already on 13 Oct. 1945." Nice little problem. I may help a little on this. With my magnifying glass I'm willing to believe the dates I reported as 13 Oct should in fact be 15 Oct. Can anyone else help with the other discrepancies?

I may remark that "official" historical documents often are contradicted by the philatelic evidence we find. Possibly the results published in the Specialist are based on material and not documents.

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Axel Kornfuehrer has also looked over his old issues of the bulletin and come up with a few observations and comments.

Concerning Vol 2, No 3 - Heinz Schmidt on Mecklenburg.

"In the postscript, Schmidt refers to a Hitlerblot cover from Wittenberg cancelled 26 April 1945. While he surmises that the cover is of dubious authenticity, he also assumes that the Russians could have reached Wittenberg by that date. On 25 April the infantry division "Ulrich von Hutten" (Gen.Lt. Engel), which had only finished forming on 12 April, checked a Russian advance on Wittenberg and held the Soviets off until forenoon of the 27th. Only after the division "Hutten" had withdrawn did the Russians enter Wittenberg about noon on the 27th.¹ ...but it is highly doubtful that any postal employee on that date (the 26th) would have prepared Hitlerblot stamps."

I believe I have the answer to this problem. I have a set (1pfg.-5Rm.) of Hitlerblots on piece cancelled Wittenberg 26.4.45. When Sturm signed these he noted this was an "officially backdated cancellation". Thus these appeared after the usage of the Wittenberg corkblots had ended. Remainders were "officially" cancelled using a backdated cancellation. Evidently "covers" were made at the same time as these sets on piece. I am not sure of the date when this "official" backdating took place.

Concerning Vol 3, No 1 - my article on Saxony

"... on page 9 you mention that the Russians probably did not compl-

1. Franz Kurowski, Armee Venck: Die 12. Armee zwischen Elbe und Oder, 1945 pp 110-111

ete their occupation of Saxony until 11 May. You are probably right, but the official 6 volume Soviet history of the Great Fatherland War on its excellent maps notes that the southern half of Saxony was occupied between 6 and 9 May. "

We have a new member (who is also a new member of GPS)

Mr. Robert Bechtel, 2316 N. 29th Pl., Pheonix Arizona 85008

One of these days I'll get around to putting out a membership list. That's it for discussions. Hope some of you will find the following articles interesting (hope I'm not boring you to death with Glauchau). Of course I have a neat alternative, how about some of the rest of you getting me some reports on your specialties and research?

Don Slawson

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THE PRINTING AND USAGE OF THE GLAUCHAU ISSUES:
A SURVEY OF THE LITERATURE

by Benjamin R. Beede

Don Slawson's articles in the Jan/Feb 1970 Locals Study Group Bulletin opened up a number of areas. He showed the members of the group a good deal and at the same time came up with some highly interesting questions. For the past several years I have been extremely dubious about Glauchau. Too many covers are from the Glauchauer Papierwarenfabrik (see Ill. 4 Jan/Feb issue). I no longer purchase such covers for my collection. Some of the covers with this imprint bear officials, while others have ordinary overprinted postage stamps. Many are properly franked (?) and addressed, but a number of them are covered with stamps.

I do not have too much to offer, but there are some points from the older German handbooks which may add something to Don's story. One can reconstruct a theory rather nicely from statements in certain of the handbooks. Because the information is scattered and some of these booklets are now hard to find, it seems worth-while to review a little of this data. We can start by covering some of the salient points from the literature. Then, I shall add a few general comments.

1. Don states that he has not seen any covers from the period of the American occupation. There is an explanation that makes a good deal of sense. The Katalog Berlin (4th edition, 1948) by Helmut Oetken and Georg Haeble states that during the time of American occupation only official mail was permitted.
2. Don also indicates that the official stamps were printed after the arrival of the Soviets and the departure of the Americans. One authoritative source (authoritative in my opinion), Dr. Jacob's Forschungsarbeit Uber die Deutschen Briefmarken seit

Mai 1945, tells us that the 15 on 6 value was placed on sale June 2, 1945, and the 25 on 12, June 7, 1945. According to Dr. Jacob, the remaining stamps and postcards were issued on dates from June 12, through June 16, 1945, that is, precisely at the time there was a change-over in occupation authorities.

3. If we can accept one source, and I feel we can, because the individual concerned seems to have been extremely careful in his work, then the Chemnitz OPD did give subsequent recognition to the Glauchau issue. On this point, see M. v. d. Wuelbecke, Handbuch der deutschen Zonenmarken (1947).

Now for a few comments. It is a highly interesting fact that cork obliterations were used at every single town which was said to have had Glauchau stamps supplied! This is strange indeed, since there are plenty of Glauchau stamps around in mint condition. One would have thought that stocks would have held out in at least one of these postoffices!

Don discusses a cover from Glauchau with a May 5, 1945, date. He says "this cannot be a captured in transit cover". I disagree. It could be. Sometimes, such covers were subsequently cancelled. We ran across one of these items in the registration program for captured in transit mail. Moreover, Wolter lists another cover with a postwar date in his catalog of censored mail. Now for another possibility. The 9th edition of the Mueller Deutschland Spezial Katalog lists a local issue from Lichtenstein with dates of validity from May 5, through August 7, 1945. It is not totally inconceivable that local service was initiated as early as May, 1945. However I seriously doubt that this cover is either a captured in transit item or an unusually early local. Rather, it is probably simply a cover with a mistake in the cancel. This kind of thing happens frequently. Very likely the cancel should have read July 5, or even August 5, 1945.

As far as Glauchau goes, I would accept the view that only official service was possible during the period June 2-13, 1945. Perhaps it was intended to issue more values of the series sometime in June. This may have been rushed through during the transition from American to Soviet rule. After the Soviets did arrive, communications to OPD Chemnitz were again possible. At that point, authorization may have been given, in retrospect, to the Glauchau stamps. This would not mean that they were now authorized for use at the values of the overprints. It could have simply meant the OPD authorities recognized that the Glauchau postmaster had operated temporarily under American orders and had therefore committed no breach of postal regulations when he prepared local stamps.

Don mentions the illustrations of covers with cork obliterations from the Glauchau area which were long included in the Mueller and later the Michel Spezial Deutschland Katalog. These covers seem to prove that cork obliterations were used at the "provisional rate", as Don aptly calls it. They do seem to do this. On the other hand, I do not think the Hohenstein-Ernstthal item proves anything. The 20 and 5 Rpf Hitler heads could be paying the double letter rate, 24 Rpf. Such small overfrankings are perfectly legitimate. The statement concerning postal rates at Glauchau in Mueller and Michel is interesting. Both say that the special rates were in effect while the Americans were there, but they say nothing about what happened after June 13, 1945. Nothing,

except this, that the unissued set of six stamps (with town seal) were prepared because of the change of rates after the Soviets moved in. That certainly contradicts the evidence of the cork mark covers. If we combine that statement with the comment that only official mail was permitted in June, before the Soviets arrived, then Glauchau covers with genuine usage at the "provisional" rates would be extremely scarce. That is precisely what Don has found.

I agree with much of what Don has written, but see no reason why we have to assume the stamps with Glauchau overprints "carried the franking power of their provisional value" (p. 14). My theory would be:

1. Official mail service started early in June, 1945, with the "provisional" stamps in use.
2. Plans were made to overprint the whole series of Hitler heads and the two sets of official stamps.
3. The plans were carried out during the transition period.
4. After the Soviets were established the Glauchau stamps reverted to their normal values, i.e., the overprints with changed values were ignored.
5. Hitler head stamps were supplied by OPD Chemnitz and these received cork obliterations.
6. In the smaller towns of the Glauchau district the overprinted (as opposed to obliterated) stamps never went into use. Have covers really been seen from all the towns listed as being under Glauchau? It may be quite true that in normal times these towns were actually under Glauchau, but this does not necessarily mean that the overprinted stamps were supplied.

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REPLY TO BEN'S COMMENTS ON GLAUCHAU
by Don Slawson

I enjoyed very much Ben's comments. It has set me thinking and in the meantime I have also picked up a few covers which may or may not prove anything. I have only recently had translated Julius Müller's excellent work on Glauchau which has provided some interesting information.

In my original article I said (in underlined printing yet) "there was no real need for the overprints on Dienstmarken". Although this is a fact I will now admit that at the time these were prepared it could not be foreseen that there would be remainders of the 15 and 25pfg. value. The printing, or at least the preparation for printing of the Dienstmarken was undoubtedly begun during the American occupation and if these were first placed on sale on 16 June (as Michel states - a fact of which I am no longer too confident) after the Soviets had arrived this is really of no consequence. I'm willing to believe that the Glauchau stamps

were prepared over a period of days (or even weeks) and as they were prepared were delivered to the post office (perhaps at the end of each days printing). Therefore the deliverance of the Dienstmarken was just like the deliverance of additional Hitlerheads. The fact that this happened during the "transition period" is mere coincidence.

The next item I would like to approach, and the one which should be easiest to resolve if appropriate covers can be found, seems to be Ben's main point of disagreement: namely whether or not the Glauchau provisionals were used at their normal face value.

Here I must correct a mistake I made in my original article (perhaps not a mistake, but I meant to say something different). On p. 17 where I list the types of covers to be found, number (3) was meant to read "Glauchau provisionals used outside the Glauchau area, at normal face to pay the normal rate". It was my contention that within the Glauchau area the Glauchau stamps were always worth their provisional value (no matter what the postage rate was). Evidently this caused some confusion for I had reported to me a cover from Lichtenstein with 3x Mi. #8 which was correctly analyzed as being either provisional value to pay provisional rate (75pfg registered) or normal value to pay normal rate (45pfg to pay 42pfg). The conclusion was the latter, where my conclusion would be the former since Lichtenstein is in Kreis Glauchau.

As I said, this point may be fairly easily solved as it can be proven by the following covers that Glauchau stamps were used at the provisional value to pay the normal rates:

1. Mi. # 3, 4, or 5 (15 on 4, 5, or 6pfg) used on an in-town letter. Since the normal value of these stamps is insufficient to carry any letter they must be used at the provisional value (and be over-franked if paying the normal rate).
2. Mi # 1 or 2 used on an in-town letter (has to be provisional value to pay normal rate).
3. Mi. # 3, 4, 5, or 6 (15pfg on anything) used on an out-of-town letter. Same as above.

I would like to cite the following as my basis for believing these stamps were always used (in the Glauchau area at least) at their provisional value.

1. Ben's own statement (his paragraph after (3)) concerning cork obliterations being used in towns possessing supplies of Glauchau stamps. My theory is that supplies of Glauchau stamps did "hold out" in these towns. However since the Glauchau stamps, at their provisional value, always necessitated an overpayment of postage the people tended to use "corks" so as to only pay the required postage rather than buy the Glauchau stamps.

Remember that Glauchau stamps were overprinted only in complete sheets, meaning there must have been some stocks of Hitler stamps from broken sheets remaining in the Glauchau area.

2. The belief (completely unfounded) that the Glauchau stamps were probably distributed on the basis of their provisional value and to try to convert these to normal value would have completely confused the bookkeeping problem.

3. Witness the fact that large quantities of the 25 on 12pfg. value remained unsold. If the stamps were being sold for their normal value would not the postal patrons have asked for, and used, the 12pfg. rather than the other values? Although the 12pfg. is indeed the most common basic stamp used in Glauchau the other values do seem to be represented on Bedarfsbrief.
4. After the arrival of the Soviets: "As has been found out later, the individual post offices acted rather independently as far as using these overprinted stamps was concerned. For consignments to places inside the district they asked for higher rates according to the directive, while they adhered to the old and lower rates to places outside the district, at the same time using overprinted stamps. Therefore there are letters to the outside of the district franked with 15pfg. which have to be considered as genuine used letters."¹
5. Helmut Stuenkel's obvious enthusiasm over the cover shown in the original article as Ill. 6. For him to be told the Glauchau stamps were not worth the provisional value was evidently something special, so special he prepared many souvenir covers. Therefore the assumption he had always previously been able to use these at the provisional value.

I have just purchased a cover, which I believe to be Bedarfs, from Glauchau on 30.7.45 to a firm Danielzich und Berger in Mittweida franked with a single copy of #5 (15 on 6pfg.)--obviously provisional value used at normal rates. In the same lot a cover to the same firm, also from Glauchau, but on 2.8.45 franked with Mi #7 (25 on 12pfg.). My explanation--not used at the normal value, but at provisional value. The fellow was used to having to pay 25pfg. for an out of town letter, so he put 25pfg. on this, even though it was not necessary.

Next, Ben brings up the cover used on 5.5 in Glauchau. Let me agree that I feel this is probably a mistaken cancel, but the Lichtenstein issue Ben mentions does seem to lend some evidence to the fact that a postal service may have been initiated very early in this area. However, if this had been a captured in transit cover which had not been cancelled we must make this assumption: the postoffice was indeed operating at the time this cover was cancelled. If the postoffice was operating the only stamps they could be using would be corked Hitlers. Therefore this captured in transit cover, after being blacked-out and postmarked would look exactly like the covers mailed on this day, so you could never prove this was a captured in transit cover.

Drawing again liberally on Julius Müller's work for a few dates; he states the 15 on 6pfg. value was placed on sale on June 1, 1945. This agrees reasonably well with the June 2 date Ben gives by Dr. Jacob. Mr. Müller also states the first postal delivery (within the district for official mail) was on 15 May, and service restored to the general public on 21 June. The normal rates were to be restored (throughout the district and with no question) coincidentally with the issuance of the new series of stamps (the "Wappen" issue) on 6 August. Because of the general ban on Nazi issues this project was never pushed to completion. Oh yes! One thing to remember is that bank mail

was considered "official", which means "official" mail should exist to some extent.

Incidentally, captured in transit covers are almost always post-marked before 1 May (all the advancing by the Western Powers was completed by middle April). Therefore covers, franked with obliterations postmarked between 1 and 12 May may well be from American occupied Saxony. If the Müller catalog is right covers should exist from the Lichtenstein area beginning 5 May. All covers of this type should be studied carefully, for the beginning dates of postal service are very interesting. Here again I may offer a slight piece of evidence, a cover postmarked CRIMMITSCHAU 12.5.45. Crimmitschau is slightly to the west of Glauchau and as of 12 May was the site of the 76th Inf. division H.Q. (the division which occupied from Altenberg in the north to Reichenback in the south and from the front back to Neustadt in Thuringia--this area including Glauchau). This cover is a window envelope, but has a receiving stamp "ALTENBURG LAND 31 MAY 1945". If any kind of service was available in Crimmitschau on 12 May then Mr. Müllers 15 May date for Glauchau seems logical (in fact an even earlier date would not be unreasonable).

I certainly hope some of you will be able to put some of the information passed on in here to good use. Be on the lookout for proof of the various items I have mentioned and please report any findings to me.

Supplimental Information to the above

I have just received photos of two extremely interesting pieces. These are shown as illustrations 1 and 2. Exactly what these are I am not sure. Hopefully one of our members can completely explain these to us. They are evidently some kind of a 'reckoning form' used by a Poststelle to it's controlling office. The important thing is, I believe, these are post office "internal documents", such as Postanweisungen. The beauty of these? Note in each case the postage, when the Glauchau is figured at it's provisional value totals to exactly the amount shown in the column headed "Nachgebühren" (column 7). Both of these are late in July. So at least in these two towns the Glauchau stamps were definitely used by the post office at their provisional value (not their normal value). These pieces seem to disprove Ben's assumption #6 (page 40).

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The Glauchau Area
by Don Slawson

The next logical step concerning Glauchau seems to be to try to determine which towns sold the Glauchau stamps (Müller says 8 towns--which he lists--5 "second class P.O.'s, and 38 Poststellen--even smaller P.O.'s). I have a complete listing of all post offices in 1943 and a map published in 1951 which I tried to put together. Four towns

which were in Thuringia in 1951 were in OPD Chemnitz in 1943, whether these were Thuringen towns in '43 I am not sure, but kind of suspect they were. The 1943 list mentions the town Gersdorf (Pz Chemnitz) which means there were at least some minor Kreise boundary changes between 1943 and 1951.

My map is 1:300,000 and shows, I certainly thought, every town with over 12 people and a dog. So you'll note that one of the previous Illustrations is from Hüttengrund, a town not on my map. I am crushed. How many other towns are missing that sold Glauchau stamps I do not know (certainly it can't be many).

TOWNS OF KREIS GLAUCHAU (FROM A 1951 MAP)

Excepting towns in OPD Leipzig and including towns of Thüringen which are in OPD Chemnitz (based on a 1943 list of postoffices and OPD's).

Abbreviations: PA=Postamt; PSI=Poststellung I; PSII=Poststellung II

Bernsdorf über Hohenstein-Ern.	PSI	Lipprandis über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Callenberg über Waldenbg(Sachs)	PA	Lobsdorf über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Dennheritz (Bz Chemnitz)	PSI	Meerane (Sachs)	PA
Dittrich über Glauchau (Sachs)	PSII	Mülsen St. Jacob(Kr Glauchau Sa)	PA
Dürrenhlsdorf über Glauchau	PSII	Mülsen St. Niclas(Kr Glauchau Sa)	PA
Ebersbach über Glauchau (Sachs)	PSII	Neukirchen über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Franken über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII	Niederlungwitz über Glauchau	PSI
Göhnsitz über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII	Niederschindmaas über Glauchau	PSII
Gersdorf (Bz Chemnitz)	PA	Niederwiera über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Glauchau	PA	Niederwinkel über Glauchau(Sa)	PSII
Glauchau(Sachs)-Hockendorf *	PSII	Oberlungwitz	PA
Glauchau(Sachs)-Jerisau *	PSII	Oberschindmaas über Glauchau(Sa)	PSII
Glauchau(Sachs)-Schönbröchen/ über Glauchau(Sachs) *	PSII	Oberwiera über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Harthau (Bz Glauchau)	PA	Oberwinkel über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Heiersdorf über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII	Pfaffroda über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Heinrichsort über Lichtenstein	PSI	Reichenback über Hohenst.-Ern.	PSI
Hohenstein-Ernstthal	PA	Reinholdshain über Glauchau(Sa)	PSII
Hohndorf (Kr Glauchau)	PA	Remse	PA
Hüttengrund über Hohenst.-Ern. *	PSII	Rödlitz	PA
Kertzsch über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII	Röhrsdorf über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Klein Chursdorf über Glauchau	PSII	Rüsdorf über Hohenstein-Ernstt.	PSII
Langenberg-Falken über Hohenstein-Ernstthal	PSI	Schlagwitz über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Langenchursdorf über Hohen.-Er.	PSI	Schönberg über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
Lichtenstein (Sachs)	PA	Schwaben über Glauchau(Sachs)	PSII
		St. Egidien (Sachs) * no P.O. in '43 PA or PSI in '45	

*Towns not shown on my map



THE TOWNS OF KREIS GLAUCHAU (to the extent of OPD Chemnitz)
 including the towns of Thüringen in OPD Chemnitz
 (not drawn to scale)

