



# GERMANY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

## 1945-1948 LOCALS

### STUDY AND RESEARCH GROUP

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#### MEMBER'S CORNER

Anybody interested in anything?

As usual, Slawson interested in anything dealing with:

1. Displaced Persons
2. Civilian Internees
3. POW's (Germans in postwar Germany)
4. Dienstgruppenpost



46.

CENSORSHIP NOTES

(Including the "new" British Zone strike I promised)

by Donald Slawson

I RUSSIAN ZONE

Back to the subject of Russian Zone Censorship without external evidence of opening. I found a very relevant piece of info in the archives, shown below:

"

Communications Branch

IA 311.7

EHM/LCK/ss  
15 August 1946

SUBJECT: Resealed Registered Letters Bearing no Censorship Mark

TO : Soviet Military Administration  
Karlshorst, Berlin

ATTN: Censorship Branch

1. The attached eleven (11) registered letters were received in the US Zone resealed without bearing a hand stamp indicating they were opened and resealed by Soviet censors.

2. When letters are opened and resealed in your zone, it will be appreciated if instructions are issued to have the proper identification mark placed on all such mail handled so the various addressees would know their mail has not been tampered with.

1 Incl.  
as stated

E. H. MERRILL  
Acting Chief  
Communications Branch

Copy furnished  
Director of Intelligence  
L. C. Kirkpatrick  
Telephone: 43330

"

II. BERLIN (US ZONE)

I also found a very interesting piece concerning the censorship of mails in Berlin. Hopefully, this will be interesting to the Berlin group, and it does seem to indicate that perhaps we should all be looking for covers from Berlin bearing evidence of both US and Russian censorship (and of course the latter would be only "slit-and-glued", no handstamp).

"

International Mail Censorship  
Berlin Sector  
O.M.G.U.S.

1. On 29 April visited Deputy Reichspost Director and Post Office 11 and 77 in American Sector and 7 in Russian Sector.

2. a. All outgoing International Mail originating in American Sector is despatched by branch post offices to P.O. 11. After separation from domestic mail it is turned over to representative of Censorship Division twice a day.

b. After censorship it is returned to P.O. 11 where separation is made to countries and tied in bundles and dispatched to P.O. 11 in a bag containing only International mail.

c. P.O. 7 turns this mail over to Russian Censor and on its return is dispatched by P.O. 7 to Foreign Countries involved. That for U.S. is dispatched via Paris in a bag labeled to Foreign Section New York, N.Y., Post Office.

### 3. Incoming Mail

All bags containing international mail for Berlin is opened at P.O. 7. After censorship by Russians it is distributed by P.O. 7 to the four sectors and that for American Sector is dispatched in bulk to P.O. 11 in a bag containing only incoming international mail where it is placed at disposal of American Sector.

4. Mail to and from the British and French Sectors move through P.O. 7 and does not touch P.O. 11.

5. In spot check of mail in P.O. 11 on 29 April returned by censor it was noted letters mailed in branch post offices of American Sector 17-18-20-23 etc. were being distributed for dispatch to P.O. 7.

6. It is my opinion the handling of international mail to and from American Sector is now being made available for 100% censorship but it is difficult to understand why this mail should also pass thru Russian Censorship, involving further delay.

7. A test made 29 April in P.O. 11 showed 100 letters and 50 P.C. in a kg.

S.A. Cisler  
30 April 1946

### III. BRITISH ZONE

I wonder if any of you have ever noticed a marking such as that shown as figure 1 on your covers? I have noticed these for about 2 years, and so far had determined only that (1) all seemed to originate in the British Zone, (2) they usually occurred on the back of covers, and (3) they were seldom found on domestic mail (although perhaps this is because I see many more international than domestic covers). I know Myron Hill had also acquired some of these; like I, not knowing what they were, but they were consistent, so must have some significance.

⑩



Figure 1

Well, the problem is solved. They're a censor mark, as explained in the following:

48.

"

Information Copy

Main Administration (16) Frankfurt (Main) 2, May 7th, 1947  
for Posts and Telecommunications  
of the American and British Zones  
of Occupation  
I A 6250-0

To:  
OPD K 8 1 n

Subject: Special Postmark

By order of Military Government all correspondence called into censorship but released without being examined should bear a special postmark in the future. The OPD is requested to have the Censorship Station Bonn immediately supplied with a metallic dies (hand stamp) showing the number 10 and not exceeding three eights of an inch in size. A similar dies has to be likewise procured for the stamping machine which will be received from PO Hamburg 13. Receipt should be acknowledged. You will be advised of the date on which the dies is put in to use.

To:  
OPD Hamburg

Subject: Special Postmark

By order of Military Government all correspondence called into censorship but released unexamined should bear a special postmark in future. The OPD is requested to have the Censorship Station Hamburg immediately supplied with a metallic dies (hand stamp) showing the number 20 and not exceeding three eights of an inch in size. A similar dies has to be likewise procured for the stamping machine available at the Censorship Station. Receipt should be acknowledged. You will be advised when the dies is put into use.

By order  
signed Groner  
(Groner) "

There it is. Has anyone ever seen the mentioned "20"? Neither Myron nor I have. I had theorized that perhaps Hamburg was a transit point primarily for mail to Scandanavia, so we would have to find mail to these countries to find this mark, but somewhere I remember seeing (I cannot put my finger on it now) that Hamburg was also a transit point to the West. So, I think we can scratch this theory. But the "10"'s are relatively common, yet no "20"'s. There must be an explanation! Any ideas??

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MORE on CURRENCY CENSOR LABELS

I have received a bit more dealing with currency censored covers. On the following page are pictures of 4 covers. Number 2 is exactly the same as mine pictured earlier--our "Prewar" label used in Hamburg, Aug. 1948. Number 3 is the one that interests me most, another type of label used

**Einschreiben**

DM 50.00



Zoll — Douane  
 kann amtlich geöffnet werden)  
 (peut être ouvert d'office)

Nur auszufüllen, wenn keine  
 besondere Zollinhaltserklärung  
 beigefügt wird,  
 sonst abzutrennen

A remplir seulement en cas d'absence  
 de déclaration séparée; sinon  
 à détacher

Art der Ware *Kriegsmarkten*  
 Nature de la marchandise  
*zum Käufer*

Gewicht  
 Poids net  
*zum Käufer*

Verpackung  
 Paquetage

①

He

②



Zur Devisenüberwachung  
zollamtlich geöffnet



Zur Devisenüberwachung  
zollamtlich geöffnet

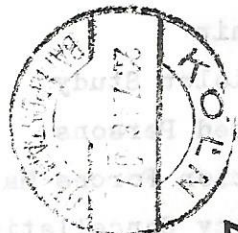
18

*V. B. J. J. J.*  
 Bahnhofstr. 46  
 Nord-Platz 4  
 Bahnhofstr.

Zur Devisenüberwachung  
zollamtlich geöffnet

Zur Devisenüberwachung  
zollamtlich geöffnet

Zur Devisenüberwachung  
zollamtlich geöffnet



Zur Devisenüberwachung  
zollamtlich



③

Zur Ausfuhr nicht zugelassen

Postzollabfertigungsstelle  
 Luckenwalder Straße  
 von Groß-Berlin  
 (Berlin Postamt SW 11)

~~F O R T W A Y N E~~

Ind.

Leiske  
 Schmidt  
 & Co.

④

DESIGN RD 1929 B.E. LTD.

50.

in K81n, July 1948. Number 4 I thought may be of interest to our Berlin friends; a refused marking from February 1949. Number 1 I included because I believe this is the most common one of the early Soviet Zone. I know I have seen these before. This one is June, 1950.

I guess we can safely assume we see no labels before 1948 because this was a function of allied censorship before then (although I do not recall seeing this stated anywhere). "Transactional" mail was not permitted until late 1947 (it was Oct or Nov, I don't recall which). Perhaps the establishment of the German Zollamts corresponded with this date.

That's about it. Any more information?

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### REPORT on SUBGROUPS

As of this time the following areas have been definitely set up as subgroups. If any of the rest of you are willing to work in this program (see last issue), please write.

Group	Leader	Interested persons
1. Postmaster Provisionals	Heinz	
2. Courier Mail 1945	Heinz	
3. AMG's	Peter	Nowalk
4. Obliterated Hitlers	Slawson	Whitsel
5. Gebühr bezahlt	Meier	Fox
6. Postal Automation	Heinz	Esrati
7. DDR-Kurierdienst	Heinz	
8. Censorship	Esrati	Slawson, Fox, Hill
9. Ultra-Violet Study	Esrati	
10. Displaced Persons	Slawson	
11. Occupation Forces Mail Systems	Slawson	Imus
12. Emergency Cancellations and Registration Markings	Hill	Fox
13. Postwar German Forces (German Labor Organization, German Minesweeping Administration Postwar Feldpost, etc.)	Slawson	Imus
14. POW and Civilian Internment Camps	Slawson	Fox, Imus

There are still a lot of areas needing coverage. Let's get somebody to cover these other areas.

ALPHABETICAL LISTING of D.P. CAMPS in POST WW II GERMANY

Reprinted from the BULLETIN of the Lithuanian Philatelic Society of New York numbers 87 and 88 (Feb and April 1974)

(Continued from last issue)

KLEIN WITTENSEE - (90km N Hamburg) - Schleswig, British Zone

Lith. DP CAMP - SEAPLANE MILITARY BASE

A Lithuanian DP Camp was set up here on August 15, 1946 when from the neighboring DP Camps were drawn families with schoolage children for their schooling. The Lithuanian population varied between 310/372. Toward the end, it was mixed; 200 Lithuanians, 90 Poles and 24 Latvians.

The SIMAS DAUKANTAS Grammar School was activated on Oct 3, 1946 with 150 pupils and was closed in 1948. Its remaining 36 pupils and 4 teachers were transferred to PINNEBERG on Jan 13, 1949. The Elementary School was opened on Feb 7, 1947 with 4 grades and 30 pupils. Camp also had a Kindergarten. Adult training courses were available in Construction, Roadbuilding, Tailoring, English, Spanish, etc. There was also a Drama Group, Folk Dance Units, Scout Troops, Lithuanian Red Cross Chapter, and YMCA and YWCA Branches.

The DP Camp was shut down on March 1, 1949 and all assets and documents were transferred to the L.T. Bendromene SPACKENBURG District Council at GEESTHACHT:

KOLN-MERHEIM - (180km SW Detmold) - Westphalia, British Zone

STUDENTS' HOSTEL, LINDENTAL

The Lithuanian Postmens Assn and covers indicate that Lithuanian DP's, mostly students, were living here and attending the University there. Records mention 12 students.

KONSTANZ - (100km ESE Freiburg) - Wurttemberg, French Zone

Lithuanian Postmens Assn records 24 Lithuanian DP's as residing in this area with private families. No further details.

KONZ - (175km WSW Frankfurt) - Pfalz, French Zone

Covers indicate Lithuanian DP's living in this area at address FAE 2 Nord - 10eme Cie - SP 50750 - BPM 526 - Kemel-ks, Trier, Mosel. (editors note: The "SP" and "BPM" indicate a French Military return address-like our "APO". The "Cie" must mean "Civilian Internment Enclosure". Sounds to me like a Lithuanian in a Guard Batallion, possibly the French formed these as we formed Polish Guard Batallions. Anyone have any information?)

KORNWESTHEIM - (10Km N Stuttgart) - Baden-Baden, US Zone

US ARMY-LITHUANIAN ENGINEERING DETAIL-#1073 Labor Supn Co  
#8724 Labor Serv Co

No additional details. (Ed note: sama as German Labor service companies. Details in archives if someone wants to dig)

KREIENSEN - (60km SSE Hannover) - Hannover, British Zone

Lithuanian Postmens Assn records 41 Lithuanian DP's living in this area, mostly with private German families.

KRESSBROWN b. Tetnang(Bodensee) - (130km ESE Freiburg) - Wurttt, Fr Zone

Covers indicate Lithuanian DP's living with private German families.

LAHDE - (50km N Detmold) - Westphalia, British Zone

DP CAMP 32/137 - Camp 3

In July 1945, Lithuanian DP's, together with others, were quartered here in a camp that during WW II was used for POW's and political prisoners. Administration wise, there were 4 Camps even though all were located in the same barracks. About 250 Lithuanians resided in Camps #3 and #4, though quite crowded.

The Camps had an Elementary School, Scout Troops, Chorus, Folk Dance Groups, Lithuanian Red Cross Chapter as well as Adult Training Courses in Chauffering, Sewing and English.

The 1947 Emigration took many unmarried persons to England and on April 24, 1947 the balance were transferred to POPINGHAUSEN and quartered in private German homes. The barracks were then torn down.

LAHR - (35km N Freiburg) - Wurttemberg, French Zone

Covers indicate Lithuanian DP's living in this area in 1946.

LANDSHUT - (60km NE Munich) - Bavaria, American Zone

DP CAMP - UNRRA Team #537 - Lebuhlstrasse

Lithuanian Refugees had been in this area since the Fall of 1944. After the US Army occupation, UNRRA attempted to transfer the Lithuanian DP's to other Camps closer to the Russian Zone. Strong objections and protests were lodged, and UNRRA finally, in October 1945, gave the Lithuanian DP's separate quarters on Lebuhlstrasse. At this point up to 250 Lithuanians, fearing possible later removal to the Russian Zone, moved out.

The Camp had an Elementary School, and adult training courses in English and various trades. Cultural pursuits included Folk Dancing, Chorus, and in sports - Basketball. A Basketball Tournament was held here June 23/24, 1947.

The Camp was shut down in 1950 leaving a few families behind living with private German families.

LEBENSTEDT - (150km SSE Hamburg) - Hannover, British Zone

LITH. DP CAMP - UNRRA Team #84 - "KONKORDIA" DP CAMP

The first Lithuanian Refugees arrived here in 1941 taking advantage of the German-Russian Repatriation Agreement. Later, Lithuanian POW's and conscripts were brought in for forced labor in the Hermann Goering



Works here; and by the end of WW II, about 1000 Lithuanians lived here in various private German homes.

The British Military Administration then sequestered the foreigners into Camps in June 1946 - concentrating the Lithuanians onto a single street - "AM DACHSGRABEN" which was dubbed the "KONKORDIA" DP CAMP. It had an Elementary School and Choir.

When in April 1947, the British made an attempt to transfer the Lithuanians from the private homes to some Barracks, most all refused to move to the new quarters. UNRRA then cut off all assistance to those who chose to remain where they were. From then on, the Colony did not call itself a Camp. It was still active as late as 1958.

LEHRTE - (15km E Hannover) - Hannover, British Zone

DP CAMP "CHURCHILL" - #2711 DPAC

This was a mixed BALTIC DP CAMP of Latvians, Estonians and Lithuanians. In the Fall of 1945, it held up to 500 Lithuanian DP's lodged in the Camp "CHURCHILL".

The Camp had an Elementary School and Folk University with Adult Training Courses in English and the Trades. It also had a Kindergarten, a Chorus, Folk Dance Units and Scout Troops that were active. The Camp was shut down later and its residents transferred to other DP Camps.

LINDAU - (140km SE Freiburg) - Wurttemberg, French Zone

Covers indicate Lithuanian DP's lived in this area in 1947.

LINGEN - (180km ENE Hannover) - Hannover, British Zone

With the British Occupation in April 1945, a transit refugee Camp was established here. In the beginning only a few Lithuanians were here; but later, up to 300 lived here.

The Lithuanians had a Choir, Folk Dance Unit, and an Elementary School.

On October 26, 1945, all residents were transferred to the GROSS HESPE DP CAMP.

LINTORF (near Dusseldorf) - (175km SW Detmold) - Westphalia, Br. Zone

The first few Lithuanian DP Families came to LINTORF DP CAMP by way of transfer from AUGUSTDORF in 1949. In 1953, there still lived here about 40 Lithuanian DP's. The Camp gradually liquidated itself by its residents moving out to live with private German families.

LUBECK - (60km N Hamburg) - Schleswig, British Zone

ARTILLERIE & MEESIN BARRACKS - LITH DP CAMP # 7 - UNRRA Team #117

#1224 DPAC

At the end of WW II, only a few Lithuanians lived here, mostly individuals withdrawing from the Mecklenburg area, which had been ceded to the Russians; however, over 10,000 Lithuanian Refugee DP's were processed thru here and were provided with Identification Documents and Affidavits

so they could travel further.

In the beginning, the Lithuanian Refugee DP's lived anywhere; in the woods, barns, stables and lofts of private German family residences and farms - only the exceptional ones had a private room.

The first DP Camp was set up in the MARIENSCHULE. On May 10, 1945, hardly a week after the British Occupation here, about 200 Lithuanians then formed a Committee thru whose efforts the British Military Authorities assigned them quarters at KONIGSTRASSE 73 - later in better quarters in UNTERTREVE 111/112, formerly the CAFE CONCORDIA. Lithuanians here were also quartered in the WALDERSEE CAMP, where they occupied a separate block which quartered 600.

In the Fall of 1945, a group of 10 smaller camp units for about 3000 DP's who were moved out of the WALDERSEE CAMP were formed at:

- 1) MESSEN BARRACKS - 2 Blocks for 600; 2) ARTILLERIE BARRACKS (GRAZINA CAMP) - 400; 3) FINKENSTRASSE BARRACKS - 200; 4) EINSEDELSTRASSE BARRACKS - 170; 5) MOLTKESTRASSE LARGE HOME - 150; 6) MOORVEGSTRASSE; 7) HOTELS FISCHERBUDE & ARNIMSRUH.

At the end of 1945, about 550 Lithuanians were provided for like Campers since they were living with private German families. To accommodate them, the historic SCHIFFERGESELLSCHAFT RESTAURANT was turned over to them. Near LUBECK, a DP Children's Camp was set up where the Lithuanian DP's also spent their vacations in KLINGENBERG.

For a time, Lithuanians moved to inside Germany; from 1947 to England; and later to the U.S.A. and elsewhere. Emigration from here; 1947 - 144; 1948 - 700; In 1949 only 2 DP Camps remained in operation: ARTILLERIE and MEESEN.

The Lithuanian Committee Activity was closed down by the British Military Authorities on March 1, 1946 and Camp Administration was assigned to the #626 Military Government Detachment.

The KIEL District Headquarters was transferred to the MEESEN BARRACKS here until this camp was shut down in 1950. The Lithuanians had a Lithuanian DP Camp Post Office here from June 15, 1946.

LUDWIGSBURG - (10km N Stuttgart) - Baden-Baden, American Zone

FLAK KASERNE RESETTLEMENT CENTER - LUDWIGSBURG BARRACKS

Lithuanian DP's were quartered here 1945/47 in DP Camps set up in the large LUDWIGSBURG BARRACKS, which after mass emigration were shut down.

In 1948/1951, many US Zone Lithuanian Emigrants were processed thru the IRO TRANSIT RESETTLEMENT CENTER in LUDWIGSBURG-OSSWEIL. When the U.S.A. tightened restrictions on visas, many Lithuanians were refused exit visas, and the IRO would take them back in. Some relocated onto private farms, etc., especially in the German maintained CAMP ALDINGEN nearby.

When in 1950, the CZECH CAMP in LUDWIGSBURG received transfers from the FELLBACH BALTIC CAMP, there were enough Lithuanians to elect a Committee to further their interests. In 1951, some of them resettled in Stuttgart.

(to be continued)