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POST WORLD WAR II

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Mr. Claudio's article seems to be an excellent compilation of the various types of papers and shades used (or found) on the first French Zone issue. It appears there is some interest in the French Zone--I have been promised another article covering the French Zone censor markings, and perhaps a further work on the formation of the French Zone if there is interest in this.

Now, for some shocking news. On the reverse of this page is a letter of resignation from Joe Schirmer. This guy was a real spark plug. I cannot be sure it was solely due to his influence, but in the last 6 months we have received something over 1/2 dozen new members and most expressed an interest in AMG's, in fact the approximately 1/3 of "interest forms" returned showed an overwhelming interest in AMG's. There is definately a lot of interest in this area. Do we have anyone who is willing to try to fill his shoes? (If there are no volunteers I may have to resort to attempted "Shanaghing" or other coercive methods.)

One of our "free Xeroxers" has quit (machine moved). Can anyone else help on this job...any source of cheap printing anywhere? We really need HELP on this, there is no way in the world that we can put out the number of pages we have this year without some cheap printing source. Please let me know if you can help--Slawson

A Philatelic Farewell

from Joe Schirmer

In a bit over 50 years that I have spent in and with philately as a collector; researcher; writer; editor; professional; etc.; I have seen much water go over the dam.

You just might say that I have seen philately go from a hobby that was pursued for the pure fun and enjoyment of it, to a status where it is now more important to collect gum than the stamp and more important than that, it is most important and necessary to "make a buck" from a smart investment, than it is to collect for the fun and enjoyment of it.

Over the past 5 years I have been steadily asking myself the question; "What has happened to Philately"?; and I now well know the answer. Simply stated I feel that it is no longer a pure hobby, but a pure business phase with the hobby text a far second in things.

I always collected because the stamp or cover interested me--I always collected because I happened to like the particular stamp or subject. Whether or not I could ever make a profit on my collection never entered my mind... whether or not some particular item was a good investment was something I cared less about. I just collected because I liked the stamp or cover.

Naturally, like anyone else on a budget, price entered into the matter... but not because of investment purposes but simply because I wanted to know how long I would have to pay for whatever item I fancied at that time. If I sold or traded at a later time, it was only because I could enhance my present collection and a profit was the last thought in my mind.

While I readily agree that one should receive the best for their money, I now know that today's collectors are far too picky regarding centering, perfs, gum, etc., all this being caused by most dealers with their urge for a fast dollar along with a system of grading that is purely asinine.

Last year I made a decision that was far easier for me to make than I thought possible--I decided to leave philately--a hobby that I have loved for many years but now find it impossible to work with because of varying factors induced by collectors and dealers who prefer investing and gum to collecting and research.

Fortunately I was able to sell off (without any profit) my sports and Olympic collection of almost 40 years. Now I have been able to sell off my Allied Military Government (AMG) collection, again without a profit. But in both cases I was able to sell to collectors and dealers who like myself, appreciated the hobby for what it should be and not for what can be gained financially.

And so this is my farewell to stamp collecting...subscriptions are being let to expire, resignations to various organizations are in the mails; and this will be my final piece of philatelic writing.

I wish to thank the many collectors and dealers over the years who not only have been my pal, but also helped me--you all know who you are...if you ever get down my way--drop in for a "cold one".

Frankly, I have had it with philately...and so we leave with a simple 'so long' to all.....

The Small Shields of the French Zone 1945-46

By Abelardo Claudio

Numerous researchers have spent countless hours studying these shields. Many of them were at postal counters in the French Zone in 1945 and 1946 when these stamps were sold for postal use. Many collectors bought full sheets and were fortunate to collect these stamps from day-to-day as they were sold to the public. In fact, many of the first issues went to collectors and dealers with few remaining available for use as postage. The dates of initial issue were as follows:

17.12.45 - 10, 12, 20 and 30 Pf. These stamps were issued in the French Zone, except the Saar.

5.1.46 - the above were issued in the Saar.

12.1.46 - 1, 3, 5, 8, 15 and 24 Pf were issued in the French Zone, except the Saar.

20.3.46 the above were issued in the Saar.

Many collectors who became interested in the small shields and who could not obtain them through postal channels have been frustrated by having to resort to obtaining them from dealers who often ask excessive prices. Other dealers become reluctant in releasing their "stock" for fear that an expensive stamp might "slip" through and be sold as a regular stamp. I am one of these collectors who for the past 20 years has been searching old collections and buying these stamps from dealers in an attempt to find some of those stamps that are more desirable items. Many of these stamps command higher prices because of their shades of color and paper variety are not easy to come by.

In searching old catalogs, including Michel's, Dr. Wolf-Dietrich Meisel's "Marken mit Geburtsurkunde" (Stamps with a Birthdate) and Mueller's catalog (these last two being out of print), I have come across diversified listings of shades of colors. The Michel catalog namely states that numerous color varieties have been found by Dr. Meisel but does not list these varieties which I believe should also be listed. Included herein are the listings, first of the paper varieties that have been found, which are listed on the Michel and Meisel catalogs in order then to be able to list them by shades of color:

W paper variety - It is a thick, soft, non-transparent paper. Its surface is fibrous. It is found on a white or yellowish paper. This paper when placed under the black light or quartz light, becomes white or yellowish. This paper seems to keep most of the original color and there are nice prints found. The following denominations are found on this type of paper: 1, 3, 5, 8, 12, 15, 20, 24 and 30 Pf.

X paper variety - It is an ordinary, stiff, strong, yellowish-gray to gray to white paper. It has a smooth surface and, when looking closer with a magnifying glass, it shows a fine grain. It is transparent and is found in various thicknesses from thick to thin. When we place this paper under the black light or quartz light, it appears to be lusterless and sometimes one might find specimens in a lively lilac color. The following denominations are found on this type of paper: 1, 3, 5, 8, 12, 15, 20 and 30 Pf.

xK paper variety - It is similar to X paper. It is also a yellowish-gray to gray to white paper; however, almost without exception, it is grayer than X. Its surface shows slight porosity when inspecting closer with a magnifying glass. Under the black light or quartz light, it appears lusterless to a reddish-gray lilac. The following denominations are found on this paper: 15Pf glossy black and 24Pf dull black.

Y paper variety - It is a coarse, gray to yellowish, parchment-type paper. Its surface is scarred. It is often difficult to find excellent copies because of the poor quality of the paper. This paper is very thick even though sometimes it allows some transparency. Under the black light or quartz light, it appears lilac. The following denominations are found on this paper: 5, 8, 15, 20 and 30 Pf.

yC paper variety - It is similar to Y paper, except that it is grayer. Under the black light or quartz light, it appears gray to gray lilac. It is found only on 24 Pf lusterless black.

yF paper variety - It is similar to Y paper, except when inspecting it under the black light or quartz light, it appears gray to pale lilac. It is found only on 10 Pf.

yG paper variety - It is similar to Y paper, except when inspecting it under the black light or quartz light, it appears bluish-gray. It is found only on 20 Pf glossy black.

Z paper variety - It is a thin, strong, white, parchment-type paper. It has a slightly bluish to reddish tint. The surface appears smooth to the naked eye; however, when inspecting it closer with a magnifying glass one finds porosity. Under the quartz light or black light, it appears either gray, lusterless gray-lilac, white-gray to gray-lilac white. It is found in the following denominations: 1, 3, 5, 8, 12, 15, 20, 24 and 30. All these denominations are in glossy black, except the 8 Pf.

zL paper variety - It is similar to Z paper; however, it is more brownish-gray and when inspecting its surface with a magnifying glass, it shows scarring. Under the black light or quartz light, this paper appears as a shiny, lively lilac color. It is found only on 30 Pf with glossy black.

In the 8th Edition of Mueller's catalog (there is a 9th edition not available), this edition no longer in present circulation, a paper variety is discussed. It entails a deviation from the above paper varieties discussed and also gum deviation. A more careful study will be made to determine what the deviation is and make a more comprehensive report on this paper. Mueller claims having found it with the following denominations: 1, 8, 10, 15, 20 and 24 Pf.

The Michel catalog lists the following shades of colors by number under the W paper category as follows:

<u>Catalog Number</u>	<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Color description</u>	<u>Price (in Marks)</u>	
			*	
1B	1 Pf	black, white-yellow, green (toned)	.10	.10
2A	3 Pf	red, black, orange-yellow	.10	.10
B		red, glossy black, dark orange-yellow	1.00	1.00
B		red, glossy black, orange-yellow	1.00	1.00

3A	5 Pf	dark brown, black, orange	.10	.10
B		dark brown, glossy black, orange	30.00	40.00
4A	8 Pf	dark brown, yellow-orange, red	.10	.10
B		brown, dark yellow-orange, brown-red	.10	.10
6A	12 Pf	orange-red, black, dark yellow-orange	.10	.10
B		orange-red, glossy black, dark yellow-orange	.10	.10
7B	15 Pf	glossy black, violet-ultramarine, orange-red	.75	.50
8A	20 Pf	medium red, black, orange	3.50	3.00
B		medium red, glossy black, orange	5.00	5.00
9A	24 Pf	black, blue, red	1.00	.50
B		black, violet-blue, orange-red	.10	.10
C		glossy black, violet-blue, orange-red	.50	.20
10B	30 Pf	glossy black, yellow-orange, red	2.00	2.00
B		glossy black, yellow-orange, brownish-red	2.00	2.00

Color varieties (shades) that are easily identified, Michel catalog:

1C	1 Pf	black, white-gray, May-green (celadon)	150.00	135.00
C		black, white-gray, green	150.00	135.00
2C	3 Pf	lilac-red, deep glossy black, white-yellow	300.00	250.00
D		lilac (flieder), glossy black, orange	80.00	100.00
9G	24 Pf	black, violet-blue, light brown-red	20.00	20.00
H		glossy black, violet-blue, brownish-red	10.00	10.00
H		glossy black, violet-blue, brown-red	10.00	10.00

The Meisel catalog, published in 1962, lists the following numbers per denomination and shade of color under the W paper category as follows:

1B	1 Pf	dull black, cream color, green	.20	.20
C		dull black, ivory color, light green	1.60	1.70
2A	3 Pf	brownish-carmine, glossy black, light orange	1.00	.80
B		brownish-carmine, glossy black, orange	1.00	.80
C		brownish-carmine, dull black, light orange	.05	.05
3A	5 Pf	dark brown, glossy black, yellow-orange	7.00	9.00
B		dark brown, dull black, yellow-orange	.05	.05
4A	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, carmine-red	.25	.10
B		light brown, orange, light carmine	.05	.05
6A	12 Pf	red, glossy black, orange-yellow	1.00	.30
C		red, glossy black, orange to red-orange	.20	.05
B		red, dull black, orange-yellow	.05	.05
D		red, dull black, orange to red-orange	.10	.05

7	15 Pf	glossy black, ultramarine, light red	1.50	1.00
8A	20 Pf	orange-red, glossy black, orange-yellow	6.00	6.00
		orange-red, dull black, orange-yellow	3.50	3.00
9A	24 Pf	lively violet-ultramarine, red	1.00	.50
B		glossy black, cornflower-blue, red	.40	.10
C		dull black, cornflower-blue, red	.20	.05
10	30 Pf	glossy black, orange, carmine-red	4.00	4.00

Also the Meisel catalog, lists color varieties under the W paper variety as follows:

1C	1 Pf	dull black, light ivory color, light green	1.00	.80
C		dull black, light ivory color, green (1945)	1.00	.80
C		dull black, light ivory color, green (1946)	1.00	.80
B		dull black, intense yellow, green	15.00	20.00
2A	3 Pf	lilac (flieder), glossy black, light orange	30.00	-----
A		lilac, glossy black, light yellow	20.00	-----
A		lilac, glossy black, extremely pale yellow	-----	-----
3B	5 Pf	dark brown, gray-black, pale orange	6.00	-----
B		dark brown, dull black, red-orange	1.00	1.00
4A	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, dark blood-red	1.00	1.00
B		light brown, orange, light carmine-red	1.00	1.00
B		light brown, orange, dark carmine-red	1.00	1.00
6A	12 Pf	pink, glossy black, light orange	4.00	4.00
A		pink, glossy black, silver-gray	-----	-----
B		pink, glossy black, orange	4.00	3.00
B		pink, glossy black, light orange	4.00	3.00
C		light pink, dull black, yellow-orange	3.00	-----
D		red, dull black, dark red-orange	1.50	1.50
8A	20 Pf	orange-rose, glossy black, light orange	10.00	-----
9A	24 Pf	black, medium ultramarine, red	1.50	1.50
A		black, light ultramarine, red	1.50	1.50

The Meisel catalog lists the following color errors caused by coloration of the red into brownish-red, brown-red or red-brown while there was constant cleaning of the printing rollers with chemicals:

6A	12 Pf	brownish-red, glossy black, orange-yellow	-----	-----
7A	15 Pf	glossy black, ultramarine, brownish-red	-----	-----
8A	20 Pf	brownish-red, glossy black, orange-yellow	30.00	-----
A		brownish-rose, glossy black, orange-yellow	30.00	-----

9C	24 Pf	dull black, cornflower-blue, brownish-red	5.00	5.00
C		dull black, cornflower-blue, brown-red	15.00	12.00
C		dull black, cornflower-blue, red-brown	15.00	12.00
B		glossy black, cornflower-blue, brown-red	10.00	8.00
B		glossy black, cornflower-blue, red-brown	10.00	8.00

This Meisel catalog goes further to list color errors often discussed as follows:

1B	1 Pf	dull black, white-gray, May-green (celadon)	200.00	180.00
B		dull black, white-gray, green	200.00	180.00
B		dull black, subdued-gray, reen	-----	-----
7	15 Pf	shiny black, cobalt-blue, red	-----	-----

The 8th edition (9th edition not available) of the Mueller catalog lists the following numbers per denomination and shade of color under a paper variety described as V already determined as W paper variety as follows:

1301A	1 Pf	black, yellow, green	.15	.15
A		black, yellow, dark green	.15	.15
B		black, light yellow, green	.45	.45
1302B	3 Pf	lilac-red, black, orange	.15	.20
A		lilac-red, glossy black, orange	1.50	1.20
A		lilac-red, glossy black, light orange	1.50	1.20
B		lilac-red, deep black, light yellow	300.00	300.00
C		lilac (flieder), glossy black, yellow-orange	90.00	60.00
1303C	5 Pf	dark brown, black, orange	.06	.06
A		dark brown, glossy black, orange	2.70	2.70
A		dark brown, glossy black, light orange	2.70	2.70
1304D	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, red	.15	.15
A		dark brown, orange-yellow, blood-red	.30	.30
1306B	12 Pf	red, black, orange	.06	.04
B		red, black, light orange	.06	.04
A		red, glossy black, orange	.75	.55
A		red, glossy black, light orange	.75	.55
B		red, gray-silver black, orange	3.75	3.25
C		red, glossy black, orange-yellow	13.50	6.75
1307A	15 Pf	glossy black, blue, red	1.50	.75
1308C	20 Pf	red, black, orange	1.00	1.00
C		red, black, red-orange	1.00	1.00
C		red, glossy black, red-orange	6.00	6.00
D		pink, glossy black, yellow	50.00	30.00
1309E	24 Pf	black, blue, red	5.00	1.50
A		black, violet-blue, red	.40	.50
B		glossy black, violet-blue, red	6.00	1.00
1310A	30 Pf	red, glossy black, orange	3.40	1.50

The Michel catalog lists the following numbers and shades of colors under the X paper variety as follows:

1A	1 Pf	glossy black, dull straw-yellow, green	.10	.10
B		black, white-yellow, green (toned)	.10	.10
2A	3 Pf	red, black, orange-yellow	.10	.10
B		red, glossy black, dark orange-yellow	.10	.10
B		red, glossy black, orange-yellow	.10	.10
3A	5 Pf	dark brown, black, orange	.10	.10
4A	8 Pf	dark brown, yellow-orange, red	.10	.10
B		brown, dark yellow-orange, brown-red	.10	.10
6A	12 Pf	orange-red, black, dark yellow-orange	.10	.10
B		orange-red, glossy black, dark yellow-orange	160.00	180.00
7A	15 Pf	black, violet-ultramarine, orange-red	.10	.10
8A	20 Pf	medium red, black, orange	.10	.10
B		medium red, glossy black, orange	130.00	130.00
10A	30 Pf	black, yellow-orange, red (toned)	.20	.20

Besides the above shades of colors, Michel catalog lists a paper variety which has been determined to be xK with numbers and shades of colors as follows:

7B	15 Pf	glossy black, violet-ultramarine, orange-red	10.00	20.00
9B	24 Pf	black, violet-blue, orange-red	300.00	400.00

The Meisel catalog lists the following numbers and shades of colors under the X paper variety as follows:

1A	1 Pf	glossy black, cream color, green	.05	.05
B		dull black, cream color, green	.15	.10
2A	3 Pf	brownish-carminc, glossy black, orange	.05	.05
B		brownish-carminc, glossy black, red-orange	.05	.05
C		brownish-carminc, dull black, light orange-yellow	.05	.05
C		brownish-carminc, dull black, orange-yellow	.05	.05
3B	5 Pf	dark brown, dull black, yellow-orange	.05	.05
4A	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, carminc-red	.15	.15
B		brown, orange, light carminc	.05	.05
B		brown, orange, carminc-red	.05	.05
6B	12 Pf	red, glossy black, red-orange	3.00	3.50
C		red, dull black, orange-yellow	.05	.05
7B	15 Pf	dull black, ultramarine, light red	.10	.10

8A	20 Pf orange-red, glossy black, orange-yellow	70.00	50.00
B	orange-red, dull black, orange-yellow	.10	.10
10	30 Pf dull black, orange, carmine-red	.15	.10

Meisel catalog lists the following numbers and shades of color under the xK paper variety as follows:

7A	15 Pf glossy black, ultramarine, light red	3.00	5.00
9C	24 Pf dull black, cornflower-blue, red	25.00	30.00

Meisel catalog also lists the following numbers and color varieties under the X paper variety as follows:

2B	3 Pf brownish-carmine, gray black, light orange-yellow	.50	.20
B	brownish-carmine, gray black, orange-yellow	.50	.20
A	brownish-carmine, glossy black, dark orange	2.00	2.00
3B	5 Pf dark brown, dull black, red-orange	.50	.50
4A	8 Pf dark brown, orange-yellow, light carmine	2.50	1.00
B	brown, orange, light carmine-red	1.00	1.00
B	brown, orange, dark carmine-red	1.00	1.00
B	brown, dark red-orange, light carmine	----	----
B	brown, dark red-orange, dark carmine-red	----	----
6C	12 Pf pink, dull black, orange-yellow	2.00	1.00
C	pale pink, dull black, orange-yellow	2.00	1.00
C	red, dull black, red-orange	1.50	1.50
C	red, dull black, orange-ocher	2.00	1.00
7B	15 Pf dull black, ultramarine, pale red	.50	.50
7V	dull black, sky-blue, light red	----	----
8B	20 Pf pale vermillion-rose, dull black, orange-yellow	----	----
B	orange-red, dull black, pale orange	5.00	3.00
B	orange-red, dull black buff	5.00	3.00
10B	30 Pf dull black, dark gray, buff, carmine-red	4.00	----
B	dull black, medium gray, buff, carmine-red	4.00	----
B	dull black, light orange, rose-carmine	1.50	1.50
B	dull black, yellow-orange, rose-carmine	1.00	1.00
B	dull black, deep orange, rose-carmine	1.00	1.00
B	dull black, light orange, carmine-red	1.00	1.00
B	dull black, deep orange, carmine-red	1.00	1.00

Meisel catalog also lists the following number and color variety under the xK paper variety as follows:

7A	15 Pf glossy black, ultramarine, brownish-red	----	----
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Meisel catalog lists the following number and color error much talked about on xK paper variety as follows:

7	15 Pf glossy black, cobalt-blue, red	----	----
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The Mueller catalog lists the following numbers and shades of color under a paper variety described as W and determined to be X paper as follows:

1301A	1 Pf	black, yellow, green	.03	.05
A		black, yellow, dark green	.03	.03
A		black, light yellow, green	.30	.30
1302B	3 Pf	lilac-red, black, orange	.07	.10
A		lilac-red, glossy black, orange	.03	.05
A		lilac-red, glossy black, light orange	.03	.05
1303	5 Pf	dark brown, black, orange	.03	.05
1304D	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, red	.12	.15
1306B	12 Pf	red, black, orange	.05	.04
B		red, black, light orange	.05	.04
A		red, glossy black, orange	.30	.06
A		red, glossy black, light orange	.30	.06
1307E	15 Pf	black, blue, red	.15	.08
1308C	20 Pf	red, black, orange	.15	.15
C		red, black, red-orange	.15	.15
A		light red, black, yellow	3.00	3.00
1310D	30 Pf	red, black, orange	3.40	1.50

The Michel catalog lists the following numbers and shades of colors under the Y paper variety as follows:

3B	5 Pf	dark brown, black, orange	.10	.10
4A	8 Pf	dark brown, yellow-orange, red	.20	.30
7A	15 Pf	black, violet ultramarine, orange-red	.10	.10
8A	20 Pf	medium red, black, orange	.10	.10
10A	30 Pf	black, yellow-orange, red (toned)	.10	.10

The Michel catalog also lists the following numbers and shades of colors under paper varieties determined to be yF, yG and yC as follows:

5	10 Pf	brown, straw-yellow, green (yF paper)	10.00	10.00
8B	20 Pf	medium red, glossy black, orange (yG paper)	5.00	5.00
9A	24 Pf	black, blue, red (yC paper)	.10	.10

The Meisel catalog lists the following numbers and shades of colors under the Y paper variety as follows:

3	5 Pf	dark brown, dull black, yellow-orange	.05	.05
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4	8 Pf	brown, yellow-orange, carmine-red	.40	.60
7	15 Pf	dull black, dark ultramarine, red	.15	.20
8B	20 Pf	orange-red, dull black, orange-yellow	.20	.15
10	30 Pf	dull black, orange, carmine-red	.20	.05

The Meisel catalog also lists the following numbers and shades of colors under paper varieties of yF, yG and yC as follows:

5	10 Pf	brown, cloudy yellow, green (yF)	6.00	7.00
8A	20 Pf	orange-red, glossy black, orange-yellow (yG)	4.00	4.50
9	24 Pf	dull violet blue, black, red (yC)	.05	.05

It lists color varieties under Y paper variety as follows:

4	8 Pf	brown, yellow-orange, dark blood-red	1.00	1.00
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It lists a color error under Y paper variety as follows:

10	30 Pf	dull black, yellow-ocher, brown-red	----	----
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Color error under yC paper:

9	24 Pf	dull violet-blue, black, brownish-red	5.00	5.00
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The Mueller catalog lists the following numbers and shades of colors under a paper variety of X which has been determined to be Y as follows:

1303	5 Pf	dark brown, black, orange	.06	.07
1304D	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, red	.75	.75
1307E	15 Pf	black, blue, red	.60	.60
1308C	20 Pf	red, black, orange	.60	.60
		red, black, red-orange	.60	.60
1309E	24 Pf	black, blue, red (determined to be yC)	.15	.20
1310D	30 Pf	red, black, orange	.40	.30

The Michel catalog lists the following numbers and shades of colors under the Z paper variety as follows:

1A	1 Pf	glossy black, dull straw-yellow-green	.10	.10
2B	3 Pf	red, glossy black, dark orange-yellow	.10	.10
B		red, glossy black, orange-yellow	.10	.10

3B	5 Pf	dark brown, glossy black, orange	.10	.10
4A	8 Pf	dark brown, yellow-orange, red	.10	.10
6B	12 Pf	orange-red, glossy black, dark yellow-orange	.10	.10
7B	15 Pf	glossy black, violet-ultramarine, orange-red	.10	.10
8B	20 Pf	medium red, glossy black, orange	.10	.10
9D	24 Pf	glossy black, dark ultramarine, orange-red	2.00	1.00
E		glossy black, light violet-blue, orange-red	.50	.50
F		glossy black, Prussian blue, orange-red	3.00	2.00
10B	30 Pf	glossy black, yellow-orange, red	.10	.10
B		glossy black, yellow-orange, dark brownish-red	.10	.10

The Michel catalog lists the following number/under a paper variety which has been determined to be zL as follows: and shades of color

10B	30 Pf	glossy black, yellow-orange, red	.10	.10
B		glossy black, yellow-orange, dark brownish-red	.10	.10

It also lists the following numbers and color varieties which are easily identified as follows:

6C	12 Pf	brown-red, glossy black, red-orange	50.00	50.00
7C	15 Pf	glossy black, blue, brown-red	20.00	20.00
8C	20 Pf	vermillion, glossy black, light orange	100.00	100.00
9I	24 Pf	glossy black, dark ultramarine, brownish-red	15.00	10.00
I		glossy black, dark ultramarine, brown-red	15.00	10.00
K		glossy black, light violet-blue, brownish-red	10.00	5.00
K		glossy black, light violet-blue, brown-red	10.00	5.00
L		glossy black, Prussian blue, brownish-red	30.00	20.00
L		glossy black, Prussian blue, brown-red	30.00	20.00

The Meisel catalog lists the following numbers and shades of color under the Z paper variety as follows:

1	1 Pf	glossy black, cream color, green	.20	.10
2	3 Pf	brown-carmine, glossy black, orange	.15	.10
3	5 Pf	dark brown, glossy black, yellow-orange	.05	.05
4	8 Pf	light brown, yellow-orange, carmine-red	.05	.05
6	12 Pf	brownish-red, glossy black, red-orange	.25	.15

7	15 Pf	glossy black, ultramarine, light red	.10	.10
8	20 Pf	orange-red, glossy black, orange-yellow	.10	.10
9D	24 Pf	glossy black, dark ultramarine, red	1.50	1.00
E		glossy black, light violet-blue, red	.20	.05
F		glossy black, Prussian blue, red	2.00	1.20
10	30 Pf	glossy black, orange, carmine-red	.30	.20

The Meisel catalog also lists the following numbers and shades of colors under zL paper variety as follows:

10	30 Pf	glossy black, orange, carmine, red	2.50	2.50
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It also lists the following numbers and color varieties under Z paper variety as follows:

2	3 Pf	brown-carmine, glossy black, dark orange	1.50	1.50
4	8 Pf	light brown, pale orange, carmine-red	2.00	2.50

It lists the following numbers and color errors as follows:

7	15 Pf	glossy black, ultramarine, brown-red	12.00	15.00
		glossy black, ultramarine, red-brown	12.00	15.00
8	20 Pf	brown-red, glossy black, orange-yellow	30.00	-----
		red-brown, glossy black, orange-yellow	30.00	-----
9D	24 Pf	glossy black, dark ultramarine, brown-red	15.00	12.00
D		glossy black, dark ultramarine, red-brown	15.00	12.00
E		glossy black, light violet-blue, brown-red	8.00	5.00
E		glossy black, light violet-blue, red-brown	8.00	5.00
F		glossy black, Prussian blue, brown-red	20.00	-----
F		glossy black, Prussian blue, red-brown	20.00	-----
F		glossy black, light blue, red	-----	15.00

The Mueller catalog lists the following numbers and shades of color under Y paper variety which has been determined to be Z paper as follows:

1301A	1 Pf	black, yellow, green	.25	.15
A		black, yellow, dark green	.25	.15
A		black, light yellow, green	1.50	1.50
1302A	3 Pf	lilac-red, glossy black, orange	.45	.45
A		lilac-red, glossy black, light orange	.45	.45
1303	5 Pf	dark brown, glossy black, orange	.08	.06
1304D	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, red	.15	.15
A		dark brown, orange-yellow, blood-red	.05	.06
B		light brown, orange-yellow, red	6.75	5.00

1306A	12 Pf	red, glossy black, orange	.15	.05
A		red, glossy black, light orange	.15	.05
1307A	15 Pf	glossy black, blue, red	.40	.08
B		glossy black, blue, brown-red	30.00	22.50
1308B	20 Pf	red, glossy black, orange	.30	.15
1309B	24 Pf	glossy black, violet-blue, red	.15	.20
C		glossy black, blue, red	6.00	1.50
D		glossy black, violet-blue, brown-red	5.25	1.35
1310A	30 Pf	red, glossy black, orange	.25	.15
B		red, glossy black, orange-yellow	2.25	1.20
C		blood-red, deep black, orange	1.35	.75

The Mueller catalog also lists a paper deviation from W, X, Y, Z described by Michel and Meisel. There is accordingly a gum deviation with this paper. Mueller calls this paper W and to avoid confusion with the aforementioned W paper described by Michel and Meisel, we will call this paper V because there is a probability the 10 Pf which is listed on yF paper might have been printed on a deviated paper. Since the paper the 10 Pf was printed on was the first paper to appear, this will give a valid reason for calling this deviated paper V. In searching my 10 Pf specimens, I have found some papers with the 10 Pf are yellowish while some are gray. In further checking Mueller numbers and shades of colors found on this paper, I have found practically all these denominations on a yellowish paper similar to the X paper in that it is stiff, strong, well-bred, but does not allow transparency. It is dissimilar to the yellowish-white or W paper inasmuch as the now-called V is more yellow than the yellowish-white. On the other hand, the yellowish-white paper is softer while the V paper is strong, stiff, etc. The best example will be the 15 Pf blue with glossy black. The 10 Pf deviation shows slightly more porosity than the 10 Pf yF which is gray. I have not seen the 1 Pf maygreen (celadon) to compare with the denominations and shades of colors listed by Mueller which follow:

1301A	1 Pf	black, yellow, green	.45	.45
A		black, yellow, dark green	.45	.45
A		black, light yellow, green	4.50	4.50
B		black, white-gray, green	300.00	300.00
B		black, white-gray, maygreen (celadon)	300.00	375.00
1304A	8 Pf	dark brown, orange-yellow, blood-red	3.75	1.50
B		light brown, orange-yellow, red	9.00	4.50
1305A	10 Pf	dark brown, dirty yellow, green	3.75	3.25
A		brown, light yellow, green	7.00	6.00
1307A	15 Pf	glossy black, blue, red	6.00	.75
		glossy black, blue, brown-red	38.00	22.50
1308C	20 Pf	red, black, orange	12.00	12.00
C		red, black, red-orange	12.00	12.00
B		red, glossy black, orange	.45	.45
1309D	24 Pf	black, blue, red	.30	.30

The 1 Pf maygreen (celadon) appeared sometime in May 1946 and seems to be a very difficult stamp to find. It is ironic that Michel and Meisel list this stamp on W paper while Mueller lists it on a deviated paper. Does anyone have further information on this stamp, the deviated paper variety or any other paper varieties discovered?

As far as the xK paper, it is extremely difficult to find the 24 Pf due to the short printing run of this paper. The 24 Pf was issued on 9.6.46 only, while the more common but still difficult to find 15 Pf was issued on 28 and 29 Aug 46.

As far as the 12 Pf dark yellow-orange, glossy black on X paper, it is also a difficult stamp to find. The paper on which this stamp was printed is easily confused with the 12 Pf W paper. In examining the surface of the 12 Pf dark yellow-orange, glossy black on X paper, the surface is smoother and allows transparency while the stamp of the same description on W paper, it is not transparent and the paper is fibrous. Also the 20 Pf orange, glossy black on X paper is very scarce and a good collector's item. It is easier to identify as it is similar to the 20 Pf dull black on X paper.

The early issues of the W paper command higher prices inasmuch as these stamps are found from limited quantities to very scarce. These include the 3 Pf yellowish-white, deep glossy black, lilac; the 5 Pf and 20 Pf with glossy black.

In order to be able to cope with so many shades of colors, especially the orange, orange-yellow, yellow-orange, red-orange; red, brownish-red, brown-red., etc., I have been using two old Schwaneberger "Farbenfuehrer" (color guides) which describe these and other colors referred on the Michel catalog. A degree of difficulty arises in that many of these colors indicated in these various catalogs might have faded and might not appear as strong as when first issued in 1945 or 1946. Also, Michel really does not do too good of a job of identifying colors for many of the French Zone issues. The brown or brownish reds appearing on regular issues command higher prices. During the time that these stamps were being printed, there was a tremendous need for postage stamps in the French Zone. As the printing started, the presses had to be constantly cleaned to allow better copies. This constant cleaning with chemicals, affected the red colors and turned them into brown, brown-red, brownish-red, red-brown. Also, since papers for the printing of these stamps were scarce; apparently, any papers they could find, were being fed into the presses, thus creating so many paper varieties as well as color varieties.

During this printing process interesting varieties of these shields are worth a mention. The rollers, being clogged up by the constant printing with paper fibers and debris, created missing parts on the various designs. Some of these varieties which have been found are: headless lion; lion without front paw, tail or part of the torso missing (see figure #1); missing crosses or missing rosetta have been reported.

There is a very popular stamp appearing with "Zone Francaise" instead of "Zone Francaise". I have found three used copies of this 30 Pf stamp on Z paper. They show that there is a slight breakage in front of the "F" forming a slight vertical line from the top of the "F" to the middle almost closing it to form a "P" (see figure #2). But what is amazing is that, although there were many printings, there are relatively few constant errors.

Since there are imperforate copies of these small shields, it is worth mentioning that it has been common for the French to issue imperforate stamps. The particular set I have shows that all stamps, except the 10 Pf are in W paper. The 10 Pf appears to be of the yF paper described above. Has anyone discovered other paper varieties in the imperforate stamps?

I listed the stamps as they were listed in the Michel, Meisel and Mueller catalogs in regular colors, color varieties, color errors, etc., to show that I obtained the information from these catalogs and that I did not make up the colors myself. Thus, it shows that these researchers were able to locate and identify these varieties themselves. I have been fortunate to have found a large number of these varieties, with the exception of the most valuable ones which are rare or which might be in the hands of those collectors who started collecting them back in 1945 and 1946 when these stamps were first sold for postage. These so many varieties might be confusing to the-not-very-knowledgeable collector, but the easiest way I found was to start separating the stamps by paper varieties W, X, Y, Z and then determining the other more difficult paper varieties. I used a regular desk lamp with a black tube instead of a fluorescent tube and often a regular black light in a dark room. I was able to discriminate on the various papers. Furthermore, I examined the surface of the stamps to determine smoothness, roughness, amount of light passing through the paper, etc. I started separating the yellow colors from the orange; the the blue colors from the ultramarine, violet-blue, etc. In this way I started discriminating on the colors and comparing them with a color chart and guide. Many varieties of these stamps have glossy black ink which will be necessary to detect to find the more desirable stamps with glossy black. I examined the black for glare against those without glare. It is interesting to note that early German overprints have been found with glossy black.

I strongly believe that Michel or any publishing company should gather all these color varieties and paper varieties and publish a more complete catalog for the benefit of all persons interested in the small shields of the French Zone of 1945 and 1946.

I would be interested in corresponding with anyone who has interest in these stamps or who may have additional information on them to further our aims on them. Please write to me at the following address: Abelardo Claudio, 5224 Cornell Ave., El Paso, TX 79924.

THE SMALL SHIELDS FROM THE FRENCH ZONE 1945-46 (Scott's 4N1-10)

By Abelardo Claudio

Crown, front paw and torso missing (W paper)

Figure 1



Front paw missing
(yC paper)



Front paw & tail missing
(yC paper)



-- 0 --

Figure 2 - Zone "Francaise" instead of "Francaise"



The following are the numerous shades of colors listed in the Michel, Meisel and Mueller catalogs on the 1945-1946 small shields of the French Zone:

<u>white/yellows</u>	<u>greens</u>	<u>reds</u>	<u>oranges</u>	<u>black</u>	<u>blues</u>
yellow	green	red	orange	black	blue
light yellow	green (toned)	red (toned)	light orange	dull black	light blue
intense yellow	light green	medium red	pale orange	deep black	sky blue
pale yellow	dark green	light red	deep orange	gray black	Prussian blue
white-yellow	May-green (celadon)	pale red	yellow-orange	glossy black	ultramarine
cloudy yellow	carmine-red	carmine-red	dark orange-yellow		light ultramarine
strawyellow	light carmine-red	light carmine-red	dark yellow-orange		dark ultramarine
cream color	dark carmine-red	dark carmine-red	dark orange-yellow		medium ultramarine
ivory color	pink	pink	light orange-yellow		violet-blue
light ivory	pale pink	pale pink	orange-red		light violet-blue
extremely pale yellow	lilac-red	lilac-red	dark orange-red		cornflower-blue
dull straw-yellow	lilac (flieder)	lilac (flieder)	vermillion		cobalt blue
yellow-ocher	blood-red	blood-red	orange-ocher		violet-ultramarine
	dark blood-red	dark blood-red	buff		
white-gray	brownish-red	brownish-red			
dark gray	dark brownish-red	dark brownish-red			
medium gray	brownish-carmine	brownish-carmine			
subdued gray	brown-red	brown-red			
	light brown-red	light brown-red			
	dark brown-red	dark brown-red			
	brownish-rose	brownish-rose			
	brown-carmine	brown-carmine			
	red-brown	red-brown			

Note: A Schwaneberger "Farben Fuehrer" (color guide) dated 1960 has been very helpful in finding these colors.

The following information in this German color guide is helpful in locating this color guide - "Verlag des Schwaneberger Album Eugen Eugen Berlin GMBH., Muenchen 12. The description of the colors is in German, French and English.

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A.M.G. STUDY GROUP REPORT

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LONDON PRINT AMG POSTAGE STAMPS—GERMANY

This is an area of AMG philately that could definitely use more study and sharing of information. I think that one of the reasons for this lack of data is that many collectors do not like to work with either $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ perforations, and as we know the London printing abounds with at least 8 different perforations ranging anywhere between 14 & 15.

I might add here, that this printing definitely has constant plate defects that are not too difficult to spot and properly written up, will make any AMG collection more attractive.

One popular catalog published by an AMG dealer lists but 14 different perforations and not one plate variety. Drossard in his original Handbook/catalog tells little of varieties, but in later issues of his Der AM Post Sammler, does start to show & discuss various plate varieties. Klink in his catalog/handbook, does mention a few London print varieties. However, as one can see, there is basically nothing catalogued at this time.

From a recent study made by me and others, it is definitely known that as of now, there are 94 plate varieties that are constant in this printing. These varieties are naturally scattered through the various perforating value and plates.

At this writing, it is suffice to say that further data cannot be given at this time due to the project not being quite complete. However, one can assume that eventually the authors will make available for publication this important data.

I strongly suggest that you AMG collectors check through your London prints, and let me know what perforations you discover and what plate varieties, if any. I will tell you whether or not you have a new discovery or if you already have an item that is known to the collecting fraternity.

The Washington and the Brunswick printings are heavy with plate varieties, and I would estimate that approximately 90% of them are catalogued. But from time to time, another can be and will be discovered. This is another area where spending a few minutes in checking may reveal something that all AMG collectors can enjoy. So let me hear from you on any plate varieties from these 3 printings.

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD.....!

by

Paul Rossbach-Emden

(Translated by Ingeburg L. Fisher)

It is not easy to convince stamp collectors that certain so-called "rarities" can be created for the pure fun of it. Therefore, if I am permitted, I would like to show in the following a few items which are resting in my almost unbelievable collection of curiosities and cinderellas.

First, look at the following illustration from the illustrated magazine "ECHO DER FRAU":

Frank Zander (36) Das Ding mit der Post

Über die Großzügigkeit bundesdeutscher Postbeamter: staunte kürzlich Frank Zander, seines Zeichens Blödel-Barde. Sein Senderbetreuer von der „Hansa“, Michael Kudritzki, verschickte Briefe mit Zander-Gagmarken ohne Wert, und die Postbeamten stempelten diese „ordnungsgemäß“ ab, ohne Nach-

porto zu berechnen. Kein Wunder, daß da die Gebühren steigen. – Erwähnenswert erscheint ECHO DER FRAU aber noch eine andere Begebenheit. Ein von Köln nach Düsseldorf geschickter Eilbrief erreichte die Redaktion „schon“ nach fünf Tagen! Ob man ihn einem Spaziergänger mitgegeben hatte? □



Frank Zander scheint zu den wenigen „Persönlichkeiten der Zeitgeschichte“ zu gehören, denn Marken mit seinem Kopf waren gültig

Ter o Angelika Gies, Foto: Spittel-Press, rpa

The text of this article is as follows:

Frank Zander (36): The Affair with the Post Office

Frank Zander, a poet of nonsense, was recently astounded by the largess of the West German postal clerks. His correspondent, Michael Kudritzki, sent letters with Zander gag-stamps without value through the mails and without charging postage due. Is it any wonder that the postal rates increase? - To the editors an additional fact seems worth mentioning, a special delivery letter reached the magazine in the unbelievable short time of five days! Was it truned over to a snail?

The second illustration shows a souvenir sheet of the colorful perforated Zander gag-stamps:



Illustration 2

In illustration 3 we see the "genuine" use of such a stamp on a postcard which was cancelled in Hildesheim/Hannover without any objections and delivered to Mannheim:

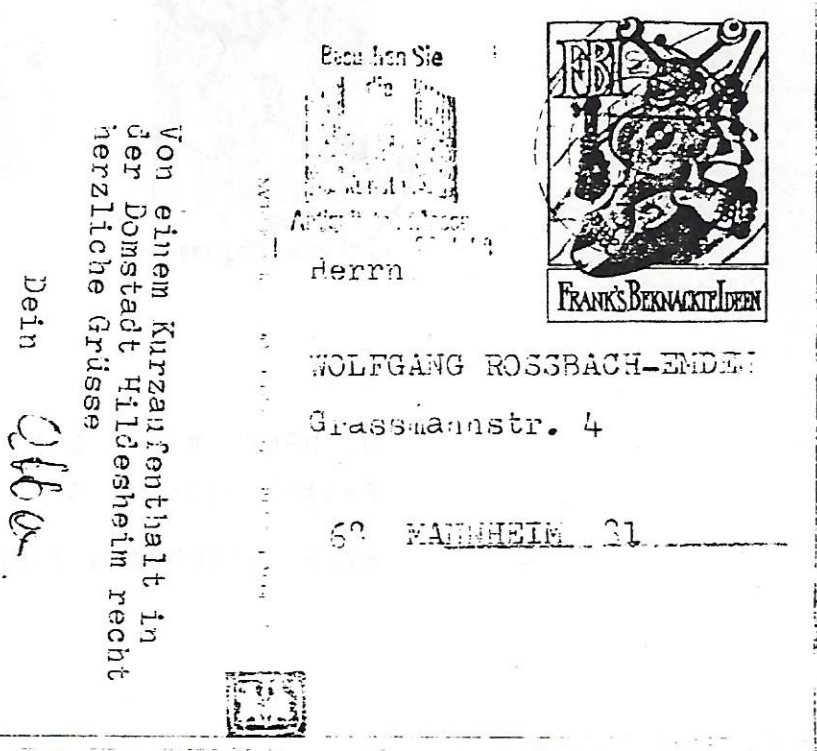


Illustration 3

A worthless gag-stamp was affixed next to the 60 pfg. postage stamp of a thus properly franked letter. As can be seen in illustration 4, this worthless label received a clean cancelation from the Eppenheim near Heidelberg post office, and as before, no problems with the delivery were encountered.



Hander III Frank Bank

Herrn

WILHELM V O I G T

Pestalozzistr. 57

6719 EISENBERG / Pf.

Illustration 4

With the above in mind, it is therefore left to the reader to also ponder the success of "postage stamps" i.e. frankings which happened to see the light of day during the hard times of the postwar years in Germany.