

MINISTRY OF HEALTH *says:-*

## Coughs and sneezes spread diseases



Trap the germs by using  
your handkerchief

*Help to keep the Nation Fighting Fit*



# THIRD REICH STUDY GROUP BULLETIN

April 2020, Volume LIV, Number 2 (#215)

**Inside:**

- The Feldpost in North Africa
- The Early Automobiles of Germany
- The Channel Islands Society News
- Another Great Jerry Crow Scan
- Trivia! And so much more!

# THIRD REICH STUDY GROUP BULLETIN

April 2020, Volume LIV, Number 2 (#215)

## Inside yet another great issue:

**The Feldpost in North Africa-** A darn good overview of the North African campaign, complete with the organizational structure of the Axis forces and the Feldpost, and its ever-changing ways. with iconic photographs and rare philatelic covers. A must-read!

**From the Auction Houses-** Now that we are all inside, here is an overview of what has been posted recently by the major players. These may be gone and sold, but tons of stuff just like it awaits you. You have to see it to believe it!

**Stamps of the Third Reich-** How did the automobile develop? We have the answers right here in philately! See how our featured stamp reveals the birth of an industry, with great philatelic material and classic cars featured.

**Danzig-** A log book of a naval adventure during World War II. One of their best articles written.

**Trivia!** – It is not easy – but it sure is fun.

**And so much more!**.....

Stay safe, and keep us posted about your health and well-being. Let us know how you are doing at [ctkolker@mail.com](mailto:ctkolker@mail.com), or by dropping a line to  
Chris Kolker, 25 Parkwoods Drive,  
Norwich, CT 06360

As we live through these unprecedented times, I ask one thing from each of you – stay safe. I value each and every one of you as members, and my fervent desire is that each of you remain safe from this virus.

Keep in touch at [ctkolker@mail.com](mailto:ctkolker@mail.com), and let me know how you are doing. And remember, philately is a great distraction from the constant reminder of the pandemic! Writing articles or submitting scans or stories is even better!

A few of you who receive hard copies of the journal still hasn't paid your dues. It is \$26 annually, paid to Christopher Kolker. Mail it to 25 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360.

And yes, donations are accepted, as we hope to publicize the group with the brochures, study guides, and journals after the virus leaves. Those materials will cost money!

## Table of Contents

<i>Editor's Letter (and a Plea)</i> .....	4
<i>The Feldpost in North Africa</i> .....	5
<i>The Scans of Jerry Crow</i> .....	18
<i>From the Auction Houses</i> .....	19
<i>Stamps of the Third Reich</i> .....	32
<i>The Danzig Archives: The Schleswig-Holstein's Log Book</i> .....	37
<i>Channel Islands Specialists' Society Meeting</i> .....	47
<i>Trivia</i> .....	54
<i>For Sale</i> .....	62

Keep Safe!

Keep Calm!

Keep Collecting!

My Esteemed Colleagues:

Certainly, we are living through extraordinary times. This journal comes to you today while most people are not thinking about stamps or covers or the history of the second world war, but about our health and the nation's health.

The coronavirus has changed everything in society. More people may be reading this simply because shops are closed, travel is restricted, and so many are laid off. I hope in some small way this journal provides a moment of respite in the relief from the stressors of life we all must endure.

Inside, we do have a great issue. Whether it's the best of the auction houses, the early automobile, or the north African campaign, The *Bulletin* has it all. We certainly hope that you enjoy reading and learning more about these stamps and covers, and that you feel inspired to continue collecting even while the reality of coronavirus continues.

Personally, this has been a very trying time for me. As Medical Director of a large community health system in Connecticut, I have been inundated with changes, testing, and positive cases. My wife is the charge nurse at a large rehabilitation and nursing center flooded with positive cases and serious pathology.

We know that we will persevere through this. My wife and family have been blessed with excellent health, so we know that we are called to serve those who need help at this time. We will answer that call. But we also know that we must turn to others to help us in this time of need.

**This is where you, my beloved readers, can really help.** Frankly, I need articles. I need scans, I need anecdotes, pictures, and photos. Whether it's a 20-page dissertation on your area of expertise, or just one or two photos of your favorite quirky stamps worth only a quarter, all can be useful and will be used. For the next six months, that is, the next two issues of the journal, I would ask that you the reader come forth with these articles, scans, photos, or whatever you may have in order to make publishing the journal easier. **I humbly need your help, and I know you will come through.**

In the meantime, sit back and enjoy the *Bulletin*. Think about what you can do to help. And please keep my family, my community, and the entire nation in your prayers. I hope that each of you enjoy excellent health and stay out of harm's way during this difficult time.

Your humble Editor,

Chris

# The Feldpost in North Africa

## Christopher Kolker

It's early in WWII, and the heart of the British Empire was at stake. With German troops closing in Egypt, the Suez Canal seems to be within the Nazis' reach. And with control of that vital passage, shipping and transport of raw materials, supplies, munitions, and men would be assured for the Nazi war machine in the Middle East and beyond for years to come.

This is what was at stake with the North Africa campaign. Often now thought of as a precursor to more significant events in the heart of Europe, the African theater actually served as an incredibly important battleground to begin to limit the reaches of Nazi Germany.

The conflict starts in September 1940, when Italy, serving as part of the Axis alliance, uses its colony in Cyrenaica (now eastern Libya) to invade Egypt. The British, wanting to defend their Suez Canal at nearly any price, went to battle with the Italians. And despite the Italians' far numerical manpower, the British routed the Italians during the British Operation Compass, in late 1940. The Italians retreated haphazardly back to Libya. With Italian backs against the wall in Libya, the Germans brought in Erwin Rommel on February 6, 1941. That changed everything.

With the Axis' forces outnumbered and outgunned, the British assume that Rommel would take defensive positions in eastern Libya. Instead, despite having a numerically very small force, Rommel immediately attacks. Rommel shockingly took the city of Tobruk, in what is now far eastern Libya, after a 241-day siege, which had a huge garrison of weapons and ammunition, as well as food and water. The fall of Tobruk has endured as



Erwin Rommel



perhaps the second most humiliating defeat the British underwent during the Second World War, suppressed only by the surrender of



*The Tunisian Campaign, 1943*

were able to put an end to his advances in July of 1942. It could be said that Rommel simply ran out of resources, specifically gasoline, to keep moving towards the Suez. By October, reinforced British positions were able to push Rommel back as he simply has run out of supplies in order to carry on any kind of offensive. This battle, with Rommel's subsequent retreat, became known as the Second Battle of El Alamein.

Rommel simply slipped away. As one can see from the maps, most would have thought that he would slip away back to the western edge of Egypt or into Tobruk. However, the Allies somewhat lost track of him and Rommel was able to go all the way back to Tunisia.

Rommel knew that he had a second front coming from the Allies. In November 1942, the Allies invaded French-controlled Algeria and Morocco to provide a Western front to the north African campaign. Led by US Gen. Eisenhower, the combined force landed with relatively little opposition from French forces there and met up with Rommel's force in Tunisia.

Despite having massive inferiority in equipment men and supplies, Rommel attacked first. It was said at the time that he had a 9:1 disadvantage in tanks,

Singapore in February 1942. (Although the situation at Dunkirk in 1940, where 325,000 men were safely evacuated, cannot be construed as a victory except in the absence of loss of life).

The British do respond. They immediately launch a counteroffensive called Operation Crusader, in November 1941. However, Rommel is up to the task and that offensive is repelled by the following month.

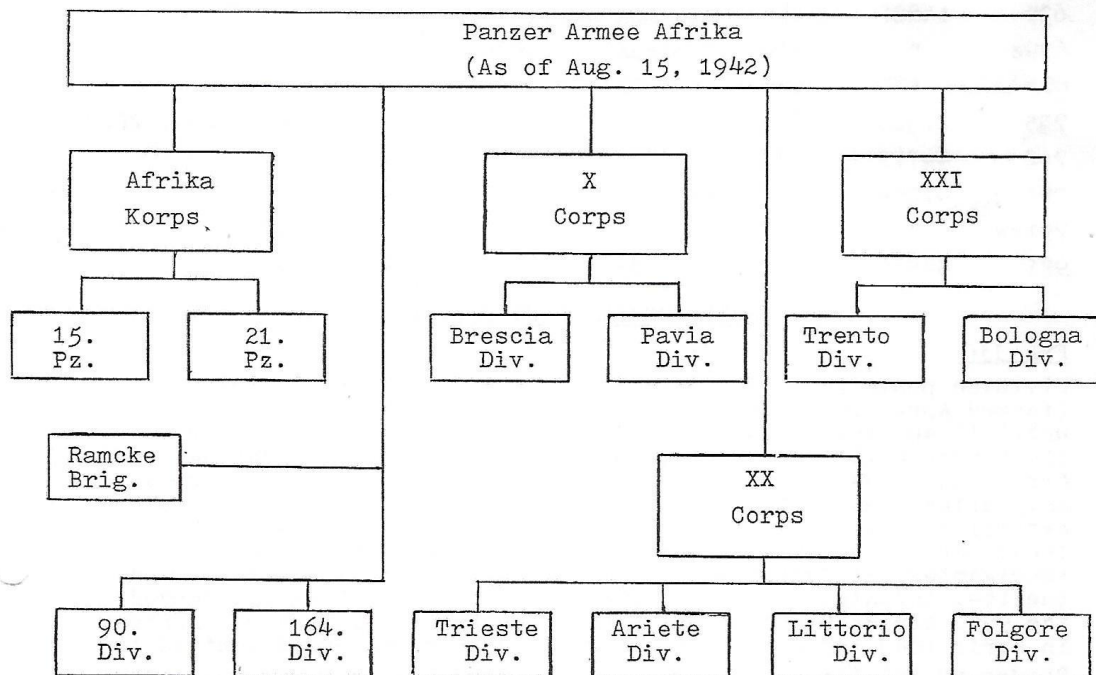
Rommel's not quite finished. He proceeds to push all the way to eastern Egypt towards the Suez. Finally stopping Rommel just 60 miles west of Cairo, at a place called El Alamein, British troops



*On the road to El Alamein, 1942*

which are instrumental in open desert warfare. Advancing at Kasserine Pass (see map), the move disoriented both Anglican and American forces, which subsequently retreated in a very disorganized way.

Unfortunately for Rommel, politics foiled his best laid-out plans. Rome, i.e. Mussolini, told Rommel to attack Thala next. (Rommel had a number of Italian troops under him, as the next section shows.) This would put Rommel's forces at the heart of Allied strength. Rommel thought this to be a terrible idea, as he simply didn't have the resources or manpower to sustain an attack. However, against his better judgment, he went ahead and attacked, with predictable results. After creating an initial push back, the Allies were able to respond, pushing the Germans back with no reinforcements. Rommel could not stop the counteroffensive. He evacuated North Africa for Germany in March 1943. Approximately 275,000 troops left behind subsequently surrendered to the Allied forces on May 12, 1943. The Allies now controlled North Africa: the Suez Canal would no longer be threatened.



### German Army organization

It can be said that the German army was organized in six different structures during the course of the north African campaign. To understand the Feldpost operations, one must understand at least the basics of that organization. They are as follows:

1. From February 19 until August 15, 1941 the Deutsches Africa Korps under Rommel consisted of the 5<sup>th</sup> Light and 15<sup>th</sup> Panzer Divisions along with a few other miscellaneous troops.
2. On August 15, 1941 Rommel's command was raised to the status of a *Panzergruppe* which consisted of the *Africa Korps*, with both divisions being reorganized as the 21<sup>st</sup> Panzer Division. It also included the 90<sup>th</sup> Light Division and two Italian corps (XX and XXI), which included six Italian divisions.
3. January 30, 1942 the *Panzer Gruppe Africa* was re-designated as the *Panzer Armee Afrika* and on February 23, 1943 the title of *1. Italienische Armee* was adopted.
4. The Allied invasion of Northwest Africa in November 1942 prompted the establishment of a separate axis forces in Tunisia under Gen. Walter Fretter-Plak. This was designated as the XC Corps consisted of German field Italian and artillery regiments as well as several Italian divisions including the *Superga* (mountain division) and *Imperiali* (which, according to author's research, was actually under the *Superga* as the 50<sup>th</sup> brigade).
5. On December 9, 1942, the XC corps expanded and redesignated as the 5<sup>th</sup> Panzer Army. This army now included newly arrived reinforcements such as the 10<sup>th</sup> Panzer division, the *Manteuffel Division* (as of February 1943), which was formerly the *Division von Broich* (created November 1942), the Luftwaffe division *Hermann Göring*, the 334<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Flak Divisions. They were later to be reinforced by elements of the 999<sup>th</sup> Light Divisions.
6. The eventual convergence of two major axis armies in Tunisia made necessary to create on February 23, 1943 a unified command. This was designated as the *Heeresgruppe Afrika* under the overall command of Gen. Rommel. When Rommel left on sick leave on March 9, 1943, he was succeeded by Colonel General Jürgen von Arnim, until German surrender in Tunisia in May 1943.

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(Taken from R. J. Houston's "Fieldpost in North Africa 1941 – 43", published in The Third Reich Study Group Bulletin volume #50.)



FpA # (Tact.)	Feldpost No.	Kenn No.	Assignment	Dates (Africa)	Notes
33	05254	697	15. Pz. Div.	5.41 - 5.43	
90	21630	985	10. Pz. Div.	12.42 - 5.43	
190	19560	805	90. le. Div.	8.42 - 5.43	
200	21589	615	21. Pz. Div.	8.41 - 5.43	(ex-FpA 735)
220	16550	946	164. le. Div.	8.42 - 5.43	
334	48115	412	334. Inf. Div.	12.42 - 5.43	
386	06677	538	Pz. AOK Afrika	3.42 - 10.42	(bec. 686)
639	14881	420	Pz. AOK Afrika	9.41 - 4.43	
639zw	"	550	Zweigamt (branch)	2.43 - 4.43	
686	06677	538	Pz. AOK Afrika	11.42 - 5.43	(ex-FpA 386)
735	21589	615	5. le. Div.	2.41 - 8.41	(bec. 200)
762	44777	282	Pz. AOK Afrika	9.41 - 5.43	
791	47294	212	Pz. AOK Afrika	11.42 - 5.43	
791zw	"	131	Zweigamt	11.42 - 5.43	
921	48571	822	"H. Göring" Div.	12.42 - 5.43	

### Notes on Feldpost Offices

#### FpA 33:

On our list, the division post office (Feldpost #05254) of the 33 Infantry Division was formed in April 1936. It served on the western front in Africa from September 1939 until October 1940. It then returned to Germany reorganized as the 15<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division, which was subsequently deployed to Africa during April 1941. It served at various locations in the area of Derna and Bardia, with branch offices at Gambut, Lucch, and El Adem (all present-day Libyan cities). This FpA also served the 164 Infantry Division for a brief period in 1942 and served the 999 Afrika Division which came to North Africa in April 1943. Their FpA, 999, was transferred to Rhodes as the *Sturm Division Rhodos*. The 999 was later designated as the new FpA 33 with a Feldpost number of 26908 of the 15<sup>th</sup> Panzer Grenadier Division, formed in Sicily in July 1943.

#### FpA 90:

This was a division post office the 10<sup>th</sup> Panzer division, which served in the Polish, French, and Russian campaigns, and was transferred to Tunisia late November 1942. It was assigned to General Nehring's XC Korps. The Feldpost number, 21630 of this Feldpost was later assigned in July 1943 to FpA 476 of the LXXVI Panzer Korps in France.

#### FpA 190:

The 90<sup>th</sup> Africa division was formed in Africa as *Afrika Division zbV* in August 1941. It was taken from miscellaneous units was designated as the 90<sup>th</sup> Light Division on November 28, 1941. This title was changed to the *90<sup>th</sup> Light Afrika Division (English)* 90. *Leichte Afrika Division (German)* in March 1942. The

unit was served by a branch of the FpA 33 until August 1942, when the branch was redesignated as the FpA 190, Feldpost #19560.

### **FpA 200:**

Originally FpA 735, Feldpost #21589, of the 5th Light Division, this unit was formed in June 1940 and dispatched to North Africa in February, 1941. This unit was reorganized as the 21<sup>st</sup> Panzer Division on August 1, 1941 and its FpA redesignated as “FpA 200”. Following surrender in May 1943, the FpA 200 designation was assigned to the FpA of the *931 Schnelle Brigade* in France, with the new Feldpost number of #58445.

### **FpA 220:**

This was a division post office of the *164<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (English)*. This division was originally formed in December 1939, and served on the western front from June 1940 until January 1941. They then participated in the Balkans campaign, and were eventually stationed in Crete. This FpA, Feldpost #02476, was redesignated as FpA 224, and remained on Crete when the major portion of this division was hurriedly flown to North Africa in July 1942. There it was served by FpA 33 until the arrival of a new division post office FpA 220, (Feldpost #16550) in November. The division was redesignated as the *164. Infanterie-Division* on August 15, 1942.

### **FpA 334:**

This division post office, Feldpost #48115 of the 334<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, was formed in the autumn of 1942 and dispatched into the Tunisian bridgehead in late December 1942. This Feldpost was among the units capitulating on May 8, 1943. A new FpA 334, with a Feldpost #59007, was established in October 1943. It was attached to a newly reformed 334<sup>th</sup> Division, which carried the honorary title the *334. Infanteriedivision Afrika*.

### **FpA 386:**

This was designated as *FpA 386 z. b. V.*, meaning it was for special use. This Feldpost, #06677, was formed in March 1942. It was assigned as *Gruppe Feldpost beim Pz. Armee Afrika*. On October 30, 1942, its number was changed to FpA 686 but with the same Feldpost number. That number 386 was assigned to the Feldpost of the newly formed *386<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (English)* in Germany with the Feldpost #08292. The African FpA was found to be in the following places:

- Derna (in present-day Libya) – April to June 1942
- Tobruk (in present-day far eastern Libya) – July, 1942
- Marsa Matruh, Egypt – August to October 1942

**FpA 639:**

It was also designated as *z.b.V.* (for special use). This Feldpost, #14881, had been attached to the *Armee Oberkommando 1* in France until reassigned to *Panzer AOK Africa* in September 1941. It was established in Tripoli under the Commander of the Rear Army Area. This FpA took over branch offices at Benghazi and Derna July 1942. It later maintained offices at Bizerta (or Bizerte), Tunisia, Misurata (Libya), Sousse, Gabès and Sfax, all in Tunisia. A special branch in Tripoli had its own Kenn number assigned (K550). This unit was successfully evacuated from Africa in April 1943 and became the new FpA 190, Feldpost #14881 of the *90<sup>th</sup> Panzer Grenadier Division* which had been formed from the *Divisions Kdo. Sardinien* in September 1943.

**FpA 686:**

This is the Ex-FpA 386 (see above). It continued to serve the *Panzer Armee Afrika* Following its tactical number change, it is recorded to be at the following locations at the following dates:

- Vicinity of Nofaliya, Libya – Dec. 1942
- Misurata (in present-day NW Libya)- Jan. 1943
- Sfax, Tunisia- Feb/March, 1943
- Bizerta (or Bizerte), Tunisia-April, 1943

The few personnel from this Feldpost to survive the African campaign were used as a nucleus for a new Feld post 686 *z.b.V.*, which was attached to *AOK 14* (AOK is the *Armee Oberkommando*, or Army High Command) in Italy.

**FpA 762:**

Designated as *z.b.V.* This was designed to Panzer AOK Africa as a *Umschlagstelle* (re-shipping office) and as a *Feldpostprufstelle* (military censoring office). This Feldpost office was formed in Africa on September 21, 1941. It's been found to be at the following places:

- Benghazi- November, 1941
- Nofaliya, 47km to its east- December, 1941 to January, 1942
- Benghazi- February to May 1942
- Tobruk- July, 1942
- Tripoli- November 1942.

It also had branches at Benghazi and Derna, in May 1942 as well as in Misurata and Sirte, Libya in January 1942. This postal unit was among those surrendering in May 1943.

**FpA 791:**

Designated “z.b.V.” This FpA had been formed in August 1941 and was assigned as a stationary post office at Ploesti, Romania under *APM O. Qu Schwarzes Meer* (Army Postmaster, Quartermaster Command- Black Sea). It was reassigned to Pz. AOK Afrika October 9, 1942 and located in Tunis with the branch, Fp791zw using Kenn #131 at Bizerta.

**FpA 921:**

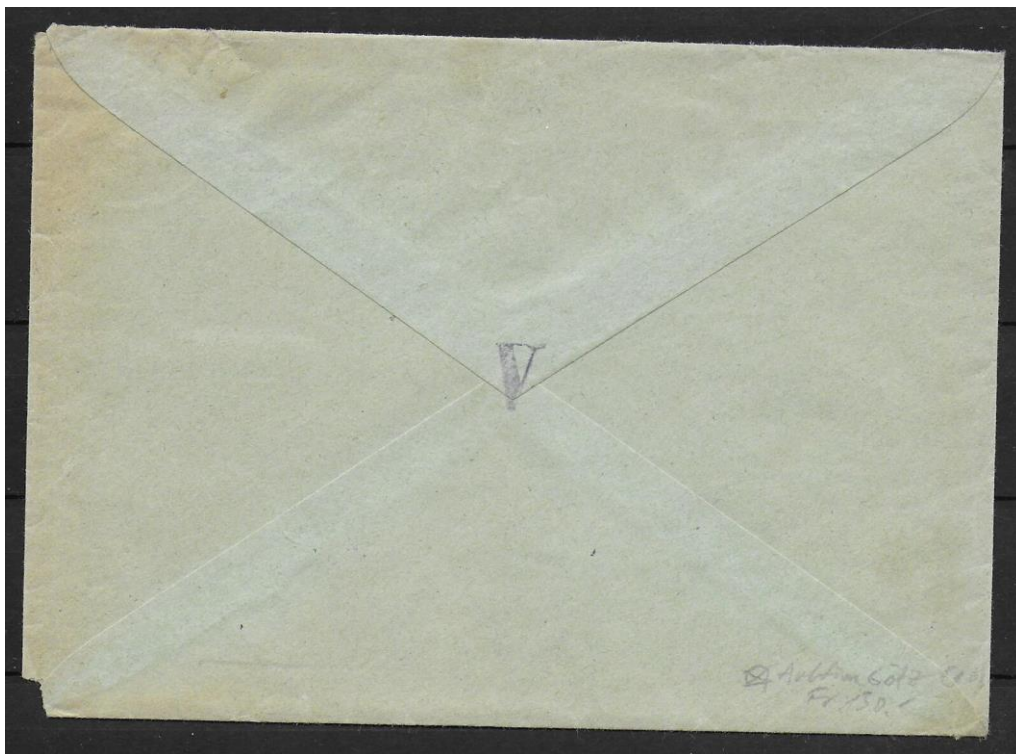
Portions of the Luftwaffe’s *Division Hermann Göring* were sent to Tunisia from November 1942 to March 1943. This included a partial post office unit assigned Feldpost #48579. These units, operating as the *Kampfgruppe Schmid* fought with distinction until escaping by air to Sicily. They were incorporated into a new unit designated as the *Fallschirm Panzer Division Hermann Göring*.

**FpA 999:**

Part of the Africa brigade, it was formed in late 1942 from court-martialled soldiers sent to combat duty for rehabilitation. In March 1943 the unit was redesignated as the *999 Leichte Afrika Division* and portions were sent to Tunis. However, it is thought that they were actually sent the island of Rhodes, where it was employed at the post office for the *Sturm Division Rhodos*.

This Feldpost is listed in a secret listing by the OKW The Oberkommando der Wehrmacht, or the Army High Command, entitled *Directory of Units Employed in the Tunisian Battle Theater* or *Übersicht der in Kampfraum Tunisien eingesetzt gewesenen Einheiten*. The record obtained by the author cited in this section (Robert Houston), shows this Feldpost listing is crossed out by hand. But Mr. Houston speculates that the Feldpost went to Tunis first and was subsequently relocated to Rhodes.

*(also extensively taken from R. J. Houston’s “Fieldpost in North Africa 1941 – 43”, published in The Third Reich Study Group Bulletin volume #50.)*



German Reich covers 1941 decorative Feldpost cover North Africa to Bayern

**Guido Gabisch**, 84347 Pfarrkirchen  
Mitglied im Bund Philatelistischer Prüfer e.V. (BPP)

**KURZBEFUND**  
**Deutsche Feldpost**  
**II. Weltkrieg**  
Mi.-Nr.: **5 a**  
**Marke echt**  
Schwacher Stempel-  
Abdruck nicht prüfbar/  
identifizierbar. Marke  
in guter Erhaltung.

GUIDO GABISCH  
BPP  
Prüfer



Datum: 03.06.2010      Unterschrift:  
Die Prüfung erfolgte nach der Prüfordnung des BPP, die Haftung beträgt 5 Jahre.  
Qualitätsangaben beziehen sich auf den Zustand am Tage der Prüfung.



**Stamp Germany Feldpost Mi 5a WWII 1943 Gabisch CERTIFIED Tunis  
Afrika Nazi Used**



Germany WWII Africa Corps Ax-Heu Day of the Stamp 1942 Postal Card Postcard 7h

Correspondance des Prisonniers de Guerre  
Kriegsgefangenenpost

Carte Postale Postkarte

A  
An Familie

Georg Eggen



Franc de port ! Gebührenfrei !

Expéditeur :  
Absender :

Nom et prénom : Eggen  
Vor- und Zuname Georg

N° matricule : 42 623  
Gefangenenummer

Désignation du dépôt :  
Lager-Bezeichnung XXII

Lieu de destination : Norderney  
Empfangsort (Nordseebad)

Rue : Winterstr. 10  
Strasse

Province ou district : Ostfriesland  
Landesteil (Provinz, usw.)

Pays : Deutschland  
Land

1943 French North Africa German Prisoner of War POW Camp 22  
Postcard Cover Eggen

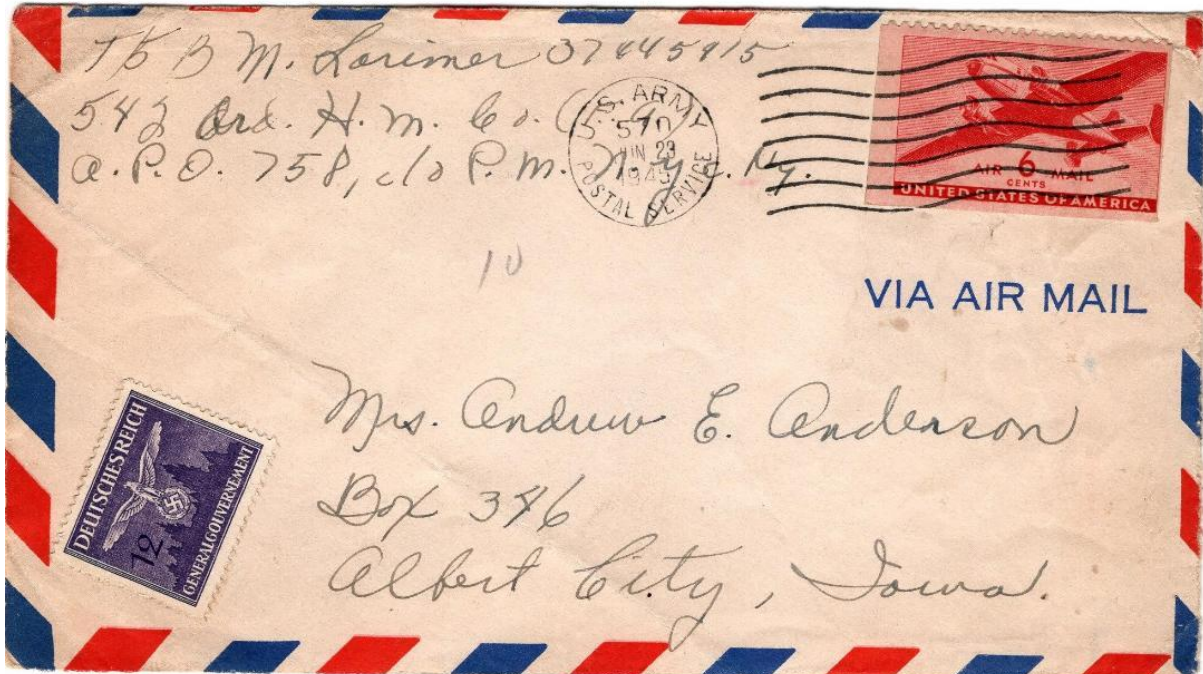




1942 Germany Jewish Officer Prisoner of War POW Camp Postcard Cover Oflag 13B 6C

## The Scans of Jerry Crow

Jerry always comes up with such interesting pieces. This issue is certainly no exception:



Chris -found this just recently at Toledo Stamp Show. An U. S. Army A.P.O. letter dated June 23,1945 with an occupied Poland/General Gouvernement stamp added "just for fun"??? -Jerry Crow

Does anybody have any alternate theories of how this piece of mail got this way? I don't! But if you do, just send me an e-mail to [ctkolker@mail.com](mailto:ctkolker@mail.com) or a postcard to Chris Kolker, 25 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360. And keep sending in those scans! Thanks, Jerry!

A Scan (or Article) a Day Keeps the Doctor Away!

-Your Editor

## From the Auction Houses

Unused propaganda postcard circa 1933. Has portraits of Hitler, Hindenburg and central view of Dusseldorf. Has slogan at top "It Should Be The Whole Germany" with swastika in sun with rays. Scarce early Nazi Germany postcard.



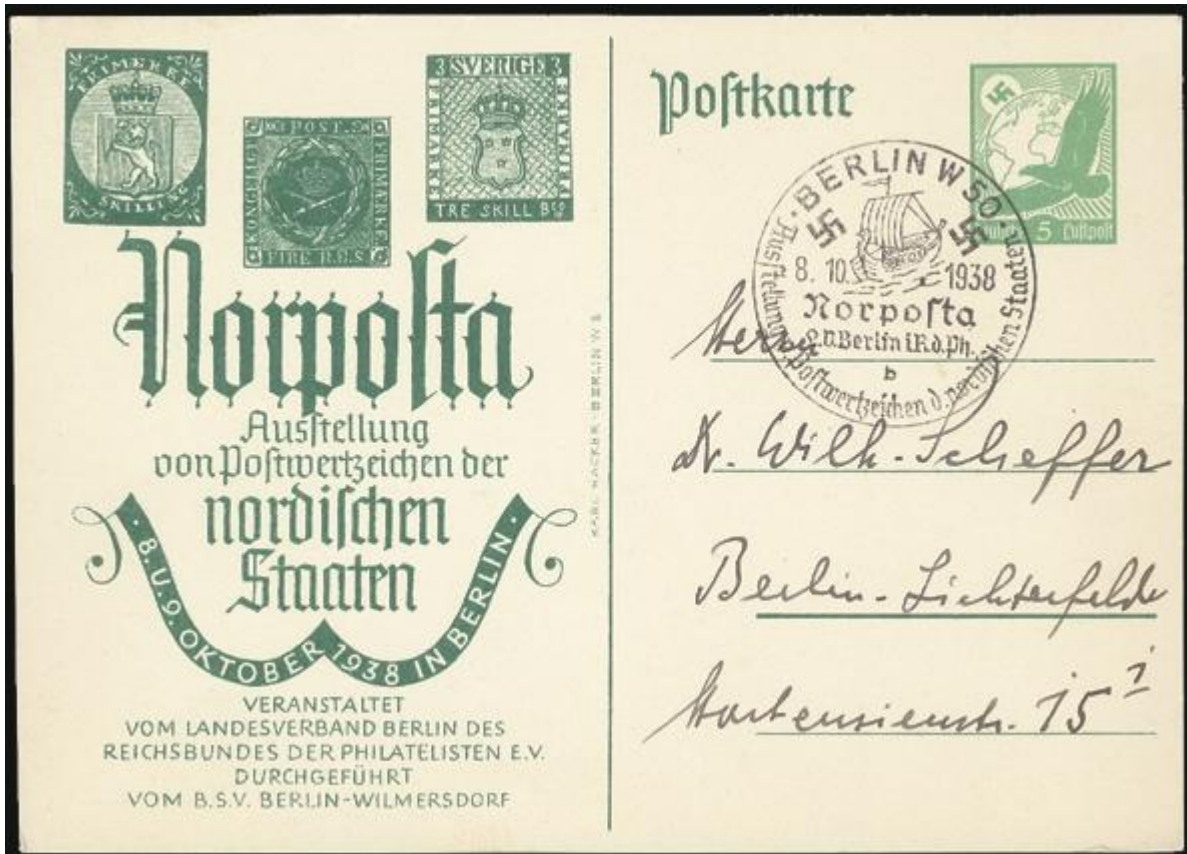
Estimate 100.00+ \$Cdn - from Vance Auctions



Unused propaganda postcard circa 1933. Has portraits of Hitler, Hindenburg and central view of Dusseldorf. Has slogan at top "It Should Be the Whole Germany" with swastika in sun with rays. Scarce early Nazi Germany postcard. From Vance Auctions



Unused NSDAP propaganda b/w photo postcard depicting a NAZI RALLY PARADE through the streets of Nurnberg. VF Estimate 45.00+ \$Cdn from Vance Auctions



Attractive Third Reich 5pf Airmail Private Printing postal stationery card with special Berlin Norposta Philex 8 Oct 1938 cancel, address locally. Has eye-catching matching illustration featuring #1's of Denmark, Norway & Sweden. VF  
 Estimate 40.00+ \$Cdn from Vance Auctions



Chicago trip completely mint never hinged, uniform from the upper right corner of the sheet, unsigned, luxury, certificate with photograph Schlegel BPP "perfect"  
 Start Bid € 3000  
 From Auktionshaus Felzmann



Wagner 1933, post-office colored presentation sheet of the new issue on the notice board in the post offices with illustration of all nine values, printed notice 3597 33 II D  
 Start Bid € 100  
 From Auktionshaus Felzmann



Emergency aid centerpiece in stripes contiguous, mint, never-hinged superb  
 € 1.200,

Start Bid € 250

From Auktionshaus Felzmann



Airmail 1934, complete mint never hinged block of four, the maximum value of 3 RM in the perforation vertically folded and 1 stamp small brown spot, all values unsigned, € 3,200

Start Bid € 1000

Deutsche Nothilfe

Wohlfahrtsbriefmarken 1934

Amtliche Freimarken zur Frankierung aller Postsendungen

	Kaufmann	Schmied	Maurer	
Abbildungen				Abbildungen
	Bergmann	Baumeister	Bauer	
Abbildungen				Abbildungen
	Forscher	Künstler	Richter	
Abbildungen				Abbildungen

Markenheftchen mit 5 Marken zu 4 Kpf., 5 Marken zu 6 Kpf., 5 Marken zu 8 Kpf., 4 Marken zu 12 Kpf. Verkaufspreis 2,- RM.

Wohlfahrtspostkarten mit eingedruckter 6 Kpf.-Marke (S.Mann) Verkaufspreis 10 Kpf.

4583 34 II D

Stands 1934, post-office colored presentation sheet of the new issue on the display in the post offices with illustration of all ten values, printed notice

4583 34 II D

Start Bid € 90

From Auktionshaus Felzmann

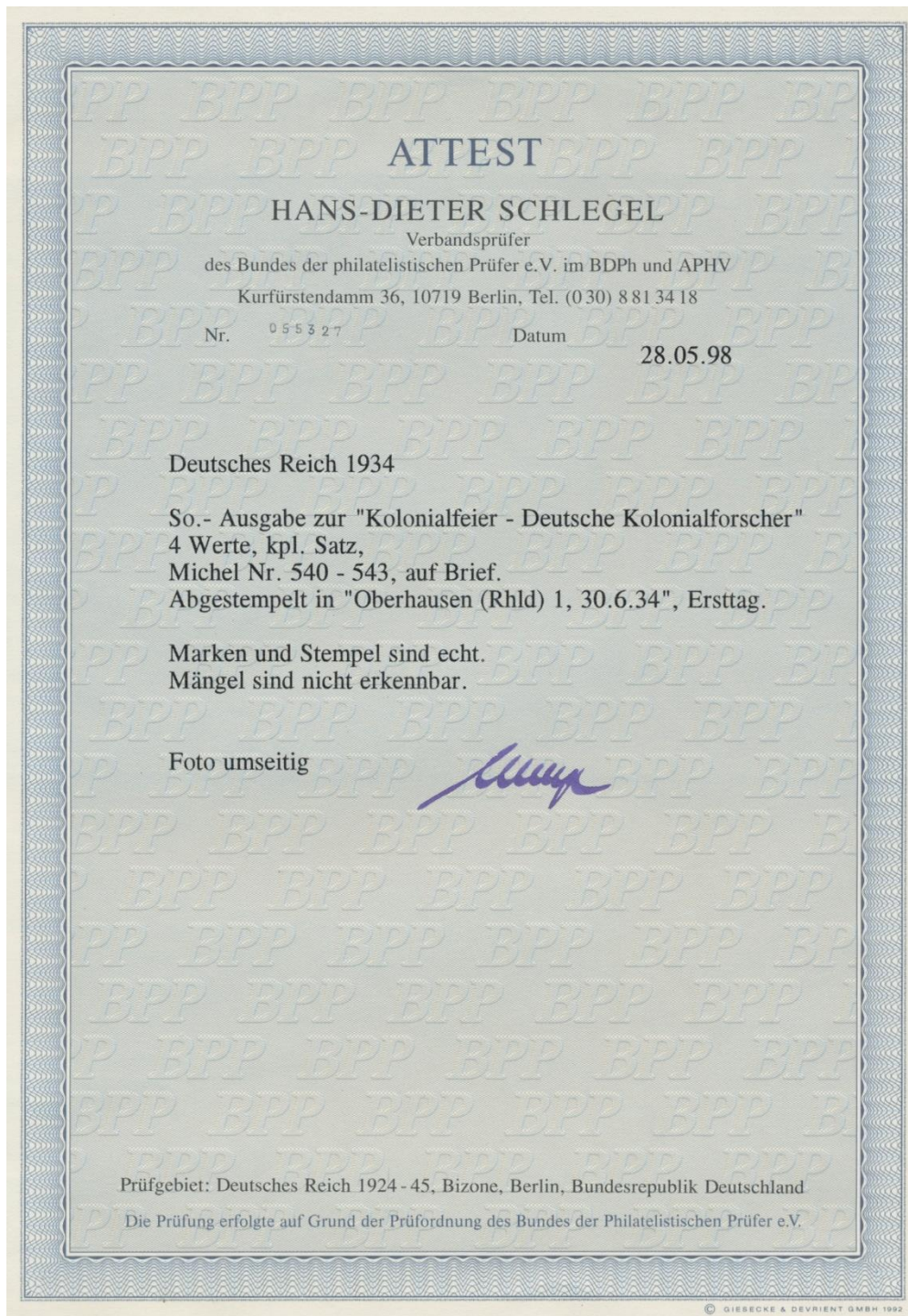




1 RM on 1 G Gdansk homecoming with the wrong watermark "swastika to the right", mint never hinged with two manufacturing-related, rubber-free places in unsigned superb condition, photo certificate Schlegel BPP "... perfect"! One of the rarest brands of the III. Reich, of which a handful of known copies only the fewest mint never hinged, € 12,000  
Start Bid € 3000  
From Auktionshaus Felzmann



See Below!!



1934, "Colonial Celebration" complete with OBERHAUSEN 30.6.34 as FDC in perfect condition, FA H.-D. Schlegel BPP, Mi. 500, Start Bid € 140 from Auction Galleries Hamburg



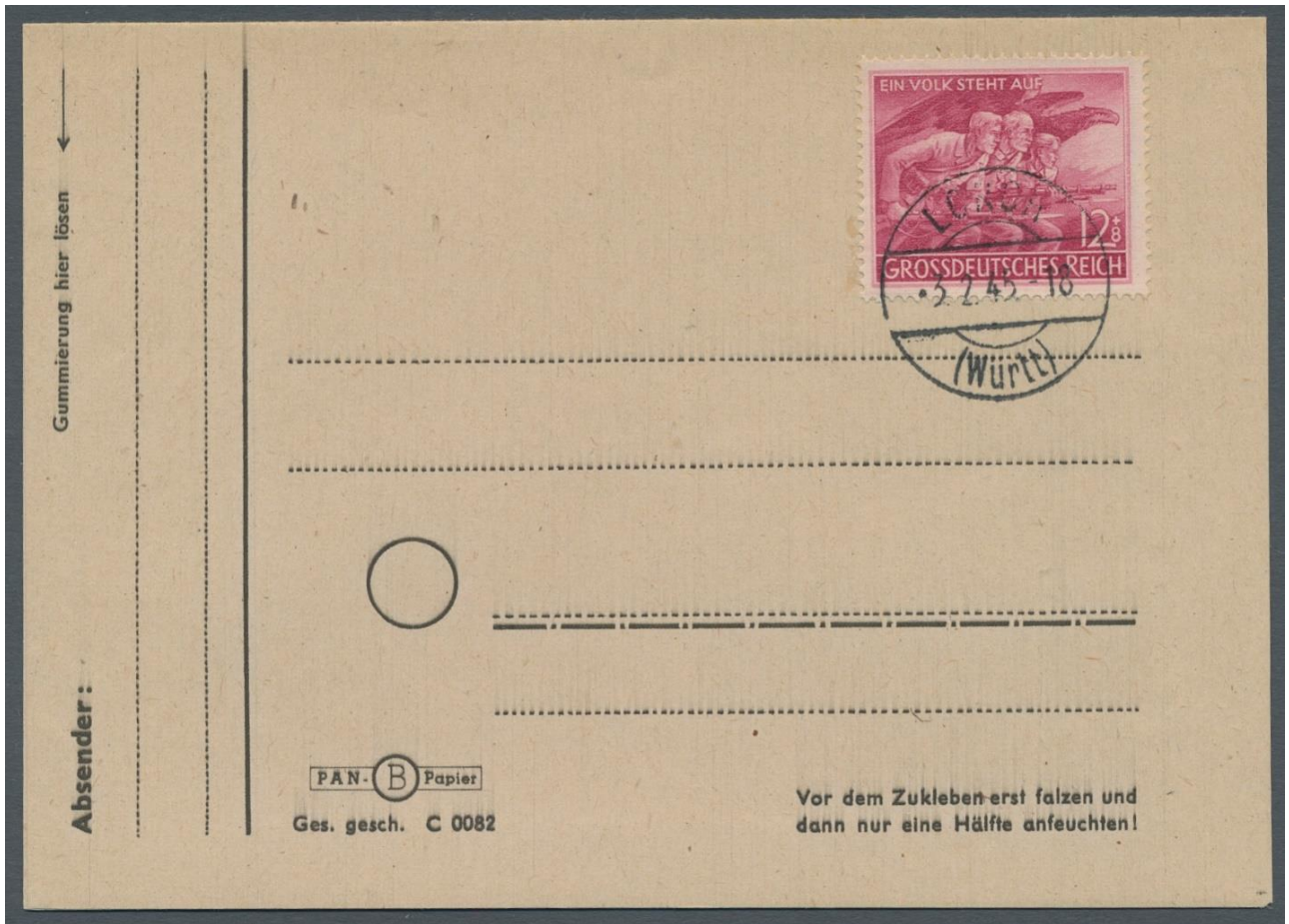
1935, "Volkshilfe Trachten" complete on pre-first day cover DRESDEN A 28 g -3.10.35, tooth tips slightly foxed, otherwise good condition of this already very rare FDC. Start Bid € 1200. From Auction Galleries Hamburg



1942, 3 RM Hitler in a horizontal pair in the middle imperforated in mint never hinged condition.

Very rare perforation variety which is clearly undervalued in Michel. Impeccable quality. Brief finding A. Schlegel BPP (without signature).

From Auction Galleries Hamburg



Gummierung hier lösen

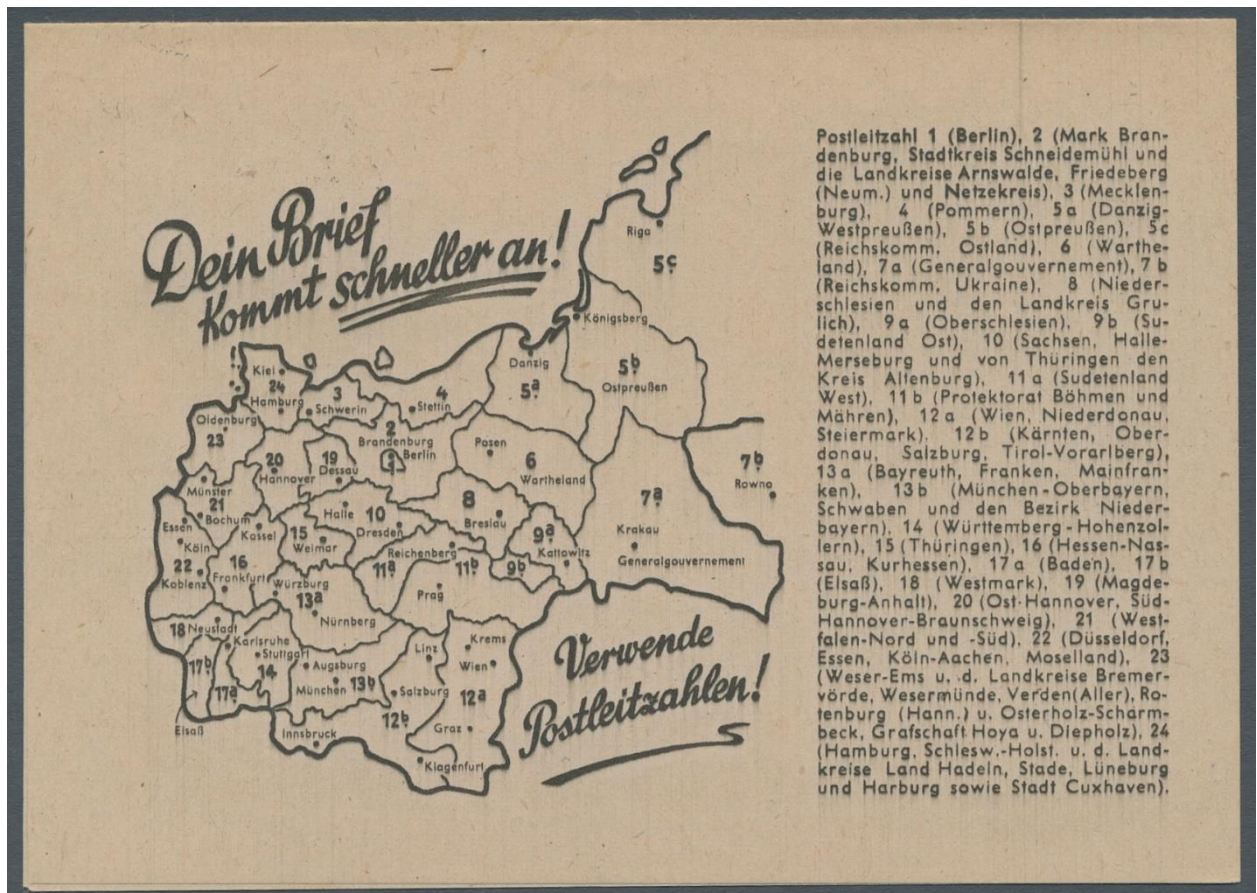
Absender:

PAN-B Papier

Ges. gesch. C 0082

Vor dem Zukleben erst falzen und dann nur eine Hälfte anfeuchten!

See next page!



1945, "Volkssturm", with first day cancellation LORCH 3.2.45 on Balnko-FDC in very good condition, KB special 500, Start Bid € 120 From Auction Galleries Hamburg

Veranstaltet vom Reichsnährstand und  
der Stadt der Auslandsdeutschen Stuttgart

10/34



**REICHS-GARTENSCHAU**  
**STUTTGART 1939** APRIL BIS  
OKTOBER

*Reminding us of everyday pleasures, this postcard for the 1939 Stuttgart Garden show serves us to remember the simpler things in life.*

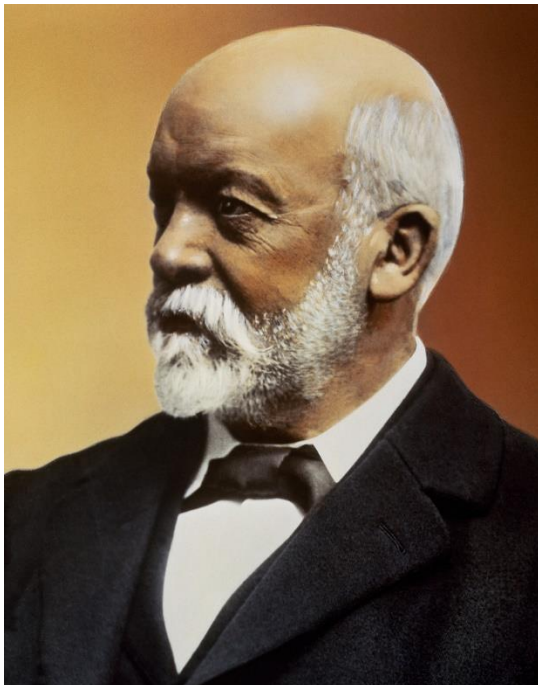
## Stamps of the Third Reich

Christopher Kolker

Our featured stamp is that of the Gottlieb Daimler, published February 15, 1936 (Scott 470, Michel 604). The stamp is dark-green and has a value of the six pfennigs. It was produced in conjunction with another stamp that is 12 pfennigs of Karl Benz.

Unsurprisingly, both stamps were issued for the annual International Motor Exhibition in Berlin, his particular year to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the motorcar.

Several varieties exist. First, the six pfennigs version exist in two distinct shades: deep green and a lighter green. Three print variations are:



*Gottlieb Daimler*

1. A retouch, where the “le” in Daimler is smaller and slightly tilted.
2. A broken “5” in “50 Jahre”
3. A flaw similar to a starting handle which appears to protrude from Daimler’s right ear (Harper, p50).

A special postmark was made for the Berlin motor show, depicting the first motorcar of Karl Benz. It was used for the duration of the exhibition, from February 14 to March 2, 1936.



*Germany Scott 470, Michel 604*



*The Berlin Auto Show postmark*

**Background:** Daimler was an inventor, engineer,

and master craftsman from day one. Born in Schorndorff, Wurttemberg, Germany March 17, 1834, he was a gunsmith apprentice as early as the age of 14. Due to his obvious brilliance, he was soon carted off to study engineering at Stuttgart Polytech is. Daimler soon became fascinated with the evolving technology of engines. By 1872, Daimler became the technical director for the firm of Nicholas Otto. He had recently invented the four-stroke internal combustion engine. By 1882 Daimler’s co-worker Wilhelm Maybach and him left to start their own engine shop. The patented one of the first successful internal combustion engines in 1885. Furthermore, they developed a carburettor that made possible the use of gasoline as fuel.

Daimler increasingly became enchanted with gasoline engines. First, he used it to modify a bicycle. Developed in 1885, it perhaps could be called the world’s first motorcycle. Next, he





then went on to use it on a four-wheeled horse-drawn carriage, driven by a one-cylinder engine.

Subsequently, an engine was put on a boat. Their work together culminated in 1899 as a four-wheeled vehicle designed from the start as an automobile.

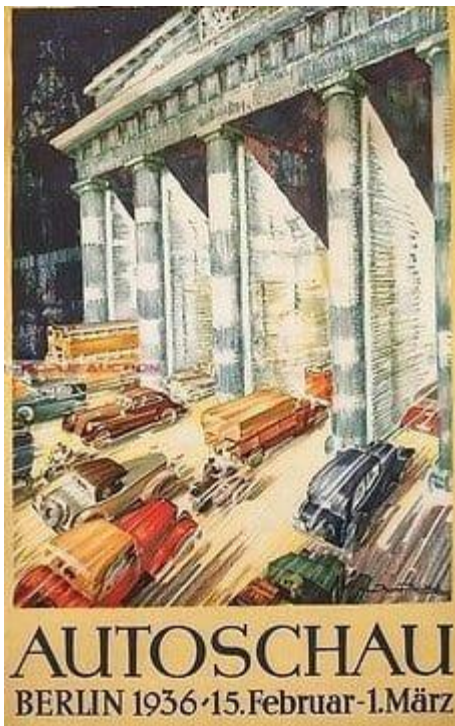
This commercially feasible vehicle had a framework of light tubing, rear-mounted engine, belt-driven wheels and four speeds.

In 1890 Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft was founded in Cannstatt. By 1899 the firm built the first Mercedes car.

The 1936 Berlin Motor Show was designed to be a spectacular gala. 1886 was considered to be the very first year of building a motorcar, and in 1923 two competing firms, one from Daimler, the other from Benz, merged to form the Daimler-Benz company, maker of the Mercedes-Benz car. Hitler was an enthusiast of the Mercedes-Benz car, which he considered to be the finest in Germany and throughout the world.

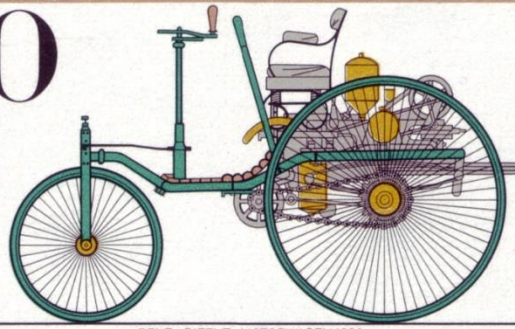
Because this show and the 1936 Summer Olympics were to showcase Germany, Hitler himself presided over the opening ceremonies. It celebrated the return of prosperity to Germany and rise the German motorcar. From 1932 to 1935 (keeping in mind that the Nazis ascended to power in 1933), motorcar production increased fivefold, a number the Nazis emphasized.

A number of newer technologies were introduced. The biggest might have been the diesel private car for Mercedes-Benz, considered at the time to be a technological marvel. However, not all the new advancements were auto-related. One was the Sigla safety glass. It had an elastic center-layer complex called Plexigurn, which remain clear under prolonged exposure to sunlight. It also could be easily cut or bent for use in other technologies.



DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST · FÜR DIE JUGEND 1982

40  
+20



BENZ - PATENT - MOTORWAGEN 1886

Another one was the new Bosch Weistrahler lamp which gives a narrow beam over a half-mile long that was to be intended to use over newer roads that were not lit. The long beam shows up the fringe of the road without inconveniencing oncoming traffic. A related new lamp gave a fan-shaped beam over an angle of 160° with a reflector that can be dipped down in case of thick fog.

Production of artificial rubber from artificial gas, in this case acetylene gas, was first demonstrated at the show.

A publicity poster for the  
1936 Berlin Auto Show

While the actual process was not revealed (it being a secret one), it was a revolution. While synthetic rubber cost nearly 3 times as much to make as that of obtaining natural rubber, it also meant that a rubber supply could be maintained



*Peeking in at the Auto show*

in the event that distant sources of supplies from the Far East were interrupted. And, of course, new models were introduced. Adler, BMW, Hansa, Maybach and Mercedes-Benz all displayed new models. Hitler personally toured the showcase floor, admiring the cars.



*The 1936 Mercedes, photographed in 1936*



*1936 Adler Trumpf Junior*



*1936 Diesel Mercedes, photographed in 2012*



*A 1936 Auto Union Wanderer, first shown at the Berlin Auto Show.*



*A 1936 Maybach Zeppelin, first shown in the Berlin Auto Show, as depicted in the 1967 movie, "The Night of the Generals"*

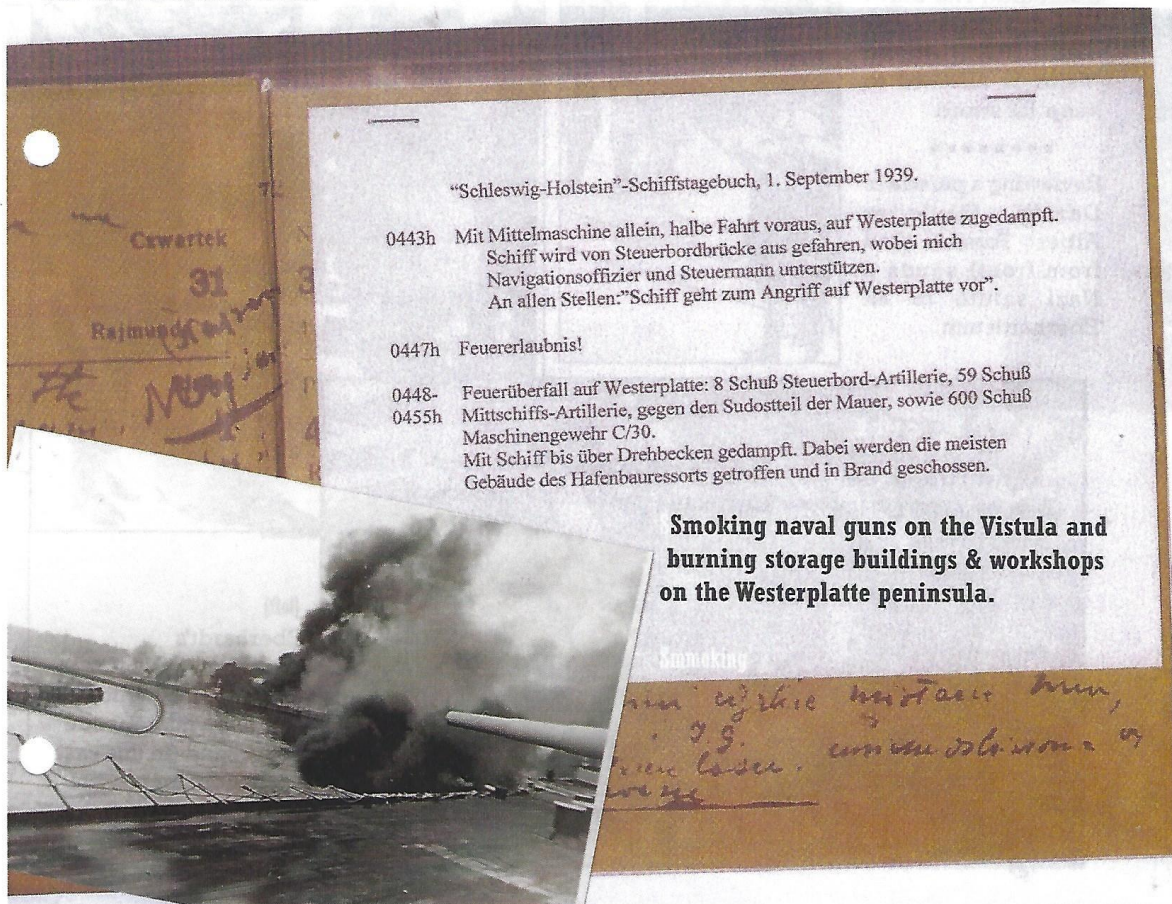
## An amazing Document and Story

### The Schleswig-Holstein's Log Book, handwritten by *Kapitan zur See, Gustav Kleikamp*.

Illustration below shows the natural brown color of the book, with additional notation of times of occurring gunfire from 4:33am until 4:55am, September 1st. To analyze these events in our understanding, we have a hypothesis supplied by Stephan J. Michalak:

"...namely, that the Polish 3-inch field gun which returned the German fire from the light house was none other than the Russian 1902-vintage gun, which the 128<sup>th</sup> Danzig infantry batallion (then a part of the Prussian army) had captured during the battle between the two at Tannenberg in 1914, and which formed the decorum for Hindenberg's victory parade in Danzig a few weeks later. As such, it was probably later exhibited as a major war trophy in the yard of the 128's garrison in Neufahrwasser on Olivaer Strasse (today the Polish Coast Guard's HQ), which was taken over, most likely with the gun in it, first by the Allies—between 1918 & 1920, then by the Poles, between 1920 & 1924, before being smuggled by the latter on board the s/s "Wilia" to Westerplatte, where it was converted in 1926 to 75mm, and where it stayed hidden from German eyes in the garage until the fateful morning of September 1, 1939.

It's all a hypothesis, of course, but what if it were true?"





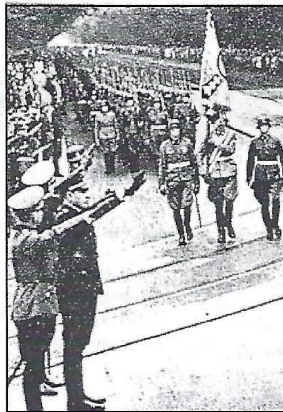
Pencil sketch of Major Henryk Suharski

During the attack, Eberhardt's columns rush the Polish defenses. Major Henryk Suharski (upper rt.) is captured and brought before Gen. Friedrich Eberhardt. The Brave Men of Westerplatte earn a salute and the Major is allowed to keep his sword.

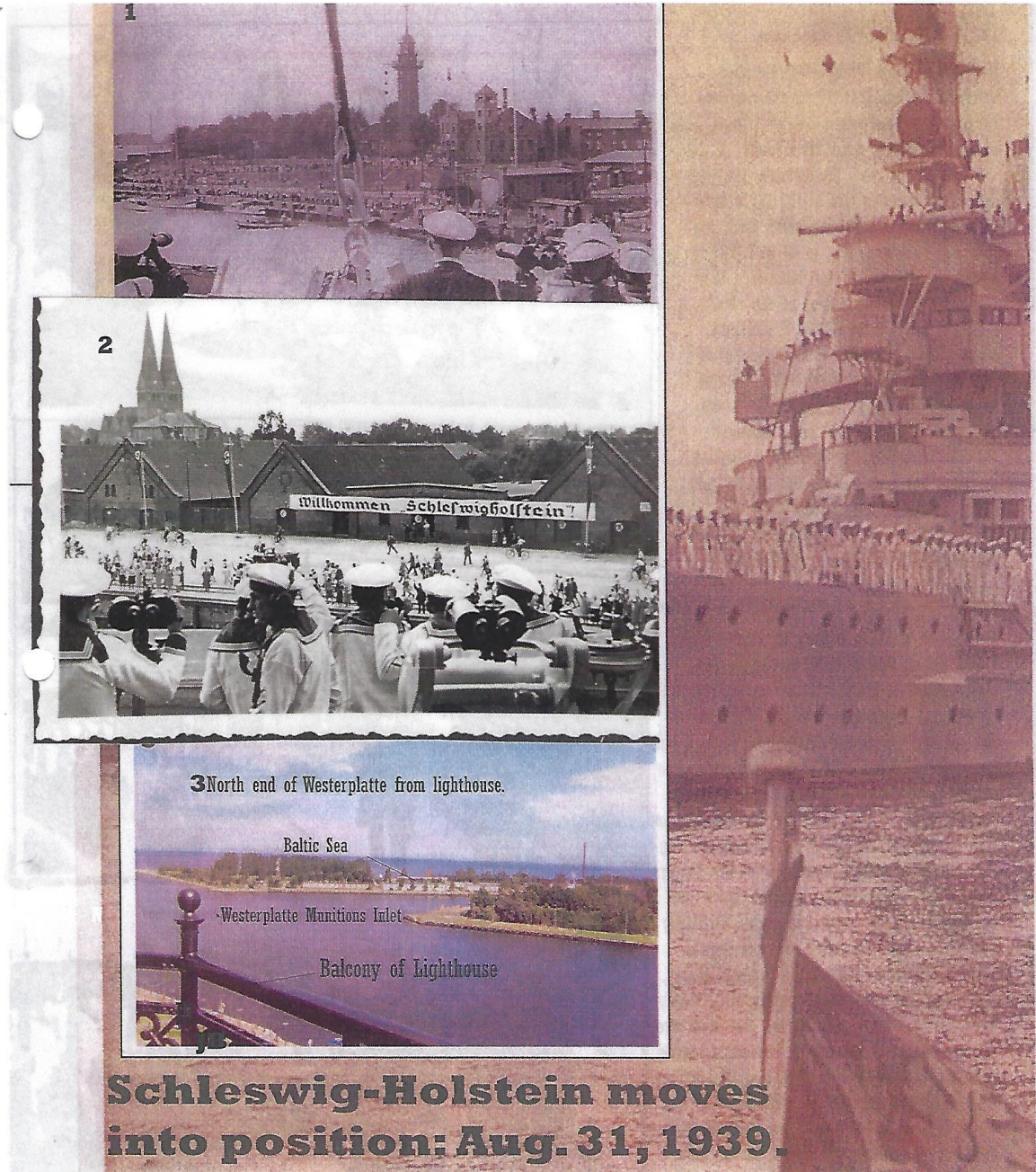
## Players

\*\*\*\*\*

Reviewing a parade in Danzig, Gauleiter Albert Forster (2nd from front) sends a Nazi salute to an Eberhardt unit.



[left] Eberhardt's storm troopers prior to the attack. Radio operator has a microphone in his hand (in this case used more for tactical support to the rear than for propaganda.)



On deck, the crew watches warily as the ship passes the Neufahrwasser lighthouse, and Captain Kleikamp, with his staff, watch from the bridge. The top two photos show the docking amid the cheers from the sparse crowd; Photo 3 (from 2007) shows the nearness of Westerplatte's munitions inlet--- to the lighthouse.

# Visitors...

Every German Ship-of-the-Line carried its own staff photographer in order to eulogize every move of the big ship and its crew.

In this case, the lensman has looked into the quarters of the ship's crew and found, instead, waiting below deck, the soldiers who began the trip on 24.8.1939 to attack Westerplatte on 1st September, 1939.

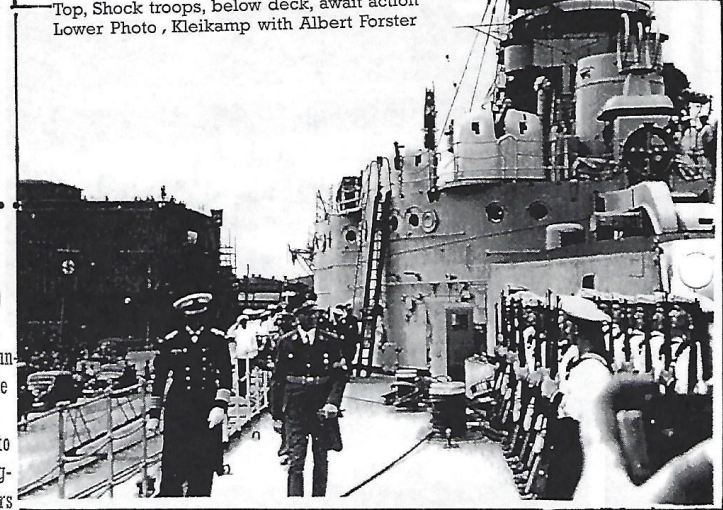
Propaganda photos of the chief officer of the S-H, Kapitän z. S. Kleikamp, prior to the gunfire, with two 'distinguished' guests— Danzig's Gauleiter Albert Forster in the top photo, and in the bottom photo we see Kleikamp with Poland's diplomatic representative, Minister Chodecki, reviewing the crew. The guns are already loaded and ready to kick-off the Second World War

There was no surprise in the fact that diplomatic negotiations had failed to reach an agreement.

.....  
Translation of Polish caption on Page 4 photo:  
At the end of August 1939, a machine gun was installed in the lighthouse, which on 1.9.39 at 4:45 a.m. began firing on the Polish post on Westerplatte. Cpl. Eugeniusz Grabowski, chief gunner of the 75 mm field gun—the only one in the outpost, wrote—  
"On the order of Maj. Sucharski the gun was to take up position; we roll it out. Behind the magazine door we receive machine gun fire. Tracers ring off the armor; bullets whistle. We try to get to position but under heavy fire. We finally get to the firing position. I give the target: 'Tangent elevation 400, normal grenade charge, short fuse'. The crew works calmly, aims, 'Ready back off, fire!' We watch but the shot went over the lighthouse. A momentary concern; I remind them not to count on the first, that the gun settles. A second shot is fired with the same aim. There appears a hole; under the machine gun's window; the window got bigger, the machine gun disappears. Pulverized brick & detonation smoke spread out of the window opening. "Our equipment proved efficient, and the crew was well trained."



Top, Shock troops, below deck, await action  
Lower Photo, Kleikamp with Albert Forster



Below, Poland's High Commissioner (ambassador) to Danzig, Minister Chodecki, reviewing with Kleikamp aboard the battleship Schleswig-Holstein.





## Battle Scenes

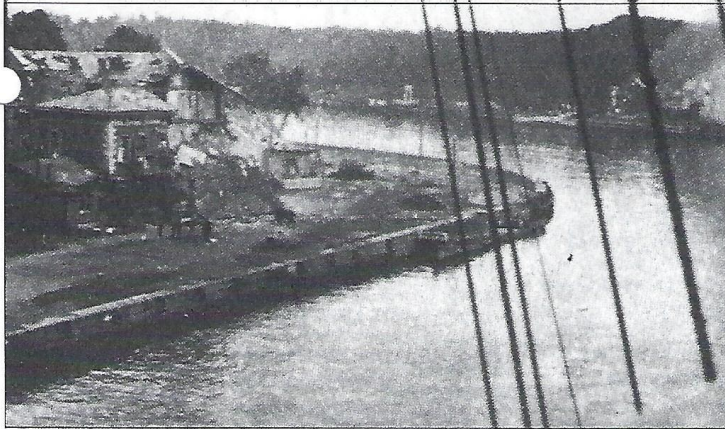


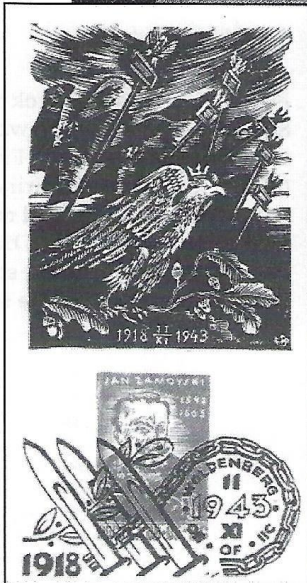
Photo taken from the deck of the Schleswig-Holstein as it was moored in its position in Five Toots Curve from which the firing took place. Later the S-H moved farther downstream for a better aiming visibility. Distant shore is that of the Westerplatte target.



Westerplatte aflame, as seen from the Neufahrwasser side of the Vistula



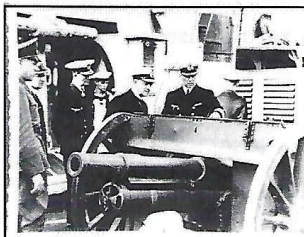
German troops penetrating the Westerplatte following the capitulation in September 1939. Neufahrwasser is in background. Some buildings were flattened by the concussion of the S-H's 23 cm big guns.



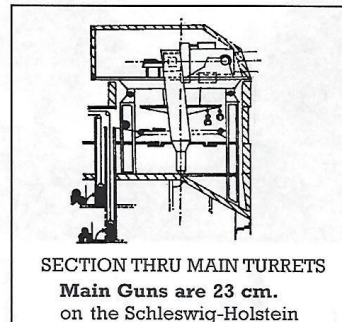
Above, left, is a **design for a stamp and a cancellation** made by, and used by Polish prisoners held by the Germans after the Westerplatte battle.



Polish prisoners eat a Christmas Eve dinner at the start of the Westerplatte occupation.



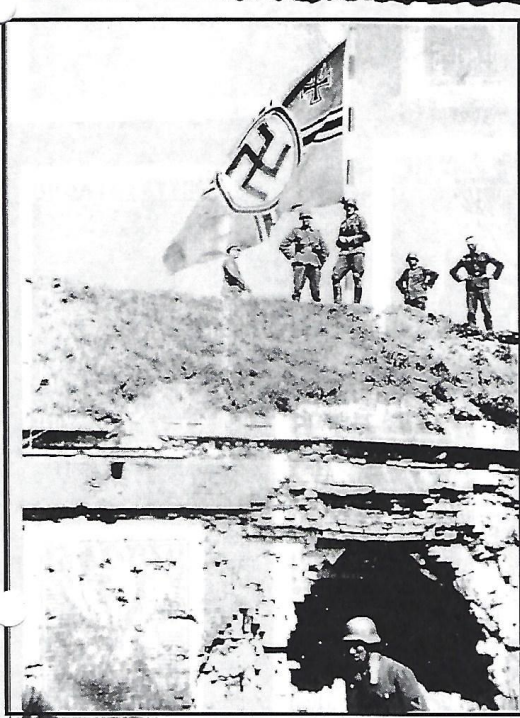
< Battleship's resident photographer records Kleikamp's inspection of 75mm field gun.



< S-H Photograph taken on 19<sup>th</sup> September 1939. During Hitler's 'inspection tour' of the 'angriff's results upon Westerplatte, he feels obliged to lecture the officers who are present on the proper use of Panzer forces in *Blitzkrieg* offensives. His luck held out thru the 1940 French campaign but reversed direction at Stalingrad. It was down-hill from there.



# After the Battle— More Visitors



Two additional 'snapshots' by the ship's photographer (Numbers 10 & 16.above), the raising of the Kriegsmarine flag over a Polish stronghold after its surrender.



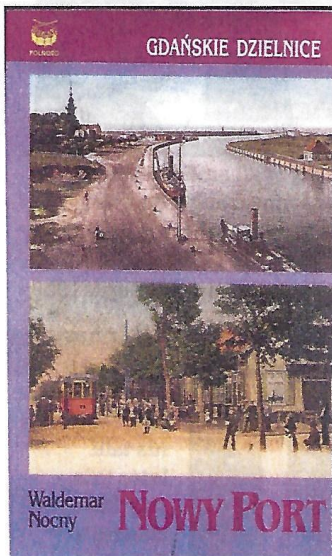
Hermann Goering is all smiles as Kapitän Kleikamp escorts him around the recent war zone. (Above).In the photo below, *der Fuehrer* gets the royal treatment during his first visit to Westerplatte, 19 Sept. 1939



Hitler has much on his mind prior to his talk later this day in Danzig's Artushof. [Did you notice the Russian officers behind Hitler?]

# Prison Camp PHILATELY

Our plans call for a future in-depth study of the printing of postage stamps in German Prisoner of War camps during World War II. Our friend and guide, Donna Misiuda-Kwiatkowska sent word that her father was one of the prisoners who used the printing process to produce stamps similar to those shown at the right. Donna translates the text at the bottom of each stamp as reading "P.O.W. Camp 2-C". The P.O.W. stamps at the right were issued on November 28<sup>th</sup> 1942.

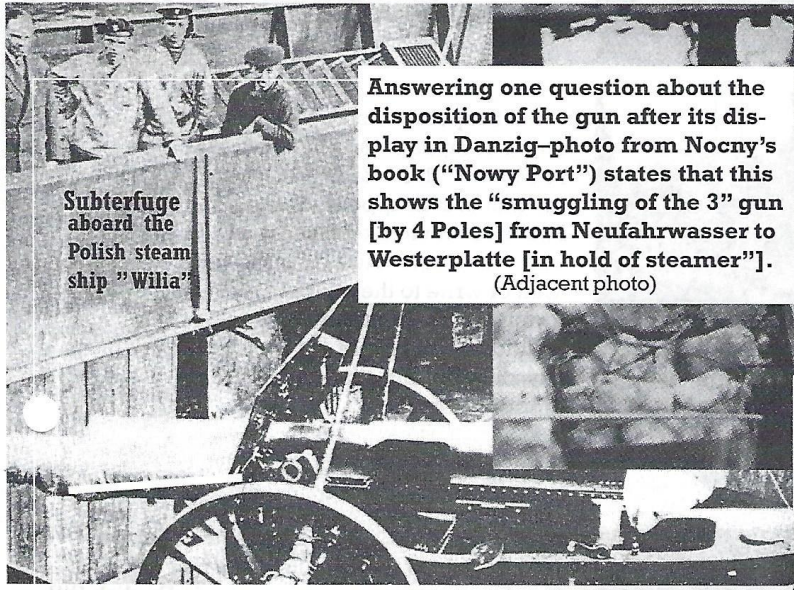


Recommended book about the Neufahrwasser/Westerplatte area. in Polish, by Waldemar Nocny.

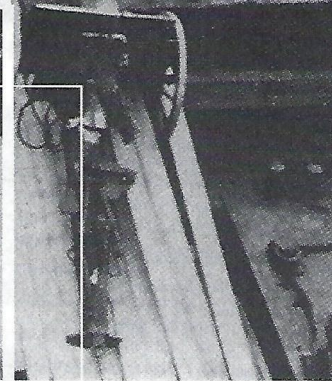


Polish commemorative stamp dedicated to the bravery of the "Men of Westerplatte."

# Russian Field Gun is Loaded on to the Schleswig-Holstein for Display at the Mürwik Naval Schule. >



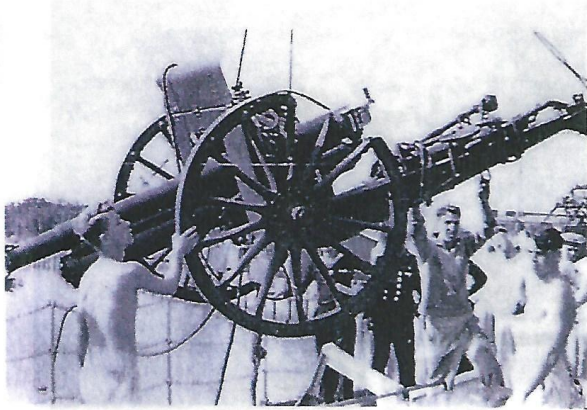
Answering one question about the disposition of the gun after its display in Danzig—photo from Nocny's book ("Nowy Port") states that this shows the "smuggling of the 3" gun [by 4 Poles] from Neufahrwasser to Westerplatte [in hold of steamer"]]. (Adjacent photo)



German sailors have custody of the gun and take it to its final rest in Mürwik, Germany

(Top & bottom Photos)

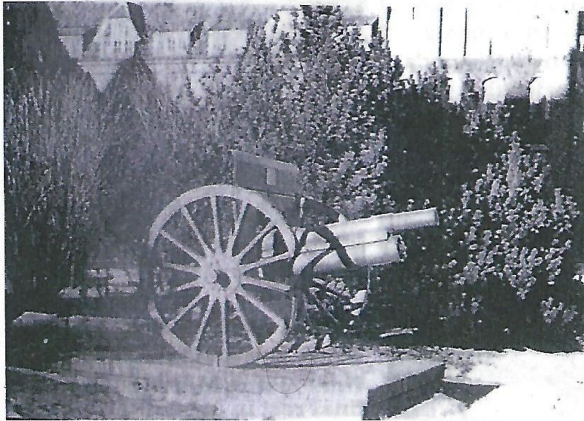




## Aftermath

Nearing the end of its journey, the 75 mm field gun captured at the Battle of Tannenberg from the Russians is lowered to land once more to start again as a war trophy ...

**From Linienschiff Schleswig-Holstein by Willi Schultz**



... to be put on display—this time on the campus of the *Marineschule* in Mürwik. This was in 1942; but the gun has disappeared, and Mr. Michalak would like to see it as part of his Lighthouse display.

Call or write to the editors if you can identify the current location of the 75 mm gun. It is an important part of World History!



Stefan Michalak - der "letzte Leuchtturmwärter" Danzigs

Donna has informed us that a new internet program in English [!!!] is now available on the Internet at—  
<http://www.muzeun.1939.pl/?str=9&id=24>  
(This is called "1939"  
A co-incidence?)  
Look for more photos in the next DR



END DANZIG REPORT No.151

# CHANNEL ISLANDS SPECIALISTS' SOCIETY

**Founded 1950**

**Date:** February 26, 2020

**Press Contact:** Steve Wells Press & Advertising Officer

## Competitions Meeting February 8, 2020

Some 20 members and three guests attended the February 8, 2020 Competitions Meeting of the Channel Islands Specialists' Society held at the new Royal Philatelic Society building located at 15, Abchurch Lane in the City of London, U.K.

Alan Moorcroft FRPSL, Competitions Secretary, was delighted with the large number of entries received across a range of competition classes. The judge for the day was Graham Winters FRPSL.

The Tom Green Cup for Occupation Postal History & Postal Markings was won by Ron Brown with his entry 'Attempts to Send Letters to and from the C.I. during the German Occupation 1940-1945': In second place was Gerald Marriner with 'The German Occupation – Mail between England/Eire and the Channel Islands': Both entries were judged to be of a Gold standard.

Ron Brown's 'Alfred Poisson – One Man's War 1940-1945' entry in the Picton Phillips Cup competition achieved a Silver.

Visiting German member **Olaf Beckeen** gave a non-competitive display on the Guernsey Occupation, showing the following items:

1. A registered *Feldpost* cover from the Guernsey Organisation Todt (O.T.) company "Reichspost" (the first Guernsey O.T. registered item Olaf has come across), which was not involved in postal affairs on the islands as might be supposed but rather was in charge of running the buses for the O.T. workers from their billets to their work places. The company code was "RP" for "Reichspost". It was sent to Biberach on October 3, 1942 (with an arrival mark on October 11).

- 2a/b. An internee letter from the Laufen Camp Senior A.J. Sherwill to Geneva sent on February 27, 1945 with an ILAG VII / 3 censor cachet. More information about Ambrose James Sherwill can be found on the Frank Falla Archive website. See:

<https://www.frankfallaarchive.org/people/ambrose-james-sherwill/>

3. A Lloyds Bank inter-island cover sent on May 26, 1943 from Guernsey to their Jersey branch, which was censored in Paris.

4. A Jersey postcard posted on January 21, 1941 with a 2d bisect, which was first surcharged 2d (see 2d to pay crossed out bottom right). The stamp was then refused ("mutilated") and the postcard was

surcharged 4d (see handwritten note). Two 2d postage due stamps were added. Postage due stamps in Jersey used throughout the Occupation are very scarce.

5. and 6. Most of the 1d Guernsey arms imperforate stamps of the 10th printing, particularly the imprints, were used on Jersey, usually addressed to Mr. Le Gentil, a well-known stamp dealer. Imperforate imprint blocks used on Guernsey are much scarcer in Olaf's view. The Jersey item is dated June 26, 1944 and the Guernsey item July 15, 1943.

### **C.I.S.S. Forward Programme 2020 (U.K.)**

April 24-26	Weekend Meeting	Peninsula Hotel, Guernsey
July 11	A.G.M. Meeting	15, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW

**Further information** about the C.I.S.S. may be obtained from the website: [www.ciss1950.org.uk](http://www.ciss1950.org.uk)

### **The Study of Stamps, Postal History and Postcards of the Channel Islands**

**PRESS RELEASE**



Feldpost Nr. 41639 RP

*Stb. Dienststelle*

**Feldpost**

*Einschreiben*



*an das*

*Wehrmeldeamt. Stb. II c*

*Biberach. Wip.*



Interniertenpost.

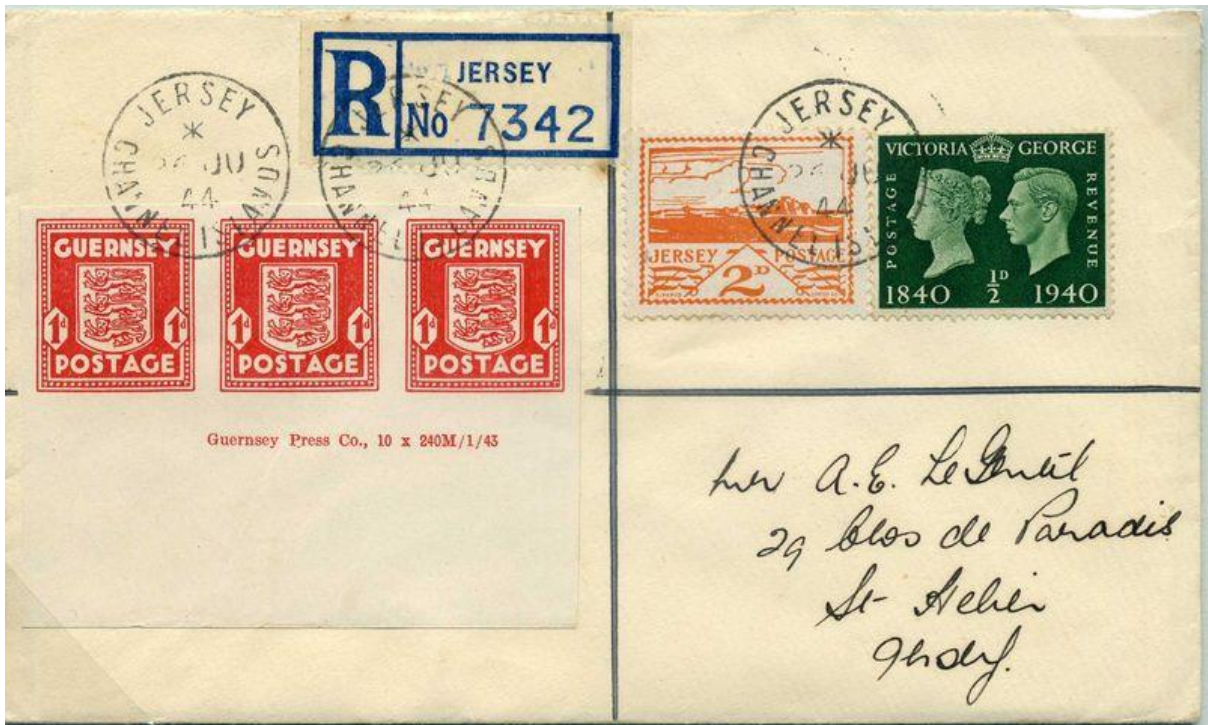
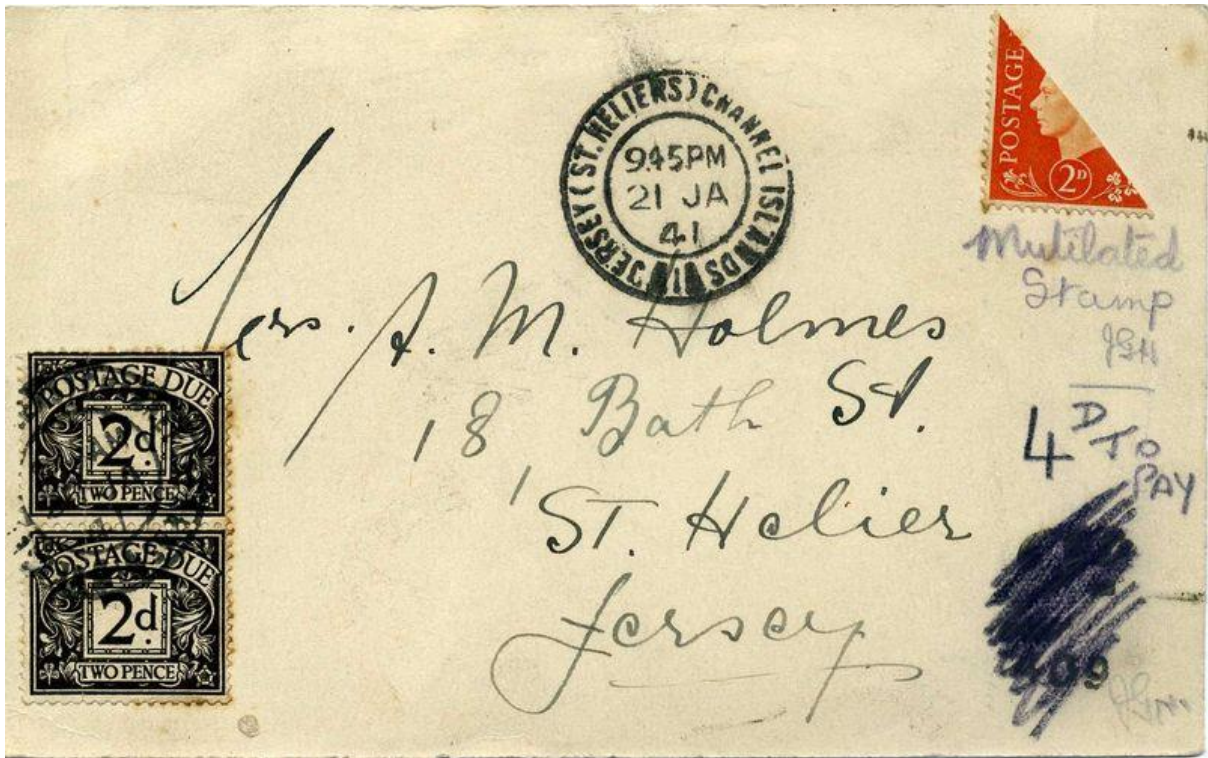


The Manager,  
Relief Division,  
Comité International de la Croix Rouge,  
Hotel Beau-Sejour,  
Genève,  
Suisse.



Absender: A. J. Sherwill, 1050, Ilag VII, Laufen OBB.,  
Deutschland.





**R** GUERNSEY 8  
No 0606



Guernsey Press Co., 10 X 240M/1/43



W. BOALGH.  
47. OLD MILL  
ST MARTINS  
GUERNSEY  
G.I.



# Trivia

Maybe it's just a mood I was in, but a thought occurred to me: I am just too easy on you. After seeing some of the very enlightened correspondence on chat rooms about WWII-era stamps, I knew that this group can handle just about anything on the subject.

Therefore, I went for broke on this one. I found some of the most difficult questions I could find on Funtrivia.com and here they are. Get ready to be challenged, and even amazed.

Enjoy!

## 1. What was a Sonderkommando?

- An elite paratrooper unit in the German Airforce (similar to the SAS soldier).
- The original name of the Waffen-SS, until it was changed by Himmler.
- A mobile extermination unit that followed the attacking ground troops into occupied countries and killed the local Jews and other "undesirables".
- A squad of Jews that had to do special tasks in the extermination camps.

## 2. What was "Kolberg"?

- An anti-Semitic newspaper created by Himmler.
- The location of the Gestapo Headquarters in Berlin.
- Hitler's private residence in Austria.
- A movie made by Goebbels to rival 'Gone with the Wind'.

## 3. The Golden Party Badge was worn by the first 100,000 members of the Nazi party.

### What happened to Adolf Hitler's Golden Party Badge?

- He placed it in the coffin with the body of his niece, Geli Raubal.
- It was never found.

- He gave it to Magda Goebbels prior to his suicide.
- He never actually had one.

**4. The Nazis celebrated a number of important events and allocated these into holidays.**

**In a normal calendar year, which of these events was celebrated FIRST?**

- Hitler's birthday.
- The Day of the Seizure of Power.
- National Labor Day.
- National Day of Mourning.

**5. Erich Hartmann, Erich Gerhard Barkhorn, Gunther Rall, Otto Kittel and Walther Nowotny all had what in common?**

- They were all tank commanders that destroyed more than 200 enemy tanks.
- They were all Luftwaffe aces with more than 250 "kills".
- They were all injured in the July 20 plot on Hitler's life in the Wolf's Lair.
- They were all in the Fuhrer Bunker when Hitler committed suicide.

**6. The Iron Front, or Eiserne Front, was a paramilitary group during 1919 that Hitler and Ernst Rohm were members of.**

- True
- False

**7. In what year was the magazine, "Das Dritte Reich" ("The Third Reich"), created?**

- 1974
- 1944
- 1934
- 1964

**8. From 1933 to 1945, how many films did the German film industry produce?**

- 1000-1500
- 500-1000
- 100-500
- 2000 plus

**9. Who were the "Werewolves"?**

- The name given to those that opposed Hitler.
- Members of an anti-Nazi group in Austria (Similar to the White Rose group).
- A group of German generals that plotted against Hitler.
- A group of German guerrilla soldiers set up in the final days of WWII.

**10. English born Unity Mitford, an avid (and obsessive) fan of Hitler, was conceived in a Canadian town called Swastika.**

- True
- False



# Answers

## 1. What was a Sonderkommando?

**The Correct Answer:** A squad of Jews that had to do special tasks in the extermination camps.

The Sonderkommandos were small squads of Jews that were selected to do the dirty work within the extermination camps in return for better living conditions. Their duties included leading fellow Jews to the gas chambers, removing the bodies from the gas chambers, removing the valuables from the bodies and then disposing of the bodies into the crematoriums.

Their lives however, were generally short, as they themselves would become victims of the killings. After about four months the Nazis would usually execute them because they didn't want any witnesses to the crimes being committed. A new group of male Jews would then be selected to fill the vacant positions. However, at Auschwitz some of the men in the Sonderkommando were kept on because of their expertise and survived till liberation. One of the best known Sonderkommando survivors is Filip Müller, whose memoirs appeared in 1979.

The term Sonderkommando also referred (to a lesser extent) to special units of the SS that took part in political and policing roles within the occupied eastern countries.

The mobile extermination units were called Einsatzgruppen.

42% of players have answered correctly.

## 2. What was "Kolberg"?

The correct answer was **A movie made by Goebbels to rival 'Gone with the Wind'.**

"Kolberg" was a film made in 1944 by order of Goebbels.

It was the last film to be made in Nazi Germany, and it was the most expensive film made by the Nazis.

The story line centered on the Napoleonic Wars, and the gallant Prussians defending against the attacking French army. (Kolberg, Pomerania withstood a French siege from March-July, 1807. The burghers fought alongside the Prussian army while Ferdinand von Schill's Freikorps harassed the besieging French forces).

Entire army units were withdrawn from service to act as extras in the production and ammunition factories were ordered to create blank ammo. The premiere was scheduled for 30 January, 1945.

**43%** of players have answered correctly.

**3.** The Golden Party Badge was worn by the first 100,000 members of the Nazi party.

What happened to Adolf Hitler's Golden Party Badge?

The correct answer was **He gave it to Magda Goebbels prior to his suicide.**

The Golden Party Badge was a circular badge with a gold wreath around the outside. In the center of the badge was the black swastika symbol surrounded by a red circle that contained the words: "National-Sozialistische-D.A.P." in gold writing. It came in two sizes, 25mm and 30mm. Non-party members could receive the badge at the discretion of Hitler. They were stamped with "AH" on the reverse.

Hitler's badge was endorsed with number '1' on the reverse.

When Hitler handed Magda Goebbels his badge she claimed that it was, "The greatest honor any German could receive". She was handed the badge in recognition of being the "Greatest Mother in the Reich".

**36%** of players have answered correctly.

4. The Nazis celebrated a number of important events and allocated these into holidays.

In a normal calendar year, which of these events was celebrated FIRST?

The correct answer was **The Day of the Seizure of Power.**

The Day of the Seizure of Power was celebrated on January 30.

Hitler's birthday was 20 April.

The National Labor Day was celebrated on May 1.

The National Day of Mourning was held on March 16. After 1933 it was renamed to 'Heroes' Remembrance Day'.

Other important events/holidays were: Foundation Day of the NSDAP, Mothering Sunday (Mothers' day), Day of the Summer Solstice, the Nuremberg Rallies and the Anniversary of the Beer Hall Putsch.

41% of players have answered correctly.

5. Erich Hartmann, Erich Gerhard Barkhorn, Gunther Rall, Otto Kittel and Walther Nowotny all had what in common?

**The Correct Answer:** They were all Luftwaffe aces with more than 250 "kills".

Erich Hartmann was the highest scorer, with 352 kills. His last victory was on 8 May 1945.

43% of players have answered correctly.

6. The Iron Front, or Eiserne Front, was a paramilitary group during 1919 that Hitler and Ernst Rohm were members of.

**The Correct Answer:** False

The Iron Front was an anti-Nazi group, made up of a selection of political parties opposed to the Nazis. It was created in 1932, but it did not develop into an effective political force.

Hitler and Ernst Rohm were members of Mailed Fist, or Eiserne Faust, a paramilitary organization. Hitler made associations and acquaintances with fellow members of Eiserne Faust who were also involved with the German Workers Party.

57% of players have answered correctly.

**7.** In what year was the magazine, "Das Dritte Reich" ("The Third Reich"), created?

The correct answer was **1974**

The magazine was released bi-monthly and caused controversy. The German Federal Government was worried that the magazine would create interest in neo-Nazi activities. Those that opposed the magazine claimed that the contents glorified the Nazi era, instead of condemning that period of time. The forty-eight page magazine sold for \$1.10 a copy.

Das Dritte Reich was also the name of a book written in 1923 by Arthur Moeller van den Bruck.

After the failure of the Munich Beer Hall Putsch, Moeller van den Bruck wrote the following quote about Hitler, "There are many things that can be said against Hitler, and I have sometimes said them. But one thing you have to give him credit for: he is a fanatic for Germany. But he is wrecked by his proletarian primitive ways. He does not know how to give an intellectual basis to his Nazi party. Hitler is all passion, but lacks sense or proportion. A heroic tenor, not a hero."

9% of players have answered correctly.

8. From 1933 to 1945, how many films did the German film industry produce?

The correct answer was **1000-1500**

The film industry managed to create 1,363 feature films. All films and news reels had to be sanctioned by the Propaganda Ministry prior to public viewing.

25% of players have answered correctly.

9. Who were the "Werewolves"?

**The Correct Answer:** A group of German guerrilla soldiers set up in the final days of WWII.

The Werewolves (also known as Werewolves) were led by SS-Obergruppenführer Hans Prützmann. Their role was to operate behind the enemy lines, similar to the special forces of today's armies, to create diversions and mayhem.

When Karl Doenitz took over the role of Führer of Germany, he disbanded the Werewolves.

69% of players have answered correctly.

10. English born Unity Mitford, an avid (and obsessive) fan of Hitler, was conceived in a Canadian town called Swastika.

**The Correct Answer: True**

A weird coincidence perhaps, but a true fact. Her father had gold mines in the little town that was located in Ontario, Canada.

During World War II the Canadian Government attempted to change the name of the town to Winston, but the townsfolk resisted the change.

52% of players have answered correctly

## For Sale

We do have a few items for sale:

Mail Surveillance under the Third Reich by R.J. Houston. 35 pages. \$15.

German Feldpost Operations in the West 1940-1944 by John Painter. 2004. 60 total pages. \$20.

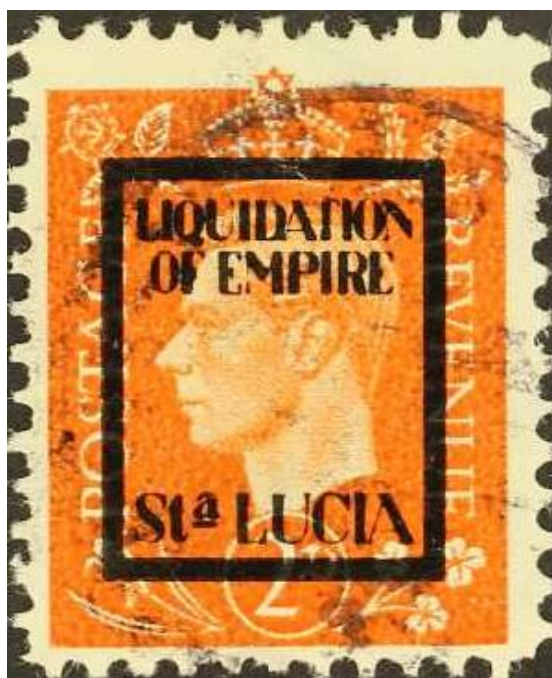
The War of the Springing Tiger by Jeffrey Markem, about Azad Hind stamps and the fight for India's Independence. \$10.

Composition Listing of Organic German Military Units, 1980. \$15.

Each of these are expertly written, filled with details that obviously took scores of hours to research. All proceeds go only to Third Reich Study Group. It is first come /first come serve, and if we get down to one copy, I will get more printed (but that could delay shipping by a week or so if it happens).

E-mail me at [ctkolker@mail.com](mailto:ctkolker@mail.com) or write to: Christopher Kolker, 25 Parkwoods Drive, Norwich, CT 06360, for orders or questions.

Thanks!!!!



And one for the road:

A German forgery of a British stamps, made to instill doubt and panic that the British were being forced to liquidate their colonies. They got through this – and so will we.