

# AUSTRIA

## Edited by Andy Taylor

Published by the Austrian Philatelic Society for private circulation  
to members: not to be quoted without permission. ISSN 0307-4331

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**"Hoi!! If you really want me to  
exchange all those Schilling  
stamps into Euro ones, don't  
\*\*\*\*\* sneeze!"**

## Editorial 140

By Andy Taylor

It is with regret that I announce the sudden death on 26<sup>th</sup> October of John F Giblin, our President from 1988 until this year, and my predecessor as Editor from 1965 to 1993. The APS was represented at the funeral in St Helens by its President and Editor. According to the Indexes, JFG wrote for 'Austria' 105 editorials; 202 addenda to his book "People on Austrian Stamps"; 180 individual articles; and essentially all the articles on New Issues. The library index lists nine separate philatelic books. Tributes appear on later pages.

I also regret to announce that John Dixon-Nuttall died this summer. Brian Presland suggests as a tribute a letter from an Austrian found with D-N's collection: "We in Austria should feel very ashamed of ourselves, that it has taken an Englishman to research an important part of our heritage."

On a more cheerful note, **Happy birthday Henry!** – Pollak, that is, born 13<sup>th</sup> December 1927 so by the time you are reading this he'll be 75. Henry was elected an HLM of the ASCGB in 1973; see 'Austria' **95** p7 for details. His contribution this issue is on a Mexican theme: see "QandA".

The "when **WAS** the Last Day of the Schilling Stamp" controversy [1 vs 2 July] rumbles on. It's the Postbox problem: an item franked with Schilling stamps and found in a postbox on 1<sup>st</sup> July might have been validly posted at 29:59 on 30<sup>th</sup> June by some devious philatelist. An article in the Aug/Sep issue of the Nachrichtenblatt of the BSV Favoriten, Wien by Alfred A Graf gives some insight into this; Herb Kucera has kindly translated it for me, and I have used this to compose an article which appears below.



From the "too clever by half" department... some pages of the Anschluß article as written for the last issue had a grey background to distinguish the "commentary" from the text: for example the masters of pages 14 & 15 have this background. Unfortunately, the printer's automatic contrast system seems to have thought that the originals were printed on dirty paper, and carefully removed the background. Hopefully the difference in font provided adequate differentiation; confused readers should write to me.

A separate supplement with this issue contains the minutes of the 2002 AGM and the Discussion for which it was suspended. The reason is technical: the printers have reminded me that their folding machine dislikes dealing with more than 20 sheets (that's 80 pages), and as the number of sheets increases the print on the outer ones creeps nearer the edge and is in danger of being trimmed off. Thinner paper would jam in the copier. Coupled with the Post Office's rejigging of the overseas weight steps and your Hon Treasurer's careful stewardship of the money, I have been set the target of sticking to 80 page Austrias, unless some exceptional circumstance justifies a larger one.

This issue has a further instalment of "New Issues" (2000 part ii) and 2001 parts 1 & 2 are ready for next year. By then the 2002 issues will be complete! I expect to catch up by the end of 2003, and thereafter to have a New Issues article in every other 'Austria'. Thanks to Sal Rizza and Hans Smith, this issue contains the first part of an article by Mario Cedolini on "The Postal Communications between Imperial Austria and the Kingdom of Sardinia"; the remainder will follow in 2 or 3 parts. I also intend that Spring 2003 will contain an article with illustrations in colour on the designer Maria Schulz and her philosophy; I hope to interview her in Vienna at Numiphil.

Articles on Pneumatic Mail, Bukowina TPOs, the calculation of parcel rates, and Newspaper tax plus thematics of Salzkammergut and Kaprun are well in hand. The usual editorial, notes on publications, Q&A, letters, book reviews, meetings schedules etc will also appear. NEVERTHELESS, I always feel happy when someone offers an article, so don't be diffident!

I have just finished reading a fascinating book "The Austrians: a 1000-year Odyssey" by Gordon Brook-Shepherd. It was reviewed in 'Austria' 117, but only recently did I find a copy. GB-S had spoken at length with many of those involved in 20<sup>th</sup> century events, and I strongly recommend his book to anyone interested in "the politics behind the stamps". It adds two points to my "Demise of the Schilling" article (p52 of 'Austria' 139): the 1:1½ (instead of 1:2) Rm:Sch exchange rate was Hitler's reward to Seyss-Inquart for facilitating an Anschluß instead of a Personal Union [GB-Sp327]; and one source of the cash flowing in to the Oesterreichische Nationalbank was 1.6 million US\$ paid for exit permits by Jewish Aid [GB-Sp344].

Finally, these cancellations are available in Vienna this December.



***Frohe Weihnachten und ein Glückliches,  
Erfolgreiches Neues Jahr!***

## Stamp issues for 2000 (part 2)

by Andy Taylor

### *100th Anniversary of the Discovery of Human Blood Types*

Issued 16.6.2000. ANK 2356: 8Sch



Colour: Photo: crimson, black, silver. Perf  $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ . Issue 2,100,000. Design Prof Otto Stefferl. Printing ÖSD.

On March 23, 1901 Karl Landsteiner published his paper entitled "Agglutination Properties of Normal Human Blood". Landsteiner had studied the chemistry between red blood cells and blood serum and discovered that antibodies are

usually present in human serum which agglutinate the blood cells of other humans. Landsteiner had thereby discovered the major human blood types. With his discovery he laid the foundation for modern-day blood transfusions. In 1930 he received the Nobel Prize for his discovery of the major human blood types and their role in blood transfusions. Together with Alexander Wiener he discovered the Rhesus factor in 1940. Today, more than 75 blood type classifications and over 500 factors have been identified.

### *100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Inauguration of Austria's First Public Motor Transport*

Issued 16.6.2000. ANK 2357: 9Sch



The stamp shows a Cannstatter Daimler bus. Colour: Photo: ultramarine-grey, light violet-blue; Intaglio dark-blue-grey. Perf  $14 \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ . Issue 2,100,000. Design & engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler. Printing ÖSD.

Licences for passenger transportation by motorized vehicles were introduced in 1895, although vehicles suited for scheduled service became available only in 1900. The first operational route was from Imst to Reutte in the summer of 1900; a consortium had been granted concessions in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy as early as 1897 but was unable to acquire the appropriate vehicles necessary to begin scheduled operation. The Cannstatt Daimler Omnibus which serves as this stamp's motif boasted an eight horsepower twin-head engine with rear wheel drive. Each of the wooden wheels has six-inch wide iron hooping. This particular bus began operating on the route from Purkersdorf to Gablitz on June 16, 1900.

## ***Tales and Legends of Austria: The Bread Loaf Marterl, Lower Austria***

**Issued 16.6.2000. ANK 2358: 23Sch**



Colour: grey-green, yellow-green; Intaglio black. Perf 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x14. Issue unlimited. Design Adolf Tuma, engraved Prof Werner Pfeiler. Printing ÖSD.

Little monuments, or "Marterl" as they are known in Austria, dot the countryside and are intended to call to mind the Passio Christi (Passion of Christ) or the Arma Christi (Weapons of Christ), but they can also commemorate a tragic occurrence. The monument shown on the stamp is situated atop a hill on the road from Oberndorf to Oberpfaffendorf at the city limits of Raabs an der Thaya in the district of

Waidhofen an der Thaya in Lower Austria. The legend of the construction of the "bread loaf Marterl" in Raabs is that once upon a time, a very hungry young manual labourer stole a loaf of bread from a wealthy farmer in Oberndorf, who saw him. In order to run faster, the boy threw the bread away while fleeing. The farmer picked up the loaf and angrily hurled it at the boy, striking him in the head with such great force that the boy dropped to the ground fatally wounded. The court eventually sentenced the farmer to build a Marterl on this site. According to another story, the same Marterl was ascribed to a baker from whose shop the young man stole a loaf of bread. In Austrian dialect, this type of monument is also known as a "G'spitzte Marterl" or "Schwarze Marterl"

## ***National Customs and Folklore Treasures: International Raft Meet***

**Issued 25.8.2000. ANK 2359: 7Sch**



Colour: Photo: ultramarine, turquoise-blue, grey-black, dark blue-green, purple-red-lilac, orange-brown; Intaglio black. Perf 13¾x13¾. Issue 2,900,000. Design Auguste Böcskör, engraved Maria Laurent. Printing ÖSD.

The origins of rafting are closely associated with those of the timber trade. The earliest documented evidence of trade on the Drava dates back to the year 1209. Rafting on the Drava traditionally began at Easter and lasted until November. Rafts were assembled on the Drava's natural tributaries. The first step

involved constructing the floor of the raft, which consisted of three or four panels. One panel consisted of 10 to 15 logs bound together, each approximately 4½m in length. Midway through each panel a rod extended from one to the next and back again, thereby preventing individual parts of the raft from shifting sideways into each other. A rudder, one located at the front and one at the rear, allowed the raft to be steered. The front helmsman was responsible for changes in direction, while the rear steersman was charged with straightening the raft's position. This required much skill, concentration, and above all in-depth understanding of the patterns of the Drava. This year marked the twelfth International Raft Meet, and rafts from many European countries took part.

## ***100th Anniversary of the Vienna Philharmonic***

**Issued 15.9.2000. ANK 2360: 7Sch**



Colour: Photo: turquoise-blue, yellow, pale-purple-red, silver; Intaglio dark-blue. Perf 13¾x13¾. Issue 2,900,000. Design Prof Otto Stefferl, engraved Prof Werner Pfeiler. Printing ÖSD.

The Vienna Philharmonic performed its first concert on October 30, 1900 under the name Wiener Concert

Verein under which it was founded. The Wiener Concert Verein joined together with the Wiener Tonkünstler Orchester founded in 1907 and then in 1933 merged with the Wiener Sinfonie Orchester to form the Vienna Philharmonic. Subsequent funding was provided by the city of Vienna supplemented by subsidies from the Federal Government. The politico-cultural function of the Vienna Philharmonic and of its forerunners was clearly established from the beginning: making art new and accessible to always- expanding circles of interest. A commitment to all things modern shaped the program planning as well. Approximately one thousand world premieres have been performed, from Bruckner's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony to a brilliant "Lulu" by Alban Berg. The Vienna Philharmonic's realm of responsibility has widened many times since 1900, yet the goal has always remained the same: conveying art to humanity

## ***UNESCO World Heritage List: Hallstatt - Dachstein in the Salzkammergut***

**Issued 15.9.2000. ANK 2361: 7Sch**



Colour: Photo: light cobalt-blue, greenish-yellow, lilac-crimson, brown-ochre, green-grey; Intaglio: dark green-blue. Perf 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x13 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Issue 2,900,000. Design Auguste Böcskör, engraved Maria Laurent. Printing ÖSD

The habitat of the Salzkammergut, an alpine and foothill territory situated within the catchment area of the upper Traun, owes its name and cultural landscape to documented records of

salt mining in ancient times. In addition to mountains, the Salzkammergut abounds with forests, meadows, pastures, and even lakes. In many ways the beauty of the lakes in this abundance of contrasting landscapes that spans three provinces is witnessed in the reflections of steep cliffs on the water's surface and in the green, blue, often nearly "black" water. Originally associated only with the "Ischl Land", this overall impression extends throughout the Traun and Atter regions. The "Hallstatt-Dachstein" part of the Salzkammergut has been included on the UNESCO World Heritage List since December 1997, as "an extraordinary example of a natural landscape of unique beauty and scientific significance, which gives testimony to past and future human, scientific, and cultural pursuits".

## 2000 Summer Olympics

Issued 15.9.2000. ANK 2362: 9Sch

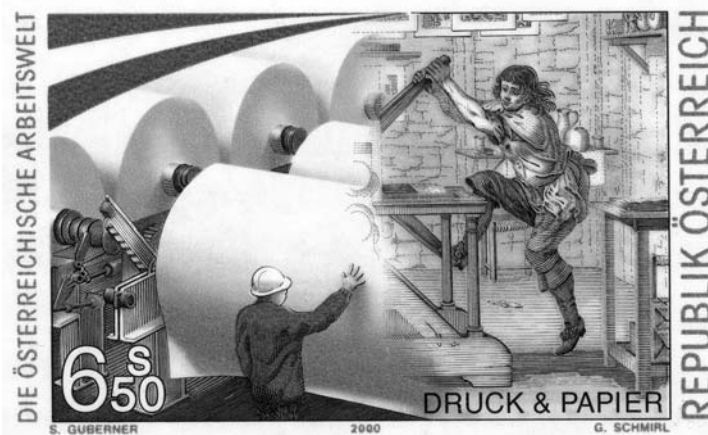


Colour: Photo: cornflower-blue, dark violet-blue, orange-yellow, green, scarlet, orange-brown, black, gold; Intaglio brown-violet. Perf 14x13¾. Issue 2,200,000. Design Prof Gottfried Kumpf, engraved Prof Wolfgang Seidel. Printing ÖSD

The 2000 Summer Olympic Games took place from September 15 to October 1 in Sydney, Australia. Twenty-eight athletic disciplines with a total of 300 competitions were scheduled: 168 for men, 120 for women, and twelve mixed competitions; roughly 10,400 athletes from 199 National Olympic Committees around the world were expected to participate. Two disciplines - tae kwon do and triathlon - were represented at the Olympic level for the first time.

## Print and Paper

Issued 13.10.2000. ANK 2363: 6.50Sch



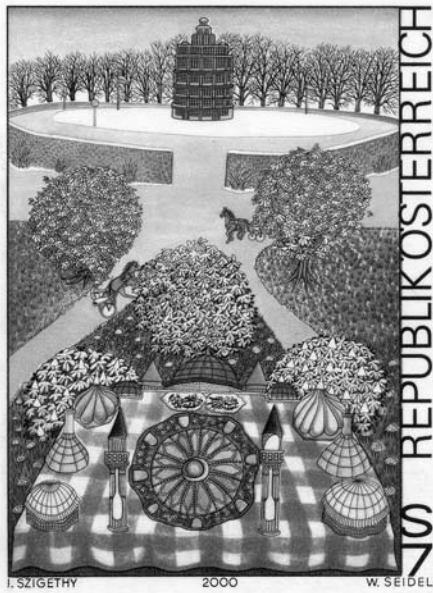
Colour: Photo: ultramarine, scarlet, grey-black, chamois, gold; Intaglio black. Perf 14x13¾. Issue 2,000,000. Design Stephanie Guberner, engraved Gerhart Schmirgl. Printing ÖSD

From its inception the labour movement did not restrict itself to securing material growth and advancement. In addition to a shorter workday, improved economic and social conditions, and liberation from the authoritarian bonds of capitalism, workers strove for higher education standards. The Trade Union for Printing and Paper was founded in Vienna in 1842 as a support organisation for letterpress printers who had fallen ill and for type-founders in general. It was therefore the next logical step to expand technical education beyond the framework of each individual's own occupation, and in 1897 some colleagues

felt the need to create a union to achieve this. More so than other professions, the graphic profession is subject to ever-changing tastes and preferences and relies heavily on large-scale continuing education.

## ***Modern Art in Austria: 26<sup>th</sup> Value***

**Issued 13.10.2000. ANK 2364: 7Sch**



The stamp shows Ida Szigethy's work entitled "Turf Turkey". Colour: Photo: ultramarine, chrome-yellow, lilac, green-emerald, dark-violet, silver; Intaglio dark-brown. Perf 13¾x13¾. Issue 2,900,000. Design Ida Szigethy, engraved Prof Wolfgang Seidel. Printing ÖSD

Ida Szigethy on herself: "I gleaned my first artistic impressions during my youth in the so-called 'Strohkoffer' (straw bag) Art Club. The Art Club was my destination almost every day, even throughout high school, and it was the most fascinating place to meet in Vienna. Since my father was a writer and my mother a concert pianist, I was never a stranger to the arts. The

large Klee exhibit in the Secession impressed me the most, followed by paintings by Rudolf Hausner and the Surrealists and the first Hundertwasser exhibit of paintings and objects in the Art Club in 1952. In those days my friends were the as yet unknown poets Konrad Bayer, H.C. Artmann, Gerhard Rühm, and Oswald Wiener. It was during these years that I first began to paint."

## ***Antique Handicrafts: Codex of 965 (in the National Library)***

**Issued 13.10.2000. ANK 2365: 8Sch**

Colour: Photo: cobalt, blue-green, greenish-yellow, red, yellow-brown; Intaglio black. Perf 13¾x13¾. Issue 2,200,000. Design & engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler. Printing ÖSD.

The illustration displayed on the stamp originates from a late thirteenth century manuscript and depicts the 12<sup>th</sup> century



author Hugo de Folieto dressed as a monk from the High Middle Ages, donning a tonsure and a wide hooded cloak. He is bending over a desk, holding an eraser knife in his left hand, which serves to make corrections and which prevent the pages from folding over, and a diagonally cut quill in his right hand. Written in Vienna, the Codex of 965 contains several texts of a theological nature, by authors such as Hugo de Folieto, Hugo de S. Victore and Anselmus Cantuariensis. The script is adorned with opaque lettering and numerous Lombard fleurons. Originally discovered in Vienna's Scottish Monastery, evidence of the Codex dates back to the Middle Ages. From there the parchment (consisting of 135 pages of script, each measuring about 28 x 19 cm) found its way into the Royal Vienna Library in the 16th century.

## ***200th Anniversary of Vaccinations in Austria***

**Issued 24.11.2000. ANK 2366: 7Sch**



Colour: Photo: grey-brown; Intaglio dark black-brown. Perf 13½x14¼. Issue 2,800,000. Design Peter Sinawehl, engraved Prof Wolfgang Seidel. Printing ÖSD

The history of man is characterised not only by wars, but also by the progression of diseases such as the plague and smallpox. On December 10<sup>th</sup> 1800 Jean de Carro carried out the first public immunisation campaign in Brunn am Gebirge. Historically, the smallpox vaccine can be regarded as a model: it achieved great importance to society by having been the first vaccine ever invented and ultimately led to the world-wide eradication of the

disease. Other vaccines known to us today are linked to the discovery of bacteria by Robert Koch and Louis Pasteur. This spawned dramatic accomplishments in the field of immunology, particularly in serum development (diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis).

## ***50th Anniversary of the Association of Austrian Adult Education Centers***

**Issued 24.11.2000. ANK 2367: 7Sch**

Colour: Photo: light grey, gold; Intaglio brown-crimson. Perf 13¾x13¾. Issue 2,800,000. Design Peter Sinawehl, engraved Kurt Leitgeb. Printing ÖSD

In December 1950 Austria's Association of Adult Education Centers was formed in Vienna's Urania Observatory. The association was established to oversee adult education centres and their regional bodies. At present, 293 adult

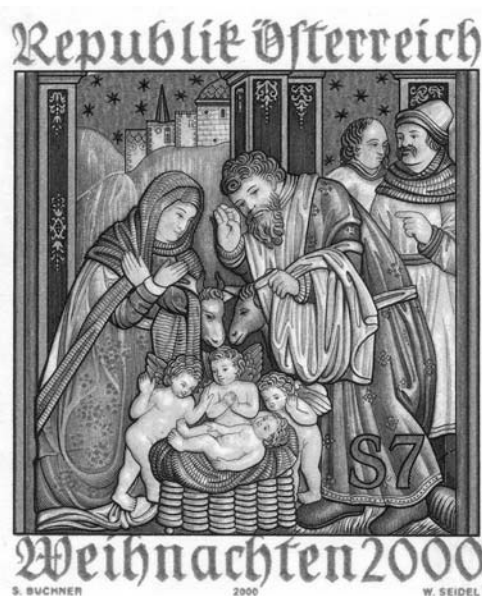


education centres offer nearly 45,000 courses and seminars each year, with one half million enrollees. This is complimented by a multitude of unique one-time events: lectures, field trips, films, etc. In addition, selected adult education centers and regional organizations offer continuing education programs, many of which last over a period of years and are in many cases financed at least in part by the European Union's education fund. The broadness of their scope makes adult education centers the largest mechanism

within Austria's system of continuing adult education. The centers consider themselves committed to the pursuit of democracy, human rights, and political independence. In line with this, they seek to prohibit and actively resist all discriminatory tendencies and activities which are anti-democratic, racist, anti-Semitic, or anti-women.

## *Christmas 2000*

Issued 1.12.2000. ANK 2368: 7Sch



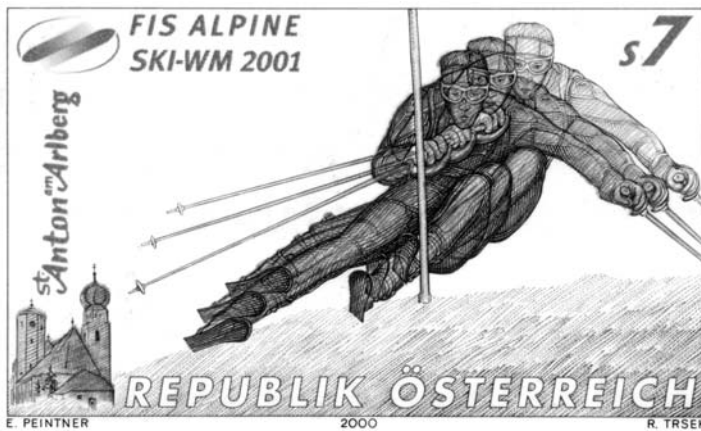
Colour: Photo: light cobalt-blue, yellow, dark pink-lilac, light-rose, emerald-green, gold; Intaglio dark-red-brown. Perf 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x13 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Issue 13,000,000. Design Prof Sepp Buchner, engraved Prof Wolfgang Seidel. Printing ÖSD

The late Gothic wood relief in the side-wing of the altar of St. Martin's Church in Ludesch in the Walser Valley in Vorarlberg forms the motif of this year's Christmas stamp. The carved interior of the altar wings depicts four scenes from the birth of Christ. The High Altar created in the year 1629 is the eye-catcher of the entire Sacristy. Indeed individual sections of the altar probably date back to the 16th century. In the

center stands Mary with the Christ Child on her right arm. On her right stand St. Lucius, Patron Saint of the Bishopric of Chur, and St. Martin, Patron of the church. The first documented evidence of the church's existence dates back to the year 842. Archaeological excavations have revealed that the ground plan and brickwork of the original construction go as far back as the 8th century. The church of St. Martin is considered the symbol of Ludesch.

## ***2001 World Championships in Alpine Skiing - St. Anton am Arlberg***

**Issued 15.12.2000. ANK 2369: 7Sch**



[The issue of this '2001' stamp in 2000 caused considerable irritation amongst philatelists and dealers!] Colour: Photo: ultramarine, cobalt, crimson, yellow; Intaglio blue. Perf 14x13¾. Issue 2,900,000. Design Elmar Peintner, engraved Robert Trsek. Printing ÖSD

The 2001 World Championships in Alpine Skiing in St. Anton am Arlberg marks the centennial of what is perhaps the most famous ski club in the world, the Arlberg Ski Club which founded alpine racing. On January 3<sup>rd</sup> 1901, alpine ski enthusiasts formed the Arlberg Ski Club in the Hospice of St. Christopher. The international significance of this club first became clear in 1928 with the first race in Arlberg-Kandahar. The club's legendary member Hannes Schneider together with Englishman Sir Arnold Lunn conceived the idea behind this event one year earlier. The Arlberg Ski Club has produced many famous male and female downhill racers. Two of them have achieved eternal fame: Hannes Schneider and Karl Schranz. The issue of this stamp not only serves to propagate and document the significance of the world championships and their venue, but also to continue a philatelic "ski tradition".

# **The Postal Communications between Imperial Austria and the Kingdom of Sardinia between 1 January 1854 and 30 September 1867.**

**By Mario Cedolini; Translated by Salvatore J. Rizza <sup>1</sup>**

A Postal Convention between Austria and Sardinia was subscribed at Turin on 28 September 1853, and ratified on 12 December; it came into force on 1 January 1854 (as established by Article 37 of the Convention).

This article was written not so much to present unpublished information on this subject, even if the attentive reader may find something new, but to furnish a basic listing of the various postmarks and manuscript annotations that appeared on the correspondence between the two administrations in the period when the Postal Convention was in force.

From the postal history point of view, I have decided to sub-divide the 13 years 9 months of the Convention into nine periods, characterizing each one by the manner of its treatment of the diverse correspondence due to the war and political events in those years. I have indicated for some of these periods the approximate duration, giving the reader a first immediate valuation of the "rarity" of the material. Anyone wishing fuller details of some specific aspect will find references to the Articles of the Convention, of which there are 38.

## ***The first period, from 1 January 1854 to 29 April 1859 (5 years and 4 months)***

In this period, the Convention was fully implemented. The franking of the correspondence was optional. That means that the tariff could be paid upon despatch or that it could be paid at the end destination by the addressee. There was an exception for registered letters, which had to be franked by the sender (Article 4). It is also specified that the franking of the letter upon despatch may be waived, or special "letter stamps" could be added, or the fee could be paid directly in cash. If an item

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<sup>1</sup> *This article is based on a presentation made by Mario Cedolini on 10 November 2001 to the Congress on "the postal history of Lombardy-Venetia - the treaties with foreign countries" held in Padua. It was published in "Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale" (editor: Adriano Cattani) issues 118 & 119 with the title "Le comunicazioni postali tra l'Impero Austriaco ed il Regno di Sardinia (poi Regno di Italia) tra il 1 gennaio 1854 ed il 30 settembre 1867". This translation was made for APS by Salvatore Rizza. Hans Smith obtained the necessary permissions and material. Mario Cedolini kindly sent electronic versions of the illustrations. The Editor is most grateful to all of them for making this article possible.*

was insufficiently franked, the value thereof was ignored, and the letter was taxed upon arrival for the entire sum due (Article 26). This state of affairs, as we shall see, remained in force only until 1 October 1862.

The "postage rates" were determined on the basis of weight and the distance between the place of origin and the final destination. The Austrian territory was divided into three Postal Sections (A1, A2, A3); the Sardinian territory was divided into two Postal Sections (S1, S2), both on the basis of the distance from the border (Article 11). In the map at Figure 1, the diverse sections with their borders are indicated, while the listings of the post offices, sub-divided according to the Sections to which they belong, are specified in the full text of the Convention.

Article 12 establishes four tariffs for the letters sent from Austria to Sardinia, and five tariffs for letters posted from Sardinia to Austria:

A) Where the postage fee is collected in Austria, for a "simple" letter not heavier than a Viennese "Lot" (17.5 grams):

From A1 to S1 = 6 Kr (30 Cs); to S2 = 9 Kr (45 Cs).

From A2 to S1 = 9 Kr (45 Cs); to S2 = 12 Kr (60 Cs).

From A3 to S1 = 12 Kr (60 Cs); to S2 = 15 Kr (75 Cs).

*[Kr is the Austrian Kreuzer at 60 to the Gulden, which was also referred to as the Carantani; Cs is the Lombardy-Venetia Centesimi at 100 to the Lira]*

When the Austrian currency changed on 1 November 1858, these became:

From A1 to S1 = 10 Kr (10 So); to S2 = 16 Kr (16 So).

From A2 to S1 = 16 Kr (16 So); to S2 = 21 Kr (21 So).

From A3 to S1 = 21 Kr (21 So); to S2 = 26 Kr (26 So).

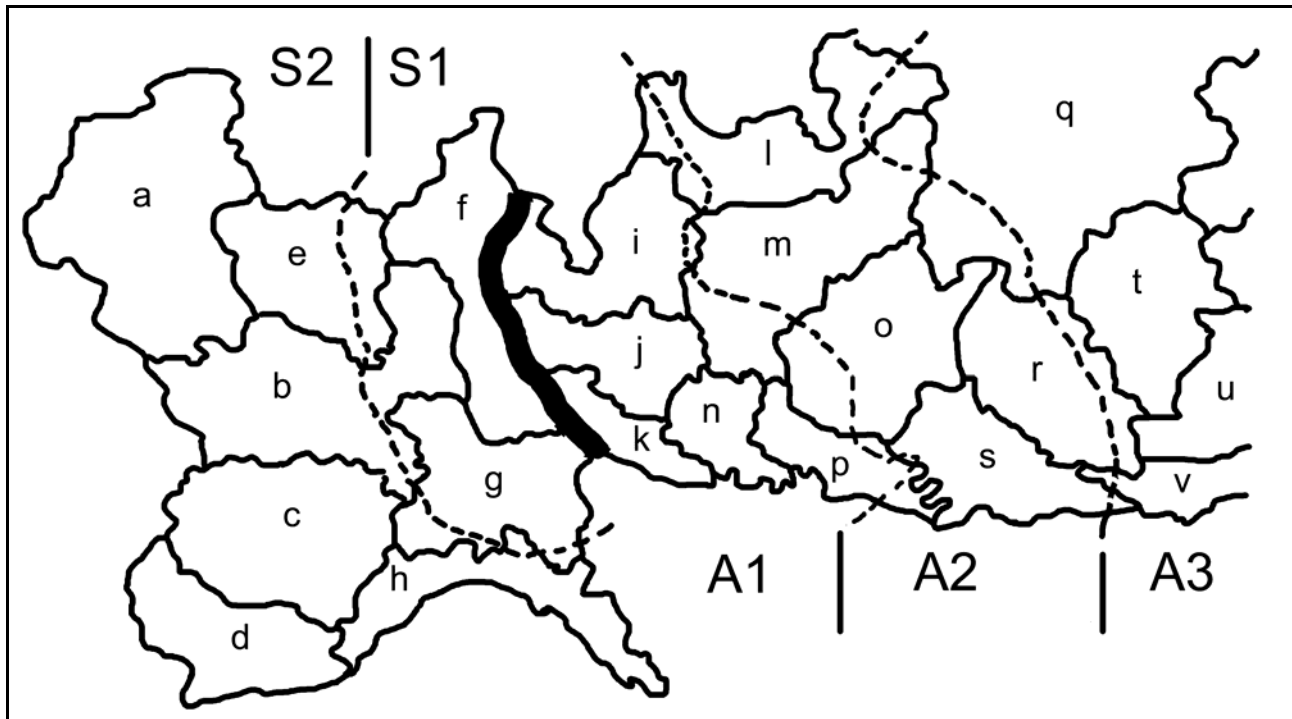
*[Kr is the Austrian Kreuzer, now at 100 to the Gulden; So is the Lombardy-Venetia Soldi at 100 to the Florin]*

B) Where the postage fee is collected in Sardinia, for a "simple" letter not heavier than 15 grams in weight:

From S1 to A1 = 25 IC; to A2 = 40 IC; to A3 = 50 IC.

From S2 to A1 = 40 IC; to A2 = 55 IC; to A3 = 65 IC.

*[IC is Italian Centesimi]*



**Figure 1a: The Postal Zones before the Second War of Independence.**

[The key to the provinces is in the table below.] All distances are measured "in a straight line from any point of the border".

S1: Within 75km.

S2: Over 75km.

A1: Within 10 leagues (75km).

A2: Beyond 10 but within 20 leagues.

A3: Beyond 20 leagues.



**the north of Italy.**

**Figure 1b: location of fig 1a at**

a	Chambery	b	Torino	c	Cuneo	d	Nizza
e	Ivrea	f	Novara	g	Alessandrina	h	Genova

i	Como	j	Milano	k	Pavia	l	Sondrio
m	Bergamo	n	Lodi-Crema	o	Brescia	p	Cremona
q	Süd-Tirol	r	Verona	s	Mantova	t	Vicenza
u	Padova	v	Rovigo				

It should be noted that the geographical system of the Sections remained in force for the entire duration of the Convention, and on the part of the Austrian Administration, even after the introduction of the single tariff for internal use on 1 January 1866.

It appears evident that, from a philatelic viewpoint, the franking of various tariffs gives rise to a great many possible combinations. From the Convention's coming into force, there were three issues from Sardinia, about four from Italy, six from Lombardo-Veneto, and a good seven from Austria. I shall limit myself, therefore, to present as illustrations of this period, several letters franked in cash or not franked (Figures 2, 3, 4).



FIGURE 2: 11 February 1854 - Simple letter from Treviso (A3) to Genova (S2), franked on despatch ("FRANCA" and "PD") [exempt from payment and paid], by payment in cash of 15 Carantani (as shown on the reverse).



FIGURE 3: 16 November 1855 - Simple letter from Trieste (A3) to Genova (S2), not franked on despatch. The addressee has paid 65 Italian Centesimi in fees.



FIGURE 4: 25 June 1856 - Simple letter from Cuneo (S2) to Tarzo (A3), not franked on despatch. The address has paid 15 Carantani in fees.

Under the Convention there was also established the respective amounts due to each Administration denominated "Reciprocal Claimants" and determined from the provenance or destination of the letter (Article 13), as follows:

If sent from S1 or addressed to S1, Sardinia is due 13 Italian Centesimi;

If sent from S2 or addressed to S2, Sardinia is due 28 Italian Centesimi;

If sent from A1 or addressed to A1, Austria is due 3 Kr. or Carantani (15 Centesimi); from 1 November 1858 5 Kr. (5 Soldi);

If sent from A2 or addressed to A2, Austria is due 6 Kr. or Carantani (30 Centesimi); from 1 November 1858 10 Kr. (10 Soldi);

If sent from A3 or addressed to A3, Austria is due 9 Kr. or Carantani (45 Centesimi); from 1 November 1858 15 Kr. (15 Soldi).

This disposition assumes particular relevance from the point of view of the documentation of postal history, starting from 1 October 1862. In particular, the Sardinian fees need to be observed, while the Austrian fees correspond substantially to the tariffs relating to distance that were in force for internal correspondence.

For a simple letter exchanged between two post offices in proximity to each country's borders, with the distance between them not more than 15 kilometers (two German leagues), there is, in addition, prescribed an "exceptional tariff" of 3 Carantani (15 Centesimi) or of 10 Italian Centesimi, as long as the collection of the tariff takes place in Austria or in Sardinia, and remains to the "total advantage of the Administration that collects the tariff" (Article 14). The list of the "adjoining post offices" is attached to the text of the Convention.

A "moderate fee" is also fixed for printed matter in the amount of 1 Kr./Carantano (5 Centesimi) or 5 Italian Centesimi for every Vienna lot in weight (Article 15). Even in this case, it is laid down that the fee remains to the "total advantage of the sending Administration".

### ***The second period, from 29 April 1859 to 14 September 1859 (four and a half months)***

On 29 April 1859, due to the outbreak of war, the Convention was suspended by Austria, while Sardinia did not officially cease correspondence until 24 May (Del Bianco <sup>2</sup>.) Between these dates, the correspondence was forwarded by way of Switzerland, applying the Sardinia-Switzerland Treaty of 21 October 1850, which prescribed a tariff of 60 Italian Centesimi for every 10 grams in weight, in which case the rights of transit would be paid to Switzerland by the Sardinian Administration; while, if those fees were paid by the Austrian Administration, there would be applied the Austro-Swiss Treaty, which laid down a tariff of 35 Kr. (35 Soldi) for every 9/16 of an Austrian "lot".

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<sup>2</sup> Umberto Del Bianco: Postal History of the Lombardo-Veneto (1815-1866), Vol. I, Pg. 208.

It seems that at this time the arrangements in force had foreseen only the franking of the posted item to the border (Sardinian-Switzerland if posted from Sardinia; Austro-Swiss if posted from Austria) with the possible exception of registered items which had to be franked all the way to their destination (Figures 5 and 6). This was probably the reason why Mentaschi in his fundamental article on the Swiss routes (<sup>3</sup>) affirms: "I have not seen letters franked up to their destinations (with 60 Italian Centesimi or 35 Soldi) in the period of interrupted postal communications". In reality, the change in arrangements, as we shall see, came about on 1 November.



FIGURE 5: 30 July 1859 - From Trieste Station to Genoa (6 August 1859), franked to the frontier, and then routed via Switzerland and consigned to the steamboat Verbano (Lake Maggiore) for transmittal to Sardinia. The indication "By Way of Switzerland" was handwritten by the sender, which confirms that it was not possible to pay the tariff to its destination. The addressee has paid a 35 Centesimi fee. The Swiss tariff claim of 15 Centesimi was indicated at the point of the border exchange.

<sup>3</sup> Mario Mentaschi - Via di Svizzera – Vaccari Magazine n° 24 –2000

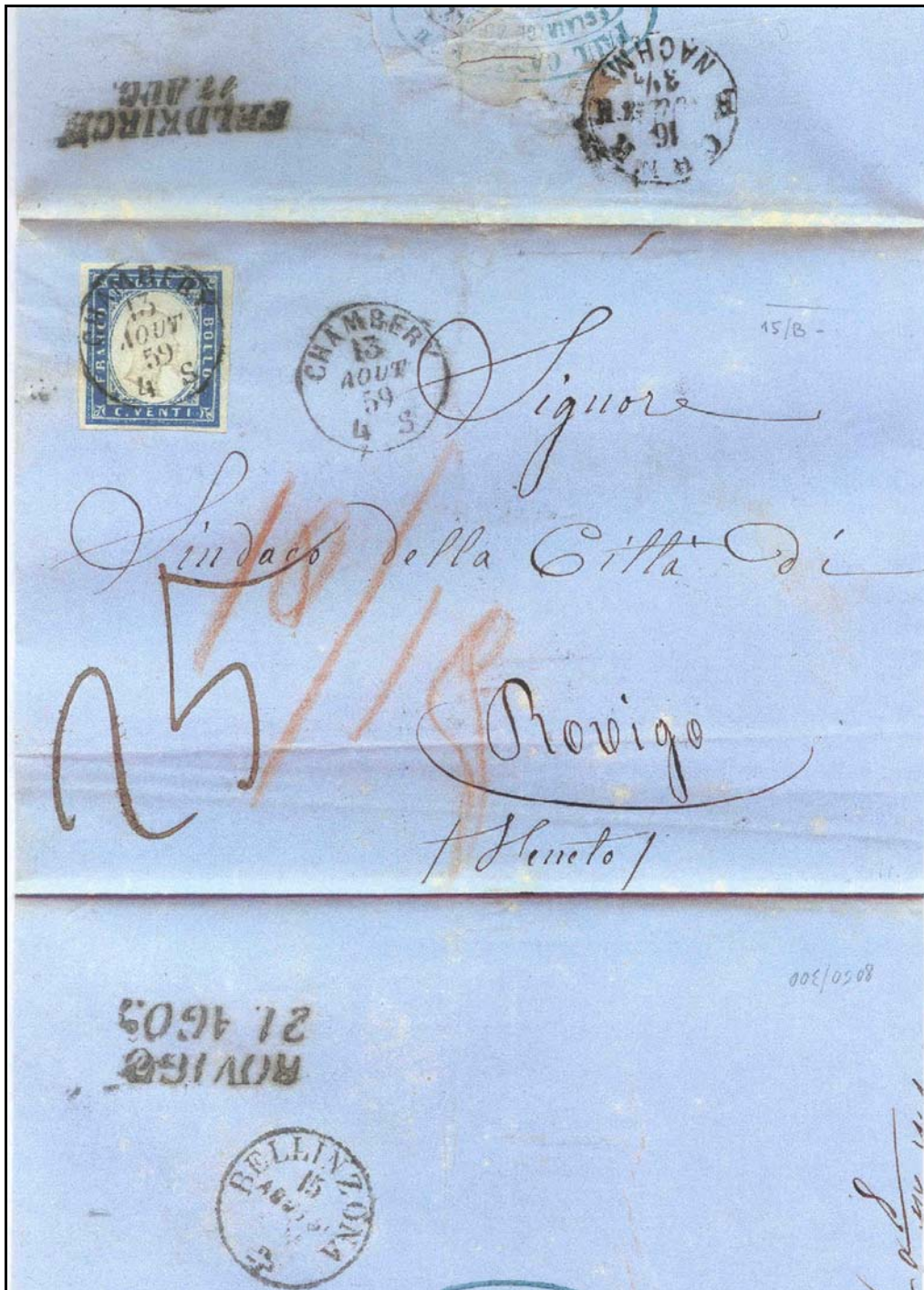


FIGURE 6: 13 August 1859 - From Chambry to Rovigo (21 August 1859), franked to the border, and routed through Switzerland. The addressee has paid 25 Soldi in fees. The Swiss claim of 10 Soldi and the Austrian claim of 15 Soldi was indicated at the point of exchange.

**(TO BE CONTINUED)**

## Cantfest Weekend

by John Cottrell

### *"Cantfest Weekend 2002, 12th & 13th October, at The Chaucer Hotel, Canterbury"*

For the second year running an excellent attendance ensured an interesting and enjoyable weekend for both Philatelists and non-Philatelists alike. The hotel lived up to the reputation it established last year for good food and comfortable accommodation. The service was excellent and the hotel staff did everything necessary to ensure that the programme went smoothly throughout the weekend.

Opening the conference on Saturday morning, Mr. Cottrell welcomed everyone, and especially those attending a Fest for the first time, to Canterbury and to The Chaucer Hotel and pointed out that they were going to have to put up with the same Dictator as last year. No-one objected! He thanked Alan Berrisford for bringing all the display stands down from Peterborough and all those, who had helped to put them up during the previous evening.

He also explained that the Chairman, Martin Brumby, as a result of his Civic Duties as Sheriff of York, could only join the conference for a limited time on Saturday and had to return to York that evening. He expressed thanks to James Hooper who had undertaken to meet Martin off the train at 10.30am and return him to the station at 5 pm. He also informed members that Brian Presland, a regular at tender at the annual Fests, was absent this year through serious illness and invited everyone to sign a 'Get Well' card, which they did, and which was mailed the next day.

During Saturday and Sunday 19 separate displays were shown, as follows

Austria Levant	Hans Smith
Court Delivery for Galicia	Alan Berrisford
Feldpost Stamps	James Hooper
Imperial Stamps	Andy Taylor
Kitzbühel	Andy Taylor
Kraina	Clive Murray
Ljubliana	Hans Smith
Money Letters	Hans Smith
Newspaper Tax 1810/99	John Whiteside
Parcel Post 1878/90	John Whiteside
Pneumatic Post	Colin Tobitt

Postal Stationary Cards 1925/35	Henry White
Pro Juventute Airship Post	James Hooper
Revenue Stamped Paper 1818/54	John Whiteside
Travelling Post Offices	John May
Trieste	Geoff Richardson
United Nations, Vienna	John May
WWI Eastern Front	Alan Berrisford.

A very varied range of subjects which provoked much interest and discussion. Without doubt it is the discussions which enable members to ascertain details of subjects on which they are not well informed but want to learn more. This is one of the great benefits of participating in these weekend gatherings.

On Saturday afternoon, the first of the two weekend competitions took place - one sheet only on a non-Austrian subject. There were six entries and the winner was Bill Hedley showing a German 'Auslage' Card from 1871. His prize was an illustrated book about Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. At the end of the afternoon the usual bourse took place, when a great deal of interesting material was available from members for purchase.

Later that evening everyone met in the bar before adjourning to The Regency Room for dinner. Mr Cottrell spoke at the end of the meal, expressing thanks to everyone for coming and particularly to the Ladies for gracing the conference with their presence and saying that, in his opinion, the social side of the weekend was almost as important as the philatelic programme.

On Sunday morning following the remaining displays the second competition 'C is for ?' took place. Ten entries generated much interest and the winner, again selected by votes from all present, was Hans Smith with a selection of China Covers. His prize too was a book on the Chaucer's Canterbury Tales.

At 10.45am the Annual General Meeting was opened by Henry White, in the absence of Martin Brumby. These proceedings will be reported separately by the Secretary elsewhere in the journal. The ladies then joined the meeting and some general discussion took place of the weekend events. It was announced that next year's Fest would probably take place in Leamington Spa, although the final decision depends upon finalising arrangements with a suitable hotel. An announcement will be made as soon as possible in the Journal.

The proceedings were finally wound up at 1 pm by Mr Cottrell, who wished everyone a safe journey home.

## **From The Officers**

### ***Hon. Life Membership for Brian Madeley***

At their recent meeting the committee agreed to recommend that Brian Madeley be awarded an Hon. Life Membership of the Society and this was approved at the AGM in October.

At a meeting of the ASCGB in 1988 it was reported that a volunteer was needed to collect the copies of 'Austria' from the printers. Brian offered to do this and then found that he was being provided with the address labels and stamps to mail them out. Any other enclosures to be sent out with the magazine were sent to him and the labels marked accordingly (hence the red star you may see on your label). The original printer retired some years ago but Brian has continued to distribute the magazines that are now sent to him by the current printers.

It is in recognition of his work as Distribution Manager for the APS and its predecessor the ASCGB that it was agreed to make this award. However we hope that Brian will not 'hang up his scales' but will continue as Distribution Manager for many more years.

Brian joins the following surviving members, to whom Hon. Life Membership has been given: Arthur Godden, Henry White, John Dutton, Henry O. Pollack (USA), Dr. Christine Kainz and Prof. Richard Zimmerl, (previously ASCGB HLM's), Walter Green and Dennis Brooker (previously AAP HLM's).

### ***From the Membership Secretary***

I am pleased to welcome the following new members,

1187 D. Glover of Cambridgeshire

1188 H. Vogel of Surrey

1189 J. Wilson of Devon.

I regret to record the death of John Fluck (USA) & John Giblin, and the resignation of R Sawyer (UK). See separate note re HLM's.

### ***Message from the Treasurer***

At their recent meeting the committee discussed several matters raised by members regarding payment of subscriptions.

Unfortunately the charges that would be raised by the Bank are such that it would be uneconomic for us to collect subscriptions by either Standing Order or Direct Debit. The minimum monthly charge of £25.00 for operating our own

Credit Card system is twice that of the German Railway Society, who now provide this service to us and other Societies, and again it would not be economic for us. You, the member, pay a nominal charge for the provision of this service.

Your committee also considered whether we should offer a Purchased Life Membership and they decided that the Society was too small to offer this. Whilst we would receive an initial large payment the value of this would reduce over the years whilst costs were increasing and be to the overall detriment of the Society and its members. We did, however agree to continue the present system whereby members may pay in advance for several years at the present rate.

### ***Summary of the Treasurers Report to the AGM***

The treasurer presented the Society's audited accounts for the year to 31 March 2003 to the AGM. A brief summary of the figures follows. Any member wishing a full copy of the accounts should send an A4 stamped addressed envelope to the Treasurer. It was accepted that there should be no increase in subscriptions for the year 2003/04.


<b>Income</b>	Subscriptions	£3,052.43
	Auction	£ 900.00
	Sales, back numbers, binders, Books, ties	£ 425.24
	Adverts in Austria	£ 90.00
	Other receipts	£ 456.89
	Bank Interest	£ 89.26
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,013.82</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	'Austria' Print & Post	£2,623.29
	Newsletter	£ 462.50
	Library	£ 177.31
	Other outgoings	£ 987.61
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,250.63</b>
<b>Operating profit for the year</b>		<b>£ 763.82</b>

## Cantfest Displays (part 1)

### *John L Whiteside -Parcel Cards. 1878-1891*

Parcel cards were introduced late in 1878 to replace the paper forms in use previously, possibly on 1 Nov, when a new tariff for parcel post charges was brought into operation. In 1881, a new style of double card for c.o.d. parcels, replacing the large paper forms used heretofore, was introduced. In the same year, the U.P.U. began its first agreement on the exchange of international parcels up to 3kg in weight. In 1883, special cards for use on these, with inscriptions in German and French, were employed; and from 1885 similar double cards for c.o.d. were put on sale.

The charges until 1890 were written in manuscript on the cards, either Franco - paid on departure, or Porto - to be paid on arrival, for which there was no surcharge. From 1890, however, stamps had to be employed to prepay the parcels charges. This resulted in a re-design of the cards to accomodate them. 5 kreuzer fiscal impressions of 1875, 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885 and 1888 were used on the cards and the 18 sheets showed provided examples of these, both used and unused.

Post-Aufgabe-Bigarette. Vineta pošty, podavací.		<b>Post-Begleitadresse.</b> Poštovská adresa průvodní.		Expeditions-Vormerk. Zaznamenání spediční.	
Vom Absender auszufüllen. Budiz odesílatel vyplněno.		An <i>Hr. Schwohlgebauer</i>			
		<i>Frau Louise Baumbach von</i>			
		<i>Kronenscheide</i>			
		Gattung u. Zeichen Druh a znamení } <i>P.O. 218</i>			
Inhalt } <i>Lampen</i>		Lezte Post Poslední pošta } <i>Prag - Kircalyhegyes</i>			
Wert } <i>34.</i> { fl. — { fr.		Land } <i>Ungarn</i>			
Cena } { zl. — { kr.		Země }			
Franco } { fl. — { fr.		Porto } { fl. — { fr.			
Franko } { zl. — { kr.		Porto } { zl. — { kr.			
		Bestell- oder Aviso-Gebühr Dodání nebo aviso } { fl. — { fr.			
		Dobrá nebo aviso } { zl. — { kr.			
(Böhm.)		Prag Stadt		127	

The illustration above is of a card for a parcel from Prague to Csanadpalota (620 km. = 83 German miles) dated 23 Oct 1880. There is an identification label Prag Stadt 127 at the base of the card; a larger version was attached to the parcel itself. Weight shown as "Sp 14 K". Sp means Sperrig, or over the size limits, for which there was a 50% surcharge. The contents were Lamps, with a declared value of 34 gulden. For 50-100 German miles, postage was 30 kreuzer for 5kg, then 18kr per kg, so  $30 + 9 \times 18 = 192\text{kr} + 96\text{kr}$  for 50% surcharge = 288 kr. Insurance for up to 50 gulden cost 3 kr., then finally there was a 2kr fee for aviso, or notification of arrival. Total was 2 gulden 93 kreuzer as "Porto" to pay on arrival.

### ***John L Whiteside - Newspaper Tax in the Austrian Empire***

The 18-sheet display illustrated the basis of this tax by showing, in the main, complete papers. The tax was introduced in 1789, and from 1803 signets were produced each year showing the year date, the value and a letter indicating the provincial stamp office. In general, the tax on an inland paper was 1 kreuzer and that on an incoming foreign paper was 2 kr. This system lasted until the end of 1850, when the tax on inland papers was abolished. The tax was reintroduced in 1858, when a new signet was placed in use, which did not show the value of 1kr but showed a stamping machine number. In addition, adhesive stamps were also used at smaller papers. The type of signet was changed in 1885 and a Czech language version was introduced in late 1898. This is rare as the newspaper tax was abolished from 1 Jan 1900.



### ***John L Whiteside - Stamped Paper. 1818 – 1854***

This 54-sheet display showed examples of the stamped paper used during this time. A new Patent came into force on 1 Jan 1818 and a new style of stamped paper was introduced. This was now all produced at the provincial stamp offices with their distinguishing letters in addition to the values. Examples occur with and without a circular Control mark and it is thought that paper with the Control mark may have been stamped to order at the Tax Office, rather than supplied from stock. This type was used until the end of 1835.

In 1836 a new type was introduced, which remained in use until 1 Nov 1854 with changes in 1840 and 1850. By far the commonest type was supplied from stock from Vienna and had no identifying stamp office letters. In 1840, there were major changes. The tax scale was changed, with some values made redundant and new values issued. Additionally, most of the common values were re-engraved. In 1850, further changes in the tax scales necessitated more new values.

There were papers stamped to order at the provincial tax offices, which are much scarcer. The signets incorporated identifying letters and were generally much cruder. They were used in conjunction with an elaborate control mark, which included the date of stamping. A few examples were shown. The display concluded with some examples of the adhesive stamps issued 1 Nov 1854. Their ease of use quickly made the stamped paper redundant, though it is believed that it stayed valid until 31 Oct 1858.

### ***Henry White – PSC colour divergence***

This 18 page display illustrated the immense divergence of the colour of the imprinted stamps of the pictorial PSCs 1927- 32 as described in his article in 'Austria' 137, p.34. Whilst the colour of the corresponding definitives of the 1925, 1929 and 1832 issues adhered closely to a set pattern (apart from two deliberate changes: ANK 498 to 499 and 504 to 505) those on the PSCs varied enormously, whereas the colour of the pictures remained much more constant.

### ***Henry White - the philately of Bosnia and Herzegovina***

This major display traced a complete review of the philately of Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1879 to 1919, starting with the kreuzer issues in all their details of printing and perforations. moving to the forgeries of the 1900 issue and the elegant pictorial sets of 1906 & 1910 (which included the title 'Bosnien:Herzgowina' for the first time). This and the 1912 Franz Josef issue were surcharged for WWI purposes and most of the errors and variations were on show. The stamps section ended with the second F-J issue and the two Emperor Karl issues.

A full presentation of the postal stationery led to a brief introduction to a study of the cancellations and the locations of the post offices and then a review of the postal rate changes especially in WWI. Finally a selection of picture postcards chosen as far as possible for the views depicted to be matched by the postmark on the address side.

## ***John May - United Nations, Vienna***

The first stamp issue was on 24 Aug 79 but Vienna soon adopted bad habits with imperf miniature sheets, and composite designs which soon enlarged to fill an A5 sheetlet. Omnibus issues can be particularly frustrating eg the Universal Declaration of Human Rights where the clauses are spread over the three issuing offices of Vienna, Geneva and New York; Endangered Species are similarly treated. Stationery and booklets are also available to tempt the collector. Unlike Austria, dual currency stamps were issued prior to the introduction of the Euro and print contracts are allocated world wide. The display ended with a few covers that duplicate the efforts of the Austrian P. O.

## ***John May - Travelling Post Office Marks***

The first nine sheets illustrated some of the many cancels used. The main part of the display showed some of the multitude of trains meeting the route from Vienna to Eger and then back to Prague and points north. Items of particular interest are the late use of the EGER-WIEN mark, the incorrect spelling of Eisenbrod, how journeys of just a few kilometres still qualified for a cancel and the care needed by a station announcer at Zittau. The last nine sheets are a trip from Vienna to Innsbruck to show a highly philatelic registered cover, south on the link from Kufstein to Ala and across to Trieste for a boat trip before returning to Vienna.

## ***Geoff Richardson - Trieste***



The display showed examples of nearly all the known cancellations of Triest, mostly on stamps. A longer description will appear in the next issue.

### ***Other displays:***

Austrian Levant (the Greek-speaking part); Court Delivery Stamps for Galicia; Feldpost Stamps; Imperial Stamps; Kitzbühel; Kraina; Ljubliana; Money Letters; Pneumatic Post; Pro Juventute Airship Post; WW1 Eastern Front. Descriptions of these may appear in the next issue!

Colin Tobitt showed a 180-sheet display on Pneumatic Post, which will provide the illustrations for a major article planned for next year.

### ***"Competitions"***

**"One sheet from my other collection":** 1<sup>st</sup> Wertpapier; 2<sup>nd</sup>= 1941 Alsace overprints & early Liechtenstein flights; 4<sup>th</sup> Orchids. Other entries included Lundy; Colonial Portugal; Outrageously-multiple franking.

4 sheets of **"C is for..."**: 1<sup>st</sup> China; 2<sup>nd</sup> Currency-changes; 3<sup>rd</sup> Constantinople-&-Crete. Other entries included Christmas cancels cutting-out Christkindl; Curiosities; Correspondence-about-a cancellation; Correspondence-Karte; Carriages-&-Carts; Cetinje; Constantinople. Your Editor overheard the comment "Exceptionally difficult to decide this year"!

### ***What's this?***

There was only one "what's this" item your Editor saw: this eagle overprint on some 1920 Newspaper stamps. It's not the Tirol eagle, as that has only one head. The conclusion was that someone had been playing with a rubber stamp.



## Currency Changes

by Andy Taylor

**T**his brief article, based on a Cantfest display, illustrates most of the mixed-frankings possible with Austrian stamps. I have shown only the upper, stamped portion of the items.

According to Ferchenbauer, mixed frankings are possible between first and second issue during November and December 1858; the commonest is 6Kr 1<sup>st</sup> issue with 5Kr second issue. As he quotes 10,000 Euros for an example on cover, I regret that I cannot show you mine! Mixed Soldi-Kreuzer frankings of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> issues must for the same reason remain unseen too.



**Heller-Kreuzer Mixed Franking:** 20.3 1900. Rate: 5 Heller Inland PC Left-hand stamp is 1 Heller, issued 1.12.1899 in new currency. Right-hand is 2 Kreuzer issued 1.9.1890 in old currency & valid till 30.9.1900. Conversion 2:1 so  $2 \times 2\text{Kr} \text{ makes } 4\text{H} + 1\text{H} = 5\text{H}$



**Kreuzer-Groschen Mixed Franking:** 15.7.1925. Reduced rate to Italy of 18 Groschen. Franked  $1\text{Gr} + 10\text{Gr} + 700\text{Kr}$  preprinted = 7Gr makes 18Gr.



4<sup>th</sup> April 1938: the first day of mixed German-Austrian franking.  $2 \times 5\text{Rpf} + 3\text{Gr} \times \frac{2}{3}$  makes 12Rpf, the correct inland letter rate from that day. [The "+3" on the German stamps is a charity surcharge of no postal value]



24.11.1945: 5Rpf card with additional Groschen stamps. In reality, the card was probably used because it was available. The total franking doesn't remotely correspond to the "Registered Express" alleged on the envelope.



15.3.1946: Austrian Groschen and Allied Occupation Groschen issues; German-type provisional registration label. At that date the registration rate was 30Gr and the inland letter rate 12Gr!

The following item is mixed Schilling-Euro franking, with  $3 \times 2S = 6$  Sch defined as 44 cents + 58 making 102 cents, the rate for a 50-gram foreign letter.





**Mixed Schilling-Euro franking.** Priority letter from Innsbruck to UK: postage 51 cents; franked 4½ Schillings defined as 33 cents; balance of 18 cents paid in cash. Cancelled 30 June 2002 which had been announced as the last day of validity of Schilling stamps. The "CDS" \*is\* oval – it's not your eyes!



**Mixed Schilling-Euro franking** Priority postcard from Sautens (Tirol) to UK; postage 51 cents; franked 3 Schillings which is defined as equalling 23 cents; balance of 28 cents paid in cash. Small Post Office without an OPAL machine, so an Ergänzungsmarke was used, on which the clerk writes the cash amount by hand.

## Questions, Answers, Letters...

### *Dumb cancels*

Colin Tobitt has produced an interesting example of a Dumb Cancel in use: presumably in 1936 since the stamps were valid from 2.11.1936 till 17.10.1937, and what appear to be posting and arrival dates of 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 1936 are written on it! It's almost a FDC... and carries the correct 24 Groschen franking for a 20-gram inland letter.

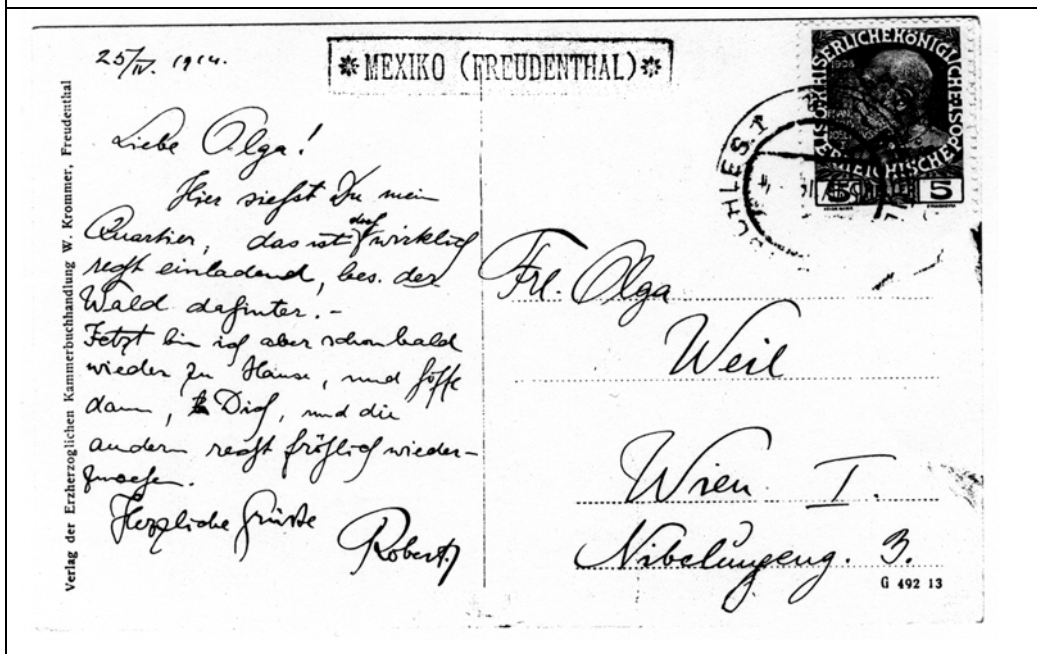
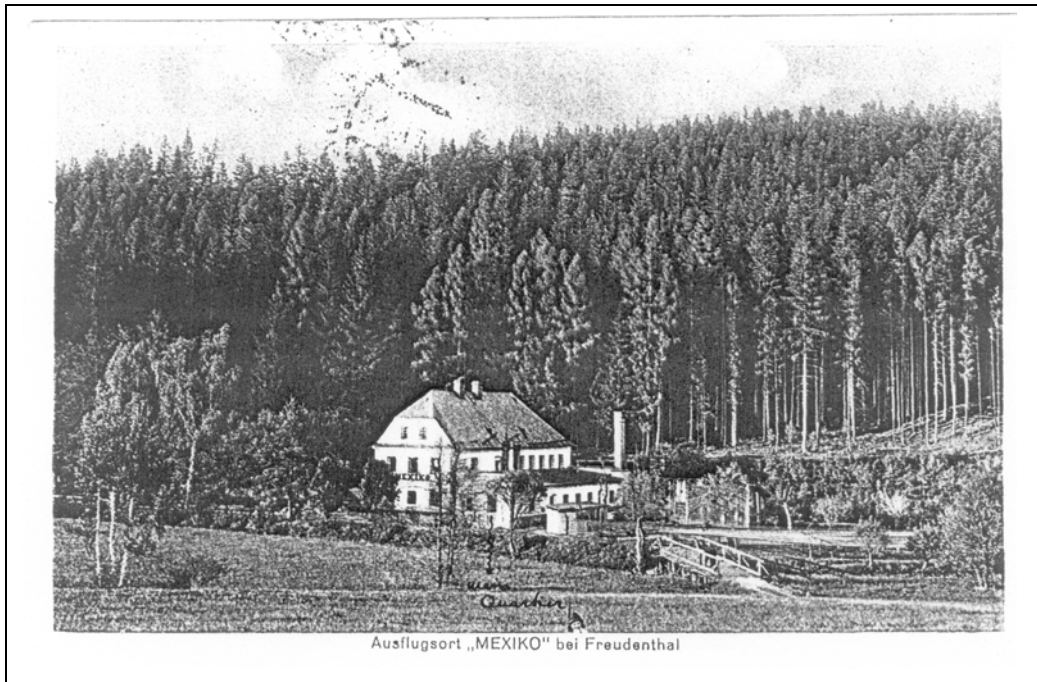


### *Umpostung??*

As the Austrian Post closes, redesignates, or transfers more and more post offices, it can happen that the 'parent' office to which a Postservicestelle (the former Postablage) was assigned is itself downgraded or closed. An example is given in Die Briefmarke 9/2002: the Postservicestelle at Ellbögen (a small village near Innsbruck) was formerly assigned to the Post Office at Patsch (also a small village near Innsbruck). Patsch was closed on 26 April 2002, so Ellbögen was reassigned to Innsbruck-Igls. This happening is known as an "Umpostung".

## Mexico or Mexiko?

Die Briefmarke, Issue 9/2002, page 45 shows a letter "missent to the other Mexiko": it was intended for Mexiko Puszta near Eisenstadt but was routed to Mexico City in North America, reaching its proper destination after 4 months. Henry Pollak has produced yet another Mexiko: a Postablage in Silesia, near Freudenthal, and a card from it sent to his mother on 25/4/1914. Martin Brumby adds that the Postlexicon lists no less than SIX Mexicos, 1 in Styria, 1 in Bohemia and 4 in Silesia!



## ***From our newest Honorary Life Member:***

*Dear Everybody,*

*I write to thank you for electing me as an Honorary Life Member of the Austrian Philatelic Society. I have greatly enjoyed meeting and working with you all over many years, and hope to continue doing so for quite some time yet. I'd like to particularly thank Andy, Joyce & Martin for making the envelope-stuffing less difficult than it might have been!*

*Yours,*

*Brian Madeley*

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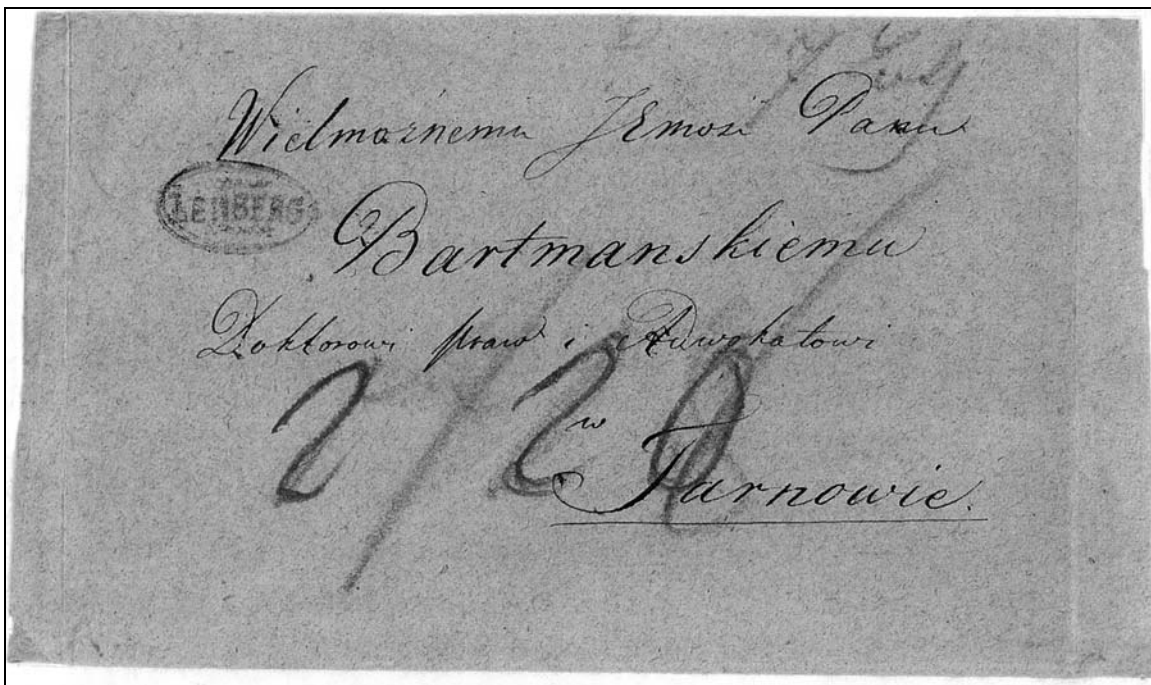
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## *Compliments and queries*

Our member Inger Kuzych wrote a few months ago saying nice things about this Journal (he did not mention the speed of editorial replies) and posing several interesting questions. I think some have arisen before, but I do not recall them getting any answers: can anyone assist him (and me)? He is also interested in obtaining a 1918 airmail cover to Kiev from Lemberg, Vienna, or Krakow; especially as the shutdown of U S airspace in September last year caused his bid for one to arrive after the auction! And should anyone have a spare copy of Lemberg's first cancel [large L, crown above, in a circle; used 1768-1772] he'd like to hear from you... indeed he'd welcome confirmation that it exists outside catalogues and reference books. Write to me, or email him on [ingert@starpower.net](mailto:ingert@starpower.net).

**Q1** This is a letter sent unpaid to a barrister in Tarnow. The original has creases at left and right, and is known to have contained many papers. At top right is a reddish-brown weight indication of **7**, which will be 7 Loth, equivalent to 122 grams. The oval Lemberg cancel was used between 1818 and 1829. On the back is a red wax seal and in small ink handwriting 2675.



In the centre of the envelope is **2/20** in reddish-brown; under the **0** is what may be an **8**. Presumably this is the postage which the barrister had to pay, but what currency is it and how is it worked out?

**Q2 & Q3** On the next page are two money letters. Both have heavy wax seals on the back. What is the basis of charging for these; does it include registration and insurance? [*I thought Everybody had written an authoritative article on these, but I can't find it. Ed.*]

Postwerthzeichen.  
Preis pr. Stück 1 kr.

40 Gr

Dr. J. Al. From

Rechtsanwalt

in Brünn

1. Wülfraus!

Inlegend Stück:

4	Bank Noten	à 1000 fl.	fl.
	"	à 100 fl.	400 fl.
	Staats	à 50 fl.	fl.
	Bank	à 10 fl.	fl.
	Staats	à 5 fl.	fl.
	"	à 1 fl.	6 fl.
	Coupons		fl. 20 kr.
	Scheidemünze		kr.

Summa 406 fl. 20 kr.

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2 h

Dr. Josef J. From

Dr. Ottokar Baron Krakak

Advokat in Brünn

Elisabettstr. 16

Inlegend Stück: Zawiera wewnątrz: Містить штук:

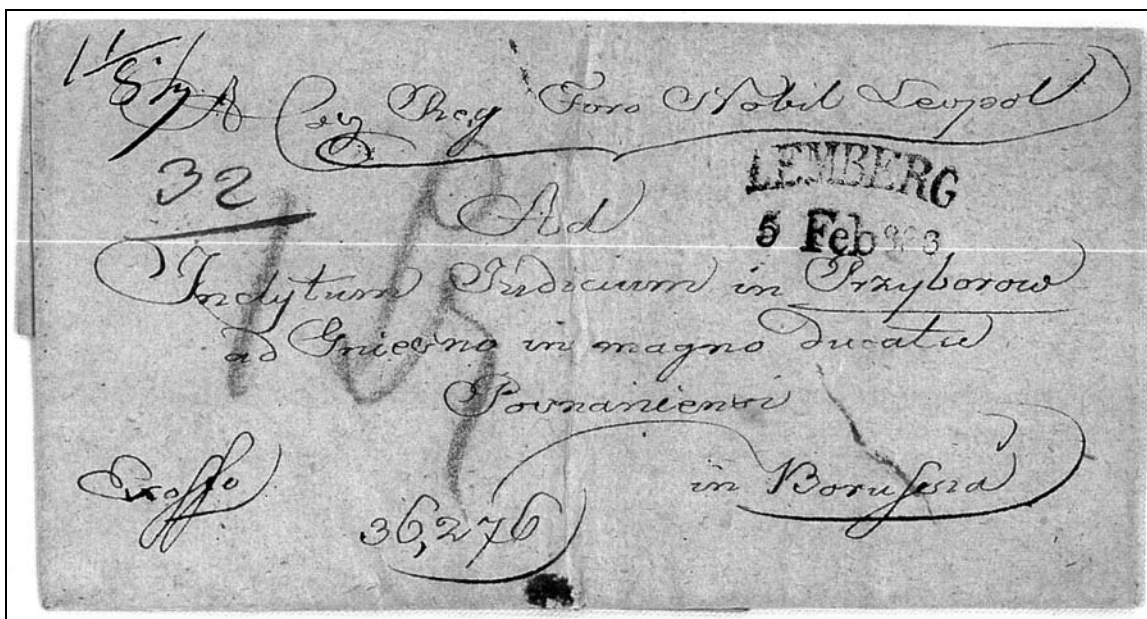
4	Banknoten	1000 K.	K.
	"	100 K.	400 K.
	"	50 K.	K.
	"	20 K.	60 K.
	"	10 K.	60 K.
	Münzen		K.
	Moneta brzojsza		K.
	Moneta srebrna		K.
	Summe		K. h
	Razem		K. h
	Pasom		K. h

Summe 520 K. h

LEMBERG

Deutsch-Poln.-Ruth. 1906. II.

**Q4** Illustrated below are both sides of an official folded letter sent from Lemberg on 5 Feb 1833. On the back are a transit mark from PLESS on 10<sup>th</sup> Feb and a mark N16/2I, and a record of arrival on the 25<sup>th</sup>. On the front are 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> squiggle (weight?) in black; 32 underlined, in faded reddish-brown; 36,276 in manuscript; an arched LEMBERG with under it 5 FEB 833 [I think the 833 was added recently by a philatelist; the figures look stencilled]; and a large reddish-brown marking which resembles a prehistoric cave painting! What are all these marks; where was the letter sent (Poznan has been suggested); what postage was charged?



***Joint meeting of the APS, the Czechoslovak PS of GB, the Hungarian PS of GB, and the Society for Polish Philately in GB held at Heaton Royds, Bradford, Sat 17<sup>th</sup> August 2002***

by Rex Dixon

This was the fifth in an annual series of joint meetings between these four societies. Stephen and Judith Holder kindly hosted it again, at their cottage and barn near Bradford. Around twenty people were greeted with tea and coffee as they arrived in fine sunshine. The meeting started soon after 10.30 am, with six rounds of five frames. The five-minute time limit for each speaker was not imposed so rigidly this year. A break was taken for a goodly buffet. Most took the opportunity to eat outdoors and enjoy the warm garden.

Rex Dixon	<i>Postage due mail in Bohemia and Moravia</i>
John Pitts	<i>Austria in the Far East</i>
Brian Madeley	<i>Austria used in Hungary 1867-71</i>
Bernard Lucas	<i>Vienna Rohrpost</i>
Hans Smith	<i>Early Croatia, including the Illyrian Provinces</i>
Stephen Holder	<i>Trieste - classical Austrian covers</i>
Alan Berrisford	<i>Polish provisional postmarks 1944-46</i>
Joyce Boyer	<i>Oetztal Postablagen</i>
Edmund Jagielski	<i>Silesia</i>
Richard Wheatley	<i>Czechoslovak War Heroes issue</i>
Peter Maybury	<i>18th century French military mail</i>
Andy Taylor	<i>"All Change": the changing Austrian currencies</i>
Stephen Holder	<i>Illyria</i>
John Whiteside	<i>Genesis of the parcel card in the Austrian empire</i>
Alan Berrisford	<i>Pre-adhesive postmarks from Galicia</i>
John Pitts	<i>"Ein Volk, Ein Reich, Ein Führer"</i>
Yvonne Wheatley	<i>Rates on the Allegories issue</i>

Yvonne Wheatley had made Linzertorte (Austrian) and Babovka (Czech) for our tea. There were warm votes of thanks to Yvonne Wheatley, for organising and leading the day, and for the cakes; to Stephen Holder, for hosting the meeting; and to Judith Holder, for keeping us fed and watered.

### *John Francis Giblin (1925 – 2002)*

It is with great sadness that we note the death of our late President, John Giblin. Full biographical details are available in "Austria" 85 [1988] pp 10-13 when it was announced that he had been elected, at the 40<sup>th</sup> AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1988, as the 4<sup>th</sup> President of the A.S.C. in succession to the late J.W. Syddall (1915-1987). There is, however, a little that needs to be added to this earlier account. John served the A.S.C. (and subsequently the A.P.S.) faithfully over the intervening period and, although he travelled less far as time went on, he was one of the most regular attenders at the Manchester meetings. Despite increasingly frail health, his philatelic interest never waned and he was always ready with a friendly word of advice on any knotty problem in Austrian philately, or an ascerbic aside on those few areas of collecting which he regarded as being beneath his notice.

He also lately produced a few monographs on subjects that interested him, usually expanding and updating contributions (on for example, the Postal History of Lombardy & Venetia in the Pre-Stamp period), which he had published in the great years of his editorship. He had even, of late, started exploring some different ground and had started to put together a small collection of the stamps of Hungary during the period of the Horthy Regency. I was delighted to be able to acquire from obscure Central European auction houses a few contemporary Hungarian picture postcards of the Regent to add to this 'little' collection - a small enough return for the odd presents (in both senses!) and much more valuable advice he had given to me as a very junior Member.

John was the last of the very early Members of the APS, joining in the founding year of 1948. The longest surviving member is now Arthur Godden, although unfortunately his health is now poor. We are, however lucky to have several other greybeards in our ranks who are still active, and who can be relied upon for words of wisdom on an incredible range of philatelic problems. I count myself very lucky indeed to have known legendary characters such as Tommy Wilcox, Jim Syddall, T.J. Showell-Anderson and Jim Hewgill personally, as well as John. I will certainly never forget the encouragement and good advice they (and Arthur Godden, Henry White and Brian Madeley) gave me as a very inexperienced junior member. I suggest all members (and not just those lucky enough to attend the meetings) are in their debt.

*Martin Brumby, President, APS*

**spacer page**

## NOTES from publications en route to the Library.

by Andy Taylor

### *Die Briefmarke:*

**Issue 8/2002:** "Last day of Schilling stamp" controversy (1 or 2 July?); 'Europa' stamp themes [2003; posters; 2004: holidays; 2005: gastronomy]; office closure list; Gmunden's stations; Goisern; Salzburg forgeries (mostly of balloon posts); the post-WWI period in Europe; the usual UNO Swiss & Germany reports; catalogue reviews; etc etc

**Issue 9/2002:** New type of Postservicestelle cancel; thematic: old cars; 75 years Herzogenburg; Salzburg forgeries (ii); prephilatelic Hungarian forgeries; "missent to the other Mexiko" [*see Letters pages*]; etc etc.

**Issue 10/2002:** postage rates are likely to be "rounded off" (ie up, to next 5) in 2003; BSVDonau are holding a "Sammlertreff for Kids and Young People" [*mixed frankings I can cope with, but mixed languages? Ed*]; new combined registration label and receipt; themes of 2003's issues; Strasshof; long "Germany" report; the Kunsthistorischen Museum might find room for a display cabinet of Austrian stamps treated as miniature works of art; various exhibitions; postcode 1000 revived; Venetian dues etc etc

### *Arbeitsgemeinschaft Militaria Austriaca Philatelia*

**Issue 201:** Czech Legion; 1938 in Sudetenland (nice map); lots on current Austrian Army activities.

**Issue 202:** Postal unhelpfulnesses; Review: List of Feldsanitätsanstalten;

### *Arbeitsgemeinschaft Feld- und Zensurpost 1914-18*

**Issue 70:** Q&A; Bodenbach; Russian POWs in Kärnten; **Hungarian-German 3pp mini-dictionary**; WWI censorship by police in Böhmen & Mahren; WWI A-H hospitals etc in Turkey; censorship of picture-postcards sent abroad; Prekmurje; a 1916 parcel card to Wollersdorf; FPO832 & FPO62 forgeries; etc

**"Die Feldpost der k.u.k. Kriegsmarine im 1. Weltkrieg 1914/18":** see below.

### *Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreich e.V.*

**Issue 59:** new issues; snippets from 'Die Briefmarke'; book reviews; illustrated auction list; etc

## ***Wiener Ganzsachen F u P-Verein.***

**Issue 3/2002:** Ergänzungsmarken in Kärnten; queries on various items.

## ***Czechout***

**Issue 3/2002:** fake Czech Legion stamps; Eastern Silesia 1918-20; much of later Czech & Slovak interest; many coloured illustrations.

## ***Südost-Philatelie***

**Issue 78/2002:** Bosnia's attempt at the world's biggest stamp; philately of Vršac/Versecz/Werschetz; the Hartmann Affair; recent issue etc.

## ***Austrian Philatelic Society (US) - Journal***

**Vol 2 No 4:** Sigmund & Rudolf Friedl; the DDSG & its stamps (trans. Ferch2K pp1281-1292); Mixed €ATS frankings; WIPA 1881 & 1890; Auction list

## ***Stamps of Hungary***

**Issue 150 September 2002:** 1922-3 airmail; many articles about later periods.

## ***Cinderella Philatelist***

**Vol 42 no 4:** editor etc wanted; 'Cinderellas' include Revenues; Austria 1922 fund for war invalids, widows & orphans; and much else of fascination!

## ***Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale***

**Issue 119:** (i)Associazione per lo Studio della Storia Postale -Minutes of the Meeting on 9 March 2002 and notes on the Association's Programme and Publications; (ii)Alphe-Adria Philately News Details of the 103rd German Stamp Day Meeting (21.6-5.7.2002); (iii)Postal communications between the Austrian Empire and the Kingdom of Sardinia (part 2) [We have the author's consent to translate & publish this article in 'Austria']; (iv)The correspondence of the Ivanovich family [A review of a correspondence between Venice and various Dalmatian towns from the late eighteenth century to the early 1850s. All letters were carried either by the Austrian post or its Venetian and French precursors. With 19 illustrations, including one bearing the Venetian "6" ship letter mark, one of the few genuine such markings known (relating to the six soldi charge for disinfecting mail arriving by sea between 1803 and 1805)]; (v)The Italian post offices in Constantinople (part 6); (vi)Review of books and publications received by the Association; (vii)Notes on local postal history events; (viii)Advertisements.

## *Germania*

**August 2002 vol 38 no 3.** SMS Danzig; Heligoland; introduction of the Euro stamps (*several differences from Austrian practice*); reports from six of their regional groups; Q&A; new issues etc.

## *Publications added to Library*

a) Supplement to Tiroler Werbestempel (library number 328) with additions and amendments. 24 pages.

b) Innsbruck Philatelistenklub Merkur, Festschrift "Philatelistischen Salon Telfs" 1997. This book was reviewed on page 42 of 'Austria 131' and a copy is now in the library at number 343. 80 pages in German.

c) Innsbruck Philatelistenklub Merkur, Festschrift "100 Jahre Innsbrucker Philatelistische Vereine". Articles on Censorship in Voralberg 1914-1918; Local issues from Meran 1918-1920; Local issue with the Eagle overprint; and Occupation in North Tirol at the end of WW1. 80 pages in German. Library number 344.

d) "Czechoslovak Fieldpost 1918-1921" by Brian C Day. See 'Austria' 139 page 57. Library number 345.

e) "Early Mails between Constantinople and the West" (Rossiter Postal History Journal) by Hans Smith. See 'Austria' 139 page 58. Library no 346

f) **A clarification on books by Rainer.** Library item 314 remains as "Die Zensur in Osterreich nach dem Ersten Weltkrieg"; markings 1919-1920, tabular listing only, 24 pages, N. Rainer 1994. In addition we have added his new book as library item 347; it is "Paketpost 1914-1918", Parcel post with many parcel cards illustrated, 144 pages, by N. Rainer, published in 2001.

g) "Tiroler Verwaltungsmarken" 1920s to 1970s Administration stamps from the Tirol, listed and illustrated. 42 pages, in German, by Kurt Klieber. Published by Innsbruck Philatelistenklub Merkur in 2002. Library number 348

h) CPSGB Monograph 15: see below.

## *Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain Monograph*

The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain is pleased to announce the publication of Monograph no 15: THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE FREE CZECHOSLOVAK FORCES IN GREAT BRITAIN: 1940- 1945 by Richard Beith.

This latest monograph gives a detailed picture of the postal arrangements made for the Free Czechoslovak Forces (soldiers and airmen) in Great Britain from

summer 1940 onwards. The 11 main sections include: The Escape from France; Military locations; Depots and Training centres; the Military Field Post; Registration; Censorship; Overseas mail; Commemorative postmarks and Czechoslovaks in the RAF. Included in the seven appendices are lists of patriotic postcards, and patriotic folders. This A4 publication runs to approx. 100 pages and is well illustrated. There are eight pages in colour and a full list of references. This work is intended to complement Roy Reader's monograph No 5 which covers the periods in France, 1939-40 and 1944-45.

Copies cost £14 including UK post, and can be obtained by sending a cheque to Richard Beith (Publications Officer), 14 Middlecroft, Guilden Sutton, Chester, England CH3 7HF. Contact him, or Andy Taylor, for payment by means other than cheque and/or for despatch to other than UK.

### ***Arbeitsgemeinschaft Feld- und Zensurpost 1914-18***

**"Die Feldpost der k.u.k. Kriegsmarine im 1. Weltkrieg 1914/18"** volume 1, by Karl Kalis and Alfred Kohl. A4, hardback, 263pp including 18 in mouthwatering colour.

The book begins with forewords, a brief history, and lists of the ships lost in WWI and of naval ranks. A description of the postal service follows, then "how to use the catalogue" in various languages including Englisch. Valuations are in "points", set at 1€ each. An appropriate classification system is introduced, with explanations and illustrations.

The main part of the work is a ship-by-ship listing of all known cancels, with descriptions, dates, points etc. The builder, commissioning date, size, fate etc of each ship is given [Quiz question: how many Austrian Navy ships were built in Newcastle-on-Tyne?]. Sections cover battleships, cruisers, torpedo ships and boats, and submarines. Buchberger's exploits are separately valued. There are no known markings for SMS Kaiserin Elizabeth, states page 64... Various appendixes complete the work. Hospital ships, Danube- & Weichsel-flotillas etc will be covered in the second volume.



As the publisher says, "For the collector of KuK Kriegsmarine, this book is an absolute Must"! To buy a copy, earmark £50 and contact Andy Taylor.

# The Last Days of the Schilling Stamp ... again...

By Alfred A Graf, Herb Kucera, & Andy Taylor

An article in the Aug/Sep issue of the Nachrichtenblatt of the BSV Favoriten, Wien by Alfred A Graf gives some insight into the confusion surrounding the demise of the Schilling Stamp. Herb Kucera has kindly translated it for me, and I have checked the official Press Releases (<sup>1</sup>). **Was the last day Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002 or Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2002 or?** The tale is a murky one...

In Press Release 216 dated 27 December 2001, the second paragraph states:

**Mixed Frankings in Euro and Schilling Stamps valid from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2002 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2002.** Schilling Stamps can be used until 30 June 2002 inclusive. During the period from 1 January 2002 to 30 June 2002, both ATS denominated stamps and stamps in Euro denomination can be used; even a mixture of both denominations on the same item is possible.

And Press Release 1164 of 29 May 2002 states:

**Final Use of Schilling Stamps:** With effect from 1 July 2002 all stamps denominated in Schillings or Groschen, as well as items with imprinted stamp values in this currency, will lose their validity. This includes the stamp "Europarat" and the Airmail letter from the year 1999. The only stamps valid for use after this date are stamps issued by the Austrian Post Office AG, with the values shown in Euros.

However the official instructions to Post Office counter clerks tells a different story - Schaltermangement aktuell Nr 25 Seite 6 says:

**Counter management news Nr 25 Page 6:** Procedures for the use of Schilling Stamps after 1 July 2002.

ATS-Stamps and other postal items denominated in Schilling currency lose their validity effective 1 July 2002. Effective 2 July 2002, any mail franked partially or wholly with ATS stamps shall be treated in the following manner:

Procedure: Frankings in ATS currency (stamps or preprinted frankings) shall be treated as non-existent, and consequently cannot be cancelled with OT cancellers. Any such mail is to be taxed according to the existing regulations regarding insufficient or missing postage .... Affixed ATS stamps have at this point in time no validity and are therefore not to be considered when calculating postage to be collected.

Reply-paid items (Excerpt): These items denominated in ATS can be used up to 2 July 2002 (depending on the date shown in the cancellation).

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<sup>1</sup> Full German text available from Editor: no room here!

## ***So when was the last day of use?***

### **Was it Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002, or Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2002, or.. ?**

The charging of Postage Due on letters franked with stamps in ATS currency and deposited in mail boxes on Sunday June 30, 2002 resulted in a little research at Austria Post regarding instructions for official "Last Day of Use" cancels. After all, it was the end of a 55 year period with stamps denominated in Austrian Schillings (following the currency reform in February of 1947, when one kind of Schilling was replaced by another).

According to various press releases and communications with philatelists, it was well known that valid Schilling stamps could be exchanged for the equivalent in Euro stamps up to 30 June 2002 at no cost, and that they would lose their validity for postage on 1 July 2002. It became obvious that Austrian Post officials had not taken into consideration that 30 June 2002 was a Sunday; nor how to deal with mail collected from mailboxes on the following day, the Monday, which had been franked and posted within the proper time frame.

Alfred A. Graf was quite surprised to discover at a post office the instructions to postal personnel quoted above. The second paragraph clearly stated that any postal items delivered or deposited **on or after 2 July** and franked with stamps in ATS denominations, either in part or fully, are to be treated as if the ATS denominated stamps did not exist. This implies that frankings in ATS and delivered on Monday 1 July 2002 were to be accepted and the stamps were to be cancelled in the usual manner. With this instruction, Austria Post has set a Last Day of Use Cancel of 1 July 2002. This fact was confirmed to Herr Graf in a telephone conversation with Herr Mann (the signatory of the instruction). The initial thought leading to this decision was the concern for items found in letter boxes on the Monday. Herr Mann could not confirm whether individual post offices actually accepted mail franked with ATS stamps on Monday 1 July. In any event, according to the regulations cited above, the Post Offices were obliged to accept such letters and other items on Monday 1 July. The facts are:

- (1) To date items with ATS stamps have been found with cancels dated as late as 3 July 2002.
- (2) Backdated cancels are known to exist: some letters dropped into mail boxes on 30 June 2002 show cancels of June 28 or 29.
- (3) Some cancels have illegible or smudged cancels.
- (4) Postage due was, contrary to regulations, marked on mailed items, but was not necessarily collected.
- (5) Post Office staff were apparently misinformed and not prepared for such a special day. It has not been established whether this was a case of

laziness or just lack of organisation. It has also not been addressed how many new "Postpartners" or managers of postal establishments did not recognise the degree of internal postal nit-picking, nor how they should have reacted.

The question of the official date of last use cannot be brushed aside with the fact that Post Office 1150 in Vienna did provide cancelled-to-order items with the date of 30 June 2002 for some considerable time after that day. Philatelists will have their own opinions on this "Last Day Game". Most of us had anticipated a different end to the ATS stamp era. Another reason to close this philatelic area?

### ***Philatelic Letters for Last Day of Use of ATS Stamps: an empirical survey***

In order to obtain "Last Day" cancels on ATS stamps, Alfred A. Graf deposited 55 letters in lots of five letters in each of eleven mail boxes in Vienna and the surrounding region on Sunday June 30, 2002. The result was sobering and depressing at the same time. Only seven of the 55 letters are useful philatelic items. All letters did arrive, however. Here are some details of this exercise:

Mailed at	canc'n date	details of cancel	legible date?
1103 Wien Südbahnhof	1 July	Machine Cancel 1000 WIEN	2 of 10
1102 Wien Hardtmuthgasse	1 July	Machine Cancel 1000 WIEN	included
1300 Wien-Flughafen	30 June	hand cancel very faint, barely legible	3 of 5
2320 Schwechat	1 July	hand cancelled, two very nice	3 of 5
2332 Hennersdorf	29 June	hand cancelled, all very nice	5 of 5
2333 Leopoldsdorf	1 July	hand cancelled, some upside down	1 of 5
2340 Mödling	?	Machine cancel, not legible	0 of 5
2344 Maria Enzersdorf	1 July	stamps not cancelled, marked postage due	5 of 5
2355 Wiener Neudorf	3 July	hand cancel, messy, dirty upside down	2 of 5
2481 Achau	2 July	hand cancel, smudged, partly illegible	2 of 5
3002 Purkersdorf	1 July	hand cancel	4 of 5

These items were delivered to 1100 Wien, Zur Spinnerin 37 as follows:

Monday July 1	Considered day of mailing
Tuesday July 2	15 letters
Wednesday July 3	18 letters
Thursday July 4	9 letters
Friday July 5	5 letters
Monday July 8	4 letters
Tuesday July 9	3 letters
Wednesday July 10	1 letter

### **Additional Comments:**

1000 Vienna: Both lots were cancelled at a central location with identical machine cancels, although there are the letters "b" and "e" which differentiate one from the other. Postal Code and Wien are visible, but the line with the date is sometimes broken and in some cases missing entirely. Only in two of the ten letters was the date visible.

2332 Hennersdorf: The employees of this post office deserve honourable mention! Because of its use of the "Supplementary Stamp" and its proximity to the city of Vienna, there is obviously more contact with philatelists here. The reason for the letters was promptly recognised and accordingly extra care was taken in processing.

2320 Schwechat: Two of the five letters are very nicely cancelled.

2333 Leopoldsdorf: Four letters arrived after seven days, the last one after eight.

2344 Maria Enzersdorf: The letters were all marked postage due (~~€~~0.51+~~€~~0.51 = €1.02). Despite the mixed frankings and in one case the use of the (Ergänzungsmarke) supplementary stamp, the Euro portion of postage has been ignored entirely. Vienna Post did deliver the letters without attempting to collect the prescribed 'Postage Due', which may indicate that the mistake had been recognised there. Following a telephone call to post office 2344, a lady there did admit that an error had been made; she apologised and offered possible compensation.

2355 Wiener Neudorf: Someone should provide lessons in cancelling!

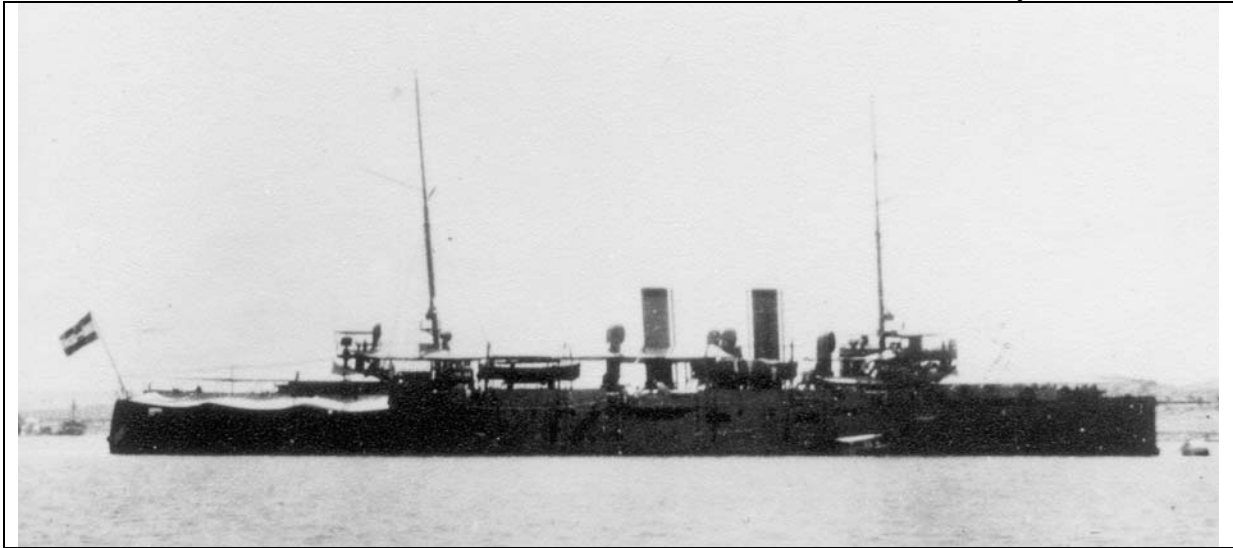
2481 Achau: The letters from here took the longest time. Two arrived after eight days (on July 9) and one after nine days (on July 10).

**spacer page**

# THE LAST CRUISE OF SMS KAISERIN ELISABETH: Part III

## The Japanese Prisoner Of War (POW) camps

By Fred Pirotte



Here (by courtesy of Dr J Pitts) is a photo of the SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth

### *III . 1 Transfer of the Austro-Hungarian sailors to Japan*

#### *III - 1 - 1 General points*

As shown in Part II, chapter II - 5, 10 Officers and 328 Leading Seamen and Hands came to be engaged in fighting in Tsingtau, against the British and Japanese forces. We can summarise the net situation about three weeks after the surrender (ie at the end of November 1914) in the following table.

	Leading Seamen and	
	Officers	Hands
Killed in action.		10
Escaped from Tsingtao and got back to Tienstin.		12
Release by the Japanese as being members of the medical service.	2	17
Sent to hospital from Tsingtao, then to Hong-Kong and finally to Australia.	1	1
Transferred to Japanese P.O.W. camps.	7	288
Total	10	328

### ***III - 1 - 2 The Japanese P.O.W. camps***

Starting in October 1914, eleven P.O.W. camps were opened and ready to accommodate German and Austro-Hungarian prisoners. They were: FUKUOKA, HIMEJI, KURUME/KORADAY, KUMAMOTO, MARUGAME, MATSUYAMA, NAGOYA, OÏTA, OSAKA, SHIZUOKA and TOKUSHIMA. From October 1914 to the end of 1919, 18 POW camps were opened.

The total number of Austro-Hungarians (295 men) was very low compared to the German contingent (about 4,700 men), and the Austro-Hungarian sailors were distributed in only 5 camps, although very unequally:

	Officers	Leading Seamen and Hands
HIMEJI	4	231
KUMAMOTO	1	44
SHIZUOKA		7
OSAKA	1	5
FUKUOKA	1	1

During the duration of their captivity, there were transfers of the Austro-Hungarian sailors to several other camps:

- ❖ On 9<sup>th</sup> April 1915, the Austro-Hungarian sailors left KUMAMOTO to go to KURUME. In August 1918, the same sailors were once more transferred, to NARASHINO.
- ❖ On 20<sup>th</sup> September 1915, the Austro-Hungarian sailors left HIMEJI to be transferred to AONOGAHARA.
- ❖ On 19<sup>th</sup> February 1917, the Austro-Hungarian sailors left OSAKA to be transferred to NINOSHIMA.
- ❖ On 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1918, LSK Makoviz and his batman left FUKUOKA to be transferred to NARASHINO.
- ❖ On 25<sup>th</sup> August 1918, the Austro-Hungarian sailors left SHISUOKA to be transferred to NARASHINO.

So, just before the end of WWI, the Austro-Hungarian sailors were located in only three camps: AONOGAHARA (with about 80% of the sailors), NINOSHIMA and NARASHINO.

On board SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth, only one third of the sailors were natives of Austria and Hungary. The others were Croatian, Dalmatian, Czech, Polish and so on. After the end of WWI, following the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, several new states were created, and other extended: Yugoslavia (Croatia, Slovenia and Dalmatia), Czechoslovakia (Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia), Poland (Galicia and Silesia), Romania (Transylvania), Italy. Starting in the middle of 1919, all the nationals of these new states were progressively released from the camps and returned home. At the end of 1919, only 139 Austrian and Hungarian natives still remained in Japanese camps.

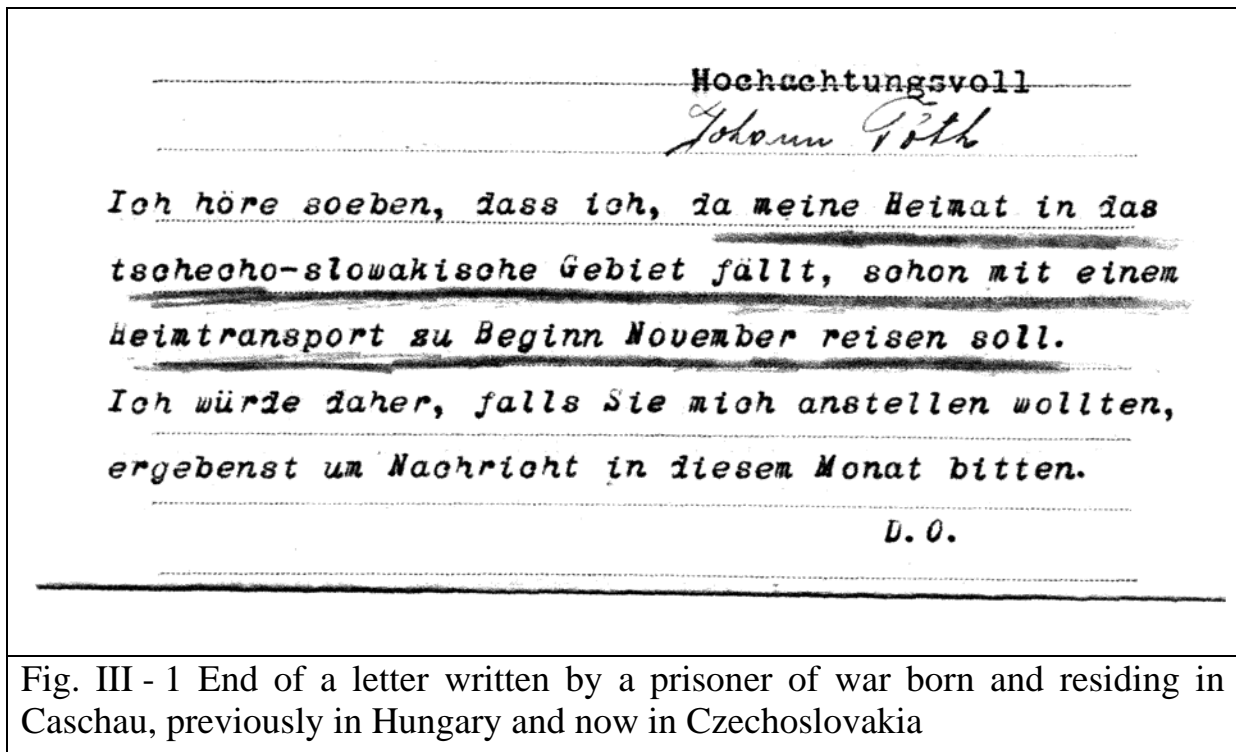


Fig. III - 1 End of a letter written by a prisoner of war born and residing in Caschau, previously in Hungary and now in Czechoslovakia

On 28<sup>th</sup> December 1919, the Austro-Hungarian sailors embarked with German prisoners on the steamer KIFUKU MARU and reached Wilhemshaven on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1920. They arrived by train in Vienna on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1920, after an absence of 6 years and to a total lack of interest.

### ***III - 2 Postal services in Japanese P.O.W. camps***

The same rules were applied in all the Japanese camps, even if the possibilities for sending or receiving mail depended on the Japanese commanding officer of each camp (see chapter III - 3). On a cover sent by an Austro-Hungarian or German prisoner (see illustration below), we basically can find:

(1) A civilian dated postmark, in Japanese characters with, at the top, the name of the city where the camp is located or depends on; and at the bottom, the time of collection. The date, in arabic figures, has to be read from right to left: day, month and year. The year is expressed in the Japanese calendar starting from the

coronation year of the Emperor Yoshihito (TAISHO period): 1912 is year 1. For instance, the Japanese date 3 . 11 . 7 means 7<sup>th</sup> November 1914.

(2) When necessary, the dated postmark of the nearest post office able to handle foreign-going mail. On this type of handstamp, in latin characters and arabic figures, date is expressed in the Gregorian calendar.

(3) A vertical linear handstamp, with four Japanese characters, meaning "Prisoner of war post", named in Japanese "furyoyubin".

(4) A vertical linear handstamp, with 3 characters, meaning "censored - may be dispatched", named in Japanese "kenetsuzumi".

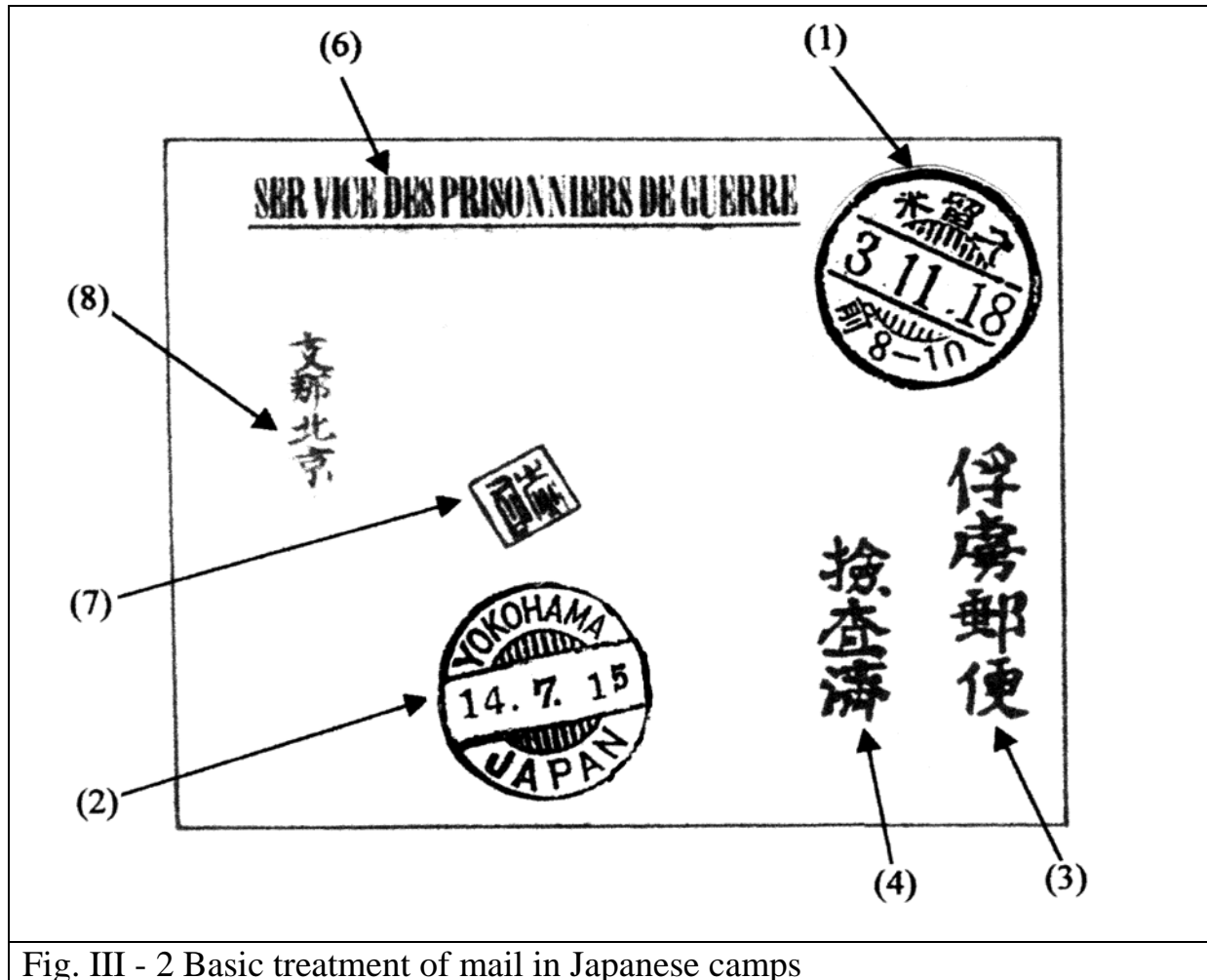


Fig. III - 2 Basic treatment of mail in Japanese camps

(5) A camp-name handstamp, generally combined with the Furyoyubin and the kenetsuzumi indications. In that case the single (3) and (4) handstamps are no longer applied.

(6) In compliance with the U.P.U. recommendations, a boxed or linear handstamp (written in French) "SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE" (Prisoner of War Service). More often than not, the mark "SdPdG" is stamped, but sometimes the full text is printed on dedicated envelopes or postcards.

(7) A small handstamp with the name of the Japanese censor who censored the mail. Such personal handstamps are still popular in Japan and are called "Han" handstamps.

(8) When mail has to be dispatched to foreign states, an indication of final destination in Japanese characters. At the beginning of the detention period this was handwritten, but more often a vertical linear handstamp was applied. Indications found are the name of the state: Austria, Germany, USA, etc. In the particular case of China, where Imperial Japanese Post Offices (IJPO) were implemented, the handstamps gave the names of the cities (eg Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai). Sometimes, the name was preceded by the Japanese character "Yuki" which means "toward". This indication of final destination was used to inform the Japanese postmen not accustomed to the latin characters.

(9) In camps having printing facilities, printed envelopes and postcards were issued. There were numerous designs, which will be studied in chapter III -3 for each different camp.

(10) The camps having printing facilities also issued illustrated postcards for sending greetings (for instance: New Year, Easter, Whit Sunday, Christmas) or showing humorous aspects relating to the life in the camp. These postcards will be studied in the sections on each camp.

### ***III - 2 - 2 Postal services available***

The German and Austro-Hungarian P.O.W. could dispatch:

- ❖ Postcards which were bought in the local market, showing Japanese landscapes and monuments ( mainly temples).
- ❖ Commercial envelopes and writing paper.
- ❖ Printed envelopes with basic stamp (6) surrounded with four Japanese characters meaning "Prisoner of war post", and a special print, boxed or oval, giving the name of the camp in Japanese and latin characters. On the cover flap was printed the address of the sender. Headed writing paper was available.
- ❖ Printed postcards, manufactured in the camp, with basic stamp (6) and very often on the left half the text "Absender / name of the camp" followed by "Kriegsgefangenenheim - JAPAN".
- ❖ Stationery postcards used as advice form for receipt of parcel or money.
- ❖ Letter for a remittance.
- ❖ Registered letter.
- ❖ The different types of illustrated postcards issued in the camp.
- ❖ Money orders.

The German and Austro-Hungarian prisoners could receive postcards, letters, registered letters, parcels, letter for a remittance, telegrams. It was mandatory that incoming and outgoing mail was written in German, otherwise it was rejected: the Japanese censors could only read German. This was not a problem for German prisoners, but was a real problem for the crew of SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth with Hungarians, Croatians, Czechs, Poles, etc.

### ***III - 2 - 3 Postal relations with China***

China represented a particular case because there were Imperial Japanese Post Offices (I.J.P.O.) in Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, etc. These offices could directly handle mail to and from Japanese P.O.W. camps.

In addition, in neutral China, there were German and Austro-Hungarian soldiers and sailors guarding the Legations in Peking and the railway and International Concession in Tientsin. Furthermore, 94 officers and sailors of SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth remained in Peking and Tientsin as they could not return to Tsingtao in September 1914, and there were 12 sailors who had escaped from Tsingtao.

Postal traffic between the Austro-Hungarian sailors and their friends in Japanese camps was important either during the neutral status of China (up to 14<sup>th</sup> August 1917) or later on when the Austro-Hungarian sailors were interned in the camps of SI-YUAN and later WAN-SHOU-SZE. In these latter cases, they used the facilities offered by the Dutch Legation, responsible for the Austro-Hungarian Legation in Peking.

On 20<sup>th</sup> November 1914, the Japanese post agency in Peking pointed out that mail, parcels and money orders would be carried, free from the port, to the prisoners of war in Japanese camps; this would be an efficient and rapid mean of communication.

## ***III - 3 THE PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS***

### ***III - 3 - 1 AONOGAHARA***

The Aonogahara camp was located in the Hyogo district, about one hour by train from Kobe. This camp was opened on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1915 and closed on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1920. The Camp Leader was the Austrian Korvettenkapitän Wladimir Pauperl - Edler Ritter von Drachenthal. In addition to the German soldiers, there were in the camp 4 officers and 225 sailors of SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth coming from the Himeji camp.

**1 - Civilian postmark:** Mail sent by the prisoners received the civilian postmarks from Hyogo-Takino or Hyogo-Isumi.

**2 - Mail sent to foreign countries:** This mail was handled in the Post Offices of Kobe or Yokohama. These postmarks were seldom used. Most letters and postcards were stamped with the Japanese handstamps of the camp giving the name of the destination states.

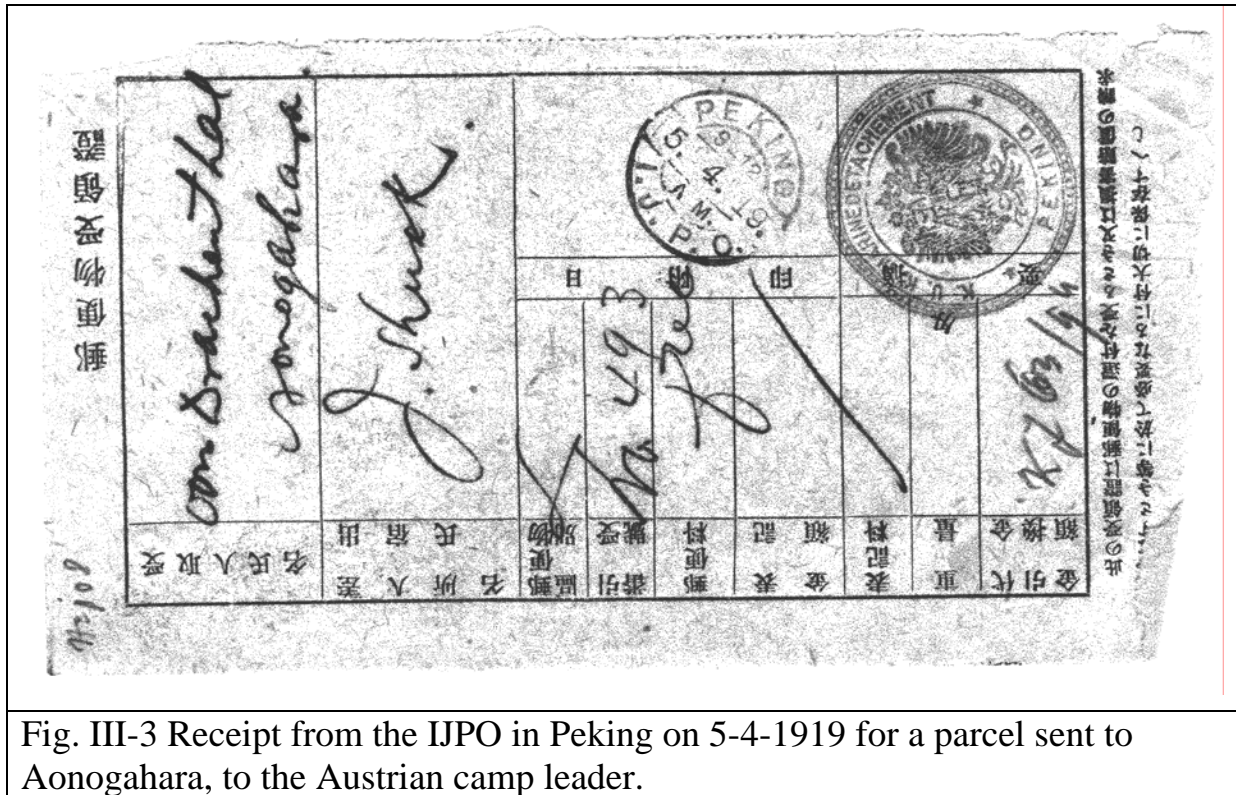


Fig. III-3 Receipt from the IJPO in Peking on 5-4-1919 for a parcel sent to Aonogahara, to the Austrian camp leader.

**3 - Furyoyubin handstamp:** Unknown

**4 - Kenetsuzumi handstamp:** Unknown

**5 - Combined handstamps:** A combined green, blue, purple or black circular handstamp gave the required data. The text was in English around the handstamp. Inside the handstamp, we find from top to bottom, in Japanese characters: Prisoner of war post / Prisoner of war camp - Aonogahara / controlled by censor.

A smaller circular handstamp, frequently used, of purple, blue or green colour gave from top to bottom in Japanese characters: Aonogahara / controlled by censor / Prisoner of war camp.

**6 - SdPdG hanstamps:** We can find a boxed and a linear handstamp, generally stamped in red colour.

**7 - Han handstamps:** Eight different Han handstamps are recorded.

**8 - Indication of final destination:** The names of the states or of the towns were previously handwritten with black ink. Later on, five handstamps were manufactured.

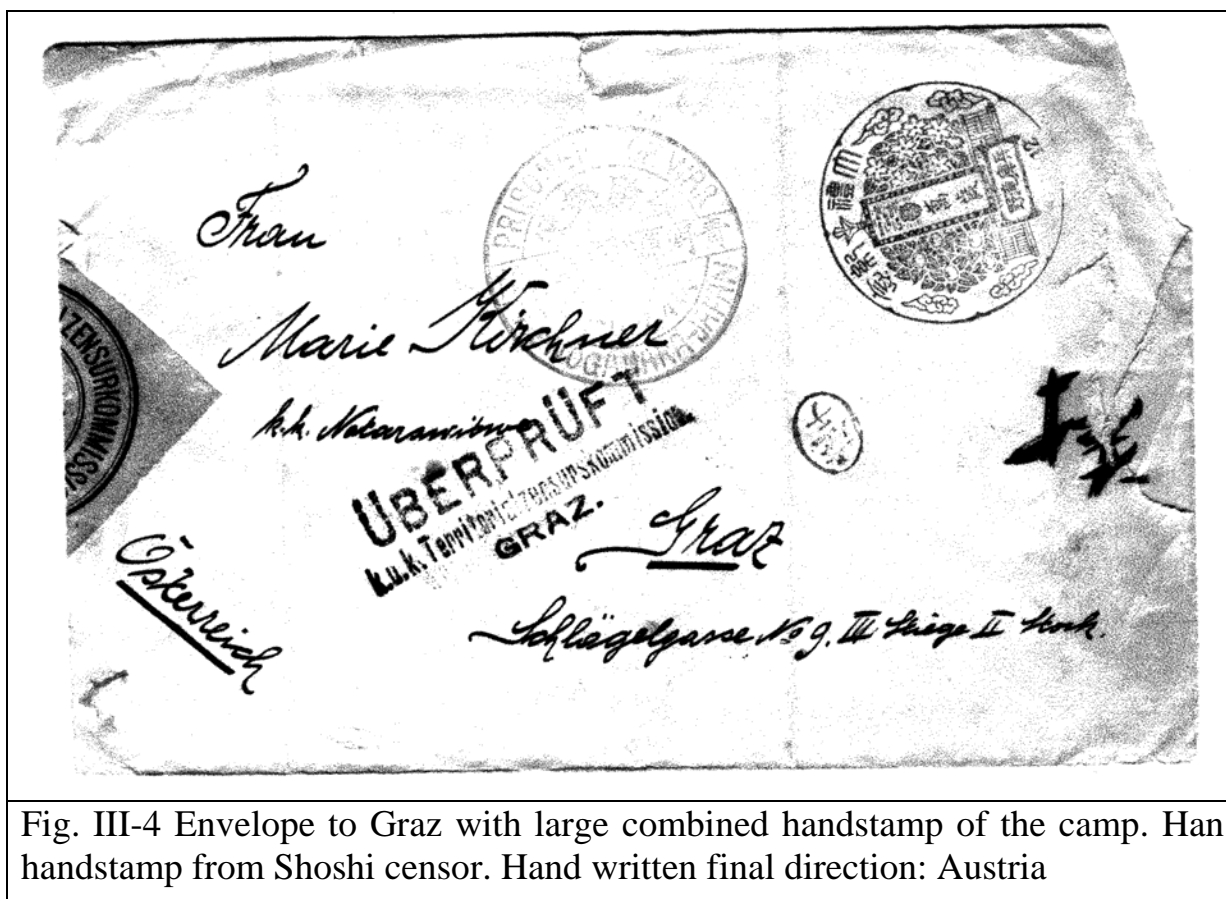


Fig. III-4 Envelope to Graz with large combined handstamp of the camp. Han handstamp from Shoshi censor. Hand written final direction: Austria

Fig. III-5 (below): Commercial postcard with the small combined handstamp of the camp. Han handstamp from Sakagushi censor. Framed SdPdG previously used in Himeji. This postcard had been previously sent to sailor Iglseider with a Japanese stamp on the picture side cancelled at Nagasaki on 8-11-1913. The address and correspondence has been scratched out to re-use the postcard.

Fig. III-6 (below): Printed postcard. Was blank and lined for the correspondence on the reverse side. Civilian postmark from Hyogo-Izumi dated 18-10-1015. Large combined handstamp of the camp.



Above: fig III-5. Below: fig III-6



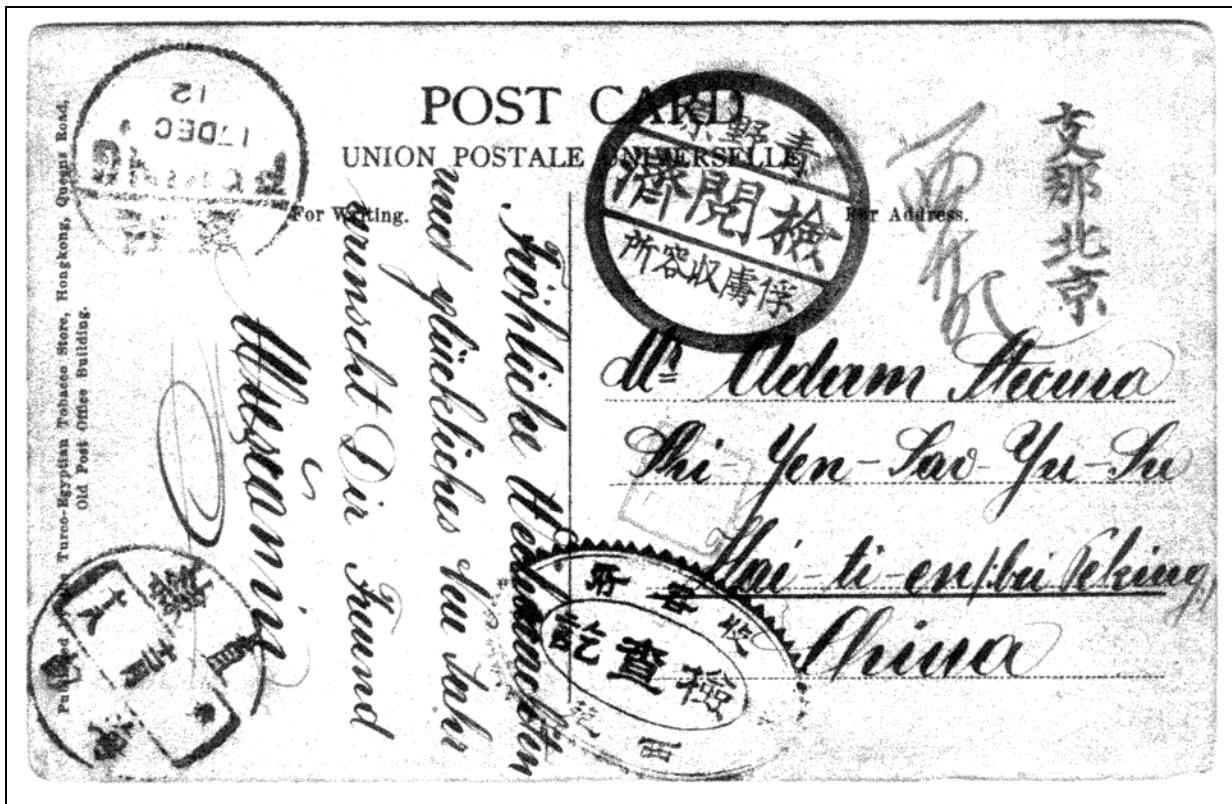


Fig. III-7 Commercial postcard sent to an Austrian sailor interned in the camp of Hsi-Yuan in Peking. Small combined handstamp of the camp. Final direction handstamp: Tientsin. Arrival postmark from Peking and oval handstamp of Hsi-Yuan.

**9 - Printed envelopes:** Envelopes were printed with SdPdG in French and Furryyubin. A boxed print on the right corner side has a two lines text: Furryyubin in Japanese characters and AONOGAHARA in latin characters (Fig. III-10).



**10 - Printed postcards:** Cards were with printed with SDPDG and Furryyubin. On the left of the postcard is printed in blue colour: Absender ...../ Aonogahara b. Kobe - Japan / Kriegsgefangenenheim.

**11 - Illustrated printed postcards:** Ten different types of illustrated postcards were printed in the camp. They humorously represent the life of the prisoners.

**12 - Greeting postcards:** A greeting postcard for Christmas, without date, is known. See Fig III-9 above.

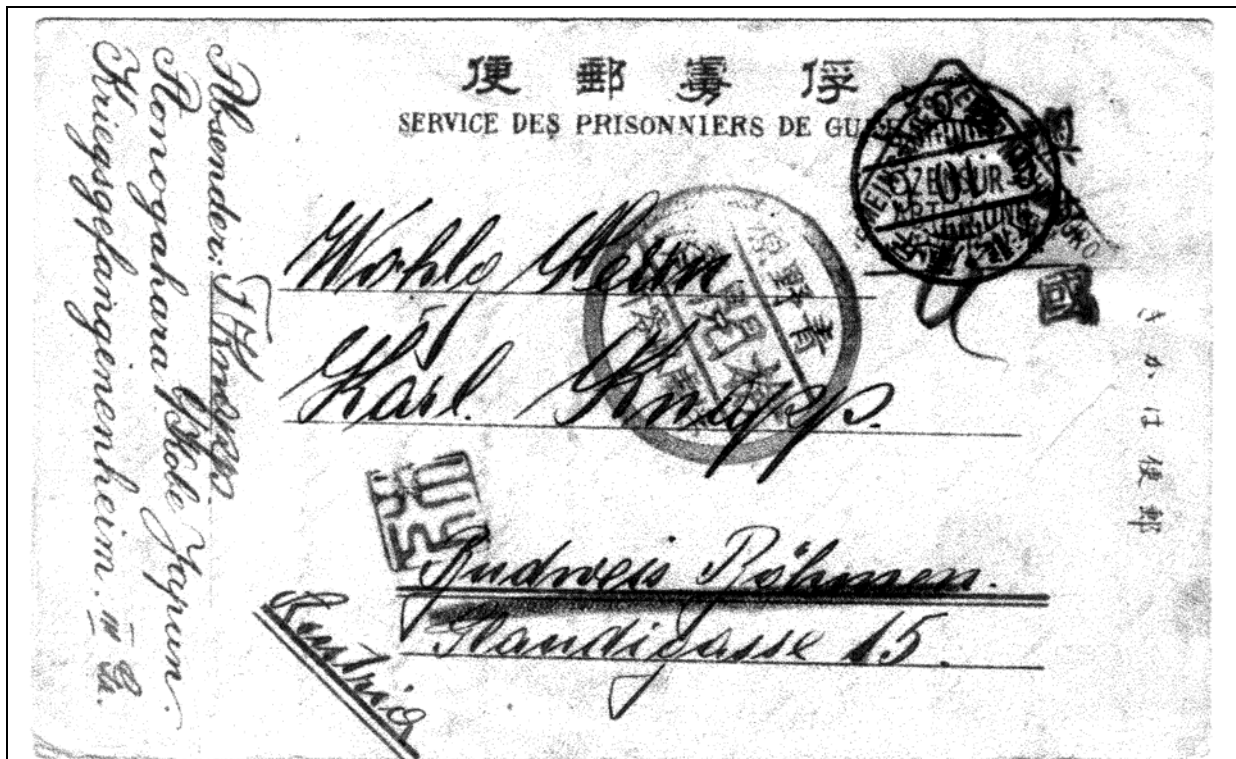


Fig. III-8: Printed postcard with civilian postmark of Hyogo-Takino dated 6-10-1917. Small combined handstamp of the camp. Final destination handstamp: Austria. The entire reverse was available for the correspondence.



Fig. III-9: Greeting commercial postcard, showing a geisha, for Christmas 1916. Civilian postmark of Hyogo-Takino dated 12-12-1916. Large blue combined handstamp of the camp. Han handstamp of Kinoshita censor. Hand written final destination: China.



**13 - Special handstamp:** A very large circular handstamp was used, in the middle of December 1918, to commemorate an art exhibition. In Japanese and English characters ( Fig. III-11).

### ***III - 3 - 2 FUKUOKA***

Fukuoka is located on Kiushiu Island, along the railway line Ōita - Moji - Sasebo - Nagasaki. All the Austro-Hungarian and German high rank officers captured in Tsingtao and their batmen were interned in the camp of Fukuoka. There were also numerous German soldiers. At first, Fukuoka camp was opened in January 1905 during the Russian-Japanese war. It was reopened on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1914 to receive about 850 prisoners. Only two men of the SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth were interned in Fukuoka camp: Linienschiffskapitän Makoviz and his batman. For this reason, no Austro-Hungarian mail of this camp have been seen up to now.

**1 - Civilian postmark:** Mail sent by the prisoners received the civilian postmark of Fukuoka

**2 - Mail sent to foreign countries:** This mail was handled at the post offices of Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka or Nagasaki. Nevertheless, we can sometimes find postmarks of Tsuruga and Moji.

**3 - Fuyoyubin handstamp:** Unknown

**4 - Kenetsuzumi handstamp:** Unknown

**5 - Combined handstamps:** A large circular handstamp was used, in orange, red blue and purple colours. The handstamp was divided in three horizontal segments with in Japanese characters: Fukuoka / Prisoner of war camp / controlled by censor.

**6 - SdPdG handstamps:** A one-line handstamp is found, used only during November and part of December 1914. During the years 1915 to 1918, a two-line handstamp was used. Being certainly a light handstamp, it was very often damaged giving faulty stamps such as "SERVIE" instead of SERVICE or "E" instead of DE.

**7 - Han handstamps:** Twenty two different Han handstamps are recorded.

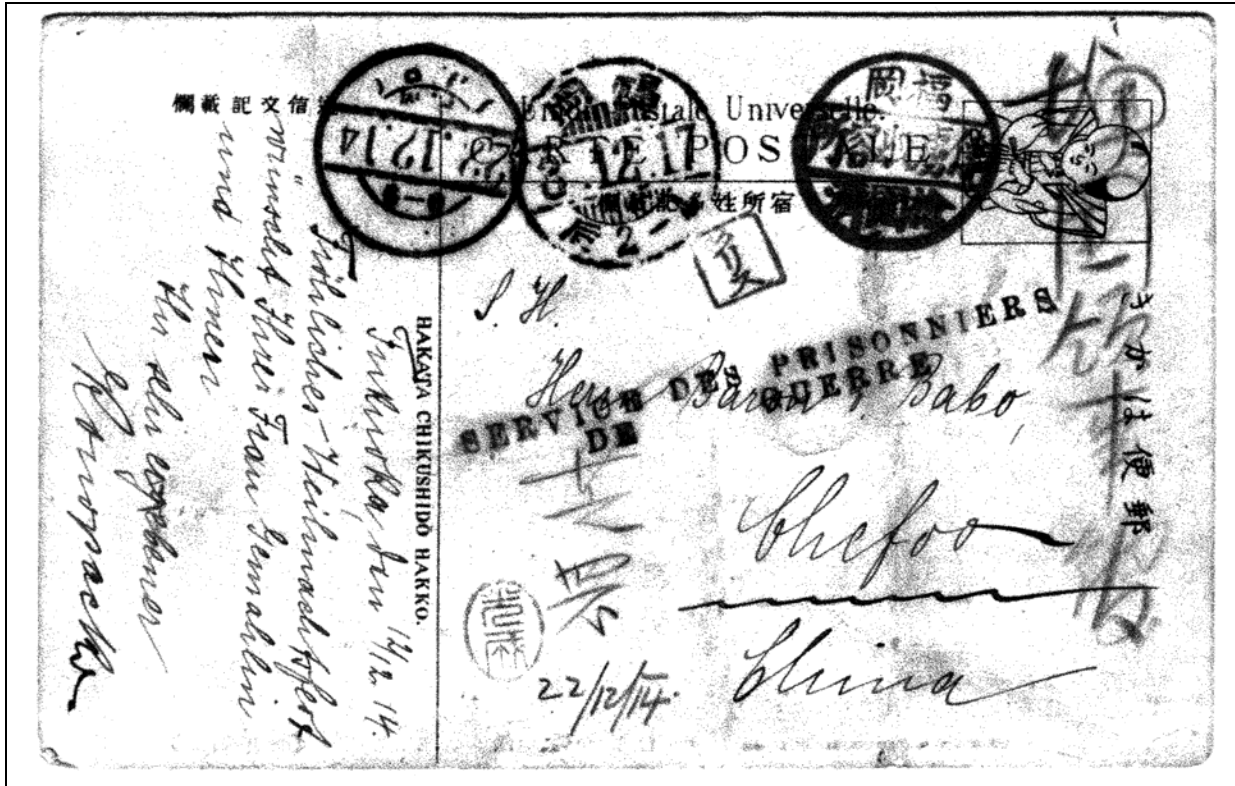


Fig. III-12 Commercial postcard. Civilian postmark of Fukuoka dated 17-12-1914. SdPdG red handstamp. Combined orange handstamp of the camp. Han handstamps of Kurizu and Mitsushige censors. Arrival IJPO of Chefoo on 22-12-1914. (From a German Officer; shown for information only.)

**8 - Indication of final destination:** A handstamp was available only for Germany. All other destinations were hand written.

**9 - Printed envelopes:** The prisoners of Fukuoka had a printing facility at their disposal, and envelopes were printed with several types of impressions, on the front with SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE and on the back ABSENDER ..... / KRIEGSGEFANGENENLAGER FUKUOKA -JAPAN.

**10 - Printed postcards:** Printed postcards have a double-oval stamp with, in Japanese characters: Foryoyubin / FUKUOKA (Fig. III-13).

**11 - Illustrated postcards:** Unknown.

**12 - Greetings postcards:** Starting year 1916, many greeting postcards were printed for Easter, Whit Sunday, Christmas and New Year



**13 - Miscellaneous:** Registered letters and letters of remittance are recorded.

### ***III - 3 - 3 HIMEJI***

Himeji camp was located in a small town, in the vicinity of Kobe. This camp was opened on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1914, with about 330 prisoners of war, 45 of whom were Austro-Hungarian sailors. The camp was closed on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1915, the prisoners being transferred to Aonogahara camp.

**1 - Civilian postmark:** Mail sent by the prisoners received a print of the civilian postmark of Himeji.

**2 - Mail sent to foreign countries:** This mail was handled at the POs of Kobe.

**3 - Foryoyubin handstamp:** From the opening of the camp, 4 Japanese handstamps of orange brown colour were available to be used. But very often, mail did not receive such handstamps.

**4 - Kenetsuzumi handstamp:** It did not exist as a vertical censor handstamp. It was replaced by a "verified" handstamp.

**5 - Combined handstamp:** Unknown

**6 - SdPdG handstamp:** There were three different SdPdG handstamps.

- ❖ A one line handstamp: Sce DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
- ❖ A rectangular frame handstamp with inside a two-line SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS / DE GUERRE
- ❖ A one-line handstamp in sanserif characters: SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

**7 - Han handstamp:** Six different Han stamps were used.

**8 - Indication of final direction:** Unknown

**9 - Printed envelopes:** Unknown

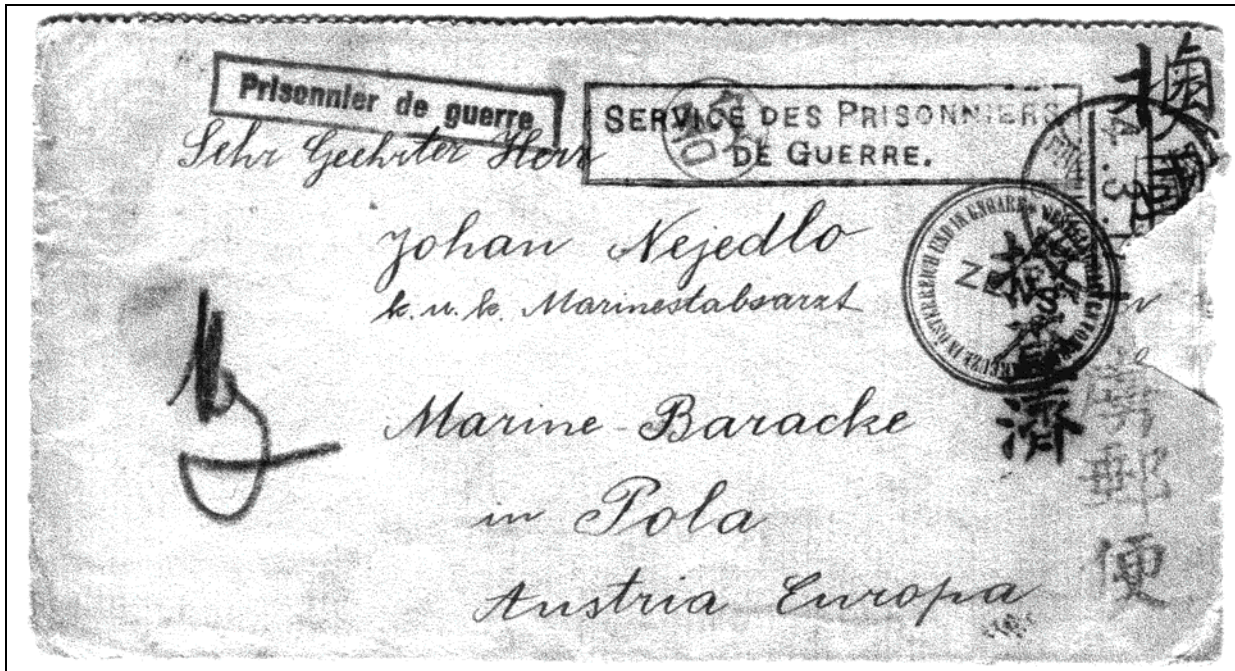


Fig. III-14 Envelope with text inside dated 14-3-1915. Civilian postmark of Himeji dated 17-3-1915. Rectangular framed SdPdG. Furyobin and verified handstamp. Small framed 'Prisonnier de guerre' handstamp.

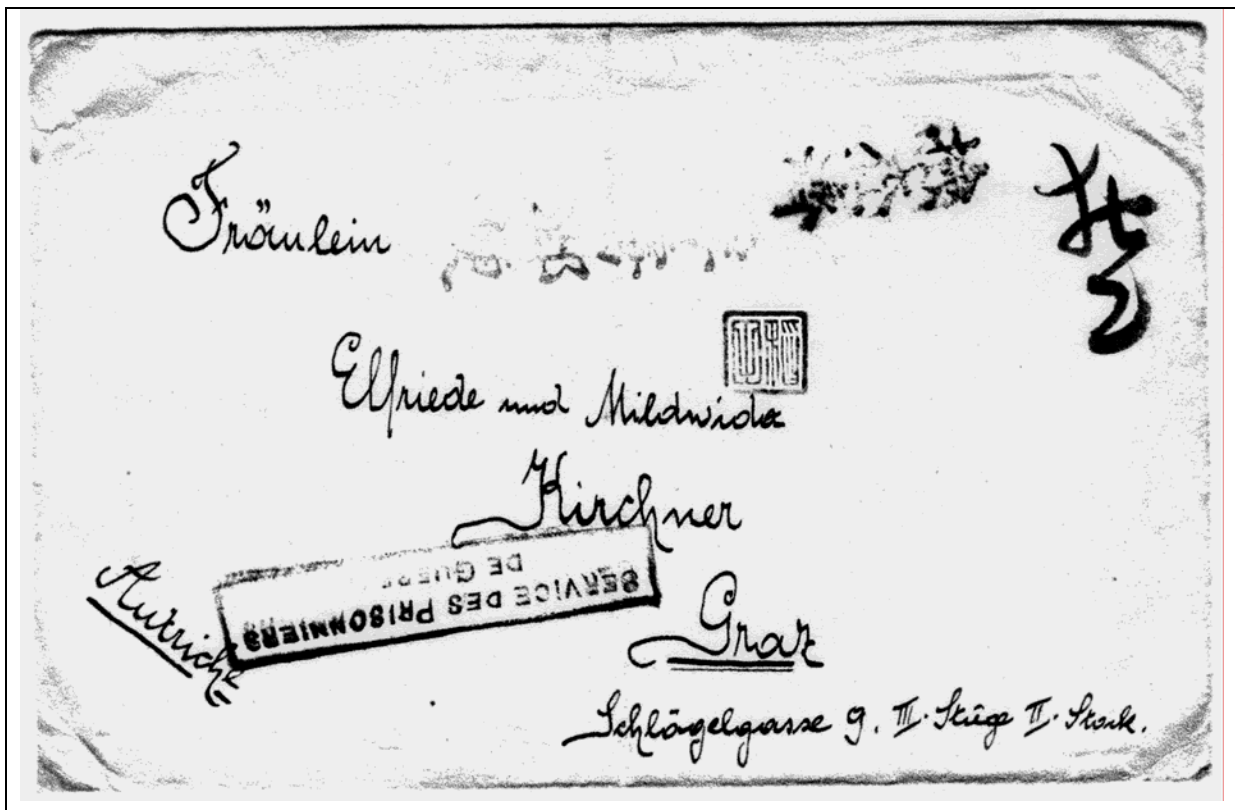


Fig. III-15 Undated envelope with the rectangular framed SdPdG purple handstamp. Orange furyobin and black verified handstamps. Handwritten destination: Austria

**8 - Indication of final direction:** Unknown

**9 - Printed envelopes:** Unknown

**10 - Printed postcards:** Are very rare, as they were only used during the three months before the transfer to Aonogahara

**11 - Illustrated postcards:** Unknown.

**12 - Greetings postcards:** Unknown



Fig. III-16 Propaganda postcard. Civilian postmark of Himeji dated 4-2-1915. Furryobin and verified handstamps. Han handstamp of Inada censor. Hand written final destination to China at top and Tientsin under. To an Austrian sailor at the detachment guard at Peking legation. German arrival postmark of the German agency dated 12-2-1915.

### III - 3 - 4 KUMAMOTO

Kumamoto is a town located in the middle of Kiushiu Island. The Kumamoto camp was a temporary camp using several temples with about 650 prisoners, 45 of them being Austro-Hungarian sailors. The camp was opened on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1914 and closed on 9<sup>th</sup> June 1915 when all the prisoners were transferred to the barrack camp of Kurume.

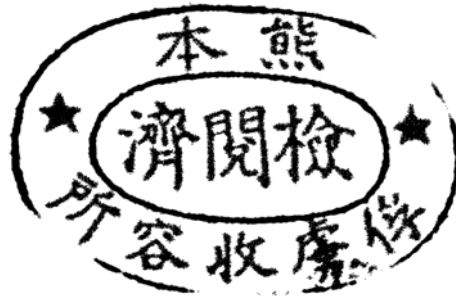
**1 - Civilian postmark:** Mail sent by the prisoners received the civilian postmark of Kumamoto-Tsuboi

**2 - Mail sent to foreign countries:** This mail sent was handled at the P.Os of Moji, Nagasaki or Sturuga

**3 - Furiyubin handstamp:** Never seen.

**4 - Kenetsuzumi handstamp:** A vertical frame handstamp, of orange-brown colour, used from November 1914 to beginning of February 1915.

**5 - Combined handstamp :** A double oval handstamp, of purple colour, divided into three parts with Japanese characters meaning: Kumamoto / Censored / Prisoner of war camp (Fig. III-17).



**6 - SdPdG handstamp:** Two one-line handstamps were used:

- ❖ See DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE (Orange)
- ❖ SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE (Red purple)

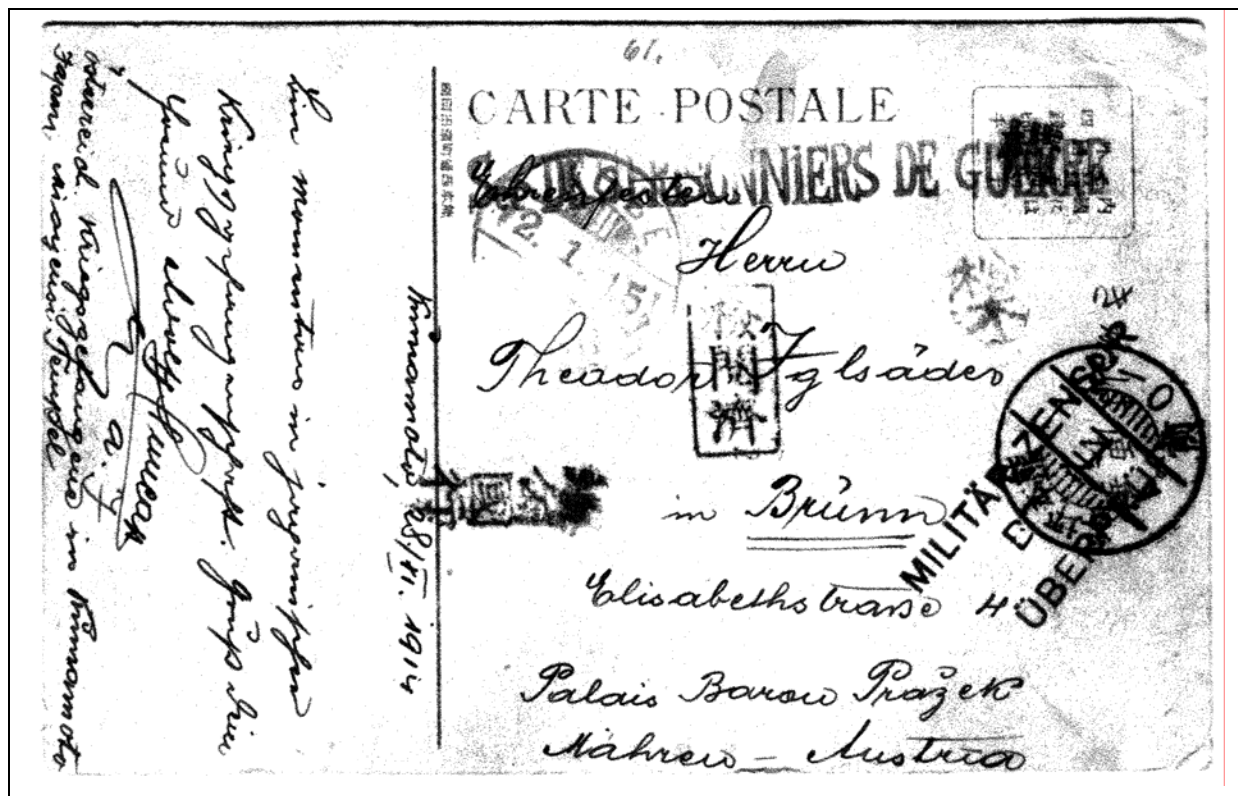


Fig. III-18 Very early commercial postcard, hand dated 28-11-1914. Civilian postmark of Kumamoto-Tsuboi dated 1-1-1915. Postmark for foreign mail dated 12-1-1915. Framed orange Kenetsuzumi handstamp. SdPdG type 1. Han handstamp of Matsuki censor. Final destination handstamp: Austria.

**7 - Han handstamps:** Seven different types were used.

**8 - Printed envelopes and postcards:** Not seen

**9 - Registered letters:** One registered letter, with declared value, is known, from a German prisoner.

### ***III - 3 - 5 BARRACK CAMP KURUME***

Located near the town of Kurume, in the north part of Kiushiu, at about 36km. North-East from Fukuoka. The barrack camp was opened on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1915. It replaced the camp of Kumamoto and the temple camp of Kurume (the latter had been opened on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1914 to accommodate the first German prisoners, 2 officers and 50 men coming from an isolated fort off Tsingtao). The Kurume camp, made up of 18 barracks, accommodated about 1315 prisoners, 45 of them being the Austro-Hungarian sailors transferred from Kumamoto.

**1 - Civilian postmark:** Mail sent by the prisoners received a print of the civilian postmark of Kurume.

**2 - Mail sent to foreign countries:** Mail sent to foreign countries received a print of POs Nagasaki, Moji or Tsuruga.

**3 - Furyoyubin handstamp:** Until the introduction of a large circular combined handstamp on July 1915, a furyoyubin handstamp of orange colour was used.

**4 - Kenetsuzumi handstamp:** Until the introduction of the combined handstamp, a Kenetsuzumi boxed handstamp of orange-brown colour was used.

**5 - Combined handstamp:** This was a large circular handstamp always of purple colour. It was divided into three areas, in Japanese characters, with at top: Kurume Prisoner of war camp, in the middle: Prisoner of war post, at bottom: censored. Between the top and middle parts we find latin capital letters A to G corresponding to the different censors. Between the middle and the bottom, is the latin capital letter Z meaning, in German, "Zensur" (Fig. III-19).



## 6 - SdPdG handstamps: Three types of SdPdG have been used:

- ❖ Sce DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
- ❖ SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
- ❖ Service des Prisonniers de Guerre

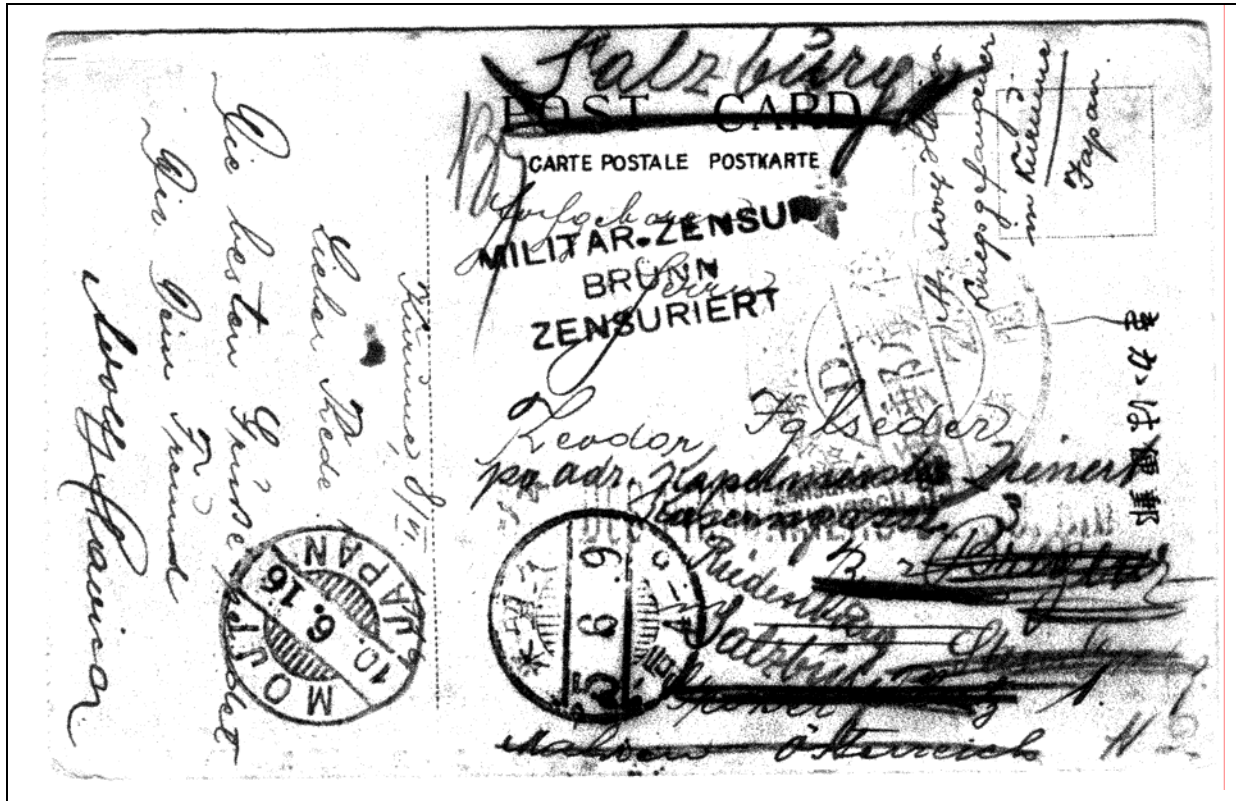


Fig. III-20 Commercial postcard. Civilian postmark of Kurume dated 9-6-1916. Foreign destination postmark of Moji dated 10-6-1916. Combined handstamp of the camp with D censor.

## 7 - Han Handstamps: Ten different Han handstamps were used.

**8 - Indication of final destination:** In Kurume, there were 30 different final destination handstamps giving generally the name of the state, and in the particular case of China the town, where the addressee was residing. In addition, direction handstamps with names of the other POW camps in Japan were used.

## 9 - Printed envelopes: Not seen

**10 - Printed postcards:** Printed postcard of advice for receipt (money, parcels) were issued.

**11 - Illustrated postcards:** Many types of postcards were issued, for instance to commemorate some events such as the sports week in 1917 and exhibitions.

**12 - Greetings postcards:** Greetings postcards for Christmas were issued.

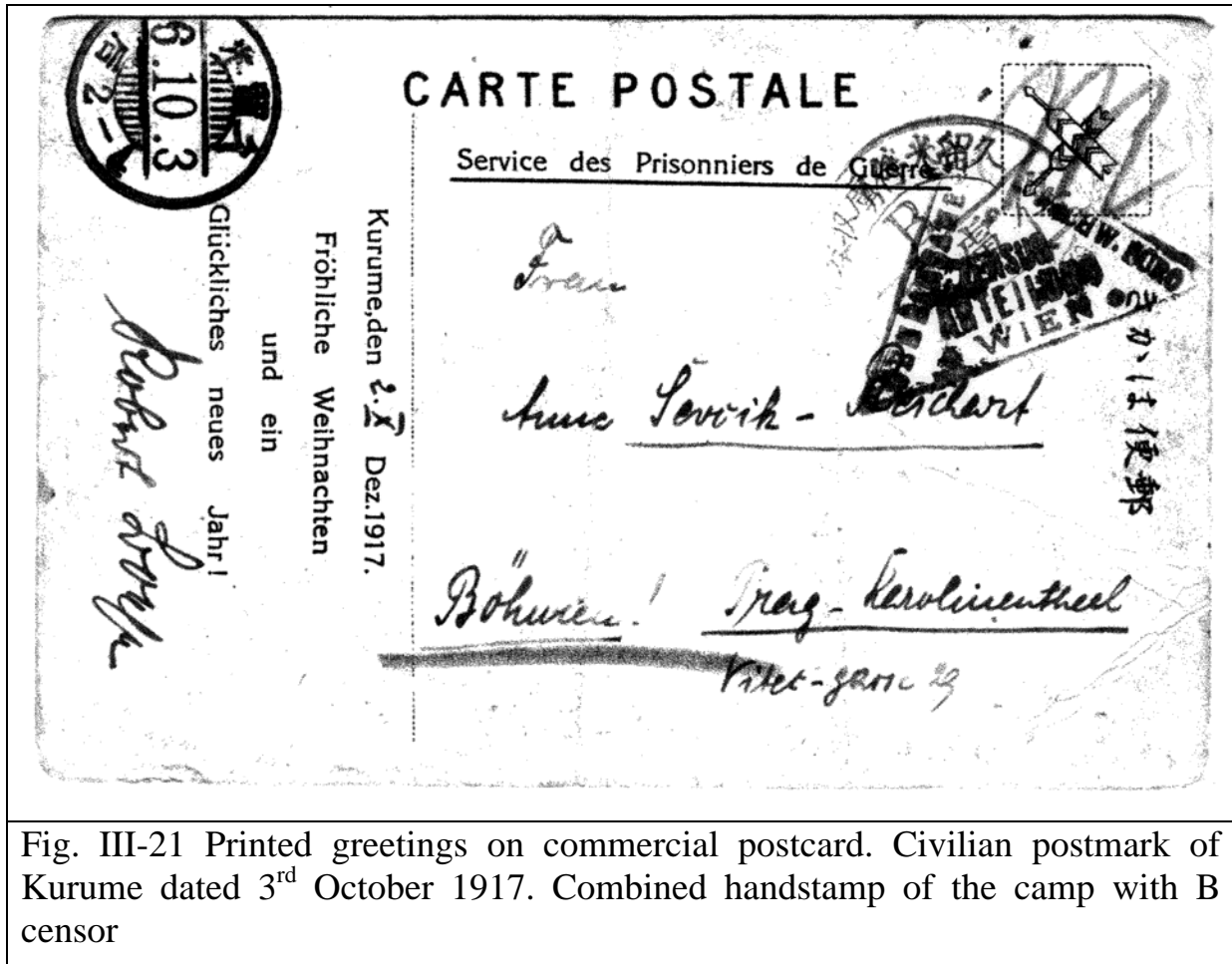
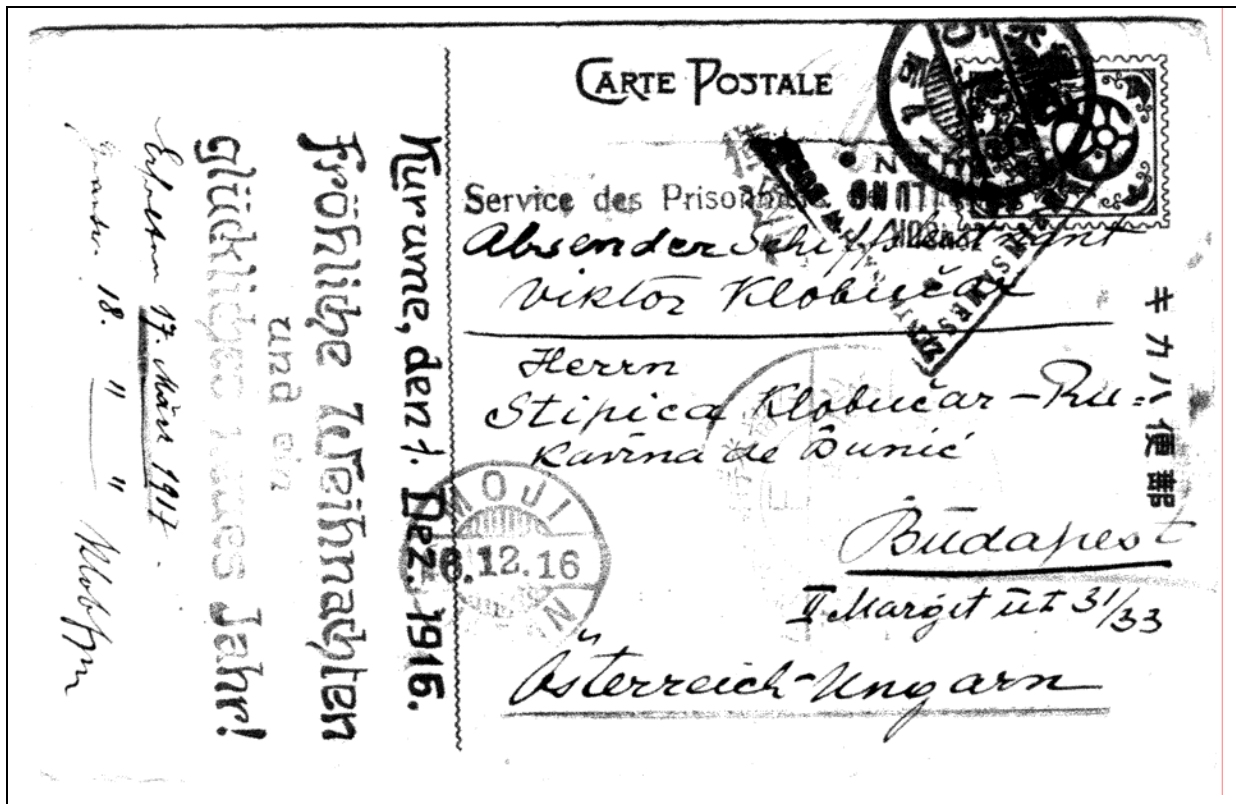


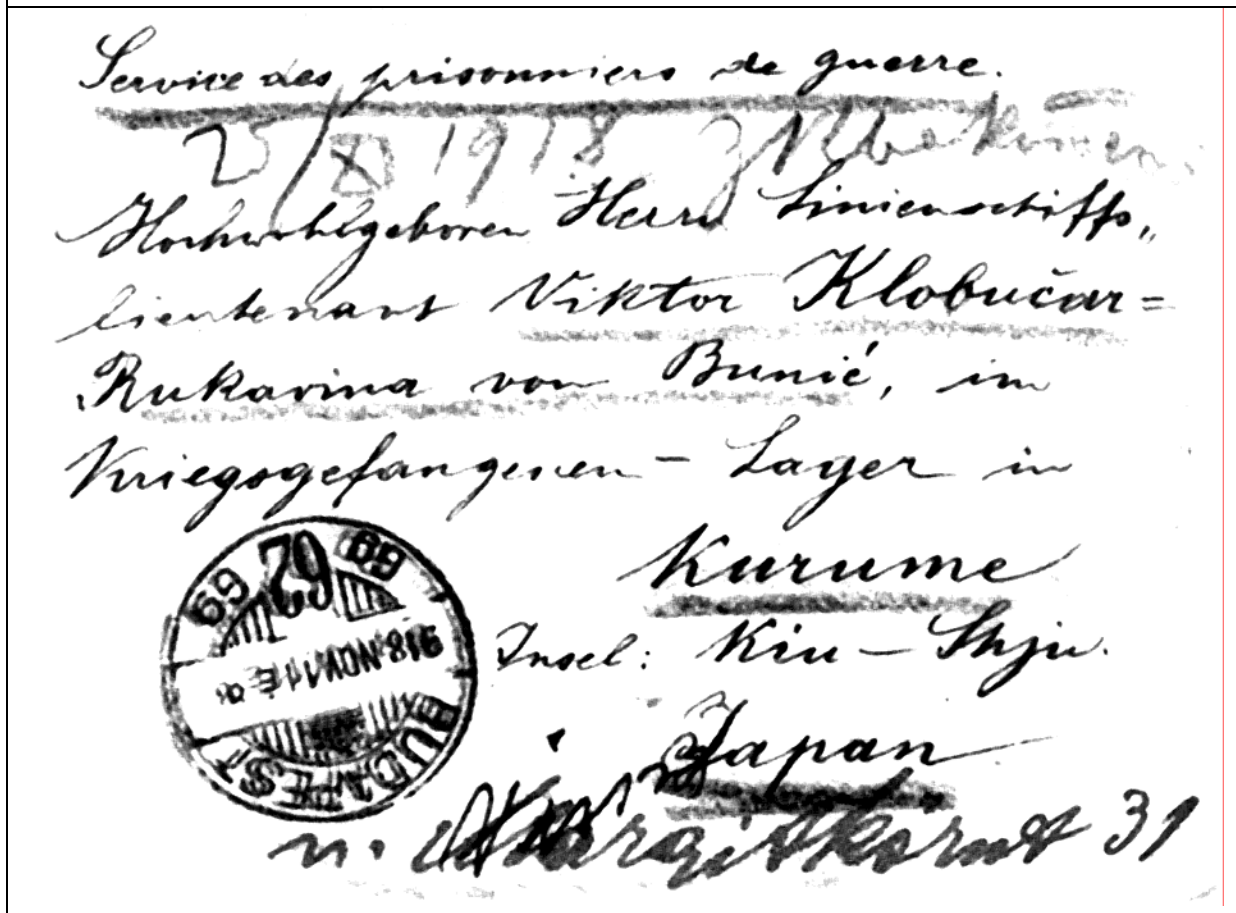
Fig. III-21 Printed greetings on commercial postcard. Civilian postmark of Kurume dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1917. Combined handstamp of the camp with B censor

Fig. III-22 (below) Printed greetings on commercial postcard. Civilian handstamp of Kurume dated 7<sup>th</sup> December 1916. Foreign destination postmark of Moji dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916. Combined handstamp of the camp with F censor. Was sent by Schiffsleutenant Victor Klobucar (see also fig. III-23).

Fig. III-23 (below) Interesting envelope sent from Budapest by the father of Schiffsleutenant Klobucar to Kurume POW camp. Postmark of Budapest dated 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918. War being ended, the Hungarian postman decided to return the letter to the sender. Postmark of Budapest on the reverse dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 1914. This postman was very optimistic! Schiffsleutenant Klobucar was repatriated 14 months later.



Above: fig III-22. Below: fig III-23





**6 - SdPdG handstamps:** Three SdPdG linear handstamps were used, two of them were previously used at Oita and Asakusa camps.

**7 - Han handstamps:** Eleven different Han handstamps are recorded.

**8 - Indication of final direction:** Seventeen different handstamps were used, for foreign countries, towns in China but also other prisoner of war camps in Japan.

**9 - Printed envelopes:** Four types of envelopes have been printed, all with linear SDPDG underlined and, on the top right corner a rectangular framed stamp. At top of this stamp furyoyubin (in Japanese) and at bottom Narashino (in latin). On the flap is printed:

Absender .....  
KRIEGSGEFANGENENLAGER NARASHINO (JAPAN)

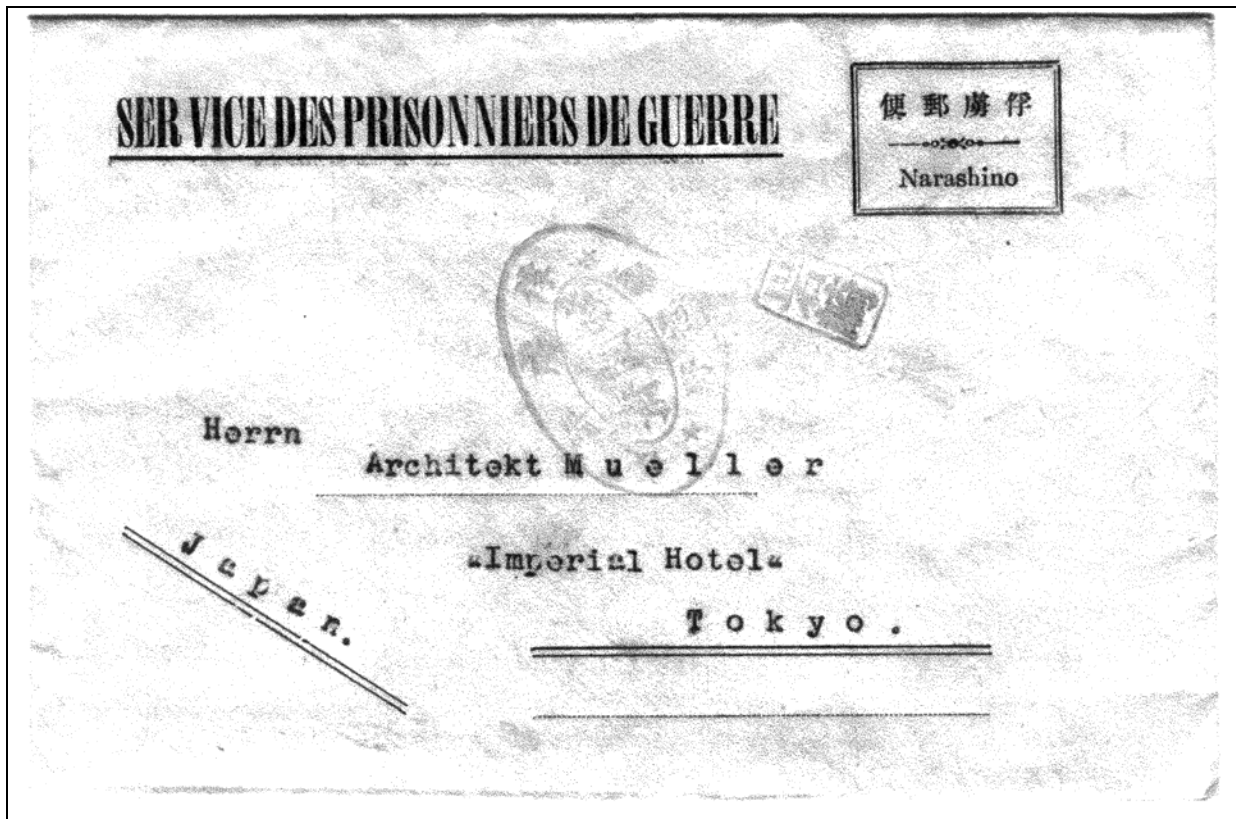


Fig. III-25 Printed envelope. SdPdG underlined print. Boxed combined print on the right top corner. Combined red oval handstamp of the camp. Han handstamp of Iwasaki censor.

**10 - Printed postcards:** Four types have been issued. On two types we have:

SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE  
CARTE POSTALE  
UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

On the top right corner of all types is the same boxed handstamp as on the envelopes but of smaller size.

**11 - Illustrated postcards:** Many coloured types have been issued, to commemorate sports or exhibition events but also with beautiful designs of Japanese Geishas.

**12 - Greetings cards:** Issued only in 1919 for Easter and Christmas.

### ***III - 3 - 7 NINOSHIMA***

The camp of Ninoshima is located at about 8 km South-West of Hiroshima, close to the seaside. The prisoners of war from Osaka camp were transferred to Ninoshima camp on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1917. Amongst these prisoners were 5 Austro-Hungarian sailors led by Fregattenkapitän Baierle. The camp of Ninoshima was closed on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1920, the Austro-Hungarian natives having left on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1919 to embark on the steamer Kifuku Maru.

**1 - Civilian postmark:** Mail received the print of the postmark of Ujima.

**2 - Mail sent to foreign countries:** This mail was handled at the POs of Kobe and sometimes of Yokohama.

**3 - FURYUYUBIN handstamp:** A boxed handstamp is recorded but seldom used.

**4 - Kenetsuzumi handstamps:** Two boxed handstamps with round corners, coming from Osaka were used but are rare because of the introduction of the combined handstamps

**5 - Combined handstamps:** Three types of combined handstamps of the camp were issued: one small and one larger boxed handstamps; one small oval handstamp. The small boxed and the oval handstamps have two lines with furyoyubin (in Japanese characters) and Ninoshima (in latin characters). The large boxed handstamp is divided into three parts:

- ❖ On top a two lines SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS / DE GUERRE with at left of the second line two Japanese characters for 'furyo', and at right the remaining two Japanese characters for 'yubin';
- ❖ In the middle kenetsuzumi between two stars;
- ❖ At bottom, in Japanese characters Prisoner of war camp NINOSHIMA.

**6 - SdPdG handstamp:** Two linear handstamps were issued, one is underlined

**7 - Han handstamps:** Fifteen different Han handstamps are recorded.

**8 - Indication of final destination:** Eleven different handstamps have been issued for Germany, Chinese towns and other Japanese prisoner of war camps.

**9 - Printed envelopes:** Several types have been printed with SdPdG and rectangular combined handstamp of the camp. On the flap of the envelope is printed:

Absender.....  
Kriegsgefangenenlager Ninoshima Japan

**10 - Printed postcards:** Several types were issued, all with:

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE  
CARTE POSTALE  
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

On the right top corner, a double oval handstamp with furyoyubin and Ninoshima. Some postcards were printed with a text on the back, to be used as advice of receipt.



Fig. III-26 Printed advice of receipt postcard. Civilian postmark of Ujima dated 2-2-1918. Print of the oval combined stamp of the camp. Red small kenet-suzumi handstamp. Han handstamps of Niwa and Tokumori censors. This advice of receipt is signed by Schiffsleutnant Baierle, for seven parcels sent by Linien-schiffsleutnant Gayer through the Nederland Legation in Peking. On right, final destination in red ink: Peking.

**11 - Illustrated postcards:** Many types of humorous postcards were issued.

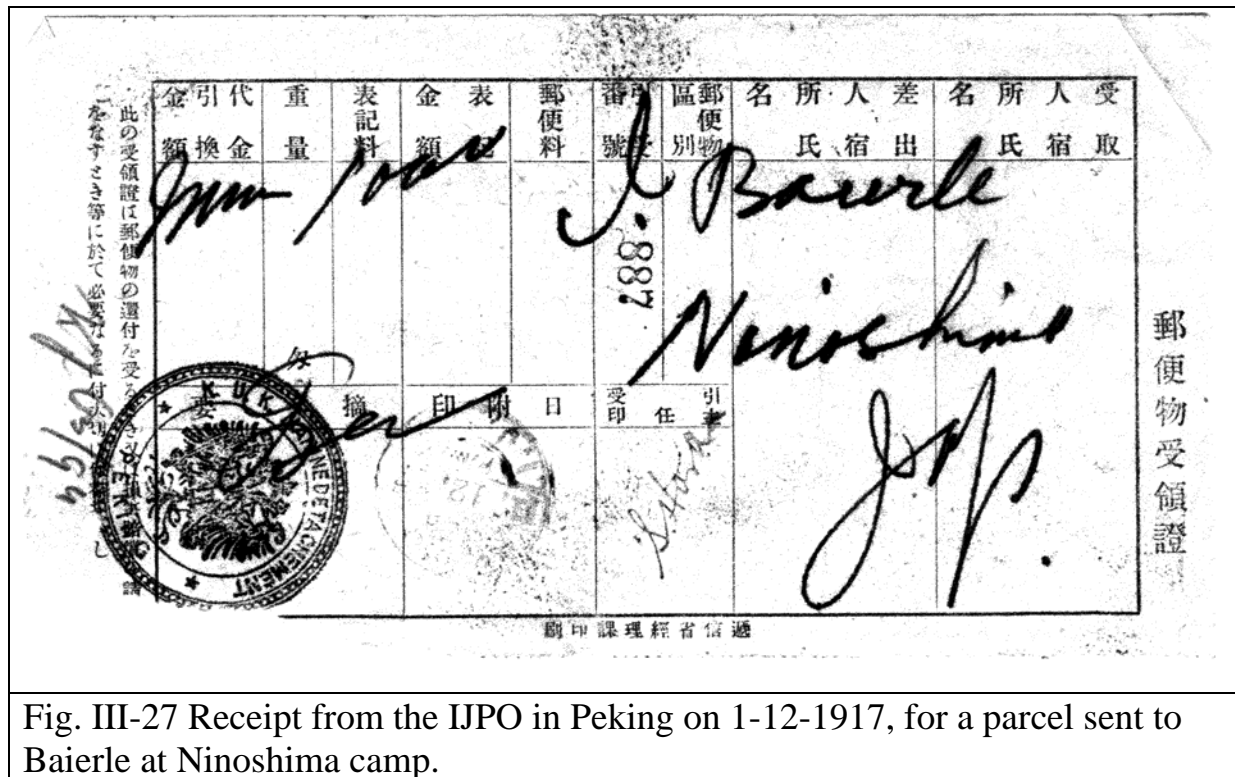
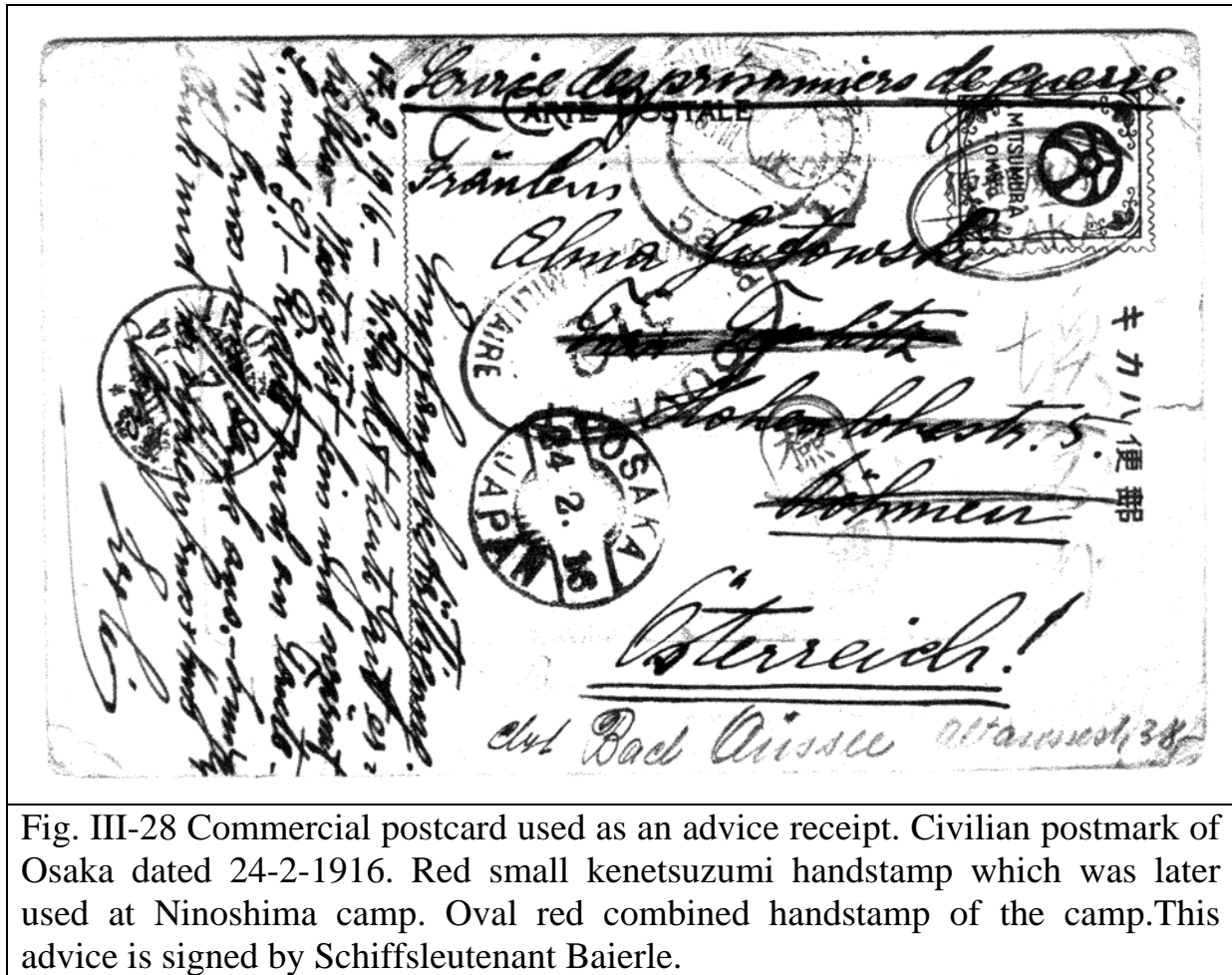


Fig. III-27 Receipt from the IJPO in Peking on 1-12-1917, for a parcel sent to Baierle at Ninoshima camp.

### III - 3 - 8 OSAKA

The camp had been built in the old garrison town of Osaka. It was opened on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1914 and accommodated about 660 prisoners, amongst whom 5 Austro-Hungarian sailors and their leader Schiffsleutenant Baierle. The camp was closed on 16th February 1917 when the prisoners were transferred to Ninoshima camp.

- 1 - **Civilian postmark:** Mail received a print of the postmark of Osaka-Horie.
- 2 - **Foreign destinations:** Mail was processed by the POs of Osaka.
- 3 - **Furyoyubin handstamp:** Small circle with the four Japanese characters inside. Seldom used because of the introduction of the combined handstamps of the camp.
- 4 - **Kenetsuzumi handstamp:** Two boxed with rounded corners were issued.
- 5 - **Combined handstamps:** Several combined handstamps were issued:
  - ❖ A double circle handstamp. Inside the internal circle was furyoyubin. Between both circles, in Japanese characters: Prisoners of war camp - Osaka. Colour orange-brown.
  - ❖ An oval handstamp with, in the top half of the oval furyoyubin, in the bottom half: Osaka.
  - ❖ A rectangular handstamp with the same inscriptions.



**6 - SdPdG handstamps:** Two types were used, one underlined, the other not.

**7 - Han handstamps:** Eleven different Han handstamps were issued.

**8 - Indication of final destination:** Seven different handstamps are recorded

**9 - Printed envelopes:** Two types are recorded with underlined SdPdG print and a rectangular stamp with furyoyubin and Osaka inscriptions. The second type is a correction of the first one, on the second N of PRISONERS

**10 - Printed postcards:** Several types were issued, all with:

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE  
CARTE POSTALE  
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

On the left part of the card is the sender's address in script characters

**11 - Greeting printed postcards:** Only for Whit Sunday and Christmas.

### **III - 3 - 9 SHIZUOKA**

The town of Shizuoka is located between Yokohama and Kobe. The Shizuoka camp accommodated about 150 prisoners of war on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1914, 7 of them being Austro-Hungarian sailors. The camp was closed on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1918, the prisoners being transferred to Narashino.

**1 - Civilian postmark:** Mail received a postmark of Shizuoka

**2 - Foreign destination:** Mail was handled by the PO of Yokohama

**3 - Foryoyubin handstamp:** A foryoyubin handstamp was issued: colour orange-brown at the beginning, black later on.

**4 - Kenetsuzumi handstamp:** A boxed kenetsuzumi handstamp was issued.

**5 - Combined handstamp:** A combined handstamp of the camp was issued in August 1917 and was always of purple colour. The handstamp was a double circle with a bridge. In the top part was kenetsuzumi, in the bridge Prisoner of war post, in the bottom part POW camp Shizuoka (Fig. III-30).



**6 - Han handstamps:** Four Han handstamps are recorded.

**7 - Final destination:** Always hand written.

**8 - Printed envelopes:** The only printing is an SdPdG stamp, underlined, on the front.

**9 - Printed postcards:** Printed postcards were issued for the prisoners correspondence. On the front side of the card we find two different types of SdPdG:

SCE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERE

SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

On the top of the back was printed in Japanese characters: "Postcard to be used in the prisoner of war camp Shizuoka in the Great Japan". Some cards were specially printed with a text for advice of receipt.

**10 - Greetings printed postcards:** Commercial postcards are known with SdPdG printed on the address and correspondence side, with greetings on the left for Easter and Whit Sunday.

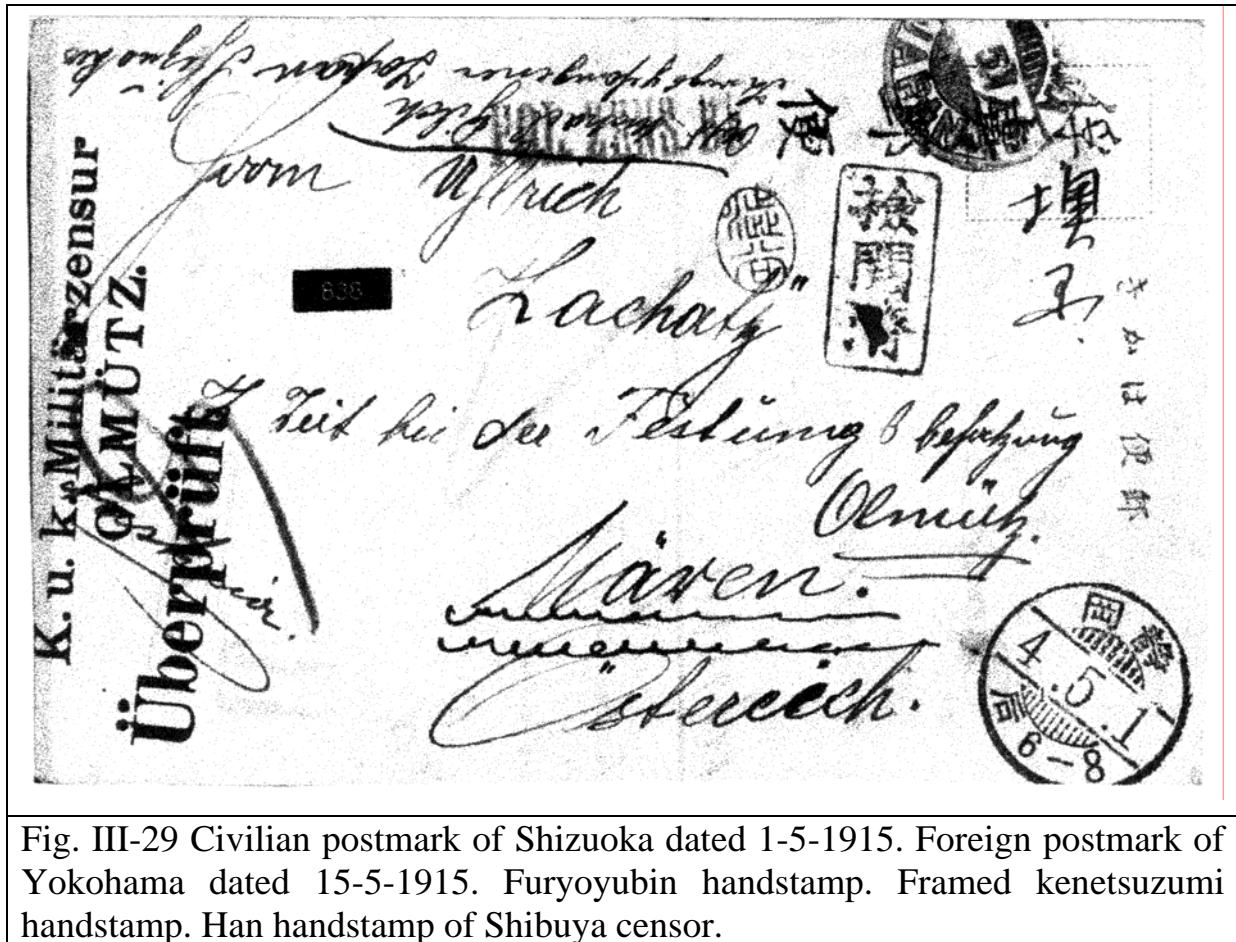


Fig. III-29 Civilian postmark of Shizuoka dated 1-5-1915. Foreign postmark of Yokohama dated 15-5-1915. Furyoyubin handstamp. Framed kenetsuzumi handstamp. Han handstamp of Shibuya censor.

## References (For parts I to III)

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- ❖ Almanach für die K.u.k. Kriegs-Marine - 1898
- ❖ Instruktion für die Behandlung der Postsendungen an Bord der in fremden Gewässern befindlichen K.u.K; Kriegsschiffe - 1905
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