



# CZECHOUT

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## NOTES

The Joint Meeting at Heaton Royds will be on **Saturday 17 August** and the next Society meeting in London will be on **Saturday 31 August** when **Lindy Bosworth** will give a display entitled *The Chairman Entertains*.

This issue has a somewhat military flavour to promote two Society Monographs which it is hoped to publish shortly: Monograph 15 *Postal History of the Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain 1940–1945*; and Monograph 16 *The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and Russia in 1939–1941, and Czechoslovaks in the Middle East 1940–1943*.

We would draw members attention to the fact that the year **2003** is the **50th Anniversary of this Society**. As part of the celebrations there will be **three events**: a display at **Stampex** from Wednesday 26 February to Sunday 2 March; the **Royal Philatelic Society, London** has invited us to give a display at 1.00pm on Thursday 20 March; and a full exhibition at the **Czech Embassy with support from the Slovak Embassy** will take place on Thursday 22 May until Saturday 24 May 2003. The Society weekend Conference will be held at Hinsley Hall, Headingley, Leeds from Friday 12 to Sunday 14 September 2003. Please make note of these dates in your diaries and support your Society in its anniversary year.

*Opinions expressed in articles in Czechout are the sole responsibility of the author(s), and are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor or the Society.*

## NEWS & NOTICES

### Meeting held Saturday 9 March 2002

The Chairman, Lindy Bosworth, welcomed 18 members and one visitor to the meeting. She reported the sad news that member Karl Eder of Toronto had recently died. Apologies had been received from five members.

The Hon Secretary gave details of five prospective new members:

<b>Charles Grainger</b>	from Blyth
<b>Paul Uppington</b>	from Bristol
<b>Jon Klemetsen</b>	from Bergen, Norway
<b>J F van de Vate</b>	from Velp, the Netherlands
<b>Richard Chadwick</b>	from Whaley Bridge

whose applications were readily endorsed and formally accepted.

The first part of the afternoon was devoted to the **Kay Goodman Trophy** competition. Richard Beith and George Firmage acted as judges. In his report, Richard said that it was a seriously sad fact that there were only two entries. The results were as follows:

1st	<b>Bob Bradford</b>	<i>Czechoslovakia: Airmail Issues 1920–1939</i>
2nd	<b>Brian Day</b>	<i>Airmail Flights from, to and via Czechoslovakia</i>

Following the presentation of the Rosebowl to the winner, the rest of the afternoon was given over to **Richard Beith** for his display of *Musical Philately*, subtitled *The Musical Arts of the Czech and Slovak Lands*. Richard explained that it started as a fun collection, which had become "extremely serious fun." He laid blame on the Dvořák Society, with whom he had been visiting Czechoslovakia since 1991. The collection linked two of his interests together.

The major portion of the display was on Czech composers, including not so obvious ones such as Korngold and Mahler. Then followed frames on Czech performers, festivals, theatres, and orchestras, finishing with a section on music in Slovakia.

Bob Bradford gave the vote of thanks. He remarked that, as a music lover, it was nice to see so much music, commenting on how many Czech composers there were. The display was an example to others as how to combine two hobbies. He said that it was one that could be taken anywhere; Richard replied that he had displayed it to several non-musical organisations such as the W.I.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.30 pm.

Rex A Dixon

### Joint Meeting with the Austrian Philatelic Society, Hungarian Philatelic Society of GB and Society for Polish Philately in GB at Heaton Royds, Bradford on Saturday 17 August 2002

Once again the event has been made possible by the invitation of Stephen and Judith Holder to hold the meeting at their home near Bradford, West Yorkshire. The meeting will be from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. To ensure all the societies are represented, numbers have to be restricted to five from each society. To reserve your place please contact Yvonne Wheatley, Weltevreden, 7 Manor Croft, Leeds LS15 9BW, telephone 0113 260 1978 (home). Full details will be sent to those attending.

Yvonne Wheatley

### Letters to the Editor

✉ **Mr M.P.Collinson** writes "Thank you for sending me your March journal, which contained the obituary of my father Harold. The family much appreciates your concern for your members; not forgetting also the other officers of the Society."

✉ A correspondent of **Yvonne Gren** has a granddaughter, Karolina Kšánová [aged 12 years] who would like to correspond with an English girl of her own age simply to improve her English. Can anyone help please? Karolina's address is Dolezalova 1038, 198 00 Prague, Czech Republic. >

☒ **Lubor Kunc** writes: "In *Czechout* 3/2001 on page 64 Richard Beith's "Postcard of Interest" I personally don't believe that the Bratislava card was censored in Vienna. The first censorship of the card was done in Bratislava [see small cancels '762' and '1209' – these are Slovak censor cancels] and the German censorship [see the machine cancel in the left part of the card] was in my opinion done in the Protectorate. Of course, this is only my opinion! For more information see the article on Censorship on pages 36-39."

☒ **Ian Nutley** writes: "One of the great assets of our Society is the truly excellent auction, which must surely contain something for all our members, whatever their sphere of interest within Czechoslovak philately. I personally have secured some truly unbelievable bargains in recent months, and I am sure that this applies to the majority of bidders. However, in a recent conversation with our hard-working and dedicated auctioneer, I learned that we have a hard core of about 50 members who never bid. I find this quite extraordinary; I cannot believe these members have collections so good, so comprehensive that they never see anything in our auctions that they want or need. These members probably also do not attend meetings or go on our splendidly organised trips to the Czech Republic or Slovakia. This begs the question, "Why do they belong to the Society?" Please don't get me wrong; I am not suggesting for a second that they should resign, their subscriptions are more than welcome. I am, however, intrigued to know why they are members. Perhaps one or two of them could drop a line via the Editor to explain. Is it just so that they can read the first class *Czechout*? I would exhort them all, meanwhile, to begin to take a fuller part in the operation of our Society. I can assure you that you will not regret it."

### Congratulations

**Norman Hudson's** entry *Shetland: Postmarks 1795–1957* was awarded the best entry in the Scottish Postal History Class and the trophy for best presentation in any of the Competition's eight classes at the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies' Annual Congress held in Perth on 18 April 2002. To **Tony Bosworth** on his appointment as President of the Kent Federation, and to **Roger Morrell** elected President of the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

### Publications

We have received the following journals which will be available from the Society Library. Items of interest to members are:

- v The Summer 2002 issue of *Austria* No. 138. The articles include:
  - ▶ Austrian Pre-Franked [Postal Stationery] Postcards [Chapter 3: 1945–2001] (White); The Last Cruise of SMS Kaiserin Elisabeth: Part 1 (Pirotte).
- The September and December 2001 issues of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei*, Vol.33, Whole Nos. 129/130 and Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us. The articles include:
  - ▶ History of the post offices in the Teschen area [Czech-Polish border area] (Rauch); Unknown Railway Post cancellation Hradec u Opavy-Opava [answer to query INFO 491, in Newsletter No. 128] (Danesch); Special cancellation without identifying letters? (Kipp); Label with overprint "BEZH" – a query (Bernett); Individual experience with postal tariffs, [answer to query INFO 489, in Newsletter No. 128] (Langhammer); Moravia June 1945 – Polish eagle overprint on Hitler stamps (-); Unknown cancellation from Kadan from the year 1818 "V.CAADAN" (-); New postal stationery from the Czech Post Office (-); New Airmail (Müller).
  - ▶ Moravia June 1945. Polish eagle overprint on Hitler stamps, [answer to query INFO 500, in Newsletter No. 129] (Müller); Label with overprint "BEZH", [answer to query INFO 498, in Newsletter No. 129] (Langhammer); Vending machine stamps from the Slovak Republic – When will they appear? (-); Centenary of the railway link 306 Trenčín–Topoľčany. (-); Query about a Cancellation (Findeiss): An interesting letter from Cieszyn, in its historical context (Welvaat and Verleg); The Postal Museum of the Slovak Post Office (Müller); How is the automatic distribution equipment working in Bratislava and Košice? (Bojnanský); New Czech Airmail items (Müller).

>

- The March/April & May/June 2002 issues of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol.64, Whole Nos.572/573, Nos. 2/3. The articles include:
  - ▶ Prague 1930: Third Women's International World Games (Santangelo); Walachian Kingdom (Holoubek & Horvath); World of Stamp Issues – Czech Republic (McCarty); Stamp Connections (van Zanten); Wars, Field Post Offices and Czechoslovaks, 1878–1921 cont. (Kunc).
  - ▶ Two articles from the Israeli Philatelist: New Judaica issues from Czechoslovakia (Lind); The Czech Stamps (Grad); An interesting letter from Cieszyn (Welvaart & Verleg); The Feast of the Rosary (Anonymous); Classification of the APOST Postage Labels (Müller); Czechoslovak Legionnaires in Padova (Santangelo); ČSA and Airmail Post to Israel in 1948 (Horka); Wars, Field Post Offices and Czechoslovaks cont. (Kunc); First Artwork by a Czech artist on a postage stamp (Batz); Jan Karásek & Pavel Pittermann Birthdays (Hahn).
- The 3, 4 & 5/2002 issues of *Filatelie*, Vol.51/2. The articles include:
  - ▶ Covers from the Sudetenland Region in 1938 (Blaha); From Postmark to Computer (FencI); Plate Errors on Czech stamps of the second half of 2000 (Zedník).
  - ▶ SO 1920 why are they rare? (Beneš); Frankings of the Czechoslovak Letter Post 1918/39 [15] (Tovčovský, Kypast, Schödelbauer); Printing Plates Marking of Czechoslovak Stamps in 1918/39 [11] (Malovík).
  - ▶ Computer Frankings (Langhammer); Postal Flights in 2001 (Crha); Covers from Year 1939 (Blaha); Postal Use of Czechoslovak Airmail Stamps with different perforations (Tekel').
- v The 1/2002 issues of *Merkur Revue* by courtesy of Bill Dawson. The articles include:
  - ▶ Liberated Republic issue 25h plate marks cont. (Kašpar); Liberated Republic issue 25h faults of negative (Stupka); Hradčany – inverted comb perforation (Škaloud); Czechoslovak misvalued stamps cont. (Karásek); Common overprints in 1945 (Holoubek); The London issue cont. (Fischer).

## OBITUARY

### Ernst Gorge FRPSL 1913 - 2002

Members of our Society learned with much regret of the death of Ernst Gorge FRPSL on 31 March 2002 at the age of 89. He had been in poor health for some time.



Ernst was born in Opava (also known by its German name of Troppau) a town in Silesia, at that time part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and which became a part of the Czechoslovak Republic when it gained its independence at the end of World War I in 1918. He was born into a fairly prosperous family, his father was the owner of a paint factory and he was the youngest of three children. His mother was Jewish and his father Catholic. He was educated at the local Gymnasium (High School) and went on to university at Brno, but was there for only a short time as his father died suddenly and he was called into the family business. I knew Ernst from early childhood as my mother

was also born in Opava and our two families were on very friendly terms.

When Hitler occupied the Sudetenland, of which Opava was part, in October 1938 Ernst feared for his life and fled. First to Prague in the still unoccupied part of Czechoslovakia. And when that was also occupied in March 1939 he tried to get to England, where his girl friend, whom he eventually married,

had already arrived. She succeeded in obtaining an entry permit for Ernst to enter Britain, which had by then become almost impossible.

He arrived in this country shortly before the start of WWII, and at first found things very difficult, as he spoke no English and had very little money. By this time I had also arrived in this country and for a time he lived with us until he was able to find work and get his own flat. By the time the war ended in 1945 he was doing quite well and decided to remain in this country, rather than return to Czechoslovakia. His mother as well as his brother and sister had died during the war. He later took up employment as a salesman in the wine trade and did so well that eventually he decided, having all the right contacts for buying and selling, to start his own business as agent for a number of French and German wine producers. The business continued to flourish and he worked in it until he was almost 80 when he sold it to one of his associates who runs it successfully to this day.

Ernst's interest in philately began fairly late in life, in his 50s, when he bought a fairly modest collection of Czechoslovak stamps. From then until the end of his life philately became his main hobby. He worked tirelessly on his collection, adding to it whenever there was an opportunity. He specialised particularly in the Masaryk and Allegory issues of the First Republic and his collection contained many unique and very rare items. Without doubt it became one of the outstanding collections of Czechoslovakia not only in this country, but worldwide. He exhibited over the years in many international exhibitions and gained numerous medals for his exhibits. Ernst was honoured by being appointed a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London in 1992 for his services to philately.

Ernst joined our Society in around 1965, soon after he had acquired his collection. I had also been collecting stamps since a schoolboy and Ernst suggested I join the Society. At that time the Society was in some difficulty, there were very few members, virtually no Committee and hardly any records as the Secretary had disappeared in mysterious circumstances. The then Chairman, George Pearson, persuaded Ernst and myself to act as Joint Secretaries and Treasurers to try to get the Society back into shape and, indeed, we jointly held these offices for 14 years. During this period Ernst also acted as Auction Secretary for a time. Right up to a short time ago, when he became unwell and unable to travel to meetings, Ernst was active in the Society, attended all meetings, gave numerous displays of his excellent material to our members and also participated in the organised Society trips to Czechoslovakia. We, who went to the Czech Republic for BRNO 2000, will remember Ernst in our party. Indeed, he exhibited there and was awarded a Vermeil for his Masaryk and Large Silver for his Allegories. Throughout his time in the Society, Ernst was well liked by all the members and always prepared to help and encourage less experienced collectors. He will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

The Society was represented at Ernst's funeral by a number of members, including the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Ernst is survived by his wife Hazel, daughter Claire and two granddaughters.

Robert Kingsley

#### **QUERIES AWAITING ANSWERS**

The following queries are still outstanding; perhaps some of our overseas members can help as well?

- Czechout 1/99: Richard Beith's WW2 Ships
  - Czechout 1/00: R W Allan's Errors Corrected \*
  - Czechout 3/00: Lou Svoboda's Dr Beneš' whereabouts in 1932
  - Czechout 4/00: Ian Nutley's Concentration Camp hostages
  - Czechout 2/01: Geoff Fuller's Hradčany 1h Grey colour and Barry Horne's Masaryk Sheet perfs
  - Czechout 3/01: Roman Dubyniak's Carpatho-Ukraine cover
  - Czechout 3/01: Richard Beith's Anglo-Czech Friendship Club cover
  - Czechout 1/02: Brian Parker's Austro-Czech Postcard
- \* Answers awaiting publication

## PERFORATION VARIETIES ON CZECH AND SLOVAK STAMPS

- Lubor Kunc -

With regard to the article in *Czechout* 4/2001 on page 100, originally published in the MICHEL Rundschau magazine, the small-middle-large perforation holes of the Czech stamps have been known for two or three years; I have a lot of them in my collection. There is also a list of such issues in Klim's catalogue of 1998. I am enclosing catalogue page 49 – of course, it is not a complete list. [Table translated by Robert Kingsley].

Czech Republic after 1993 – Different perforation holes

Cat.no.	MPO	SPO	VPO		Cat. no.	MPO	SPO	VPO	Summary of perforation sizes Points scale for perf. sizes  MPO = c. 0.9mm SPO = c. 1.0mm VPO = c. 1.1mm  1 = common 2 = less common 3 = rare R = hardly ever found
3	1		R		72	2		2	
12	2		3		77	3		1	
12M	1		1		86		3	1	
13a	1		3		95	2		2	
13b	2		1		110–13	3		1	
14	1		2		114		2	1	
15	1		R		115	1		3	
17	1		2		118M	1			
35	3		1		132	2		3	
41		3	1		140	1		1	
50		1	3		149		3	1	
52M	1		1		152	2		1	
55	1		2		159	2		1	
62	3		1		161	2		1	
67–69	2		2		185	1		1	
70	1		2		186	1		1	
71	1		2						

I have found the different perforation holes among Czechoslovak stamps as well and I am now looking for Czechoslovak stamps showing these; later I will prepare further notes on this subject.

The article correctly states that such differences exist also in Slovak stamps – they are printed in Prague in the same printing house as the Czech issues and the perforation is done on the same machines. I have discovered similar varieties also in a United States souvenir sheet, so it seems it is not just a Czech problem.

## PHILATELY IN PRAGUE

- Les Pearcy -

I was fortunate enough to spend a few days in Prague during February 2002, taking advantage of a cheap air ticket, £54 return from Stansted Airport, and a very reasonable 3 star hotel at £28 per night bed & breakfast. I had visited the city on a number of occasions but on this visit my family could not accompany me, ideal conditions for visiting stamp shops!!!

I could not find any details in back issues of *Czechout* so I contacted Rex Dixon, who provided me with details of one shop and Tony Bosworth who gave me details of several more shops. Bob Hill told me to contact Tom Morovics, an English-speaking contact, when I reached Prague. A more hospitable host I could not have hoped for; after meeting for coffee Tom took me to Alfafila, just off Wenceslas Square. After purchasing some excellent material, as well as receiving a cup of tea and two glasses of Czech liqueur we set out for another shop, Podskalsky Petr on Plzeňská, which was a few kilometres away from the city centre, but easily reached by the wonderful trams which run on a very regular timetable up until midnight(!) and at a very reasonable price. Once again I obtained some good material. By now it was closing time for the shop, and over a very enjoyable meal just across the road from the stamp shop Tom invited me to accompany him to the Prague bourse the following afternoon (Wednesday).

>

After some excellent Czech beer back at my hotel and a good night's sleep I decided to visit the Postal Museum the next morning. There is some wonderful material at the museum and the staff are very friendly. Just a few metres away from the museum are two more stamp shops, Profil & Pencava, both situated on Klimentská. Once again a number of interesting items were purchased. I had arranged to meet Tom at a restaurant for lunch, after which we went to the bourse, which was held in the dining rooms of a local school/college. I was truly amazed by the size of the event with over fifty tables of material of varying range and quality.

I didn't manage to visit any other stamp shops but did find some very interesting and cheap material at several of the numerous second hand book / antique shops throughout the city. Well worth visiting. Prague is certainly a wonderful city to visit, the museums, galleries, churches etc would take many weeks to get around, and I know I still have so much to see.

Addresses of some of the stamp shops and a few other places of interest are listed below. If you are thinking of visiting the city I would be more than glad to provide you with more details. Once again I must thank Tom Morovics for his help and hospitality during my stay.

Les Percy, 43 Hawleys Close, Matlock, DE4 5LY email Percy@btinternet.com

#### Stamp shops visited in Prague

1	Alfafa, pasáž U Stýblů, Václavské náměstí 28 (Wenceslas Square), 110 00 Praha 1
2	Profil, Klimentská 6, 117 00 Praha 1
3	Pencava, Klimentská 2, 117 00 Praha 1
4	Podskaksky Petr, Plzeňská 212, Praha 5

#### Addresses of other shops not visited

5	Filatelie, Karlin – Sokolovská 126, 186 00 Praha 8
6	Interfila, Veletržní, Praha 7
7	Filatelie Hobby Praha, Křížíkova, Praha 1

#### Other sites of interest to philatelists

9	Postal Museum, Nové mlýny, Nové Mesto, Praha 1 *
10	Mucha Museum, Panská 7, Praha 1 (Near Wenceslas Square)

In addition to these are many museums and galleries housing many of the subjects featured on the Prague Castle & Art issues.

#### \* Editorial note

Lubor Kunc mentions in a letter to me that the Poštovní muzeum, Nové mlýny 2, 110 00 Prague 1 [described by Bob Hill in *Czechout* 3/97 p.70] has two branches – one in Prague in Holečkova, not open to the public, and the second one at Vyšší Brod, open to the public, and a visit to this museum by Bob Hill was published in *Czechout* 1/98 p.11 and 2/98 p.43.

#### Other postal museums/stamp shops already recorded

<i>Czechout</i> 4/95 p.82	<i>Istanbul – Some Stamp Shops</i> by Bob Hill
<i>Czechout</i> 1/96 p.15	<i>Stamp Shops – Amsterdam</i> by Bob Hill
<i>Czechout</i> 2/96 p.30	<i>Dutch Postal Museum</i> by Bob Hill
<i>Czechout</i> 1/97 p.12	<i>České Budějovice</i> by Bob Hill

We thank Les for adding to this list.

Colin Spong

## CENSORSHIP IN CZECH LANDS 1938–1945

- Lubor Kunc -

I refer to Chris Miller's query on Censorship in World War II in *Czechout* 4/98 on page 98. It is not clear from the query what censorship Mr. Miller means. In the period 1938–45 there were in total three different censorship systems in Bohemia; the Czech one was not operating during WWII and those in use during that period were not under Czech control. To give Mr. Miller complete information, I will introduce the three systems. So that is why the following information becomes more an article rather than just a short answer.

I would like to respond to this outstanding query of Mr. Miller's relating to the censorship in Czech lands at the beginning of WWII. My goal is to draw your attention to the whole period of 1938–45 and not only to the commencement of WWII, and to introduce all three censorship systems that were working in our territory during this period.

In the above period many important events influencing Czech and European history occurred. The first of them was the Munich Treaty of September 1938. Based on this Treaty Germany occupied the Czechoslovak area called "Sudetenland" whilst Hungary "liberated" important parts of Slovakia and the Poles a small area in the northern part of Czechoslovakia. The most important period was that of the German occupation, so the information I will concentrate on relates to this subject.

On 17 September 1938 the Czechoslovak censorship system started its work. The censorship was aimed at domestic and foreign correspondence, especially at the correspondence sent from/to the occupied Sudetenland territory as well as Germany and Austria (Austria was at that time incorporated into Germany thanks to the "Anschluß" which took place early in 1938). For the censorship were established so-called "Vojenská cenzurní stanice" (Military Censorship Station) which consisted of stations in Prague and Brno (used for censorship of international mail) and a network of local stations for domestic correspondence.

Immediately after the occupation of former Czechoslovak territory by Germany (1–10 October 1938) the postal connection between the rest of Czechoslovakia and the occupied territories was interrupted and the posted mail was returned to the senders (usually) with the notice "Zpět, doprava přerušena, okupované území" (Return, connection interrupted, territory occupied). After the first short period the postal connection was allowed with censorship of correspondence by the Czechoslovak authorities as it was performed before the occupation. The censorship took place in September, October and November 1938. A good source of information showing some examples is the web site of Dr. Gebauer of Brno .



I can show you two examples from that time. Both of them are business correspondence and both were sent on the same day – 10 November 1938 (so they are late usage of the censorship). The envelope of **figure 1** was sent from Prague (unoccupied territory) to Dubí u Teplic (Eichwald b. Teplitz-Schönau) being situated in occupied territory. As you can see, the letter was franked as per international postal tariffs, because the occupied territory became an integral part of Germany, so the inter-

national tariff was used (nice paradox!). It was censored in Prague where the cancel "CENSUROVÁNO" was applied.



The card in **figure 2** was sent from Ústí / Labem (Aussig) to Vranov. The town of Ústí / Labem was located in occupied territory and Vranov in the unoccupied area. That is why the card was again censored by Czechoslovak authorities. Also of interest is the postal cancel of Ústí / Labem post office – this is the "old" Czechoslovak bi-lingual Czech - German cancel with the Czech name of the town removed. It was franked as per international tariffs as well.

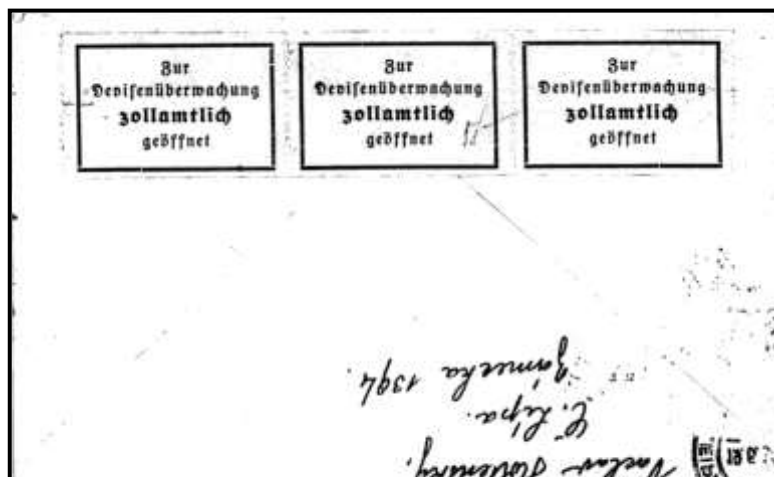


On 14 March 1939 Slovakia declared independence from Czechoslovakia and on the next day the yet unoccupied remainder of Czechoslovakia was occupied and the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia was established.

After the establishment of the Protectorate, a new censorship system was created. It was not declared officially that the correspondence would be

censored. Nothing like this! The correspondence was not censored, it was only checked to avoid sending of foreign currency from the Protectorate. This "hidden" censorship was called "Devisová kontrola" (Foreign Currency Control) and it was aimed at foreign correspondence. As per Mr. Gebauer there existed the following censorship stations managed by the German SS units in the Protectorate: Brno 2, České Budějovice 3, Hradec Králové 2, Moravská Ostrava 3, Olomouc 2, Plzeň 1, Praha 7, Praha 25, Praha 82 and Přerov 2. The checked mail was cancelled with the famous "D. K." cancels or similar cancellation. Not so well known is the fact that exchange control was operating in Germany as well, as it used some labels to close the open envelopes. The censorship worked until February 1940.

In figures 3 & 4 you will see two labels used for this purpose. **Figure 3** shows a letter sent from Česká Lípa (Leipa; former Czech town occupied in October 1938 by Germany) to village Křinec u Nymburka (Protectorate) in June 1939. The letter was censored in Germany and it was closed by 3 labels "Zur Devisenüberwachung zollamtlich geöffnet" (Opened by Customs Office for Foreign Currency Control). I have also to add that the letter was franked with a 12 Pfennig Hindenburg stamp corresponding to the German domestic postal rate – this change was caused by the establishment of the Protectorate under German influence: the postal rates between Germany and the Protectorate became the domestic ones.



**Figure 4** shows the reverse of a registered + express letter sent from Ostrava (Protectorate) to the German town of Gleiwitz in July 1939. The letter was censored at the Moravská Ostrava 3 office and the label with text "Úředně otevřeno devizovou kontrolou" (Officially opened for Foreign Currency Control).

In 1940 the hidden censorship was changed to the public censorship of international correspondence. The censorship was no longer performed by SS units (which probably had too much work with the killing of people) – the Wehrmacht (normal armed forces of Germany) was authorised to do it instead. >

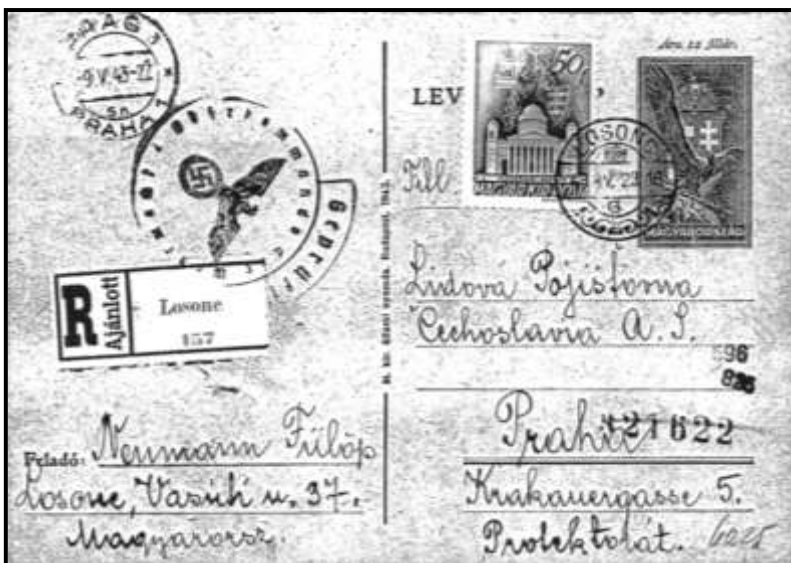
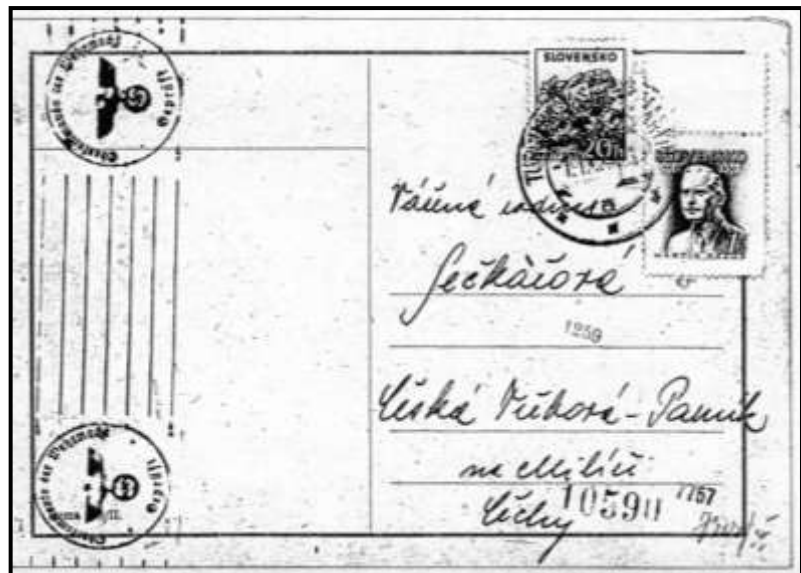
For foreign correspondence two types of censorship cancel were used – machine cancels (like figure 5) for normal correspondence and manual cancels (like figure 6) for registered letters, but sometimes you can find them on normal letters as well.



You will find the following text on both of the cancels "Oberkommando der Wehrmacht / Geprüft" (Supreme Command of the Wehrmacht / Censored). Both cancels are in red. The censorship system worked until 1945.

You will find the following text on both of the cancels "Oberkommando der Wehrmacht / Geprüft" (Supreme Command of the Wehrmacht / Censored). Both cancels are in red. The censorship system worked until 1945.

Let's start with **figure 5**. The picture shows a card sent on 1 September 1944 from Turčianský Svätý Martin (Slovakia) to Česká Třebová (Protectorate). The small numbers "1259" and "7757" belong to the Slovak censorship officers; the card was also censored in the Protectorate – see the machine cancellation. The card is very interesting from the postal historian point of view, because a young lady sent it from the capital of the Slovak national uprising a few days after its start. She informs her parent she is fine and she believes they will meet together. The card was for sure carefully observed by all the censors!



**Figure 6** shows a registered card sent from Lučenec (Losonc) to Prague in May 1943. The town of Lučenec was part of Czechoslovakia until October 1938, when it was occupied, together with other parts of Slovakia, by Hungary. The mail was also censored in Slovakia (numbers "596" and "825") as well as by the Wehrmacht in the Protectorate – see the manual cancellation on the left side of the card.

>

As I mentioned, the last censorship worked until the end of WWII in 1945. Of course, in the period under discussion other censorship systems were established as well – e.g. censorship of correspondence of prisoners of war, people observed by the German secret police (the Gestapo), people kept in the concentration camps, or post-war censorship of correspondence of arrested German and Austrian military and civilians etc, but the systems were not aimed at the general public, so I don't wish to talk about them at the moment.

I hope the information provides you with a general view of the censorship in Czech lands in the period 1938–45.

Resources:

- Web site of Dr. Gebauer of Brno
- Own collection

## **DVOŘÁK & PHILATELY**

- Richard Beith -

The Dvořák Museum, Ke Karlovu 20, Prague 2, is situated in the *Vila Amerika* in a quiet street just to the south of the Prague city centre. On Tuesday 14 May 2002, a small but fascinating temporary exhibition was opened devoted to Czechoslovak stamps and postmarks relating to this most famous of all Czech composers. The Czech Postal Museum had cooperated in this enterprise, loaning original graphics, black prints, part sheets of stamps and in providing specimen strikes of relevant commemorative cancellations.

Also shown were stamps featuring Josef Suk, Dvořák's favourite pupil (and later his son-in-law) and the violinist František Ondříček who gave the first performance of Dvořák's violin concerto. Dvořák has also appeared on the stamps of two other countries, the Republic of Guinea and Slovenia, and these were included.

The exhibition was opened with speeches in Czech and English given by PhDr Jarmila Tauerová, Museum Director, and by Dr Jan Dehner, Exhibition Curator. The Curator pointed out that the designer of the Guinea stamp was unaware that the opera depicted on the stamp, *The Devil and Kate*, was a comedy and not a dark tale of the supernatural! The opening included piano solos and violin and piano duets by young soloists and a glass of wine. The audience included a group from the Dvořák Society of Great Britain and at least two members of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain!

This display enhances the permanent collection, which includes Dvořák's own Bösendorfer grand piano. The philatelic material will remain on display until October 2002 with the possibility of an extension to spring 2003. Potential visitors should note that the Museum, like nearly all museums in the Czech Republic, is not open on Mondays. Nearest Metro Station: I P Pavlova (line C).

## **POSTAL HISTORY – ČSR 1**

### **Field Post and Censorship in the year 1938**

Dr Miroslav Vostatek

Translated by Robert Kingsley

*We thank Dr Vostatek for this article which originally appeared in Filatelie 1/2002*

Much has been written about Field Post in the year 1938, but very little about censorship at that time. I would, therefore, like to say something about the discoveries I have made from documents of the military telegraph service which are archived in the Military Historical Archives of the Czechoslovak Army in Prague - Karlín (Invalidovna).

At the outset it is worth mentioning that at the time of mobilisation there were four armies operating on the territory of the [Czechoslovak] Republic. Documents have been preserved only from 1A. [HAVLÍČEK-Kutná Hora] whose task was the defence of Bohemia, and 3A. [ŠTEFÁNIK-Kremnica] which defended Slovakia and Carpatho-Ukraine. The other armies, i.e. 2A. A.JIRÁSEK-Olomouc (defended North Moravia) and 4A. A.NERUDA-Brno (defended South Moravia) do not have any records in the archives and already during the autumn of 1938 some documents refer to their liquidation. Even though much written evidence was destroyed after 15 March 1939, nevertheless one does come across significant documents.

>

The censorship of mail came under the defence authorities, as we read in the document of the HOLEČEK command (3rd Infantry Division, based at Mšeno u Mělníka). In the document under Item IV. MAIL one reads that "during censorship one can detect mood and morale. The leadership requests that any important finds be reported."

The Command DVOŘÁK (2nd Corps, based in Poděbrady) issued a booklet on 5 October 1938 entitled *The strengthening and maintenance of the army's morale*, and one of the sections of this booklet gives instructions to people sending letters through the post.

1. *It is forbidden for army personnel to name the place of their whereabouts.*
2. *In accordance with instructions, the designation of units must not be shown by return addresses. It is required to give the unit's full official name, and not an abbreviation. Military persons allocated to the command of higher units must state only their rank, first and last name and the number of the appropriate Field Post.*
3. *Individuals often write long letters, in some cases almost unreadable and containing nothing of any significance. This makes censorship difficult and slows the process. Consequently, instructions are in place for the sending only of postcards or short messages. It is not permitted to write on matters of a political or military nature or to make criticisms of current events. Steps will be taken against those who ignore these instructions.*
4. *It is not feasible that any individual would write 10 or more letters per day.*
5. *Picture postcards with photographs of places will be destroyed.*



Due to the exceptional amount of mail, Field Posts and Censors had to obtain instructions of how to proceed. Not only were professionally produced rubber-stamps made, but improvised rubber-stamps were also used made from children's printing kits. Field Post 32 used a number of rubber-stamps made by a reservist who was a teacher by profession. Often military personnel entrusted with censorship had to content themselves with a hand-written "Censored". On the Censor's stamp used by Field Post 7 there is even mention of the relevant decree from the year 1920 according to which censorship was then carried out.

[As an explanation, the circled figures indicate the number of the Field Post that forwarded the item with the rubber-stamp shown.]

### COVERS OF INTEREST

- Tom Morovics -

#### By ship, by train...

Today I would like to show you three interesting items which have traces of damage acquired during postal delivery. Sometimes we use the term "catastrophic mail" or "crash covers" for such items.

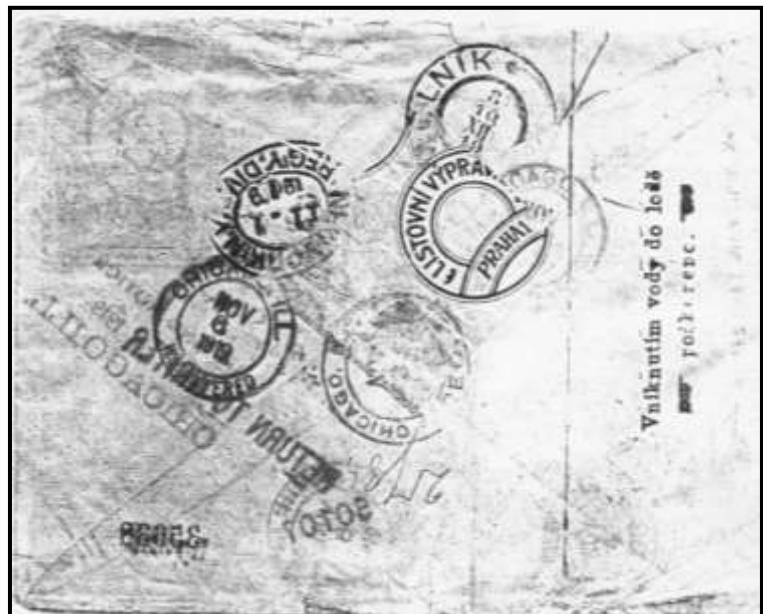


In **figure 1a** [shown on the left] there is a commercial firm's weighty envelope paid by 2x25h + 50h Hradčany stamps, tied by Mělník cds. The envelope was sent on 3 October 1919 to Chicago, USA.

Because the recipient of the letter was impossible to find [see many markings and cancels on the front and reverse side – **figure 1b**] it was returned to sender.

The ship that transported the letter back to Europe was damaged [as we can judge from traces of water and offsets of other envelopes].

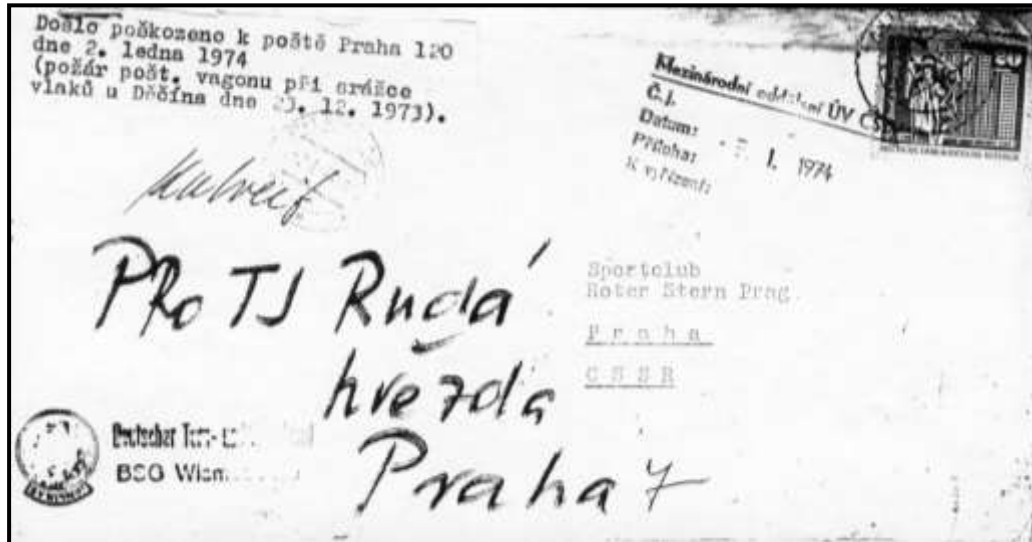
In Czechoslovakia at Prague 1 post office, the envelope had to be closed again by a black/white label, together with a violet cancel "Vniknutím vody do lodě poškozeno" which means "Damaged by water in ship".



**Figure 2** shows an envelope thirty years later. This item with perfin 3d violet GB stamp was sent on 20 March 1946 from London to Prague. No.27 on 22 March 1947 during whose voyage the ship was wrecked. "No.1204/c-46 Prague 7 post office Foreign dept." in Czech.

>

**Figure 3** shows an envelope sent in November 1973 from East Germany to Prague. There are traces of scorching on its margins, as it was damaged by fire during the delivery by train TPO. The Prague 120 post office [Foreign mail and censorship] affixed to the envelope a label with a typed text "Received damaged in Prague post office 120 on 2 January 1974. Fire in the mail coach during the train crash near Děčín on 23 December 1973" plus signature and cancellation.



I would like to see other similar items published in *Czechout* – so members look into your collections and let us see what you have.

### HÁČEK (The Hook)

*Robert Kingsley and Vladimír Králíček have kindly translated for us this extract on the engraver Jan Mráček from the article in Filatelie 4/1998, which follows on from illustration 18 in the reply to Glenn Morgan by Lubor Kunc on page 45.*

Jan Mráček, for all of his self-discipline, did not escape the occasional working clash with the stamp publishers or printers. It usually concerned the question of engraving the hook into the inscription "Československo", which was supposed to be done by the printing works engravers under the supervision of a delegated worker. This arrangement obviously prevented any private printing of the stamps, but above all it made it possible to distinguish the trial prints made by the engraver before passing them on to the printing works, from those trial prints made by the printers after receiving the engraver's prints. For example, in letter dated 30.5.1979, they are expressly warned of this duty by the Head of the Federal Ministry of Communications stamp production department; and since it concerns a cyclostyled form on which there is only the complete name and address of the engraver, then the hook problem must have affected several engravers since this letter was sent to them in bulk posting.

Records from 4 February 1983, and kept during the finishing of the engraving for the special postage stamp, show that Jan Mráček was rebuked for disobedience in following the above mentioned principle. They concern the "60th Anniversary of ČSA" 4Kčs stamps. It says there: "During examination of the engraving it was determined that the graphic designer and engraver Jan Mráček in variance with the contract has completed the finish of the engraving, inclusive of engraving of the hook above the letter 'C' in the State name. This engraving was done unintentionally. Graphic designer and engraver Jan Mráček was again warned of the need to fulfil the contract clauses."

If we look at the prints of Czechoslovak stamps engravings, of not only Jan Mráček but also of number of other engravers, we see that with some of them the hook in the State name is missing. With others it is only indicated or marked with an outline line without cross-hatching, whilst with others it is wholly

completed. It is interesting to note, that the hook occurrence has no connection with the period in which the hook was made, which could be a flow on from the increased emphasis on this matter by the publishers or the printers in certain periods. On the contrary, there are whole stamp issues, where with some values the hook is completely formed and with others it is completely missing. According to the, so far known, engraving prints it is apparent, that the obligation by the printers to engrave the hook in the State name was considered by the engravers to be impertinent hair splitting by the publishers, with which it was not really necessary to be unduly perturbed.

Robert writes: The final paragraph of this paper, which has a heading "Above all it's a question of money," deals with the remuneration which engravers were paid for their work in those days. It quotes an example of the engraver Jan Mráček, who was paid a total of 9900 Kčs for the drawing and the engraving of the 1974 1.20 Kčs "Hydrological Decade" stamp which won an international competition for the world's most beautiful stamp. The engraver had to produce a separate engraving for each of the five colours, which works out at 1600 Kčs for each engraving. Today this sum may appear paltry, but it has to be remembered that at that time 1600 Kčs represented more than Mráček's total pension for a month.

## POSTCARDS OF INTEREST

- Richard Beith -

I acquired some time ago three postcards [unused] of the Cs Forces in the UK. These three Czechoslovak postcards turn out to be from a much larger range of cards celebrating most of the Allied Free Forces. Cards have been seen honouring Belgians in the RAF, Belgian sailors, the Dutch Army, the Royal Netherlands Air Service, Free French Navy, Free French Army in London, the Free French Foreign Legion in the UK, Free French Army in the western desert, Norwegian Navy, Norwegian gun crews, and the Free Polish Army, Air Force and Navy. All the cards have similar trilingual English, Portuguese and Spanish captions and all the cards have plain backs with no additional printing. Presumably these were part of British government propaganda in Portuguese and Spanish speaking lands. There must be a good story here!



President Beneš inspecting Czechoslovak troops, England.  
 El Presidente Beneš inspecciona las tropas checoslovacas en Inglaterra.  
 O Presidente Beneš inspeccionando tropas checoslovacas, em Inglaterra.

(1) *President Beneš inspecting Czechoslovak troops, England.* This was almost certainly taken at Cholmondeley on 26 July 1940. The troops are still in French uniform and very few have weapons. The wooded parkland setting is very appropriate.





(2) *Mr Winston Churchill with Dr Beneš inspecting Czechoslovak troops.* This photograph can be found in the Imperial War Museum under reference H 8939. This shows the Prime Minister visiting the troops at Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire on 20 April 1941. Mgr Sramek, Prime Minister in the exile government is behind Dr Beneš.



(3) *Czechoslovak Pilots serving with the British RAF.* This photograph could have been taken at either Cosford or Duxford? All the Pilots have the Czechoslovak Air Force badge on the right hand side of their British style jackets, i.e. none is still in French Uniform.

*Postscript:* I have found an identical illustration of the marching airmen in a 1942 publication: *Wings in Exile*. The caption was:

*The first Czechoslovak fighter squadron in Great Britain march past on the occasion of a visit by President Beneš.* By definition this must be 310 Squadron, perhaps at Duxford.



## WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

- Members' Queries -

Another selection, together with some answers, for which we are sure our inquirers will be grateful. The answers first.

**Re Glen Morgan's Printers Sample Stamps in *Czechout 2/98* page 41 – part one of the answer was published in *Czechout 1/2002* page 23.**

From Lubor Kunc (continued): The extract [which Robert Kingsley has kindly translated for us] on the engraver Jan Mráček from the article in *Filatelie 4/1998* reads as follows:



Illustration 18. Print of the engraving of the unissued 1.50 Kčs "Children 1951" stamp.

**Re Chris Miller's Query in *Czechout 4/2001* page 106 – Red Cross Letter**

We have received two replies:

From Lubor Kunc: The letter has been never censored! In my opinion the story was as follows:

Part 1: The Pátrací služba (Searching Service) of the Czechoslovak Red Cross being under "the command" of the Ministry of Social Affairs, sent this official business letter (see red cancel "Porta prosto / Nelze-li doručiti, / vraťte zpět!" = Postage free / If undeliverable / please return) to Mr Lustig at his office.

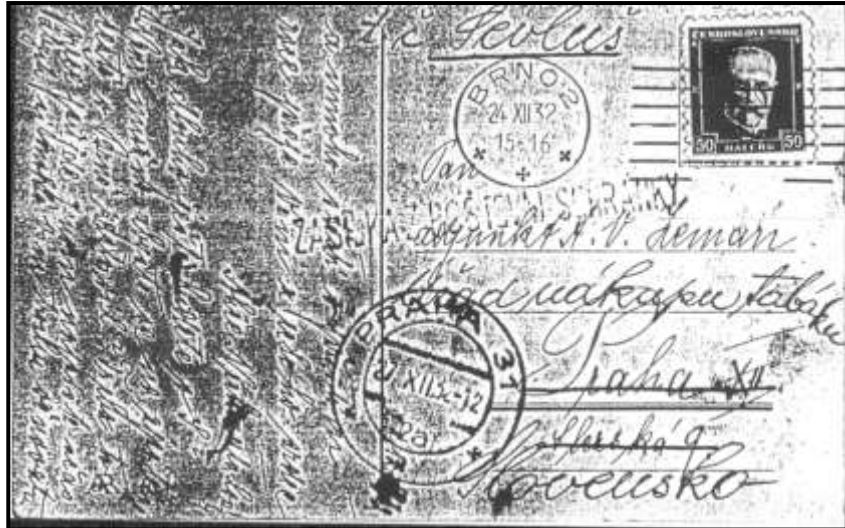
Because Mr Kurt Lustig was not present at his office, someone opens the letter to check if it is a business letter relating to the company (u fy. Schenker) or a personal letter. Because it was a private letter, the envelope was closed again, his private address Praha I, Dlouhá 33 was written on the envelope, and the letter was posted in a mail box (see black cancel "Z poštovní schránky" = From a mail box).

The forwarding of the letter was also postage free. This is an interesting service offered by the Postal administration in Prague from the period of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy [see figure 2 from the enclosed article]. Chris Miller's letter is the first one coming from the period after 1945 that is known to me. The big question is, why the service (writing new address and putting the letter into a mail box for postage free forwarding) was not offered in other towns (it is not known from Vienna, Brno etc; until now all known cards and letters have only come from Prague!)? Some information about this postal service can be found in Emil Votoček's volume 14 of *Monografie Československých Známeček* on pages 380–383 [by 1918 three different cancels are known].



Part 2 [translation by Robert Kingsley]: Now we can go from theory to practice. In **Figure 1** you can see a postcard sent in 1914 from Monte Carlo to Prague to a professor of the Law Faculty. Since no address was given the Post Office delivered the card to Charles University, where someone inserted the professor's private address and posted it. Post Office Prague 1, where the card was posted, then put its cancellation on the card and delivered it to the correct address.

>



**Figure 2** shows another card, this time from the time of Czechoslovakia. The card from Brno was addressed to Prague but the person to whom it was addressed had moved away. Some good soul inserted the person's new address, in Slovakia, and posted the card. Post Office Prague 31, where the card was posted, then applied its regular cancellation and also another stating "Item emptied from a Pillar Box".

Look through your collections, you never know, you may have a similar cover and possibly even sent from somewhere else than Prague.

*R.K's note.*

*The author of the article does not mention that on Card 1 there is also a cancellation in both German and Czech which states: "Found in the Pillar Box".*

From Bob Hill: On the example supplied by Chris Miller the Porta Prosto box has the cachet "Z POŠTOVNÍ SCHRÁNKY" straight line canceller put through it, and presumably ticked to show they have complied. It is a simple statement telling anyone handling this mail it is go into a PO Box. Given the date and the underlying political turmoil it is not surprising that it has been opened. I would like a closer look at the strip and the reverse.

There are actually at least two types of envelope Poštovné paušalisováno – Bulk postage rate and Porto prosto – Carried post-free. All the ones I have started life at Praha 25 and seem destined to Germanic style names. Not surprisingly, but somewhat sadly all of these are returned undeliverable or re-addressed and then returned undeliverable.

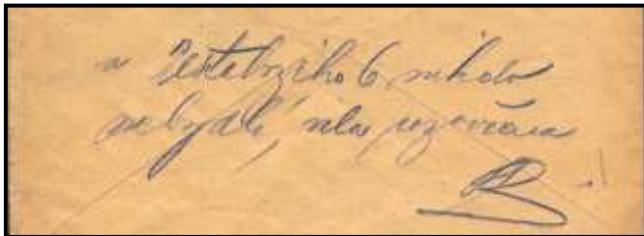
<p>Poštovné paušalisováno. Nelze-li doručiti, vraťte!"</p>	<p><i>Asks the postal delivery person: "If this person does not exist bring back"</i></p>
<p>Porta prosto. Nelze-li doručiti, vraťte zpět!</p>	<p><i>Asks the postal delivery person: "If this person does not exist bring back and return"</i></p>

I take it that Chris Miller is cognisant with the use of these three envelopes and therefore do not go into detail.



Poštovné paušalisováno

2.XI.45 Praha 21 machine cancel to Drahoovice, temporary canceller and with a message concerning addressee on the reverse and returned to sender?



Porta prosto

4.X.45 machine cancel to Teplice, straight line dated and TEPLICE-ŠANOV 1 temporary canceller on reverse, returned with correct address added and signed.







Porta Posto

28.XI.45 machine cancel to Sebzín, temporary canceller, dumb date canceller and returned.

Two New Queries



From Bob Hill: I recently acquired the following airmail cover from Harmers auction house. It was described as a flight from Moscow, cancelled 5 August 1937, to Czechoslovakia attributable to a DC2 of Aeroflot that crashed near Bistrița, Romania on 6 August 1937. I have found Bistrița on the map

1. Is the intended destination of the cover Rybnice [Rybnitz] west of Vrchlabí, if not where was the cover destined.
2. Why was the DC2 so far south, it must have been taking a circuitous route from Moscow. What were the flight's calling points?
3. What does ÚLOŽNA on the Praha seal imply?
4. Can anyone decipher the blue instructional crayon marks on the reverse of the cover?



Richard Beith wrote to Keith Crowden on behalf of Bob Hill: 6.8.1937. The Aeroflot DC2 (URSS M 2520), the only example in their fleet, crashed at Bistrița, Romania, presumably on a scheduled Moscow–Prague flight. [The line was operated in pool with ČSA.] Are you able to fill in any details?

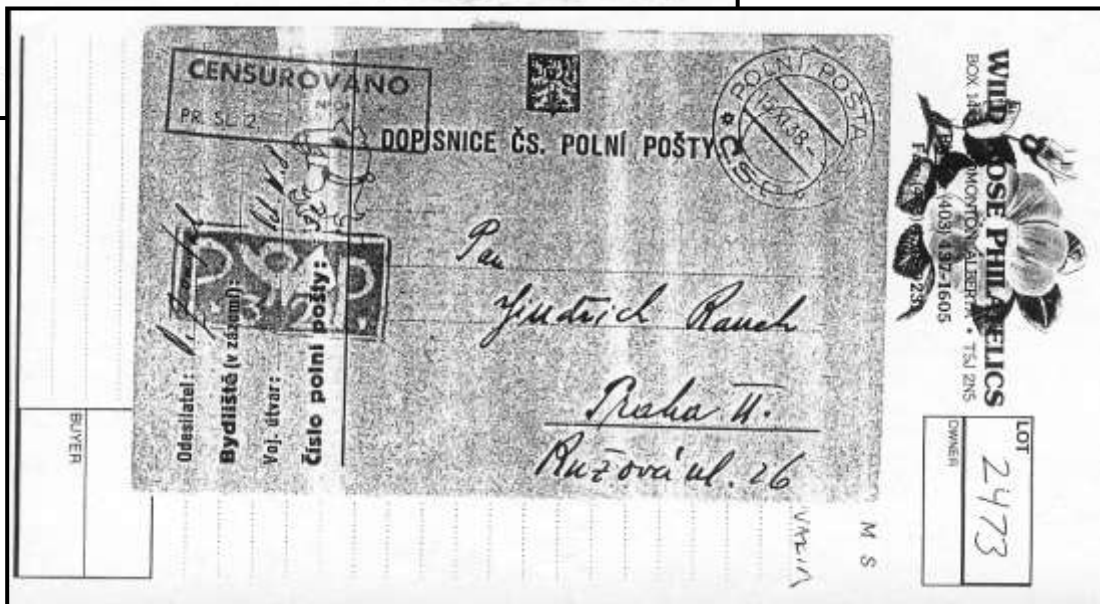
From Keith Crowden: All I can add is the aircraft was originally registered NC 14949 to Douglas in August 1936 and bought by Ambong(?) for Aeroflot the same month. The construction's number was 1413. Hope this helps.

From Chris Miller (Secretary of the Civil Censorship Study Group) – Chris has sent us a further Censorship query, to which answers will be found on pages 36-39: As a collector of predominately British Empire material I was intrigued to acquire some covers, which appear to have been censored in Czechoslovakia in the last few months of 1938. I have seen an item with a Czech censor's label in an auction catalogue so even from my limited knowledge at least one other different item exists and probably many more. In an attempt to start a listing of such devices I am enclosing photocopies of the three that I possess.

A Czechoslovak postal stationery card with the word "cenzurované" in red



An incoming envelope from South Africa with "CENSUROVANO" in black and not contained in a box. This also ties the brown paper use to seal the flap of the envelope.



A Polní Pošta military post-card from an auction catalogue with the boxed "CENSUROVANO" handstamp and a marking underneath I do not recognise.

## NEW ISSUES

- Lindy Bosworth -

Unless otherwise stated, the stamps and stationery for the Czech and Slovak Republics are printed by Post Printing House Prague.

**Printing** R.D. = rotary die stamping combined with multicolour photogravure  
 D.S. = die stamping from flat plates  
 R.D.+ D.S. = combination of both techniques

### Czech Republic

#### 08. 03. 2002 XIX Winter Olympic Games (Overprint)

The stamp issued on 30.01.2002 (see *Czechout* 1/2002 page 24) was overprinted with the two line text "Aleš Valenta" "Zlatá Medaille" to honour the gold medal success of the acrobatic skier. **FDC:** has a commemorative Šumperk 1 cancel. The cachet in blue and gold is a stylised medal with text of the event.

#### 23.04. 2002 Works of Art on Stamps (1) Joint Czech-Croatian Issue



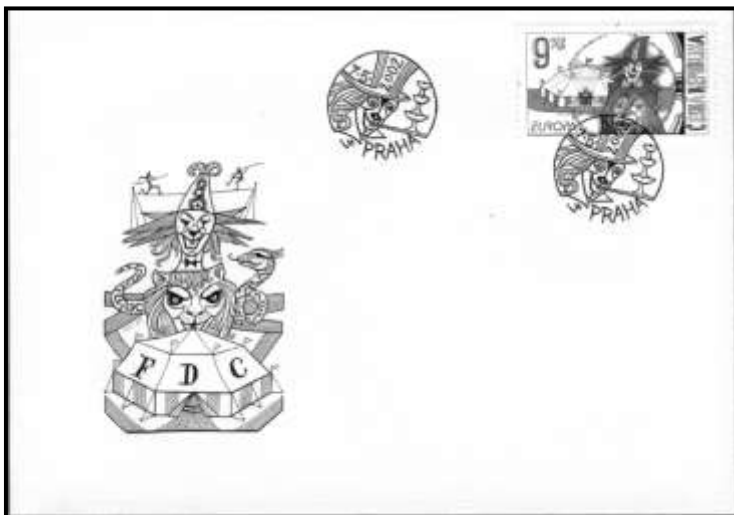
**Designer:** Jan Solpero **Engraver:** Václav Fajt **Printing:** DS in sheets of 4 with 2 labels. Stamp design size 50 x 40mm.

**Design:** taken from the original artwork of Vlaho Bucovac entitled "Divan." The original work is in the Art Gallery, Split, Croatia but it was painted in Prague in 1905. Bucovac was born in Croatia but travelled widely, studying in Paris in 1878 where he befriended the Czech artists V. Brožík and V. Hynais. In 1903 he and his family moved to Prague where he was professor at the Academy of Fine Arts until his death. His work is in the Impressionist style. The two labels have his facsimile signature with birth and death dates.

**FDC:** printed DS in blue with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design is a drawing from the title page of his autobiography (c. 1918).

This was a joint Czech–Croatian issue with a single motif in two versions with different text.

#### 07.05.2002 Europa - The Circus



**Designer:** Josef Liesler  
**Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň

**Printing:** RD in sheets of 8, size 40 x 23mm.

**Design:** a lion with a clown and circus tent in the background.

**FDC:** printed DS in black with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design is a series of circus scenes above a "big top."

>

07.05.2002

## Czech Culture and France



**Designer:** Zdeněk Ziegler  
**Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček  
**Printing:** RD+DS in sheetlets (size 148 x 105mm) of 2 stamps (size 26 x 40mm).

**Designs:** stamps – **23Kčs:** Piano Keys – Lake 1909 by František Kupka (1871 – 1957). The painting is in the National Gallery, Prague.

**31Kčs:** Man with Broken Nose 1863/64 by Auguste Rodin (1840-1917). The bust is in the National Gallery, Prague. The souvenir sheet shows the sculptor, Rodin with the Czech painter Alfons

Mucha in a carriage leaving the Old Town Hall, Prague. Rodin was visiting Prague in 1902 for an exhibition of his work held by the Mánes Society in the Kinský Garden. This exhibition aroused great interest and influenced Czech artists of the day.

**FDC:** both printed DS with commemorative Praha cancels.

**23Kčs:** the cachet design in grey-green is a woodblock illustration from Kupka's book of 1923 "Creating in Graphic Art."

**31Kčs:** the cachet design is in brown and is a drawing by Max Švabinský from the invitation card to Rodin's 1902 Exhibition in Prague.

29.05.2002

## For Children



**Designer:** Zdeněk Miler **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider **Printing:** RD in sheets of 30. Stamp design size 23 x 30mm.

**Design:** a smiling mole standing in a field of flowers with a butterfly on his outstretched finger. The mole is one of the best known characters from the Večerníček television cartoons and has appeared in books and films for more than 40 years.

**FDC:** printed DS in black with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design is the smiling mole with a sunshade surrounded by flowers.

**Booklet:** containing 8 stamps and 2 stamp sized labels. The coloured label design shows the mole standing on a snail shell.

06.06.2002

## Nature Conservation - Freshwater Pearl Oyster



**Designer:** Josef Saska **Engraver:** Václav Fajt **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50. Stamp size 23 x 30mm.

**Design:** a group of the endangered freshwater pearl oyster species – *Margaritifera margaritifera*. This critically endangered species can be found in the upper reaches of the rivers Vltava, Malše and Balnice and their tributaries. Some of these rivers form the borders between the Czech Republic, Germany and Austria and a joint rescue programme is in place for the species. This issue was also released in Germany on the same date but with a different design.

**FDC:** printed DS in brown with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design is a group of freshwater pearl oysters.

&gt;



## Postal Stationery

### Commemorative and Promotional Postcards

**?6?. 2001. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary FIP.** This card has an imprinted 9Kčs stamp in green. The promotional part has the part outline of a stamp edge to frame seven national flags including the Czechoslovak and the text in Czech “Dr Zdeněk Řezníček (1887-1957) who signed on behalf of Czechoslovakia to join FIP on 18.6.1926 in Paris.” His portrait is also shown and the enlarged text in blue “1926 – FIP – 2001.”

**10.12.2001. Automation of the Czech Post at Lipoltice.** The card has an imprinted 5.40Kčs stamp and the promotional portion has an old, hand canceller with the text above and below. A commemorative first day cancel was in use.

**07.03.2002. International Stamp Day Munich.** The card has an imprinted 9Kčs stamp in green. The left part of the card promotes the event which was held from 7-9 March 2002 and depicts an old, covered horse drawn post carriage with a registration receipt behind.

**29.05.2002. 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Czech Scouting.** Designer: Oldřich Pošmurný Printing: Multicoloured offset. Design: the 5.40Kčs imprinted stamp has a portrait of the founder of the Czech Movement, Antonin Benjamin Svojsík (1876-1938), his name, facsimile signature and the 1920 emblem of the Junák (Scout) organisation from 1920. Svojsík was a teacher and active in the Sokol Movement. In 1911 he met Lord Baden-Powell in England. The first Junák – Czech Scout Troop was founded in 1914 and by 1919 the Union of Czech Junák Scouts of the Czechoslovak Republic had been formed. The cachet in green is a scout camp with a trumpeter in the foreground and the logo for the 90th anniversary celebrations. The card retails at 10.40Kčs.

**29.05.2002. Centenary of the birth of Karel Hujer – Astronomer and Physician.** Designer: Oldřich Pošmurný Printing: Multicoloured offset Design: the 5.40Kčs imprinted stamp has a portrait of Hujer with his birth/death dates and a telescope in the background. Hujer was born in Železný Brod in 1902 but studied in Prague and later in France, England and USA where he settled and lived until his death in 1988. The cachet design is a drawing of a timbered house from the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century with the figure of an astronomer taken from a woodcut and the texts “Železný Brod” “Rodiště Karla Hujera” (birthplace of Karel Hujer). The card retails at 10.40Kčs.

## Slovakia

15. 01. 2002

### Personalities



**Designer:** Jozef Baláž (stamp, FDC motif and cancel) **Drawing:** Martin Činovský  
**Engravers:** František Horniak (stamp) Juraj Vitek FDC **Printing:** RD, stamp size 30 x 23mm.

**Designs:** **10Sk** – Portrait of Juraj Pápanek with the title of his work over the arms of Slovakia. He was born in Kuklov on 1.4.1738 and died in the village of Olasz 11.4.1802 where he was the chaplain, priest and finally dean. As a historian he wrote a systematic history of the Slovak nation and territory. **FDC:** printed DS in brown with commemorative Kuklov cancel. The cachet drawing shows important people in the history of the Slovaks -King Svätopluk and the saints Cyril with Methodius.

**14Sk** – Portrait of Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, the face of a young girl and a red rose. Bjørnson was a Norwegian author, poet, dramatist and editor who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1903. He was born 8.12.1832 in Kvikne and died in Paris on 26.4.1910. It was as an editor that he fought for the rights of oppressed nations and for equality of the Slavic nations in the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. He publicised the bloodshed at Černová near Ružomberok. **FDC:** printed DS in brown with commemorative Ružomberok cancel. The cachet drawing has a young woman's agonised face with the face of Bjørnson in the background.

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25.01.2002

**Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games 2002-05-28****Designer:** Ivan Schurmann **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider**Printing:** RD, stamp size 40 x 23mm.**Design:** Various winter sports with the Olympic rings emblem.**FDC:** Printed DS in blue with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design shows two ice hockey players on the ice.

08.02.2002

**The European Dog Team Championships****Designer:** Peter Uchnár **Engraver:** Rudolf Cigánik**Printing:** RD, stamp size 23 x 30mm.**Design:** a musher with his team of three dogs and sledge. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> Championship to be held and the second time it has been hosted in this area of Slovakia. **FDC:** printed DS in black with commemorative Donovaly cancel. The cachet drawing has a mountainous wintry landscape with a sled dog team and musher in the foreground.

15.02.2002

**Easter****Designer:** Prof. Karol Ondreička **Engraver:** Martin Srb **Printing:** RD, stamp size 23 x 30mm. **Design:** Christ with a banner in a field of flowers. A competition was held for the design of this stamp and the printed stamp is based on the winning entry. **FDC:** printed DS in black with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet drawing is a town surrounded with Easter symbols.**Booklet:** contains 10 stamps and retails at 55Sk. The front cover design has a bird's nest with three decorated eggs with a further three decorated eggs "flying" across the cover. The back cover gives details of the stamp issue.

20.03.2002

**First Slovak Gymnasia****Designers:** Igor Piačka (12Sk), Peter Augustovič (13Sk) and Dr. Robert Jančovič (15Sk) **Engravers:** Milos Ondráček (12Sk & 13Sk) and Arnold Feke (15Sk). **Printing:** RD, stamp size 30 x 23mm.**Designs:** **12Sk** – an open book with a drawing of the school at Martin. This Lutheran Gymnasium was opened in 1867 and the second independent secondary to teach in the Slovak language. There were three such independent schools all of which were closed in 1874/75 as an attempt to suppress nationalist ideas. **FDC:** printed DS in black with commemorative Martin cancel. The cachet drawing is a portrait of Viliam Pauliny-Tóth the patronage chairman of the Gymnasium and his facsimile signature.**13Sk** – the original Gymnasium building in the foreground, with the new building in the background. Both buildings are national monuments. Revúca became one of the centres of Slovak national life during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and it was here that the first independent Lutheran Slovak Gymnasium was opened on 16 September 1862. A further school was established from donations in 1871/73. The schools were closed 20 August 1874 as one attempt to suppress Slovak nationalism. **FDC:** printed DS in black with a commemorative Revúca cancel. The cachet is a portrait of Professor Samuel Ornis, one of the important teachers of the Institute.

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**15Sk** – an open book in the foreground and a drawing of the Gymnasium in the background. This Catholic Institute at Kláštor pod Znievom opened in 1869, following a modern, innovative curriculum based on real and natural science subjects. It was closed in 1874 in an attempt to suppress rising nationalism. FDC: printed DS in black with a commemorative Kláštor pod Znievom cancel. The cachet design is a drawing of the principal of the Gymnasium – Martin Čulen and his facsimile signature.

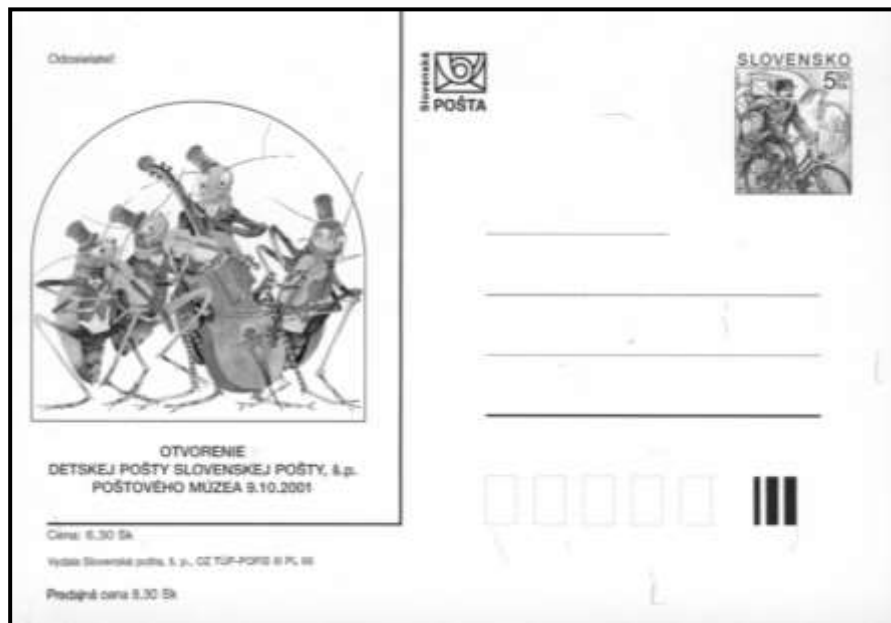
### Postal Stationery

#### Postcards

The following postcards all have an imprinted 5.50Sk stamp design of a postman on a bicycle and retail at 8.30Sk unless otherwise stated.

**05.10.2001. Zilinfila 2001.** National Philatelic Exhibition with International Participation from 5.10 to 14.10.2001. The promotional portion depicts the Art Gallery building with an open stamp stock book with stamps and postal stationery and a magnifying glass. Various details of the event complete the design.

**09.10.2001 Opening of the Children's and Slovak Post at the Postal Museum.** The promotional design is a group of grasshoppers playing various stringed instruments.



**09.10.2001. Opening of the First Permanent Slovak Post Exhibition at the Postal Museum.** The promotional design shows old letters with a wax seal, old metal cancellers and seal.

**? .10.2001. 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Faculty of Electronics.** The promotional design is a collage of circuit boards with superimposed texts.

**4.11.2001. Beatification at the Vatican.** Portraits of a) Pavol Gojdič (1888 -1960) Diocesan Bishop of Prešov b) O. Metod Dominik Trcka (1886 – 1959).

**? .2001. Union of Slovak Philatelists.** Promotional design is a stamp outline with the portrait of Ladislav Novotný with the text "100." Novotný was born 1901 and died 1981.

**8?. 2. 2002. 8<sup>th</sup> European Dog team Championships Donovaly 2002.** Promotional design is a husky pup gripping a turning compass with appropriate texts of the event in Slovak.

**07.03.2002. VIII. Winter Paralympics Salt Lake City.** Promotional design shows four different sports with the logo of the event and text in Slovak.

#### Envelope

**? .4?. 2002. Július Thurzo.** The envelope has an imprinted 8Sk stamp in grey/black of the State emblem. The pictorial portion honours the first Slovak sea captain, Julius Thúrzo (1882-1950), with his portrait and behind a seagoing sailing vessel under way.