



# CZECHOUT

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Vol. 22/4	CONTENTS	December 2004
Notes, News and Notices		93
Book Reviews		97
Sindelfingen 2004		98
Postal Documents Relating Expulsion and "Resettling" from the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic II in 1945/48		101
Swedish Postal Museum		108
Stamp Museum in Budapest		109
France May 1940 -- Carte Lettre		111
Perforated Champions - Czech Stamps		112
Cover of Interest		113
What? When? Where?		114
New Issues (Czech)		116
New Issues (Slovak)		118

## NOTES

The next London meetings are on **Saturday 15 January** when **Bob Hill** will provide two displays: *Postal Arrangements in the former Sudetenland after WW2* and *Use of the Košice Issue in 1945*; and on **Saturday 12 March** **Brian Madeley** will give his display of *Ukrainian Galicia and Carpatho-Ukraine*.

For members who also collect GB there is a display entitled Treasures from the Victorian Era of British Stamps at the Royal Mail Archive Centre, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL, from 7 September 2004 until Summer 2005. Free to the Public at RMA opening times-visit [www.royalmail.com/heritage](http://www.royalmail.com/heritage) for more information. Some of the items on display will be changed every three months for their long-term preservation.

As many members will be aware we have a lot of "Bobs" in the Society, in our September "Letters to the Editor" we inadvertently attributed Bob Hill for Bob Bradford, our apologies to both Roberts. We are pleased to hear that George Firmage is making progress after recent hospitalisation.

Brno 2005 10-15 May: Brochure No 2 appeared some months ago. Members interested please ask Yvonne Wheatley, [0113-260 1978] whether there are any copies still available.

*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 on Saturday 4 September 2004 at 2.00 pm

The Chairman, Lindy Bosworth, welcomed 23 members and one visitor, commenting on the large selection of members. Apologies had been received from seven members.

The Secretary gave details of three prospective new members:

<b>Brian Tupper</b>	from Eastbourne
<b>David Taylor</b>	from Axminster, Devon
<b>Tim Ryan</b>	from New York

whose applications were readily endorsed and formally accepted.

The Secretary then invited **Lindy Bosworth** to present her display, ***The Chairman Entertains***. The first half was devoted to her collection on Prague, a collection Lindy described as still being in its infancy. It ranged from a tax document of 1686, a 'Von Prag' in red from 1784, a wide selection of later postmarks, some attractive 'Gruß aus' cards, and material relating to various exhibitions including those for the 1891 jubilee of Bohemia and the 1908 jubilee of Franz Josef.

The second half was Slovakia 1993–2002, the first ten years. She explained now that Slovak stamps are printed by Walsall they have lost much of their attractiveness, so her collection and the display ended with the 10th anniversary of Slovak independence. The beautifully presented material included the first issue signed by its designer, Martin Činovský, and various black prints, signed proofs and colour separation proofs.

In proposing the vote of thanks Richard Beith remarked that the title of the afternoon's display reflected exactly what the Chairman had so successfully done. He commented particularly on the surprising amount of variety on show.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.15 pm.

### Meeting held Saturday 6 November 2004 at 2.30 pm

The new Chairman, Richard Beith, welcomed 30 members, a very good attendance indeed. Apologies had been received from three members. The minutes of the AGM are distributed separately. At the AGM the Hon Secretary gave details of one prospective new member:

<b>Ian Burniston</b>	from Canterbury
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whose application was readily endorsed and formally accepted.

He introduced our guest speaker, **Keith Tranmer**, who displayed ***Austria with Czechoslovak connections***. The first section concentrated on the postmarks on Austrian stamps, starting with the '1576 in sunburst' from Znaim as depicted on the front cover of *Monografie 14*. Among the wide range shown, I noted one from the post office in the Witkowitz iron works, and a 'B in circle' used in Brünn to subsequently cancel a stamp. Within Austria-Hungary, Czechoslovakia was next to Austria itself in the proliferation of postmarks, reflecting the area's industry and literacy.

The postal history included items pertaining to Karl Philipp Schwarzenberg, who led the Army of Observation with the Grand Armée when Napoleon invaded Russia, and then commanded the Austrian forces in Napoleon's decisive defeat at Leipzig; to the Reichstag post office in Kremsier when the Austrian parliament evacuated Vienna in 1848; to Czech officers involved in the capture of Trebinje in the Bosnian ware of 1878; and to Czechs recruited in 1916 into the Tiroler Kaiserjaeger to replace lost Tyroleans.

In proposing a vote of thanks Yvonne Wheatley congratulated Keith on the clarity and quality of the postmarks, some very rare, and on the delightful way that Keith had given the stories behind the postal history.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.00 pm.

Rex Dixon >

### **Czech Embassy Exhibition 16 November 2004**

The photographs and philatelic items displayed at this event at the invitation of H.E. Štefan Füle, Ambassador of the Czech Republic, to commemorate the anniversaries of the Closure of the Universities and International Students' Day on 17 November 1939 and of the Velvet Revolution on 17 November 1989 was well supported by 12 members who supplied a wide range of relevant exhibits.

Opened and welcomed by the Ambassador, the evening's programme also contained an address by Zdeněk Kavan, a lecturer at the University of Sussex, who discussed the historical details of those tremendous events and by Robert Kingsley, past Chairman of the CPSGB, who spoke about the direct relationships between the events and the material on display. Refreshments completed the day.

Brian Day

### **Northern Meeting 27 November 2004 at Leeds**

A most enjoyable meeting was held 'Up North' at the Annual Stamp Fair of the Leeds Philatelic Society held at the Pudsey Civic Centre. Our thanks to the Leeds Society for their hospitality and to Yvonne Wheatley and Derek Baron for the arrangements. We were delighted to welcome visitors from the Leeds Society to our meeting. Displays were given by:

<b>Derek Baron</b> -	TPOs through Olomouc and Registrations marks and labels of Olomouc
<b>Richard Beith</b> -	Free Czechoslovak Forces in France, 1939-1940, and Czechoslovaks in the RAF
<b>Peter Cybaniak</b> (*)	Czechoslovak Forces in the Ukraine during and after WWI
<b>Brian Day</b> -	Air mails from, to and via Czechoslovakia to 1946
<b>Dr Michael Waugh</b> (*)	19 <sup>th</sup> century Hungarian stamps and postal history
<b>Yvonne Wheatley</b> -	The currency reform period in Czechoslovakia 1-18 June
(in absentia)	

(\*) - Leeds Philatelic Society

Richard Beith

### **Comments on the October Auction**

As always, keenly priced material attracted the discerning bidders

40 bidders bid for 256 lots out of 527. This compares with 49 bidders for 286 lots out of 828 in the last Auction. The average bid was just over £9, in a range from 25p to £250. For the statistically minded, the mid value was lower than the last Auction's at £2.50 (£3.60 last Auction) and 216 bids were £10 or less (218 in the last Auction).

Sudentenland, Bohemia and Moravia and Slovakia saw the most interest. Liberation issues attracted much interest, particularly the Prague Preissig issues.

FDC year selections fared well, as well as covers. Specialist Literature attracted a number of bids, particularly for books rarely seen. Postal Stationery also drew a number of bidders. Finally there was a pleasing amount of bids for the second section of Bill Dawson's material. Interest remained in individual items, rather than collections.

The next auction will have more of Peter Titterton's, some complete sheets from 1918-1920 and a range of postal stationery, including holograms. Further lots are expected, so take your time to digest the next Auction catalogue.

Please would members note that all items are offered in good faith. A postal auction is different from a room auction and we cannot show all items on the website. If any successful bidder is not satisfied with their lots, you can return them and I will pass any comments onto the vendor.

Peter Williams

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## Letters to the Editor

☒ **Lubor Kunc** writes " I am sending you a link to my article on Leeds 2003 meeting of our Society. This article was originally prepared for the *Journal of Collectors of Czech Stamps*, but it has been also reprinted on website <http://www.infofila.cz> belonging to largest Czech stamp web sites. The link is as follows: <http://www.infofila.cz/new/cteni.php?r=11&c=1214>.

☒ **Bob Bradford:** Regarding **Vera Trinder**, we have an account that allows us to buy accessories at trade prices, where applicable. These are usually less than the local dealer but I would remind members that we are not here to put their local dealer out of business.

**Procedure:** I will send one order at the beginning of each month, depending on demand of course. Members to submit written request, e-mail is OK, but they must be specific. I cannot be responsible for ordering the wrong items! **Charges:** I will add a 10% surcharge for the benefit of the society plus postage charges where necessary to each order. Members can ask for a quote.

## Congratulations

To **Rex Dixon** on being elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

To **John Hammonds** on his award of the Congress Medal for 2004. From its inception John has played an active part in the Association of British Philatelic Societies as the first Honorary General Secretary. He has been involved with many of its publications and the creation of the "website" and latterly as Chairman of the Executive Committee until July of this year. He has also for many years [and continues to be] been involved with County federation, local and specialist societies. John was presented with this award at the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in Winchester on 2 October.

To **Norman Hudson** for an award of a Gold Medal and the Bonhams Trophy at Stampex for his *Orkney and Shetland Postmarks 1790-1910*.

## Publications

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

- The Winter 2004 issue of *Austria*, No.148:
  - ▶ The 1867 Newspaper Stamp (Taylor);
- The September, October & November/December 2004 issues of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol. 66, Whole Nos. 587/588 Nos. 5/6. The articles include:
  - ▶ The Courier Post in Bohemia (Santangelo); Complete Plating of Plate I, Hradčany 1h (Garancovsky); Czech Philatelic Perturbations II (Svoboad); Stamp Designer Vladimír Kovářík: The Master of the Perforated Universe (Chytrý); The Czechoslovak Military Command in Trieste During 1918-1919 (Santangelo); Ginz-Ramon Redo [Petr Ginz and Ilan Ramon-The Fate one "Cosmic" Drawing] (Svoboda & Janik); 1350's Art (van Zenten); The Slovak Robin Hood, Juraj Jánošík: Legend or Fiction (Garancovsky).
  - ▶ Philatelic Exhibitions in Czech Lands (Kunc); Let's visit Čičmany (van Zenten); Complete Plating of Plate 1, Hradčany 1h cont. (Garancovsky).
- The September 2004 issue of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei*, Vol.35, Whole No 141. Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us. The articles include:
  - ▶ Collection of articles on Czechoslovak Philately and Postal History (Then); Forgery Scandal in the Czech Republic Act 3 (Liebermann); Czechoslovak Airmail carried on German North Atlantic Catapult flights (Helms); Czechoslovak Monetary Reform 1953 (Verlag); Distinguishing features on the 5Kčs definitive stamp from the Old Buildings series of 13.6.1972 [Pofis 1964] and their appearance in the counter sheets 1 and 2 (Ziegler),
- The 9, 10 & 11/2004 issues of *Filatelie*. Vol 54. The articles include:
  - ▶ Shopping and Sale at Auctions (Dražan); Czech Postal Agencies with Question Mark? (Bejsta); Block of Newspaper Stamps Bratislava 1937 (Beneš); History of Post-Offices-North Moravia and Silesia (Tovačovský);

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- ▶ Shopping and Sale at Auctions-Part 2 (Dražan); Postmarks from Times of Austrian Empire used in 1945 (Bejsta); Lions in Philately (Feldmann); Košice Miniature Sheet [4] Ctvrtečka).
- ▶ President of FIP in Prague (Beneš); Stamp Pofis DL30E [6<sup>th</sup> Plate]-Forgery or Rarity? (Beneš); How to complete your collection Abroad? (Krečmer); Short Excursion to Philately and Czechoslovak Postal Administration [8] (Beneš Snr).
- The 4/5 2004 issues of *Merkur Revue*: The articles include:
  - ▶ Letters of the Prague Pneumatic Post [2] (Šmid & Schödelbauer); Registration Labels in Postal Services on Czech Territory (Tovačovský); Philatelic Market in the Czech Republic ((Dražan); Variable Rates Stamps Castle Veveří [1] (Oppolzer/Řezníček).
  - ▶ Letters of the Prague Pneumatic Post [3] (Šmid & Schödelbauer); Imperforated Stamps Allegory of Liberated Republic Issue (Chvalovský); Several Notes of Preliminary Postal Stationeries (Weissenstein); Variable Rates Stamps Castle Veveří [2] (Oppolzer/Řezníček).
- The December 2004 issues of *Stamps of Hungary* No 159 . The articles include:
  - ▶ On the 1919 Overprint Trial, Part 2 - Local Overprints prepared by the Serbian Authorities (Rigsby & Kohalmi);

## OBITUARY

### Paul H. Jensen RDP, FRPSL, FRPSNZ

We learn from the London Philatelist for September of the sad news of Paul's death on 17 July 2004. I first met Paul when he attended the Society's exhibition in Worthing. It was on that occasion, 25 May 1974, that he joined the Society, remaining a member until 31 December 2001 when advancing years forced him to curtail some of his philatelic activities. However, it was not until my involvement with international exhibitions that I got to know Paul. He was always ready to share his vast knowledge of his collecting fields and the experience he gained in organised philately over many years of service to the hobby.

Paul exhibited his collections of Czechoslovakia and Cook Islands on the international field and gained Gold medals. He was awarded the King's Medal in Gold for his services to Norwegian philately, signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1988 and also received both the United States Alfred Liechtenstein Award and the FIP Medal for Service to International Philately. It was only some months ago that he received at the Royal Philatelic Society, London, the certificate of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, a rare honour to an overseas collector. But it is as a charming and friendly person that he will be missed.

Yvonne Wheatley

**Mrs Olga Mirtl.** We regret to inform members that Olga passed away recently and the funeral was held on Friday 24 September 2004. Until recent months Olga had attended all the London meetings, she was made a complimentary member following the death of her husband Max. We shall miss her presence.



## BOOK REVIEWS

**AR-Avis de réception:** If any member has had difficulty in contacting Professor David Handelman, his home e-mail address is [rochelle2@sympatico.ca](mailto:rochelle2@sympatico.ca). My copy of AR came from the UK distributor Maurice, Buxton, 9 Ritchie Mews, Southlands Road, Torquay, TQ2 5SN. Colin Spong.

**The Liberation of Olomouc.** Monograph No.14. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain. By Robert J Hill. 42pp

The monograph describes the 'revolutionary' issues of Olomouc in the brief period between liberation and the establishment of control by the central authority. It illustrates the problems faced by all the local post offices at that time. The author has provided in the appendix a translation of a locally produced booklet which documents the details of a single issue one month after production. >

The monograph begins with a brief history of Olomouc and its liberation followed by descriptions of the various cancellers, cachets and labels used accompanied by figures, often in colour, illustrating their use. The author has provided definitive lists of these together with known dates of use. The two issues which were put on sale in post offices are illustrated in colour together with the story of their production and errors. Dubious and unlisted overprints are discussed and illustrated as are subsequent issues produced to commemorate the Orlice issue.

Much research has obviously gone into the creation of this monograph making it a valuable resource for collectors of this period and also providing an interesting read for any student of postal history.

Derek Baron

**The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and in Russia 1939-41, and Czechoslovaks in the Middle East 1940-1943.** Monograph No 16. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain. By the late Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung RDP.

This Monograph produced by the CPSGB is well up to the quality one would expect from two of Czechoslovakia's most distinguished postal historians. It is however, so much more than just a postal history, because it contains most interesting and detailed accounts of the complex and political history of those troubled times in 1939-43, and of the resourceful ways in which those Czechs opposed to the Nazi tyranny struggled, often against huge odds, to cope with the difficulties and strive to regain their freedom. The personal stories of these brave people [particularly of Otto Hornung himself, who served as a recruit, became commissioned, and later escaped from post-war Communist Czechoslovakia, and of his father, a lawyer who was eventually murdered by the Germans in Lvov] are fascinating.

The escape routes for the loyalist Czech legionnaires were frequently having to be changed; from various directions via Poland from early 1939, and then through Russia [with many difficulties experienced there when the Germans and Soviets pledged non-aggression], the Balkans and into Lebanon and Palestine. Eventually one finds a more ordered system and the Legion on active service with the Allies in Egypt. It is no accident that the consequence of so many changes in postal regulations, coupled with moving around from place to place and the difficulty of retaining correspondence, is that postal material for collectors to study is mostly very scarce. None the more for that, the authors have managed to trace a reasonable quantity and have explained it very helpfully, for it is often hard to interpret and understand without a good knowledge of the language and the meanings of abbreviations and markings.

Among the cards and covers illustrated and described, one finds items from Hungary, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Iran, Palestine and the USA, as well as the more expected pieces from Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia itself. Consequently there are some aspects of direct interest in this neat little monograph for collectors of all these countries. Personal photographs and documents from Otto Hornung's collection, and from other contributors, including the Imperial War Museum, are also there. I believe that any philatelist who enjoys the taste of something distinctly unusual will be captivated by this very attractively produced work. And all of us who know and admire Otto [and who doesn't] cannot fail to be charmed on discovering how he himself was actually involved in a postal history situation as it happened.

Ian McQueen

## SINDELINGEN 2004

-Ian Nutley-



Sindelfingen is a small, unremarkable town some 18km. SW of Stuttgart, but each autumn it becomes a philatelist's Mecca, due to a very large philatelic bourse held in the Messe Halle. This year some dozen or so Czech Society pilgrims checked in to the Ibis Hotel and several other members including Germans, Dutch and Austrians stayed elsewhere. It was certainly well worth the trip.

The Czech Society in Germany organised an exhibition of 105 frames, including 12 contributions from nine British collectors, covering stamps and postal history from 1785 to 2003. This was a great opportunity to see some first rate material and also to meet and chat with the exhibitors, who came from six different countries. The 'Czech Salon' was housed in a

separate room on the first floor, alongside the Society stand, where publications were on sale and members were on hand to give out information and advice. New friends and contacts were made and much learned from the wonderful exhibits



A symposium on Postal History was held each day, in German, five special cancellations were in use including one for *Tag der Briefmarke* on the last day. Post office stands from no less than 37 authorities including both Czech Republic and Slovakia were present, and in addition to the Czech Society, 244 frames of postal history of the world could be seen, supplemented by 13 literature entries and 48 thematic. There were also frames of airmails, stationery and a special section on 'Traditional Costumes'. Three days was hardly enough to take all this in, but in addition what was probably the main reason for most visitors going at all has not been mentioned. On two floors no less than 120 dealers and auction houses were on hand. Obviously the accent on material for sale was on Germany, but large amounts of worldwide stamps and postal history were noticed. Anyone who attended and did not find quantities of material for their collections were simply not trying.

To make the holiday complete, the weather was kind, the food as excellent as one expects in Germany and a free bus ran several times a day from outside the hotel to the bourse and back again. Could we have asked for anything more? I don't think so. I am sure that next year's Sindelfingen will be advertised well in advance in *Czechout*, so do yourself a huge favour and join the friendly group which I am sure will attend from our society.

## Residential Weekend and Summer Saturday Country meeting

Friday 17, Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 June 2005

to be held in Staffordshire, England – just north of Wolverhampton.

What we have planned for members:

- Displays of:
 

<b>Sokol Slet</b>	<b>Orelstva Slet Dělnických</b>
<b>Tělocvičných Jednot (DTJ) Slet</b>	<b>Maccabees Slet</b>
<b>Pizeň</b>	<b>Ostrava</b>
- 100 lot **room auction**.
- Our Chair and former Chairs - "**on the spot**".
- Members own displays - "**show and tell**".
- **Guest lecturer** on matters definitely not Czechoslovak.
- **Francis Pettitt** and **George Pearson competitions**.

What we have planned for spouses:

- Saturday morning visit **Moseley Old Hall**, a nearby National Trust property that is linked to Charles II fleeing after the battle of Worcester.
- Saturday afternoon visit to **Halfpenny Green vineyard**.

Informal **dinner** on both the **Friday & Saturday** evenings.

Your organizers are the irrepresible **Bob Hill** who is ably assisted by local member **Tony** (Golden Helmet) **Moseley**.

Book the date in your diary **now** please, the organizers will be writing to you soon.

### THE ROYAL MAIL ARCHIVE

On 1 April 2004 the Postal Heritage Trust took over the work of Heritage Royal Mail. We are still based at Freeling House, Phoenix Place, WC1, and we will continue to provide and improve on the past services of Heritage Royal Mail. As we develop we will build a new public identity.

We are responsible for the historical collections of Royal Mail. Covering more than 360 years of British postal history, our varied collections include:

- The Royal Mail Archive containing records from 1636 to the present day, including working files, staff records, reports and visual records such as maps, posters, artwork and photographs.
- Stamps of Great Britain from the Penny Black onwards and their artwork, and British postal markings from 1661 to the present day.
- Object collections documenting the development of Post Office equipment and sorting office mechanisation, as well as what postmen/women wore and how they travelled.

We continue to collect material reflecting the diverse operations of Royal Mail Group in the 21st century. We believe that the history of The Post Office is the history of communication in Britain and around the world.

For more information on the work of the Trust please contact:

Libby Buckley  
Learning and Outreach Manager  
Tel. 020 7239 2561  
Email: [libby.buckley@royalmail.com](mailto:libby.buckley@royalmail.com)

Postal Heritage Trust  
Freeling House  
Phoenix Place  
London WC1X 0DL

### QUERIES AWAITING ANSWERS

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

- Czechout 3/00: Lou Svoboda's Dr Beneš' whereabouts in 1932
- Czechout 4/00: Ian Nutley's Concentration Camp hostages
- Czechout 2/01: 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
- Czechout 2/02: John Hammonds' American Aid for German POWs card
- Czechout 2/03: Richard Beith's 24Kčs 1946 Airmail Stamp
- Czechout 3/03: Barry Horne's 1919 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Sheet perforations
- Czechout 1/04 Barry Horne Max Švabinský
- Czechout 1/04 Bob Hill Mr Kriz
- Czechout 1/04 Ron Hollis The Border Regiment
- Czechout 2/04 Chris Cordes The 1919 Charity Overprints
- Czechout 2/04 Bob Hill Cukamnti ve Slezku\*
- Czechout 3/04 Bob Hill Czech Red Cross in Kendal
- Czechout 3/04 Lubor Kunc Czech Club in Calcutta, India



## POSTAL DOCUMENTS RELATING EXPLUSION AND "RESETTLING" FROM THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC II IN 1945/48

--Dr. Walter Rauch-  
Translated by Douglas D Baxter

The ČSR was conceived as a state made up of nationalities but it soon developed into a national state under a centralised Czech leadership. Claims for autonomy by the other nations were dealt in sluggish way and too late, so that by the end of 1938 or at the latest by Spring 1939, the ČSR, which had been put together in 1918 had been broken up as the result of surrendering territory to Germany, Poland, Hungary and the formation off the pseudo-independent Slovakian state and the Hungarian occupation of the southern (with its strong Magyar background) and eastern Ruthenian territories.

Apart from the economic aspects, the most important reason was the composition of the 14.4 million inhabitants of the first ČSR. In 1938 those people living in the ČSR were: 43% Czechs, 23% Germans, 22% Slovaks, 5% Magyars, 4% Jews and 3% Ruthenian/Ukrainians. Even if you add together the Czechs and Slovaks, approximately a quarter of all Czechoslovak citizens are of German nationality (Bohemian Germans). Since the early 1930s the main topic of conversation had been the "Sudeten Germans". Originally this title was given only to the population in the Bohemian - west Silesian Sudetan mountain region. After the formation of the S & P (Sudeten German Party) of Konrad Heinlein in the ČSR it became instead a political general term for the scattered group of German people throughout the ČSR who could not justify their own identity.

With a share of the population amounting to approximately 3.4 million, it was difficult to talk in terms of a German "minority" After the end of the war in 1945, Czechoslovakia II was restored to its 1937 boundaries, its former territory of Carpathian-Ukraine having been ceded to the USSR.

Already in May 1941, Minister Dr. Hupert Ripka (Czech Government in Exile in London) had brought up the idea of "transfer of population", which in the autumn of 1944 was designated by the Czechoslovak State Council as "valid for all Germans". It was not until 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1945 that a formal Czechoslovak request for approval of the expulsion of more than 40% of the state's population (Germans and Hungarians) was granted by the Allies. On 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1945 - when the deed had already been done - the Potsdam Conference announced the approval of an expulsion "in an organised and humane manner" (Article XIII of its resolution). The Czechoslovak communists pursued from the beginning the principle of a "revolutionary overthrow" in the new Czechoslovak state and a "national settlement with the Germans". In short, the actual sequence of events after May 1945 can be divided into four phases:

- 1) May to Autumn 1945: mass expulsions by partly local so-called "Revolutionary Guards", Partisans - whatever the people in Bohemia/Moravia wanted to call them - as well as units of the Svoboda Army, which had advanced from the east and leaned towards the soviets
- 2) Until the end of 1945 by Peoples Committees (NV), expulsions as ordered by the Potsdam agreements.
- 3) January to October 1946: concentration of the Germans in assembly camps and transfers by train.
- 4) Middle of 1946 until 1948: resettlement of retained German skilled workers (and their families) who had continued their own industrial production in the ČSR II, recognised anti-fascists and family members.

From the Czech point of view, the expulsions were a form of collective punishment for "disloyalty towards the host country". The constitutional uncertainty of the Munich Agreement, which was signed jointly by France and Great Britain, is here included in brackets.

1. Mass expulsions: after the middle of May 1945, about 250,000 Germans were forcibly driven from the border areas and from districts which were dialectically isolated, into the German and Austrian occupation zones. The inhuman departure with murder and looting is comparable with the marches of the Jews in Germany in 1944/45. (evacuation and transfer of eastern concentration camps into the territory of the Reich).

Independent actions of Local People's Committees and often spontaneously set up Security Units with all their excesses were declared subsequently to be non-punishable by the controversial "Beneš Decrees". In the law about legality (8.5.1946, Code of Law No.115),

passed by the Provisional Czechoslovak National Assembly, it was stated that, from 30.9.1938 to 28.10.1945 successful actions to regain freedom or as retribution against occupiers or accomplices were also not illegal, "even if they would have been illegal under existing law."

2. By means of enforced expulsions according to the conditions of the Potsdam Agreement or by unenforced flight caused by fear of attack, half a million German Bohemians crossed the frontier of the area they had inhabited for many centuries by the end of 1945. In July/August the feared "Revolutionary Guards" and Partisan Commanders had been dissolved by the newly set up SNB - State Security Corps. The administration of the expulsions passed from the military to the Department of the Interior. In the Bohemian Lands, the ongoing operations were co-ordinated from then on by 13 regional commissioners. These operations came to an end only when the Soviets refused to accept any more groups of refugees in their Zone of Occupation at the end of 1945.

Germans, who were held back for reasons other than their being skilled workers, began their internment in approximately 110 internment or assembly camps. It is estimated the number of German Bohemians who died as a result of acts of violence, suicide, hunger and exhaustion during the internments and expulsions after the end of the war was around 220,000.

3. At the end of 1945 there began the so-called "Organised Transfer". More than 1,000 railway transports, each with 1,200 people, with minimal possessions, were dispatched. About 750,000 refugees arrived in the Soviet Zone of Germany and 1.75 million arrived in the American Zone. (The Soviet Military Administration had ordered that they should only ever be called "resettlers".) About 250,000 Germans - mostly from Moravia - were expelled to Austria.
4. In Bohemia in February 1947 there were still approximately 102,400 Germans who had to work. By 1948 the deportation of skilled workers and their families had continued. Also, those Germans who were considered in the ČSR I to be anti-fascists had to leave the country, in many cases carrying their household goods with them.

The dramatic events after the Second World War are reflected by relatively few postal documents - exchanges between various holding camps and the less rare correspondence between expelled people in the German/Austrian Occupation Zones and their relatives or compatriots who remained behind and vice versa.

Of most interest to collectors are the variety of censorship measures applied to post in both directions. Censoring took place in both Allied and Czechoslovak offices (usually double censorship). Outgoing mail from the ČSR had to be pre-paid and always had to remain unsealed when posted. Inspection always took place at local post offices, at the SNB or at local or regional board level. Here specific reference was made to "Post from Germans". Mail from Germany and Austria also required the foreign mail rate and carries American, Soviet and Austrian entry censorship marks and Czechoslovak entry censorship marks - often multiple marks.

### **Resettlement and exchange of population between Slovakia and Hungary**

For the time being, fewer than 200,000 Germans were left in the ČSR II. In the 1950 census 160,000 admitted German nationality.

In Upper Hungary the situation was different. The southern frontier of the new Slovakia was drawn in 1919 without regard to the nationality of the inhabitants but rather with regard to geographical and transport points of view. As a result of the first Vienna Arbitration the autonomous territory of Slovakia, which had only recently become part of the Czechoslovak union, had to cede significant areas of territory in the south with a total of 850,000 inhabitants to Hungary in November 1938. Of these (according to the 1930 census) 504,000 were Magyars and 272,000 were Slovaks or Czechs. At the end of 1944, as the front advanced, 130,000 Germans from the linguistically Slovak areas were resettled in Germany, of whom about 30,000 returned after the end of the war. However, they were interned in reception and labour camps and in 1946 the majority were transported again to the West.

Without the security of the Potsdam Agreements the ČSR II tried to carry out the transfer of its almost 600,000 Hungarian citizens from southern Slovakia to Hungary. The Hungarian motherland's resistance to this was supported by the victorious powers. Afterwards the ČSR tried to broker an agreement on population exchange. As only about 100,000 Slovaks living in Hungary were prepared to move in the opposite direction (from Hungary to the ČSR II) the problem was finally solved internally (re "Slovakification", resettlement in areas of Bohemia, which had been vacated as a result of expulsions).

Therefore, about 45,000 Magyars, capable of work, were brought to the north-western part of Czechoslovakia. However after a short time, half of them returned to their south Slovak place of origin. In 1958 they all received Czechoslovak citizenship automatically.

Postal documents from the "population exchanges" detailed above are very rare. During the communist era they were mostly destroyed.

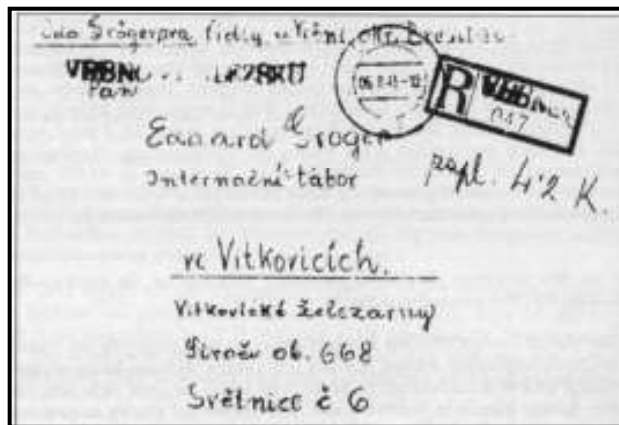
The tragic and partly criminal war-time events with their consequences for indigenous populations and state boundaries have been repeated frequently since the end of the Second World War. Recognising similar precursors of similar events is something which has been more or less consciously ignored however, in the intervening years. As long as historical truths are not clearly and universally expressed, there will be no inner peace and conclusive understanding among those affected.

The following are examples of postal documents from this age of flight and expulsion.



1. The back of a letter to Prague with arrival cancellation of 29.6.45. Censored by the local Committee of Administration in Banin (Bohnau/Silesia) and a handwritten censor mark of 28.6.46.

2. Registered letter of 6.8.45, "Paid byCash", from Silesia to the "Essenwerk Wittkowitz" internment camp with an emergency Registration Label and a date stamp with no place name.



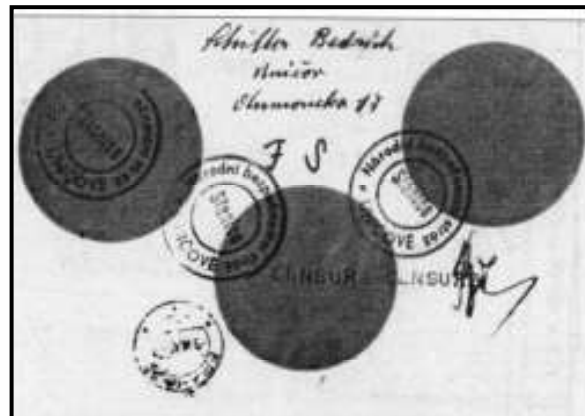
3. Letter from Esslingen of 3.7.48 to Troppau/Silesia with a sealing strip and Czech and French censor mark "Post of the Germans"

- 7. Registered letter of 10.7.46 with an over-printed Registration Label of Müglitz (March) to the Austrian Consulate in Prague and a framed censor mark "Post of the Germans"



- 7. Registered Letter from Konstantinovy Lázně of 3.V.1946 to Prague with a blank Registration Label and SNB censor mark from the State Security Service.

- 7. Back of a letter with arrival cancellation in Prague of 9.VI.46 and sealing marks of the SNB censor from the State Security Service

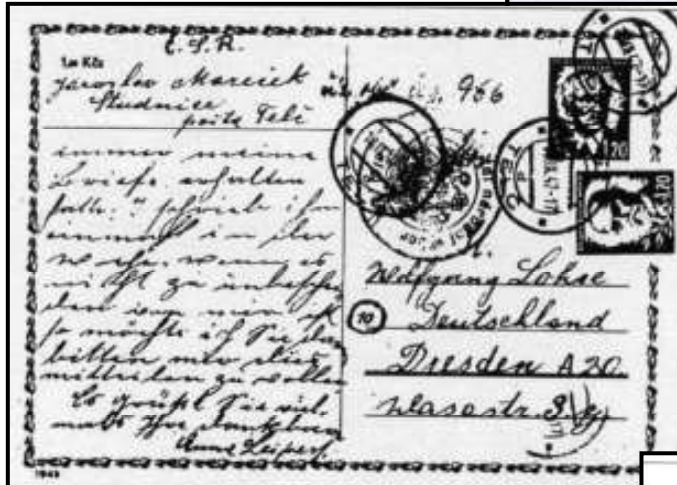


- 7. Letter of 19.6.46 from Eltville to the Central Internment Camp at Ústí nad Orlicí (Wilden-schwert). The letter was opened by the American Censors, sealed with a paper strip and given the American civilian censor mark.



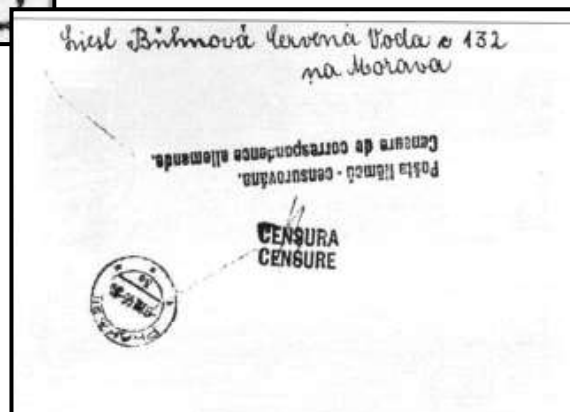
8. Postcard of 9.8.47 from Upper Bavaria to the Bohemian Forest (Bohmerwald ) with an American civilian censor mark. The card was apparently received on 23<sup>rd</sup> August and answered on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

9. Letter from Hustopeč (Auspitz) of 1.12.46 to the Refugee Camp in the Upper Palatinate. It has the red machine mark of the American civilian censor and the Czech mark "Post of the Germans". The Letter was readdressed to Bavaria.



10. Postcard of 18.9.47 from Telč/Moravia to Dresden with the censor mark of the local NV People's Committee.

11. Letter of 9.8.46 from Moravia Rothwasser to the Austrian Agency in Prague. It has several Czechoslovak censor marks and the arrival cancellation, Prague 9.VIII.46







12. Letter of 3.7.47 from the American Zone to the Labour Camp at Bata Zlin. It has sealing strips and violet American censor marks.

13. Letter of 5.8.47 from West Berlin to Prague with a British censor mark.



14. Postcard of 11.5.51 from Böblingen to the prisoner camp in Pilsen with a Czech arrival censor mark "Gelsen 7". This was still happening 6 years after the end of the war!

15. Picture postcard from Slovenské Darmoty (previously under Hungarian occupation) from the "Czechoslovak Resettlement Commission in Hungary District 8" with mixed Czech and Hungarian franking, of 3.4.46.





20 Registered Letter of 10.12.45 from Eger/Hungary to Pilsen. Forwarded to the Internment Camp at Tremošna with the observation "Write in Czech!"

20 Caricature Card about expulsion "Into the shattered Reich".



20 A rare printed postcard from the Internment Camp at Aussig on der Elbe of 23.X.46 with Czech and American censor marks.

We thank Dr. Walter Rauch for offering us this paper [via Rex Dixon]. This was originally published in Arge Deutsche Ostgebiete, Rundschreiben 179/September 2003.

## SWEDISH POSTAL MUSEUM

-Bob Hill-

It's a long time since I wrote one of these articles and the reason why is simple, the older I get the less places I go to that I haven't been to before. Two that could have been written (and weren't) were Lisbon - if there is a Portuguese postal museum I certainly cannot find it, or any reference to it and Reykjavik - the day I went, the Iceland museum was closed (I leave it to those of you who know me to reflect on how I felt). Which brings us to Stockholm - and I shouldn't be writing this, it should have been done by our auctioneer Roger Morrell but when he was there in winter it was "too cold" for him to go out - even though they have late night opening.



I think Stockholm is great, indeed it is my second favourite European City after Budapest. The people are friendly, if laid back towards horizontal. It's clean, safe and easy to find your way round. It was only a few minutes walk from Gamla Stan metro station to Lilla Nygatan and finding the actual museum is even easier as there are massive flags stating its presence. The building is gorgeous and the museum extends over 4 levels. The top is for reference, research and Internet access. The next had a typical postal museum display including the Mauritius 1d & 2d, an excellent café and the "Letters from the Titanic" exhibition. Just to dwell on the Titanic for a moment, I did not realise how many "other" nationalities there were on that ill-fated boat or that there were five full time postal workers and about eight million letters on board. Similarly I had not heard of the "Swedish waistcoat" - the purchase of which was a means by which left wing sympathisers could leave to start a fresh life in America, I suppose that having fouled up their own country its only natural to want to mess up another one. The ground floor had Sweden's postal history, reception and a shop and in the basement was a child's philatelic play area (quite good really, I could imagine member Tony Bosworth and I having hours of fun there).

In total I spent two hours looking mainly at the development of the Swedish post, I still wonder at the small vessels that took the mail to remote islands, the doubling of the crew when the weather was bad and the simple ethos "the mail must get through". I listen to the empty words of our politicians and consider that both past and present Swedish postal delivery persons are a branch of the Social Services, calling on the elderly and infirm to see what they need bringing the next day.

Not a lot for the Czechoslovak enthusiast but well worth a visit. I have deposited two books in our library, they are both in English: The History of the Stamp, Introduction to the stamp floor, Swedish Postal Museum 1991 and The Letter-a journey through time, introduction to the ground floor permanent exhibition, Swedish Postal Museum 1993. The latter in particular is a good read.

If there was little to raise my interest in the museum, the stamp shops were a different matter. There are three on the same street and two in nearby Kungsholmsg. As well as more further afield. The prices were not crippling and I bought about 20 items, most of which will be offered in one of the forthcoming auctions with no price mark up. Just one further shopping note on nearby Västerlånggatan at number 37 is a shop (Flodins) with old prints from all over Europe, there was quite a bit of Czech material and I managed to get an 1839 steel engraving coloured view of Olomouc without breaking the piggy bank.



## STAMP MUSEUM IN BUDAPEST

-Lubor Kunc-

Address:	Bélyegmúzeum, Hársfa ú 47, 1074 Budapest (7 <sup>th</sup> district)
Access:	by underground - yellow line, Oktogon station
Open:	every day except Monday from 10:00am to 6.00pm (April - October) or from 10.00am to 4pm (November - March)

The Stamp Museum is located close to the Postal Museum discussed in the September issue of *Czechout* in the centre of Budapest. You can go there by underground to Oktogon station and then through Erzsébet körut and Dob u., but the more interesting way is to start your trip at Deák tér (all three Budapest underground lines match here) and to continue via Károly körut, Wesselény u. and Dob u. - by this route you can visit three most important Jewish synagogues of Pest, especially the one situated in Wesselény u. is very beautiful.

Figure 1



The museum is located in a functional building from the 30s, which is now used as a seat for three ministries and post office. On its lateral side you find entrance to the museum - see figure 1. Next to the entrance you will find ticket box and souvenir shop - but the museum is too unambitious, so the only souvenirs are probably two books in Hungarian with English, French and German summaries sold for about HUF 700. - What a pity, the books are not in English. One of them attracted my attention describing history of Hungarian stamps from pre-stamp period (by 1850) through Austrian time (1850-1867) and finishing with Hungarian own stamp production in 19<sup>th</sup> century (1867-1900). The book was illustrated (all pictures in colour!) with some items coming from Slovak towns like Košice (Kassa). Unfortunately the summary gives no details relating to Hungarian stamps, but about "suppressing" information like stamp inventor was Rowland Hill.



I feel the museum should publish more souvenirs for its visitors - it exhibits many rare items, but it doesn't try to "sell" them to the visitors, and it could create a good source of money from it. Just to advise you, ask at the ticket box for an English leaflet showing the rarest material exhibited in the museum - you will get a good guide for your tour of the exhibition frames!

Entrance fee to the museum is the same as for the Postal Museum: with Budapest Card for free, without it for HUF 100,- = GBP 0,30 . Figure 2 shows "ticket" for paying visitors, which is common for both of the museums.

Let's start the tour. The museum seems to be small one - it is just located in one room, but all its walls are used for cabinets with 3200 pull out metal frames showing about 300 000 stamps and covers! Some cabinets are used to show certificates won by the museum at various philatelic shows. Of course, you will find there items from PRAGA exhibitions, too. Good idea is four-language description of content of individual cabinets in Hungarian, French, German and English, so orientation is easy, you should only remember, that all the countries are ordered as per

their Hungarian names, which sometimes start with different letter than in English. The exhibition starts

with Hungarian material from pre-stamp period to the present day. You will see many pre-stamp letters in exceptional quality, the show goes on with Austrian stamp used at Hungarian territory (not ordered as per issue, but as per face value - so you can see 1 Kreuzer stamps of 1850 and 1858 issues on covers continuing with 2 Kreuzer stamps etc.). Special section has been reserved for common Austro-Hungarian 1867 issue. Then you can see drawings and printing trials of first Hungarian stamps of 1871. The next part of the exhibition shows all Hungarian issues up to now. You will see many stamps, blocks and covers, some of which are really a collector's dream. Such complete exhibition of Hungarian material could never be seen at any philatelic show. It is nice, that we can state, that many of the exhibited items come from Slovakia - you can see old letters from Bratislava, Košice, Poprad. However even if you are not a collector of Hungarian stamps, you will find this material interesting.

Other parts of the exhibition show foreign stamps from both Europe and Overseas. We can start from England. The museum shows a nice collection of classical issues from 1840 to 1980 including many "high" values up to GB £5, many stamps are specimens. The permanent exhibition shows a good collection of North American stamps - from Canada, Newfoundland and USA (incl. Postmaster Issues and mint Columbus set from 1 cent up to US \$5). South America is represented by British Guyana showing early stamps used, mint and on covers or by classical stamps of Brazil. You can see nice collections of Southern Africa (incl. Scout stamps). Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius (the first two stamps are missing, but from no. 3 almost complete collection), and Australia...

Amongst the European countries there are many nice items: The Austrian collection includes Mercury newspaper stamp "Red Mercury" from 1856 (!!!), great experience is to see collections of old Swiss, Italian and German states, France or Romania and Moldavia. But the rarest stamp still waiting for us - it is Hawaiian "Missionary stamp" with face value of 13 cents.

The non-Hungarian stamps are ordered strictly by year (without any respect to the type of stamps - the airmail or postage due stamps are incorporated into the definitive issues) and they are numbered according to the French Yvert Catalogue (very pleasant to see a collection, which is numbered by a traditional catalogue and not as the ambitious Michel).

But because we are collectors of Czechoslovak stamps, we will finish our tour with these. If you expect a similar philatelic feast, you will be disappointed. The Czechoslovak collection is unbalanced - it shows great rarities like "Pošta Československá 1919" stamps 6 Hellers and 1 Crown with different overprints colours or 10 Crowns stamps of the set, but on other hand there are low values which are missing from the collection (e.g. Blue Štefánik of 1939) or which quality is very low (Pošta Československá 5 and 60 Hellers or one of the Agriculture and Science stamps). Probably because of lack of space you will find no "Kde domov můj" souvenir sheet. Among the Protectorate stamps you will miss the Heydrich souvenir sheet. The Czechoslovak exhibition starts with 1918-1939, continues with Protectorate, again with Czechoslovakia 1945-1992 and finishes with Czech Republic's stamps after 1993. Unfortunately, I have not found any Slovak stamps (1939-1945 or after 1993). Under Czechoslovakia they were not shown and I have not found the name of the state among European countries. I hope you will be more successful in searching for it!

To conclude, I can highly recommend that you visit the Budapest Stamp Museum. You will spend a good time there with nice stamps from around the world and see exceptional material. If you are a collector of Hungarian stamps (and who of us collecting Czechoslovak forerunner stamps and Pošta Československá 1919 overprints isn't?), it is necessary to visit the museum, whilst for other collectors it can be chance to discover new stamps.

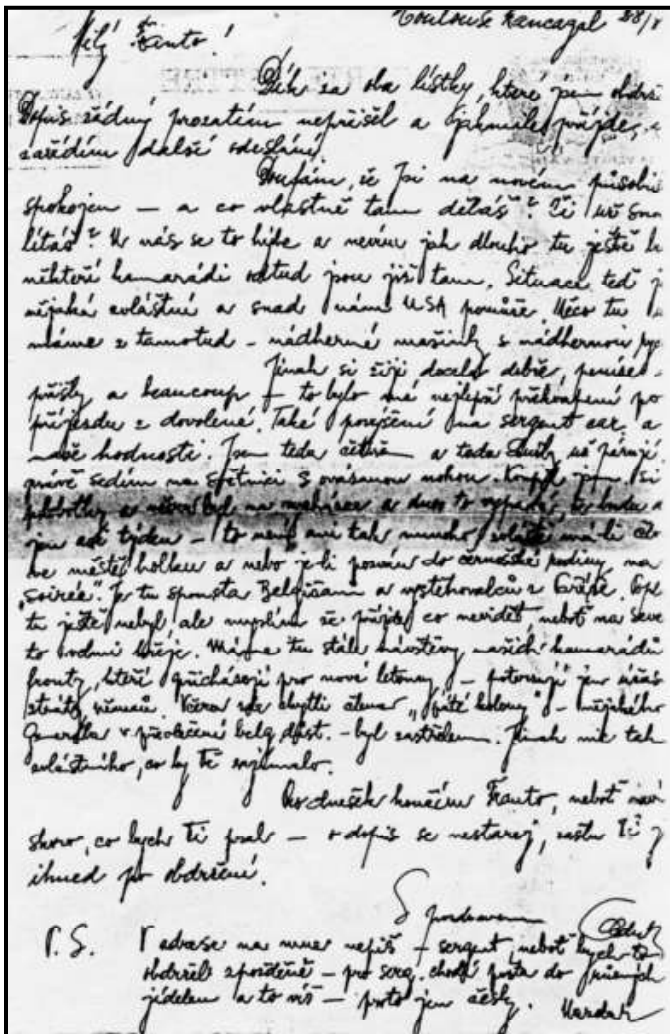
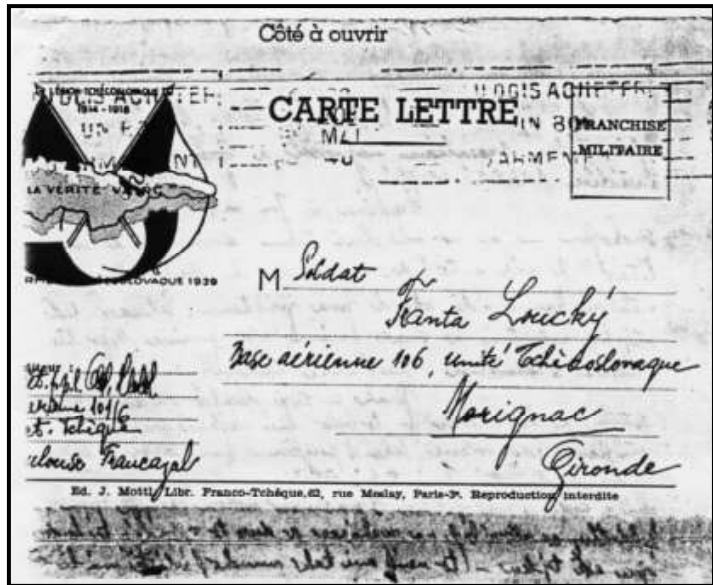
And if you plan a trip out of Budapest, you can visit the other Postal Museums located e.g. in Debrecín (Debrecen), Balatonszemes or other towns. As you can see, Hungary is a philatelic paradise.

FRANCE May 1940 - CARTE LETTRE

-Vladimir J. Králíček-

Recently I have been fortunate to acquire a very interesting Czecho-slovak Army in France Letter Card. The Letter Card itself is the Type I published by J. Mottl, Libr. France - Tcheque, Paris.

The Letter Card was sent by Sergeant ...?..., Base aérienne 101/6, Sect. Tcheque, Toulouse, Francagal and addressed to Soldat Franta Loucký, Base aérienne 106, Unite Tchechoslovaque, Marignac, Gironde. The postmark date is difficult to read, but it is possible to make out MAI 40. There is no postal charge on this Letter Card.



The addressee Franta Loucký, is the author of post WWII book 'Mnozí nedoletěli' (Many have not returned) published during 1989 in Prague by Naše Vojsko. The Carte Lettre shows sign of wear, being torn in the middle and repaired with Scotch tape, but the writing itself is quite legible. Of greater interest is the letter message, translation of which follows:

Dear Frank Toulouse, Francagal  
28/5

Thank you for cards, which I have now received. So far I have not received any letter, but as soon as one arrives I shall immediately arrange for it to be sent on.

I hope that you are satisfied at your new place - what are you actually doing there? Perhaps you are already flying? With us it is beginning to move, but so far I do not know how long I shall be here some of our comrades from here are already there. The situation now is somewhat unusual, but perhaps the USA will help us. We already have something here from them - magnificent machines with great speed.

Otherwise I am quite well. I have now received quite a lot of money, that was my great surprise after my arrival from leave. Also my promotion to Sergeant equivalent to our own ranking. I am thus a Sergeant and as such carry out their duties. At the moment

I am sitting in my room with a bandaged leg. I have bought new shoes for myself and yesterday I have gone for a walk with them, today it looks like I will be at home for at least a week - it is not really as bad, especially if one has a girlfriend in town, or one is invited for a 'social evening' with a family. We have here many Belgians and refugees from Paris. So far we had no alarms, but I think it will happen soon since there is lot of rumbling from the North. We have constant visits from our comrades from the front, who come here to collect new planes - thus confirming great losses to the Germans. Yesterday a member of the 'fifth column' was caught here - some general in the uniform of a Belgian Officer - he was shot. Otherwise nothing much unusual here, that might interest you.

I will finish for today Franto, there is not much else that I can write to you - don't worry about the letter, I will forward it as soon as I receive it.

With greetings

P.S. In the address don't write - Sergeant, otherwise the post will be delayed - Sergeants receive their post in different messroom and as you know - only in czech. Cheerio

## **PERFORATED CHAMPIONS CZECH STAMPS ARE AMONGST THE BEST IN THE WORLD.**

-Jan Plachetka-

Translated by Robert Kingsley

Czechs can only claim to be members of the world elite in a small number of spheres - in the brewing (and drinking) of beer, in hockey, in football,. And in stamps. In their quality we can point to the tradition of Czechoslovakia which, in the First Republic, could boast of designers such as Mucha or Brunner and engravers such as Seizinger or Heinz. And, of course, excellent printers.

As long as 70 years ago the outstanding characteristic of Czechoslovakia's finest stamps was the rotary recess printing process from flat plates and still today this technique is used on the best Czech stamps. Many countries prefer to use a simpler and cheaper method of printing their stamps which naturally affects their appearance and also makes them easier to forge. Fortunately, the Czech Post Office continues to attach great importance and devote funds to its stamp programme and contemporary top engravers such as Fajt, Ondracek or Housa assist them in their endeavours. This has resulted not only in maintaining the interest of Czech and overseas philatelists but also in the successes which Czech stamps continue to enjoy at international shows.

For example, in the annual competition "Grand Prix de l'Exposition WIPA" held in Vienna in which all countries which are members of the International Postal Union participate, the winner 5 years ago was the stamp depicting the painting "Krajina s bazinou" (Landscape and marsh) by Julius Marak and again 3 years ago when the winner was the Czech interpretation of the painting "Divan" by the Croatian artist, V.Bukovac. In both cases these were the work of the engraver Vaclav Fajt. In 1998 the stamp with a miniature of J.Navratil's painting "Pradlena" (Spinner) engraved by Bedrich Housa came second in the same competition. In another important competition, which is held regularly in Asiago, Italy, the miniature sheet issued to commemorate the 740<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Marco Polo, designed by Adolf Born and Milos Ondracek was awarded the top prize "Premio Internazionale d'Arte Filatelica" 5 years ago. The same distinguished prize was again won 3 years ago by the issue to commemorate 1000 years of architecture on the territory of the Czech Republic, the work of Jan Kavan and Martin Srb.

And as all good things come in threes, Czech stamps have also been winning in the competition held in conjunction with the International Conference of Printers of Postage Stamps. In 1996 the stamp based on the painting by L.Marold "Panzanka" (Parisian Lady), engraved by Milos Ondracek got a "Gold", so did 2 years later the painting "Countryside and Chantilly Castle" by A.Chittussi and engraved by Vaclav Fajt, 3 years ago the three stamp sheet Prague - European city of culture - by Josef Liesler and Martin Srb and this year the winner was "Podzim ve Veltrusich" (Autumn in Veltrusy) by Slavíček and engraved by Fajt. Particularly those stamps produced by the supreme printing process, rotary recess from flat plates, depicting many of our artistic jewels are also superb ambassadors of Czech culture at home and abroad. They are seen by hundreds of thousands of people and spread Czech craftsmanship and art around the world. This is also borne out by the fact that, for example, the current and very successful exhibition of the work of Antonín Slavíček in the Prague City Library has had more than 35 thousand visitors over the past 4 months and the stamp which has already been mentioned of his painting

"Autumn in Veltrusy" which won the award as the most beautiful stamp of last year, had an issue of 232,000 stamps of which a high percentage has already been sold, in significant quantities abroad. Most artists, even the more successful ones, can only dream of such publicity.

Czech hockey which has been briefly mentioned has also appeared on our stamps after the Czech team won an Olympic gold medal at Nagano. Philatelic recognition of our football team was missed only by a whisker when our footballers narrowly failed to reach the final of the European Championship. We now await philatelic recognition of our excellent beer!

## COVER OF INTEREST

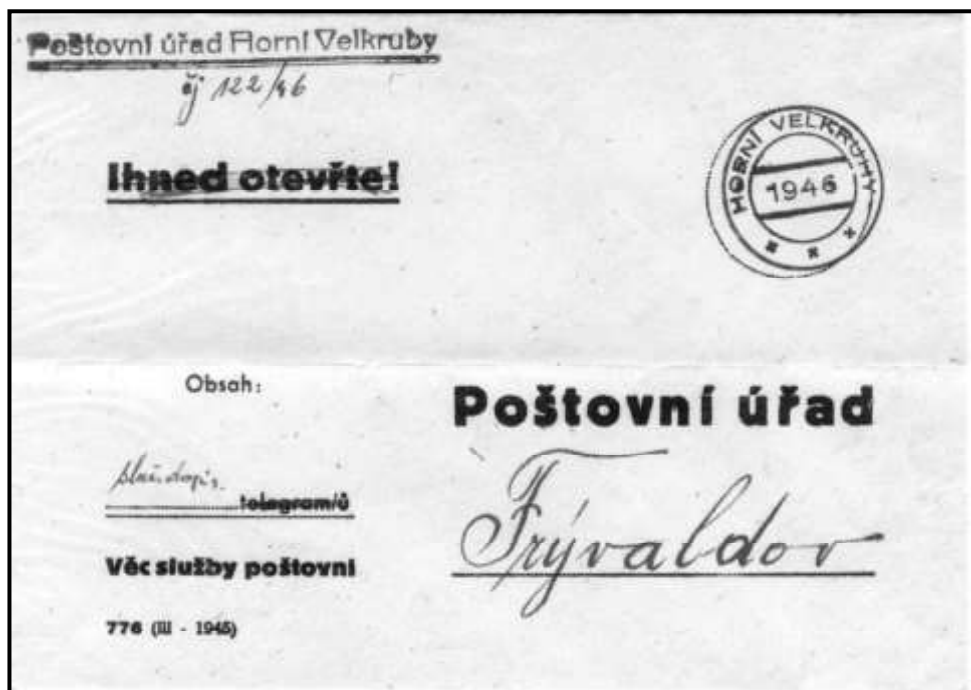
-Bob Hill-

### Horní Velkruby

In German: Oberwidgrub. Now Václavov u Bruntálu  
A town west of Opava

Wrong spelling of temporary canceller

An interesting cover. Monografie 20 shows it clearly as Horní Velkruby. The top of the cover shows the same name. The canceller clearly does not!!!



The envelope has German language printing deleted and was sent to the Post Office in Frývaldov  
Violet straight line Poštovní úřad Horní Velkruby  
WRONGLY SPELT Violet rubber HORNÍ VELKRUHY 1946  
Věc služby poštovní - official post

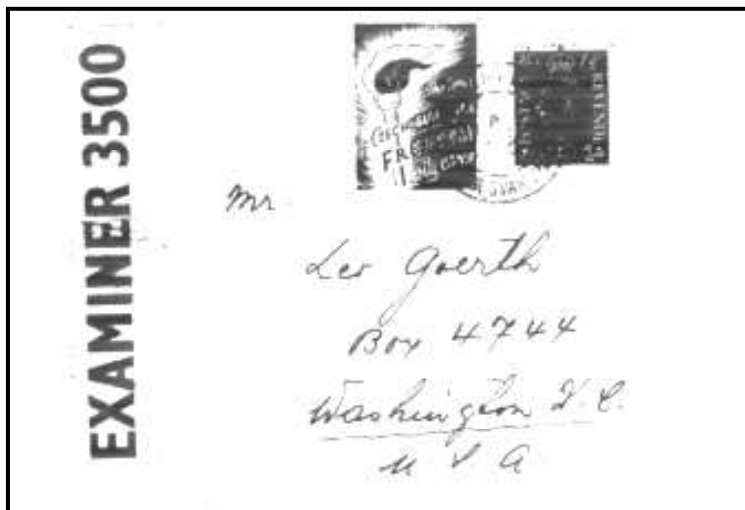
## WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

### 20 Members' Queries -

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

#### Re Richard Beith's Letter to the Editor in *Czechout 2/2004* page 35.

From Vladimir Králíček: Regarding Richard's query my comment would be as follows: I have never heard of a special stamp being used by the Czechoslovak Forces in conjunction with the British stamps. But, I think he is correct in assuming that the 'stamp' mentioned was one of the patriotic labels. As an illustration I enclose copy of a cover from my collection and addressed to Washington DC, USA, which has one of the patriotic labels attached beside the stamp.



Furthermore I have in my collection of historical documents pertaining to the Czechoslovak Army Field Post Office in Great Britain; correspondence from Captain Oldrich Večerek to the Ministry of Post proposing an issue of special postage stamps with themes of the Allied Armies or Heads of the Allied States, the profits from their sales to be used in buying essential War material, etc, etc. The correspondence consists of:

1. Draft copy of the proposal in Czech.
2. Final copy of the proposal in Czech.
3. Final proposal translated into English and addressed to the Postmaster General, London dated 18.7.1941.
4. Postcard from London acknowledging receipt of above letter dated 22.7.1941.
5. Reply from Postmaster General, dated 28.7.1941. [The proposal was rejected.]

#### Re Lubor Kunc's Czech Club in India in *Czechout 3/2004* page 87

From Vladimir Králíček I do not know anything about that Czech Club, but the patriotic label is based on WWII 1941 series of postcards produced by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Czechoslovak Army in Great Britain. It is No P33 in Richard Beith's Monograph 15, page 53. The only difference is in text of the illustration which is given in English as "This is our challenge " on the label and 'To je naše odpověď' in Czech on the Army postcard, this translates in English as 'This is our answer'. The artist was a Slovak member of the Czechoslovak Army by the name of Szobel. Photocopy of the card is enclosed. I hope this will be of some help.

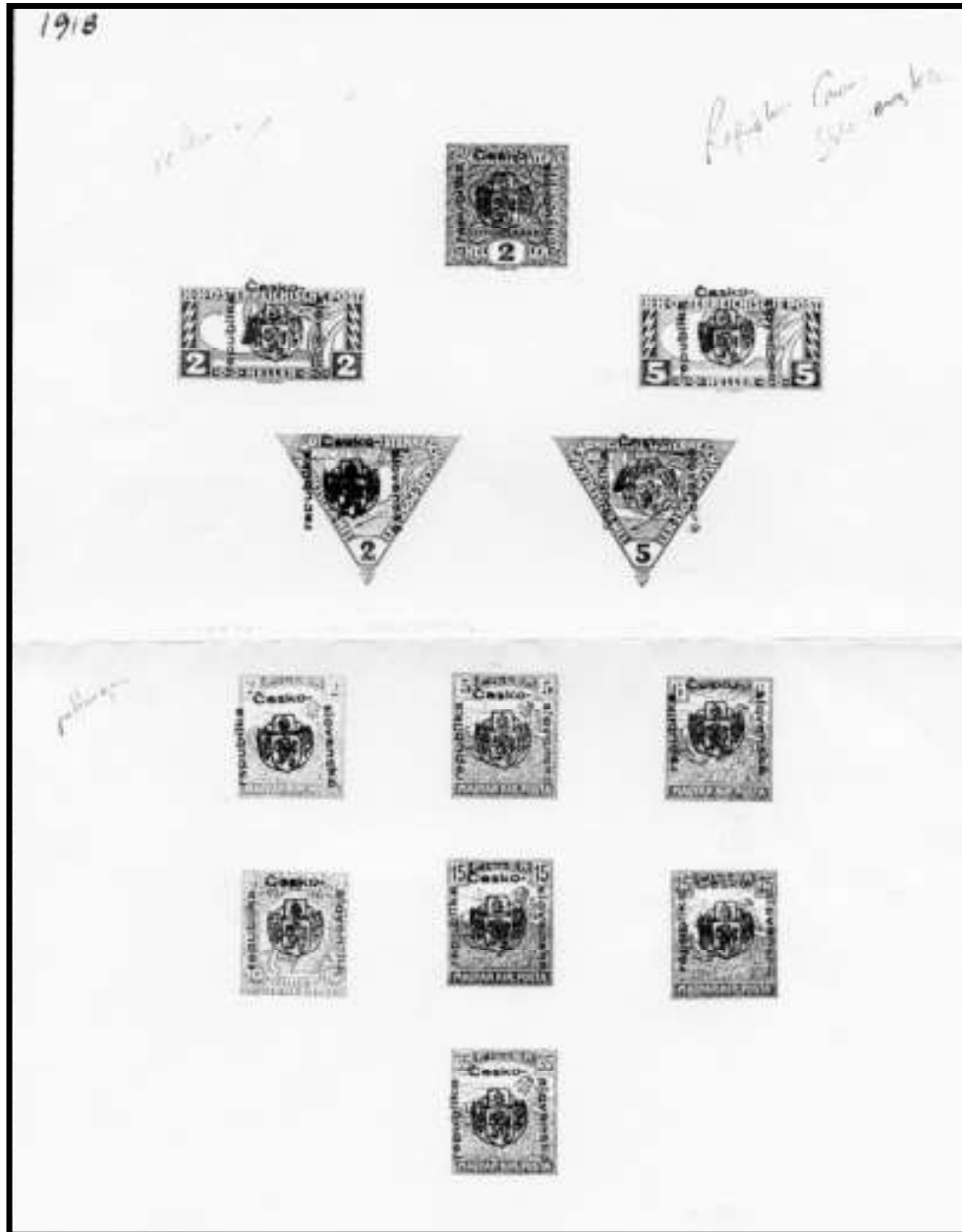
The 1945 Indian postcard is a very interesting find and I would be interested what other information about the Calcutta Club and the label will surface.

[Tony Hickey has also kindly sent us a copy of this illustration from his collection but, knew nothing of its details.]



One New Query:

From J Barry Horne: I would like to know where I can find information on some revolutionary overprints in the catalogue, as so far I have been unsuccessful in locating them. I enclose a photocopy of a page together with some enlargements to give some idea what the overprint looks like. Being, I assume a rubber stamp, some are over-inked impressions but there are one or two that are reasonably clear to show the detail of the shield.



## NEW ISSUES

-Lindy Bosworth-

Unless otherwise stated, Post Printing House, Prague prints the stamps and stationery for the Czech Republic.

From 2004, many of the stamps of the Slovak Republic are printed by Walsall Security Printers Ltd. England, indicated below as WSP.

<u>Printing</u>	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

#### 29 September 2004 Introduction of Compulsory School Attendance in the Czech Lands in 1774



**Designer:** Jan Kavan **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50 stamps.

**Design:** a drawing in silhouette of a teacher with a violin and a pupil, both in the dress of the time. World Teachers' Day has been celebrated annually on 5 October since 1994, in more than 100 member countries of UNESCO. The stamp is issued to celebrate the event and the 330<sup>th</sup> anniversary of compulsory education in the Czech Lands.

In 1774 Empress Maria Teresa introduced compulsory education for children from 6 to 12 years in an attempt to improve general literacy. Parish schools were set up in communities with a parish church where the subjects of reading, writing and arithmetic were taught. Main schools were set up in regional towns to teach the basic subjects and practical vocational training. Schools in major towns offered an even wider curriculum and primary preparation of teachers. **FDC:** printed DS in black with a commemorative Prague cancel. The cachet design has portraits of Empress Maria Teresa, J B Basedow and J L Felbiger with examples of the Czech alphabet from 1767 and an extract of the General School Code produced by Felbiger.

#### 20 October 2004

#### Historical Perambulators



**Designer and Engraver:** Bedřich Housa  
**Printing:** RD in sheets of 50 stamps. FDCs printed DS with commemorative Prague cancels.

**Designs:** examples of prams from 1880, 1890 and 1900. The regional museum of Mělník documents the history and development of these carriages in the Czech Lands.

The first perambulators were made by local wheelwrights, smiths and cane-workers. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century demand led to the establishment of the first factories producing two basic types – the four wheeled wicker pram and the “seating” pram with three wheels.

**12Kč** – perambulator with three wheeled undercarriage, wooden wheels, wicker body and collapsible textile awning c.1880. FDC: cachet in red shows a two-wheeled pushchair from around 1880.

**14Kč** – perambulator c. 1890 with three wheeled undercarriage with metal wheels and spokes. The collapsible awning is of wood with oilcloth. FDC: cachet in brown-green shows a four wheeled decorated perambulator from the 1890s.

**16Kč** – a black wooden bodied perambulator c. 1900 having combined strap and metal suspension, with one pair of large and one pair of smaller metal wheels. The body is decorated with white lines and has a collapsible hood of oilcloth. FDC: cachet in red-brown depicts a four-wheel push chair with collapsible hood c.1900.

>



10 November 2004

**Christmas**

**Designer and Engraver:** Bedřich Housa **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50 stamps.

**Design:** an apple candlestick, fir twigs, golden mistletoe for good luck and a small heart made of straw – traditional motifs of a Czech Christmas.

**FDC:** printed DS in brown with a commemorative Prague cancel. The cachet design is a drawing of three bells and a fir sprig.

10 November 2004

**Works of Art on Stamps**

**Designs:** from original art works **Engravers:** Václav Fajt (20Kč) Miloš Ondráček (22Kč & 26Kč)  
**Printing:** DS in sheets of four stamps. FDCs DS.

**Designs: 20Kč** – “On the Outskirts of the Český Ráj” (1860-62) by Alois Bubák (1824-1870) which is in the West Bohemian Gallery, Plzeň. Bubák taught drawing at colleges in Prague. His early works were based on romantic landscape painting and his later works depicted monumental paintings of his native Pojizeří region. FDC in dark-green has a commemorative Plzeň cancel. The cachet is from a pencil drawing by Bubák of Český Krumlov.

**22Kč** – “Long, Broad and Shapsight” (1897) by Hanuš Schwaiger (1854 –1912) which is in the National Gallery, Prague. He taught at the Academy of Fine Arts, Prague and was a painter, graphic artist and illustrator. FDC in brown-green has a commemorative Prague cancel. The cachet drawing is taken from an illustration by the artist for Weisners’ fairy tale album (1895).

**26Kč** – detail from “Spring” (1881) by Vojtěch Hynais (1854-1923). This oil painting hangs in the Presidential Box in the National Theatre, Prague. Hynais was a teacher at the Academy of Fine Arts, Prague and one of the major artists of the National Theatre generation. FDC in grey-green with commemorative Prague cancel. The cachet is from a drawing in pencil and white paint “Laurel Twig in a Vase” (1914).

**Postal Stationery****Official Commemorative Postcards**

**10 June 2004. Czech Historical Buildings.** This is the 11<sup>th</sup> issue in the series and numbered from A137/2004 to A144/2004. Each card has a 6.50Kč imprinted stamp of the modified Great State Arms of the Republic. The designs are from Foto Studios Skala and printed by Victoria Security Printing. The second line for recipient’s address is a continuous micro printing of Česká Pošta. The left side of the card has a coloured picture of the building and explanatory text in Czech. Each card is issued in two formats: a) a commemorative cachet of the building, in black below the text and b) without cachet. This series shows buildings at Tišnov, Břevnov, Nová Říše, Sázava, Kladruby, Kadaň, Milevsko and Želiv. >

**29 September 2004. The 45<sup>th</sup> Brno Sixteen 2004. Designer:** Karel Dvořák **Printing:** multi-coloured offset by Post Printing House, Prague. **Design:** stamp- imprinted 9Kč with Brno town coat of arms (see *Czechout* 4/2003 p.127 – postcards issued 10.9.03 and 5.11.03). The cachet design is the main festival prize for the event – Hlava plan filmu (the Head Full of Film) and the Petr Hvižd' award, with explanatory text in Czech. The logo and text for Brno 2005 European Postage Stamp exhibition also appears. Each year the International Festival of Short Films and Video Programmes takes place, with gold, silver and bronze prizes awarded in various categories. The card retails for 14Kč.

#### Promotional Postcards

**28 August 2004. Singapore 2004 – World Stamp Championship.** The event took place from 18 August to 1 September 2004. Imprinted 9Kč stamp (postcard first issued 20 January 2001 – see *Czechout* 1/2001 p.22). The cachet design shows a skyline of temple roofs and text promoting the event.

**10 September 2004. Collectors' Fair, Prague.** This was held from 10-12 September. Imprinted 6.50Kč stamp – red lozenge design with white text and numerals. The cachet design is a globe with a stamp, telephone card, coins and crystals surrounded by a circle of stars and promotional text. A commemorative cancel was also used.

**10 September 2004. 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Montreal Protocol on the Damage to the Ozone Layer.** This was held in Prague from 22 to 26 November 2004. The imprinted 6.50Kč stamp is as described above. The cachet is a symbolic design in blue with surrounding text in Czech.

**10 September 2004. Aerospace '04.** This was a regional stamp exhibition with international participation held in Vysoké Mýto from 5 to 10 October 2004. The imprinted 6.50Kč stamp is as described above. The cachet has a drawing of the space module Voschod 1 with text above and below, in Czech, promoting the event.

#### Slovakia

30 June 2004

#### Technical Monuments



**Designer:** L'ubomír Guman (14Sk), FDC cachet and cancel, Peter Augustovič (24Sk) **Printing:** offset by WSP.

**Designs:** 14Sk – a Tatra omnibus from 1904. An electric three-axle trolleybus with 25 seats and 8 standing places began running five times a day from Poprad to Starý Smokovec on 2 August 1904. The journey lasted 75 minutes. The project ceased in the summer of 1906 over safety concerns. FDC: printed in dark brown with commemorative Starý Smokovec cancel. The cachet shows one of the trolleybuses against a mountainous background.



24Sk – Prašivá massif and a reproduction of an early engraving of the Maximilián Wall In the Špania Valley. The water mining system in the Špania Valley was an important source of energy from the early 16<sup>th</sup> century to the 1900s. Surface water was transported along wooden raceways and underground channels to drive machinery and equipment in the copper and silver mines around the Valley. The main channels extended for 27 kilometres but the whole system was more than 42 kilometres long. FDC: printed brown-black with commemorative Banská

Bystrica cancel. The cachet design shows the Roman Catholic church with its wooden, covered stairway and a detail from a 16<sup>th</sup> century engraving showing the washing and sorting of the ore.

15 August 2003

#### Biennial of Illustrations, Bratislava 2003.



**Designer:** Martin Činovský from original artwork. **Engraver:** Arnold Feke

**Printing:** RD by Post Printing House, Prague.

**Design:** stamp – from the artwork of the Slovak award winner of a Golden Apple in 2001, Jana Kiselová-Siteková. **FDC:** printed offset by TAB Ltd., Bratislava. The cachet design is taken from the artwork of Eric Battut (France) who won the Grand Prix BIB in 2001. The commemorative Bratislava cancel is from an illustration by Jaroslav Jeleneč.

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3 September 2004

## Raftsmen on the Dunajec River (Joint Polish - Slovak Issue)

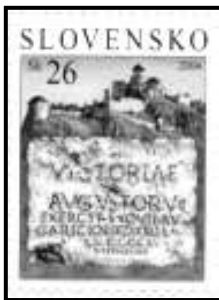


**Design:** stamp - Jacek Brodowski (Poland), FDC cachet and cancel – Milan Juhás **Engraver:** František Horniak FDC cachet **Printing:** offset by WSP, FDC - DS by TAB Ltd., Bratislava.

**Design:** Raftsmen in Goral folk costumes passing the landmark Červený Kláštor (Slovakia) with the Tri koruny peak (Polish) in the background. The Polish and Slovak peoples in the Pieniny region have long shared a common Goral culture and the waterway of the Dunajec River which now forms a 20km boundary between the two countries. **FDC:** printed in brown with a commemorative Červený kláštor cancel. The cachet drawing is an aerial view of the monastery.

15 October 2004

## Roman Legions in Trenčín



**Designer:** Marián Čapka **FDC Cachet Engraver:** Lucie Kruličková **Printing:** - stamp – offset by WSP, FDC – DS by TAB Ltd, Bratislava. **Design:** the castle and hill by Trenčín with the Roman carved inscription in Latin, found there. The translation of the inscription – “To the victory of emperors and the army that resided at Laugaricio, numbering 855 soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Legion dedicated by Marcus Valerius Maximianus, legate of the 2<sup>nd</sup> supporting legion.” The inscription dates from 179 AD when the armies of Marcus Aurelias and his son Commodus were victorious over the Germanic Quades in Laugaricio (the territory of Trenčín). **FDC:** printed in brown with commemorative Trenčín cancel. The cachet drawing shows a Roman coin and below a group of Roman soldiers.

20 October 2004

## Art on Stamps



**Designers and Engravers:** František Horniak (33Sk), Arnold Feke (35 Sk). **Printing:** stamps - DS with offset in sheets of four by Post Printing House, Prague. FDC printed DS by TAB Ltd., Bratislava.

**Designs:** 33Sk – “The Cock Fight” (1706-1710) by Jakub Bogdan (1660 – 1724). Bogdan was born in Prešov but emigrated with his parents to Holland. In the late 1680s he settled in England after an invitation to paint for William, Duke of Orange. He is noted for his still life works. The Cock Fight was commissioned by Admiral Churchill and was acquired for the Slovak National Gallery in 1949. FDC cachet in grey green is a detail of the main picture. There was a commemorative Bratislava cancel.

35Sk – “Don Quixote” (1963 – oil on card) by Július Jakoby (1903 – 1985). Jakoby is one of the most important Slovak painters of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His work is mostly focused on figurative paintings. There has been a permanent exhibition of his work in the Gallery of East Slovakia in Košice since 1991. FDC cachet in brown is from his 1964 work “Woman with a Yellow Dog.” The commemorative Košice cancel is based on his self-portrait of 1948.

## Postal Stationery

### Postcards for Current and Promotional Use

Cards CDV 112, 113 and 114 have imprinted 8Sk stamp as described for CDV 108. (see Czechout 3/2004 p82 for details).

**June? 2004 CDV 112.** Promotional cachet has five circles with views of various Olympic water sports with text above in Slovak "XXVIII Olympiad Athens 2004" and below, "3<sup>rd</sup> participation of the Slovak Olympic Team in the Olympic Games."

**June? 2004 CDV 113.** Promotional text in Slovak "XII Paralympic Games Athens 2004" above the cachet design. Design has the dates of the Games 17 – 28.9.2004 and portrait of the Slovak cyclist, Radovan Kaufman, competing and a smaller picture of him on the winner's rostrum with his medal. His name appears below the cachet with the dates 1978-2003 and text "Paralympic winner Sydney 2000."

**June? 2004 CDV 114.** Promotion for Olympilex Athens 2004. A view of the building in Lausanne where the first international exhibition of Olympic and Sports philately was held with the logo of FIPO and a stamp reproduction of the 1896 Athens Olympic Arena. The venues of Olympilex from 1985 to 2004 are listed.

**September? 2004 CDV 115.** 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising. Imprinted 8Sk stamp design is a bunch of purple grapes encircled with a wreath of green leaves on a pale mauve background. (first used on CDV 106 January 2004 – see Czechout 2/2004 p.64). The cachet design in dark blue shows the Uprising Museum at Banská Bystrica with text below.

### Postal Envelopes.

The following envelopes all have an imprinted 8Sk stamp of the State Arms design in grey.

**November? 2003.** Design has reverse and obverse of a medal minted at Kremnica and the text in Slovak "1328 – 2003. 7 centuries of minting coins."

**April? 2004.** The logo, in colour, of Slovolympfila Bratislava 2004 with text giving the dates "24.4.-2.5.2004" and venue at "Town Museum Bratislava" in black. Beneath in blue the text "European qualification for Olympilex 2004."

**September? 2004. 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Slovak National Uprising. The cachet and text in bright blue is similar to that of CDV 115 (above).**

**September? 2004.** Forest preservation. Cachet design in brown of a wood pile with two birds flying against a background of trees. The text "Lesnícky Skanzen" is written above the design.

**September? 2004.** Great Prize Bradla 2004. International Cycle Race – 5 Grades of Competition. The text in black appears above and below the multi -coloured cachet, which is the logo for the event surrounded by five coats of arms of various regional towns.

### Issue Plan for Slovak Stamps 2005 (subject to alteration)

31 January	St Valentine 2005	1 stamp
14 February	Family	1 stamp
14 February	750 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Banská Bystrica	1 stamp
10 March	Easter – Easter Lamb	1 stamp
10 March	Zdenka Schelingová	1 stamp
31 March	Cycling	1 stamp
22 April	Europa – Gastronomy	1 stamp
29 April	Peace of Bratislava	1 stamp
16 May	World Year of Physics – D Ilkovič	1 stamp
23 May	For Children	1 stamp
23 May	Biennial of Illustrations, Bratislava	1 stamp
30 June	Nature Conservation – Horses	2 stamps
14 September	Joint Issue (not specified)	1 stamp
22 September	Technical Monuments	2 stamps
20 October	Art (Rembrandt and Baron)	2 stamps
16 November	Christmas	1 stamp
25 November	Postage Stamp Day	1 stamp