



CZECHOUT

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Vol. 26/3	CONTENTS	September 2008
Notes		59
News and Notices		60
Křižovatky času - Ležáky v datech		67
Change in a Name		68
The Czechoslovak Army in Great Britain and the First Regular Daily Cancellor		69
The East Bohemian Overprint		72
What? When? Where?		85
New Issues (Czech)		87
New Issues (Slovak)		90

NOTES

The next London meeting is on **Saturday 8 November**. The Society's Annual General Meeting will be held at 12pm; after lunch **Bill Hedley** will give a display entitled *Pozsony (Bratislava)* at 2.30pm. On **Saturday 15 November** a Regional Meeting will be held at the Leeds Philatelic Society's Stamp Fair, Pudsey Civic Centre, near Leeds at 2.15pm. For full details please contact Yvonne Wheatley (0113 2601978).

To mark the 90th anniversary of the formation of Czechoslovakia in 1918 and also the 65th anniversary of the first exhibition of Czechoslovak stamps in London in 1943, the Society will be staging an **Exhibition at the Czech Embassy, London 1–3 October 2008**.

We send our best wishes to **Ing. Jan Kypast** who will be celebrating his sixtieth birthday on 14 September. He is the co-author of *Monographie 5* on SO 1920 and the new 2008 catalogue, also active on EXPONET as co-author of E-Catalogue *Entires of Czechoslovakia 1918-1939*.

Richard Beith shows *Czech and Slovak Music* on Tuesday 18th November at 7.30pm to the Stirling & District PS at the Smith Art Gallery, Dumbarton Road, Stirling. Visitors welcome!

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

Summer Meeting held Saturday 14 June 2008 at Hathern, near Loughborough at 2pm

Garth and Vivienne Taylor kindly invited members to join them at their home in Hathern for the summer meeting. Twelve members and their guests were greeted with a heavy shower, which prevented them from sitting in the attractive garden. Vivienne laid on a superb buffet lunch.

After lunch we all walked round to the village hall, where the high-quality frames had been kindly loaned by the Loughborough Philatelic Society for the afternoon. Dr Garth Taylor, as host, and Mrs Yvonne Gren, the Chairman, welcomed everyone to Hathern. Apologies had been received from six members. The meeting was organised as three rounds of members' displays:

Brian Day	<i>Czechoslovak field post in Siberia</i>
Lindy Bosworth	<i>The Danube Fleet of the Austro-Hungarian Navy in WWI</i>
Alan Berrisford	<i>Railway station box markings</i>
Rex Dixon	<i>Hultschiner Ländchen – Hlučinsko</i>
Bob Hill	<i>Liberation overprints from Pardubice, by Messrs Kalman, Svoboda, Čížek and Franc</i>
Garth Taylor	<i>Mr Matiaska's correspondence. This gentlemen lived in Cleveland, Ohio and received thanks in return for gifts to Czech forces in the UK, many in highly decorative envelopes</i>
Barry Horne	<i>1930 airmail issue – the stamps and their usage</i>

The **Kay Goodman Trophy** was sandwiched in between two rounds. The judges for the competition were Bob Hill and Otto Hornung, who declared the following results:

1st	Brian Day	<i>Dělnických Tělocvičných Jednot – The Workers' Organisation</i>
2nd	Charles Stirton	<i>Death of a President [TGM, 1850-1937]</i>
3rd	Barry Horne	<i>What might have been</i>

Yvonne Gren declared that members' displays are always her favourite [so expect more such afternoons on the future programme], and that we had been treated to a real feast of philately. In thanking Garth and Vivienne, she presented them with a certificate of appreciation. After the meeting closed at around 5.15 pm, most people adjourned to a nearby golf club for an enjoyable dinner.

Rex Dixon

Meeting held Saturday 2 August 2008 at the Czech and Slovak National Club

The Chairman, Mrs Yvonne Gren, welcomed 16 members and one visitor. She particularly welcomed Bill Hedley to his first meeting. Apologies had been received from five members. Peter Williams gave a tribute to **John Stevens**, who passed away in July. This was followed by a minute's silence.

The newly refurbished Kay Goodman Trophy, contested at the summer meeting in Hathern, was awarded to **Brian Day**.

Yvonne then invited **Garth Taylor** to give the first display. This was divided into two parts, starting with the **Third Issue of Czechoslovakian Airmails 1930-1939**, an excellent study of routes and rates. The introductory page showed a first day cover,

but the overwhelming majority of the rest was commercial mail, with destinations outside Europe including India and the Americas. All had been flown except one, which had had an etiquette applied to



the cover to say it had missed the scheduled flight and had been sent on by ordinary mail. The display included several Zeppelin covers, including one flown on the *Hindenburg*.



The second part of Garth's display was the *Postal History of Brno / Brünn*. The earliest items shown were from 1656, when the population had been around 4,500, followed by one from 1661. An interesting postmark was one with the error of lettering, 'BRÜNN STATD'; of the three clear strikes shown, all on dispatch receipts (Aufgabs-Recepisse), one was unusually in red-brown rather than black. The display continued to just after World War II, by which time the population had risen to 284,000.

After the interval **Reg Hounsell** showed a further display of *Czechoslovakian Airmails*. The opening item was of a balloon flight from a Prague exhibition in 1898, a most unusual card.



← Front and reverse of balloon card ↑

Next came items from a 1910 air display. The first airmail issue, overprints on Hradčany, was represented by proofs. There were two covers from the transitional period, starting 1 April 1921; the airmail fees had been drastically reduced meaning that the values of the first issue were no longer relevant, and ordinary stamps had to be used until the second airmails were eventually issued on 15 June 1922. The second issue again comprised provisional overprints, apparently because a design could not be agreed. One unusual

item was a blue post office envelope used from Prague to Warsaw in 1924; it was inscribed 'Listovka – Feuille d'avis' and carried the waybills for the registered items on the flight. The second part of this display continued with the postwar 1946 airmail issue and, due to reduction of rates, the 1949 re-issue with overprints of lower values. The development of new routes carried on apace, with a lull during the period of the Berlin Airlift. Finally, one frame showed Zeppelin material, and another, a frame of foreign covers into Prague showing the various Prague receipt marks used by the Post Office. Two of these covers had received a CENSUROVÁNO mark struck in blue as they arrived in Prague during the Sudeten crisis.

Hans van Dooremalen, over for the day from the Netherlands, gave the vote of thanks. He thanked both gentlemen for their comprehensive displays. As an award-winning collector himself of Brno postal history, Hans remarked that the Brno display provided a very good overview, with several items new to him – “the collection was an asset to the Society.” The remaining displays comprised an almost complete range of Czechoslovak airmails, with a wide range of destinations included.

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

Rex Dixon

Joint meeting with the Austrian PS, the Hungarian PS of GB and the Society for Polish Philately in GB at the Latvian Welfare Club, Bradford on Saturday 9 August.

Once again the organisational power of Yvonne Wheatley pulled together a magnificent array of short presentations on all aspects of central European philately and postal history. More than 20 people attended this now annual event held in the spacious environment of the Latvian Club in Bradford, representing the Austrian, Czechoslovak, Hungarian, Polish and Yugoslav Societies. In order of presentation the displays were:

Martin Brumby	<i>Municipal revenue stamps of Szeged, Hungary – including partial plate reconstructions</i>
Malcolm Stockhill	<i>Balloon posts of Poland – post-war</i>
Brian Madeley	<i>Lombardy and Venetia postmarks – especially on the first Austrian issue with the ‘Centes’ currency</i>
Peter Cybaniak	<i>‘God punish England’ cachets from WWI – mostly on military mail</i>
Mervyn Benford	<i>The development of Hungarian TPOs – routes and cachets</i>
Edward Klempka	<i>Czech army in Russia – from prisoners of war to an army, including genuinely used stamped mail</i>
Barry Clark	<i>Bohemia/Moravia TPOs during the Austrian period – trains and routes</i>
Keith Brandon	<i>Decoding pre-philatelic letters of the Austrian Empire – examples following from a series of articles in the Austrian Society magazine</i>
Edmund Jagielski	<i>Pre-stamp covers from Poland 1817-1863</i>
Joyce Boyer	<i>Postablagen: Austrian mountain huts in Ötztal – how the system worked</i>
Richard Wheatley	<i>Mail to Czechoslovakia after WW2 – particularly attempts at exchange of stamps via the British Philatelic Association during the early days of the communist era</i>
Yvonne Wheatley	<i>Pre-stamp covers from Bohemia and Moravia – a wide variety of routes and rates</i>
Beryl Featherstone	<i>The Polish revolution – underground propaganda issues of Solidarity before the Gdansk uprising</i>
Alan Berrisford	<i>Poland provisional postage dues 1918-1923 – with T or Porto handstamps on definitive issues</i>
Pat Rothnie	<i>Czechoslovakia, 1945 liberation covers</i>
Brian Madeley	<i>Hungarian censorship immediately after WWII</i>
Roger Morrell	<i>Hungarian locals, 1919, Ada to Zombor – the good, the bad and the ugly inventions from around the periphery of Hungary</i>
Peter Cybaniak	<i>Polish Lemberg – cancellations from 1918 onwards</i>
Joyce Boyer	<i>Vienna International Show, flowers</i>
Barry Clark	<i>Bohemia/Moravia Postablage – postal agencies for mail from or to the railway network</i>
Edward Klempka	<i>Polish army in Russia, 1919, Czech army in the Ukraine, 1919–little known or seen material with genuine usage</i>

Participants adhered well to the now well-known rule of no more than five minutes presentation time, allowing plenty of viewing and discussion time. The break for the excellent buffet lunch organised by Yvonne and Richard provided an opportunity for chat, and for burrowing through the heap of tomato boxes of covers and cards that have also become a feature of this meeting. With tea and cakes at the end, what more could one want for a fine philatelic day out! As Mervyn Benford said in closing the meeting and thanking Yvonne and Richard, "it's the best philatelic discussion meeting of the year!"

Roger Morrell

Letters/e-mails to the Editor

✉ **Henning Qvale:** I am writing you because 1½ months ago we had unbidden people in our home. They stole an important section of my Czechoslovakia pre-philately collection! The police tend to favour international criminals, since they are very active in Norway these days, and they may have channels for selling such material. The stolen objects are from 1789 until 1850 and were part of the late Paul Jensen's top rated collection. I am missing approximately 250 covers from this period, the original exhibit plus many other spare objects. The objects were mounted as an exhibit, mostly on light grey sheets with English text, but also on white ruled sheets with text in Norwegian. Many of the sheets had Paul Jensen's personal address label on the reverse side. They may of course now appear unmounted. I possess good quality photos of many of the objects. I would be very thankful if you could keep your eyes and ears open for signals that can lead to the return of single objects or the complete collection. If in doubt of the provenance of any such objects, please do not hesitate to send me scans or photocopies, and I will be happy to verify whether they may originate from my collection. hq@qbator.no

✉ **Frederik Backeljauw:** Please be informed that Ing. Jan Kypast e-mails that at the occasion of PRAGA 2008 a new catalogue by Dr Pavel Hirs **CSR 1918-1919** Forerunners and by-runners **Vorläufer und Mitläufer** (I co-operated) will be issued. The price will be 280,- CZK. **PLEASE inform all your british/american/german... CZ - stamps collector to purchase it.** The catalogue will be available during SBERATEL FAIR on FILATELIE KLIM booth.

✉ **Richard Beith:** Many thanks for your kind words. I am assuming that I am the first philatelist to sign the Book of Scottish Philatelists who was born in Hampshire, but maybe not! Anyway I hope my great-grandfather, Captain Alexander Beith, born in Greenock, would have approved.

✉ **Anthony Bosworth:** Re London 2010 Frame Sponsorship, we acknowledge the receipt of your cheque for £100 for frame sponsorship. Your support for British Philately is much appreciated and will of course be utilised to ensure the success of the prestigious London 2010 International exhibition. The name of your society "The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain" will appear as promised on ten frames during the Exhibition. Tony has also told us that the Yugoslav Study Group has opened a new website: www.yugosg.org

✉ **Hugh Jefferies,** Editor of Stanley Gibbons Publications, in a recent letter has suggested that if any member of the Society would be interested in writing an article for GSM [*Gibbons Stamp Monthly*], he would be only too happy to include a 'plug' for the society – and he does pay! The article would need to be of interest to a more general audience, but it is by no means unheard of for them to attract new members to specialist societies and study circles.

✉ **Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS) Bulletin Nos.10/11:** The Congress Medal was awarded to Robert Johnson who gave a display to CPSGB in 1987. Meeting reports to be sent to Hugh Feldman, hugh@feldman.f9.co.uk more photographs are requested. The new Secretary is Colin Searle, The Mill, Mill Lane, Little Shrewley, Hatton, WARWICK CV35 7HN, tel: 07879 665658, E-mail: searlec@gmail.com. Midpex'09 will be held on 11 July 2009, at Xcel Leisure Centre, Mitchell Avenue, Canley, COVENTRY CV4 8DY from 10.00am until 5pm. The ABPS AGM and Council Meeting, and the 2009 Thematica competitions, will also be held alongside.

✉ **British Postal Museum & Archive Newsletters Summer & Autumn 2008:** The 'Last Post' exhibition at the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms marks the 90th anniversary of WW1 from 6.11.08-14.2.09. Carmen Delgado has been cataloguing a small collection of WW1 embroidered cards. The collection of Edward VII registration sheets are now on-line as also reproduction of posters of 1940s-50s. www.postalheritageprints.co.uk. Grant given for construction of Victorian PO at Ironbridge Gorge Museum (Bliss Hill) by BPMA & IGMT.

Publications

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

- The Summer & Autumn 2008 issue of *Austria*, No.162/3. The articles include:
 - ▶ A letter from Marcus Hapsburg (-); Beginners' Guide to decoding Austrian pre-philatelic covers: Part 5 (Brandon); The Pöstlingberg and Pöstlingbergbahn (Anthony); The Smaller Flotillas of the Austro-Hungarian Navy 1914-1918 (Pitts); A World War Exhibition in Lemburg (Kuzych).
 - ▶ Olomouc Postal History, 1818 to 1918 (Baron); The Postbüchel - the Austrian Postman's New-Year Gift to his Customers (Brandon); The 1890-1908 Emperor Franz Josef issues of Austria and the 12 Heller issue of 1907 (Kucera); Austrian Fieldpost – Historical Survey (trans:Taubel); Mail from Hungary to Austria 20/11/1945 to 31/7/1946 (Whiteside); The World War I Gmünd Refugee Camp and its Postal Facilities (Kuzych, Dubyniak & Cybaniak); The first official attempts to make postage stamps by intaglio printing (-).
- The June 2008 issue of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei*, Vol.39, Whole No.156. Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us. The articles include:
 - ▶ Index of the SBS catalogue (Vouhsem); Praga 2008 – a preview (Müller); The political history of Czechoslovakia [Part 8] (Kuch); Austrian Mail into the ČSR 1945-1956 (Kapeller); Johann Amos Komensky [*Comenius*] 1592-1670 (Schmitt); The special cancellations from the Czech PO 2007 (Müller).
- The May/June & July/August 2008 issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol. 70 Nos. 3/4 Whole Nos.609/10. The articles include:
 - ▶ Our member behind New Czech Stamp [Karel Holoubek] (Horvath); The 1928 Postage Due Issue: Part II (Wilson); Hradčany 30h stamp (Kunc); František Palacký – František L Rieger Czechoslovak Patriots (van Zenten); What new stamps will be issued for Praga 2008 (Francková).
 - ▶ National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404-5904, USA (Svoboda); The Nachod Gutters Redux! (Wilson); Heydrich Block Census: Update II (Rhoades); Postage Paid (Horvath & Svoboda); The 1928 Postage Due Issue: Part III (Wilson); On What Date was the 1st Parliament of the Carpatho-Ukraine stamp of 1939 placed on Sale? (Beneš); Types, Retouches and Flaws (Wilson).
- The 6, 7 & 8/2008 issues of *Filatelie*, Vol.58. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.
 - ▶ Historical Development of Perfins on the Territory of Czechoslovakia [5] (Münzberger); Weeks In a Silent House [1] (Beneš); Memories of Large Philatelic Exhibitions in Prague in 1955-1998 [1] (Aksamit). Territorial Changes in the outskirts of Bratislava in 1938 – 1947 (Tekel); Philatelic Testimony – Revolutionary Stamps [6] (Baldus).
 - ▶ Historical Development of Perfins on the Territory of Czechoslovakia [6] (Münzberger); Our Stamps of 2007 seen by a Graphic Artist (Sivko); Weeks in a Silent House [2] (Beneš); Memories of Large Philatelic Exhibitions in 1955-1998 [2] (Aksamit); Eric Haas on the future of Philately (Langhammer); Perforations of the Dove stamp 5h blue from the 13th and 14th plate (Malovík & Paděra); 15 Years of APOST Terminals (Fencel); Paris by Airmail (Beneš); Philatelic Testimony – Revolutionary Stamps [7] (Baldus).
 - ▶ Praga 2008 and the Postal Museum (Tošnerová); Memories of Large Philatelic Exhibitions in 1955-1998 [3] (Aksamit); Philatelic Testimony – Revolutionary Stamps [8] (Baldus).

- The 3/2008 issue of *Merkur Revue*, The articles include:
 - ▶ The Czechoslovak stamps from Madagascar (Pittermann); Representative Publications of the Postal Museum, Prague (Fritz); The Moscow issue 1945, inverse printing raster (Beroun); Unknown vouchers of the 'Food Association' in Brno (Hodeček & Klim); The issue of the Peace Minisheet after 20 years (-).
- The September 2008 issue of *Stamps of Hungary*, No.174. The articles include:
 - ▶ The typographed 'envelope design' issues of Hungary (Orbán); New types of Hungarian postal cards of 1869 with German and with Hungarian inscriptions (Enrödi); The 'Cluj-Oradea' 1919 overprints, from mythology to philately Part II (Rupea); Another 'delayed in France' cover (Kennett); The Inflation Olympics (Barling).

Congratulations

To **Jan Verleg** who obtained a Gold medal for Monograph 21: *Carpatho-Ukraine Postal History and Stamps 1786-2000* at the Hertford APS Stampshow in Connecticut, USA. It was also awarded the Julian G. Maksymczuk Award of the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society [USA] for an outstanding contribution to Ukrainian philately. Mr Andrew O. Martyniuk, the President, remarked: "This work is probably one of the most comprehensive treatments of this area in English."

OBITUARIES

John Stevens passed away suddenly in July 2008. John was a retired Royal Engineer and his collection was organised with the rigour that one would expect from a Quartermaster. He had enjoyed his work as a cartographer in the days before satellite navigation in the far flung corners of the world. His house had been badly affected by the floods in July 2007. He was looking forward to picking up his collection again and was due to move back only a few days after he died.

Although only a member of the Society since 24 May 2003, John was a regular attendee at the London meetings and a keen auction bidder. I remember meeting him at Swinpex, both of us pouring over our non-Czech interests, but chatting, heads down, as we found items of note to comment upon. I always enjoyed his company. He had a wide range of interests, not only in philately, but also his family and luxury chocolates. He enjoyed the Society's visits to Prague. I remember seeing his bed at the hotel covered in philatelic material after a long and arduous day of stamp purchases, fuelled by the alcohol supplied by the eager Czech dealers. He was looking forward to the visit to Praga 2008 and WIPA this year and will be missed by many of those who knew him.

It was typical of his mischievous humour that he had thought of a Viking funeral, with all his worldly possessions being placed on a pyre. Fortunately he did not do this, as he wished the members of the Society to have the opportunity to enjoy the collection that he had enjoyed building up. We send our sincere condolences to his son Rod and family.

Peter Williams

Miroslav Langhammer (* 1951 † 2008)



Sadly we were informed that Miroslav Langhammer died on 13 August, 2008. Miroslav was an excellent stamp collector and postal historian researching especially automation of the postal operations. He ran "Mechanizace a automatizace posty" journal for more than 20 years as its editor and main contributor sharing his discoveries on postal automation with collectors in the Czech Republic, and also in other countries. Mirek was in close co-operation with ArGe Tschechoslowakei informing the Czech readers about broad activities of the German collectors of Czechoslovak stamps and postal history. He was a very active philatelic writer contributing especially to *Filatelie*, where he worked as chairman of the editorial board. His journalistic work was crowned by his book "Filatelie je vic nez znamky" which opened philately to young collectors and beginners.

Mirek was also a very active philatelic organizer, who was the key person of the Society for Philatelic Literature of the Union of the Czech Philatelists (Společnost pro odbornou literaturu SCF). He was moderator of its regular meetings influencing this Society's activities. However Mirek loved "printed" books, being a strong promoter of electronic and internet philatelic literature from the beginning.

The above activities of Mirek Lang were followed by his election as a Director of International Association of Philatelic Journalists (A.I.J.P). This was in appreciation of his philatelic work and he was the only representative of Central European countries in the management of this organization. Thanks to Mirek's credit, A.I.J.P. becomes one of PRAGA 2008 patrons.

Mirek was very much looking forward to PRAGA 2008 world stamp exhibition. He was engaged in preparation of PRAGA 1998, and he executed the function of General Commissioner in the coming PRAGA exhibition. Unfortunately, he will not see the exhibition for which he worked so hard.

I was in regular touch with Mirek for only the last few years, he was my patron for A.I.J.P. membership. I must admire Mirek not only as an excellent stamp collector, but also as a great and gentle man. We all will miss him very much, both the stamp collectors and his family!

Lubor Kunc



BOOK REVIEWS

"Dealing with Democrats. The British Foreign Office and the Czechoslovak Émigrés in Great Britain, 1939 to 1945", by Martin David Brown (Frankfurt, Peter Lang, 2006). ISBN 3-631-53570-8.

This detailed volume, written in English by a London-based historian, though published in Germany, should appeal to any reader interested in Czechoslovak history during WWII and in particular, that of the London-based government-in-exile. I have noted two areas, which reflect on topics discussed in our own publications.

Mention has been made in *Czechout* of Bren gun production in the UK and the existence of Czechoslovaks working in the armament industry in the Newcastle upon Tyne area. On page 77 the author notes that the manufacturing rights to the British version of this light machine gun were acquired by Enfield in 1935 and production began in 1937. The original design was the model ZB 26 made by the Zbrojovka arms factory in Brno. (Presumably Bren = Br(no)-En(field)?) . The author notes that František Slabý, the London representative of the Brno company, "in conjunction with the Ministry of Supply prevented the royalties from the manufacture of the Bren going to Germany and assisted several hundred Czechoslovak engineers to escape to France and Britain with the help of the British Secret Intelligence Service (SIS or MI6)."

In CPSGB monograph 16, by the late Dr Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung, Otto described 'my journey to Palestine' in which he recounted the, to me, somewhat surprising decision by the Soviets to allow many of the interned Czechoslovak soldiers to reach the British Middle East at a time when the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact was still in force. Author Brown noted that: "In February 1941, Sir Stafford Cripps, the British Ambassador in Moscow, reported to the Foreign Office, that 'Arrangements for departure of Czech Legion are now complete. Soviet authorities are being helpful but insist on secrecy of movement. Any publicity abroad may prejudice further success of scheme.' The British Government met the full cost of transferring these men to Odessa. Payments were made directly to Gosbank in Moscow and were personally authorised by the Prime Minister." Other topics covered include relations with SOE and attitudes to the Slovak National Uprising.

A valuable volume with full provision of footnotes and bibliography. Unfortunately the cost is £50, but, as I found, your local library can supply a copy on loan.

“**Ukraine, the birth of a modern nation**”, by Serhy Yekelchyk, (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2007). ISBN 978-0-19-530546-3. 280 pagep/back, £11.99.

Many of our members are interested in border changes; Ukraine certainly had her share of divisions and rulers. This volume covers the history of Ukraine from classical times up to the well-televised ‘Orange Revolution’ of 2004. As far as his coverage of the inter-war period is concerned, when Carpatho-Ukraine was an integral part of the First Czechoslovak Republic, the author is quite complimentary about the improvements brought about, especially in the field of education. A full range of academic endnotes, a detailed bibliography and a selection of illustrations enhance the breadth of the volume. At the same time it is well and smoothly written and comes under the heading of ‘a good read’.

Richard Beith

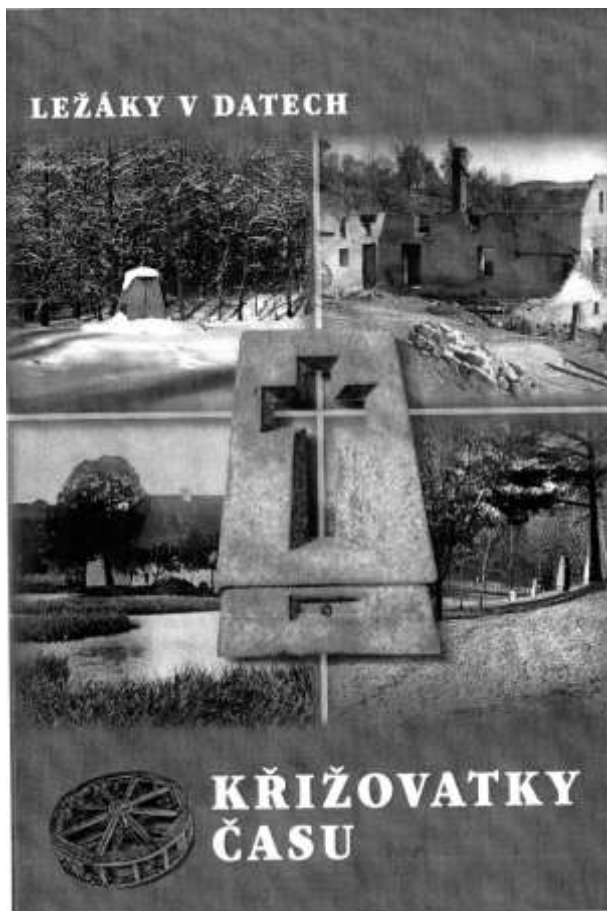
KŘÍŽOVATKY ČASU - LEŽÁKY v DATECH

-Anthony I Moseley-

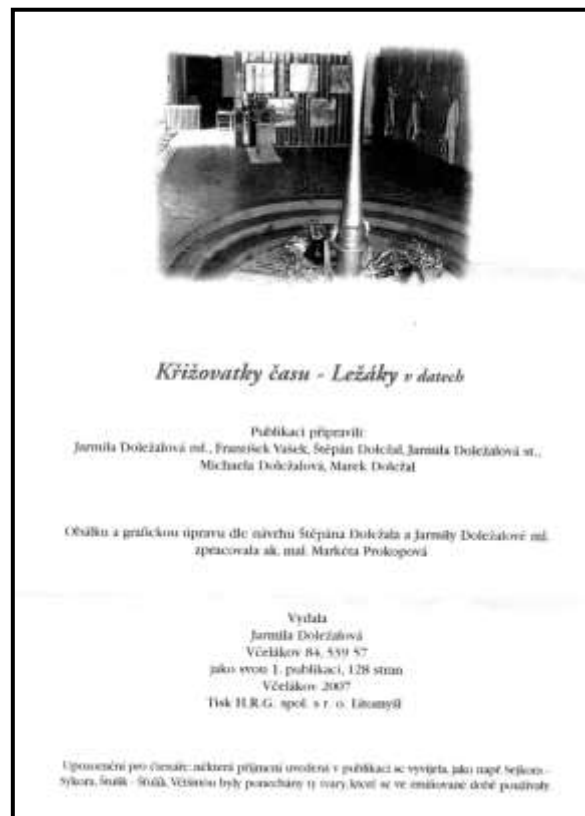
On a visit to Pardubice in October 2007 I encountered a display in the window of a local bookshop, advertising a new book, recently published, about the village of *Ležáky*, formerly situated south of Pardubice and Chrudim on main road 37.

Ležáky was destroyed by the Nazis as part of the retaliation for the assassination of Reinhard Heydrich in 1942. The inhabitants were either killed or despatched to concentration camps [eleven of the village children were murdered at Chelmno/Kulmhof, Poland], the same fate as the village of *Lidice*, which is perhaps better known to historians worldwide.

The title of the new 127-page book (published in Czech at Včelákov) is *Křížovatky času - Ležáky v datech*, compiled by sisters Jarmila and Michaela Doležalová born in *Ležáky* and sent to the Reich in 1942 as small girls to be raised as Germans. Both girls survived and returned to Czechoslovakia after the war.



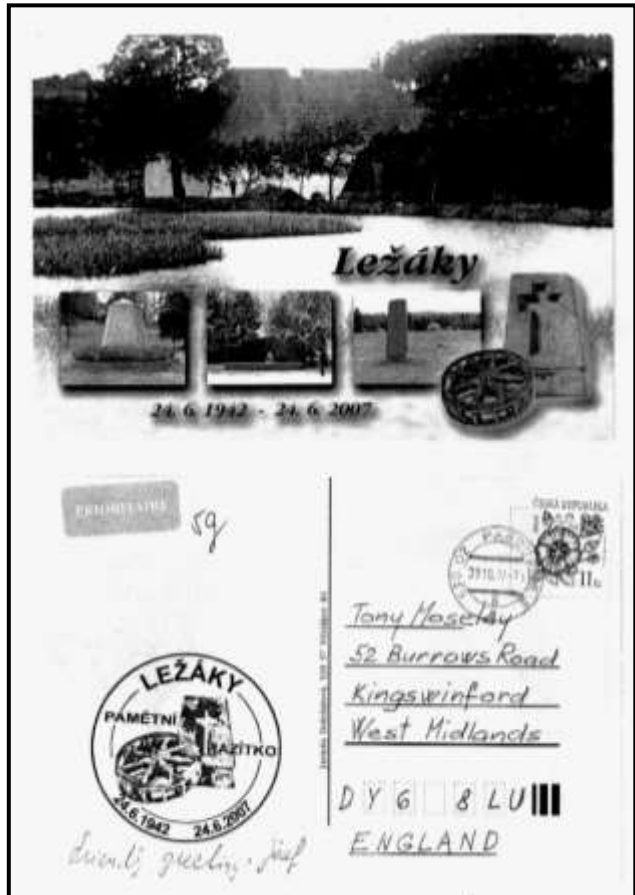
The cover and inside page [reduced]



Whilst it is difficult for non-Czech speakers to appreciate the wealth of information this work contains, there are plenty of historical photographs and illustrations to interest those readers who study this period.

The book gives a history of *Ležáky* in both text and early photographs, covering the life in the village from 1651 to the destruction in 1942, and the post war efforts of many people to remember those who lost their lives and erect a permanent memorial on the site.

A special commemorative colour postcard has also been issued to remember *Ležáky* 24.6.42 – 24.6.2007, with a view of the village millpond from the early years of the 20th century and several memorial sites in and around the former village.



CHANGE IN A NAME

-Rex A. Dixon FRPSL-

A reply to Bob Hill's query re the heller values in Czechout 2/2008, page 50.

I believe that the use of large haléřů values such as the 400h Hradčany that Bob cites is simply one of aesthetics. The stamps in question do not include a currency designation, with haléřů being implied. If the stamp was to be denominated in crowns, a currency designation would have to be included. With stamps such as the 185h Chainbreaker, inclusion of a currency designation would have unnecessarily complicated an otherwise uncluttered design.

The first Czechoslovak stamps to include a currency designation were the Masaryk definitives of 1925. This design was a modification of the 1923 design for the fifth anniversary of the republic. The year dates '1918-1923' were removed from the bottom panel and had to be replaced by something, so what better than the currency designation?

I can cite similar examples from Germany. There were 100pf values without currency designation in the 1923 rosette, the 1924 wooden dove airmail, 1933 Hindenburg and 1934 airmail definitives, each of which contained stamps with lower pfennig values. On the other hand there were 1 mark values when it was the bottom value of a series of high values: for example, the 1924 high values and the 1931 zeppelin stamps.

The centennial issue of the *Stamp Lover* (June 2008) quotes a snippet found in the issues of 1908, concerning why the 1851 twelve pence stamp of Canada was so expressed rather than as one shilling. The explanation was that there were a number of different shillings in circulation in different parts of Canada, varying between 6½d and 12d.

Hope that assists.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE FIRST REGULAR DAILY CANCELLER

-Vladmir J. Králíček-

In my collection of the Czechoslovak Army Field Post I have several items where the first regular daily canceller is used as an arrival date stamp, but showing only the year and month with the day of the month missing. This seems to have occurred during the month of December 1941. The reason for this is as follows.

The first daily canceller was introduced into the Field Post Office use on 28.5.1941 and its subsequent use as an arrival mark enabled the Field Post to show when the post was delivered to the individual Army Units. Thus it was possible to find out where and how the post was delayed. This was done because there were difficulties with certain Unit Commanders and the Brigade II Detachment demanding to censor the post of some people, but who were slow in returning the postal articles in question, even if they were not objectionable.

When delays were noticed at Brigade II Detachment of the post submitted for censorship and they requested to return the post within 24 hours, the II Detachment felt wronged and convinced the Brigade Commander to forbid the use of dates on arriving post. During that time the Field Post was allowed to show only the month and the year, but not the day. Captain Oldřich Večerek, the Field Post C.O. tried to convince the Brigade C.O. against this action.

It was only when problems arose at the Brigade Field Court, with soldiers claiming delays for the articles delivered and the Field Court had to acknowledge that it was not possible to make certain when the articles were handed in, not even in the case of letters of summons, that the Chairman of the Court was forced to acknowledge this and request, in the interest of justice and order, the immediate reintroduction of the Field Post daily canceller with the adjustable date. Dr Dupel passed a copy of it to the Chief Field Court at the MNO in London, who supported that request. The Brigade CO agreed and ordered the II Detachment to carry out then necessary and justified action in such a way that the postal service was not held up at all, or only in a very minimal way.

In my own collection I have several items with the arrival canceller showing just the month and the year. They can be summarised as follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cover posted in London on 3 December 1941 2. Cover posted in London on 20 December 1941 3. Cover posted in Glasgow on 21 December 1941 4. Cover posted in Chicago USA on 20 October 1941 | <p>Arrival mark – Dec. 1941
 Arrival mark – Dec. 1941
 Arrival mark – Dec. 1941
 Arrival mark – Dec. 1941</p> |
|--|---|

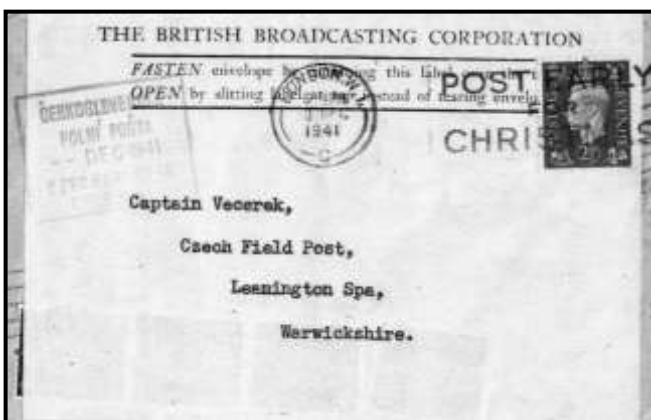


Figure 1

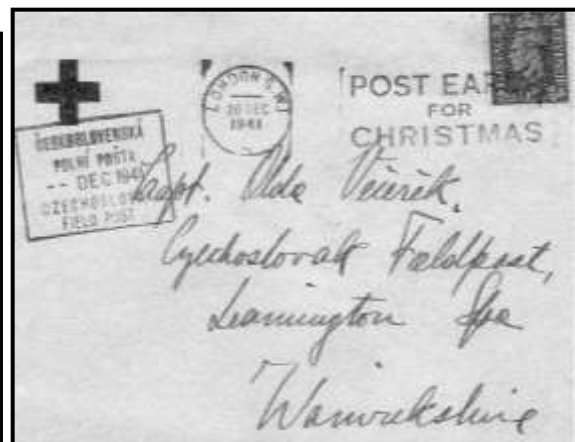


Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4 - front



Figure 4 – reverse

Items in my collection showing the full date and nearest to the above dates are:

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------------------|
| 5. | Cover posted in Texas USA on 24 Oct. 1941 | Arrival mark – 29 Nov. 1941 |
| 6. | Cover posted in Wolverhampton on 22 Dec. 1941 | Arrival mark – 27 Dec. 1941 |

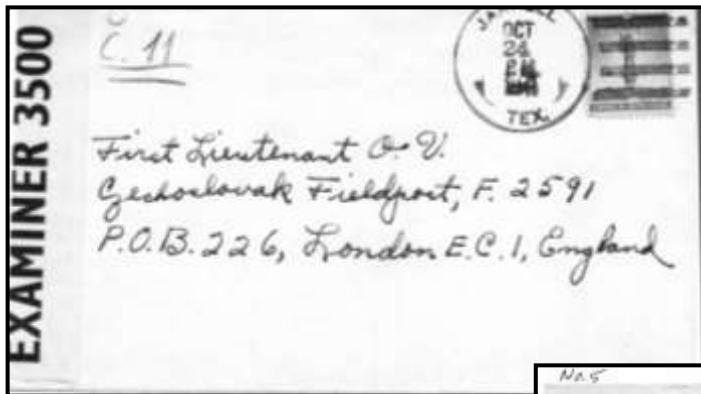


Figure 5 – front and reverse



Figure 6

In addition a second daily canceller seems to have been in operation:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Cover posted in London on 4 Dec. 1941 8. Cover posted in South Kensington on 17 Dec. 1941 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival mark – 5 Dec. 1941 Arrival mark – 18 Dec. 1941 |
|---|---|



Figure 7

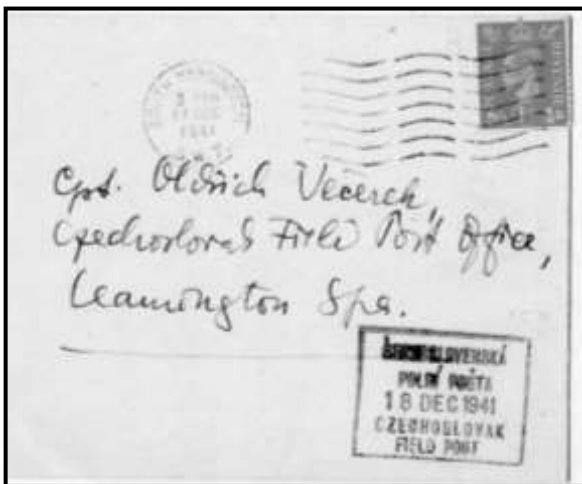


Figure 8

From the above it could be concluded that the day-less arrival mark was used only for a very limited time, i.e. 3-20 December 1941, or that two daily arrival marks were used, one showing the day, month and the year and the other with only the month and the year shown. The other possibility is that the arrival mark showing only the month and the year was used only on post for certain Units, e.g. the II Detachment.

Perhaps Members with similar type of material or some other information would pass the details on to the Editor of *Czechout*.

Most of the above information was obtained from Captain Oldřich Večerka's manuscript about the Czechoslovak Army Field Post in Great Britain.

THE EAST BOHEMIAN OVERPRINT

Core text based on research by Karel Holoubek, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
Translation by Paul Vidlak, Ottawa, Canada
Additional information and editing by Bob Hill, Wombourne, England

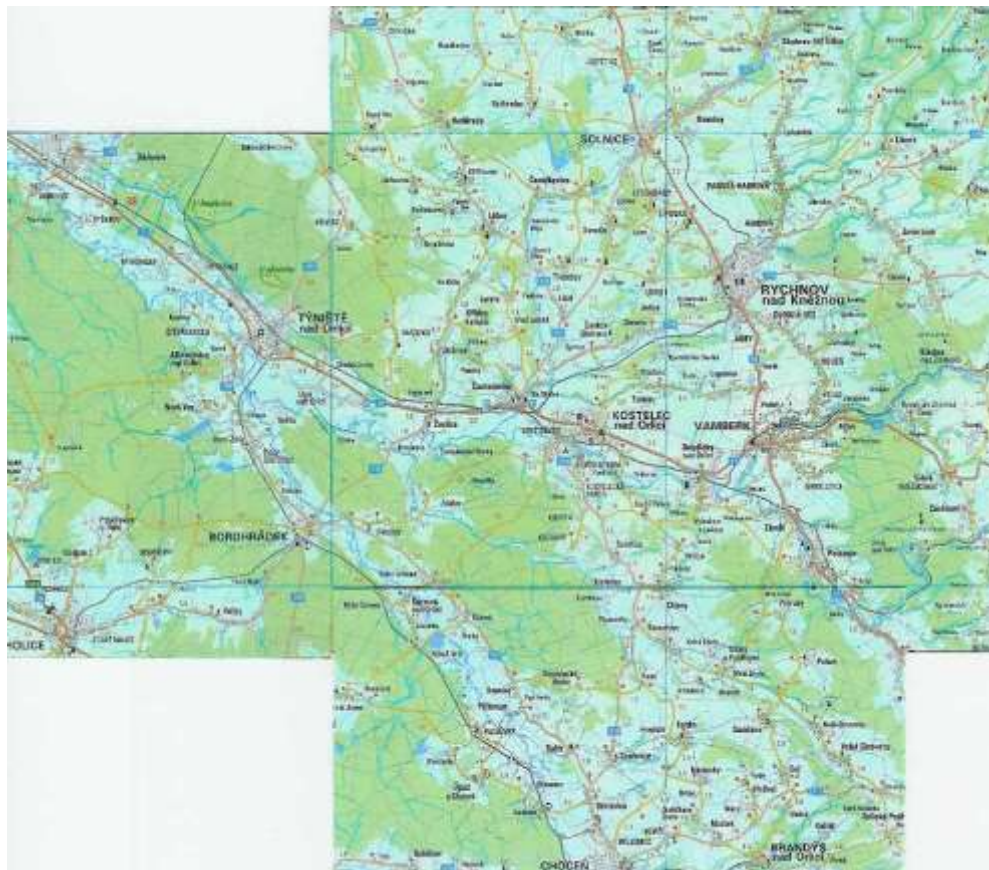


Cover sent to the wife of the originator of the overprint. Correct rate paid 3.80 K (80 h local postage and 3 k registration) with overprinted stamps. **d** canceller on 8 May 1945 with **O** from German name of town still in top arc.

Original postal receipt when cover sent.

1 Historical notes

Kostelec nad Orlicí is 25 kilometers from the Polish border, 35 kilometers east south east of *Hradec Králové* and the same distance east north east of *Pardubice*.



Map 1 – all key locations can be found on here.

The area surrounding *Kostelec nad Orlicí* was liberated by the Red Army on 6 and 7 May 1945. The 59th Army of the 1st Ukrainian front achieved this task receiving little opposition from rapidly repeating Axis forces.

In common with many other Allied liberated areas, immediate action was taken to:

- A Eradicate all signs of German influence –
In a postal context this was attained by defacing bilingual postal cancellers removing the German legend. The defaced cancellers were replaced with Czechoslovakian language cancellers at a later date.
- B Postally commemorate the newly won freedom –
This was achieved by overprinting the existing stocks of Bohemia and Moravia stamps and the production of a commemorative booklet, commemorative sheet and postcard.

At the suggestion of Mr Josef Sokol, the chairman of the local philatelic club, an overprint for the stamps was prepared during the German occupation. The stamps were produced in the printing works of J Čermak and the precise detail concerning this follows.

2 Testament of Josef Sokol and related information

The main witness that the following information relies on is Josef Sokol who was born in 1907. In May 1945 he was an accountant for the *Kostelec nad Orlicí* area agricultural co-operatives and the following information was related to Karel Holubek of *Hradec Králové* who interviewed him and took detailed notes. They met to discuss souvenirs from 1945 (stamps, envelopes and other material) and it was obvious that this discussion would reflect on what happened back then and how, because of their usage, they are also known as the *Rychnov nad Kněžnou* overprints. It transpires that Josef Sokol came up with the original idea and was the prime mover behind the overprints and that is why the first questions addressed the origin of the overprints.

It was some time in 1943, Mr Sokol reminisced, that he contacted Jaroslav Čermak, owner of a printing firm in *Vamberk*, and confided in him his intention to overprint stamps of the Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia after liberation. Mr Josef Telecký, lessee of a restaurant in the Czech Tourist Club chalet (*Na vyhlídce*) near *Vamberk*, was taken into our confidence later. There was very good foreign radio broadcast reception at the chalet and this was considered an important source of information enabling the conspirators to prepare and produce the overprints on time. The three of them were thus preparing for the arrival of the longed for freedom. Another confidant with whom the overprints were discussed was Karl Červenka, the *Vamberk* postmaster.

The entire preparatory process was put in danger by the unexpected passing away of Josef Čermak on 29 February 1944. Suddenly everything seemed to have no prospect of succeeding, but after carefully sounding out of his wife, Mary, who continued the operation of the printing plant, we managed to obtain her blessing for the plan and her agreement that at the opportune time she would make machinery available for the production of the overprints. But we sorely missed her husband who had the expertise to carry out this work and it was therefore necessary to recruit someone from the employees with the required knowledge who would be in a position to produce the overprints. One by one the staff were sifted through until it was decided to approach the brother of the dead owner, Vlastimil Čermak, together with former university student, Bohumil Čižin.

It was clear to the originators that the overprints would have to be produced quickly so that they could be used immediately after liberation and in mass quantities. In order to prevent drawing out the overprinting process and to negate the opportunity for speculation by overprinting many different values, the production of only three basic Hitler head overprinted stamps was contemplated. The values were:

Stamp	Colour	Used for
60 h	Violet	Postcards
80 h	Orange	"In town" basic postage
1.20 K	Red	"Out of town" basic postage

Josef Sokol digressed at this point and confessed that it was his considered opinion was that the black overprint on the 80 h stamp was the nicest of the three values.

The next preparatory phase began at the beginning of 1945 as it was clear by then that the war was coming to an end. The conspirators sought to establish contact with the resistance which they knew

existed in the region, so that they could sound out its attitude and obtain its support for the postal introduction and use (of the overprints) not only locally but over a much wider area. Dr Frank Pups, who was imprisoned by the Nazis from September 1941 to June 1943, was the president of the secretly nascent National Committee in *Kostelec nad Orlicí*. He not only approved the idea, but actively supported it and personally obtained an agreement for the use of our overprints in *Holice* with similar discussions held in *Vamberk* and *Rychnov nad Kněžnou*.

In early April 1945 we began with the first trial overprint runs and essays as the Allies were winning on all fronts and the Red Army was approaching the frontiers of the country; indeed our liberation seemed at hand. May 5th is the day when the Resistance officially began operations against the occupiers and Revolutionary National Committees (RNC) in individual locations began to take over power. In *Kostelec nad Orlicí* itself, the German commander recognized the RNC at 11:00 am on May 5, even if the actual transfer of power and office did not happen immediately. In *Rychnov*, this also happened later. Discussions concerning the stamps were held at this time with Ing. Hlaváček, the leader of the resistance units in the Banská factory and a mining company in *Vamberk*; he agreed with the idea.

At first a horizontal overprint dated 1. 5. (May 1st) was tried, the date when a general insurrection was expected. This was then changed to a slanted overprint dated 5. 5. The final overprint was configured in diagonally in three lines:

Line 1	5. 5.
Line 2	Česko-Slovensko
Line 3	1945.

On the 60 h value it was to be printed in red, on the 80 h and 1.20 K values in black. By this time many more employees of the Čermak printing plant were working on the project and in the forefront was Josef Řehák, the typesetter. The type came from new stock, which was in inventory, and the overprint set up was readied for an entire sheet of 100 stamps.

Here the only major problem was encountered. The number **5** appeared three times in the overprint **5. 5. 1945** and as there were only 200 **5**'s in stock it was decided to substitute the Roman **V** for the month. That should have worked because as stated before there were supposed to be 200 **5**'s in the inventory, but to everyone's dismay, there weren't. They were only a very small amount missing, Josef Sokol does not remember how many, but only a very few. So, what next? They did not want to manufacture new types and fortunately they succeeded in finding them. Where from Mr Sokol cannot remember but it was not necessary to manufacture new type and to reset it again.

The overprint was finally settled as diagonal in three lines:

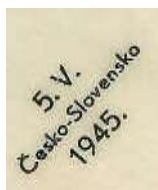


Image taken from a trial on a sheet of pergamon paper.

Preparations in the printing plant were therefore complete. Now they needed to obtain stamps, many stamps, and begin the overprinting process. Josef Sokol lived closest to the *Kostelec nad Orlicí* post office and he went to see its supervisor Mr Kužel, his deputy Mr Vítězslav Řepka, and another employee, Jaroslav Hruška. They were in agreement and gave him their entire stock of the three needed values. He then set out by bicycle to the printing plant with the stamps in his briefcase. He arrived around noon on 5 May, and Prague Radio was broadcasting appeals for assistance.

At the printing plant he handed over the stamps to the printers Bedřich Boček, the previously mentioned Bohumil Čížin, Josef Řehák and Vlastimil Čermak; the latter was in charge of the printing press during the overprinting. Later Oldrich Kulhánek, also a press operator, helped with the overprinting, even though he was employed at the printing plant in *Týniště nad Orlicí*; it maybe that it was he who helped to find the missing number fives.



The overprinted stamps

The first day of the overprinting was quite exciting. There was shooting in the vicinity of the printing plant, and twice we had to stop and seek refuge on the ground behind the equipment, and wait until the Germans left the area and for quiet to return.

On the same day at about 9 o'clock in the evening, Mr Sokol returned by bicycle to *Kostelec nad Orlicí* and took the first overprinted sheets, of which there were not many, to the Post Office. But the overprinting continued on Sunday as well, so that on Monday morning, 7 May the Post Office in *Kostelec nad Orlicí* had an adequate supply of all three values and began selling and using them. In order to supply other outlets, the overprinting continued until 9 or 10 May, whereupon it was discontinued.

During this time additional Post Offices jumped on the bandwagon. In addition to *Kostelec nad Orlicí* and *Vamberk*, there was *Rychnov*, *Doudleby*, *Potštejn*, and *Slatina nad Zdobnicí*. These outlets received their stamps on an exchange basis, meaning that they received as many overprinted stamps as they delivered unoverprinted ones – otherwise they would have to wait. Mr Sokol remembers that an employee of the *Rychnov* post office delivered a substantial number of stamps on motorcycle, probably its entire inventory of the requisite values. Apart from these offices, usage of the overprints is well known at others, including *Holice*, *Brandýs nad Orlicí* and *Hradec Králové*. Cancelled overprints with true postal usage could have an earliest date of 5 May from *Kostelec nad Orlicí* and 8 May, but most likely 9 May, from other locations. Everything that bears earlier dates was manufactured afterwards and due to ignorance of the stated facts, wrongly dated.

Mr Sokol did not know the precise date when they learned of the prohibition of using stamps of the Protectorate but felt it was around 18 May. In spite of this the overprints continued to be sold and used even after the order (not to) came out. In *Kostelec nad Orlicí* itself, usage continued until 20 May, mainly because there were still unsold overprinted stamps in the post office.

In addition to the already described preliminary discussions and agreement to overprint the stamps, which was of course only oral, the District National Committee in *Rychnov nad Kněžnou* issued a written proclamation addressed to the named post offices officially confirming that it had authorized the overprints. Dated 11 May 1945 this was later submitted to the Post Office Administration in *Pardubice* and in this manner the preliminary agreement was legalized. The overprinting was also announced in the weekly *Posel z Podhoří*, issue 20, dated 19 May 1945:

Overprints on Postage Stamps

As soon as the District National Committee assumed power in Rychnov nad Kněžnou, it ordered the overprinting of the most commonly used stamp values: 60 and 80 h and 1.20 K. The three-line overprint is in letter-print form, from the lower left to the upper right corner, in red on the lowest value and in black on the others. Its text defines the day of national uprising as "5.V.1945" and the name "Česko-Slovensko" is inserted between 5. V. and 1945. These overprinted stamps were used in Rychnov nad Kněžnou, Kostelec nad Orlicí, Vamberk, Doudleby nad Orlicí, Potštejn and Holice from 9 May. A total of 2247 sheets of the 60 h value, 367 sheets of the 80 h value and 1292 sheets of the 1.20 K value were overprinted.

No overprint peculiarities exist as only perfect overprints left the printing plant. Mr Sokol recollects that perhaps one sheet went into the press upside down, but was immediately caught and immediately destroyed. Because of this he is certain that inverted and other peculiarities do not exist. They were left with only several sheets of trial printings on pergamon paper; these prints were the result of setups of the printing plate, which had to be redone several times during the overprinting process. This was due to

differences in dimensions between the 60 & 80 h and 1.20 K stamp values and their arrangement on the complete sheets.

The 60 & 80 h values were printed in neotype and the 1.20 K value from an engraving. As already mentioned they at first overprinted the supply of stamps of all three values from *Kostelec nad Orlicí*. They then proceeded to overprint those sheets of stamps that were subsequently delivered in the order they arrived. The individual values were not therefore printed in one run. Karl Červenka, the head of the *Vamberk* post office, confirms the existence of these sheets in his letter dated 15 October 1945. The printers were *de facto* loaned the stamps; they were the property of the individual post offices and therefore could not use them for the setups as this would render them valueless. They therefore elected to use pergamon paper, so that when it was laid on the sheets of stamps they could see how well the overprints were centred on the stamps.

A lot of stamps remained unsold and the exact amount is stated in the letter from *Vamberk* where these stamps were still to be found in October. Because of this and to celebrate the end of the occupation three commemorative items were prepared. They were:

- Folder
- Commemorative sheet
- Postcard

These are discussed in greater detail later in this article.

As a result of an order received from the Ministry of Posts and Communications, the *Pardubice* office was ordered to investigate the production of the overprints. Mr Sokol was personally summoned to *Pardubice* and he strengthened his position in the discussion by bringing with him the previously mentioned decree of the District National Committee. Because of this, the entire discussion of his 'guilt' revolved around the question of who in the *Kostelec nad Orlicí* post office allowed him to take the stamps. As a non-employee of the post office, they were not able to discipline him and that is why they set their sights on employees of the *Kostelec nad Orlicí* post office. Two of those employed there received reprimands, but Mr Sokol does not remember which ones.

A total of 253,371 k from the sale of overprinted stamps was handed over to the Post Office management. It did not recognize the stamps and did not want to keep the entire amount. Management calculated that only 5180 K belonged to it for postally used material, and the balance was transferred to the Territorial National Committee in Prague. It is not known how this amount was calculated, but in light of the widespread distribution and use (of the stamps), it appears to be too low. These provisional revolutionary stamps were in general use not only by private citizens, but also by all local factories and commercial establishments. Mr Sokol's co-operative used a large quantity in their correspondence.

The foregoing is the extent of the reminiscing of Josef Sokol. This therefore captures all pertinent facts that interest us about the overprints. Let us now address the question of numbers and thereby refer to the above.

There is data about the total overprint numbers from three sources. Two cite identical data; only the third differs in some details but in others it cites identical data, thereby contradicting itself.

Value	Sources 1 & 2	Source 3
60 h	2247 sheets	2247 sheets
80 h	367 sheets	263 sheets
1.20 K	1292 sheets	1292 sheets

Source 1: Posel z Podhůří; Source 2: Karl Cervinka; Source 3: Philatelic Journal

The source that differs is the Philatelic Journal, which however contradicts itself when it states that there were 36,700 complete sets, negating its own data on the amount of 80 h sheets and confirming the accuracy of the other two sources. We can calculate from this that the overall value of the overprinted stamps amounted to 319,220 K and we know that 253,371 k was turned over to post office management. The difference of 65,489 k should therefore represent the value of unsold inventory.

Where and how many stamps went unsold is unknown. The only solid data we have is from *Vamberk*, where 286 sheets of the 60 h value, 4 sheets of the 80 h and 132 sheets of the 1.20 K value remained unsold, representing 33,320 K. The postal outlet in *Vamberk* received 410 sheets of the 60 h, 70 sheets

of the 80 h and 180 sheets of the 1.20 K. It therefore had overprinted stamps with a total value of 51,800 K and we can easily calculate that it sold 18,480 K-worth.

The postal outlet in *Kostelec nad Orlicí* obtained 120 sheets of the 60 h, 80 sheets of the 80 h and 150 sheets of the 1.20 K values. These numbers are approximate. It was therefore a smaller amount than *Vamberk* by only 31,600 K and how many were sold is unknown.

So much for the numbers of stamps which we know of today.

From the letter by the head of the *Vamberk* post office we know furthermore that 8,000 commemorative sheets were prepared for all participating locations. What they looked like has already been described, but it is not known how many there were of each different kind.

In *Kostelec nad Orlicí* they were sold for 10 K and 18,090 K in sale proceeds was turned over to the National Committee. That represents 2,445 commemorative sheets with that number of complete sets times 2.60 K for one set (60 + 80 + 120 h). So that 6,357 k. was the value of the stamps. The remitted amount was after the value of the stamps had been subtracted.

In *Rychnov* the sheets were sold for 20 K and after subtracting 2.60 K for the stamps, we find that overall 1,040 commemorative sheets were sold, meaning 1,040 times 17.40 K amounting to 18,096 k. This amount was sent to the mayor of Prague for the benefit of those who died manning the barricades.

The revenue from the sales in *Vamberk* is not known, but it is known that it was remitted to the local National Committee.

In *Rychnov* and *Kostelec nad Orlicí*, 3,485 complete sets were used representing a value of 9,061 k.

It is known that overall there existed 8,000 commemorative sheets. If all were sold, then the value of the stamps amounts to 8,000 times 2.60 K, using one set. But the usage could have been higher than this as theoretically blocks of four could have been pasted in all of them. Then the amount would have been four times higher.

Why is this calculated? From the remitted amount, the postal administration kept only 5,180 K, with the balance being turned over to the Territorial National Committee. Non-postal use, meaning those used in the commemorative sheets, could represent a value of 83,200 K when done on a block of four bases. When we subtract this amount from the remitted amount of 253,371 k there remains approximately 170,000 K for stamps, which were used for mail – or for collector purposes. But no-one can separate the two. How much was for what? It may be that postal management succeeded in doing this, but it is not probable. This calculation has been done so that the reader can judge the accuracy of the amount, which Post Office management calculated it was owed and which it kept.

Towards the end of the discussion with Mr Sokol, he was shown a list of twelve values overprinted with the same overprint. These included apart from the well known three values of 60 and 80 h and 1.20 K, values of 10, 30, 40, 50 h and 1, 1.50, 1.60, 2.0 and 2.40 K.

His reaction and answer was immediate: "I know absolutely nothing about these stamps and their overprinting! In those few revolutionary days, no other values were overprinted other than those which I stated. In concurrence with the recommendations by and agreements made with postal employees, only the most basic values necessary for everyday use were selected for overprinting. These (others) could perhaps have been produced later, but at that time I had to devote myself to my work and did not have time for running an overprinting business."



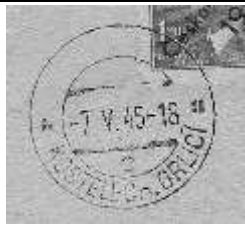

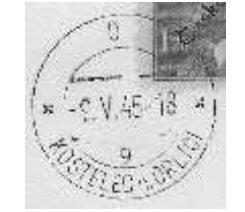

The typeset used for this later overprint is very similar to the original. This may therefore point to the same printing plant as the possible source. But the letters are very worn; the contours are not as sharp

as in the stamps from Mr Sokol's collection. Other details also differ. When a complete sheet of stamps from both printings is compared the location of the later overprints does not agree with that of the originals. It could have been in the same printing plant using the same letters. It is however clear that it will never be possible to reproduce exactly that which was produced in 1945.

3 Cancellers at Kostelec nad Orlicí

The cancellers at **Kostelec nad Orlicí** were modified by having the German text (Alderkosteletz) excised from the top arc. There appear to be three cancellers in common use at the time of the liberation, those being **c d g** ; the **b** canceller also appears modified at a later date.

Canceller **g** is known used in red ink on 7, 8, 9 & 11 May. It is also known used in black ink on 9 & 11 May. The red cancellations on the souvenir items were backdated to 7 May when they were issued.

7			
	Example of amended c canceller.		Example of amended d canceller. Note that the O from the German name Alderkosteletz has been left in the top arc.
	Example of amended g canceller. Note that the O from the German name Alderkosteletz has been left in the top arc.		Example of amended b canceller. Note that the O from the German name Alderkosteletz has been left in the top arc. Still in use in late 1946.

4 Postal items

A trawl through all available items brought the following results:

Chleny known in German as Chlenn.

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Letter	a 10	8. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	1.60 K	Yes

Holice v Čechách known in German as Holitz in Böhmen.

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Letter	e 17	8. V	Un-addressed	3.60 K				

Hradec Králové 6 known in German as Königgrätz 6.

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	b 17	7.V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes		Yes

Letter	c 17	7.V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes		
Letter	c 17	7.V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes		
<i>Letter</i>	<i>c 17</i>	<i>7.V</i>	<i>Registered</i>	<i>4.20 K</i>	<i>correct</i>	<i>Yes</i>		Yes
Letter	c 17	7.V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	2.40 K	Yes
<i>Letter</i>	<i>c 17</i>	<i>7.V</i>	<i>Registered</i>	<i>4.20 K</i>	<i>correct</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>2.40 K</i>	Yes

Those marked in italics were sent to people referred to in this publication.

Kostelec nad Orlicí known in German as Alderkosteletz.

Type	Code	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Postcard	g 12	7. V	Standard	60 h	correct			
Letter	c 18	7. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 12	7. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 12	7. V	Un-addressed	2.60 K				
Letter	c 18	7. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	40 h	
Letter	c 18	7. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes		

Postcard	g 18	8. V	Un-addressed	60 h	correct			
Letter	g 18	8. V	Local	80 h	correct			
Letter	d 18	8. V	Local	80 h	correct			
Letter	d 18	8. V	Local	80 h	correct			
Letter	d 18	8. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 18	8. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
<i>Letter</i>	<i>d 12</i>	<i>8. V</i>	<i>Local Registered</i>	<i>3.80 K</i>	<i>correct</i>	Yes		
Letter	g 18	8. V	Local Registered	3.80 K	correct			
Letter	g 18	8. V	Local Registered	3.80 K	correct			
Letter	g 18	8. V	Local Registered	3.80 K	correct			
Letter	g 18	8. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes		Yes
Letter	d 18	8. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	1.60 K	

Letter	g 12	9. V	Local	80 h	correct			
Letter	g 12	9. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	40 h	Yes
Letter	g 12	9. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 12	9. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 12	9. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 12	9. V	Local Registered	3.80 K	correct			
Letter	g 12	9. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	40 h	
<i>Letter</i>	<i>g 12</i>	<i>9. V</i>	<i>Local Registered</i>	<i>3.80 K</i>	<i>correct</i>			
Letter	g 12	9. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	2.40 K	Yes
Letter	g 12	9. V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	Yes	1.60 K	
Letter	g 18	9. V	Local Registered	3.80 K	correct			
Letter	g 18	9. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			

Letter	g 12	11.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 18	11.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	g 18	11.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			

Those marked in italics were sent to people referred to in this publication.

Potštejn known in German as Pottenstein.

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Postcard	b -9	9. V	Standard	60 h	correct			

Rychnov n. Kněžnou known in German as Reichenau an der Knieschna

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Postcard	2a -0	9. V	Standard	60 h	correct			
Letter	4a 18	11.V	Un-addressed	4 k				

Skuhrov n. Bělou known in German as Skuchrow an der Alba

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Letter	a 16	9. V	Un-addressed	1.80 K				
Letter	b 16	12.V	Registered	4.20 K	correct	yes	1.60 K	

Solnice known in German as Solnitz

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Letter	b 14	9. V	Letter 20-250 g	2.40 K	correct			

Vamberk known in German as Wamberg

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Postcard	c -8	8. V	Standard	1.80 K				
Letter	c 16	9. V	Standard	1.20 K	correct		40 h	
Letter	c 18	11.V	Standard	1.20 K	correct			
Letter	e -8	14.V	Registered	4.80 K				

Praha – Kyšperk TPO 43 known in German as Prague – Geiersberg

Cancelled with defaced canceller, German text removed from top arc.

Type	Code, Time	Date	Rate	Paid		Back strike	Stamps with no overprint	Postal receipt
Postcard	b	9. V	Standard	60 h	correct			

The line runs east from Prague and passes through Kostelec nad Orlicí shortly before the destination town of Kyšperk which was re-named Letohrad in 1950.

5 Folder

As there were surplus stamps to use the idea was first put forward by Professor Militký from the *Kostelec nad Orlicí* High School to make a commemorative printed folder by creating a sheet of card to make it A5 in size.

Front page: In the top left corner in mixed red and blue ink is a shield and within this is the two-tailed State emblem of a lion with two swords clenched in a paw.

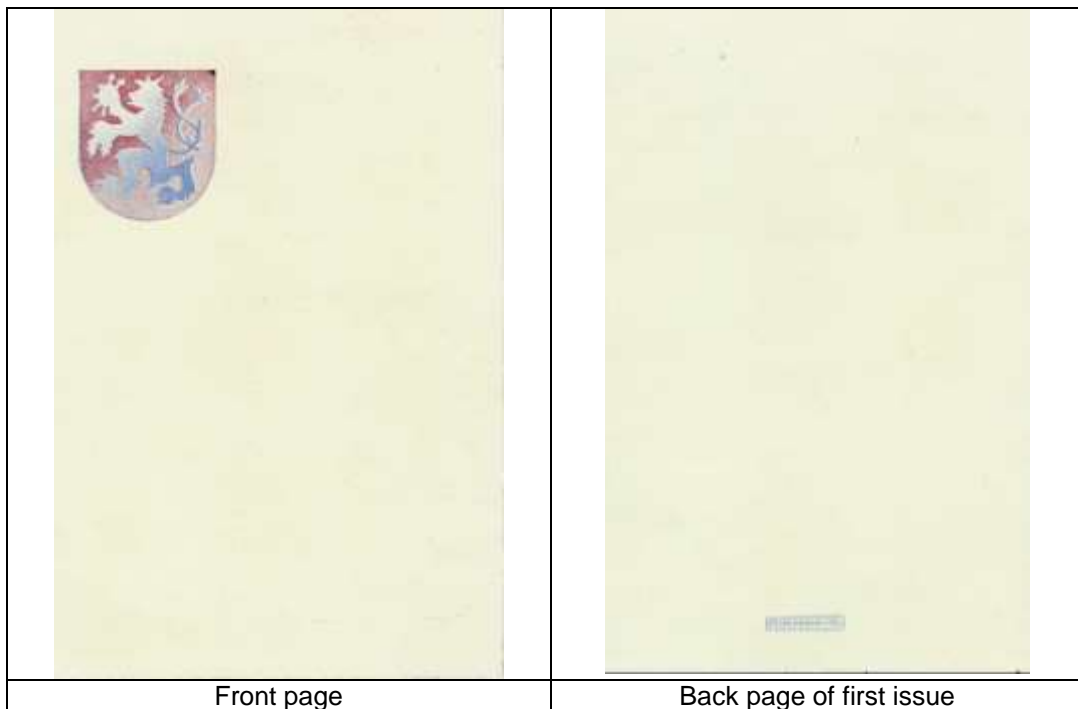
Pages 2 & 3: Using blue, red and green ink, a silhouette of the town with the words “**MĚSTO KOSTELEK NAD ORLÍČÍ**” at the base to the right hand side.

All three overprinted values of the stamps are tied in red with the defaced **g** canceller (German text excised) this canceller has the **O** (left over from the German Alderkosteletz) in the upper part between the two circles and is dated -7. V. 45 -12. (These folders were not produced on this date but issued later as commemorative items.)

Back page: The printer's logo FR HEP. KOSTELEK n. ORL.

The sheets were printed in the Josef Hep printing plant in *Kostelec nad Orlicí*. They were sold by the Post Office and in two stores for 10 K each. The proceeds amounted to 18,090 K which was given to the local National Committee.

This folder was so popular that there are two prints. The first print has the printer's logo on the back page, the second print does not have the logo.



Front page

Back page of first issue



Central part of folder

6 Postcard

The design for the postcard (and the commemorative sheet that follows) was by Josef Telecký. The postcard side shows:

- Against a rising sun a knight on horseback slaying a dragon with swastika symbols covered with wreaths and adorned with the dove of peace.
- It is signed below the horse tail. *Stele 1945 I. V.*
- The names of concentration camps:
 - *Bölsen* (Belsen)
 - *Buchenwald* – near Weimar

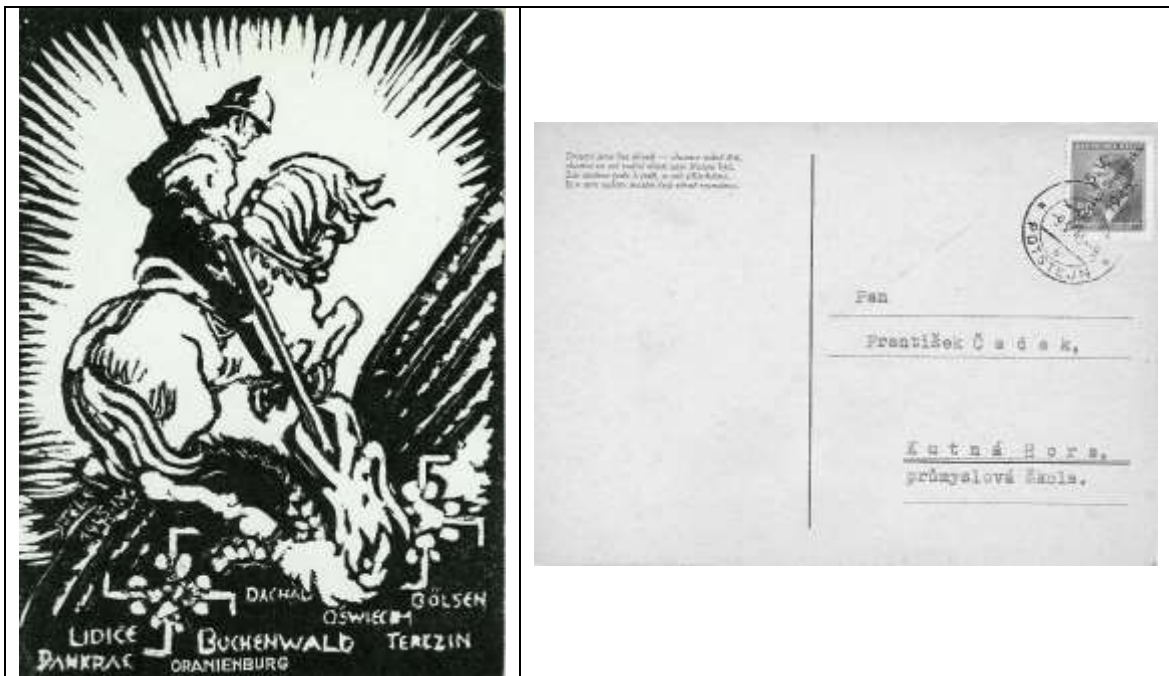
- *Dachau* – near Munich
- *Lidice* – where the awful atrocity involving the whole village took place, this was linked to the assassination of Reinhard Heydrich
- *Oranienburg* – near Berlin
- *Oświęcem* – Poland
- *Pankrac* – the Gestapo interrogation centre south of Prague
- *Terezin* – Theresienstadt

On the message side there is a dividing line and four lines of verse appear in the upper left part:

*Zrozeni jsme bez okovů – chceme volně žiti,
chceme ve své rodné vlasti zase šťastni býti.
Zas stojíme paži, a tak přísaháme,
že v tom našem svatém boji věrně vytrváme*

This translates to:

Born without shackles – we wish to live in freedom,
We want to be happy again in our native land,
We stand again arm to arm, and hereby swear
To faithfully persevere in our holy struggle.



This was also very popular and there were two prints; the second is without the poem.

7 Commemorative sheet

This commemorative sheet was also proposed by Josef Telecký. On it is St George on horseback, slaying a dragon and the symbols of Nazi Germany - swastikas, under which are found the names of the most notorious concentration camps:

- *Bölsen* (Belsen)
- *Buchenwald* – near Weimar
- *Dachau* – near Munich
- *Oranienburg* – near Berlin
- *Oświęcem* – Poland
- *Terezin* – Theresienstadt

and the village of *Lidice* as well as the notorious prison of *Pankrac*. Signature *Stele 1945 I. V.* appears below the horse's tail.

The drawing is probably line engraved, 107 x 149 mm and printed in black on a thick paper measuring 205 x 288 mm, with three dotted frames for affixing the overprinted stamps underneath the picture. Because of popular demand there are two types:

Type		Overall size	Image size
1	Thick card	205 x 288 mm	107 x 149 mm
2	Paper	205 x 275 mm	107 x 149 mm

This suggests that the first print was produced on the thick card but when supplies run out this was augmented with much cheaper paper.



Karl Červenka stated that 8000 commemorative sheets were printed in total and sold in all participating locations. All unsold remainders, which were particularly substantial in *Rychnov*, were turned over to Post Office headquarters in *Pardubice*. It is not known when this was achieved.

All sheets had the stamps added that are tied with the same defaced canceller:
KOSTELEČ n. ORLÍČÍ -7. V. 45 -12 g

References

Original work

Karel Holoubek Hradec Králové, Czech Republic.

Sources

Posel z Pohří Weekly of the *Rychnov*, *Kostelec nad Orlicí* and *Žamberk* regions
volume 59, number 20, dated May 19, 1945.

The Philatelic Journal - volume II - 1947, pages 183-185.

Josef Sokol Collection and recollections.

Karel Holoubek Personal collection and archives.

Translation from the Czech

Paul Vidlak Ontario, Canada.

Additional material added by the author.

People referred to:

Bedřich Boček	Vamberk	Printer
Jaroslav Čermak	Vamberk	Owner of printing firm
Mary Čermak	Vamberk	Wife of above
Vlastimil Čermak	Vamberk	Brother of above
Karl Červenka	Vamberk	Postmaster
Bohumil Čížin	Vamberk	Printer
Josef Hep	Kostelec nad Orlicí	Printing works
Ing. Hlaváček	Vamberk	Resistance leader
Jaroslav Hruška	Kostelec nad Orlicí	Post Office
Oldřich Kulhánek	Týniště nad Orlicí	Printer
Mr Kužel	Kostelec nad Orlicí	Postmaster
Professor Militký	Kostelec nad Orlicí	Originator of commemorative folder
Dr Frank Pups	Kostelec nad Orlicí	President of the local National Committee
Josef Řehák	Vamberk	Typesetter.
Vítězslav Řepka	Kostelec nad Orlicí	Deputy Postmaster
Josef Sokol	Kostelec nad Orlicí	Originator of overprint
Josef Telecký	Vamberk	Lessee of restaurant <i>Na vyhlídce</i> , originator of commemorative sheet and postcard

Chronology – May 1945

Tuesday	1	General insurrection expected
Wednesday	2	Set up and first trials of overprint
Thursday	3	Re - set up and trials of overprint
Friday	4	Last trial runs of overprint
Saturday	5	Local German commander recognizes RNC (Revolutionary National Committee) Overprinting starts – some overprints ready in Kostelec nad Orlicí Radio Prague pleads for help
Sunday	6	Overprinting continues
Monday	7	Overprinting continues Overprints in plentiful supply at Kostelec nad Orlicí
Tuesday	8	Overprinting continues and some are available at other locations
Wednesday	9	Overprinting continues
Thursday	10	Overprinting ends

Locations

Czech name	German name
Brandýs nad Orlicí	Brandeis an der Adler
Doudleby nad Orlicí	Daudleb an der Adler
Holice v Čechách	Holitz in Böhmen
Hradec Králové	Könniggrätz
Chleny	Chlenn
Kostelec nad Orlicí	Alderkosteletz
Pardubice	Pardubitz
Potštejn	Pottenstein
Rychnov nad Kněžnou	Reichenau and der Knieschna
Skuhrov nad Bělou	Skuchrow an der Alba
Slatina nad Zdobnicí	Moorwies
Solnice	Solnitz
Týniště nad Orlicí	Tinischt an der Adler
Vamberk	Wamberg

Footnote

In the heady days following liberation there was contrived usage of overprints at a number of locations. This was not done to defraud but was merely a way of marking the joyous release from oppression. Such uses of these overprints are known at locations as diverse as Prague and Police nad Metují.

QUERIES AWAITING ANSWERS

Czechout 2/03: Richard Beith's 24Kčs 1946 Airmail Stamp
Czechout 3/03: Barry Horne's 1919 1st Anniversary Sheet perforations
Czechout 3/05: Ian McQueen's Shanghai Airmail via Czechoslovakia to Denmark
Czechout 3/05: Richard Beith's Undercover Letters?
Czechout 1/06: Charles Stirton's two covers with unusual "Red" stamps
Czechout 2/06: Bob Hill's Death of the Invaders overprints
Czechout 1/07: Bob Hill's Dezejna's Nachod stamp
Czechout 1/07: Richard Spennock's B&M Souvenir sheet
Czechout 4/07: Frederik Backeljauw's Hrušov ve Slezku cancellation
Czechout 4/07: Yvonne Wheatley's Blind Literature rates
Czechout 4/07: Tony Moseley's Sudetenland cancellation
Czechout 1/08: Derek Baron's Olomouc to Vienna pc
Czechout 2/08: Bob Hill's Andreas Haase printing house for 1919 overprints
Czechout 2/08: Tony Moseley's Pardubice Golden Helmet postcards

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

- Members' Queries -

Another selection, together with some answers, for which we are sure our enquirers will be most grateful. It would be helpful if enquirers having covers with further details on the reverse also photocopy that side to assist with any replies. First the answers:

Re: John Hammonds' American Aid for German POWs card query in Czechout 4/02

From: Harold Krische, krischefamily@shaw.ca [Canada] Just read the June edition of the German Postal Specialist and noted your question about the card entitled "American Aid for German War Prisoners". The person responsible for making up these cards is Emil Auer (who happens to have been a relative) who was born in 1904 in Germany and then came to the United States in the 1920s.

There is a good write up that was done on these cards in Linn's Stamp News on Monday February 1, 1982 with supporting information that was written by Thomas R Nealeigh. Emil issued the cards as part of a fundraising program during the summer of 1941 from his residence in Buffalo, New York. He had organized an aid group for German POWs prior to the American entry into the war. Approximately 500 of the cards were issued with copies of the Bohemian and German (B160-65) charity stamps affixed. Funds were being raised to send packets to German War prisoners and internees in the US, Canada, Jamaica, Australia, England, Surinam and a women's camp in Bermuda. The Red Cross also was supportive of the program.

Emil had registered his volunteer efforts in 1940 with the President's War Control Board, Department of State for a license and the permit No. reflecting the granting of the license is reflected on the bottom left of the cards. After the U.S.A. joined the war a request was made of Emil to drop the word 'German' from the support initiative and he continued his volunteer support work until 1944. By 1944, Emil had taken care of some 100,000 POWs in all parts of the world by sending packets with cigarettes, combs, shaving utensils, toothbrushes and other toiletries.

Hopefully this gives you a little insight. There are covers and correspondence cards into and from POW camps to Emil Auer at his Buffalo address, which I believe was 16 Durstein Street. I have run across such correspondence from Australia, Canada and the Bermuda camp both incoming and outgoing. Over the last 10 or so years I have seen several of these cards, mostly priced between \$20 and \$50 each.

Re: Dr Juan E Page's Czech Field Post query in Czechout 2/2008 page 51

From Richard Beith: The original address to the Czechoslovak Independent Armoured Brigade at APO 655 is correct for the period, but perhaps a late usage. APO 655 was at Wiesbaden. The British FPO 655 was located in the Middle East between 1942 and 1947. The square Crown/PASSED BY CENSOR/No/3547 is Daynes type A 700, described as: "An uncommon mark used only in the Middle East, Paiforce, Aden and Gibraltar. Only a few (individual) numbers are known between 37 and 5279." See Daynes J A (Ed), "World War Two Censor Marks" (Burnham-on-Crouch, Forces Postal History Society, 1986). *Members seeking copies write to the Secretary, Michael Dobbs, 52 Leamington Avenue, Bromley, BR1 5BL as sadly John Daynes died earlier this year. Editor*

From Peter Jenkinson: The History of British Army Postal Service, Vol. III R.Gould & E.Proud page 8 Censor Marks shows the mark as Type G and makes the following comment: "A rare mark – only recorded from Gibraltar, Aden, and Egypt in 1945." Page 440 Locations shows FPO 655 originally allotted to GHQ MEF and located at Abbasia on the date indicated.

Re Anthony Moseley's Pardubice Golden Helmet query in Czechout 2/2008 page 52

From Richard A Spennock: The Motorcycle sport shown on the postcard would be a version of Speedway, and the track would be longer and the speeds higher. Dirt track racing in the U.S.A. uses a rolled soil surface and the bikes would haul brakes. I attended a Grass Track Race meeting near Dunmow, near Thaxted, Essex during 1972-73; the format was very similar to what is shown in the ppc. The grass track racing that we have in Europe is really misnamed: whilst the track might start out as greensward it very quickly turns into bare soil. During the winter in northern Europe the tracks used become iced over and very heavily spiked wheels are fitted and the curves are taken with the rider's leg on the ice.

Czechoslovakia was prominent in off-road motorcycling, producing bikes with the CZ and JAWA names [perhaps one of our readers can say what the various initials ie: J.A.W.A. stand for?] MZ was another motorcycle maker for Eastern Europe and also PUCH, who were best know for Mopeds, was another Czech manufacturer. If one is looking for common factors here, this is obviously toughness, durability, and ease of repair, which was important. The other factor was that all the engines were two-stroke, and as far as I know a four-stroke was never promoted/permited in Czechoslovakia.

New Queries

From Shirley Kemp: The attached Austrian postcard, written on 11 September 1919, was addressed to Angela Mucha, which was the main reason that I purchased it from a local stamp dealer. I wondered whether Angela Mucha could have been related to Alfons Mucha in some way. I do not know how common the surname Mucha is, but I thought that one of our knowledgeable members might be able to help. I wondered therefore whether it might be possible to include this query and postcard in a future issue of *Czechout*.



Wien, Heiligenstadt, Boethovenhaus. Prof. J. W. Wasmuth & Co.
 *Liebe Freundin! Ganz liebe die
gruße Ganz liebe Grüße*



From Clyde Ziegler: I have the attached front, which is puzzling me. I cannot work out the makeup of the rate and need your assistance. The handwritten details at the top are "Bewilligung d. National Bank of Böhmen & Mähren No. 633.358 on 28.IV.42."

To the left of the stamps is handwritten 675g and below that in pencil appears to be "Poids Nowell 685g". The rubber stamp below the address appears to be "BEZ CLA" and a manuscript "1608" or "7608".

Value in bottom left is "RM 500.-" and beside that "fis 625.-" Any assistance to help me as to rate, and meaning of BEZ CLA and the discrepancy on weight would be appreciated.



NEW ISSUES

-Lindy Bosworth-

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

Stamps and stationery for the Slovak Republic are printed as indicated for each issue.

Printing RD = rotary die stamping with multicolour photogravure
DS = die stamping from flat plates

Czech Republic

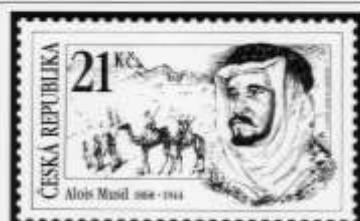
18 June 2008

Travellers



Designer: Vladimír Novák **Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50.

Designs: portraits of the personalities with their birth/death dates.
12Kč: portrait of Ferdinand Stolička (1838-1874) against a background of mountains with Sherpas. Stolička was a geologist, palaeontologist and natural scientist who graduated in geology from Vienna. After various mapping expeditions in Hungary, Dalmatia and the Eastern Alps he undertook research work as a palaeontologist in the Himalayas and Karakoram areas. He probably died of mountain sickness after returning from his third Himalayan expedition. **FDC:** printed DS in brown with a commemorative Kroměříž cancel. The cachet drawing has a bird from Central Asia against a mountain landscape to indicate Stolička's interest and contribution to ornithology.



21Kč: portrait of Alois Musil (1868-1944) against a desert background with camels. After graduating from Olomouc he continued studying in Jerusalem and Beirut. He travelled through Arabia making maps and studying various Arabian dialects but was also interested in botany and the ethnography of the area. He was made a sheikh of two tribes. After the end of the First World War he was appointed Professor of Oriental Sciences and Arabian Language at Charles University. He published many travel books on the Near East and contributed to the foundation of the Oriental Institute. **FDC:** printed DS in sienna with a commemorative Vyškov cancel. The cachet design is a Bedouin riding a camel.

18 June 2008

The XXIXth Olympic Games in Beijing



Designer: Pavel Hrach **Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček **Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50.

Design: a female athlete preparing to throw the discus and the Olympic Rings logo with text in Czech. The Games were held from 8-24 August 2008. **FDC:** printed DS in black with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design shows another view of a female athlete preparing to throw the discus.

18 June 2008

Summer Paralympic Games 2008, Beijing



Designer: Pavel Hrach **Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček **Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50.

Design: an archer in a wheelchair taking aim. The first Paralympic Games were held in Rome in 1960 for wheelchair sportsmen only, but today other handicapped sportsmen compete in the events as well. **FDC:** printed DS in black with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows an archery target.

3 September 2008 World Stamp Exhibition Praga 2008 – Emauzy Monastery, Prague



Designer: Karel Zemun **Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50 (tête-bêche)

Design: the main front of the church with the new towers and the small church of Sts Cosmos and Damian, Prague with the Praga 2008 logo. The monastery was founded in 1347 by Emperor Charles IV for South Slavonic monks of the Benedictine Order. The name Emauzy comes from the village of Emmaus where Jesus had a meeting with his disciples. In February 1945 the church was bombed and extensively damaged in a US air strike. In 1965-68 the two towers were replaced by a modern design structure by the architect F M Černý. The Benedictine Order returned to the monastery in 1990.

FDC: printed DS in grey-blue with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows a view through a Gothic window from the cloisters to the garden of the monastery.

3 September 2008 Centenary of the Applied Art Designer's Association – Artěl



Designer: Zdeněk Ziegler **Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50.

Design: a vase produced by a craftsman of the Association with the logo and the heading from the original notepaper of Artěl. Artěl was founded with the aim of improving the artistic design of everyday articles, e.g. ceramics, glass, toys, textiles and clothing, and was active until 1934. **FDC:** printed DS in black with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing is taken from an advertisement for Artěl products.

3 September 2008

Definitive: Summer Day



Designer: Josef Paleček **Graphic Arrangement:** Václav Kučera **Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 9 stamps and 12 labels by Victoria Security Printing a.s.

Design: **stamp** – a detail from an illustration by Josef Paleček from the children's book 'Das Lied von Apfelbaum' by Jaroslav Seifert 1985; **labels** – right upper label shows a small hare with a four-leafed clover, below on next two labels the Praga 2008 logo and the remaining nine labels have a snail holding a flower with the date of issue. The labels can be used for customer's individual designs. There was no official FDC.

Postal Stationery

Official Postcards

11 June 2008: Czech Historical Buildings. This is the 14th issue in the series and numbered from A169/2008 to 176/2008. Each card has a 10 Kč imprinted stamp of the modified Great State Arms of the Republic. The designs are from photographs by Foto Studios, Skala and printed multi-coloured offset by Victoria Security Printing a.s. Retail price of set is 120 Kč; set with cachet 124Kč, set with cachet and first day of issue cancel 128Kč. The left side of the card has a coloured picture of the building, explanatory text in Czech and commemorative cachet in black of the building. This series has the following church buildings: a) Prague – the former Benedictine convent with St George Basilica, b) Kostelní Vydří – the grounds of the Carmelite Cloister and Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel Church, c) Chlum Sv Maří – the monastery of the Order of Holy Cross with the Church of the Ascension of the Virgin Mary and Church of Mary Magdalene, d) Český Krumlov – the Minorite Monastery with the Body of Christ Church and Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, e) Brno – the Capuchin Monastery of the Foundation of the Holy Cross, f) Bílá Voda – the Church of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, g) Svatý Kopeček near Olomouc – the Cathedral of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, h) Znojmo – cloister of the Order of St Dominic with the Church of the Holy Cross.

Commemorative Postcards

18 June 2008: World Stamp Exhibition Praga 2008 – The Exhibition Grounds – The Palace of Industry. Designer: Václav Kučera Printing: coloured offset Retail Price: 15Kč Design: imprinted 10 Kč stamp in red-brown with a silhouette of Hradčany. To the left of the imprint is a security hologram and the logo of the Czech Post. The cachet on the left side of the card shows the front façade of the Palace of Industry with the Praga 2008 logo below and text in Czech.



18 June 2008: World Stamp Exhibition Praga 2008 – The Postal Museum. Designer: Václav Kučera Printing: coloured offset Retail Price: 22Kč Design: imprinted 17Kč stamp in bright blue with a silhouette of Hradčany. To the left of the imprint is a security hologram and logo of the Czech Post Office. The cachet on the left shows the Alpine Lounge of the Postal Museum Prague with the Exhibition logo and text. The Museum will be the venue for the Philatelic Literature Class of exhibits. The Exhibition takes place from 12 to 14 September 2008.



The following two cards have an imprinted 10 Kč stamp in red-brown with a silhouette of Hradčany. To the left of the imprint is a security hologram and the logo of the Czech Post. Both are printed by coloured offset with a retail price of 15Kč each.

3 September 2008: World Stamp Exhibition Praga 2008 – Children's Post. Designer: Johana Boumová aged 10 years (cachet) Design Layout: Karel Dvořák. The cachet drawing shows a cat with a cap on his head holding a letter in his paw. To the left is the logo of Praga 2008. Below the drawing is the text in Czech: 'The winning drawing from the Competition for the Best Design of a Postage Stamp by Children up to 16 Years.'

3 September 2008: World Stamp Exhibition Praga 2008 – Balloon Post. Designer: Karel Dvořák
Design: a contemporary hot air balloon and a gas balloon ‘Praga 68’ flying above the countryside. To the left is the Praga 2008 logo and below is the text in Czech ‘Balloon Post, 40th Anniversary of the Gas Balloon’s Take-Off Praga 68.’

Slovakia

20 March 2008 Definitive – Dahlia with coupon for personalised use



Designers: Petr Škubal and Radka Manečková
Printing: offset by Post Printing House, Prague in sheets of 8 stamps and 8 coupons.

Design: stamp – dahlia blooms with the tariff indication T2, 50g. From 1 January 2009 Slovakia will use the Euro and stamps now have tariff and weight indications rather than Slovak Crowns in preparation for the

change-over. **coupon** – artwork entitled ‘Harvest’ 1988 by Laco Teren with marginal inscription ‘60th Anniversary of the Slovak National Gallery’ in Slovak. No official FDC.

17 April 2008 Personalities



Designers: Katarína Slaninková (T1) and Peter Augustovič (T2) **Engravers:** Juraj Vitek (T1) and Arnold Feke (T2) **Printing:** offset by Post Printing House Prague. FDCs printed DS by TAB Ltd Bratislava.

Designs: portraits of the personalities. a) T1,100g – Maša Haľamová (1908-1995) was a poet, children’s author and translator. Her poems have been translated into nine languages and several set to music by Slovak composers. **FDC:** printed grey with a commemorative Blatnica pri Martine cancel. The symbolic cachet drawing is a tree with heart.



b) T2, 500g – Eugen Suchoň (25.9.1908 Pezinok – 5.8.1993 Bratislava) was a composer, theorist, teacher and author. He composed for solo instruments and voice, chamber groups, orchestral works and operas.

FDC: printed in black with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet drawing shows a keyboard with hands on a background of manuscript.

30 April 2008 Technical Monuments – Fire-fighting Equipment



Designers: Igor Benca (T1) and Róbert Brun (T2) **Engraver:** Rudolf Cigánik **Printing:** RD by Post House Printing, Prague. FDCs – DS by TAB Ltd, Bratislava.

Designs: a) T1, 500g – R A Smekel four-wheeled hand-operated pump from 1872. The Smekel family company was in existence from 1820 until the 1940s with several factories in the Czech and Slovak territory. **FDC:** printed in grey with a commemorative Ružomberok cancel. The cachet drawing shows an early two-wheeled hand operated pump.



b) T2, 1000g – horse-drawn F Seltenhofer pump of 1880. This family firm was founded in 1816 in Sopron and operated until the end of World War 2. **FDC:** printed in black with a commemorative Ružomberok cancel. The cachet drawing shows various fire-fighting implements.