



CZECHOUT

JOURNAL OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 162



**Cover with routing instructions to send via South America
in an attempt to avoid British Censors**

CPSGB Publications

Detailed catalogue and postal charges are available from the Publications Manager (*see inside back cover*).

Monographs

- No. 3: *The Pošta Československo Overprints*, by Roy A. Dehn. 47p. 1985, reprinted 2015. £7.50.
- No. 4: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal Markings, 1938-1945*, by Juan E. Page. 42p. 1985, reprinted 2000 with improved maps. £7.50.
- No. 6: *The German Occupation of the Sudetenland, 1938*, by W. A. Dawson. 71p. 1988, reprinted 1994. £9.00.
- No. 7: *Index to articles on Czechoslovak philately, 1950-1979*, by J. Negus. 15p. 1989, reprinted 2000. £1.50.
- No. 8: *Occupation of Czechoslovak Frontier Territories by Beck's Poland from the Postal History View-Point*, by Jiří Neumann. 43p. 1989, reprinted 1999. £7.50.
- No. 9: *The Field Post of the Czechoslovak & Allied Forces in Russia 1918-1920*, compiled by W. A. Page. 55p. 1991, reprinted 1994. £7.50.
- No. 10: *The 25th Anniversary of Czechoslovak Independence: The 1943 London Exhibitions*, by V. J. Kralicek and W. A. Page. 50p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £9.00.
- No. 11: *The Sokols in Philately: Postal, commemorative postmarks & postcards*, by Brian C. Day. 69p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £10.00.
- No. 12: *Military Cards of the Exiled Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain, 1939-1945*, by V. J. Kraliček and W. A. Page. 30p. 1999. £7.50.
- No. 13: *The Hradčany Issue, 1918-1920*, by Robert Bradford. 34p. 2000. £7.50.
- No. 14: *The Liberation of Olomouc May 1945: Postal arrangements including local and revolutionary overprint issues*, by Robert J. Hill. 42p. 2004. £9.00.
- No. 15: *The postal history of the Free Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain, 1940-1945*, by Richard Beith. 90p. 2002. £12.50.
- No. 16: *The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and in Russia, 1939-1941, and, Czechoslovaks in the Middle East, 1940-1943*, by Dr Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung. 46p. 2003. £10.00.
- No. 17: *Czechoslovak Field Post, 1918-1921: A study of postal activities*, by Brian C. Day. 135p. 2002. £20.00.
- No. 18: *Postal Arrangements Following the Liberation of Prague in May 1945*, by R. J. Hill. 92p. 2005. £16.50.
- No. 19: *Bohemia & Moravia: A Collector's Notebook*, by John Hammonds, edited and additional research by Rex Dixon, based on the Ron Hollis Collection. 76p. 2009. £9.00.
- No. 20: *The Early Postal History of Carpatho-Ukraine, with particular reference to the Usage of the First Postage Stamps of Austria*, by Otto Hornung. 34p. 2007. £10.00.
- No. 21: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal History and Stamps 1786-2000*, by Ing. J. Verlag. 230p. 2007, 2nd enlarged edition 2008. Ask whether in stock before ordering.
- No. 22: *Postmarks of the SO 1920 Plebiscite*, by Oldřich Tovačovský et al, translation by Robert Kingsley 66p. 2010. £15.00.
- No. 23: *The 1923 Agriculture and Science Issue (Hospodářství a věda)*, by Mark Wilson. 29p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 24: *Travelling Post Offices in German-occupied Sudetenland: An anthology*, by Dr Anthony M. Goodbody and Cyril Kidd. 30p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 25: *Compendium of 1944-1945 Liberation Overprints*, by Karel Holoubek, additional material and translation by Robert J. Hill. 314p, plus a CD with colour illustrations throughout. 2012. £17.50.
- No. 26: *Free Czechoslovak Forces in France, 1939-1940*, by Richard Beith. 66p. 2013. £18.00.
- No. 27: *Czechoslovak Independent Armoured Brigade, 1944-1945*, by Richard Beith. 54p. 2014. £18.00.
- No. 28: *Railway Mail in Slovakia and Ruthenia*, by Tony Goodbody, 44p. 2015. £9.00.

Other Publications

Bulletin No. 9: English translation of the text of *Monografie* No. 13 *Czech Postmarks from the Beginnings to 1918*, edited by C. Wackett. An essential companion to the *Monografie*. 39p. 1977, format revised 1985, reprinted 1996. £4.00.

Fundamental Philatelic Terminology: A vocabulary in Czech/ German/ English, by Vladimír Bernásek. Translations of almost 500 Czech philatelic terms, 15p. 1989, re-mastered with minor corrections 2001. £1.50.

DVD

Czechout Interactive Indexes: 1975-June 2013. £10 including postage worldwide.

CZECHOUT

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Editorial

I have much enjoyed being *Czechout's* editor for the past three years and intend to carry through until the end of 2016 and the December issue to complete a bit more than four years in the post. However, I shall not stand for reelection as Editor at the November AGM and so am giving notice of my resignation now.

Czechout shall need a new editor and the sooner someone steps up and offers to take over for 2017, the better. I can state unequivocally that the post is most rewarding, that the Committee stands behind the Editor and does everything in its power to aid and assist the Editor in putting out what must be considered the best Czechoslovak Society publication in the world.

I will be happy to discuss what the role entails with potential candidates. In addition, I am willing to react to and offer assistance to, but not participate in, the new Editor's work. Step up, your Society needs you.

**To volunteer as a candidate for the Hon. Editor's position, contact
Roger Morrell (details inside back cover).**

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News & Notices

The Society extends a warm welcome to new members **Bertus Hoekstra**, The Netherlands, and **Phil Reilly**, Manchester.

Congratulations

Wojciech Kierstan took first place in a cup competition at Grantham Stamp Club with an entry on the *Czech Army in Siberia Pictorial (Irkutsk) Issue*. It is good to know that Wojciech found our Monograph 9 useful when putting the display together. He commented that the majority of the entries were British or British Colonies so he was pleased that Eastern Europe got a look in!

The Meeting on Saturday 14 November 2015 at the Czech and Slovak National Club

After the AGM and lunch, **Hans van Doormalen** showed his display of the war hospitals in Brunn during the First World War. His display was complemented by the new monograph on the same subject. Hans had seen one article on this subject by Gebauer and developed his display from this, encouraged by one of his philatelic mentors.

First aid had begun at the front, but it was quickly realised that hospitals were required away from the front. The Czech lands were suitable as there were no hostilities there at any time during the war. The first half of the display covered the War, Army and General Hospitals, extending into larger buildings, such as the schools (mainly the Czech speaking ones, rather than the German). The second half covered the Red Cross, Moravian Schools and convalescence homes. Each sheet showed the original use of the building, a detailed map, a view of the building and what happened after the war, together with an example of a cachet. The cards are not rare, but Hans showed what can be developed in a comprehensive coverage of the issues. Some cachets required detective skills, such as the reference to Belgrade. This was not a suburb in Brunn, but the physical relocation of one of the Brunn hospitals closer to the front line during a particularly cold spell. A reference in a book from one of the doctors provided the key to this mystery. Hans believes that philately will only succeed with new generations if it is interwoven with traditional history. His display is an excellent example.

Roger Morrell thanked Hans for his display. Roger had written the forward to the new monograph and was fully aware of the work on the maps, research on the Internet, the details of each location, and the organisation of the display.



*Hans van Doormalen explains his display.
(Photo Bob McLeod)*

At the same meeting, **Rex Dixon** announced **Mark Wilson** had won the Dawson prize for literature for his June 2013 *Czechout* article 'An Extraordinary Issue: The Mucha Newspaper Stamps.' The winner is allowed to choose a book and Mark selected **T.G.M. 1923** by Ivana Šárová. Unfortunately, the Committee has been unable to purchase a copy and solicits information about locating a copy from the general membership; even a used copy would be acceptable.



*Rex Dixon presents Mark Wilson with the Dawson Literature Award.
(Photo Bob McLeod)*

Display at the Royal

The Standing Display at the Royal Philatelic Society London for the month of November 2015 was *The Austro-Hungarian Field Post: 1914-1918* presented by our member **Lubor Kunc**. The display dealt with an interesting time in European postal history, illustrated the complexity of war-time postal operation, and also touched upon censorship, naval mail, and some unusual postal items.

The display in 108 sheets was comprehensive and commenced with the early Austro-Hungarian Field Post Offices. The first item was a postcard from the first day of the service: 1 August 1914. This was followed by a section on the structure of the Field Post System. Another section contained a large array of different cancellation and registration marks.

The next frames contained the Austro-Hungarian Navy mail. The free service did not begin until 22 October 1914; a first day of use commenced the section. The group of covers containing examples of mail delivered by the Austro-Hungarian Field Post Offices was fascinating and contained newspaper wrappers, air force mail, and even the mail of stamp collectors fighting in WWI.

It was in this section that Lubor included a most unusual pair of telegrams. The first one was sent to the prisoners' camp at Tashkent (Uzbekistan). The recipient was Mr Eduard Radl and the second telegram was sent by him from the Tashkent camp to his family in Nove Straseci, near Prague.

Lubor researched the events behind the telegrams and discovered that Eduard Radl was an artillery officer captured by the Russians at Fort of Przemysl in Galacia in 1915. He was sent to the Tashkent camp, where he spent a couple of years, after which he joined the Czechoslovak Legion in Russia. The telegram survived not only WWI but also the Russian civil war. The telegram travelled with Mr Radl from Central Asia to Kiev and St Petersburg. He later continued his journey through Siberia to Vladivostock, then to the Red Sea, and finally back to Czechoslovakia when the main part of the Legion returned in 1920.

The Field Post Office closed on 4 November 1918. However, Lubor was able to complete his display by demonstrating that it was re-opened in 1919 when the Hungarian Red Army attacked Czechoslovakia, Romania, and Yugoslavia.

Yvonne Wheatley

Report of Meeting with the Austrian Philatelic Society 16 January 2016

Once again the Austrian Philatelic Society welcomed members of our Society to join with them at their meeting held during the York Stamp Fair.

The following members of our Society gave displays during the afternoon:

Nick Coverdale *The Graf Zeppelin propaganda flight over Sudetenland 2 December 1938.*

James Hooper *Civil censorship in Pilsen and Prague.*

Keith Brandon *The 1908 Prague Jubilee Exhibition and other exhibitions.* This brought to life the article by Roger Morrell in *Czechout* December 2015.

Alan Berrisford

Yvonne Wheatley *The use of Austrian stamps on mail from Czechoslovakia in the first year following independence.*

All the members of our Society who attended the meeting were also members of the Austrian Philatelic Society and it was apparent that everyone who showed material made a genuine effort to show material which would be of interest to members of both societies.

Yvonne Wheatley

Frederik Backeljauw

On January 18 2016 Mr. Frederik Backeljauw from the Belgian town of Schelle died having reached nearly 70 years of age. He was a major collector of Czechoslovak stamps and a great friend of Czechoslovak philately. He had concentrated on Czechoslovak stamps since 1975. His interest was in the Hradčany stamps as used in every municipality of the former Czechoslovakia from 1918 to 1921. This enormous task filled volumes 16 and 17 of the *Monografie*. He also actively participated in the completion of *Monografie 5 – SO 1920*. In order to better understand *Filatelie* and the *Merkur review* – he was a longtime subscriber – he learned Czech. He was an active member of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society in the US, and the societies for Collectors of Czechoslovak stamps in Germany and the Benelux.

He was a great lover of Max Švabinský's work and managed to collect signed copies of all the stamps he designed. He frequently visited Czechoslovakia and later its successor states. As a great lover of nature, he especially enjoyed collecting stamps featuring wildlife. He did collect some other countries, for instance, Afghanistan. His pleasant and open-minded personality won him many friends around the world. He left us a great philatelist and wonderful human being.

Jan Kypast

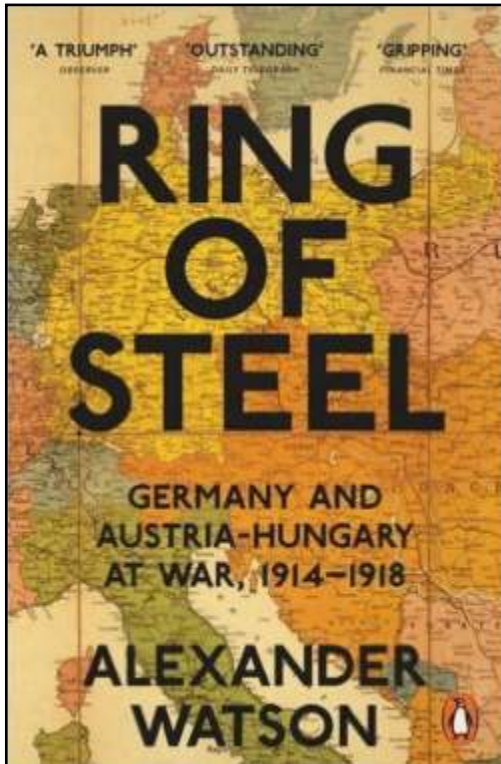
Cooperation Agreement with the Society for Czechoslovak Philately

Check out our sister organization, the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, at their website: www.csphilately.org and through their Secretary, Tom Cossaboom at KLFCCK@aol.com. Their publication the *Specialist* and our *Czechout* have little duplication in content. In addition, under a new agreement the two societies have arranged for payment of your SCP subscription to our CPSGB Treasurer without having to worry about foreign currency or sending it to the US. So why not have more fun, become a member of both societies!

Book Reviews

Ring of Steel, by Alexander Watson, published in hardback by Allen Lane, 2014; but Penguin Books edition 2015, ISBN 978-0-141-04203-9, soft-bound, RRP in the UK £12.99. Also available as a Kindle edition.

Most English-language histories of WWI take an Anglo-centric view, and tend to focus on the Western Front, with very little written about the other fronts in which British forces were involved. On my Christmas wish list this year was a new book which takes a different stance; this historical review is



unusual in that it takes the viewpoint of how the Central Powers reacted to their predicament, both in the run-up to the declaration of war, and thereafter. For those wanting to learn more about Austria-Hungary's and Germany's positions in WWI this makes a good read. It describes the feeling that the Central Powers were surrounded by the Entente Powers intent on restraining expansionist ambitions that could only be 'sorted out' by having a classic war, for which the Sarajevo assassinations were a good excuse, even if the victims were actually not much liked. It shows how some of the political whispering to ambassadors can be taken incorrectly, how some politicians suddenly get cold feet, and how sabre-rattling can do a lot of damage. It describes how the Dual Monarchy was in a state of steep decline with many separatist movements politically active (not just the Czechs), but was still just about held together by the longevity of the Emperor's presence, and a certain allegiance the population felt towards him (a kind of democratic cult of personality). It shows how easily politicians manipulated the somewhat diverse and fractious populace to support the war effort. All the plans were for a short and sharp shock attack on Serbia, but this

didn't happen. The speed and intensity of Russian involvement was completely underestimated and resulted in more than four years of painful decline for both Empires.

Now, I have to admit that I haven't read it all yet – it's too soon after Christmas and the book has 780-odd pages – but if you want to learn more about the drivers for the war and the way the populations reacted to it, this book will provide you with the detail.

It has already been highly awarded with Winner of the 2014 Wolfson History Prize, the 2014 Guggenheim-Lehrman Prize in Military History, the Society for Military History's 2015 Distinguished Book Award, and the 2015 British Army Military Book of the Year. So it can't be bad!

Roger Morrell

War Hospitals in Brünn During the Great War, by Hans van Dooremalen, Monograph no. 29, 2015, CPSGB, ISBN 978-0-9553682-7-1. A4 format, soft-bound, colour illustrations. A picture of the monograph's cover appears on the back cover of this issue of *Czechout*.

This Monograph represents an in-depth review of one of the lesser studied aspects of WWI, that of the treatment of the wounded and their convalescence. It focuses on how the military garrison of Brünn/Brno created a whole series of additional hospitals in public buildings during the course of the war as the casualties at the various fronts mounted up because the main city garrison hospital and the ordinary city hospitals could not cope. These 'war' hospitals treated mainly members of the city garrison, who were returned home from the front to recover, if that was possible.

Hans's study covers not only the *Garrisonsspital* (garrison hospital) and its seven temporary branches, but also the three reserve hospitals and their branches, the *Landwehr* (territorial army) hospital, an *Infektionsspital* (isolation hospital), the hospitals of the Red Cross with their specialist

units such as orthopaedics, the Moravian Provincial Hospital and its units, hospitals of religious orders, and seven convalescent homes. He provides the locations of all these using a contemporary city map, as well as examples of free-post mail sent from them with their different hand-stamped cachets (which also acted as censor marks). There are many illustrations of the hospitals, their staff, and inmates, taken mainly from postcard pictures.

The Monograph is supplemented by several appendices on Moravian place-names and Brunn street-names in the German and Czech languages, on the translation of German military terms, on an abridged history of the involvement of Austria-Hungary in WWI, and on some contemporary newspaper articles reporting on the development of the hospital system in the city.

Hans is to be congratulated for his hard work in not only finding such postal and illustrative material, but in identifying it and piecing together the complete story. The display version of his material was presented to the Society in November 2015, and was greatly admired by Society members.

The Monograph that he has painstakingly put together provides not only a record of his hard work, but an example to others of (a) what to look out for, and (b) what can be achieved in what might appear at first sight to be quite a narrow subject. It also reflects a rather painful episode of history that was probably repeated in all major cities of the crumbling Empire.

Roger Morrell

The Hradčany, by Dr. František Kubát. Translated by Dr. Mark Wilson. CPSGB Print-on-Demand. 224 pages, on American size paper (8.5x11.00 inches; 215.9x279.4 mm), black and white illustrations.

The saying goes 'Be careful what you wish for'. Whenever I looked at my copy of *Monografie Československých Známek* Volume 1, I wished I could read the chapters on the Hradčany. Now I can, thanks to a comprehensive translation by Dr. Mark Wilson. The original work was translated by Mark for The Society of Czechoslovak Philately in 2006 for their series *Czechoslovakian Postage Stamps of the First Republic: Essays from the Monografie*. That Society has kindly given permission for the title to be printed for the first time and added to our Print-on-Demand titles.

The book is laid out as closely to the original as possible and uses the same numbering system (pages 77-296) as the original in order to support English translations of Czech language references to *Monografie* I found in other books and articles. Some changes have been made which enhance the ease of reading. For example, captions for the illustrations now appear, where possible, with the illustration itself rather than being collected in an appendix as in the original. Some small corrections

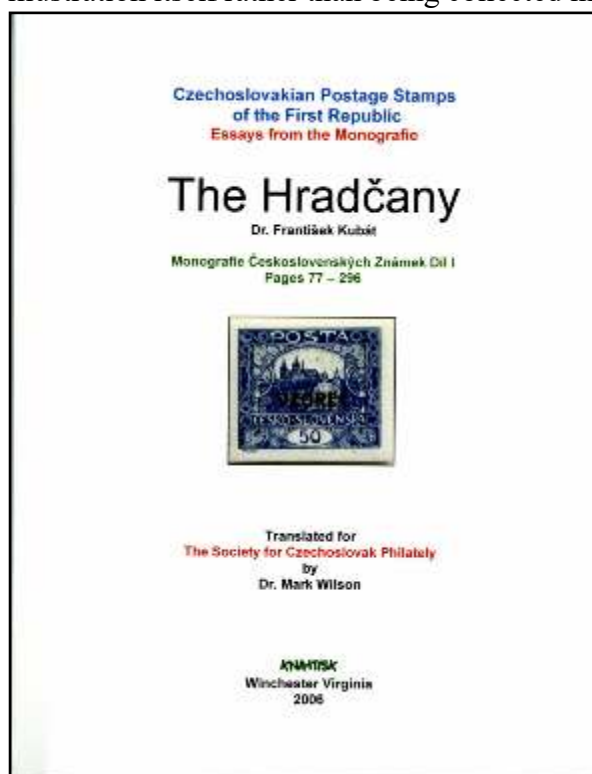
have been made to the original text and these appear in footnotes. A table of contents and a list of tables has been added.

To give you some idea of the coverage: the issue the origins of the stamp are explained then followed by an extensive section on the printing of the stamps and production flaws. There is a survey of actual and special printings as well as a section on postal stationery. The illustrations from the original work are faithfully reproduced.

In his forward Mark explains that he was captured by Czech stamps and ventures to surmise that the translation will ensnare others to explore what has to be one of the most elegant and complex postal issues of all time. I was ensnared many years ago and am looking forward to studying the issue afresh with so much information readily to hand. It is a splendid work.

The book is available as a Print-on-Demand title. Enquiries to be made of the Honorary Treasurer.

Yvonne Wheatley



The Czechoslovak Army in Ukraine 1914-1920: Book 2, by Roman Dubyniak and Peter Cybaniak. 140 pages, colour illustrations.

It is now 5 years since the publication of *Book 1* in this series which contained much historical background information on the political reasons behind the formation of the Czech Legions and their role on the Russian front. That volume concentrated on Field Post Offices 12 and 14 and the postal history of units formed and based in what is termed Carpatho-Ukraine.



The publication of *Book 2* seems most appropriate as it is coincidental with the current splitting of the Ukrainian nation by Russia. *Book 2* specifically covers the history of Polni Pošta units 22, 35, 38, 44, and 46, and a small section describes the Czechoslovak Navy's occupation of Pola (later given to Italy at the end of WW1). Like *Book 1*, there are maps plus many examples of used postcards, all excellently reproduced in full colour, many showing both sides, with the historical connections of the picture side explained. The authors have managed to obtain examples of full and clearly struck postmarks with Regimental hand stamps.

What I particularly like about both books are their opening section. These give the history of Czechs in Ukraine, how they came to be there, the 19th century occupation by Russia, and tri-lingual postal information in Czech, English, and Cyrillic (Ukrainian/Russian). Included are many messages translated into English, some with information about the struggles. One example is on page 81, where a view card of the main street in

Košice posted to PRAH 1 is illustrated and the address side shows a Polni Pošta 46 CDS. and the two line handstamp of Infantry Regiment No. 28's third field company. It is dated 30 March 1919, a year after the peace treaty of Berestia-Lytovske split the Ukrainian territory between four neighbouring countries: Czechoslovakia, Russia, Hungary, and Rumania. The main Czech Army had left the Ukraine for Russia, leaving behind most Ukrainian Czechs. The message reads:

Dear Mother! First please accept my heartfelt greetings and kisses. Here I send you a view of the most easterly town of Slovakia. Its style is Hungarian but the majority of its population is Slovak. It is interesting to see its order and cleanliness. The situation at the Front is tense. Daily there are conflicts and life is therefore not serene as the Hungarians are very close to us. Once again my heartfelt greeting. Pepa [Josef].

The only criticism I have is that like *Book 1*, although the pages are numbered, there is no index to help with quick navigation to relevant pages/sections. This perhaps would be a small project for an enthusiastic member to produce? Reference is made in the book giving thanks to our member Brian C. Day for his constant help and to Dr. Peter Gebauer (Brno) for his translation help.

If you are only interested in the historical and postal aspects covered in *Book 2*, this book may stand alone as an excellent reference source of Polni Pošta information. But I strongly recommend the purchase of *Book 2* as a compliment *Book 1*, which is a must have reference to the histories of this much troubled land. I look forward to *Book 3*, which will cover Field Post Office No. 75.

The book is available from The Roman Dubyniak Ukrainian Museum Foundation, 16 Bexley Avenue, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS8 5LU, England at a cost of £15. Orders can be collected from one of our meetings if you arrange this through the Museum Foundation and inform the Honorary Treasurer.

Reg Hounsell

Abstracts of Publications

Colin W Spong

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

The British Postal Museum & Archive Newsletter, September 2015.

New Director of Trustees appointed [Rick Wills]; Perilous Post – Transporting the Mail by Sea (Taft); Mail to the Fleet (Taft); Ships on Stamps (Tomlinson); The Lineage of the London River Postman (-);

The June & September 2015 issues of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei*, Vol. 46. Whole Nos 184-5.

Member Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us.

The Plate Flaws in Czechoslovak stamps 1945-1992. Section 5 1988: Pofis Nos. 2824-2873 (Norbjerg); The Plate Flaws in Czechoslovak stamps 1945-1992. Section 4 1989: Pofis Nos. 2874-2920 (Norbjerg); Airship Distribution of Mail in Germany/Europe [selected examples]; with Czechoslovak involvement (Wilhelms); Airship Distribution of Mail to North America with Czechoslovak involvement (Wilhelms); The Sudetenland Corner part 13 (Bauer edited by Klemm).

New internet page for Hradčany collectors: www.hradcany-stamps.com (-); New about Hradčany issue-research project (Sevenhuijsen); The Plate Flaws in Czechoslovak stamps 1945-1992. Section 7 1986: Pofis Nos 2730-2777; Section 6 1987: Pofis Nos 2778-2823 (Norbjerg); The separate sections [fields] of the block Pofis No A 2852, including plate flaws (Last); The Sudetenland Corner part 14 (Bauer edited by Klemm).

The Summer 2015 issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol. 77. No 3. Whole No 641.

Dated Court Reply Cards (Wheatley); Postal Use of 60h Hradčany Stamps (Káňa); Genuine or Philatelic? (Svoboda & Kunc); Revenue News (Kramer); The 1920 Masaryk Issue [Part 2] (Palaschak).

Nos. 8, 9 & 10. 2015 issues of *Filatelie*, Vol. 65.

The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

Some ethical & legal issues [7] (Beneš); Postal Services in the Great War 1914-18 [13] (Kavka); Comments on revolutionary overprints of Bystřice pod Hostýnem 1945 (Krečmer); Romanian field post in our territory in the years 1944-5 [7] (Weissenstein); Revenue Stamps in Czech Countries 1854-2015 (Beneš).

Some ethical & legal issues [8] (Beneš); Seventy years after the end of validity of Carpatho-Ukraine overprints (Beneš); Pigeon post in history [1] (Kramář); Romanian field post in our territory in the years 1944-5 [8] (Weissenstein); Revenue Stamps in Czech Countries 1854-2015 [1] (Beneš).

Romanian field post in our territory in the years 1944-5 [9] (Weissenstein); Pigeon post in history [2] (Kramář); From the business correspondence to the history of the factories (Říha); Revenue Stamps in Czech Countries 1854-2015 [2] (Beneš).

No 3. *Merkur Revue*, Vol. 20.

T.G.Masaryk:1920 – The 125 h value and its postal use (-); Austria 1850: Ladurner (Pelikán); The arrangement of Europe after the First World War (Štefek); Fiscal Stamps (Štefek).

The September 2015 issues of *Stamps of Hungary*, No. 202.

On the 1919 overprint trail, part 12: The postal history of Fiume: 17 November 1918 to 15 April 1919. (Pitts); A new classification of the Tax Notice forms of Hungary, part 1 (de Leeuw van Weenen). Miksa Róth by Morrell.

Survey on Varieties of the Allegory Issue

Yvonne Wheatley

I wish to conduct a survey to ascertain the number of stamps with varieties, exceptional perforations or usage of a single stamp where the period of correct usage was short. As no records exist the purpose of the study is to get a better estimate of the known examples for a booklet I am writing. I list below the main varieties and shall be most appreciative of any information you are able to provide. The item does not need to be in your possession if it was previously owned by you or was seen in a publication or auction catalogue. In the latter two cases please provide the reference. If you have any rare items not listed please give me details. I will be happy to supply a comprehensive list for publication. My details are on the inside back cover.

Details	Single Stamp (mint or used)	Multiple Stamps (mint or used)	Covers (with date)
Dove			
Line Perforation 13³/₄			
5 haler			
10 haler			
20 haler			
Horizontal Perforations			
5 haler			
10 haler			
Usage			
1 June 20 - 31 July 20			
5 haler Internal postcard			

Chainbreaker			
Line Perforation 13³/₄			
40 haler			
50 haler			
60 haler			
100 haler			
150 haler			
Horizontal Perforations			
40 haler			
60 haler			
Varieties			
Missing head 50			
40 joined types			
Usage			
20 haler Internal postcard 23 Jun 20 - 31 Jul 20			
30 haler Letter rate 22 Jun 20 - 31 Jul 20			
Describe postmark of imperforate 40 used on cover			

Details	Single Stamp (mint or used)	Multiple Stamps (mint or used)	Covers (with date)
Hussite			
Usage			
1 Jun 20 31 Jul 20			
80 haler Internal registered letter			
80 haler 2nd step internal letter			
90 haler 3rd step internal letter			
Agriculture & Science			
1920			
Comb perforation			
13¼×13			
300 haler			
500 haler			
600 haler			
Usage			
100 haler Registered foreign letter			
17 Jun 20 - 31 Jul 20			

Mark Wilson's Gillingham Residential Weekend Display Yvonne Wheatley

At the Society's Weekend at Gillingham in July 2015 Mark Wilson gave a fascinating and informative display of typographic stamps from the First Republic printed by the Czech Graphics Union. A printed copy of the display is available as a Print-on-Demand item entitled *The Czech Graphics Union's Typographic Technologies and Practices as Revealed by First Republic Stamps* (48 pages, A4, softbound, coloured illustrations). Enquiries to be made of the Honorary Treasurer.

The book captures the pages of the display and is written in a manner which enables the reader to appreciate the manufacturing process used for the eleven issues. The two typographic methods, photographic based typography and matrix based typography, are fully explained and demonstrated with illustrations.

Every aspect of the production is explained in detail: from the initial design trials to the master die, plate repairs, and plate arrangements, to name just a few of the topics covered. It is interesting to see how the printing company progressed from using photographic based typography in 1918 to mixed photographic and matrix technology after 1923. Tally numbers, stress relief bars, and perforations are also explained.

This is an excellent book to read before going to the other Print-on-Demand books for it fully explains the fundamentals of plate production making it easier to understand the in-depth plating studies.



Airmail from Bohemia & Moravia and the Slovak State to the USA via *LATI* and South America, 1940-1941

Richard Beith

Preface

Towards the end of 2014 I acquired an airmail cover sent from the Slovak State to Detroit, USA, (Figure 1). The manuscript advice, *Via Côte du Pacifique*, and its high franking suggested that the cover had travelled by the Italian airline *LATI* from Rome to Rio de Janeiro before crossing the Andes and had reached the USA by heading north via the Pacific coast of South America. Greatly intrigued, I resolved to gather as much data as possible for this route from Axis Europe to the USA, resulting in a paper published in August 2015. [1] The paper ended up with a database of sixty-five flown covers (only this Slovak one from my own collection!), the majority, forty-nine of them, from Germany, but with five from Italy, seven from the Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia and four from the Slovak State. This present article is devoted purely to the mail from Bohemia & Moravia and the Slovak State and, for the first time, delves into the likely routes taken by such Czech and Slovak mails to reach Rome. Also included is a note on the operation of the US Postal Agency at Cali, Colombia.



Figure 1: 7 June 1941. Michalovec, Slovak State to Detroit, Michigan.
 Franking: 31.50 Ks = 2.50 Ks surface letter + 29 Ks 5g airmail fee.
 PC90 seal EXAMINER 4598 (Jamaica), date stamp 8 JUL 1941.
 M/S: *Via Côte du Pacifique*. (ex Beith.)

The Airline

LATI (*Linee Aeree Transcontinentali Italiane*) carried mail from Rome to Rio de Janeiro for a two year period starting with a first flight on 21 December 1939. The line was extended to the Argentinean capital, Buenos Aires, in July 1941. The aerophilately of the line has been covered in two English-language monographs, published in 1993 and in 2012. [2, 3] *LATI* used Savoia Marchetti landplanes for their transatlantic service.

The Route

All *LATI*'s intermediate stops were on neutral Portuguese or Spanish territory. *LATI* flew Rome – Seville – Villa Cisneros, Spanish Sahara – Sal, Cape Verde Islands – Recife, Pernambuco – Rio de Janeiro – Buenos Aires. Europe-bound planes often flew from Recife to Natal to use the better runway there for the take-off to Sal.

The Mail

Southbound, *LATI* would carry mail from Germany and Italy and their dependent States including the Italian Colonies, the Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia, and the Slovak State. In addition mail could be carried from neutral States such as Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. Northbound, mail was carried from all the independent nations of South America, none of whom had declared war on the Axis nations during the period of *LATI*'s activity.

Axis Censorship and the Routes from Bohemia & Moravia and the Slovak State to Rome

Mail sent from Bohemia & Moravia to the USA (or South America) was always, to the best of my knowledge, censored in Germany by the OKW (*Oberkommando der Wehrmacht*), usually at Munich (code letter 'd') or Frankfurt (code letter 'e'). The obvious route to Rome would then be via the daily joint air service, Route 9, between Berlin and Rome operated by *Deutsche Lufthansa* and the Italian line *Ala Littoria*. Intermediate stops were made at Munich (one of the censorship centres) and Venice.

It would appear that Slovak mail for transmission by *LATI* (and by *Pan American* from Lisbon to New York on FAM 18) always travelled directly from the Slovak State to Rome via Hungary(?) and never(?) received markings from the OKW, even though they had a censorship unit in Vienna (code letter 'g'). A Rome to Lisbon service was available for mail destined for *Pan American Airways*.

The idea of travel via Hungary was suggested by a cover (*Figure 2*) which was prepared for carriage from the Slovak State to the USA, not by *LATI*, but by a *Pan American Airways* Boeing 314 flying boat operating from Lisbon to New York. In order to utilise this much cheaper service, the sender would have to accept the chance of British censorship during the Boeing's potential call at Bermuda or Trinidad. Note the Slovak CENZUROVANÉ seal and the handstamped CENZOR 30.



Figure 2: 6 December 1941. Prešov 2, registered to New York.

Franking: 11.00 Ks.

Returned to the sender from Hungary as the USA was now an enemy belligerent. (ex Beith.)

(Image reduced in size.)

The problem for Mr Andej Roth in Prešov in writing this letter to his relation Mr William Roth in New York was that he posted it on 6 December 1941, one day before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Hence, by the time the letter left Slovak territory, the USA was now an enemy belligerent and the letter was returned to sender. A slip was pasted on the envelope with the printed heading in Hungarian *Kézbesítési előjegyzés*, understood to be an approximation of *delivery instructions*. In

addition, a duplicated text has been added in UPU French: *Service suspendu a cause de la guerre. RETOUR!* The franking of 11.00 Ks = 2.50 Ks overseas letter to 20g, 2.50 Ks registration fee, and 4.00 Ks 5g air fee(?) is possibly 2.00 Ks over-franked or perhaps Mr Roth was still using the earlier Ks 6.00 rate, but definitely a modest *Pan American* rate.

It is that printed slip in Hungarian which has prompted me to think that Slovak mail could pass via Hungary, possibly via Budapest. What air services were available? Luckily, *Deutsche Lufthansa* produced detailed diagrammatic time tables, at least up to January 1944. Figure 3 shows the timetable from 24 November 1941 indicating that a Budapest – Zagreb – Venice route existed which could easily connect with any Venice – Rome service.

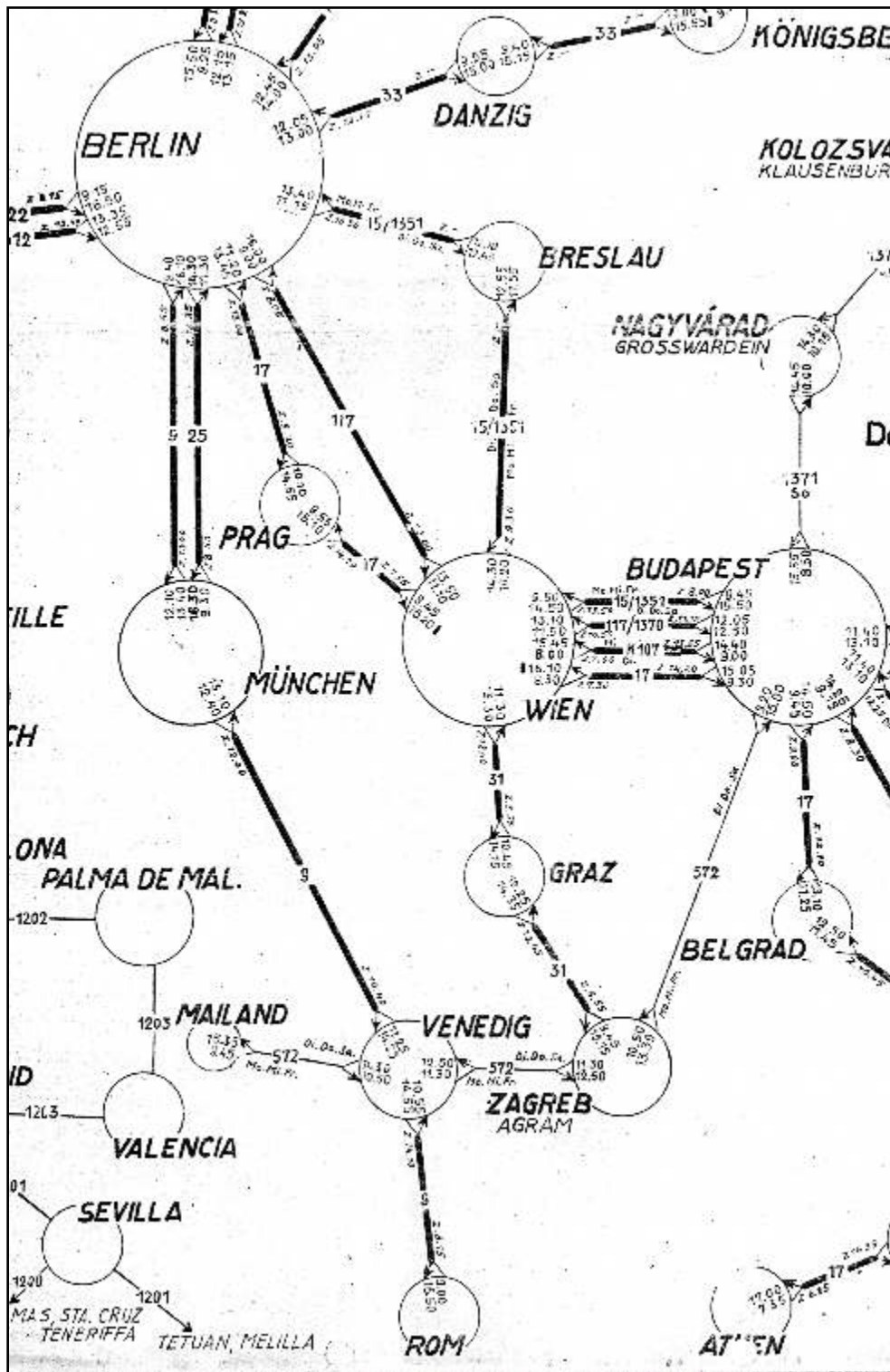


Figure 3: 24 November 1941, extract from Deutsche Lufthansa AG Timetable.
(Courtesy Deutsche Lufthansa Archive, Cologne.)

Dated timetables for 1940 and 1941 indicate:

From 18 August 1940	Budapest – Venice direct
From 18 July 1941	Budapest – Vienna – Berlin – Rome
From 24 November 1941	See <i>Figure 3</i>

Avoiding British Censorship

One considerable bonus to the Axis nations and their friends in South America was that the *LATI* route to and from South America avoided any chance of examination by the Imperial censorship stations at Bermuda or Port of Spain, Trinidad. In 2014 Bessone commented in some detail on this aspect of *LATI*'s flights to the Americas. [4] Many in still neutral USA objected vociferously to the removal of mails from *Pan American's* Clippers for mail examination during their calls at Bermuda on the FAM 18 New York – Bermuda – Azores – Lisbon and vice-versa route.

Hence it seems inevitable that the Axis powers and interested neutrals would seek to use the *LATI* route to South America as part of a cunning plan to avoid British postal censorship on mail to the USA. Miskevich provided a suggested route map (*Figure 4*) showing that mail delivered to Rio de Janeiro by *LATI* could pass via Buenos Aires, over the Andes to Santiago, and then up the Pacific coast of South America via Lima to Cristobal, Mexico City, and Brownsville, Texas. Rainer E. Lutgens suggested that the carriage of mails to the USA commenced on 1 September 1940, quoting the above route. [5, 6]

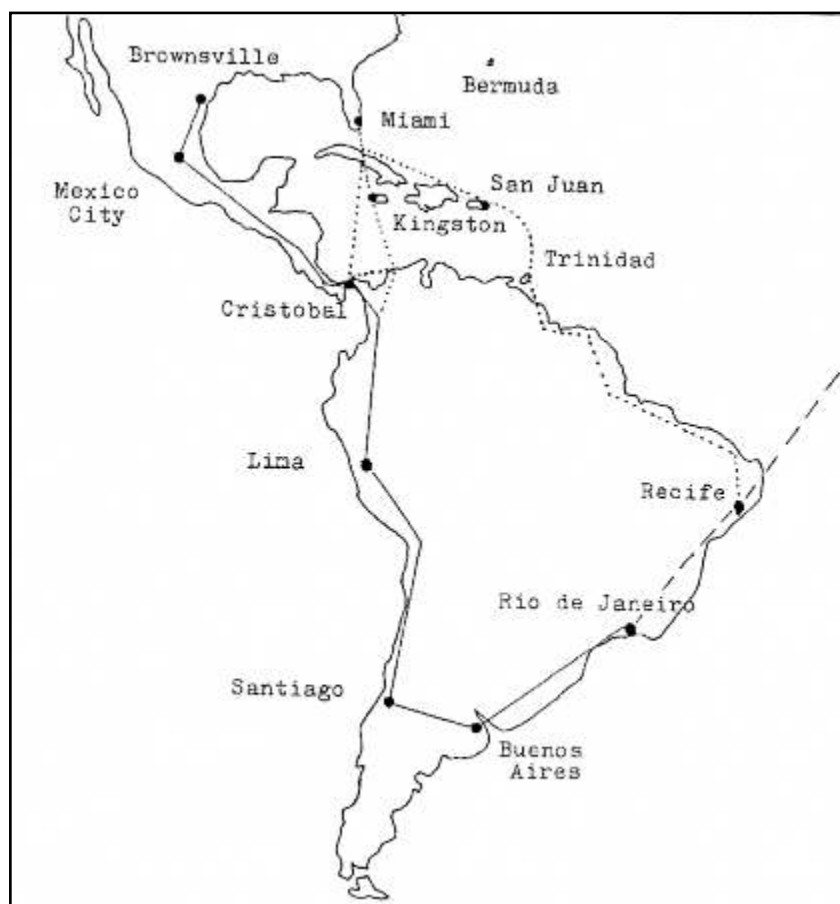


Figure 4: Probable mail route from Rio de Janeiro to the USA via the Pacific Coast of South America.
(Source: John Miskevich, 'Air mail through South America to the United States', German Postal Specialist, Mar. 1994.)

This route was recognised at least by the postal authorities in Bohemia & Moravia, Germany, Italy, the Slovak State, and Switzerland. Appropriate (expensive) postal rates were published roughly three to four times the rate via Lisbon and *Pan American Airways* (see *Tables 1 and 2*). It did not follow, of course, that postal clerks along the route would comply with the instructions given, or even knew about the possibilities offered. A number of covers for which these high fees were paid still managed to end up in the hands of the British censors (*Figure 1*) and were examined in Jamaica.

When discussing a cover from Italy to Washington DC, Peter A Flynn appeared to suggest that it was not necessary to go down to Buenos Aires to fly over the Andes and call at Santiago as an Atlantic-Pacific air route between Rio de Janeiro and Lima, Peru, had been initiated on 28 May 1938 and was operated for at least three years. [10] *Syndicato Condor* flew from Rio de Janeiro to Corumbá; *LAB* (*Lloyd Aéreo Boliviano*) flew Corumbá to La Paz, and *Lufthansa Peru* flew La Paz to Lima (Figure 5). [11]

This route probably continued for longer, but under new management, as well before the attack on Pearl Harbour the U.S. State Department took a strong interest in the activities of the German-backed airlines in South America. Davies noted that ‘In Peru, *DLH Sucursal*’s operating permit was withdrawn in February 1941 and the routes taken over by *Panagra* on 1 April’. In addition ‘The Bolivian *LAB* was nationalized in May [1941], a United States loan was negotiated, and *Panagra* took a 23% interest as payment for a management contract’. As to *Syndicato Condor*, German ownership was severed in April 1942. On 21 November 1942 the name of the airline was changed to *Cruzeiro do Sol*. [12]

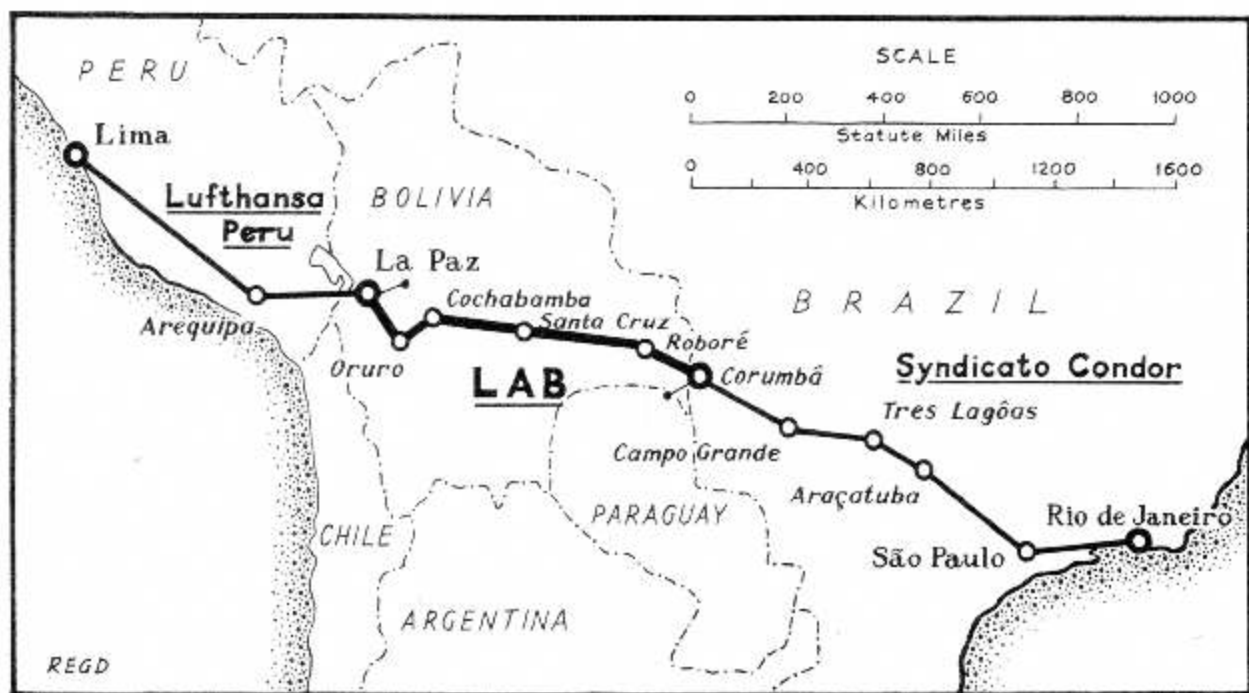


Figure 5: Alternative route across the Andes.
(Source: R E G Davies, *Airlines of Latin America since 1919.*)

Table 1: Rates to the USA from Bohemia & Moravia

	Via <i>LATI</i>	Via FAM 18 (<i>Pan American</i>)
Surface letter 20g	2.50 K	2.50 K
Each additional 20g	1.50 K	1.50 K
Registration fee	2.50 K	2.50 K
	3.00 K from 1 Oct 40	3.00 K from 1 Oct 40
Air surcharge each 5g	21.50 K	5.50 K (4.00 K at 1 Jun 41)
Combined rate for 5g letter	24.00 K	8.00 K (later 6.50 K)
Notes:	Details from a modern catalogue. FAM 18 mail plentiful. <i>LATI</i> mail can be found. The 21.50 K 5g rate is equivalent to the German 215 Rpf 5g rate. [7]	

Table 2: Slovak State rates to the USA deduced from examination of covers.

	Via <i>LATI</i>	Via FAM 18 (<i>Pan American</i>)
Surface letter 20g	2.50 Ks	2.50 Ks
Each additional 20g	1.50 Ks	1.50 Ks
Registration fee	2.50 Ks	2.50 Ks
Air surcharge each 5g	29.00 Ks	6.00 Ks (4.00 Ks at 1 Jun 41)
Combined rate for 5g letter	31.50 Ks*	8.50 Ks (later 6.50 Ks)

Notes:

* See *Figure 10* for a double weight letter franked at 60.50 Ks.

Dixon suggested that depreciation of the Slovak Crown against the B&M Crown (and hence the Reichsmark) could explain the higher unit rates on long routes from the Slovak State. [8] Subsequent to the publication of the original paper, Bachraty commented that the Slovak Crown was set at 11.62 to the Reichsmark at Salzburg in 1 October 1940. In this case, the B&M rate of 21.50 K would still only rise to 25.00 Ks. [9]

Route Markings

The only route handstamp found from Bohemia & Moravia was the boxed *Mit Luftpost nach Südamerika* which was applied to all *LATI* mail from the Protectorate irrespective of destination (see *Figures. 7 & 8*). No specific route handstamp has been reported from the Slovak State, but the four Slovak covers included in the database all received manuscript endorsements in French (the language of the Universal Postal Union): *Via côte du Pacifique* or similar, referring to the Pacific Coast of South America.

Mail Still Intercepted by British Censors Despite Additional Postage

In spite of paying high air mail surcharges some of this mail still fell foul of the British censorship system. Of the sixty-five covers listed in the original paper, three were intercepted in Trinidad and at least twelve were intercepted in Jamaica. None of the original Bohemia & Moravia covers and only one of the Slovak State covers were censored in Jamaica. Confirmation of which censor station was involved could be difficult to establish as British censors often moved from station to station taking their own numbered seals with them. Thus one particular examiner may have used his seals at different times in Bermuda, Jamaica, or Trinidad. However this problem appears to have been resolved as far as the second half of 1941 is concerned (see below). Perusal of the official *History of the Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department 1938-1946*, published by the British Home Office in 1952 and originally classified Secret suggested that Jamaica was the most likely candidate from June to November 1941. [13]

Censorship of transit airmail in Jamaica was initiated at the end of May 1941 when it was decided that an Imperial Censorship Station be opened as opposed to the existing local censorship organization. This was justified by ‘the amount of transit air mail, more particularly between Miami and Barranquilla [Colombia]’. A staff of twenty were recruited from Bermuda and Trinidad to work as an Imperial unit. That is an example of how the numbered sealing tapes moved around. It was recorded that:

Their main occupation was letters passing between Colombia, Venezuela, and countries in western South America on the one hand and the United States, Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic on the other. This mail was very large and reinforcements were sent out from the United Kingdom.

With regard to *LATI* mail:

About the time of the arrival of the Censor-in-Charge [from the UK] in July 1941, arrangements had been made for certain air mail which had been carried across the Atlantic to Brazil by the *LATI* Line to be diverted to Jamaica. This mail emanated almost entirely from Germany and Italy and was going to the United States [or] across the Pacific to the Far East. It crossed South America to the West Coast

and travelled up by air through the Canal Zone and Central America, but at Cali, in Colombia, a part of it was diverted to Barranquilla and thence by Pan American aircraft to Jamaica.

This mail was valuable and interesting as it was one of the few means by which the outside world could be fed from enemy sources. It was, however, only available for a short time and ceased altogether in November 1941. [14]

Diversion of mails at Cali was accomplished by use of the US Postal Agency there which was established on 1 September 1940. West quoted from the *Journal of the [US] Postmaster General*, No. 204:

Pursuant to Para 4, Sec. 2244, *Postal Laws and Regulations*, a United States Postal Agency is authorized at Cali, Colombia, SA, a point on FAM route 9, effective 1 September 1940 for the distributing, recording and making up of airmails in transit ...

West commented on 'The high airmail load between the US and South America', but did not mention mail from Europe flying the long way round. The Cali Agency was terminated on 31 January 1942. [15] One CDS is known, only applied to registered mail in transit (*Figure 6*). [16] No references to handling *LATI* mail can be found in the equivalent discussion of transit censorship in Trinidad. [17]

Mail from Bohemia & Moravia

The following examples were recorded in preparing the original database and as a result of publishing that paper:

Date Posted	From	To	Franking	Notes
14 Oct 40	Prague	Washington DC	70.00 K	[18] reg. 10-15 g
13 Dec 40	Plzen	New York NY	24.00 K	[19]
11 Mar 41	Plzen	Chicago IL	27.00 K	[20] reg. US Postal Agency back stamp, Cali
17 Mar 41	Brno	Elmhurst NY	27.00 K	[21] reg. US Postal Agency, April 9, Cali; Miami April 10; NY April 11 <i>Figure 7</i>
2 May 41	Prague	New York NY	24.00 K	[28]
6 May 41	České Budějovice	Austin TX	24.00 K	[22]
12 May 41	Liepnik	New York NY	24.50 K	[21] 0.5 K over-franked <i>Figure 8</i>
24 May 41	Prague	Philadelphia PA	24.00 K	[23]
16 Jun 41	Prague	Astoria NY	24.00 K	[24] Censored in Jamaica by Examiner 965, Jamaica date stamp type DS 2 on seal for 8 JUL 1941 [25] <i>Figure 9</i>

Mail from the Slovak State

(All examples from the original database)

1 April 41	Michalove	New York NY	60.50 Ks	[26] Côte Pacifique m/s <i>Figure 10</i> .
7 April 41	Zarnovica	Chicago IL	60.50 Ks	[27] 5-10 g. Côte Pacifique m/s
22 April 41	Vranov n T	New York NY	31.50 Ks	[26] Côte Pacifique m/s <i>Figure 11</i>
7 June 41	Michalove	Detroit MI	31.50 Ks	<i>Figure 1</i> (author's collection).

Discussion

The air mail route from selected European countries to the USA via *LATI* and the Pacific Coast of South America seems well proven, probably effective from September 1940 to December 1941. What is less certain is the treatment of that mail once it reached Brazil. If off-loaded at Recife (Pernambuco) there must have been a chance that local postal officials sent the mail on the most direct route to the USA, aiming at Miami with the strong chance of the mail being intercepted at Trinidad as happened with three 1940 covers from Germany listed in [1]. However, from the limited evidence presented, it seems that the lack of transit marks from South America and the lack of organised censorship prior to July 1941 does suggest that the mail was usually bagged through to the USA and escaped the attentions of the Imperial censors. Once the conscious decision was made in July 1941 to divert a part of the *LATI* mail from Cali, Colombia, to Jamaica via Barranquilla and *Pan American*, mail can be found that was censored in Jamaica.

A Request

As always readers are encouraged to send their additions, comments (critical or otherwise) and corrections via the Editor. Comments on the route taken between Slovakia and Rome will be particularly welcome.



Figure 6: 26 March 1941 CDS used at the US Postal Agency, Cali, Columbia.
(Source: Peter A Flynn, Intercepted in Bermuda, Chicago, 2006.)



Figure 7: 17 March 1941, Brno, registered to Elmerst NY with transit marks from Cali, Miami, and New York.
(Source: Hans-Hermann Paetow [image reduced in size].)



Figure 8: 12 May 1941. Leipzig to New York NY.
(Source: Hans-Hermann Paetow [image reduced in size].)



Figure 9: 16 June 1941. Prague to Astoria Long Island (NY), censored in Jamaica.
 (Source: Alfredo Bessone [image reduced in size].)



Figure 10: 1 April 1941. Michalove to New York NY.
 (Source: Lou Svoboda [image reduced in size].)



Figure 11: 22 April 1941. Vranov n T to New York NY.
 (Source: Lou Svoboda [image reduced in size].)

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to John C. Symons, Editor of *Air Mail News*, the journal of the British Air Mail Society, who encouraged the development of my original paper, listed here as Reference 1.

Thanks for the help received in recent months from the following correspondents: Rudolf Anders, Vice-President, Germany P.S. (USA); Miroslav Bachraty, Slovak Republic; Alfredo Bessone, Italy; Rex A. Dixon; Dr Heinz Findeiss, Germany; Walter Kurth, USA; Hans-Hermann Paetow, Germany; Colin Roberts; Ing. Miroslav Spišiak, Head of Slovak Postal Museum, Banská Bystrica; Lou Svoboda, USA; and John Wilson.

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What is on the Reverse of the České Budějovice Liberation Overprints? Peter Williams

I included Lot 59 in the room/postal auction at the Gillingham residential weekend with the following description:

*Liberation o/p for České Budějovice MM (but small rust spots)
on SG 120-1. Straka(?) handstamp on lower left of each reverse.*

A member asked me about the lot, so I looked at the reverse in more detail and sent him a scan. The scans showed the two reverse sides. I noticed that the handstamps did not appear to be the same and were at slightly different angles.

To my surprise, Richard Beith's display included similar overprints. His display included the explanation that the handstamps were from the originator of the overprint, Josef Straka. Richard had obtained this information from Bob Hill. Returning home, I consulted Bob Hill's recent Monograph on the Liberation overprints and found an explanation in the book. Many of the České Budějovice overprints had the author's expert mark on the reverse. Richard kindly sent me a copy of his sheet with his reverse views.

Surprisingly Richard's two stamps show the same different angles. I also noticed that I had three more České Budějovice Liberation overprints in the 2015 October auction. Again the angle of the handstamp appears to be noticeably different. Did this mean that there was more than one handstamp in use?

Enlarged Images of the Handstamps



Lot 59

From Richard Beith

October 2015 Auction

With seven examples, I noticed that the first letter 'S' appeared to vary. My first example has a line going backwards from the top of the letter. My second example and Richard's first does not have a line on the top of the letter. Richard's second example has a line going up from the top of the letter. My three latest examples all do not appear to have a line.

Looking at a higher level of detail at my first example, it appears that the line going backwards, is in fact, another ink spot. However, Richard's second example appears to be more than a mere ink spot.

I then looked at the second 'a'. In most examples, it appears to have an opening at the top. The second example from the October lot appears to be a complete letter 'a'. Are the gaps due to a lack of inking?

Finally, I investigated the letter 'k'. The first example from the October lot has a complete loop at the top of the letter. The other two examples from this lot have a clear loop, but it is definitely not complete. This is most clearly seen in the second example from this lot. The upper part of this letter is unclear in most of the other examples, in particular the first example from the Gillingham lot, where it does not appear at all.

Looking at all the examples, the most clear differences appear to be between the last two items in the October lots:

- The 'S' has a larger lower loop in the second example.
- All of the letters are at more of an angle in the second example.
- The 'a' is more rounded in the first example.
- The 'a' and 'k' are joined in the second example, but not in the first.

Is it likely that there is more than one handstamp being used? For those members who have examples in their collections, what do your examples show?

The Danish Society: Tjekkoslavakiet Samlerne Danmark Mogens Norbjerg

The Danish society was established 10 January 1974 by a small group of Danish stamp collectors (nine people), who had a common interest in collecting stamps from Czechoslovakia. In order to get more information about Czechoslovak Philately they almost from the start became members of the German Society *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei* (ARGE) as an independent foreign section *Sektion Dänemark*. In this way, the Danish collectors got the opportunity to communicate and share their experience with many fellow German collectors. In addition, they acquired access to the German Society's Library which held much literature about Czechoslovak Philately and four times each year received the philatelic magazine *Forschungsberichte aus der Tschechoslowakei Philatelie* (FB).

In the beginning, the most important contribution made by the Danish Society was the plate reconstruction of different values of the Hradčany issue. As early as in 1969, Mr Evald Larsen completely described the two plates of the 1 haler, but this achievement was not published until 1975. He was the first to elaborate a methodical form of description and illustration, a method that since then has been followed in nearly all plate descriptions. In 1980 Mr. Evald Larsen presented the plate reconstruction of 100 haler, and in 1988 he – together with Mr. Jan Kolar – issued a complete plate description of purple 50 haler.

During the first 15 years after establishment in 1974, the number of members grew, but in the 90s, membership fell. Therefore, it was decided in 1998 to create a purely Danish Society outside the framework of ARGE – called *Tjekkoslavakiet Samlerne Danmark* (TSD). It was no longer required to be a member of ARGE to be a member of the new society. After this, the number of members grew rapidly again and as of the end of 2014 there were approximately thirty members. A few members, eight in all, are also member of ARGE – but now as individual members. A few are members of the *Society for Czechoslovak Philately* in USA and *The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain* in England.

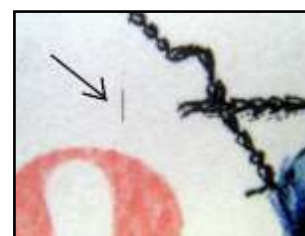
In the beginning, there were only a few meetings each year on Sealand (Copenhagen). Since 1998, meetings are scheduled for a minimum of four times yearly – in Eastern part of Denmark (on Sealand) and in Western part of Denmark (on Funen or Jutland). At these meetings, lectures on various aspects of Czechoslovak Philately are carried out in addition to an exchange of experiences and stamps. A considerable amount of literature has been assembled for the benefit of the members over the years. For many years Special Catalogues in the Danish language have been put together regarding various collecting areas: plate descriptions of the Hradčany issue and other typographic stamps, stamps with coupons, stamps printed on different papers, plate numbers, etc.). Many articles in Danish (both popular and specialized) about various aspects of Czechoslovak Philately have been published. Some of these have been issued in various Danish philatelic magazines for the purpose of promoting more interest in Czechoslovak Philately among Danish stamp collectors.

Since 2002, a Special Catalogue about plate flaws, types, etc., has been issued. It contains many plate flaws, which have never been known or illustrated before. The last issued catalogue (7th edition, January 2013) contains of approximately 300 A4 size pages. From September 2014, the most distinctive plate flaws are published in the German magazine FB starting with the year 1992 and going backwards. Hopefully this will enlarge interest in this collecting area and reveal many so far unknown plate positions.



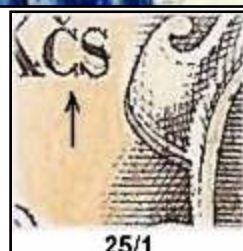
3016/3124/2976

15.7.1992 TF
2x50 Papir fl2
5,45 mio.



3023/3131/2982

6.10.1992 TF
2x50 Papir fl2
7,93 mio.



Example of plate flaws in stamps issued in 1992 as described in the Danish catalogue.

Correspondence

Response

Hartmut Liebermann wrote that he can answer **Rex Dixon's** question concerning the Protectorate's E|J label. It is an official post office label, but the meaning is not what Rex suggested. Rather, the **E** means *Einzelpaket* and the **J** *Jednotlivý balík*. The words have the same meaning in both languages – *a singular parcel*. The label was required for sealed parcels of high value: from 1000 K for internal mail within the Protectorate, from 1000 RM for mail to the Reich (as is indicted below in the image of the card Rex supplied), and from 1000 Swiss francs for mail to foreign countries. The source of his information was a handbook edited by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren entitled *Postalische Klebezettel, Stempel und handschriftliche Vermerke auf Briefen, Karten und Postformularen im Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren*, by Beda Minder (1995).



From page 27 of the December 2015 issue of Czechout: postcard with an E|J label.

New Query

Yvonne Wheatley writes that it seems strange that stamps were specially printed for newspapers but there are no rate tables readily available for that service. Obviously the newspaper rate was not the same as the printed matter rate because the post office provided a 2 haler newspaper stamp while printed matter cost 3 haler. Does anyone have a table of rates for newspapers or can someone tell me where to find one? **Mark Wilson** adds that the only other 2 haler stamp was used by the express service to upgrade printed matter to regular domestic mail treatment. Are these 2 haler stamps somehow related? Note that a newly issued 2 haler newspaper stamp appeared as late as 1937!

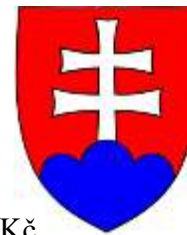


The only 2 haler stamps ever released by the Czechoslovak post office.
 Left and centre: 1918 and 1937 Newspaper service stamps.
 Right: 1919 Express service stamp.

Printing Techniques



WIFAG: rotary recess press combined with photogravure.
WAITE: recess printing from flat plates.
KOMB: combination of recess from flat plates and offset.



Czech NVI Stamps with Current Rates

A: ordinary internal letter to 50 g – 13 Kč.
E: ordinary standard letter to 20 g to European countries – 25 Kč.
Z: ordinary standard air letter to 20 g to non-European countries – 30 Kč.

Czech Republic

Lindy Bosworth

6 May 2015 Europa - Toys: Merkur Modelling System



Designer: Pavel Sivko.

Engraver: Jaroslav Tvrdoň (FDC cachet only). **Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 6.

FDC: printed WAITE in grey-black with commemorative Police nad Metují cancel. The cachet design shows a partially opened box of Merkur pieces with a 1925 illustration on the lid. A portrait of Jaroslav Vancl is framed by kit parts.

Design: in colour - a crane on wheels surrounded by Merkur kit parts in black and white.

The theme for all PostEurop countries for 2015 was Toys. The Czech Republic selected the *Merkur Modelling System* to commemorate the 90th anniversary of these kits. The system is based on individual pieces of coloured sheet steel with a network of drilled holes in various lengths and sizes which can then be fastened together with nuts and bolts. The kits can include axles, gear wheels, spindles, pulleys, belts and electric motors. This gives an infinite variety to creating models from simple to complex so expanding imagination, dexterity and creativity.

Jaroslav Vancl (1890-1980) established a company in Police nad Metují in 1920 to market a children's construction toy initially known as *Inventor*. It is not certain whether the idea for the kit was his or whether he used ideas from other people. The name was changed to *Merkur* and has been successful ever since, branching out to model railways, steam engines, robots, mechanical kits, and children's bikes and tools.

6 May 2015 Technical Monuments: 130 Years of the Moldava Railway



Designer: RNDr Adolf Absolon.

Engraver: Martin Srb.

Printing: rotary recess in black, in sheets of 30.

Booklets: of 8 stamps and 2 x 2 coupons, coupons printed recess in black with photogravure in pink-violet.

FDC: printed WAITE in black-blue with commemorative Moldava cancel.

The cachet drawing is the engine *Helicon*, so called from the shape of its chimney, which was used on this line between 1900 and 1967.

Design: stamp: A construction train with the Louny engine at the railway station in Dubi (Ober Eichwald) from a photograph dated 1884. Coupons: a) The viaduct near Mikulov designed by Jan Bydžovský. Brick pillars support the lattice structure which is 30.4 m high and 117.6 m long. It was dismantled in 1945 but rebuilt a year later. b) The present day Moldava Railway ending beyond the Moldava station. The track connecting it with the border and Saxony was pulled up in 1945 and has not been replaced.

The Moldava Railway (Ore Mountains Railway or Teplice-Semmering Line) used to connect Moldava with Freiberg in Saxony. It was built by the Prague-Duchov Railway Company to take coal from the

Most coal basin to Saxony. The first project began in the 1860s but due to financial and technical difficulties the Most -Hrob section was not opened until 15 May 1877, and the Hrob -Moldova section on 6 December 1884. Six months later the cross border connection to Freiburg was completed.

Today, the 40 km journey is one of the most scenic local railways in the Czech Republic and also passes through towns of historic significance. At Dubí there is a porcelain factory producing the renowned Blue Onion porcelain. In winter the railway takes skiers to nearby resorts which are used by hikers in the summer.

27 May 2015 Beauties of Our Country: Rabí, The Largest Castle Ruin in the Czech Republic



Designer: RNDr Adolf Absolon.

Engraver: Martin Srb.

Printing: WAITE in yellow, blue, red, green and black in sheets of 8.

FDC: printed WAITE in black-green with commemorative Rabí cancel. The cachet drawing is a view of the Third Gate from the late 14th century outer fortification system.

Design: a view from the east of the castle ruins of Rabí. It shows the 170 m long buildings including the main residential tower and the Holy Trinity Church outside the main fortification wall.

The oldest part of the castle dates from the early 14th century and consisted of a massive rectangular tower with a narrow bailey and outer enclosure although the owners are unknown. It is believed it was the northernmost part of the lands of the Counts of Bogen and later Wittelsbachs. The castle was conquered by Jan Žižka in 1420 after two periods of siege. During the Hussite siege, Jan Žižka lost the sight of his second eye. Sometime at the turn of the 15th century further residential and out buildings plus a second bailey were built. At each building phase extensive artillery fortifications were added with ramparts although these were never completed. The defensive system is one of the most developed in Central Europe for the period. The castle complex grew during the 15th century and the castle became a town with privileges. Until 1954, when it became the property of the Czechoslovak State, there were many owners and it was declared a National Heritage site in 1978. A reconstruction programme was carried out between 1979 and 1985.

27 May 2015 Prague Castle - Hans von Aachen: Head of a Woman



Designer and Engraver: (from original art work) Miloš Ondráček.

Printing: WAITE in sheets of four in black, red, ochre, brown and blue.

FDC: printed WAITE in brown with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet is a detail from the drawing by the artist, *Minerva introducing Painting to the Liberal Arts*. The cancel is also another detail from the same drawing.

Design: *The Head of a Woman* (c.1600) by Hans von Aachen. The painting is in the Prague Castle Picture Gallery.

Hans von Aachen (1522-1615). His name derives from the birthplace of his father. He was a pupil of E Jerrigh, a Flemish master living in Germany. Later, he spent long periods in Italy travelling and studying, particularly Tintoretto and Michaelangelo, but finally living in Venice from 1574 until 1588. Throughout his life he was influenced by the works of Bartholemeus Spranger and Hendrick Goltzius. He worked at the Munich Court for Wilhelm V of Bavaria between 1588 and 1596. During this period he visited Prague and Rudolf II, Holy Roman Emperor, appointed him an official court painter, but only in 1597 did he move to Prague. There, Aachen painted portraits: mythological, allegorical, religious, and genre scenes. Besides an official court painter he was commissioned for various diplomatic and business missions for Rudolf, particularly to Italy, where he acquired contemporary and older art works for him. Many of these by Titian, Tintoretto and others are part of the present Prague Castle collections.

17 June 2015 Personalities: Master Jan Hus



Designer: Vladimír Suchánek.

Engraver: Miloš Ondráček.

Printing: multi-coloured offset with linear drawing in sheets of 50.

FDC: printed offset in black with commemorative Husinec cancel. The cachet drawing is taken from a fragment of a medieval woodcut of the burning at the stake of Jan Hus.

Design: a portrait of Jan Hus.

Master Jan Hus (1370-1415). After studying at an elementary school in Prachatice, he enrolled at the University of Prague gaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1394 and a Master's degree two years later when he began teaching philosophy there. He became Dean of the Faculty of Arts in 1401 and Chancellor 1409-1410. He advocated a larger share of Czechs among the German dominated University management. After his ordination as a priest he became a preacher at the Bethlehem Chapel, Prague and later in 1402 the Rector. The Chapel was a refuge for a group of Bohemian clergy who preached in the Czech language rather than Latin which was popular with the common people. Hus became the leader of this group and shared their condemnation of corrupt clergy.

Students from Prague went to Oxford to study under John Wycliffe, returning to Prague with his theological works. Although Hus did not accept all Wycliffe's teachings he did agree with him that the origins of the Roman Catholic Church were not divine, therefore the Pope's orders do not have to be obeyed if they contradict the Bible. Hus was excommunicated and Prague placed under an interdict. Hus withdrew from Prague to take refuge with various Bohemian nobles. The Council of Constance 1414-1418 met to bring an end to the Great Schism and decide the question of heresy. Hus was invited to appear but declined until he was offered a safe conduct. Once in the papal residence he was imprisoned. At his public hearing when he was not allowed to respond to charges he was declared a heretic, degraded from the priesthood and his soul consigned to the devil. He was handed over to the secular authorities who burnt him at the stake outside the city walls on 6 July 1415 and the ashes scattered in the River Rhine. To his memory as one of the greatest Czechs, July 6 is a public holiday in the Republic.

Picture Postcards

27 May 2015 Historical Postal Buildings 2015

This is the 22nd set of eight postcards in the series. Each card has an imprinted 'A' stamp showing the Republic's coat of arms by Bedřich Housa. The designs are from the archives of the Postal Museum collections and printed by multi-coloured offset. The series shows the following buildings:

- a) Slaný - built by Jiří Adam II as a seigniorial coaching inn.
- b) Prague I - this was in Prague's Jewish Town (Josefov) and used for the collection of letters in the period 1740-1821.
- c) Kámen u Habrů - this was established on 7 December 1754.
- d) Želetava - this postal station was established on 1 July 1750. Johann Wenzel Schmuttermayer, the first postmaster bought two houses but in 1761 they were burnt down but rebuilt in 1786.
- e) Plumlov - this municipal post office opened on 20 April 1850 with the post master as Jan Pirk. In 1853 the licence was granted to the house owner.
- f) Svitavy - the local post office was built on the site of three original plots designated as postal estate. Chrysostum Werner invested in the building about 1853 to become hereditary post master. The premises were extensively renovated in 1903.
- g) Karlovy Vary - the old post office was built in the Rococo style with rich stucco decorations in 1756 and served as the post office until the construction of a new building on the same site in the early 1870s.
- h) Blatná - this postal station was used from 1 January 1827 for changing horses on the route between Vodňany, Pisek, Blatná, and Zelená Hora and situated in a farm building of Blatná chateau. The postmaster of Pisek, Franz Simon became its first manager.

New Issues – Slovak Republic Lindy Bosworth

31 March 2015 Sport: Vladimír Dzurilla



Designer: Igor Benca.

Printing: offset - Heidelberg Speedmaster with one se-tenant label.

FDC: printed offset by Kasico a.s., Bratislava with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design depicts Dzurilla in ice hockey kit defending the goal.

Design: a) stamp - Dzurilla in goalie's kit defending the goal. b) label - photo portrait of Dzurilla.

Vladimír Dzurilla (1942-1995), a legendary ice hockey goal keeper nicknamed *Maco*. His playing career lasted from 1959 until 1982 during which time he won three gold, three silver, and three bronze medals at the World Ice Hockey Championships together with one silver and two bronze Olympic medals with the Czechoslovak team. Altogether he represented Czechoslovakia in 139 games. Until he became established as an ice hockey goal keeper he was a refrigerator repair man. He played initially for Slovan, Bratislava (1957-1973), then Kometa, Brno (1973 - 1978), and finally HC Riessersee, Bavaria, until 1982. His final hockey game was played in Sweden May 1995 when he played in the senior team of world ice hockey against the senior Swedish team. He died of a heart attack and in 1998 he became the first Slovak player to enter the International Ice Hockey Federation Hall of Fame.

17 April 2015 Technical Monuments: Steam Locomotives 464.001 and 498.104

Designers: Marián Komáček (464.001) and Robert Makar (498.104).

Engravers: Rudolf Cigánik (464.001) and L'ubomír Žálec (498.104).

Printing: WIFAG.

FDCs: WAITE with commemorative cancels - Prievidza (464.001) and Bratislava (498.104). The cachet drawings show views of the locomotives.

Designs: a) 464.001 - side view of the locomotive against a blue-green background. b) 464.104 - side view of the locomotive against a bright blue background.

Locomotive 464.001: At the beginning of the 1930s Czechoslovak State Railways (ČSD) ordered new high performance locomotives from the company ČKD which usually built trains for mountain railways. They created a new design – No. 464 in 1933 with a two cylinder super heated steam express tank engine based on the successful 456 series. The maximum speed of these new engines was 95 kph. although the first models did not have smoke deflectors. These were installed later giving the engines a distinctive look and earned the nickname *Ušatá* (Blinker). These started operations in Slovakia from the depots at Vrútky and Zvolen in 1938. In total 76 of these engines were built and because of their reliability and ease of operation remained in operation until the end of the steam era in 1981. One of these engines drove the funeral train of President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk from Prague to Lány. The engine 446.001 ended its service in 1977 at Česká Lipa. It is now at the Railway Museum, Žilina, where it still carries passengers on nostalgic steam trips although since 2013 it has been under repair. The last engine of the series – 464.102 is also a museum piece in the Czech Republic.



Locomotive 498.104 – Albatros: This engine was brought into service on 24 December 1954 and was the fourth from a series of fifteen. The *Albatross* or Type 1 locomotives were one of the heaviest, largest, and fastest manufactured for ČSD. They were able to drag up to 1,000 tons at 100 kph serving as a reliable express service on the Prague-Žilina-Košice line. The plum-blue livery of the engine and tender, red wheels, reddish brown running gear and white cab roof made this king of the railway a



distinctive locomotive. During the 1960s lines were electrified and the fifteen Albatros engines operated from Bratislava until 1970. In 1982, 498.104 was towed to the Bratislava depot as part of a museum collection. Members of the Albatros Association began work on restoration in 1990 and on 15 March 1994 it was fired up once more. It is the only operational locomotive of this series left in the world.

5 May 2015 Europa: Toys.

Designer: Marinna Žálec Varcholová.

Printing: offset-Heidelberg-Speedmaster.



FDC: printed offset by Kasico, a.s. Bratislava with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design in reddish-brown and black shows a typically carved folk seat.

Booklet: containing six self adhesive stamps.

Design: a stool horse with carved folk motifs and brightly painted.

Kyjatice, a small village with a population now some 100 people in the Banská Bystrica region, was well known at the beginning of the 19th century for its cottage industry of folk furniture and toys.

Only beech wood was used to make toys as this wood was suitable for carving and decorating and gave a pleasing finish. In the 1920s this cottage industry was revived with mass production, thriving until 1946 and ceased in 1970. From 1980 to 1985 it was revived but with competition from mass production, modern toys and changes in fashion the art is dying out. The stamp depicts a horse runner (bežka), a popular toy in 19th and early 20th century. The child sits astride the back of the horse and propels the horse forward using their feet. The bežka is painted in bright colours and decorated, sometimes carved with traditional folk motifs

8 May 2015 Victory over Fascism Day



Designer: Robert Jančovič.

Engraver: Rudolf Cigánik (FDC cachet only).

Printing: offset-Heidelberg-Speedmaster.

FDC: printed recess - Waite with offset in deep reddish-purple with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet drawing is a woman welcoming peace surrounded by the text *May 1945* in many languages. **Design:** against a devastated Berlin landscape a soldier raises the Soviet flag on the Reichstag building symbolising the defeat of Nazism.

A National Holiday has been observed in Slovakia on 8 May each year since 1945 to commemorate the liberation of the country from the German occupation forces and the end of the Slovak Fascist regime which held power from 1938 until 1945. The 70th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe was commemorated throughout the continent on 8 May 2015. The causes of World War II can be found in the various treaties enacted after the end of World War I in 1918. Countries from all continents became involved in World War II, which remains the greatest conflict in the history of mankind. Many millions of people from both sides, whether combatants or civilians, perished and many millions more suffered loss and hardships.

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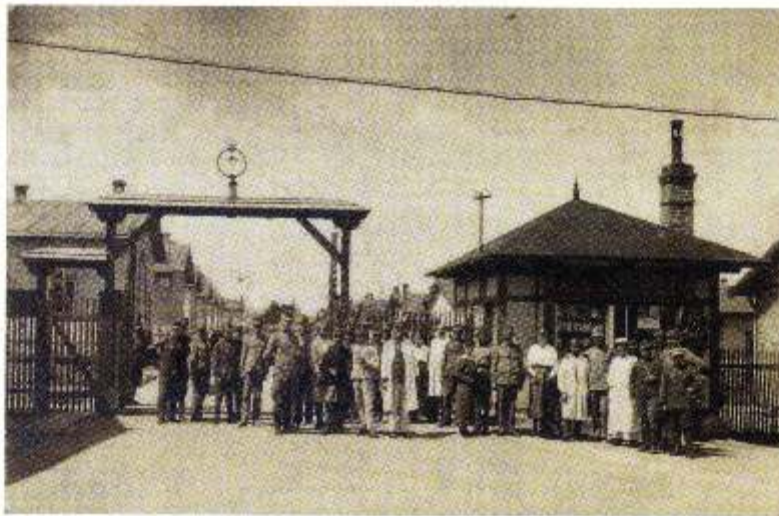
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CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

**WAR HOSPITALS IN BRÜNN
DURING THE GREAT WAR**



HANS VAN DOOREMALEN

Monograph No. 29

2015

Monograph 29 provides an insight to the mail from and the organization of the war hospitals which were located in the Moravian city of Brünn, now Brno in Czechoslovakia. Details about every individual hospital or convalescent home, including a location map, are accompanied by mail originating from the hospital, in practically all cases illustrated by the large variety of cachets used to identify the sender and to confirm freedom from postage